

'Before Night Falls' bows

Fort Worth Opera premieres gay-themed work

Composer Jorge Martin spent 15 years adapting Reinaldo Arenas memoir

■ OPERA Page 34



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Rev. Carol West named Kuchling Award recipient

Pastor being honored for service
dating to first days of AIDS in Dallas

TAMMY NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

"We're all in this together," the Rev. Carol West, pastor of Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth, declared this week. "I'm a very big believer in community, whether the community is in Fort Worth or Dallas or Gun Barrel City or wherever. It's all about community."



Rev. Carol West

And this week, the community that West has spent the last 24 years working to help recognized her efforts as the co-chairs of the 2010 Black Tie Dinner announced that West has been named as the recipient of the dinner's Kuchling Humanitarian Award.

"It's just a tremendous honor," West said Tuesday, May 25, speaking by cell phone from Cedar Creek Lake where she was vacationing.

"I knew Ray Kuchling [the man who was the first recipient of the award and for whom it is named]. I've known all the recipients through the years and have worked with them, and it is an honor to be in their company," she said. "I was pretty surprised."

In a statement released by BTM, West said that the "common thread that runs through all these

■ WEST, Page 19

EXXON REJECTS POLICY CHANGE AGAIN



STANDING ON PRINCIPLE | Retired SMU professor Lee Nicora, left, protested at ExxonMobil's shareholder's meeting on Wednesday, May 26, on principle, but for Drey Zalaquett, who drove from Tampa for the demonstration and had been fired from a job for being lesbian, it was personal. See story on page 10. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

DADT repeal closer

Full House OKs amendment to
repeal anti-gay military policy;
Armed Services committee sends
amendment to Senate floor

JOHN WRIGHT | Online Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

A proposal that would begin the process of repealing "don't ask don't tell" cleared two key legislative hurdles late Thursday, with both the Senate Armed Services Committee and the full House of Representatives approving the measure in two votes that came just a few hours apart.

The proposal, in the form of an amendment to a \$760 billion defense spending bill for Fiscal Year 2011, still must pass the full Senate, where some Republicans have threatened a filibuster.

Under the plan, supported by President Barack Obama, a DADT repeal wouldn't take effect until the Pentagon completes a study on its impact, expected in December. Then, the president, the defense secretary and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff would have to certify that the repeal won't hurt the military's ability to fight.

Finally, after those two requirements are met, there would be a 60-day waiting period.

■ DADT, Page 15

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Hess named interim executive director at RCD



Dave Hess

Board will accept applications for ED position through June 11

FROM STAFF REPORTS
editor@dallasvoice.com

Dave Hess, chief financial officer and human resources director for Resource Center Dallas for more than 15 years, has been named to serve as RCD's interim executive director, RCD officials announced Thursday, May 27.

Hess will fill the position being left vacant by the resignation of Mike McKay, RCD's executive director for the last four years who is leaving the organization, effective Friday, May 28, to work for The Peace Corps.

The executive committee of the RCD board tapped Hesse as interim executive director, effective Saturday, May 29. The board will accept resumes from applicants interested in the executive director position through 5 p.m. on Friday, June 11. The new executive director, who will lead a staff of nearly 50 employees and oversee the Center's HIV/health services and LGBT community programs, is expected to be in place by the end of the summer, RCD officials said.

RCD officials also announced this week that the center was notified Tuesday, May 25, that RCD's United Way allocations have again increased for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, going up by \$85,815 compared to last year's allocation of \$176,803.

RCD's total allocation for 2010-2011 is \$262,618, an all-time high, which will be used to fund dental and nutrition programs for people with HIV and the center's information and referral programs. ■

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FW police release images of 'person of interest' in murder

Fort Worth police released images of a man described as "a person of interest" in connection with the April 30 murder of 72-year-old Grady Fairbairn in the 500 block of West Cannon Street, about a block and a half from the Rainbow Lounge. The "person of interest" is a white man captured on surveillance video at the Downtown ITC transportation terminal at 1001 Jones St., four days after the murder. Police say the man had just tried to use a credit card belonging to Fairbairn.



Anyone with any information is asked to call the Fort Worth PD Homicide Unit at 817-392-4335 or Crimestoppers at 817-469-8477.

— Tammye Nash

Doctor wins lawsuit against UT Southwestern

Physician at hospital's AIDS clinic charged head of infectious diseases department with religious bigotry; problems continue for Amelia Court

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

A Dallas County jury found UT Southwestern guilty of discrimination on Tuesday, May 25, and the following day awarded former Amelia Court physician Naiel Nassar \$3.6 million.

Nassar had charged UT Southwestern with religious bigotry and said Dr. Beth Levine, head of infectious disease medicine, drove him to quit.

UT Southwestern said it would appeal the verdict.

Last week, UT Southwestern chose not to renew the contract of Michael Limerick who works at Amelia Court. Limerick is an assistant professor at UT Southwestern with R.N. and Ph.D. degrees in nursing. His duties are split between patient care at Amelia Court and clinical trials.

Limerick was unable to comment for the story while he is still employed.

Although not a physician, Limerick had experience in caring for patients with HIV. When UT Southwestern was unable to find a doctor for the Amelia Court position, Limerick was hired to fill the void.

One doctor said they hired him when it was convenient because they were unable to find a physician with his experience in HIV care and getting rid of him is typical of the way doctors

■ AMELIA COURT, Page 18



Royal Lane Baptist refuses to waver from pro-LGBT views

It's pretty rare that we praise Baptists on this blog, but you gotta absolutely love the gay-affirming folks over at Royal Lane Baptist Church.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas voted 63-4 on Wednesday, May 26, to break ties with the 500-member church, according to The Dallas Morning News. The vote came after the church refused to waver from its acceptance of gays and lesbians, including as deacons. The decision by Texas' largest Baptist group means it will no longer accept funds from the gay-affirming church. Big deal, right?

Well, it turns out there are also some more serious consequences for the church's decision to stand up to the bigots at BGCT. One Royal Lane member will have to leave the BGCT board, and two other members who are BGCT employees will either have to give up their jobs or switch churches. One has apparently decided to tell BGCT to take the job and shove it.

Randel Everett, chief homophobe at BGCT, called the group's decision to sever ties with the church "painful." Everett said BGCT churches should "welcome homosexuals." But he said Royal Lane's decision to allow "practicing homosexuals" as deacons meant it was going against the group's view that homosexuality is sinful. (The church apparently opted not to use the defense that the deacons are no longer practicing, but have perfected their homosexuality).

Anyhow, during yesterday's meeting, the Royal Lane member who is a BGCT board member, Doug Washington, spoke up in defense of the church and its "practicing homosexuals."

"To say something is wrong with them is to say God made a mistake," Washington said.

Washington added that the church won't be bullied by the BGCT.

"I think we're stronger than ever," he said. Hallelujah!

— John Wright

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localbriefs

MCCGD moving to new location

Metropolitan Community Church of Greater Dallas on Sunday, May 30, will hold its final worship services in the space the church has leased



The Rev. Colleen Darraugh

for the last four years at 2735 Villa Creek Drive.

Starting Sunday, June 6 the church will hold services at the Holiday Inn Select North Dallas, and will continue to use that space for about six to eight weeks while renovations are completed at MCCGD's new permanent home, church officials said. They said more information about the new permanent location will be released in weeks to come.

The move comes because the lease at Villa Creek Drive is ending and because of the congregation's desire "to be wise stewards in this economy," according to church officials.

The May 30 service will include, as usual, music with Buddy Shanahan, prayer, sermon by the Rev. Colleen Darraugh and communion. It will also include a special blessing for and

farewell to clergy intern D'Anna Chance, a seminary student at Perkins School of Theology who has completed her nine-month internship at MCCGD.

Church officials note that all the church's furniture is already packed and ready for the move to the new location, so those attending the May 30 services are encouraged to dress comfortably and to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

Lambda Legal receives grant

Officials with Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund this week announced that the LGBT legal organization has received a \$1,500 grant from the Texas Bar Association.

The funds will be used to help Lambda Legal's Dallas-based South Central Regional Office target African-American legal associations and educate black legal professionals about the unique legal issues impacting their LGBT clients.

"This grant will be invaluable to us as we broaden our profile in the African-American community," said Dennis Coleman, regional director. "The African-American LGBT community has unique needs and problems, and we can better serve it by strengthening our ties with black legal professionals. We hope to become their 'go-to' resource on LGBT legal issues and build partnerships with local attorneys that will help us fight the discrimination our communities face every day." ■

pet of the week / shaggy

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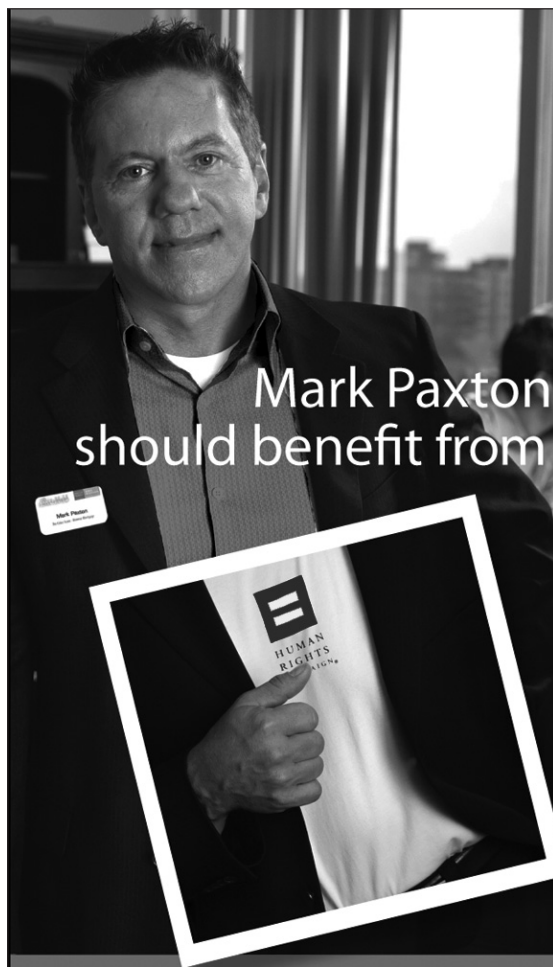
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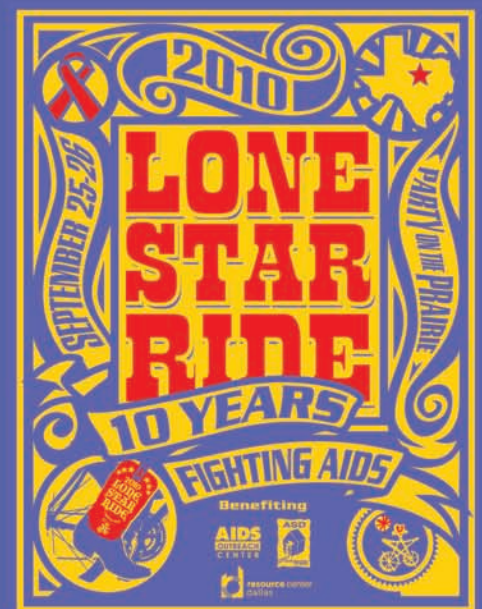
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We ride because we remember, and because it continues

JOHN TRIPP AND LAURA KERR
Co-Chairs, Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS

Editor's note: This is the first installment of the Lone Star Ride Journal, an 18-week series featuring columns written by people participating in some way in the 2010 Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS.

For 10 years we've been riding. For 10 years we've been raising money for three AIDS service organizations in North Texas and asking you to "saddle up" and join us to ride or crew or donate.

Why is it that we continue riding or crewing, even if we're not avid cyclists or athletes? Why do we keep asking you to sponsor us and help us raise a minimum of \$500 each as we ride our bicycles some crazy number of miles in the (hopefully cool but likely hot) final days of September?

It used to be said that we ride to raise money to help find a cure. Many have said we have to ride because it's our community being impacted the most and the support has to come from somewhere. It usually isn't until it happens to someone you love that you take on a cause like ours and discover why — your own "why."

Can you remember hearing about HIV/AIDS in the 1980s? How about in the '90s? Think back and it's likely that you can recall a moment since 2001 when you went to test yourself for something. Or perhaps you can recall a moment when, in your primary care physician's office, you had to blush when asking for an HIV test. Of course, there are too many of us who can — vividly — remember the time in the last 10 years when we didn't experience that sigh of relief when results came back.

Worst of all, many of us can remember a time in the last 10 years when we lost someone we loved.

And my goodness, how messages have changed in the last 10

years!

HIV/AIDS is no longer infecting people only because of drug use or careless sexual conduct or an isolated medical mishap. And HIV/AIDS is, in most, cases no longer a death sentence. Modern medicine (if you can afford it) will allow you to live a healthy and "normal" life.

But HIV/AIDS isn't just a stealthy virus that attacks a person's immune system. It has a caustic and viral stigma that breeds in our homes and

upbringing. It thrives with our ignorance and lack of personal responsibility and self-worth. It is a cultural and societal menace that plagues minority and female communities worse now than ever before.

HIV/AIDS will always find itself protected in a host who feels ashamed. And if left unchecked, it shows no compassion and infects our youngest generation (regardless of your ethnicity) because too many believe HIV/AIDS doesn't matter anymore because "it doesn't kill you anymore."

We want to impress on you t h a t maybe it

doesn't matter which memory since 2001 stands out the most to you. Maybe it doesn't matter why we have been riding and asking for money since 2001. And it certainly doesn't matter how you were raised or which nationality or ethnicity you call yourself. It doesn't matter with whom you have sex.

What does matter is the stark reality before each and every one of us.

One of us is HIV-positive and is calling for others who are HIV-positive to join his fight against the stigma of HIV/AIDS in our community (and not just the LGBT community) and to lead a positive public example.

One of us is here to show that you don't have to be HIV-positive to care about this disease that still debilitates so many around the world and right here in our own backyard.

You might call us the positive and negative of the fight — opposite ends of the same fight, together as activists. But we can't do it without you.

We are part of the Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS. We need you to raise money for the beneficiaries who provide critical services to North Texans who are impacted in some way by HIV/AIDS. We need you to learn and pass on what you learn about HIV/AIDS so that we do not continue to perpetuate this disease and stigma.

But more than anything else, we need you. We are part of the solution for members of our community, of our families, for ourselves. And we need you to come be part of the solution, too.

Come join us in our 10th anniversary Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS.

The 10th annual Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS will be held Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 25-26, beginning and ending each day at the American Airlines Conference Center in Arlington. To register as a rider or crew member, to donate, or just for more information, go online to LoneStarRide.org.



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Exxon boycott never really took hold — even here at Ground Zero in North Texas

Vote this year on anti-discrimination policy makes it painfully clear that sympathies of most shareholders haven't changed over the years

The failure of this year's effort to force ExxonMobil to amend its nondiscrimination policy to include sexual orientation and gender identity confirms what many of us in Dallas-Fort Worth had already figured out: The boycott of Exxon products by LGBT people never really caught on.

Although the shareholder vote to approve the yearly proposal had grown from 8.2 percent in 2000 to 40 percent in 2009, the nation's LGBT community never fully embraced the Human Rights Campaign's boycott of Exxon.

The annual increases in the shareholder vote were attributed to the owners of large blocks of shares, instead of significant increases in the number of people sympathetic to the policy change.

That became painfully clear this year when the shareholder vote dropped to only 22.2 percent.

As ground zero for the effort, Dallas-Fort Worth should have been the site of a leading movement in the LGBT community to force Fort Worth-based Exxon to change its policy by backing HRC's boycott. That never happened locally, much less nationally.

Except for the yearly demonstrations by relatively small numbers of faithful people outside the Meyerson Symphony Center, the issue was largely ignored.

The demonstrations often evoked a lot of laughter and sometimes derision among some LGBT people who commented on the demonstrations each year.

For me, it was a surprise to learn the identities of some of the people who ignored the boycott and did business at Exxon stores.

I embraced the Exxon boycott, and I cancelled my Exxon card in 2003. I was baffled when I called the credit card center to explain why I was canceling my card, and the customer relations representative — whom I felt sure was a gay man — told me had never heard about the controversy.

If people connected so closely to Exxon are unaware of the boycott, it's hard to imagine the information is widespread.

But even I found myself in a difficult situation

one morning. I was headed to work, during a wind-driven rainstorm, from my Oak Cliff home to the Dallas Voice offices and saw my empty low fuel light come on.

I was forced to continue on until I could take the first exit off Central Expressway to search for a gas station. I was elated to find one immediately and quickly turned into it under the cover of the canopy.

It was only after I got out of my car that I realized, to my horror, I was at, of all things, an Exxon store. Short story, I used my Visa to purchase gas and hoped that no one whom I knew drove by and saw me.

I still avoid Exxon stores whenever I can in favor of Chevron and Shell stores, whose corporate employment discrimination policies do impress me more. But that's not to say I have been 100 percent successful in avoiding Exxon stores because I do travel a lot.

I unfortunately am a little absent-minded at times and still do wait until the low fuel light comes on.

Such isolated events of course are not reflective of the issue. The problem is that the boycott just never resonated with LGBT people the way other successful boycotts did — like the successful boycott of Coors beer in 1977 over its anti-gay policies that have long since been addressed.

That boycott got some attention. Most gay bars quit serving Coors beer, and I wouldn't have been caught dead drinking one. (OK, I lie. Occasionally, at a party I would drink one when everything else was gone.)

None of this is to say that the HRC-sponsored boycott of Exxon was not a valiant cause because it was. Unfortunately, it just never has had a real impact.

HRC officials, who usually are quick to publish press releases about the Exxon-Mobil shareholder vote, are taking their time with this one.

It will be interesting to see what they decide to do.

Maybe federal legislation, which is becoming more favorable to LGBT people in this latest era, will take care of the problem. The issue could die.

But for me, I'm going to keep on driving until I get to a Chevron or Shell station because I have a long memory. That is unless that damn low fuel light goes on before I get there. ■

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.



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Exxon shareholders vote down policy change again



CALLING FOR EQUALITY | Mark Reed of GetEQUAL, right, said his group collected about 3,300 signatures over the weekend on a petition calling on Exxon to change its nondiscrimination policies to include LGBT people. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

LGBT activists disappointed as percentage voting in favor of protections for LGBT workers drops drastically in latest vote

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

For the first time since shareholders were asked to vote on employee non-discrimination, fewer shares were cast in favor of equality than in the previous year.

In 1999, only 8 percent of shares were voted in favor of including sexual orientation in the company's non-discrimination policy. That number grew at each year's shareholders meeting until this year, when only 22 percent favored the policy change.

Last year, about 39 percent of the vote favored the policy.

Inside the meeting, a number of shareholders spoke in favor of environmental and social justice issues in the company. That included a member of the Rockefeller family. ExxonMobil is a direct descendent of John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil.

Richard Miller of the Dallas Peace Center attended the meeting as a proxy for a friend from California.

"I stepped up, got to the mike and had my say," Miller said.

Miller also delivered a petition to the board of directors from GetEQUAL.

Mark Reed from GetEQUAL said his group posted a petition over the weekend asking the company to include the LGBT community in its nondiscrimination policies. He said within four days they had 3,300 signatures.

Across the street from the Meyerson Symphony Center where the shareholders meeting took place on Wednesday, May, 26, about two dozen protesters gathered.

GetEQUAL and QueerLiberaction Denton were joined by members of Stand Up Florida who had driven from Tampa for the meeting. That group demonstrated at a Mobil station in Tampa the previous Friday before making the trip.

Drey Zalaquett was one of the people who drove from Florida. She explained why she made the two-day drive.

"It's something that really matters to us," she

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■ From Previous Page

said. "I was once fired for being gay."

Zalaquett said she didn't talk about being gay at work, but she did wear a small rainbow bracelet. The son of the owner asked her one day what the bracelet meant and she told him.

"The next day I was fired," she said.

Lee Nicora is a retired Southern Methodist University professor who carried a sign that read, "Exxon employment discrimination."

"My daughter brought me out. It's the principle of the thing," Nicora said.

Reed was surprised about the outcome of the vote but offered a suggestion about why it happened.

"It's shocking to see such a dramatic drop in support from last year," Reed said. "Shareholders who are pro-equality are getting rid of the Exxon-Mobil stock."

GetEQUAL has been pushing members of Congress to move the Employment Non-Discrimination Act to the floor for a vote, where they believe there are enough votes to pass.

Reed noted a form letter that David Rosenthal, ExxonMobil's vice president for investor relations, is sending to anyone writing the company about its discrimination policy.

"Where we operate in countries in which the national laws require specific language regarding nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity be included in policies, we have



JOINT EFFORT | GetEQUAL and Queer LiberAction Denton staged the protest outside the Meyerson Symphony Center during the ExxonMobil shareholders meeting. They were joined by members of Stand Up Florida who drove to North Texas to participate. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

amended our policies as appropriate," Rosenthal wrote.

"The vote makes the passage of ENDA even more important," Reed said. "We need the government to step in and force them to do the right thing."

This year Exxon hired no counterprotesters. No environmental groups like Greenpeace who usually attends were at the meeting this year either.

A few shareholders passing the LGBT protest-ers indicated they would vote for the item.

Some made a few friendly jokes that most of

the demonstrators must be in Houston in front of BP headquarters.

They were referring to the current oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico that is the first oil-related environmental disaster larger than the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill. ■

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■ texasnews

Baylor Health Care may fight discrimination charge

Top executive indicates company won't change gym policy after gay couple files discrimination complaint

JOHN WRIGHT | Online Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

A top executive at Baylor Health Care System suggested this week that the company plans to fight a charge of anti-gay discrimination, rather than reversing a policy that prohibits same-sex couples from purchasing family memberships at the Tom Landry Fitness Center.

Steven Johnson said he filed a complaint last week under Dallas' nondiscrimination ordinance against the Tom Landry Fitness Center, after the Health Care System-owned gym refused to allow him to sign up his partner of 23 years as a family member.

In response to an online story about the complaint this week, the Health Care System's senior vice president for consumer affairs sent an e-mail to Dallas Voice.

"There is now a significant amount of legal discussion about what the ordinance covers, and our attorneys are involved," wrote Jennifer Coleman, the VP for consumer affairs. "It will be a while before it is all sorted out. I will update you when I have something I can discuss."

Coleman didn't respond to a request for further comment.

The director of the Tom Landry Fitness Center, Phil Tyne, has confirmed that the gym doesn't allow same-sex couples to sign up for family memberships. Coleman, meanwhile, has said she planned to look into the policy but couldn't promise that it would be changed.

Johnson said he filed the complaint last week with the city's Fair Housing Office, which investigates complaints under the ordinance. The ordinance prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing and public accommodations. Each violation is punishable by a \$500 fine.

"Hopefully out of all this will come some changes in their policy," Johnson said this week. "It's just an example of the little things we [gay people] have to face every day."

Johnson said Baylor hasn't contacted him since he was denied the family membership May 4. "They have not reached out at all," he said.

Johnson said he spoke with a city investigator when he filed the complaint.

"When I talked to him, he said he couldn't give me anything absolute, but he said it sure sounded like it was a case," Johnson said. "He indicated that he thought there was a potential violation, but he couldn't confirm anything yet."

Beverly Davis, director of the city's Fair Housing



Steven Johnson

ing Office, has said previously that she thinks it's "possible" that the gym's policy violates the ordinance. Davis has also indicated she was surprised to learn that a gym in Dallas would have such a policy in 2010.

Davis confirmed this week that her office has received Johnson's complaint but declined to discuss the matter in detail.

"We plan on pursuing it aggressively and we'll review all the relevant information and try to get it resolved as quickly as we can," Davis said.

After completing its investigation, the Fair Housing Office will turn over its findings to the City Attorney's Office, to determine whether there is sufficient cause to prosecute the complaint. Mediation will also be offered to the parties during the process.

More than 40 complaints have been filed under the ordinance since it was passed by the City Council in 2002. However, the City Attorney's Office has never prosecuted a complaint under the ordinance.

LGBT legal experts say the Health Care Center likely will argue that the gym policy is based on "marital status," not sexual orientation.

The City Attorney's Office determined in a previous case that a landlord who refused to rent to a gay couple didn't violate the ordinance, because the landlord's policy was based on marital status. However, Davis said complaints are treated individually based on the facts of each case.

In the meantime, Johnson said he and his partner have signed up for a family membership at LA Fitness. He'll still have to pay for his membership at the Tom Landry Fitness Center until September, but he said he doesn't plan to go back there. ■

DART board delays trans protections

LGBT activists call on community to contact board members, urge them to move ahead with policy change

JOHN WRIGHT | Online Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

DART's board of directors this week put the brakes on a proposal to add transgender protections to the agency's nondiscrimination policy. And LGBT advocates called on the community to contact board members in an effort to get the proposal back on track.

The DART board, acting in a work session, voted 6-5 on Tuesday, May 25, to postpone until June a decision on adding gender identity to the nondiscrimination policy, which already includes sexual orientation.

The board initially voted to approve the policy 6-5, but then one board member, Pamela Dunlop Gates of Dallas, reversed her vote and offered a substitute motion that would delay the decision. The substitute motion passed 6-5.

According to DART spokesman Morgan Lyons, Gates wanted more information from

DART attorneys about whether the proposed policy would stand up in court.

Rafael McDonnell of Resource Center Dallas, who attended the meeting and has been working with DART officials on the proposal, said he was "disappointed" in Tuesday's vote.

McDonnell added that a senior staff member at DART characterized it to him as a "speed bump" or "a hiccup."

"It doesn't mean that it's dead," McDonnell said. "I wouldn't even say that it means it's on life support. It means it's taking a little longer to go through the process. I'm disappointed in that. ... I got up and told the board members, 'I respect the fact that you have questions, here's my phone number.'"

The proposal, which came about after the agency was accused of discriminating against a transgender bus driver, had already cleared a board committee unanimously.

If the board had approved the transgender protections on Tuesday, they would have gone to a final vote June 15.

Now, the proposal will be revisited in a work session June 15, with a possible final vote June 22, according to Lyons.



Rafael McDonnell

■ DART, Page 14

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DART

From Page 13

"Everything essentially moves one more meeting," Lyons said.

"The main question had to do with our ability to defend the policy if it were challenged in court," Lyons added. "The questions all were around additional information, and there was a commitment to bring it back to the next meeting on [June] 15."

McDonnell said Dunlop Gates, the board member who switched her vote, asked DART attorneys to clarify definitions for "gender identity"

and "genetic information," another proposed addition to the policy.

Lyons said he expected the attorneys to provide board members with more information in advance of next month's meeting.

Lyons said board members who voted to approve the trans protections Tuesday were Randall Chrisman, John Danish, William Tsao, Tracey Whitaker and Claude Williams.

Those who voted to delay the decision were Dunlop Gates, Bill Velasco, Bob Strauss, Ray Noah, Mark Enoch and Loretta Ellerbe.

Two DART board members, Angel Reyes and Jerry Christian, were absent from the meeting.

And two other board members, Scott Carlson and Faye Wilkins, attended the meeting but had stepped out at the time of the vote, Lyons said.

McDonnell encouraged the LGBT community to take action.

"We anticipated there would be some no votes," he said. "I think if you live in the DART service area, you need to be contact your representative on the DART board and urge them to vote for it."

Lyons said board members, who are appointed by councils in their respective cities, can be reached by calling DART's administrative offices at 214-749-3278. ■

Deaths

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Carl Andrew Trehus, 55, of Grapevine died Wednesday, May 26, at Harris Methodist Hospital HEB, following a 30-hour hospital stay.

Born May 3, 1955 in Broken Arrow, Okla., Tre-



hus had been a Grapevine resident for the last 30 years. He received his J.D. degree from Oklahoma State University and became a licensed attorney in 1982. He served as in-house counsel for Anthem Insurance for many years before he retired.

Trehus was extremely active in his community and as a volunteer. He volunteered for the Grapevine Citizens Fire Academy, the Colleyville Garden Club and the Rainbow Garden Club. He became a Texas master gardener in 2007.

Trehus was also very active in raising and show dogs, and judging. He was a former president of Bluebonnet Yorkshire Terrier Club and a former executive for the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America. And he was a vintage car collector and past member of the North Texas Cadillac LaSalle Club. He will be greatly missed and leave a large void in the life of hundreds of close friends who have known him and loved him.

Trehus is survived by his life partner of 26 years, Todd Zaunbrecker; his parents, Merlin and Linda Trehus of Keller; his brother, Paul Trehus of Littleton, Colo.; his sisters, Ellen Malone of Argyle Wendy Trehus of Boyd; and several nieces and nephews.

Services are scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, May 29, at the Lucas Funeral Home, 700 West Wall St. in Grapevine. ■

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DEMOCRATIC HOLDOUT | Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia was the only Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee to vote against repeal on DADT. (Koji Sasahara/Associated Press)

DADT

From Page 1

"The importance of this vote cannot be overstated — this is the beginning of the end of a shameful ban on open service by lesbian and gay troops that has weakened our national security," Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solomon said in a statement following the Senate committee vote. "The stars are aligning to finally restore honor and integrity to those who serve our country so selflessly."

Aubrey Sarvis, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, called the proposal "a historic roadmap" but noted that it won't immediately end discharges.

"It is important for all gay and lesbian, active-duty service members, including the Reserves and the National Guard, to know they're at risk," Sarvis said.

Rea Carey, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, noted that polls show 78 percent of Americans support a repeal of DADT.

"We call for a prompt vote by the full Senate that will get us even closer to permitting lesbian, gay and bisexual service members to serve openly and honestly," Carey said. "While this is progress toward ending an unjust law, we continue to call for clear assurances of protection, a specific time-

line for repeal implementation, and an immediate halt to the discharges."

The Senate Armed Services Committee, meeting behind closed doors, approved the measure by a vote of 16-12 at about 5:30 p.m. Dallas time. The committee vote broke along party lines, with two exceptions. Sen. Susan Collins of Maine was the lone Republican to vote in favor of the amendment. Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia was the only Democrat to vote against it.

The House vote wasn't recorded until after 9 p.m.

Among those who spoke against the amendment on the House floor was Republican Congressman Pete Sessions of Dallas.

"I think it's a slap in the face to the members of the military to be driven down a road that is driven by a political agenda from the left in this country rather than a wise policy," Sessions said.

DADT was passed in 1993 as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994. According to SLDN, the policy has resulted in the abrupt firing of more than 14,000 men and women because of their sexual orientation, and has led tens of thousands more to voluntarily terminate their careers.

There are an estimated 66,000 gays, lesbians, and bisexuals currently serving in the U.S. military and an estimated 1 million gay, lesbian, and bisexual veterans of the U.S. armed forces. ■

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Texas SBOE's curriculum changes stir controversy

Activist criticizes standards for ignoring LGBT community; says board is trying to impose religious view on schools

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

Changes to the public school social studies curriculum approved May 21 by the Texas State Board of Education have set off a wave of anger and controversy across the state, including among activists who say the standards completely ignore Texas' LGBT community.

"The words sexual orientation, gender identity, LGBT — they don't appear [in the standards] anywhere at all," said Randall Terrell, political director for Equality Texas. "It doesn't mention any LGBT role models. There's no reference to the LGBT civil rights battles or to LGBT historical figures or leaders. It doesn't mention any of the cultural problems that LGBT kids can face. They just didn't deal with the LGBT world at all."

Terrell said that the fact that the social studies curriculum includes the topics of sociology, psychology and history — all subjects that would easily lend themselves to discussion of the LGBT community, its history, its struggles and the unique problems LGBT people can face.

"If you aren't going to address these issues in the topics where they are relevant, where do you discuss them?" he said.

Terrell was one of several people who spoke during the SBOE's May 19 public hearing on the new standards. He said an intern for Equality Texas was among those who spoke, along with at least two members of Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

Representatives of other interests groups were also on hand to protest the revisions, Terrell said.

"Some of the SBOE's proposals are just bat-shit crazy," Terrell said of the list of revisions the board considered. "They want this to be a theocracy, based on religious law, but with their own per-

sonal version of religion. And it's incredibly narrow.

"There's nothing in this about being for the benefit of the kids. It's all definitely to perpetuate their world view, their religious views," he said.

Besides the complete lack of attention to any LGBT-related issue, Terrell said, the board approved "a lot of other crap" intended specifically to promote an ultra-conservative point of view.

"According to them, teachers can no longer describe this country as a 'constitutional democracy,' because they don't want anyone using the word 'Democrat.' Thomas Jefferson has been taken out of the list of leaders of the enlightenment because he created the phrase 'separation of church and state,' and they think this should be a theocracy," Terrell said.

Terrell presented his comments and a 22-page document at the public hearing detailing the many revisions with which Equality Texas takes issue.

Among them were a requirement that sixth graders "identify and describe the effect of increasing government regulation and taxation on economic development and business planning" and "define a multicultural society and consider both the positive and negative qualities of multiculturalism."

"For years, one culture, one ethnicity, one tradition was favored in Texas despite this state's history of always having been a multi-ethnic, multicultural society. When the SBOE implies that a diversity of cultures coexisting and mutually enriching one another could possibly be a negative thing, this board reflects an ethnocentrism that is entirely inappropriate in today's world," Terrell said in prepared comments.

The New York Times, in a recent editorial, criticized the new standards for requiring students to examine why the founding fathers protected religious freedom and how that approach contrasts with "separation of church and state," and for requiring students to "evaluate efforts by global organizations to undermine the U.S. sovereignty" and to analyze the "unintended consequences" of



REMEMBERING THE PAST | State Board of Education member Mary Helen Berlanga who voted against the new, more conservative social studies curriculum, decorated her desk with signage of past minority discrimination. (Jack Plunkett/Associated Press)

such programs as the Great Society and affirmative action.

But, the Times editorial noted, social conservatives on the SBOE did back down from "a few of their most outrageous efforts to tilt the state's social studies curriculum," such as a proposal that President Obama always be referred to as "Barack Hussein Obama" and to rename the "slave trade" as the "Atlantic triangular trade."

Rita Haecker, president of the Texas State Teachers Association, is among those who have criticized the SBOE's power over curriculum. She told the School Library Journal that "ultra-conservative" members of the state board have "a narrow ideological view that not only ignores history but also ignores the changing world."

She said SBOE members are "constantly painting Hispanics in negative terms as foreigners and illegal immigrants, and they are discounting the roles of African Americans as well."

And a group of Texas history professors wrote a joint letter to the SBOE, accusing board members of "distorting the historical record and the functioning of American society."

The controversy has seeped outside the borders of the Lone Star State, due primarily to the huge influence Texas standards can have on textbooks used elsewhere. Because Texas has such a large number of students and therefore spends so much money on textbooks, companies that publish those textbooks often base their offerings on what Texas decrees, and other states are left with few other choices.

But lawmakers in California, which orders almost as many textbooks as Texas and so has just as much pull with the publishers, have refused to give in to the demands of the Texas SBOE. California senators, in fact, recently introduced legislation to ban any of the new Texas standards from being included in California textbooks. ■



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■ texasnews

■ AMELIA COURT, From Page 4

at Amelia Court are treated.

Amelia Court is the Parkland Hospital HIV/AIDS clinic. While it is part of Dallas County-owned UT Southwestern hospital, the medical school that is part of the University of Texas system hires the physicians.

The two remain separate organizations with different missions. While the relationship may work in other areas, patients and doctors complain that they clash in the operation of Amelia Court.

Spokesmen for both Parkland Hospital and UT Southwestern disagree.

"I think the mission of the two integrate well,"

“The ongoing struggle between UT and Parkland is their differing missions. Patient care for HIV is caught in the middle.”

—Dr. Gary Sinclair

Former medical director, Amelia Court

said Josh Floren, senior vice president of medicine services. "They are all about clinical care in a teaching environment. We both support research. They have clinical trials available to our patients. We're very complimentary."

UT Southwestern spokesman John Walls said, "It's kind of like a family. There may be moments when we disagree, but Parkland wouldn't be what it is for the community without UT Southwestern. UT Southwestern wouldn't be what we are without Parkland."

Doctors who have worked at Amelia Court and some patients say the clinic is where the two systems clash.

One said that the reason Limerick's contract is not being renewed is because he was not bringing in revenue for patient care. Although he is seeing patients, Parkland is not processing his patients for billing because he is not a medical doctor.

On paper, he appears to have no billings although he actually sees a large portion of the patients coming through Amelia Court.

Another reason cited for Limerick's dismissal was failure to bring in enough clinical trials. He is, however, involved in clinical trials. One Amelia Court patient said he was part of an ongoing study on lipodystrophy. He said Limerick is his principle contact for the study.

Lipodystrophy involves either wasting syndrome caused by HIV or fatty deposits that have been linked to taking protease inhibitors and more lately linked to reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

Limerick is listed as the principal investigator for the study on the National Institute of Health website.

Another doctor still listed as sub-investigator

in the lipodystrophy study is Dr. Gary Sinclair. He was the former medical director of Amelia Court.

Sinclair, who left UT Southwestern in April, contacted Dallas Voice from Pretoria, South Africa, where is now training nurse practitioners to administer HIV medications under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) that is better known as the Bush AIDS Initiative.

He said that since Levine was put in charge of hiring for Amelia Court, about 23 doctors have come and gone. He said some were fired, some did not have contracts renewed, and others "quit under duress."

Sinclair said he left after hiring attorneys in a successful effort defend himself against personal charges made by Levine.

"The ongoing struggle between UT and Parkland is their differing missions. Patient care for HIV is caught in the middle," Sinclair said.

While Parkland is charged with caring for Dallas County's indigent and uninsured population, UT Southwestern is more concerned with clinical research and training physicians, he said.

And some doctors practicing at the clinic have said they feel there is a disregard for patient care by UT Southwestern, at least when it come to patients at Amelia Court.

Meanwhile, Parkland has received quite a bit of Ryan White funding but has not used most of that funding for Amelia Court. Most of the money has been invested in their Community Oriented Primary Care facilities located around the county.

Dr. Ampro Bernal, formerly an Amelia Court physician, is now a Parkland employee working at the Irving COPC.

UT Southwestern only staffs Amelia Court. Physicians at the community clinics are Parkland employees.

Nassar and another physician wanted to transfer their employment from UT Southwestern to Parkland but remain at Amelia Court. Instead, they were offered positions at community clinics by Parkland. But to remain at Amelia Court, they would need to remain with UT Southwestern under Levine.

Sinclair said that most of the doctors at the COPCs do not have the experience to treat people with HIV effectively. He said that even those with some HIV experience didn't have the facilities to treat those in need of higher levels of care.

He said that the COPCs do not provide the infusion services that Amelia Court has and have no emergency services.

Floren agreed that Amelia Court provides a higher level of critical care than the COPCs.

"If we have patients who are higher risk, there's a larger support structure around you — labs, infusion, dental services," he said.

But for a large number of people with HIV, it has become a manageable chronic disease that can be handled effectively in a community clinic setting, Floren said.

He said three of Parkland's 11 COPCs have HIV practices. One is Bluit-Flowers Health Center on Overton Road off south I-35. Two are at Southeast Dallas Health Center on Elam Road in Pleasant Grove. One of those clinics specializes in HIV care for women. ■

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CATCH OF THE DAY | The Rev. Carol West, recipient of the 2010 Kuchling Humanitarian Award, is an avid fisherman. In fact, she was vacationing on Cedar Creek Lake, where she hauled in this 30-pound catfish, when she received word she had been chosen for the award.

WEST

From Page 1

great and wonderful people [the past recipients] is that every one of them has worked selflessly and has lifted others up on their shoulders.

BTD Co-Chair Ron Guillard said West has earned her place on that list.

"It will be an honor to present the prestigious Kuchling Humanitarian Award to [West] this fall. [She] has embraced the GLBT community in Dallas-Fort Worth, and the community has embraced her.

"So many times, Carol has stepped in and provided much-needed help when no one else was willing. Countless times she has been there to speak for us, to counsel us, to comfort us, to laugh with us," Guillard said.

West started her professional life in the field of education, spending 17 years as a high school English teacher in Irving. But, she said, "I was leading a double life. I was closeted.

"I loved teaching, and I loved my students. But I knew I was called to the ministry. And I knew I couldn't do both," she said. So she left teaching and went to work as executive director of a suicide prevention hotline in Tarrant County. Then in 1986, she began serving as a student clergy on the staff at Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas, the church now known as Cathedral of Hope and affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

West recalled that she started going to MCC Dallas "back in the early days, when AIDS had just come to Dallas, back when we still called it GRID, or Gay-Related Immune Deficiency. I just knew that this was the ministry I was called to. Don Eastman had just left. Steven Pace was the interim pastor, and he asked me to help out."

And so she did. And there was plenty of work to do. West was, in fact, one of the first AIDS chaplains to be funded by the state of Texas when she went to work at MCC.

"Back in those days, none of us knew much about this disease. There was a lot of fear, a lot of rumors and very little knowledge," West said. "Back then it wasn't uncommon for food trays to be left outside the doors of AIDS patients who were hospitalized. We would pick up those trays and feed the patients. The nurses weren't homophobic; they just didn't know much about this disease, and they were scared, understandably."

She also recalled how ambulance drivers would refuse to transport patients with AIDS, and many churches were unwilling to conduct funerals for the people who died of AIDS.

"It was a tough, scary time. But everyone pitched in to do what we could," West said of those early days. "I saw this community responding to a crisis, and I saw how empowered we all were when we all worked together. It did something to me. I had never seen that before, what people could do working together, and it did

■ WEST, Page 20

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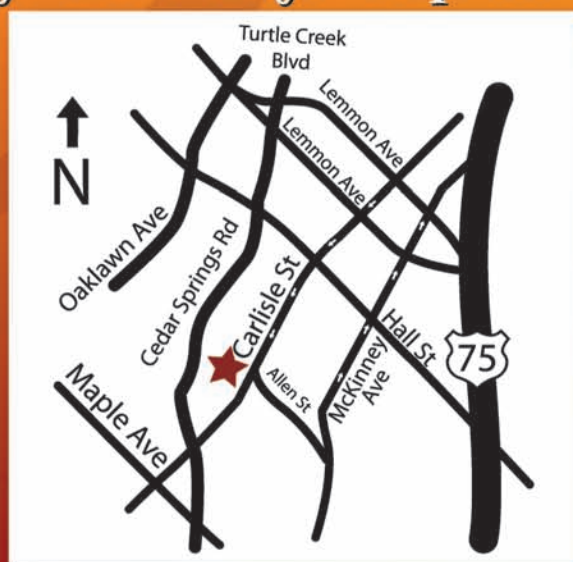
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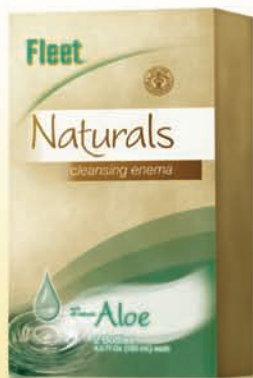
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■ WEST, From Page 19

something to me.”

West said that she enjoyed working for Cathedral of Hope, as the church had come to be known. But when she was offered the pastor’s position at “a little church with 35 members,” she couldn’t turn it down.

“This was a congregation with 35 people. They didn’t own the church where they worshipped. They’d never had a full-time pastor. They didn’t know what to do, but they knew they were taking a huge step in hiring a full-time pastor.”

That huge step paid off for the little church. Celebration Community Church now has about 500 members, and owns its own facilities, including a historic church building on Pennsylvania Avenue near downtown Fort Worth, and a building next door that houses a counseling center.

And it paid off for West, too.

“I realized that I was also called to help build community in Fort Worth,” she said. “We have worked very hard [at Celebration] at being a center of the community for all people — not just for people who attend our church, or people who are LGBT, but all people.

“Together, through God, we’ve built the largest LGBT church in Tarrant County. But more importantly, we’ve built a community where people love one another and truly care about each other.”

But West’s church- and community-building didn’t stop with Fort Worth. In 2003, she said, she

was approached by a group of four LGBT people who spent all or part of their time living in Gun Barrel City on Cedar Creek Lake, southeast of the Metroplex.

“These were people I knew, people I fished with. When I was growing up, my family had a place on Cedar Creek Lake, and I’ve always come back here to vacation and fish.

“What we have in the Metroplex that is so special is that our men and our women work together. That doesn’t happen everywhere, and we should be very pleased to have it.

— Carol West

“But they came to me, and they said, ‘Will you start a church down at Gun Barrel City?’ I said, ‘Well, I’ve already got a gig on Sundays.’ But they said, ‘We’ll settle for Saturdays,’” she recalled. “So I talked to the board at Celebration about it, and they agreed, and I said I’d do it for six months.”

As it ended up, West spent the next two-and-a-half years traveling to Gun Barrel City on Satur-

days to conduct services at Celebration on the Lake Church. Then she’d head back to Fort Worth for Sunday services at Celebration Community Church.

Then Celebration on the Lake became its own separate church, and now West just goes to lake for R&R.

In the past year — since the June 29 raid by Fort Worth police and agents with the Texas Alcoholic Beverages Commission on the Rainbow Lounge — West has also been working with Fairness Fort Worth, the group formed to first help witnesses give statements about what happened during the raid and, since then, to work on improving relations between the city of Fort Worth and its LGBT community.

West called working with the new organization a “wonderful opportunity to ... meet so many people who do so much for the LGBT community in Tarrant County.”

Looking back over her life so far, West said it’s hard to choose any one moment as her most memorable. “There are just so many moments. You look back at your life and it’s like watching a movie reel. You see so many moments that stand out as being special,” she said.

“I was lucky,” West continued. “I had a wonderful family that supported me in whatever I did. I guess what I am most proud of is my family — the one I was born to and the extended family I have created, especially my partner of 23 years, Angela King. And the congregation [at Celebration Community Church]. They are my family, my blood.

“Wherever I have been, I have been supported. It’s just so amazing what people can do when they work together,” West said. “What we have in the Metroplex that is so special is that our men and our women work together. That doesn’t happen everywhere, and we should be very pleased to have it. We are fortunate.

“It’s been a good ride for me. I enjoy working with our community. I have seen a lot of changes,” she said. “We have a long way to go, yes, but we’ve already come so far. And I am just overjoyed to have been a part of it. It’s something I never dreamed I could do.”

Black Tie Co-Chair Nan Arnold said that the LGBT community in North Texas has been fortunate that West was willing to follow her dreams and put her time and effort into the community.

“There’s rarely an event in Dallas-Fort Worth where Carol West isn’t present. Her connection with our community is strong and sincere,” Arnold said. “Carol truly loves people — all people — and she has a stellar history of going above and beyond to lift people up and make all of us strong as a result.

“The Black Tie Dinner board of directors could not have chosen a person to better personify our 2010 theme, ‘Stand Strong,’” Arnold said.

The 2010 Black Tie Dinner — the 29th annual — will be held Nov. 6 at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel. Dinner officials announced earlier this year that Fort Worth-based American Airlines will receive the Elizabeth Burch Equality Award at this year’s dinner. The keynote speaker and the recipient of the Media Award have not yet been announced.



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BIG IMPRESSION | Steven Lindsey, left, and Rebecca Ramos are always looking for new items that will fit into their customers' marketing plans. They say they may be their own best customers because they have dozens of items with their own company logo on it. That's just part of their own marketing plan. They say that when customers see how they use their items to promote themselves, their clients comprehend it better. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Ramos, Lindsey put in the hours, effort needed to make two-person company a big presence

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Crain & Craig is a small business with a big can-do attitude. And that's what earned the company the title of "Business of the Year" from the GLBT North Texas Chamber of Commerce this year.

The company, which is just a few years old, concentrates on selling promotional items to other companies, but also does marketing for some of their clients.

Co-owner Rebecca Ramos laughed as she told the story of attending a trade show with her business partner, Steven Lindsey. They were surprised that other competitors were not handing out promotional items as generously as they were.

"There's a person Steven knew there, and he's a competitor here in town," Ramos said, adding that Lindsey approached the competitor and asked why they weren't distributing items as aggressively as he and Ramos were.

"He said, 'We don't really do much because at every event, you guys do it so well. And we're really small,'" Ramos said. "Steven asked, 'How many people do you have?' and he goes, 'Oh, there's only 12 of us.' And Steven says, 'Dude, there's only two of us.'"

Lindsey said they were their own best customers. "We have about 45 products with our brand on it," Lindsey said.

■ **CRAIN**, Page 31

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Realtors association prohibits anti-gay discrimination

National Association of Gay and Lesbian Realtors proposal accepted by National Association of Realtors

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The board of directors of the National Association of Realtors has voted a change to the association's code of ethics to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The vote came during NAR's national meeting in Washington, D.C., on May 15.

The National Association of Gay and Lesbian Real Estate Professionals proposed the policy to NAR.

Jeff Berger is NAGLREP's founder and CEO. The organization has 30 chapters in 21 states. Bob McCranie and Barbara Stone are the Dallas chapter leaders.

"It's an exciting time to be in real estate and see our community be recognized by NAR," McCranie said.

Changes to NAR's code of ethics must come through a state realtor's association, Berger said. Eric Kodner, a NAGLREP board member, brought the proposal to NAR on behalf of the Wisconsin Board of Realtors.

Berger said there were a number of examples of discrimination based on sexual orientation that prompted the change.

"We believe it was widespread but pushed under the rug," Berger said. "It was happening all over the country."

McCranie said that discrimination is more subtle now than it was years ago, but it still goes on.

Berger mentioned one homeowner in Nashville who said, "I'm not selling to queers."

Another story he told was reported in Dallas Voice on May 8, 2008, about a Keller Williams agent in the Dallas City Center office on Lower Greenville Avenue.

That Realtor told a potential client with a property to sell, "I would not assist a person to live in a gay area. Licensed agents are accountable to help clients, care for their needs, not assist a harmful lifestyle."

That agent's license is now inactive, according to NAR board member Jeff Urdike of Re/Max Urban in Downtown Dallas.

Urdike said that the proposal passed on a general consent vote at the board meeting without discussion. He didn't believe there was much underlying opposition to the measure.

The city of Dallas already prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing. Someone who violates that could be subject to a fine up to \$500.

He said that when someone joins NAR, they agree to a certain code of ethics. A Realtor who is brought up on an ethics violation could be mandated to do additional training within a certain

period of time or could lose their Realtor designation and have their membership revoked.

Urdike said he didn't think this would have a big effect on how most people do business.

"But people forget that this works both ways," he said.

When he works with LGBT clients, they will sometimes ask him where the gay neighborhoods are. He said that under the amended code of ethics, he really could no longer answer that question.

The amended code of ethics does not affect

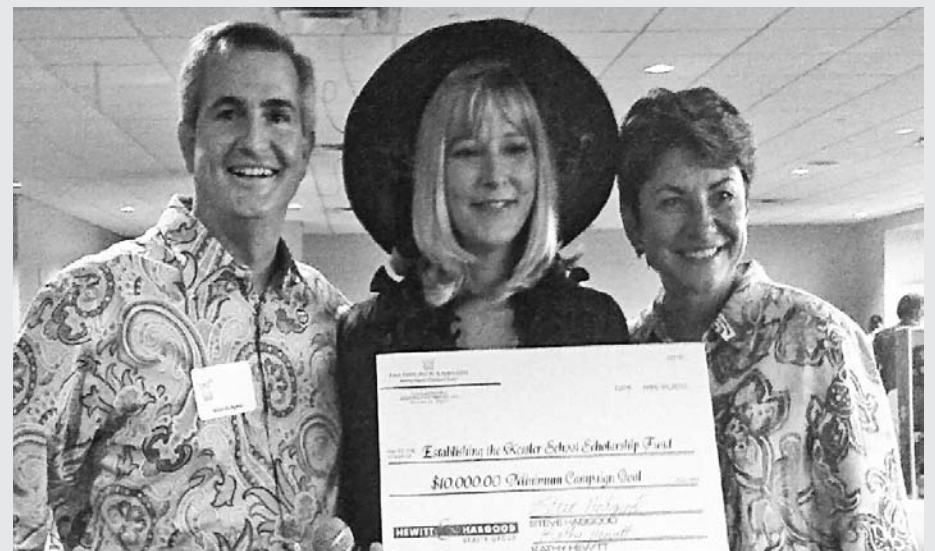
state licensing or local law. However, a proposal to amend the Fair Housing Law would prohibit discrimination nationally and affect all statewide and local agencies.

Rep. John Conyers met with representatives from NAGLREP and is co-sponsor of the Fair and Inclusive Housing Rights Act of 2010. This would amend the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in housing sales and rentals, residential real estate-related transactions and brokerage services. ■



Jeff Urdike

SCHOLARSHIP



Kathy Hewitt and Steve Habgood, of the Hewitt & Habgood Realty Group, recently announced a matching grant fundraising campaign to establish the new Kessler School Scholarship Fund in honor of the school's 10th anniversary. The campaign, in association with broker Dave Perry-Miller & Associates, has a goal of raising a minimum of \$10,000 for the scholarship fund. Hewitt & Habgood and Dave Perry-Miller & Associates will match, dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000 for each dollar donated to the scholarship fund in the coming year. The scholarship fund will offer grants to help offset the cost of tuition for those families not in a position to afford the entire tuition. The Kessler School (preschool through fifth grade) offers a well-rounded curriculum focusing on a child-centered philosophy tailored to each child's needs, using a variety of teaching styles and techniques, supported by a growing emphasis in the fine arts. It also offers daily physical education activities, a fostering of spiritual awareness and growth in a nurturing, loving environment. The Kessler School is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools, and also offers before and after school care, after school enrichment programs and summer camp. The Kessler School is located at 1215 Turner Ave. For more information, call 214-942-2220 or go online to TheKesslerSchool.com.



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2nd lawsuit challenging DOMA gets hearing

Attorney with Massachusetts' AG office tells judge federal law violates states' right to define marriage; federal lawyer says administration opposes DOMA but must defend it

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@keennewservice.com

For the second time in three weeks, a federal judge in Boston has heard arguments in a lawsuit that asks the court to strike down a significant part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

In *Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. Health and Human Services*, U.S. District Court Judge Joseph Tauro is considering whether the federal law's definition of marriage — one man and one woman — violates state sovereignty when it comes to marriage licensing.

On May 6, in *Gill v. Office of Personnel Management, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders*, a gay legal group, asked Tauro to consider whether DOMA violates the right of eight same-sex couples to equal protection of the law.

Maura T. Healey, chief of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Civil Rights Division, told Judge Tauro that Section 3 of DOMA — the section that limits the definition of marriage for federal benefits to straight couples — violates the state's constitutional right, under the federal Constitution, to sovereign authority to define and regulate the marital status of its residents.

DOMA, said Healey, is an "animus-based national marriage law" that intrudes on core state authority and "forces the state to discriminate against its own citizens."

She likened DOMA to Colorado's Amendment 2 initiative that was struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1996 with its *Romer v. Evans* decision. Amendment 2 said no law in the state of Colorado could prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"DOMA, like Amendment 2," said Healey, "is a wholesale, unprecedented denial of protection for a group of people."

"Imagine the federal government giving money for the construction of schools and telling us that we can build them for white children but not for black children," said Healey.

Or imagine, she said, that the federal government would give money to subsidize health care for men, but not for women.

"That's what DOMA does to Massachusetts," said Healey. "It gives us funding but tells us to treat one category of married people differently than another. It forces us to violate equal protection."

As GLAD did in *Gill v. Office of Personnel Management*, Healey urged Tauro to apply heightened



MASS PROTEST | Keegan O'Brien of Worcester, Mass., leads chants as members of the LGBT community protest the Defense of Marriage Act outside a Democratic National Committee fundraiser in June 2009. This week, the state challenged DOMA in federal court. (Elise Amendola/Associated Press)

scrutiny in considering whether the federal government had any legitimate need for DOMA. Heightened scrutiny would require the government to come up with a fairly significant reason for treating gay couples differently under the law.

But Healey told Tauro that even if he uses only the lowest level of review — simple rational basis — the government still cannot identify a reason to treat gay couples differently, other than animus.

She noted the federal government has "disavowed" the reasons Congress offered in 1996 when it passed the law. And she said it has no evidence to support the reasons it offers now.

Christopher Hall, the attorney arguing on behalf of the federal government, repeated at least twice, that the current administration "does not support DOMA."

He said the administration believes the law is discriminatory and that it should be repealed. But, he said, federal attorneys "have an obligation to defend it," nonetheless.

Hall said the government's two key points are: 1. Congress should be able to control the meaning of terms used in its own statutes; and 2. that Congress should be able to control how federal money is allocated.

When Judge Tauro echoed Healey's contention that marriage has always been left to the states to define and regulate, Hall disagreed. He said the federal government has been involved in defining marriage for immigration laws.

He said DOMA does not, as Healey contended, violate the 10th amendment.

The 10th amendment says, "Powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people."

Hall said DOMA does not prevent any state from defining marriage or who may marry." It simply defines marriage "for the limited purposes of federal benefits," said Hall.

Tauro interrupted Hall at one point to note that his arguments were "interesting and valuable. ... But we're here dealing with something basic. Are these people married or not?"

"They are married in the state," said Hall.

"But not for federal purposes?" asked Tauro.

"They're not eligible for federal benefits," said Hall.

Tauro prompted Hall to respond to Healey's claim that DOMA was coercing Massachusetts into discriminating against gay couples by the threat of losing billions of dollars in federal funds in Medicaid (hence the identification of HHS as a defendant).

Hall said DOMA does nothing different than what the government did in 1984 when it conditioned federal funds for highway construction on each state adopting a federal drinking age minimum of 21.

At the end of the 90-minute argument, Tauro said he would issue his ruling "shortly."

There was not as big a crowd May 26 for the Commonwealth's case against DOMA as there was on May 6 for GLAD's case.

Attorney Mary Bonauto — who has won enormous recognition and publicity for winning the landmark decision in 2003 that enabled gay couples to start receiving marriage licenses in Massachusetts in 2004 — argued GLAD's case against DOMA. And the federal government's defense was delivered by the somewhat notorious Department of Justice official Scott Simpson.

Simpson has been a key figure in the Obama Department of Justice's controversial briefs defending DOMA and saying it was not discriminatory against gays.

But both the state's lawsuit and GLAD's are very precise attacks against DOMA — targeting just Section 3 — and most legal observers believe both cases could very well go as high as the U.S. Supreme Court for resolution.

Attorney General Martha Coakley, who attended the oral argument Wednesday and sat in the public section, said, in her office's original briefs on the case, that more than 16,000 same-sex couples have obtained marriage licenses in Massachusetts since May 2004, when the state began allowing gay couples to obtain marriage licenses the same as heterosexual couples.

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- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if KALETRA will harm your unborn baby. Birth control pills or patches may not work as well while you take KALETRA. To prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA, women who take birth control pills or use estrogen patch for birth control should either use a different type of birth control or an extra form of birth control. Talk to your doctor about how to prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA.
- take KALETRA during pregnancy, talk with your doctor about how you can take part in an antiretroviral pregnancy registry. The purpose of the pregnancy registry is to follow the health of you and your baby.

- are breast-feeding. Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV-1. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby while taking KALETRA, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. If your baby does not already have HIV-1, there is a chance that HIV-1 can be passed to your baby through your breast milk.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including

prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Many medicines interact with KALETRA. Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your doctor or pharmacist. Your doctor can tell you if it is safe to take KALETRA with other medicines. Your doctor may need to change the dose of other medicines while you take KALETRA.

Medicines you should not take with KALETRA.

Serious problems or death can happen if you take these medicines with KALETRA:

- ergot containing medicines, including:
 - ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot, Ergomar, Ergostat, Medihaler Ergotamine, Wigraine, Wigrettes)
 - dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Embolex, Migranal®)
 - ergonovine, ergonovine and methylergonovine (Ergotrate, Methergine), ergotamine and methylergonovine
 - Ergotrate Maleate, methylergonovine maleate (Methergine)
- triazolam (Halcion®), midazolam hydrochloride oral syrup
- pimozone (Orap®)
- the cholesterol lowering medicines lovastatin (Mevacor®) or simvastatin (Zocor®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®) only when used for the treatment of pulmonary arterial

hypertension. (See “Medicines that may need changes” and “What are the possible side effects of Kaletra?” for information about the use of sildenafil for erectile problems.)

- alfuzosin (Uroxatral®)

Medicines that you should not take with KALETRA since they may make KALETRA not work as well:

- the herbal supplement St. John’s Wort (*hypericum perforatum*)
- rifampin (Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®)

Medicines that may need changes:

- birth control pills that contain estrogen (“the pill”) or the birth control (contraceptive) patches
- certain cholesterol lowering medicines, such as atorvastatin (Lipitor®) or rosuvastatin (Crestor®)
- certain other antiretroviral medicines, such as efavirenz (Atripla® and Sustiva®), nevirapine (Viramune®), amprenavir (Agenerase®), fosamprenavir calcium (Lexiva®) and nelfinavir (Viracept®)
- anti-seizure medicines, such as phenytoin (Dilantin®) carbamazepine, (Tegretol®), phenobarbital
- medicines for erectile problems, such as sildenafil (Viagra®, Revatio®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®)
- medicines for tuberculosis (TB), such as rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- inhaled steroid medicines, such as fluticasone propionate (Flonase®)
- inhaled medicines such as salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol in combination with fluticasone propionate (Advair®). Your doctor may need to change to a different medicine
- medicines for gout, such as colchicine (Colcrys®)
- medicines to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), such as bosentan (Tracleer®) or tadalafil (Adcirca®)

If you are not sure if you are taking a medicine above, ask your doctor.

How should I take KALETRA?

- Take KALETRA every day exactly as prescribed by your doctor.
- It is very important to set up a dosing schedule and follow it every day.
- Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- Swallow KALETRA tablets whole. Do not chew, break, or crush KALETRA tablets.
- KALETRA tablets can be taken with or without food.

- If you are taking both Videx® (didanosine) and KALETRA:

- didanosine can be taken at the same time as KALETRA tablets, without food.
- take didanosine either one hour before or two hours after taking KALETRA oral solution.
- Do not miss a dose of KALETRA. This could make the virus harder to treat. If you forget to take KALETRA, take the missed dose right away. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Instead, follow your regular dosing schedule by taking your next dose at its regular time. Do not take more than one dose of KALETRA at one time.
- If you take more than the prescribed dose of KALETRA, call your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
- Take KALETRA oral solution with food to help it work better.
- If KALETRA is being used for your child, tell your doctor if your child’s weight changes.
- KALETRA **should not** be given one time each day in children. When giving KALETRA to your child, give KALETRA exactly as prescribed.
- KALETRA oral solution contains a large amount of alcohol.
 - If a young child drinks more than the recommended dose, it could make them sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
 - Talk with your doctor if you take or plan to take metronidazole or disulfiram. You can have severe nausea and vomiting if you take these medicines with KALETRA.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of KALETRA. The amount of HIV-1 virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may become resistant to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- KALETRA can be taken with acid reducing agents used for heartburn or reflux such as omeprazole (Prilosec®) and ranitidine (Zantac®) with no dose adjustment.
- KALETRA should not be administered once daily in combination with carbamazepine (Tegretol® and Epitol®), phenobarbital (Luminol®), or phenytoin (Dilantin®).

Avoid doing things that can spread HIV infection. KALETRA does not stop you from passing HIV infection to others. Do not share needles, other injection equipment or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

KALETRA can cause serious side effects.

- See “What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?”
- **Liver problems.** Liver problems, including death, can happen in people who take KALETRA. Blood tests in people who take KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these signs and symptoms of liver problems:
 - loss of appetite
 - yellow skin and whites of eyes (jaundice)
 - dark-colored urine
 - pale colored stools, itchy skin
 - stomach area (abdominal) pain.
- **Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis).** Some people who take KALETRA get inflammation of the pancreas which may be serious and cause death. You have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain while taking KALETRA. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- **Increases in certain fat (triglycerides and cholesterol) levels in your blood.** Large increases of triglycerides and cholesterol can be seen in blood test results of some people who take KALETRA. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia).** Some people who take protease inhibitors including KALETRA get new or more serious diabetes, or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you notice an increase

in thirst or urinate often while taking KALETRA.

- **Changes in body fat.** Changes in body fat in some people who take antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- **Increased bleeding for hemophiliacs.** Some people with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors including KALETRA.
- **Increased risk of certain problems when you take medicines used for the treatment of erectile problems such as sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®) with KALETRA:**
 - **low blood pressure.** If you get dizzy or faint, you need to lie down. Tell your doctor if you feel dizzy, or have fainting spells.
 - **vision changes.** Tell your doctor right away if you have vision changes.
 - **penis erection lasting more than 4 hours.** If you are a male and have an erection that lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

Common side effects of KALETRA include:

- diarrhea
- nausea
- stomach area (abdominal) pain
- feeling weak
- vomiting
- headache
- upset stomach

These are not all of the possible side effects of KALETRA. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Tell your doctor about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store KALETRA?

KALETRA tablets:

- Store KALETRA tablets at room temperature, between 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C).
- Do not keep KALETRA tablets out of the container it comes in for longer

than 2 weeks, especially in areas where there is a lot of humidity. Keep the container closed tightly.

KALETRA oral solution:

- Store KALETRA oral solution in a refrigerator, between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C). KALETRA oral solution that is kept refrigerated may be used until the expiration date printed on the label.
- KALETRA oral solution that is stored at room temperature (less than 77°F or 25°C) should be used within 2 months.
- Keep KALETRA away from high heat.

Throw away any medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need.

Keep KALETRA and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about KALETRA

KALETRA does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV-1 infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use KALETRA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give KALETRA to other people, even if they have the same condition you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about KALETRA. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about KALETRA that is written for health professionals. For more information about KALETRA call 1-800-633-9110 or go to www.KALETRA.com.

What are the ingredients in KALETRA?

Active ingredient: lopinavir and ritonavir

Inactive ingredients:

KALETRA 200 mg lopinavir and 50 mg ritonavir tablets: copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: hypromellose, titanium dioxide, polyethylene glycol 400, hydroxypropyl cellulose, talc, colloidal silicon dioxide, polyethylene glycol 3350, yellow ferric oxide 172, and polysorbate 80.

KALETRA 100 mg lopinavir and 25 mg ritonavir tablets: copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide,

and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: polyvinyl alcohol, titanium dioxide, talc, polyethylene glycol 3350, and yellow ferric oxide E172.

KALETRA oral solution: acesulfame potassium, alcohol, artificial cotton candy flavor, citric acid, glycerin, high fructose corn syrup, Magnasweet-110 flavor, menthol, natural and artificial vanilla flavor, peppermint oil, polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil, povidone, propylene glycol, saccharin sodium, sodium chloride, sodium citrate, and water.

KALETRA oral solution contains 42.4% alcohol (v/v). “See How should I take KALETRA?”

KALETRA Tablets, 200 mg lopinavir/ 50 mg ritonavir
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KALETRA Tablets, 100 mg lopinavir/ 25 mg ritonavir and KALETRA Oral Solution
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036-377027 MASTER



039-389303

Anti-bullying bills making progress around the country



SIGNING PROTECTIONS INTO LAW | Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, left, chats with Sirdeaner Walker, of Springfield, Mass., right, as he pauses during a bill signing at the Statehouse in Boston on May 3. Walker's son, 11-year-old Carl Walker-Hoover, who Walker said had been tormented by classmates, hanged himself in 2009. The bill, signed by Patrick, is meant to crack down on school bullies and require teachers to report bullying to principals, but it does not enumerate the groups to whom the protections apply. (Steven Senne/Associated Press)

But even some supporters say bills should not specifically identify bullying based on sexual orientation, gender identity as prohibited

DANA RUDOLPH | Keen News Service
lisakeen@keennewservice.com

There's a tug-of-war underway to pass more laws to address the growing problem of bullying, and it centers on whether such laws should "enumerate" bullying that targets LGBT youth.

Only eight of the 43 states that have laws to address safe schools enumerate — or specifically identify — bullying based on sexual orientation and gender identity as prohibited conduct.

The New York Assembly passed the enumerated "Dignity For All Students Act" on May 17 and sent it back to the Senate, where an earlier version had died. But a bill that sought to address bullying in Michigan died in 2008 in the state Senate because senators could not agree on whether to enumerate the categories of victims. A new, non-enumerated version of the bill this year passed the state House on May 12, and now heads back to the Senate.

The right-wing American Family Association has been actively opposing language that defines

bullying as "reasonably perceived to be motivated by animus or by an actual or perceived characteristic."

In an action alert to supporters in early May, the AFA said the Michigan bill would make bullying a "thought crime" and would still define it as "motivated by a student's "characteristics," including homosexual behavior and cross-dressing."

In the past several weeks, Massachusetts, Mississippi and Wisconsin have each enacted non-enumerated anti-bullying laws even though LGBT advocates had been pushing for enumerated versions. A non-enumerated bill strengthening Georgia's anti-bullying laws passed that state's legislature April 29 and awaits Gov. Sonny Perdue's signature.

New Hampshire is also feeling its way around the issue. The state already has a non-enumerated anti-bullying law. The state Senate passed a bill May 12 (already passed by the House) that would update the law to include "cyber-bullying" — using electronic devices to harass or intimidate other students. The bill notes, "Bullying in schools has historically included actions shown to be motivated by a pupil's actual or perceived ... sexual orientation [or] ... gender identity and expression."

But, the new bill would not require school

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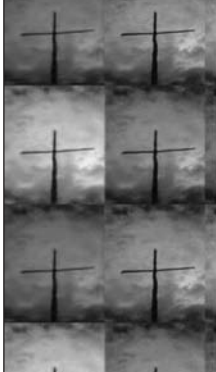


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BULLYING

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districts to adopt policies that specifically include protection on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

In contrast, a bill in Illinois that covers bullying specifically targeted at students because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, among other attributes, is now awaiting the signature of Gov. Pat Quinn.

A 2007 survey of students by the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network found that enumerated policies are more effective than generic ones. In schools where the policies enumerated bullying based on sexual orientation, students were found to be more likely to report harassment problems to staff, and staff were more likely to help.

"For an anti-bullying law to truly protect all students, it must enumerate characteristics of those students most often targeted," said GLSEN spokesperson Daryl Presgraves. "Naming the problem is crucial to addressing it. ... Generic policies offer little benefit, and when it comes to hearing homophobic language, they are as effective as having no law at all."

Elizabeth H. Fregiato, Director of Policy and Programs for Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays National, agrees.

"While we know that the intent of anti-bullying legislation is good," she said, "the fact is that research has proven that, in states with non-enumerated policies, students are no more protected and schools are no more effective in dealing with this issue than states with no policies at all."

She added that even enumerated laws must be backed with funding for schools to provide anti-bullying training and resources to educators.

But one of the most high profile national groups pushing for laws and education to address the problem of bullying, "Bully Police," is also one of the key opponents of enumeration.

Brenda High, founder of Bully Police, told the NY Daily News in March that she believes that the state's legislature has repeatedly failed to pass an anti-bullying law because the bill includes language that gives "special protection" to gay children and those with special needs.

On its website (bullypolice.org), Bully Police explains, "Defining victims will slow the process of lawmaking, dividing political parties who will argue over which victims get special rights over other victims. ... All children who are bullied are victimized and they all need to be protected."

High founded the group after she lost her son Jared to a bullying-related suicide in 1998.

Bully Police representatives have been visible in pushing for the anti-bullying laws that have been enacted in several other states, including Arizona, Florida, New Hampshire and Virginia, all of which are non-enumerated.

The Florida law, the "Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up for All Students Act," is named for the son of Bully Police state co-director Debra Johnston.

One of the "Recommended Speakers" listed on the Bully Police website is Warren Throckmorton, a professor of psychology at Grove City College in Pennsylvania. Throckmorton is a leading pro-



Brenda High

ponent of counseling aimed at encouraging gay people to overcome their same-sex attractions, and he contributed articles to High's book "Bullicide in America."

Throckmorton was also listed as a contact on a press release concerning a 2005 workshop held by Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays & Gays. At that conference, Misty Cole, Ohio state director for Bully Police, was invited to speak about why Bully Police believed anti-bullying laws should not be enumerated.

(Throckmorton has since become critical of some of PFOX's extreme anti-gay positions and is no longer affiliated with the organization.)

Throckmorton also asked High "for her advice to Christians who want to make a difference" for bullied kids. He used her answer in his 2009 article, "That's So Gay" — The Deadly Consequences of Bullying."

Her reply read in part, "We must teach our children Christian values and ask our schools to teach 'Do Unto Others' values so that all of our children can have a safe and bully-free environment to learn."

High's words reflect Throckmorton's own promotion of the "Golden Rule" — "Do to others as you would have them do to you" — as a way to combat bullying.

Throckmorton has created the "Golden Rule Day" as an alternative observance on the same day as GLSEN's annual "Day of Silence." GLSEN's event is meant to bring attention to LGBT-based bullying and harassment. Throckmorton's event is for "Christian students" who condone neither homosexual behavior nor harassment or violence based upon it, but pledge to follow the Golden Rule.

The battle over enumeration could soon move to the federal level where several bills have been introduced to address the issue. So far, those bills include language to enumerate bullying against LGBT youth.

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CRAIN

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But it has to be useful and something that's going to last longer," Lindsey said. "I think when people see how we do it, they comprehend it more."

Their customers see that they don't make recommendations they wouldn't follow themselves.

Craig & Crain projects the successful image of a much larger company. They share space with an advertising agency in a larger downtown office in the West End. Calls are answered with the message, "For marketing, press 1. For promotional items, press 2" But all calls are all forwarded to Lindsey's cell phone. They joke that to get through, just press any number you like.

Even the company name suggests different owners. "Crain" and "Craig" are the partners' middle names.

“ “ When we're at lunch, we're working. We take our notebooks and we're coming up with tag lines and searching for products. ... It's what you have to do when you're a small business.

—Steven Lindsey
Crain & Craig

But along with that big image comes quite a bit of hard work, over-promising and over-committing that must be achieved to satisfy their customers, Ramos said.

For several years, Lindsey and Ramos, along with a third partner, ran a marketing firm. They counted Wal-Mart among their customers. Despite the retail giant's reputation for devouring and destroying small companies, both describe their relationship with the company in good terms.

They created product displays for several departments not just to increase sales but also to improve consumer knowledge and minimize returns. Once approved, they would have to replicate the display for more than 4,000 stores.

That experience with the world's largest retailer gave them the confidence to pursue business relationships with any other store chain. Now when a retailer asks them to create a display and duplicate it for just 100 stores, Ramos said that's easy.

When the previous partnership broke up, Lindsey and Ramos knew they wanted to continue working together.

They knew they were going to create a new business, and Lindsey said it didn't matter what. He said it could be a laundry business, as long as they were working together.

They decided to concentrate on promotional

items.

But their marketing background didn't stop intruding into the business. Lindsey admits that sometimes it adds to sales, but sometimes it hurts.

He said that he will talk a customer out of buying an item if it doesn't fit the image of the company, and he prefers items that customers will keep rather than something they'll use once and toss out or consume.

However, their marketing experience has increased their business overall. He explained that promotional items should be part of a larger campaign, and that's something he helps his clients understand.

Without an effective marketing plan to use the promotional items, they won't be effective and repeat sales would be limited, Lindsey said.

Ramos said they are always looking for new ideas or how something might work for a particular company. Both were sitting with their laptops open.

"When we're at lunch, we're working," Lindsey said. "We take our notebooks and we're coming up with tag lines and searching for products. Or I'm at home watching television and I see something and think it would be perfect for someone."

Lindsey said he's never been happier than he is with Crain & Craig but his business consumes every waking hour.

"It's what you have to do when you're a small business," he said. ■

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Straight allies need to come out, too

In the years to come, when you look back at the LGBT rights struggle, will you be able to say you were part of the fight, or will you have to say you stayed on the sidelines?

DWAYNE BYNUM | Special Contributor

I have always been somewhat of a history buff and have been especially intrigued by the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. I think about the struggle led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and how I wish I could have been a part of it. But unfortunately, a coward's bullet ended his life when I was 3 years old.

I see pictures of the marches and can't help but notice the few white specs in a sea of black. Those whites were allies of the movement, but they couldn't have been the only ones or the movement wouldn't have made it anywhere.

Where were the rest of the allies? Why did they stay home instead of marching? Just imagine had they all come out, it could have been a sea of multiple colors instead of a few white specs in a sea of black.

I think they may have been worried about what their friends and family might think, or what it might mean to their career if they were seen by a co-worker. I think they were too scared to come out of the closet and show their support.

A lot of people have to go through an "ah-ha" moment as it pertains to LGBT people. You know what I'm talking about: The time when you have to face your prejudices and realize that LGBT people aren't really all that scary.

I personally never had that moment. With me it was more of a gradual progression. Don't get me wrong; back in high school, I have to admit, I was homophobic. But by the time I got out of the Navy

and started college I had made it to the point in my life where I needed a real reason to hate someone.

I can recall when my younger brother had his "ah-ha" moment. He had been homophobic for as long as I could remember. After college he got a job with Lennox Air Conditioning.

I don't recall the entire conversation when he told me about his co-worker of two years coming out, but I do recall him saying, "But I really like this guy," as he struggled with his own prejudice.

To which my wife and I replied, "Duh. And he's the same person today that he was yesterday."

I joined Texas Instruments in 1999 and shortly after attended my first diversity fair. I remember seeing the LEGEND (former name of TI Pride Network) booth, and noticed how the vast majority of people walked around it.

Of course I wanted to walk up to the LEGEND booth and show my support, but what if someone saw me there? What would they think? Might they make the mistake of thinking that I am gay? How could that affect my career at my new company?

Instead, I opted to follow the crowd around the booth with my head down and my tail between my legs. One thing I did notice was they were handing out magnets with a pink triangle inside a green circle that said "TI Safe Space." I knew I had seen a few of them around but was unaware they were a "gay thing" until I saw them handed out at the booth. I wondered why people would want to advertise they were gay.

A few years later, when working as an automation team lead in DMOS6, I saw the DMOS6 manufacturing manager working the LEGEND booth. Talk about being surprised! This was a well-respected leader at TI, and he was working the LEGEND booth? I thought to myself, "Is he gay? I don't think he is. I know I have seen a wedding ring on his ring finger."

So I decided to finally walk up to the LEGEND booth and see what he had to say. He educated me on the Safe Space program. He told me how LGBT people often feel they cannot bring their whole selves to work, how it's difficult to talk about what they've done over the weekend with their partner for fear of retribution.

He told me that displaying a Safe Space magnet or badge sticker indicates to LGBT people that you are aware of LGBT issues. It lets them know that they have nothing to fear from you and they don't have to hide. They will not hear inappropriate jokes from you, and they can feel free to be themselves in your area or presence.

I took a magnet and placed it above the door to my office.

The following year, I had moved to KFAB to be the automation manager when the KFAB leadership team was asked to volunteer to work a booth

at the Diversity Fair. It took about a microsecond to pick which one I wanted to work.

Yes, I was finally comfortable enough with who I was to not really care who might see me or what they might think. Instead, I thought about the impact it had on me to see someone I respected working the booth the year before and hoped I might have the same impact on someone else.

It was two years later when I found out that LEGEND had changed its name to the TI Pride Network. I also found out they had an e-mail list and a supporters page. I signed up for both immediately.

By now, you are probably wondering why LGBT equality is so important to me. Do I have a gay relative or a friend of 20 years that recently came out of the closet?

Well no, or at least not that I'm aware of. In fact, I didn't really even know any LGBT people when I first got involved with the TI Pride Network. As I stated before, civil rights has always been a subject near and dear to my heart. How safe can any of our rights be if the rights of some are denied?

I may have missed out on the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, but I'm not going to miss out on this one.

Looking back at the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s, I can't help but to wonder how many people wish they had become active in the movement. How many people regret not being one of the specs of white in a sea of black?

Did they even realize it was a movement? Did they realize where the country was heading? And what about the people who were the white specs? Can you imagine the pride they must feel while showing their grandchildren a picture of a march and pointing to a white spec and saying, "That's me?"

And now that we are in the middle of another Civil Rights Movement, what will you do? Will you stand up for the rights of others or sit quietly on the sidelines? Will you one day be proudly telling your grandchildren you were a spec or will you remain in the closet?

It is estimated that as many as 50 percent of LGBT people continue to hide who they are in the workplace. Even in a company that values diversity as much as TI, there are still people who are afraid to bring their whole selves to work. This can affect their productivity, which is bad for them and for TI.

You can make a difference by showing your support. If your company has a Safe Space program, you can display a Safe Space magnet at your work area or a sticker on your badge. You can join your company's LGBT diversity initiative. You can speak up when you hear someone making homophobic comments or jokes. Straight Allies, you can come out of the closet. ■

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• More safe: 30 percent **186**
• Less safe: 42 percent **Votes**
• No change: 28 percent **cast**

Letters

'Illegal' still means 'criminal'

I am a 43-year-old, fifth-generation American and a gay man, and my partner and I are in our 10th year together.

I am disgusted and disturbed that Dallas Voice would defend or group illegal aliens in with me as a legal gay person rightfully and legally in this country ("Immigration is an LGBT issue, too," Dallas Voice, May 5). My great-great-grandparents came in through Ellis Island with papers in hand, learned the language fought in every war from the Civil War on, and bought and paid for their land. They paid there taxes and never looked to the government for a hand out.

Illegal aliens have no place in this country. The reason they are called "illegals" is they broke the laws of America. They broke into this country and have no right being here, stealing jobs from true Americans, having more unwanted children for honest tax-paying citizens to pay for, educate and feed.

They should all be shipped home and made to come in legally. But to break in, not pay their taxes, then use the schools and hospitals and take jobs meant for legal, tax-paying Americans is a crime. There is no difference than if they broke in to your home, and they should be treated as such. They broke into your country, and this should outrage you and every true American. After all, "illegal" in America still means "criminal."

Larry Lockhart
Dallas

Change your 'prey' attitude

Regarding the "hate crime" story ("Community outraged over assault," Dallas Voice, May 21), I have a few thoughts.

When a lady was attacked at the Whole Foods Market at the Preston-Forest Shopping Center several months ago, people were "shocked" that this would happen in the Highland Park area. The same was true when a woman was shot at North Park Mall during a would-be carjacking some time ago.

Yet people are "outraged" (word used in your article) when two men are attacked in Oak Lawn. Do you see my disconnect here?

The formula is quite simple and I've been teaching this for 23 years: "People who perceive themselves as predators target people who they perceive to be prey." It's as simple as that.

So the answer is to do whatever is necessary to avoid this perception. Quick fixes such as pepper spray, stun guns, TASERS, etc., will not do this as they are typically not "visible" to the common passers-by.

How a person carries him or herself, how alert they are to their surroundings and the people around them, how in touch they are with their

basic instincts — these are the things that move someone from one category to the other.

If you were a car thief and saw a car alarm blinking on the dashboard of a car or a "club" affixed to the steering wheel of a car, while the car next to it had nothing, which would you target?

The same is true with people. Those perceived to be vulnerable — and that can include many different segments of our population — will be targeted by those who perceive themselves as predators and who think they can take advantage of another person's vulnerability without consequence.

Obviously, as a personal defense instructor, I do recommend at least "some" basic training for everyone. However this alone is not enough.

It's not.

There has to be a paradigm shift that takes place deep in the psyche of the individual that simply says, "I am not going to be a target or a victim." You put off an entirely different "scent"

when that is truly embedded in your being.

I do understand this is not easy for everyone, especially for anyone who has already suffered harm early in life. But even these individuals can redefine themselves and reclaim their genetic heritage. After all, we as human beings are all engineered as predators. This is why we are at the top of the earth's food chain.

Unfortunately society has taught us that "predator" is an evil word, reserved only for criminals. This, too, has to change. Mother Nature made us not only "who" we are but "what" we are.

It's time to embrace this again, otherwise we will continue to read stories like this in the Dallas Voice, the Dallas Observer, the Dallas Morning News and any/every other publication that prints stories dealing with the everyday clashes between "predator" and "prey."

Jeff McKissack, speaker/instructor
DefenseByDesign.com

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What do you think of the compromise on "Don't ask, don't tell"?

Kevin Boyer — "It needs to be repealed. We have gays in the military. They have a career. If they were to be kicked out for their race or religion, no one would stand for it."

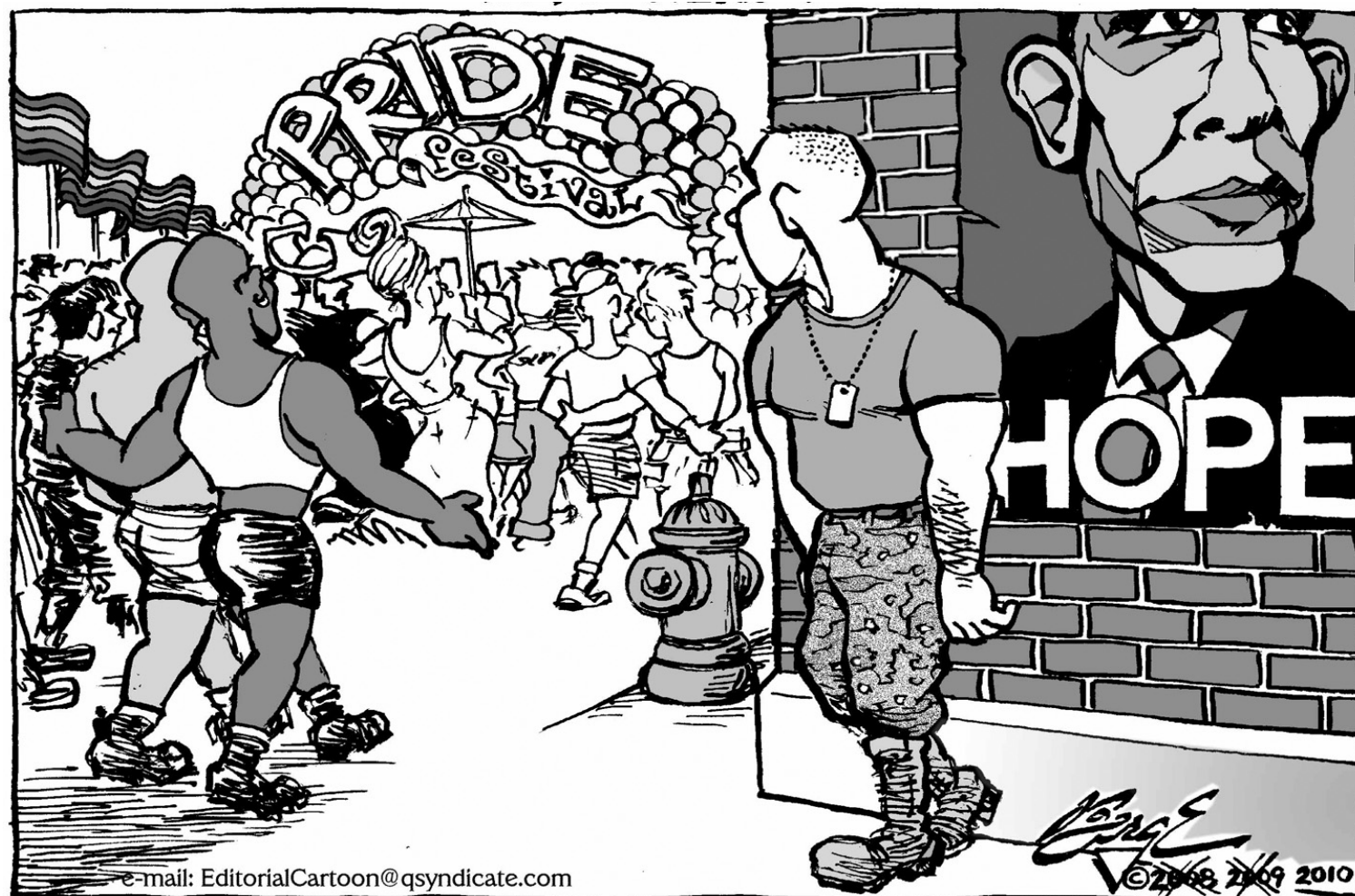
Anthony Farber — "No compromise. It needs to be straight repealed. A gay gentleman took the first bullet for Bush in Iraq. We're not second-class citizens."

Hunter Hubbell — "It's pretty much par for the course with everything done in this administration. What we see is they're doing it in the most roundabout way."

Mattie Williams — "I don't believe it until I see it. Truman integrated the Army in 1948. Obama capitulated to the far right and he'll never satisfy them."

David Sindt — "I don't really think it's acceptable. It doesn't seem like we need to study the effects of equality. Makes sense to implement the change now. There are plenty of other fully integrated militaries in other Western countries."

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



e-mail: EditorialCartoon@qsyndicate.com

The Fort Worth Opera prepares to debut one of the gayest world premieres the opera world has ever seen. And that's saying something

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Before 'Before Night Falls'



THE TWO TENORS | Jesus Garcia and Wes Mason play key roles in the very gay world premiere opera at Bass Hall. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

As a gay Cuban-American, Jorge Martin could be expected to show an interest in the life of Reinaldo Arenas, the novelist-memoirist-poet whose openly gay lifestyle and writing made him an enemy of the Castro regime before he committed suicide in New York in 1990. But until Martin read his autobiography *Before Night Falls* in 1993, he had never even heard of Arenas.

"I first became aware of him when the book came out," says Martin, who lives most of the time in Vermont. Arenas wrote of a Cuba Martin was too young and far-removed to remember, but something in the language and humor he recognized as Cuban captured him, as did tales of gay life.

"The book was especially popular in the gay community. It was not only a great book, but was about an amazing gay man," Martin says. And in his head, Martin heard Arenas' voice ... sing.

Still, it wasn't Martin — a composer and pianist with a background in opera but no major productions — who originally thought of turning *Before Night Falls* into an opera, but his friends who said he talked about the book so much, maybe he should try adapting it.

Martin certainly saw the potential for an opera in the bones of the story. "Its themes of freedom and escape and how do you live life as an outsider in a society that is oppressive [are operatic]," Martin says. "Rey was out and very bold — he as a brave man."

Martin acquired the rights to adapt *Before Night Falls* in 1995, but it has taken more than a dozen years to realize his dream of producing a full-scale production, as the Fort Worth Opera ushers in the world premiere this weekend as part of its festival.

"It took so long because it was not commissioned — I had to do it between other things," Martin explains. He shopped it around to various opera companies but nobody was picking it up. Then Darren Woods, the gay general director of the FWO, heard about it and decided to take a chance.

That's par for the course for Woods, who has taken many risks from subject matter to the types of shows he's offering to Cowtown: In the past three years, he has mounted productions of *Dead Man Walking* by gay composer Jake Heggie (*Moby-Dick*), a world premiere from gay composer Thomas Pasatieri (*Frau Margot*) and the American premiere of the opera adaptation of *Angels in America*.

One of those risks is casting an unknown to portray Arenas. "The intimidation was two years ago when I was first handed it at the workshop," chuckles Wes Mason, the 25-year-old tenor making his major opera debut in the title role. "I'd never attempted anything that large before. But now I've lived with it all this time. And [director] David Gately and Jorge Martin have been the biggest mentors. When I try to think of other roles this is like, what I come up with is in the musical theater repertoire, where I'm onstage 90 percent of the time and have two very elaborate dances," says Mason.

Martin has no truck with that comparison. "I don't mind calling it a musical," he says of his opera.

Mason had never even heard of Arenas, his memoir or the Oscar-nominated film with Javier Bardem until he learned of the opera. And if the idea of playing a frankly sexual gay man gave the straight Mason pause, he doesn't show it.

"[Arenas] bounds into the sexuality without apologizing for it.

His escapades, cruising are just so matter-of-fact and shocking ... for anybody!"

That homoeroticism is most tangibly expressed in the opera during an especially sensual and suggestive dance (choreographed by John de los Santos) between Arenas and his lover that Mason concedes may be off-putting to more traditional opera audiences — ironically, since they are used to much more physical contact between men in other contexts: "[Those people] need to watch a basketball game [or Ultimate Fighting Championship]," he laughs.

Jesus Garcia, an openly gay opera singer who plays multiple roles in *Before Night Falls*, says there are still barriers for gay actors and character portrayals in opera. Garcia was the only out gay performer to appear in a leading role in Baz Luhrmann's celebrated 2003 Broadway production of *La Boheme* (a performance that won him a Tony Award).

"The gay community has always been at the forefront of culture," and generations before his have well-deserved reputations as opera queens. With younger gays, he thinks not so much. But changing mores may alter that.

"I think attitudes about homosexuality in general are changing," he says. "So many people are out now. Still, when you look at them, many are comedians. It's like you have to be funny [to be out]." When audiences are presented with more serious presentations of gay issues, as *Before Night Falls* is, the challenge is greater.

But attitudes are only half the battle — the product must also be good. And what Garcia thinks will really make the difference

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BIDING HIS TIME | It took composer-librettist Jorge Martin 15 years to realize his dream production. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

■ **OPERA**, From Page 34

in this production is the music.

"Often when you think modern opera, you think atonal," he says. "But this piece, on first hearing it, you can immediately love it."

Martin is modest in accepting the praise.

"The closer you come to opening night, the more marginal the composer becomes," he says.

It takes a lot of people working very hard to make an opera come together, and he's as excited as anyone to see it. ■

Sandy, bitches

Queens of the desert — Carrie & Co. dabble in Abu Dhabi; across the Persian Gulf, an unlikely Arab Gyllenhaal aims for action star cred

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

You have to hand it to the makers of *Sex and the City 2* for both knowing their audience and apparently not caring if anyone — even their target demo — doesn't love every bit of it. This sequel, based on the iconic HBO series once described on *The Simpsons* as show "about four women who act like gay men," starts off with a gay wedding and gets progressively gayer from there. Geometrically so. To the point where Liza Minnelli turns up to sing a version of "Single



SEX AND THE CITY 2

Sarah Jessica Parker, Kim Cattrall, Kristin Davis, Cynthia Nixon.
Rated R. 145 mins.
Now playing wide release.



DANCING, QUEENS | Karaoke in couture? What else would you expect from 'Sex and the City?'

Ladies." And that's just in the first 10 minutes.

Not a Liza queen? Don't cotton to the whole gay marriage trend? Hate the presumption that gay men cheat even after exchanging vows? Who cares. *Sex and the City* was never about being politically correct: It was about being profoundly, uniquely superficial.

Witness, the central conflict in the film: Whether Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker, a fascinating combo of horsey features and defiantly un-

conventional glamour) and her hubby, Big (Chris Noth), are becoming a boring, safe married couple because they got a TV in the bedroom and only dine out five days of every seven. When I was a kid we called these "white problems," and we mocked the tragedy of them — what do you do when your thoroughbred's race is the same weekend as a Kennedy wedding? Decisions, decisions.

But let's be frank: While the trials that Carrie and her best girlfriends Samantha (Kim Cattrall), Charlotte (Kristin Davis) and Miranda (Cynthia

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Nixon) are hardly comparable to having a spouse in Iraq or dealing with your worthless subprime mortgage, in the universe of Prada and Buddakan and Tiffany and full-time nannies that is the hyper-rich world of these Manhattanites, the issues are real for them — as real as whether Iron Man will find a mineral to power his artificial heart before he's poisoned. Fantasy is fantasy, even if it comes in slingback Jimmy Choos.

Truth be told, the trailers for *Sex and the City 2* made me worry it would go off the rails: Were they really moving the girls from the Upper East Side to the Middle East? Who wants to see Samantha in a sari? But the expansion works, just like the jaunt to Mexico in the first one did, or the series' finale's Paris excursion. The Abu Dhabi locales where the girls spend much of the second half of the film is like Vegas without all the neon, an unexplored realm that ups the ante of conspicuous excess.

(It also makes practical sense to move the action there. Cattrall appears to have more work done to her than the Brooklyn Bridge, and as long as they were gonna need so much petroleum jelly for her lens, might as well go to where petroleum is cheap.)

Writer-director Michael Patrick King — who in the last film didn't bat an eye at letting the world gawk at Gilles Marini's junk — knows how to pander with a brazen *joie de vivre*: We get to see the muscled, well-tanned asses of two hot men, closeups of bulging Speedos and saucy, slap-yo-mama one-liners spoken unapologetically by a cast that has honed quick-witted banter to high art. So what if it's all in service to a glitzy exterior — albeit one with brains and a soft-spot for bored rich folks? As Carrie might say, "You could do worse."

Let us not become too preoccupied with the reasons why so many of the Arabs in **Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time** are blue-eyed, British-accented (even the Americans) palefaces. Indeed, it seems that the only actors who actually *look* like they know what a Mosque is are fodder for the fusillade of arrows.

Let us also not linger on the excessive — nay, profane — use of slo-mo shots. If the film were played in real time, I suspect it would run 20 minutes shorter. We also need not concern ourselves with the film's video-game roots, and how the action sequences often follow the linear, up/down movement of a joystick with the triangle and X keys held down simultaneously. This is, after all, a Disney film with its primary audi-



IS THAT A SCIMITAR IN YOUR HAND OR ARE YOU JUST GLAD TO DECAPITATE ME? | We wish we could quit Jake Gyllenhaal as a British accented Arab in 'Prince of Persia,' a juvenile FX wet dream.

ence teens, 'tweens and those older in body if not in age. Think of it as *Pirates of the Arabian*.

No, forget all that. Instead focus on this: Why is Jake Gyllenhaal's gym-sculpted body too often hidden behind cloaks and scarves when his ripply shoulder muscles are the stars of the poster?

His bouncy gymnastics only take us so far; let's see some skin.

I don't think it's being superficial to ask this. Like *Sex and the City 2*, *Prince of Persia* is not a piece of art, but of commerce, and there's no reason not to market it with craven attention to what sells to a particular audience.

If the film had more to offer — by way of plot, or attitude, or humor, or even detailed attention to its own mythology, the way the first two *Mummy* movies did — maybe I wouldn't have spend so much clockwatching time. But the end actually *betrays* its mythology in service of an expensive but ultimately ugly effects sequence that may satisfy those who don't care about story and only want to be wowed. But even that wow is muted by its over-the-topness. If *Robin Hood* is too esoteric and adult in its approach to its source material, *Prince of Persia* is too juvenile.

The movie feels like it was made backwards, from the imagery to the ideas. I can't imagine how many long-distance shots there are of men standing on remote perches, as if "all roads lead to buttes" is a legitimate motto of ancient Mesopotamia. Sorry, but just because it looks cool doesn't mean you should do it.

I can't say I expected much more out of a Jerry Bruckheimer production, even with a director like Mike Newell (*Four Weddings and a Funeral*) on hand and the promise of Gyllenhaal taking on his first heroic leading man role. But one still hopes. Maybe next time, I'll just rub a magic lamp and wish for something better. That's a situation where you *couldn't* do worse.



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**Musical
mamas**

Emily Saliers of Indigo Girls helps guide a new generation of LGBT musicians



SALIERS SOLUTION | Indigo Girls Emily Saliers, front, and Amy Ray have quietly grown into an influential band for both folk music and gay and lesbian musicians.

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Emily Saliers might not call herself a mother, but she is inadvertently becoming just that. Like Prince and Beyonce, Madonna and Britney, and Janet and Justin, Saliers and her Indigo Girls bandmate Amy Ray have found themselves parental figures to newer musicians.

That's OK, especially since they try to keep it in the family — the LGBT family.

"When you're around your peeps, it's just more comfortable to be around," Saliers says.

The duo will be in Dallas supporting its 11th album, *Poseidon and the Bitter Bug*, playing the same stage (House of Blues) that Brandi Carlile performed on just a week ago. All three are lesbian, which gives a common bond that connects them: Indigo Girls worked with Carlile on her 2007 album, *The Story*, and Carlile has opened for them and contributed vocals on their upcoming live CD, *Staring Down the Brilliant Dream*.

"There's an energy to get infused with when we work together," Saliers says of Carlile. "She's so talented and a very nice person. It's inspiring to be around people like that. And we're pals."

This pairing is quickly becoming a power lesbian musical force while also passing the torch from one generation to the next ... even if Indigo Girls aren't finished making music.

They don't leave the collaborations there, though. Working with Carlile wasn't accidental. Saliers finds an importance in working with other gay and lesbian musicians — not just for comfort's sake, but also for fellowship.

"It's important that the presence of that community is attached to our shows," she says. "The

band Coyote Grace has a female-to-male transgender member and the fans flipped out when they opened our show. We have a bunch of queer friends who play with us. Hey, queer people like to hang out with queer people."

Indigo Girls started out 25 years ago in a music scene that was less open to out gays who weren't of the Boy-George-in-your-face-glam variety. Ray and Saliers plugged along with tours and albums without the kind of mainstream airplay they probably deserved. While perhaps fitting many stereotypes of coffeehouse granola lesbian folk music, they quietly became a respected industry in the scene. Two decades later, they are easily legends — in the music business and in the gay community.

"We started so simply and innocently," Saliers recalls. "We did everything ourselves. I couldn't have guessed this longevity would have happened but still, I can see how we stood the test of time. It's very gratifying to have a musical partner like Amy."

Don't start counting them out yet. This has been one busy year for the Indigo Girls. According to Saliers, the team has been working so much harder in the last few months. *Staring Down* will be released in June followed by a holiday album this fall plus some Lilith Fair dates. Part of this jumpstart in their career is due to their split with Hollywood records and going the independent route.

"We have been cranking it out," Saliers says. "There was nothing a major label could do for us anymore. We have a renewed sense of purpose and it allows us to continue. It's fun now that we're independent. We feel reinvigorated." ■

INDIGO GIRLS
With Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines. **House of Blues**, 2200 N. Lamar St. May 28 at 8 p.m. \$25-\$45. HouseofBlues.com.

In this installment of Show vs. Show, two vastly different artists hit the same town and the same *venue* this week. In one corner, we have the seasoned veterans of folk-rock (not to mention lesbian icons): Indigo Girls. In the opposite corner: British new wave popster La Roux. They hit the House of Blues days from each other.

Indigo Girls are on the road supporting their 11th studio album, last year's *Poseidon and the Bitter Bug*. Later this year, they will release their second live album, *Staring Down the Brilliant Dream*, and then get all Christmasy on us with a holiday record in the fall. After 25 years in this business, clearly these Girls don't plan on slowing down soon. Ever since making the switch from a corporate record label to their independent one, the duo is busier than ever.

How interesting that Elly Jackson's first musical interests were in folk music? Now, the androgynous hipster leads the Brit pop duo La Roux, venturing far away from her initial tastes. As the face of La Roux, and really the namesake, Jackson calls to mind '80s synth pop with her looks (a ducktail Mohawk and blank canvas face) and bubbly pop. But don't mistake La Roux's pop for the usual radio fodder. She and Ben Langmaid bring a certain intelligence that makes the songs both fun and complex.

It's girl against Girls this week on different sides of the music spectrum. But that's not a bad thing for Dallas.

— Rich Lopez

SHOW VS. SHOW



Artist/Band	Indigo Girls	La Roux
iTunes classifies them as...	Singer/songwriter. (In reality: They are downright modern folk with a penchant for staying fairly relevant.)	Electronic. (In reality: Hardly. She's just some good danceable Brit pop.)
Good for the gays?	Considering they are both out? Uh, yes. Although I imagine the draw a bigger female crowd. Just saying.	Lesbians have mistaken La Roux for one of their own and throw bras at her. She's not, but has a big gay following.
What to wear?	Trying so hard not to recommend Birkenstocks. Even for fun.	If you're an arty fashionista with pointy shoes, you'll be fine.
Who might you run into?	Most likely, members of the IG fan community site, the Indigo Vortex. Don't mess with them, either.	Hipsters, the boys and girls who love them, possibly some parents and trendy gays of all ages.
Reason to be there	These ladies have become legends right under our noses. And if they perform "I Don't Wanna Talk About It," priceless.	La Roux is sure to deliver one party of a concert.
Reason to not	Sometimes, there is only so much folk you can take.	La Roux only has one album. You could be doling out some decent scratch for a shorter concert. The CD could suffice.
Deets	With Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines. House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. May 28 at 8 p.m. \$25-\$45. HouseofBlues.com.	House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. June 2 at 8 p.m. \$20-\$30. HouseofBlues.com.

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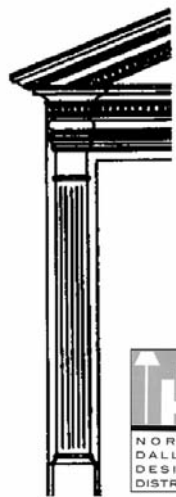
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L+S stage

The gospel according to Terrence McNally

Stephenville may have censored it, but the gay Texan's controversial play 'Corpus Christi' will finally make its way to North Texas — by way of L.A.

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

For someone who works in theater, Nic Arnzen admits he's not always up on the latest works. At least, that's the only explanation he can give for why he had never heard of Terrence McNally's play *Corpus Christi* — or the controversy surrounding it — until he actually saw it nine years ago.

"I attended [a production] of the play and wasn't at all familiar with it," he says. "I probably had heard there were protests in New York and just didn't investigate it — I tend to avoid drama and conflict. I just walked into a theater and was told a story that overwhelmed me. It is a story about universal love."

That has *not* been the consensus of most of the play's critics ... who, let's face it, probably were outraged by its content without actually seeing or reading the full script. (Sound familiar?) Set in McNally's home state of Texas, it's a modern retelling of the New Testament where all of the Apostles are gay (two even marry one another) and the relationship between the Judas and Jesus characters is based on sexual jealousy.

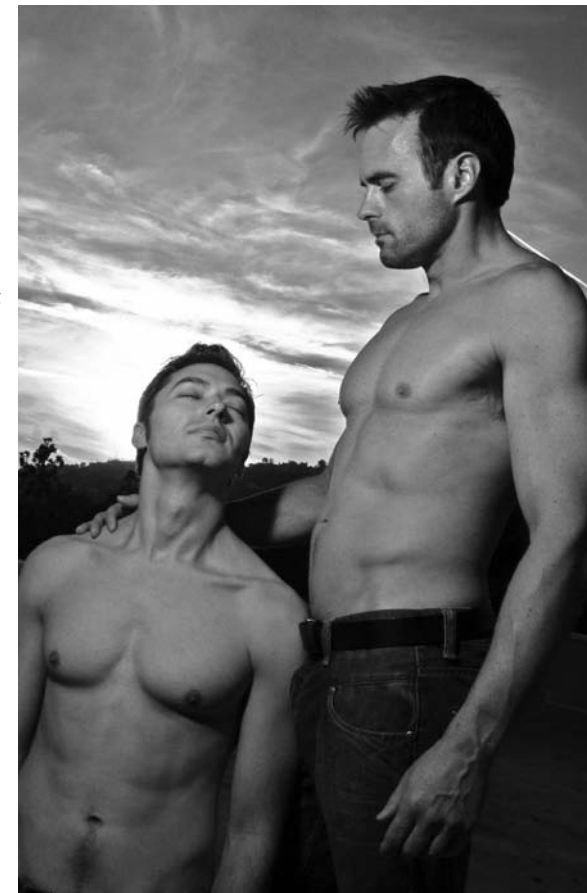
For someone who tries to *avoid* conflict in his life, Arnzen couldn't have chosen a greater lightning rod to become associated with, as he has toured with a production of the play.

Arnzen's association started about five years ago, when he was approached by the leaders of the MCC church he and his partner had just joined and asked to direct a play — whatever he wanted. He chose *Corpus Christi*.

"The sole reason I wanted to tell it was to convey a message of love," he says. "The pastor was aware of the play, but because of the membership of that church he didn't see it as a problem. I would call him courageous, but he'd be embarrassed by it."

Indeed, nearly half a decade after the initial church run, Arnzen and members of the original cast continue to perform the show all over the country, and even in Great Britain. The performances in Dallas next week follow a controversy that led to a shortened version of the play being banned at Tarleton State University earlier this year, when residents of Stephenville objected to it being staged.

That's when the Art for Peace & Justice project stepped in, bringing Arnzen's full version to the Cathedral of Hope. The cast that will be coming



'CORPUS' DELECTABLE | A tour of 'Corpus Christi' offers North Texans what Tarleton State officials would not: The chance to make up their own minds about Terrence McNally's homoerotic retelling of the gospels. (Photos courtesy AlekandSteph.com)

here has performed this production of *Corpus Christi* basically without pay the entire time.

"The heart of the cast remained with the production," says Arnzen. "They are dedicated to doing this show without pay for coming on five years. We have never done anything but commit to cover their housing expenses. They commit themselves to a piece they're passionate about. They sacrifice over and over for the joy of performing the piece."

James Brandon, the man who plays Joshua (the Jesus role), has been one of the constants over the years, not only for acting but as also a producer and Arnzen's business partner.

"He and I make this happen — there's no producing party," Arnzen says. "We've had faith in the play and it's worked for us."

Not that there haven't been issues among the cast. One female actor "has a strong religious belief, but she has a strong spiritual belief in [the play] as well." Ultimately, though, the characterization of Jesus and his disciples as gay takes a



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FAGATHA 'CHRISTI' | The cast of the touring show has performed the play as volunteers for five years.

back seat to the message of love.

Still, Arnzen worries about possible protests in Dallas — which will mark a first for them.

“We had not experienced the firestorm [of protests often visited on productions],” he says.

At the same time that the play is being put on, Arnzen and company will be working on a documentary about their play.

“We were on our way to Scotland with the play and talked about traveling cross-country in a tour bus. Then someone said this would be a great reality series because this cast is so funny and odd,” he says. The idea eventually morphed into a documentary film, which they hope to do without any major funding.

“We said, ‘We made the play happen, why can’t we make the documentary happen?’” he says. “We found our [director of photography] and are about to release our first trailer.” The editing will be done in London with the show and finished by September, hopefully in time to submit a rough cut to Sundance.

Although the play is set in Texas and written by a Texas-born writer, Arnzen’s company has never performed it in the Lone Star State before.

“We’ve been taking a deep breath about bringing this to Texas,” he says. “We were writing it off as all conservatives but then learned you have the largest gay church and the largest gay men’s chorus around.” That helped curb

their concerns — although it raised others.

“We have had a person walk out once because she thought it was a bad representation

of Texas, *not* because of the way it portrayed [the gay-religious content],” he says. Ultimately, though, Arnzen thinks its message is affirming for gay people of faith and Texas.

“Terrence was really protective of Corpus Christi and Texas,” he says. “And I was impressed by the fact a gay man, growing up in a community and religion that [oppressed him], instead of writing a scathing piece wrote a loving piece about it. It closes a gap between the gay community and religion, letting gays take back religion.” ■

CORPUS CHRISTI
Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. June 4–6. Friday–Sunday at 7:30 p.m., weekend matinees at 3 p.m. \$32–\$52. CathedralofHope.com

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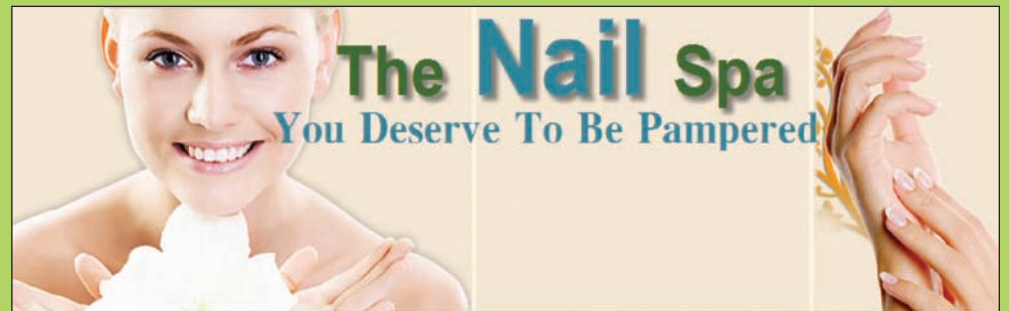
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MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com

Name: Madison Vance

Spotted at: Cityvet on Cedar Springs Road

Up, up and a gay: This former Air Force enlisted servicemember is a New Orleans Creole who works part time for the V.A. while studying law at El Centro. A politically-minded Democrat, Vance has traveled to Frankfurt, Paris, Nice, Amsterdam, Brussels and Mexico. He considers traveling "a part of who I am," and after taking his first trip at 14 to Disney World, he says, "Mama always knew I would leave home."

What he's remembering on Memorial Day: Vance's most memorable moment was when he attended President Obama's Inauguration in Washington, D.C., on January 20, 2009. "You'll always remember where you were on that historic day, and I was there!" But his favorite president is Martin Van Buren, the eighth president of the United States.



Prom night

Clearly, the Gayla Prom is one of the best ideas ever for LGBT youth. Prom isn't just for the straight kids anymore — gay young adults can have the formal dance experience, even if it's not all that formal. Tuxes and gowns? Not necessary.

Just because this is their night, doesn't mean those *not* 14 to 22 have to miss out. The prom is always up for volunteers and with it just days away, surely they wouldn't mind getting all the assistance they can.

Volunteers age 23 and up are needed for help with decorations, ticket sales, chaperoning or any other handy talents.

— Rich Lopez

Visit GaylaProm.org for more information.



NO LIP-SYNCHING FOR YOUR LIFE | Voice of Pride's top 12 will need to follow new rules in '10. (Photo courtesy David Berryman)

Voice changes

Tavern Guild tweaks rules for Oak Lawn singing competition, adds primo prize

As Voice of Pride is about to get underway for its seventh year, the Dallas Tavern Guild is shaking things up — and upping the ante. As Heidi Klum might say, one singer will be in ... a plane headed to England. And for the first time, a group will take a trophy.

Guild executive director Michael Doughman says VOP needed a shot in the arm.

"We thought we'd freshen it up and create additional opportunities," he says. "This will make the competition better."

The Tavern Guild, which sponsors the VOP competition every year among its member clubs and bars, polled singers from previous contests their interest in creating a group category; they realized the interest was there.

Duos, trios and quartets are eligible to participate. Groups can sing a capella or to a recorded track, but cannot sing with musical instrument accompaniment. The latter was simply a logistics issue.

"Nine of the 18 clubs have the capability of hosting groups, but not to set up a situation to satisfy with speakers and instruments," Doughman says.

This is a pilot effort — Doughman says if it doesn't warrant enough support or the extra time and effort, Voice of Pride will scale back to solos. The Guild just wants to be prepared.

Solo singers will also find new rules. Each preliminary round is limited to 10 contestants. Any additional hopeful will need to attend a prelim at a different club to compete. Any entrants not making the cut can compete at up to nine other preliminaries.

"We think this will spread out the competition, but they need to read the rules, especially returning singers who are used to the old ones," Doughman says.

One other criterion for the solo competitors, especially those who advance, is the require of having a passport. The winner of this Voice of Pride will head to Manchester, England, to perform at its Pride event.

"We struck a deal with the Manchester tourism board," Doughman says. "If [a singer]

doesn't have a passport or can't prove they are getting one, they will be disqualified."

Doughman feels the changes will increase the excitement of the contest.

"We want to keep VOP legitimate, fun and these additions take it to a whole other level and we are excited to be able to offer it." ■

— Rich Lopez

For more information, visit DallasTavernGuild.org.



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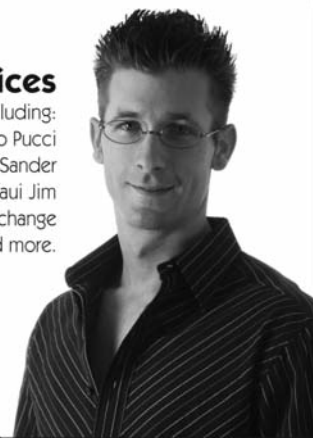
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If it's true, as Henry David Thoreau said, that "success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it," then Kiki Stromberg — head coach of DFW's all-girl Femme Posse sports league — is certainly on the right track toward staggering success.

An admitted sports junkie, Stromberg was "varsity everything" in high school. Maybe that explains why a 25-year-old coaching five teams in four different leagues sounds incredible.

"I've always been doing way more than I can handle, so this is nothing new for me. After doing it for so many years in high school, this is easy," Stromberg says.

It certainly started easily enough. Five years ago, the idea was for a Tuesday night lesbian bowling league in Lewisville; now it has blossomed into a close-knit fam-

60 percent of team members play more than one sport.

Femme Posse fields two softball teams, a testament to the popularity and familiarity of a sport prevalent in women's high school programs across the country. "It seems like every lesbian knows how to play softball," she jokes.

In flag football, the Femme Posse participate in the Texas 9 Man Flag Football League, which, with 22 teams, boasts the largest women's league in the country. In football tourneys, they'll often square off against all-male teams like the Texas Bulls, DFW's entrant in the National Gay Flag Football League. How is it playing against their male counterparts?

"It's been evening out," she says. "They use to beat us all the time, but it's a lot more even now."

Generally speaking, the flag football division of

THE IM-POSSE-BLE DREAMER

Femme Posse founder Kiki Stromberg turned her enthusiasm for sports into a female-athlete franchise. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Sporty girl



With Femme Posse, multi-tasking athlete Kiki Stromberg puts most jocks to shame

RICKY BRADLEY | Contributing Sports Writer
thesportsfag@sportsfags.com

ily of almost 100 women, competing in several different leagues for team Femme Posse.

"The league was a way of getting everyone together without getting drunk," Stromberg says. "That's pretty much the only way we'd hang out before, so this is a way for us to be active and have a family to fall back on and hang out with."

When the bowling alley came under new management, the Tuesday league came to an end, so Stromberg promised to find a way to keep everyone together. That's when the Femme Posse took off. (Stromberg even plans to launch a Femme Posse fashion line for lesbians, featuring girls clothes that are a little more boyish, but designed to fit girls.)

Stromberg discovered the North Texas Women's Softball Association (NTXWSA), and over the past five years, the Femme Posse has participated not only in softball but in volleyball, flag football, basketball and — coming soon to a pitch near you — soccer. Why so many teams?

"So many girls are interested and they all play such different sports," Stromberg says. There's a hardcore group that plays year round and Stromberg estimates

Femme Posse sports the hardest of the hardcore athletes, while volleyball attracted the girliest players. Femme Posse members' age range (18 to mid-50s) demonstrates the depth of interest and ability of the players, as well as the unique family atmosphere Stromberg and team manager Amy Torrez have created. (Torrez handles most of the organizing duties, so Stromberg can focus on recruitment and coaching.)

Femme Posse's off-the-field activities include work for charities, from Toys for Tots to blood drives. It's not all about play — it's about a dedication to giving back.

"If there's something we know about we just tell the team and surprisingly we have a lot of people show up," Stromberg says. For example, a couple of years ago the prison system of Texas contacted the NTWSA to schedule some games against female inmates; Stromberg's teams were the only ones to show up.

"It felt good," she says. "Even though they're in there for a bad reason, they're people, too, and they were really grateful. "A lot of people that find us haven't played sports before but we'll teach you, cause it's mostly about hanging out and being a big family," Stromberg says.

Stromberg says her greatest success is that the Femme Posse is about "doing something good and giving people something to look forward to every week — *without* the drama. Otherwise, we'd be yelling at each other at the club trying to catch up."

Femme Posse registration is open year round. To get involved, contact femmeposse@hotmail.com. ■

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Saturday 05.29

Rehab won't cure this Addiction

What happens when six funny ladies pursuing higher education meet at the Ad-Libs School of Improvisation? That would be Heroine Addiction — Dallas' first all-female improv troupe. These ladies plan to inject the funny into the veiny arms of anyone with a twitch for comedy. OK, we could go on with the druggy jokes all day here. We'll stop now.

DEETS: Mouth, 2626 Main St. 7:30 p.m. \$5-\$10. Find Heroine Addiction on Facebook for information.

Sunday 05.30

Slather this Jam all over yourself

If it's Memorial Day weekend, that means one thing for Sue Ellen's — GirlJam. The all-day-palooza of lady rock, folk and country is now a music tradition for the Strip. Butch Country and Shut Down Town are part of the lineup of six acts playing from day to night. Final act The Bright is well worth the wait thanks to frontwoman dynamo, Julie Lange.

DEETS: Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton Road. Doors at 2 p.m. \$10. Caven.com.

Thursday 06.03

How about these facts of life?

The last person we ever thought of seeing in Q Cinema's 12th annual Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival is Mindy Cohn (Natalie from the *Facts of Life*). But she's there in fest opener *Violet Tendencies*. Who could get ticked off about that? Four days of queer celluloid — count us in, with popcorn.

DEETS: Rose Marine Theater, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. June 3-6. \$10-\$15. QCinema.org.



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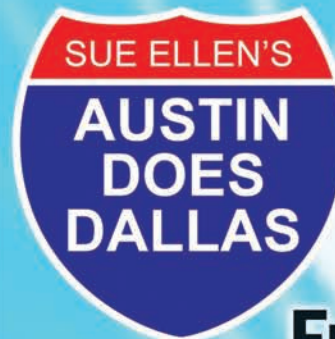
Girljam 17

Sunday May 30

Lori McCracken 3:00p
Liz Calendar 4:00p
Butch County 5:20p
Shut Down Town 6:40p
Anton Shaw & Trouble 8:00p
The Bright 9:20p

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Three great Austin bands come north to play the main floor at Sue Ellen's

Friday, June 18



Ginger Leigh 11:15p



Shelly King 9:55p



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OSION





MAN TROUBLE | Audiences pick the scene order as a man tries to find love in 'Dream Cafe.'

FRIDAY 05.28

COMMUNITY

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., 5415 Maple Ave. #349 (access via Butler).

Unwired Dallas. Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA) meets. New Hope Fellowship Church, 2438 Butler St. 7 p.m. Free. Crystallmeth.org.

CODA, support group. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Cathedralofhope.com.

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.

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

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

Family Affair Fridays, a mixer for LGBT people of color. Club Che, 10333 Technology Blvd. 10 p.m.

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.

THEATER

A...My Name is Alice by Joan Micklin Silver and Julianne Boyd is a comic revue of contemporary women depicting friends, sisters, rivals and members of an all-woman's basketball team. Flower Mound Performing Arts Theatre, 830 Parker Square, Flower Mound. Through June 13. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 p.m. \$20-\$25. FMPAT.org.

Avenue Q. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through June 6. Tuesdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m., weekend matinees at 2 p.m. \$25-\$120. ATPAC.org.

The Bad Seed. ArtCentre Theatre, 1028 15th Place, Plano. Through Sunday. Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 5:30 p.m., weekend matinee at 3 p.m. \$15. ArtCentreTheatre.com.

Blankity-Blank. Theatre Three's Theater Tool, 2800 Routh St. Through June 13. Thursdays and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays at 8 p.m., weekend matinees at 2:30 p.m.

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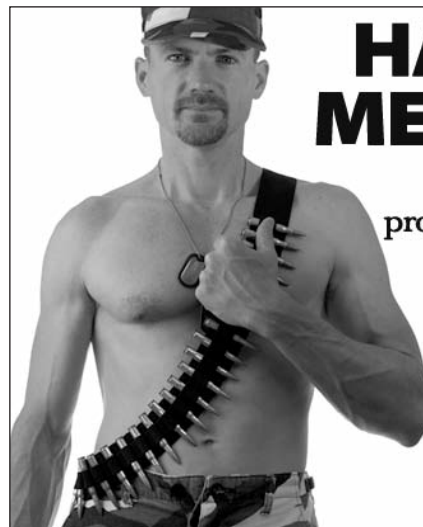
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Please take the survey between May 15 and June 30, 2010, and tell your friends!

www.LGBTsurvey.com

About the Gay & Lesbian Community Survey™: Tremendous strides toward full equality have been achieved by our communities over the past decade. There's Power in Our Pride. Power to make a difference!

- Gay and lesbian survey studies have opened doors (and minds) in leading corporations and organizations, which in turn have recognized the value of their LGBT employees through the establishment of equal hiring policies and domestic partner benefits. This has been a catalyst, leading to sweeping changes in political and social inclusivity.
- Demographic reports also influence marketing investment. Virtually absent until recently, we now see a growing variety of products and services represented in gay media, celebrating our diversity. Ads keep LGBT publications and websites in business, serving their communities with independent news and information.
- Beyond simply advertising, though, these companies support us in many ways, including sponsoring community events and funding community-based charities in order to earn our loyalty.
- Taking an annual pulse on market trends through surveys helps demonstrate the LGBT community's growing power, and influences positive change.



We respect your privacy. All personal survey data is held securely by Community Marketing, Inc., a gay-owned and operated, independent market research and communications firm based in San Francisco, and will not be sold to third parties or used for marketing purposes. CMI was founded in 1992 and is proudly NGLCC-Certified. Thank you!

Gay Market Research + Development Lab®



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Lesbian Market Research + Development Lab®

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■ CALENDAR, From Page 51

Dream Café is six scenes of Brian's search for his ideal mate in which the audience picks the order they play out. Written by Alejandro de la Costa and presented by MBS Productions. Stone Cottage, 15650 Addison Road. Through June 19. Thursdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m., 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 5. \$18-\$21. MBSProductions.net.

Everything in the Garden by Edward Albee. Presented by Rover Dramawerks at the Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Ave., Plano. Through June 12. \$16-\$19. RoverDramawerks.com.

Gommorah Go Go! A contemporary look Sodom and Gommorah. Presented by Fight Boy Theatre at Art Six Coffee House, 424 Bryan St., Denton. Through June 6. Thursdays-Sundays at 8 p.m. FightBoyTheatre.webs.com.

The Great American Trailer Park Musical. Circle Theatre, 230 W. 4th St., Fort Worth. Through Saturday. Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Saturday matinee at 3 p.m. \$20-\$30. CircleTheatre.com.

Leona Vicario. Teatro Dallas, 1331 Record Crossing St. Through Sunday. Friday and Saturday at 8:15 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m. \$15-\$18. TeatroDallas.org.

Wicked by Dallas Summer Musicals. Music Hall at Fair Park, 909 First St. Through June 27. Tuesdays-Sundays at 8 p.m., weekend matinees at 2 p.m. \$15-\$65. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

ART

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

CONCERT

Off Broadway! closes the Turtle Creek Chorale's season. Wyly Theater, 2400 Flora St. Through Saturday. Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Saturday matinee at 3 p.m. \$29-\$65. TurtleCreek.org.

SATURDAY 05.29

COMMUNITY

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., 5415 Maple Ave. #349 (access via Butler).

Rainbow Ministries International. Meets weekly. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 2 p.m. 469-222-3400.

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

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

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

Prime Timers Prime Brunch at The Mecca, 10422 Harry Hines Blvd. 11 a.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details or to RSVP.

ART

Summer Selections 2.0 group show featuring Bert Long, Gary Bishop, Susan Budge and other artists.

Through June 26. HCG Gallery, 1130 Dragon St., Suite 190. HCGGallery.com.

SUNDAY 05.30

COMMUNITY

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., 5415 Maple Ave. #349 (access via Butler).

Breath of Life Interfaith Mindfulness Fellowship. LGBT-friendly "meditation and more" event. Inspired by Buddhist spirituality, all faiths are welcome. Deaf interpretation is provided every week. Unity Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Inter-Mindful.com.

Dignity Dallas sponsors Roman Catholic liturgy. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. 214-521-5342 ext. 1732. DignityDallas.org.

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



Jesse Garcia.

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

Youth First Texas Collin County. This group gives LGBTQ youth in the North Dallas area a chance to socialize and meet other youth who live in north Dallas and the surrounding rural areas. Open to ages 14 to 22. 1200 Commerce St., Suite 121, Plano. 6 p.m. 214-879-0400.

Resounding Harmony holds weekly rehearsals at Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, 3014 Oak Lawn Ave. 7 p.m. Resoundingharmony.org.

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

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

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Wet Pool Party with Tammie Brown. The *RuPaul's Drag Race* contestant hosts this Memorial Day pool party benefiting the LifeWalk Purple Team and the Ilume DragOns softball team. Noon. \$10. Ilume.com.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is Jesse Garcia. 89.3 KNON-FM at noon. LambdaWeekly.com.

Cathedral of Hope worship service. (11:00) Ch. 8 at 12:35 a.m.

MONDAY 05.31

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, please check with the groups directly for schedules.

COMMUNITY

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., 5415 Maple Ave. #349 (access via Butler).

Unwired Dallas. Group of Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA) meets for those wishing to quit. New Hope Fellowship Church, 2438 Butler St. 7 p.m. Free. Crystallmeth.org.

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

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.

Career Assistance Ministry meets at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Noon. Cathedralofhope.com.

The Women's Chorus of Dallas holds weekly rehearsals. Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. 7 p.m. 214-520-7828. TWCDoffice@twcd.org.

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 provided by AIDS Outreach Center meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 1:30 p.m. Call 817-229-4621 for more information. AOC.org.



PARTY LADY | Tammie Brown will get her hair wet at ilume's Memorial Day pool party on Sunday.

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.

TUESDAY 06.01

COMMUNITY

Sista to Sista meets. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N.

Beach St., Fort Worth. 11:30 a.m. 817-335-1994 ext. 204. AOC.org.

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

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

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

Youth First Texas group for ages 14 to 22. 3918

Harry Hines Blvd. 4-10 p.m. 214-879-0400. Youth-FirstTexas.org.

Dallas FrontRunners meet at Knox Street entrance of Katy Trail. 6:30 p.m. Dallasfrontrunners.org.

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

The ONE Church East Bible study. 6246 Broadway Blvd, Suite #100, Garland. 7:30 p.m. 214-724-5658. Dallas1Church.org.

Q's-Day Potluck. Casual LGBT gathering every Tuesday evening. The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth, 817-446-3395.

Cathedral Ringers handbell rehearsal. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:45 p.m. Contact Jeremy.crosswhite@gmail.com for information.

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

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

Classic Chassis Car Club. El Fenix Downtown, 1601 McKinney Ave. at Woodall Rodgers Freeway. 6:30 p.m. 214-446-0606.

National Leather Association-Dallas meeting. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. NLA-Dallas.org

■ CALENDAR, Page 54

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calendar



GREEN WITH ENVY | Dallas Summer Musicals presents the popular musical 'Wicked' through June 27 at the Music Hall at Fair Park.

■ CALENDAR, From Page 53

WEDNESDAY 06.02

COMMUNITY

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

Unwired Dallas. Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA) group meets exclusively for those wishing to quit. New Hope Fellowship Church, 2438 Butler St. 7 p.m. Free. Crystallmeth.org.

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

Dallas PUMP, rehearsal for the chorus for LGBT youth. Youth First Texas, 5415 Maple Ave. Suite 225. 6:30 p.m. Dallaspump.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.

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

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

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

First Wednesday on Cedar Springs. Area merchants offer sales, refreshments and entertainment along Cedar Springs and Oak Lawn. 6-10 p.m.

THURSDAY 06.03

COMMUNITY

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

The ONE Church West Bible study. First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane,

Fort Worth. 7:30 p.m. OneChurchTX.org.

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., 5415 Maple Ave. #349 (access via Butler).

Choir and Orchestra rehearsals at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Cathedralofhope.com.

Standing on the Promises is the Alcoholics Anonymous group that meets at Cathedral of Hope. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for membership; A.A. is self-supporting through contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, political organization or institution. 5910 Cedar Springs Road, Room 107. 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.

PFLAG Fort Worth (Parents, Friends and Family of Lesbians and Gays) meets first Thursdays of each month. First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. 7 p.m. 817-428-2329. Pflagfortworth.org.

Career Fellowship offers support to those who are experiencing unemployment or under-employment. Congregational Life Center, Room 106, Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. 972-662-4499.

First Thursday Gallery Walk where all showrooms and galleries along Dragon Street in the Design District will remain open until 8 p.m. each month.

FILM

CSMA Outdoor Movie Series with movies every Thursday in summer on the TMC patio. Showtime is officially 8 p.m. but always at darkfall. Visit site for listing of films. TMC: The Mining Company, 3903 Cedar Springs Rd. Free. ShopCedarSprings.com.

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THUR	JUNE 3RD	TMC	10:00 PM
FRI	JUNE 4TH	KLUB HOT	10:00 PM
SUN	JUNE 6TH	DALLAS EAGLE	10:00 PM
TUES	JUNE 8TH	ROUND-UP	10:00 PM
WED	JUNE 9TH	JR'S	10:00 PM
THUR	JUNE 10TH	BARBARA'S	10:00 PM
FRI	JUNE 11TH	LOS REILES	10:00 PM
SUN	JUNE 13TH	PEKERS	10:00 PM
TUES	JUNE 15TH	KALIENTE	10:00 PM
THUR	JUNE 17TH	CLUB RUSH	10:00 PM
SUN	JUNE 20TH	ILLUSIONS	10:00 PM
MON	JUNE 21ST	DALLAS WOODY'S	10:00 PM
THUR	JUNE 24TH	THE ROSE ROOM	10:00 PM
SUN	JUNE 27TH	SISTER'S CLUB	10:00 PM
TUES	JUNE 29TH	ALEXANDRE'S	10:00 PM
WED	JUNE 30TH	THE BRICK/JOE'S	10:00 PM
THUR	JULY 1ST	HAVANA	10:00 PM

Red Color Indicates Locations for Group & Solo Competition

Black Color Indicates Locations for Solo Competition Only

SOLO ELIMINATION ROUNDS

TUES	JULY 13TH	DALLAS EAGLE	9:00 PM
THUR	JULY 15TH	CLUB RUSH	9:00 PM

GROUP ELIMINATION ROUND

WED	JULY 14TH	DALLAS WOODY'S	9:00 PM
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SEMI-FINALS

SUN	JULY 25TH	ROUND-UP SALOON	9:00 PM
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FINAL NIGHT

SUN	AUG 15TH	THE ROSE ROOM	8:00 PM
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NOTICE: BIG CHANGES FOR 2010

- We have added a Group Category
- New Rule Changes for Solo Singers

• Details on the website at: www.dallastavernguild.org



CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Wentworth Miller turns 38 on Wednesday. Dallas used to see a lot of Miller when he filmed *Prison Break* here before it went off the air. Now, he can be seen in the upcoming *Resident Evil: Afterlife* with Milla Jovovich. Rumors have always surrounded Miller about being gay, but he told Entertainment Wise that what he really wants is to settle down with a wife and kids.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Examining the provocations to arguments and staying silent can prove more educational than actually arguing. Review goals that have been accomplished and think about your next steps.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Be willing to grow and adapt. The time for planning career moves is ending. Make big, bold choices or events will force difficult changes. Even in those there may be great opportunities.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Pressuring your partner to make a decision will backfire. Physical play will help work off frustration. Be careful with the rough stuff and keep your head clear. Accidents are looking to happen.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

You can meet somebody hot and sexy while doing charity work. That milieu will also get you out of your own head, which is a dangerous place. Worry only undermines your own health.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

What do you want tonight? In 14 years? Answer the latter; then think hard about the first. Somewhere, there is a clue about your next big relationship, or necessary changes in your current one.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Demands at work keep you from home and family. If that sounds good, make changes around the house. Whatever work offers that home doesn't suggests changes you need to make.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

The best way to avoid arguments is to think twice about what you're hearing and about how others might hear what you're saying. The interchange can open you up to new perspectives.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Work on money issues first and be willing to bend on sexual ones. Take the initiative on flexibility. Clearing the air can be rough, but is necessary for a happy home.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

With a little help from your partner or a counselor, your money troubles should alleviate soon. Trying to deny it could upset your partner. Admitting to being vulnerable and confused will help.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Worrying about your health only makes it worse. Take positive steps with moderate exercise. Your finances should be going up, but be careful with your money.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Asserting too forcefully can show people things you'd rather they didn't. Working to be more yourself can be humbling. That humility will win you great respect.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

You may find too much quantity and not enough quality in your social circles. Take some time alone to sort out in your mind who are the ones you really want in your tribe.

THIS WEEK

Mars in Leo is triggering crises, mostly in the form of fights and misunderstandings that show where we need to wrap things up and move on. Clear away worries and doubts. Analyze problems realistically to find novel solutions.

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

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

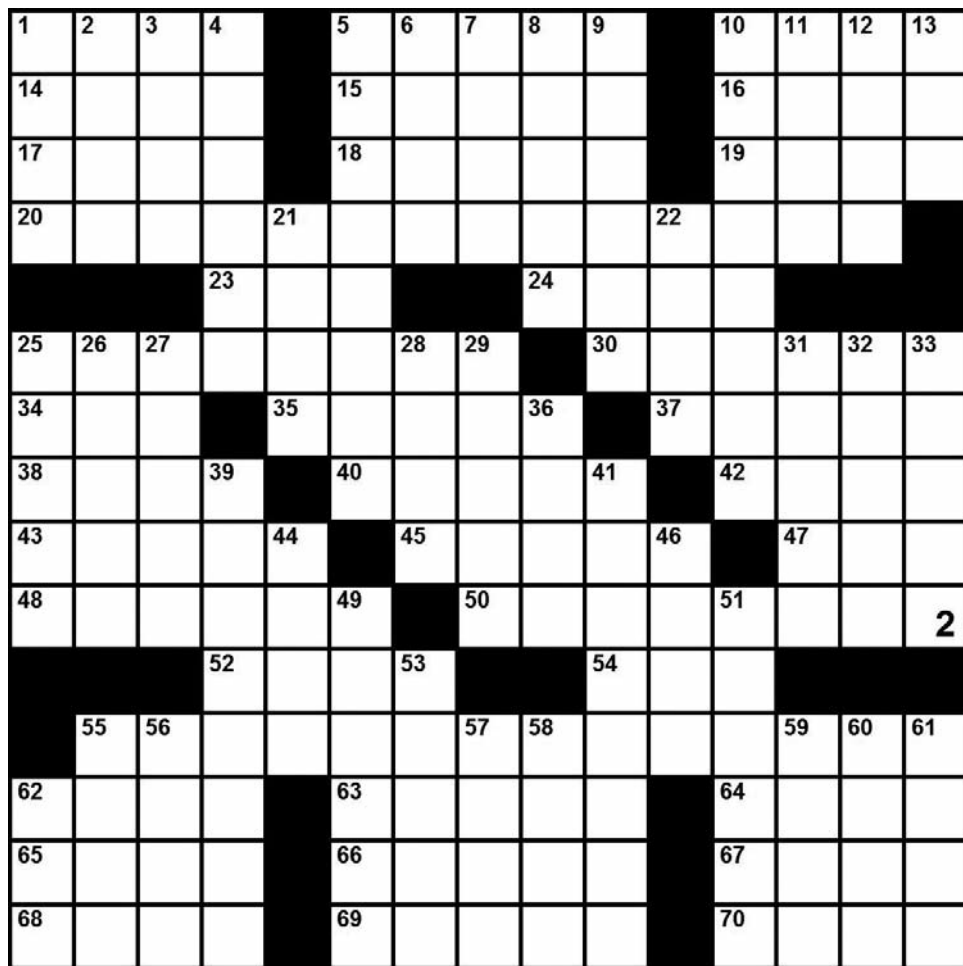
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Hard Act to Follow

Solution on page 53

Across

- 1 Risk rust, for the Tin Man
- 5 Use it to stroke your head
- 10 "As Is" subject
- 14 As to
- 15 "The closet" opening?
- 16 "Boys in the Band" author Crowley
- 17 At the ready
- 18 Funny Cheri
- 19 "How queer!"
- 20 Pepper Potts potrayer in 50-Across
- 23 Conduit bend
- 24 Roz portrayer on "Frasier"
- 25 Johansson of 50-Across
- 30 Kid's "tattoos," e.g.
- 34 Post- opposite
- 35 Socrates' market
- 37 George of "Star Trek"
- 38 Boot
- 40 Grid coach Amos Alonzo ____
- 42 Type of bath
- 43 Loathing
- 45 Milano opera house, with "la"
- 47 Kind of deer
- 48 Like 50-Across?
- 50 Superhero movie sequel

52 Trojans' org.

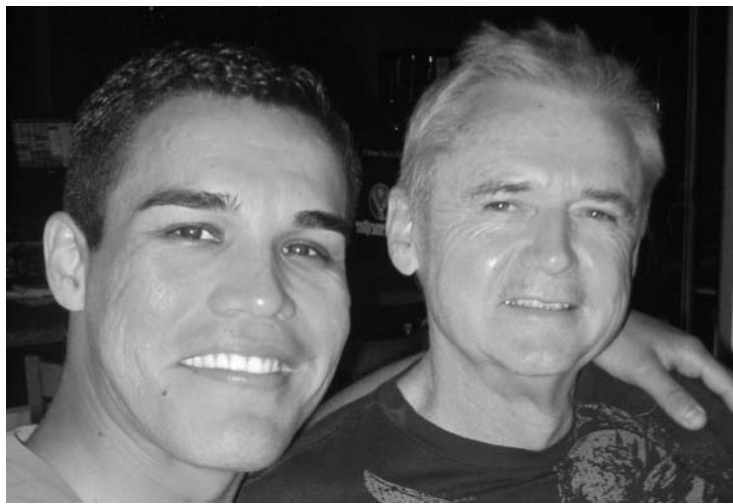
- 54 Feeling of hitting rock bottom
- 55 Title character portrayer in 50-Across
- 62 Lanford Wilson's "The ___ Baltimore"
- 63 Madrid museum
- 64 Port on Osaka Bay
- 65 Katharine's "Butch Cassidy" part
- 66 Conger catcher
- 67 Actor Richard
- 68 Erection material?
- 69 Ben Franklin's belief
- 70 Internally pink

Down

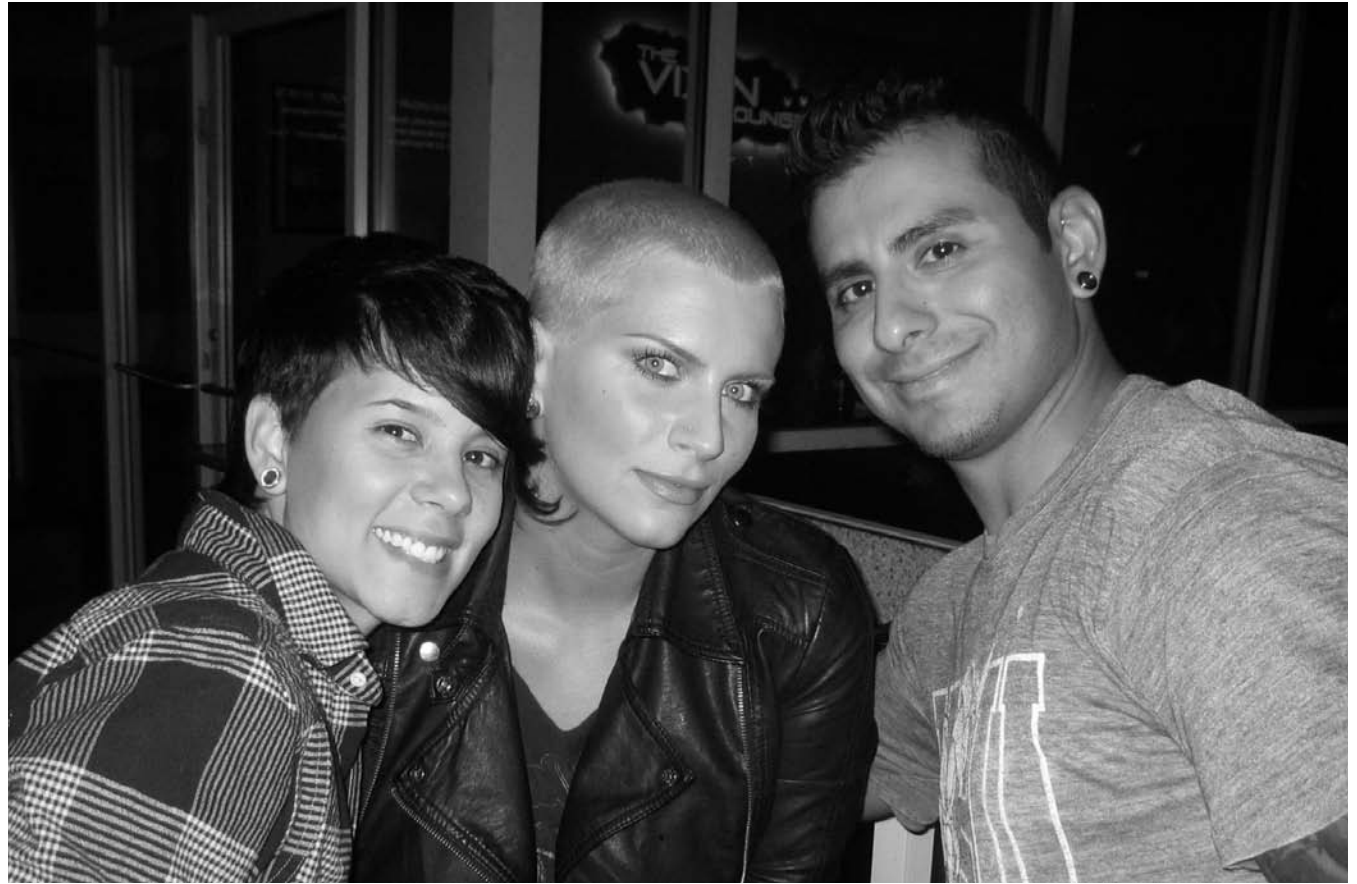
- 1 Cherry opening?
- 2 From the top
- 3 Heartbreaker for a big, hairy male
- 4 Loewe's partner
- 5 Pirates
- 6 Baseball's Babe
- 7 Lone Star sch.
- 8 Subway dangler
- 9 Flagged down
- 10 Ferrera of "Ugly Betty" with our country?
- 11 "Otello" villain
- 12 Emulate Alison Bechdel
- 13 Rubber avoidance danger
- 21 Scat queen
- 22 Singer Fure
- 25 "Airplane!"; for one
- 26 Like homophobic remarks
- 27 Norse race
- 28 They're into diapers
- 29 Chef Des Jardins
- 31 "The Seven Samurai" director Kurosawa
- 32 Allow the pussy out of the bag?
- 33 Runway model's specification, perhaps
- 36 Petri dish gel
- 39 Edna of "Hairspray"
- 41 Miriam Margolyes voice role in "James and the Giant Peach"
- 44 Steinbeck title vermin
- 46 Soon, to Shakespeare
- 49 Bitched and moaned
- 51 More sheepish
- 53 Up ___ (stuck)
- 55 Prefix with gravure, in "Easter Parade"
- 56 "Beatle Bailey" dog
- 57 Lover of Lorca, perhaps
- 58 Poems of Sappho
- 59 Madonna taught this in "The Next Best Thing"
- 60 Type of ski lift
- 61 Director Norman of "Prelude to a Kiss"
- 62 Chop down



This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE



Joe and Rick at The Brick.



Brenna, Brook and Aryh at Sue Ellen's.

We can't even remember the last holiday weekend, so we're gonna live this one up. How about you? ... **The Brick** has filled up its **Memorial Day weekend**. They start out with the weekly **Red Hot Fridays** on both sides of the club. DJ **David Knapp** spins the tunes for Saturday night followed up by DJ **Darren Thomas' Tea Dance** Sunday afternoon. **MichaB** takes over Sunday night with his **Shake It** party. You don't have time to take a breath because **Ms. Behavin' Mondays** follows with special guest **Tommie Ross** Saturday, **Sisters Club** hosts the **Lone Star Mustangs fundraiser**. Now that it's getting warmer, their pool will be just the place to chill out **Naked Lunch** performs Friday night at **Jack's Backyard** Every Sunday at **Woody's** get your rock on at **Rock Band Bar Nights**. **Miss Wanda** livens hump day up every Wednesday. **Denise Lee** and **Buddy Shanahan** perform on the back patio Friday night Seems like this was just the other day. **First Wednesday** is back with sidewalk bargains and specials thanks to the **Cedar Springs Merchant Association** **Sue Ellen's** plans to rock out the holiday weekend. **Anton Shaw and the Reason** perform Friday night. **The Red River Mudcats** play Saturday. But the big day is Sunday's **GirlJam 17**, the local version of Lilith Fair. Live music all day? Yes, please We saved the best for last. The big news for the coming week is the start of **Voice of Pride 2010**. The first preliminary is Wednesday as we begin the journey for local singers to come out on top as the winner

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES



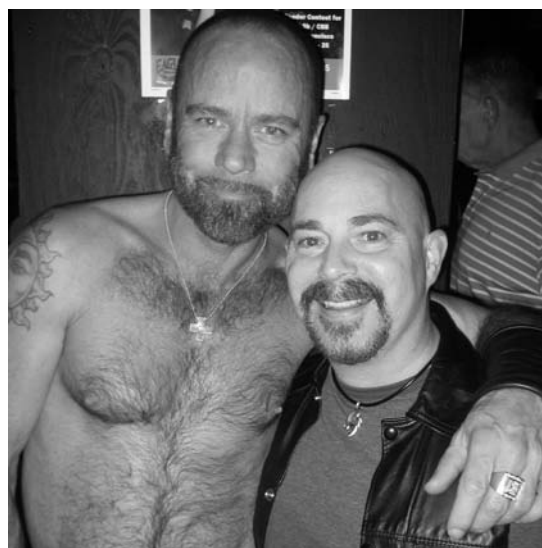
Tanner, Cat and Austin at Alexandre's.



Ricky and Craig at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



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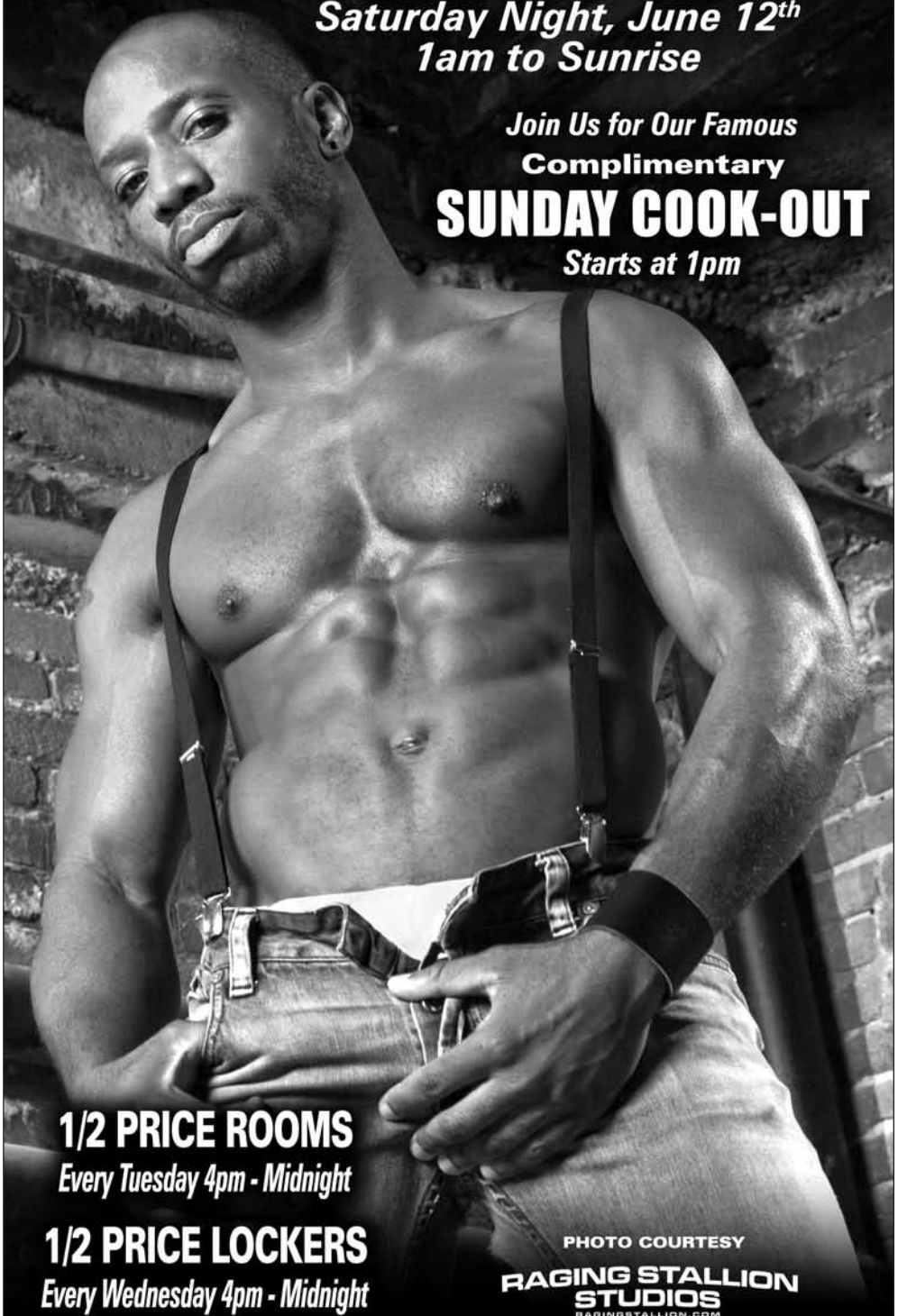
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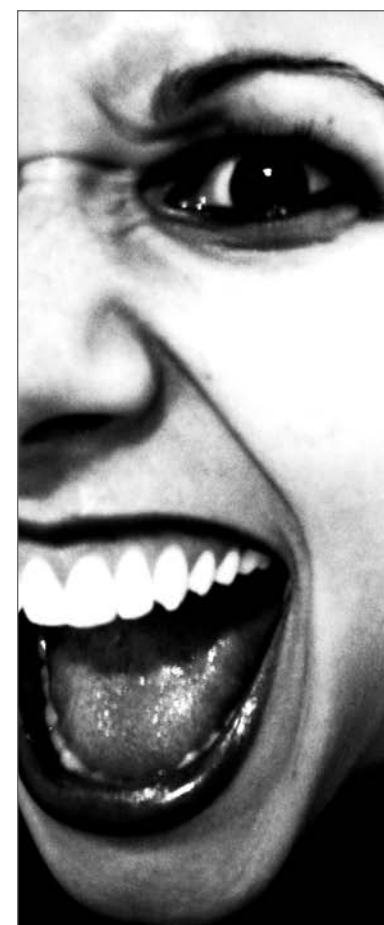
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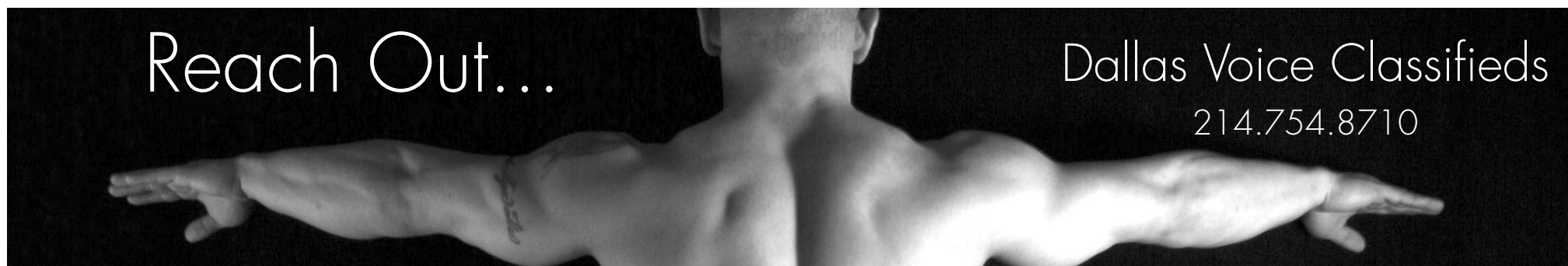


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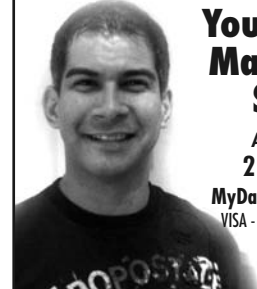
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