

A peek at the upcoming arts season

Dallas Black Dance Theatre strikes a pose
Just what is so gay about the 2010-11 season?

■ APPLAUSE, Page S1

Applause
the Dallas voice visual & performing arts guide 2010



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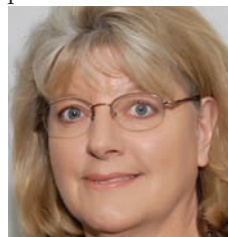
A big party for a big anniversary

20th annual LifeWalk steps off Oct. 10, will benefit 9 ASOs

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

Twenty years is a long time for a fundraising event to stay active, not to mention successful. And a 20th anniversary calls for a special celebration.

And that's exactly what AIDS Arms has planned for the 20th annual LifeWalk set for Sunday, Oct. 10 at Lee Park.



Raeline Nobles

As the event marks its 20th year, AIDS Arms Executive Director Raeline Nobles said, "One of the things we wanted to do, right out of the gate, was

increase our partnerships within the nonprofit community, to increase the number of partner agencies that would benefit from LifeWalk.

"We had four partner agencies last year. This year, we have nine. There are 10 organizations, counting AIDS Arms," she said.

LifeWalk was created in 1991 as a fundraiser for Oak Lawn Community Services. When that agency folded, AIDS Arms took over, each year inviting other AIDS service organizations in the community to participate.

■ LIFEWALK, Page 14

School rejects lesbians' daughter



OLIVIA HAS 2 MOMMIES | St. Vincent's, a school operated by a Bedford church that left the Episcopal Church USA over the denomination's policies on ordaining women and accepting LGBT people, waited until just four days before school started to tell a lesbian couple that their daughter would not be allowed to attend classes there. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

School's dean says Harrisons' relationship violates St. Vincent's 'basic Christian values,' but mothers says discrimination is 'just not right'

JOHN WRIGHT | Online Editor
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BEDFORD — Four-year-old Olivia Harrison was disappointed to learn she won't be attending

St. Vincent's Cathedral School this year.

"We said, 'You realize that you're not going to go to the same school,'" said Olivia's biological mother, Jill Harrison. "She said, 'Yes I am, I want to go to that school, I want to play there.'

"They have a fish pond, and she said, 'Yeah, but I need to feed the fish and take care of them,'" Jill Harrison said.

Regardless of whether Olivia fully understands the decision, she can now tell you why she'll be starting pre-kindergarten at another school next

week, instead of St. Vincent's.

"They don't like that I have two mommies," Olivia says.

"She's just repeating, so we're careful about what we're telling her," said Jill Harrison. "I don't want her to think that she in any way shape or form did anything wrong."

Olivia, who'd been accepted into St. Vincent's earlier this summer, was set to start on Monday, Aug. 23. But school officials abruptly changed

■ SCHOOL, Page 14



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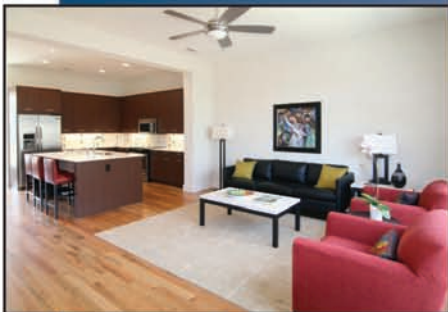


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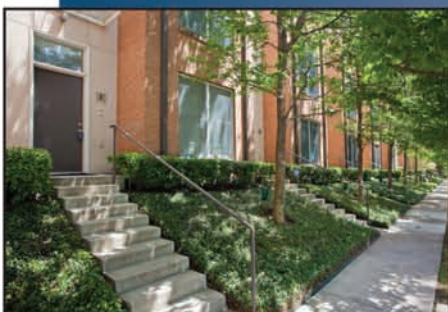
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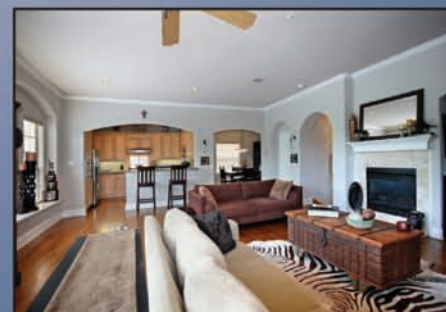
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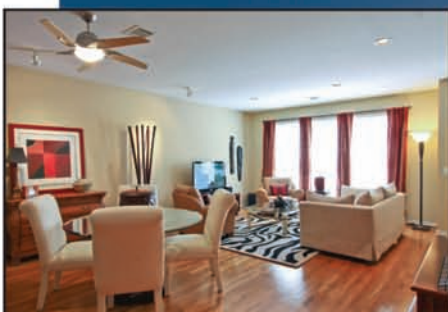
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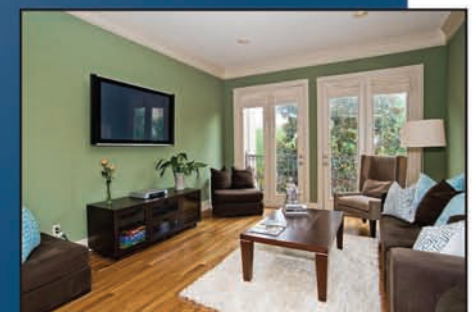
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YFT plans fundraiser to kick off Pride celebrations

Event intended to help make up shortfall in youth group's budget caused by economic downturn

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Youth First Texas kicks off Pride with a fundraising party at the home of Jo Bess Jackson and Joanne Martin on Sept. 11.

"It's a great way for those in our community who want to celebrate Pride and support a great organization," said Youth First Texas Director of Development and Administration Sam Wilkes.

Advisory board member Renee Baker put out a call to members of the Women's Business Network to help raise money for the center after it moved to its new location. Jackson and Martin responded.

While no admission to the party will be charged, Wilkes said they will showcase the services the organization offers and hope the community will be generous with its financial support.

"We'll probably have a short presentation. A youth or two will make an appeal," said board member Chris Hendrix.

He said the group was looking for monthly



Sam Wilkes

donors who will make a multi-year commitment and challenge appeals.

Wilkes said that their Collin County group recently lost its space and is currently meeting at an office owned by Big Brothers/Big Sisters. The group is looking for a space of its own.

"We need a smaller, more secure spot," he said. "YFT Collin County is a more intimate group. We have a couple of things in the works and are looking for what will be the best fit."

The main Dallas center moved earlier this year to a new location on Harry Hines Boulevard.

Baker said the old space on Maple Avenue leaked, had air conditioning problems, was located near a meth clinic and had homeless people hanging out on the property. The new, more modern facility is safer and has attracted more youth.

"As of last month, we served 1,300 individuals so far this year," Baker said.

That's about a 25 percent increase in the number accessing services, and with the safer location some attend more often.

YFT is gearing up for another increase later this year when DART's Green Line opens in December.

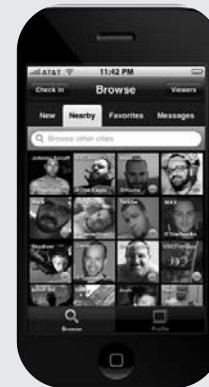
Market Center Station is across the street from their new building, making the facility even more accessible.

Jackson said she and her partner were delighted to open their house to help the organization continue to offer a variety of services.

■ YFT, Page 12

Show 'em your Scruff

The other day on Bearotic.com (yeah, I know), "Net Bear" posted a nifty piece about the iPhone app Scruff. For those who prefer their men a little, um, scruffier, Scruff suits all your needs. This "gay bear finder" was designed by Eric Silverberg and is described as "a social application for gay bears, musclebears, cubs, otters, leather men, and their admirers.



Scruff enables users to create and view profiles based on geo-location, send messages and private images, and check in to neighborhood venues."

We asked resident DV bear Greg to download the free app for a test run. "Oh my God! My whole world has just opened up," was his first reaction. Its similarities to Grindr make it easy to use and some of the features come in pretty handy — you know, for social networking and all that.

Greg and I could do a general browse regardless of location, but then we had the option to choose "Near" for bears near our den. Like FourSquare, you can check in, but neither our office nor adjacent businesses came up. We're at Fitzhugh and Travis and the closest to us for check-in were the businesses in Knox-Henderson. Once you're logged in, you can send someone a "Woof" (which I never understood because bears actually growl) and also click under the "Would you meet this person?" with options of "Not My Type" (ouch), "Maybe" and "Definitely." We clicked "definitely" for one guy who clocked in at nine blocks away. Hi, Justin!

— Rich Lopez

Cars vandalized at ilume

Dallas police estimate that 20-25 vehicles were vandalized Sunday afternoon while parked in the garage at ilume, the posh new development on the Cedar Springs strip.

Sr. Cpl. Kevin Janse, a spokesman for DPD, said the vehicles appeared to have been "keyed," although the suspect could have used a screwdriver or anything sharp.

Janse said only four victims have called in reports to police thus far, but it's estimated that 20-25 vehicles were damaged. He added that there's no reason to believe the incident was an anti-gay hate crime.

Janse said police have no suspect description, and there were no security cameras in the area of the garage where the incidents occurred. Total monetary damages are unknown, but one victim who reported the incident estimated \$3,000 in damage to his Hummer.

— John Wright

Donna Dumae: A friend indeed



Don "Donna Dumae" Jenkins

For 14 years, Don Jenkins has used his royal alter ego to bring together 'Friends Helping Friends' to benefit ASD

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Donna Dumae — aka Don Jenkins — will present her 14th annual "Friends Helping Friends" benefit for AIDS Services Dallas on Sept. 4 at Dallas Eagle.

Don Jenkins has performed as Donna for 27 years. But his alter ego Donna wasn't something he had been rehearsing at home that was just waiting for a chance to burst out.

"I was out at one of the clubs in Fort Worth and someone dared me to do it," he said. "At first I said no. Then I asked, 'What'll you give me?'"

His friends offered him \$100 to enter a contest and win. He competed in the Closet Ball and lost but was asked to come back the next night and perform again.

"I never got the \$100," he said.

But he found that he enjoyed performing, so he joined some of the cast shows.

"And they'd pay me!" he said.

Jenkins joined the Imperial Court in Fort Worth and became Empress XI.

After he moved to Dallas, he became Empress XXIII of the Dallas court and currently serves as board president.

The courts are very involved in fundraising for the community.

"Fort Worth is a smaller city and there was a lot I could do there," he said. "When I moved to Dallas, there was so much going on, so many groups. It was almost overwhelming."

When he was about to run for empress in Dallas, Jenkins asked himself

■ DUMAE, Page 12

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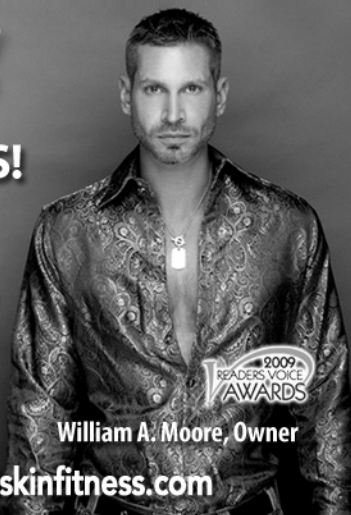


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localbriefs

Words of Women contest opens

The 2011 Words of Women International History Project and Essay Contest officially began on Thursday, Aug. 26, according to Christine Jarosz, executive director of the Women's Communities Association which sponsors the contest.

Women from around the world are invited "to tell our stories and the stories of our mothers, grandmothers, sisters and daughters to inspire to empower, to chronicle and to build bridges."

Deadline for entries is Dec. 31, and the awards ceremony will be held in March.

Those wishing to enter should choose one of two topics — "The most influential woman in my life" or "The most significant thing that happened to women this year" — and write an essay of 500 words or less. Essays must be typed and double-spaced, with the writer's name, address, phone number and e-mail address, along with the entrant's age category — youth, maiden, mother, wisewoman.

Entries and a \$5 registration fee mailed to Words of Women, P.O. Box 180777, Dallas, Texas 75218. Or entries and registration both can be mailed to that address.

For more information and guidelines, go online to WordsOfWomen.org.

Salon holds LifeWalk fundraiser

Lenoir Salon, in partnership with AIDS Arms

Inc., will host "Cocktails and Conversations for a Cause" on Wednesday, Sept. 8, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. Proceeds will benefit AIDS Arms.

The event will feature complimentary cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and giveaways. Prizes include a hotel getaway, dinner for two, a deluxe facial, a glamour make-over and photo shoot and more.

There will also be HIV/AIDS prevention and education materials available.

Lenoir Salon, founded by Tim Lenoir, is located inside Salon Republic at 14999 Preston Road. For more information about donations and tickets to "Cocktails and Conversations for a Cause," call 214-734-6093.

Staff members and clients of Lenoir Salon will also participate in the 20th Annual LifeWalk on Oct. 10, with a goal of raising \$5,000. For more information, go online to LifeWalk.org.

'Gay'ther Homecoming set at CoH

The Cathedral of Hope United Church of Christ and Art for Peace & Justice will host an array of lesbian and gay musicians and their friends for the first annual "Gay'ther Homecoming, modeled after the popular Gaither Homecoming events, on Sept. 18 at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road.

The evening's proceeds will benefit the Inter-faith Peace Chapel. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and are available at H4PJ.org.

pet of the week / noel

Noel is a happy girl who plays well with other dogs that she "approves" of — mostly males, and at least her size. Noel is a very obedient dog once she gets to know and trust you. She cannot wait to hang around you, and loves to lick your face. Noel is a 2-year-old hound/shepard mix that weighs 42 pounds fully grown.

Many other great dogs and cats are available for adoption from Operation Kindness, located at 3201 Earhart Drive, 1 street south of Keller Springs and 2 blocks west of Midway Road, in Carrollton. The no-kill shelter is open 6 days a week: Monday, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.; closed Tuesday; Wednesday, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday, noon to 8 p.m.; Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The cost is \$110 for cats, \$135 for kittens, \$150 dogs over 1 year, and \$175 for puppies. The adoption cost includes the spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, vaccinations, heartworm test for dogs, leukemia and FIV test for cats, and more. Those who adopt two pets at the same time receive a \$20 discount. For more information, call 972-418-PAWS, or visit www.operationkindness.org.



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Jacob Comer

Because it's fun to help others

BY JACOB COMER

Team Dallas Voice

My name is Jacob. I am 11 years old, and I just started sixth grade. This year, I am working on the Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS pit stop crew with my mom, Sandra.

I like to ride my bike. Last year, when I was in fifth grade and the school I went to was closer to my house, I would ride my bike to school.

One day, I want to be a rider in Lone Star Ride. But that will have to wait until I am older and can ride farther.

Last year, my mom was riding her bike in Lone Star Ride. But she had a wreck and hurt her hand.

When she came home and I saw that her hand was hurt, I was upset, and I said I didn't want her to ride any more. But then she told me why she was riding.

She told me that the reason for Lone Star Ride is to raise money for people who have a disease called AIDS. She said that AIDS makes you really feel bad and you have to take lots of medicine all the time.

She also said that the medicines cost lots of money and it is hard for people to pay for the medicines they need, especially because AIDS makes people so sick that sometimes they can't work to make money.

So people who have AIDS sometimes can't pay for food or for a place to live. It made me very sad to think of that.

Mom told me that Lone Star Ride raises money to help people with AIDS get their medicine and have somewhere to live and food to eat.

So when she said she was going to volunteer again this year, I told her I wanted to volunteer, too. I want to do something to help people who are already sick, and I want to help other people keep from getting AIDS.

One time this summer, Mom and I went to one of the Lone Star Ride training rides. We rode in our car to make sure that the people on their bikes were OK.

If someone started feeling bad or got too tired to ride any more, we picked them up and drove them back to the finish line.

It was so much fun. I love to work with my family and people that I know, and I love to meet new people and make new friends. Lone Star Ride is a great way to do that.

It was so much fun to go by the people on their bikes and cheer for them and wave to them.

It is fun to help people.

Why don't you come and ride with us or volunteer for the crew so that you can have fun helping people, too?

A note from Jake's mom: There are a lot of adults out there who either don't see the importance of participating in Lone Star Ride or other such events, or who aren't willing to give the time and put out the effort to be part of something that is so important.

And to know that my son, at 11 years old, is already thoughtful and kind-hearted enough to make this sort of commitment makes me very, very proud.

I know that it takes a lot of time and effort and dedication to ride a bike 150 miles over two days.

And yes, it takes time and effort and dedication to volunteer for one of the crew positions.

But that time and effort is nothing compared to the good that you can do for people living with AIDS who need your help.

Even if you can't ride or crew, you can donate to someone who is.

So come on — join me and Jake and do your part for the Lone Star Ride and the people it serves.

To donate to Jacob or to another LSR rider or crew member, go online to LoneStarRide.org.

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Deaths

Mechelle Marie Armstrong, 54, of Dallas died Aug. 13 at University Medical Center in Lubbock after being struck by a pickup truck while she was participating in the first of four bicycle races in the 2010 Senior Games.

Born Nov. 27, 1955, Armstrong was a native of Onaga, Kansas. She had lived in the Dallas area



for more than 30 years, and worked in the Dallas Independent School District where she taught math, English, physical education, health, science and English for international students.

She also worked for many years as an instructor/supervisor for the Sears Driving School, and had spent time as a teacher in Guam, a time she remembered fondly.

Armstrong earned a degree in physical education from Kansas State University and attended Texas Women's University in Denton before leaving to take the teaching position in Guam. She was a member of the Matrix Cycle Club and the Pin Pushers Bowling League at Forum Bowling in Grand Prairie.

Armstrong was working at a language academy, teaching English to non-English-speaking high school students when she met Ana, one of three girls she eventually "adopted" as her own. She and her partner of 25 years, Donna Hinckley, later gave two other girls, Diana and Norma, a home when they needed one, and the girls eventually came to consider "Ms. Mechelle" and "Ms. Donna" as their parents, and the two women were very proud of all three of their "daughters."

Armstrong was a parent, teacher, mentor and friend. She was known as a very athletic woman who grew up playing softball and who loved all sports. Later in life she rediscovered her love of sports through cycling. Although she and Hinckley often rode bikes with their adopted daughters

■ To Place an Obituary

We print notices of deaths of members of the LGBT community at no fee. A questionnaire is available to assist you in organizing the information. Certain information is required. The questionnaire can be e-mailed, faxed or mailed to you. You may supply photos as prints (color or B&W) or scans (min. 300 d.p.i. at 3X5). For more information or to submit a notice, e-mail nash@dallasvoice.com or call 214-754-8710 ext. 128.

when the girls were young, Armstrong became "addicted" to the sport of cycling later on. That led to a daily exercise regimen and a passion for cycling that helped her lose more than 70 pounds. She was always proud to be able to tell her students that she could outpace much younger riders at cycling rallies.

Armstrong also inspired Diana's husband, Felipe, and Norma's boyfriend, Carlos, to take up cycling.

Armstrong and Hinckley went to Lubbock in early August to attend the Senior Bike Trials and had plans to ride with Norma and Carlos in the "Hotter Than Hell 100" race. But while in Lubbock, Armstrong was struck from behind by a pickup in her first race and fatally injured.

Armstrong was known as a very giving person who touched many lives, and someone who would always help anyone who needed help. She was full of energy and had stamina that was the envy of many much younger people.

Besides cycling, Armstrong was passionate about teaching, baking, camping and family.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Rose Marie Armstrong, and a brother, Rodrick Kent Armstrong, both of Onaga.

She is survived by her partner, Donna Hinckley of Dallas; her "adopted" daughters, Norma, Diana and Ana, all of Dallas; her "granddaughters," Ailyn, Sara Jane and Karen, all of Dallas; her brother, Richard Armstrong, of Kansas; her sister, Marty Matzke, of Kansas; her aunt, Dora Fuller, of Plano; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, students and friends.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Aug. 28, from noon to 3 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road in Dallas. Memorial contributions can be made to The Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, Youth First Texas or Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS. ■

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Red Mango franchise donates equipment to RCD

'Quality used kitchen equipment and appliances' will be used for center's hot meals program, officials say

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Officials at Resource Center Dallas announced last week that the agency has received "a sizable donation of quality used kitchen equipment and appliances" from the local franchisee for Red Mango yogurt.

The equipment will primarily be used to support the center's weekday hot lunch program for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The equipment includes three stainless steel under-counter refrigerators, a double-door stainless steel freezer, an iced tea/coffee brewer, a refrigerated deli display case, a countertop convection oven, a couple of ice cream dipping cabinets and three stainless steel trash cans.

Officials said the refrigerators, freezer, tea/coffee brewer and trash cans were put to immediate use in the meals program.

Since the early 1990s, the center's hot meals program serves a lunch to more than 100 HIV-positive clients each Monday through Friday.

Bret Camp, associate executive director for health and medical services at the center, said, "This generous donation from Red Mango will allow the meals program to easily store perishables and supplies for our lunches, and increase our ability to accept donations of perishable food products.

"We're always grateful when businesses in our community support the center's programs," he added.

The franchise holder for the Dallas-area Red Mango stores, Bill Chinn, acquired the equipment when he took over a former restaurant space for a store location. The equipment had been in storage



Bret Camp

when the manager of the Red Mango at the Ilume on Cedar Springs read about the center's "Hell Freezes Over" fundraiser to buy a new ice machine, and he suggested that the equipment could be put to use in the center's hot meals program.

The Red Mango at Ilume also has a donation box in the store for the center, and so far has collected more than \$400 for Center programs and services. ■

ANNIVERSARY



HORTON-OLSON | Philip Horton and Steven Olson will celebrate 20 years together on Aug. 31. Olson owns a landscape/gardening business and Horton is a buyer for an import company based out of the Dallas Market Center. They live together in East Dallas with their two cats and a dog.

Stafford elected DIFFA/Dallas board chair

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Dallas chapter of the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS this week announced the election of Mark Stafford as chairman of the organization's board of trustees.

Vice chairs are Ron Brady and Carol Hatton. Darin Kunz was elected secretary, and Ed Hill is treasurer.

Clint Bradley, Brett Gray, Greg Haynes Johnson, Mark Mayland, Greg Nieberding, Beth Redmond, Dr. Brady Allen, Ferrell Drum and Donna Sedota have also been named to the board.

Stafford, a former trustee and founder/CEO of Revel Advertising said he is honored to have been elected chair of the DIFFA/Dallas board.

"We are all dedicated to supporting the foundation and working hard to raise funds and awareness for the fight against HIV and AIDS, so AIDS services in North Texas can continue to support those living with the disease," he said.

DIFFA has granted more \$4.5 million to local AIDS service organizations since 1988.

DIFFA's 2010-2011 fundraising season kicks off Oct. 15 with the second annual Burgers and Burgundy, hosted by Chef John Tesar at the roof top pool at The House in Victory Park.

Other events scheduled so far include the DIFFA Holiday Wreath Collection in November and a major spring fundraiser.

For more information or to purchase tickets for a DIFFA event, go online to DIFFADallas.org. ■

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PSSA TEAMS BRING HOME TROPHIES | Uptown Vision TKO, pictured, brought home the B Division championship trophy from the Gay Softball World Series held recently in Columbus, Ohio. Dallas' Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association reportedly had its best showing ever at this year's World Series, held this past weekend in Columbus, Ohio. Other teams from Dallas' Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association also played well at the series. Round-Up Fuse and Dallas Thunder came in second place in the C and D divisions, respectively. Also, Woody's Wreckin' Crew and Round-Up Diesel finished fifth in the C and D divisions, respectively.

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■ texasnews

YFT

From Page 4

"I'm a cheerleader for them," Jackson said. "What they do is not duplicated by anyone else." She was referring to the way YFT integrates social activities with group and individual counseling.

"We offer community dinners to develop peer groups not based on drugs and alcohol," Wilkes said.

Baker said she's participated in movie nights, arts and crafts activities and cooking classes.

Twice a month, a gender identity group helps transgender youth gain self-acceptance. Lawyers work with the group pro bono to explain the steps needed to change legal papers, and counselors help them with a variety of questions and help them deal with pent up anxiety.

A six-week coming out series helps youth cope with family, friends and school.

YFT provides additional, unlimited free indi-

vidual counseling as well. They partner with AIDS Arms and Resource Center Dallas to provide free HIV testing.

Wilkes said the agency works with a number of youth who are living on their own and struggling.

"Our food pantry is cleaned out and restocked each week," he said.

Jackson and Martin have opened their North Dallas home to other groups many times, Jackson said. She is an estate-planning attorney who works with a number of transitioning people and with same-sex couples and single gays and lesbians.

"We have to protect ourselves even when the law doesn't," Jackson said. "We have to be creative."

She said that's exactly what YFT does that for LGBT youth and hoped the community would offer its support. ■

Sept. 11. 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at a private residence in North Dallas. To RSVP and attend the Youth First Texas party, e-mail Sam Wilkes at samw@youthfirst-texas.org.

DUMAE

From Page 4

where he could make the most difference. Then he visited AIDS Services of Dallas.

"I really liked what they did," he said.

That's when Jenkins began his annual "Friends Helping Friends" show.

Over the years, Jenkins has raised money for many organizations in Dallas, but ASD remains special to him. He estimates he's raised more than \$20,000 for the PWA housing agency just from his annual show.

Jenkins said that Chicago Empress D'Vitta Deville is coming to town special guest in this year's "Friends Helping Friends" show.

Don Maison, president and CEO of ASD, said the effort of the Court was exceptional.

"These are people who raise their money \$1 at a time," Maison said. "Don's a true example of dedication. What augments that is their hands-on activity."

He said that Jenkins came to ASD, took the tour and has been a reliable volunteer ever since.

"The Court does Easter baskets and Christmas presents for the kids," Maison said. "Over the years, they even helped us lay sod. It was muddy and nasty and they weren't afraid to get their fin-

gernails dirty. They just rolled up their sleeves and jumped in."

ASD's Development Associate and Volunteer Services Manager Mary Beth O'Connor speaks fondly about Dumae's help during the holidays.

"She is always in charge of the Easter Cookout, with Easter baskets for every ASD child and the Christmas Brunch with stockings for every child," said O'Connor. "It is a big deal and they go to a lot of trouble to make the gifts nice for our kids."

She said Jenkins makes a wonderful Mrs. Claus as well.

Jenkins's partner, John Terrill, has been an emperor of the Court and is involved in much of the fundraising work. The couple have been together for 15 years.

Recently, Jenkins celebrated his 20th anniversary with AT&T where he is a communications consultant. He said most of the people he works with know about Donna.

"Some even come out and support me," he said.

He's hoping a number of those people are at the Dallas Eagle on Sept. 4 to raise a record amount for ASD. ■

Friends Helping Friends, Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. Sept. 4 at 7 p.m. Entertainers who would like to perform line up at 5:30 p.m.

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California bill would protect clergy refusing to sanction gay marriages

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Clergy who refuse to sanction same-sex marriages would be protected under a bill sent to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's desk by the state Senate.

Sen. Mark Leno's bill, approved 22-11 Wednesday, Aug. 25, could become necessary if a federal appeals court upholds a judge's ruling this month striking down Proposition 8, the state's voter-approved gay marriage ban.

The bill says religious institutions from faiths that object to same-sex unions could not be stripped of their tax-exempt status if their clergy refuse to perform weddings for gay couples.

Leno, a gay Democrat from San Francisco, defended the measure when it was opposed by Sen. Roy Ashburn, an openly gay Republican from Bakersfield. Ashburn objected that the bill defines same-sex marriages as civil relationships, which he says puts them in a lesser class than heterosexual marriages.

Trans woman mistreated at hospital satisfied with promised changes

MUNCIE, Ind. — A transgender woman said she was satisfied with changes promised by a hospital after she complained of being ridiculed by medical staff and denied treatment in its emergency room last month.

Ball Memorial Hospital announced Tuesday, Aug. 24, that all employees would receive mandatory LGBT awareness training starting in September and that it was updating its nondiscrimination policies to include language specific to sexual orientation and gender identity.

Erin Vaught, a transsexual who has transitioned from male to female, complained that she was referred to as a "he-she" and "it" by hospital staffers after she arrived at the emergency room coughing up blood on July 18.

Vaught said that during face-to-face meetings with Ball Memorial President Michael Haley and others at the hospital, she felt that they "would do the right thing."

"I'm happy with the outcome," Vaught told The Star Press. "I think that we reached a positive resolution."

The hospital said it would work with the advocacy groups Indiana Transgender Rights Advocacy Alliance and Indiana Equality in deciding on its response to Vaught's complaints.

"Simply put, we failed to live up to our brand promise of care in regards to Erin and we apologize to her for that," Haley said in a hospital statement. "In the last month, I have heard from many team members who share my disappointment with Erin's experience at BMH."

Vaught said last month that when she, her wife and son went to the hospital's emergency room coughing up blood, she was entered into the computer system as male despite an ID that stated she was female. Vaught said she was kept waiting for two hours without any treatment before seeing a doctor who said she couldn't treat her because of

her transgender condition.

Her treatment prompted complaints from the advocacy groups and others.

Vaught said she and her family would return to Ball Memorial in the future.

"My goal from the outset was to try to make sure that my experience wasn't repeated," she said.

Police increase patrols after spate of anti-gay attacks in city's bar district

COVINGTON, Ky. — Police have boosted patrols in a bar district in this northern Kentucky city following attacks that appeared to target gays.

Two people suffered slash wounds and two others had minor injuries in an Aug. 14 knife attack at a gas station in which anti-gay epithets were yelled at the victims, police said.

Police said they will start tracking incidents of ethnic and anti-gay slurs and hate speech, The Kentucky Enquirer reported. Also, a group of residents has formed "Zero Tolerance for Hate Crimes in Covington" and will host an event at six bars in MainStrasse on Saturday to raise money for an anti-hate campaign.

"We have had three incidents in the last several months and it has got to stop now," said Mayor Denny Bowman.

Recent crimes spurred the Covington City Commission and more than 80 people to gather Tuesday, Aug. 24, at City Hall to denounce hate crimes and reaffirm support for the human rights ordinance passed in 2003. The ordinance prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

City Commissioner Shawn Masters said he moved to Covington partly because of its diversity and is proud that the city has a human rights ordinance.

Police Chief Lee Russo said two additional officers recently were assigned to the MainStrasse beat during peak hours. Also, the two patrol officers who roam throughout the city are focusing on MainStrasse, Russo said.

The police also want people to report slurs and hate speech to police so it can be tracked, Russo said.

Information from: The Kentucky Enquirer

Gay couple files suit challenging Wyoming's anti-gay-marriage law

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — A gay couple has filed a federal lawsuit challenging the Wyoming law that defines marriage as existing only between a man and a woman.

David Shupe-Roderick and Ryan W. Dupree of Cheyenne say the Laramie County Clerk's Office has refused to issue them a marriage license. They're asking U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson to stop the state from enforcing any laws that block gays and lesbians from access to civil marriage. Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg declined comment Tuesday, Aug. 24, saying he hadn't reviewed the lawsuit yet.

Shupe-Roderick and Dupree are acting as their own attorneys in the case. ■



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LIFEWALK

From Page 1

Nobles said organizers this year made a point to reach out to all the ASOs still in existence that had benefited from AIDS Arms in the past, asking them to participate again.

And the nine that are partnering with AIDS Arms for the event have the opportunity to add significantly to their coffers, she said.

“Every partner agency gets all the tools they need to have a successful LifeWalk team,” Nobles said. “They can potentially make a lot of money for themselves. It’s sort of the same model as the Black Tie Dinner. With Black Tie, beneficiaries can more or less write their own check, depending on how many tables they sell, how many raffle tickets they sell and how many volunteer hours they put in.

“What they get in return is the infrastructure for a very established event here in Dallas, and they can use that to benefit their organizations,” Nobles said.

It’s very similar with LifeWalk: Each agency works to get people to raise money and walk, and the money raised in an agency’s name goes to that agency, she explained.

Nobles said that LifeWalk strives each year to bring in enough sponsorships to completely cover the costs of staging the event, and they have reached that goal again this year. That means that “every penny that the walkers earn” goes to either AIDS Arms or one of the nine other beneficiary organizations.

“Of every dollar the beneficiaries raise, they keep 75 cents. The other 25 cents comes back to LifeWalk for next year’s event. That allows us to create an investment account to secure the future of the event, and it gives every beneficiary unrestricted funds to use however they need to,” Nobles said.

LifeWalk, Nobles continued, is a great example of the benefits of working together.

“The issue of collaboration is so important in this [HIV/AIDS] community. We all depend on each other so heavily these days, and this is one more opportunity for us to come together under one cause and help each of our individual organizations grow stronger .

“We [as organizations] may be very different from one another. We may not always agree with each other. But we are all here for the same reason,” she said. “And LifeWalk is an excellent platform to show the community that we can and do work together and partner together on behalf of our clients.”

In another nod to the past, all of the previous LifeWalk chairs have been invited to participate in the 20th anniversary celebration, Nobles said.

“We are hunting down, if you will, all the previous chairs, and we have been able to locate quite a few of them. Many of them still live in Dallas,” she said. “There is a group of previous chairs who have reaching out to the community, working to remind folks about LifeWalk, telling them, ‘Hey, this is why we were involved, and still are involved, in this event. This is the impact it can have on our community.’”

Nobles said it has been gratifying for her to



WALKING FOR A CAUSE | Participants in the 20th annual LifeWalk in October can choose any one of 10 partner organizations to benefit from the funds they raise.

hear the stories of past LifeWalk chairs and to hear that so many of the people who were involved in past years are still supportive of the event.

“Many of them still attend LifeWalk every year, and they have some very personal reasons for doing so. It has been very moving for us to hear those stories,” she said. “Many of them will be at the 20th anniversary, and we are very proud that we can have them there to let everyone acknowledge the history and their contributions and what they have been able to build through this event.”

LifeBark — the LifeWalk co-event created several years ago to allow people to bring their dogs to the event and use their pets to widen their fundraising options — is “still howling,” Nobles said.

“There will be registration available for all the pups who want to walk and wag their tails for a good cause. There will be doggie games and treats and all kinds of vendors. And Operation Kindness will be there, too, with dogs available for adoption,” she noted.

LifeWalk representatives will be selling raffle tickets for the 2011 Mercedes Benz that will be raffled off during Black Tie Dinner in November, and there will be free HIV testing available to anyone who wants to get tested. Plus, there will be LifeWalk raffles for a new living room suite and for two American Airlines tickets to “anywhere American flies,” Nobles said.

The Buster Brown Band, which Nobles described as a “lively jazz band,” will be entertain-

ing in Lee Park for LifeWalk, as will Darcell, a Dallas native who is coming back from Los Angeles to perform. And Dallas Pride Cheer will be

SCHOOL

From Page 1

their mind last week after learning that her parents, Jill and Tracy Harrison, are a lesbian couple.

St. Vincent’s is part of the Anglican Church in North America, a group that broke away from the Episcopal Church USA a few years ago, in part over the denomination’s acceptance of gays.

Since the school’s Aug. 19 decision to revoke Olivia’s acceptance, the story has made national news, being picked up by CNN in addition to several media outlets in North Texas.

Jill and Tracy Harrison said despite the initial shock and devastation of the school’s denial, they’re glad they’ve able to get the word out that anti-gay discrimination is alive and well.

“It’s been a whirlwind for the last few days, but it’s been worth every moment,” Jill Harrison told Dallas Voice during an interview at their home on Tuesday, Aug. 24. “I put up a blog on Facebook the other day that said, ‘Today’s probably the proudest day that I could call myself a parent, because I stood up for something that I believe in for my daughter.’”

‘Just not right’

After touring the school in June — and thor-

oughly researching it online — the Harrisons settled on St. Vincent’s because of its solid academic reputation and its small class sizes, as well as the fact that it’s so close to their home.

They also said they wanted Olivia to learn the basic tenets of Christianity, such as the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments.

However, they were clueless about the school’s history and its split from the Episcopal Church.

Jill and Tracy Harrison were legally married in Canada in 2006. Both Olivia and their 2-year-old son, Spencer, were conceived with the help of a sperm donor.

Jill Harrison said she crossed out “father” on Olivia’s application to St. Vincent’s, replaced it with “mother” and inserted Tracy’s name — something they’ve done routinely on paperwork since Olivia was born.

On Tuesday, Aug. 17, the Harrisons attended parents night at St. Vincent’s, and they said they felt it went well. Among other things, Jill and Tracy Harrison requested stickers for each of their vehicles so that Tracy could drop off Olivia and Jill could pick her up.

Two days later — and four days before school was to start — St. Vincent’s officials called Jill Harrison and asked her to come to the school and meet with them.

After inquiring about Jill’s relationship with

■ **SCHOOL**, Next Page

SCHOOL

From Previous Page

Tracy, the school revoked Olivia's acceptance.

"I was absolutely hysterical when I left there," Jill Harrison said. "It's her first time in school. We've made a really big deal about it."

Ryan Reed, dean of St. Vincent's, said this week that officials told Jill Harrison that, "the values taught at the school were in conflict with those at home."

"We thought this might put Olivia in a very conflicted situation to which Jill agreed," Reed said. "We don't dispute God's love for this family, just that one of the basic Christian values that we subscribe to is sexual activity inside a faithful, lifelong relationship between a husband and wife. As best we could ascertain, this was not something that Jill was in agreement about."

Asked why it took so long for school officials to realize the situation, Reed claimed that they tried repeatedly to contact the Harrisons over the summer to inquire about the altered application form.

Reed also said the school would have accepted Olivia if Jill Harrison were single and a lesbian but agreed to remain abstinent.

The decision was pursuant to a strict school policy that was also used to deny admission to a gay couple's daughter two years ago, to terminate an unmarried teacher who became pregnant, and to ban a parent — a husband who left

his wife for another woman, Reed said.

"We are simply asking people to strive toward the traditional Christian teaching in matters of how we live our lives," Reed said. "We don't follow people around if they are single and dating to make sure the date stops at the front door," he said. "We don't monitor what husband and wives are doing. But if something becomes public, we try to handle it in a pastoral and private way."

Asked how the school justifies punishing Olivia over her parents' identity, Reed said, "It seems far from punishment to me, in fact, it seems more loving to refer them to a school that can accommodate their family situation rather than put her in a situation where the moral legitimacy (and still in Texas the legal legitimacy) of her mom's relationship is called into question."

Jill and Tracy Harrison agreed that they wouldn't want Olivia to attend a school that doesn't accept their relationship.

But they denied that school officials tried to contact them before parents night, and they questioned why it took so long. They're also still struggling to come to terms with something they said they'd never experienced before.

"If persecution happens to just us, we're adults, we can handle it," said Tracy Harrison, who identifies as a "recovering Baptist."

"But they've taken it a step farther than that. They've discriminated against us because we're

gay, and took it out on our 4-year-old daughter. And that's just not right. There's no part about that that's right."

Legal implications

Jill and Tracy Harrison said they'll likely never forget some of the vicious comments that have been posted about their family online in response to the story.

They also denied rumors raised on some blogs that they plan to sue and try to force the school to accept Olivia, who's now scheduled to begin attending a local fine arts preschool Monday, Aug. 30.

One LGBT legal expert confirmed that if the Harrisons did try to sue, they wouldn't have a case, because the school appears well within its constitutional right to religious freedom and expression.

"There are some areas where there is some gray, but pretty much a religious school is off limits," said Ken Upton, a senior staff attorney for Lambda Legal who's based in Dallas. "The truth is, religion is still a very powerful thing in America when it comes to the law. They get a lot of free passes to do terrible things. That's unfortunate, but that's the way the First Amendment works."

Although the Harrisons don't plan to sue St. Vincent's, the school remains embroiled in litigation with the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth.

"They're occupying Episcopal Church property, and they're using our name," said Katie Sherrod, a spokeswoman for the diocese.

Initial media reports referred to the school as St. Vincent's Episcopal School. As of Thursday, Aug. 26, the school's website had been changed to say St. Vincent's Cathedral School, but Reed remained defiant.

"[The Episcopal Church USA] does not own the term Episcopal," he said. "There is in this country the Charismatic Episcopal Church for example or in other places the Scottish Episcopal Church. In conversation, I refer to myself as an Anglican but until the lawsuit is settled we are still the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, 'province of the Southern Cone' (which is part of South America)."

Sherrod acknowledged that it could be years before the issues are resolved in court.

"They left the Episcopal Church over the issues of the ordination of women and over the blessing of same-sex unions and the fact that we have two openly gay bishops," Sherrod said. "I'm not at all surprised that the leadership at St. Vincent's school made this decision. It's consistent with what they've been doing for years. I'm saddened by it, but I'm not surprised by it."

Sherrod is among those who've contacted the Harrisons to offer her support and condolences.

"Jill had to sit Olivia down and say, 'Nope, you aren't going to get to go,'" Sherrod said. "That's just heartbreaking." ■



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To shop or not to shop?

That is the question for LGBTs angry over donations by Target, Best Buy to anti-gay politician

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Although Target and Best Buy have a 100 percent rating in the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index, they were removed last week from HRC's Buying for Equality guide.

Fred Sainz, HRC vice president of communications and marketing, called the move "unprecedented."

At issue are donations the companies made to MN Forward, a political action committee supporting anti-gay Minnesota Republican candidate for governor Tom Emmer.

Target donated \$150,000 and Best Buy contributed \$100,000 to the PAC.

Emmer supports a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. He is affiliated with the Christian rock band You Can Run But You Cannot Hide, which has advocated violence against LGBT people.

Gays "play the victim when they are, in fact, the predator. On average, they molest 117 people before they're found out," the band's front man,

Bradlee Dean, has said.

"These are nice people," Emmer said of Dean, who has also said that Muslims are upholding the laws of God by calling for the execution of gays.

Sainz said the corporate index measures a company's workplace practices as they relate to their employees. Most of the score is based on certain fixed criteria such as offering domestic partner insurance and having nondiscrimination policies in place that cover sexual orientation and gender identity.

Sainz said that up to 15 points can be added for outreach and marketing to the LGBT community. The same number of points may be deducted for contributing to organizations that fight equality or to discriminatory ballot measures.

"Target and Best Buy got 100 percent and deserved the score at the time," he said. "It's just a snapshot in time."

Buying for Equality is made up of companies listed in the CEI that consumers would use. While Lockheed Martin received a 100 percent rating, few people reading the buyers' guide shop for aircraft engines, Sainz said.

The guide "sends the message to support these companies," Sainz said.

Target bookends Oak Lawn with one store at Central Expressway and Haskell Avenue and another on Marsh Lane at Northwest Highway, just



DECISIONS, DECISIONS | The Target on Central at Haskell is convenient for shoppers in Oak Lawn. But does the company's donation to an anti-gay politician outweigh the store's convenience? (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

past Love Field. Best Buy has an active LGBT employees group in the Dallas area. A local representative of the group said any statement on the issue should come from corporate headquarters, but the corporate spokesperson did not return calls.

Target has a gay employee group but none active locally. North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Tony Vedda said that those groups are more common at retail companies' corporate headquarters and distribution centers than in the stores themselves.

Sainz said that consumer anger has been directed more at Target than Best Buy.

"We go to Target once a week," he said. "We feel personally betrayed."

He said that Best Buy is where he goes for electronics but shops there much less frequently.

No formal boycott of either store has been organized, but many in the LGBT community as well as allies and others concerned with social justice issues have stayed out of both Target and Best Buy since the donations were made public.

Employees at Target at Cityplace refused to say whether or not their business has been affected and told this reporter to leave the store.

Neither company reports a financial impact, but three investment funds controlling \$57.5 million in stock have filed shareholder complaints.

■ **BOYCOTT** Page 20

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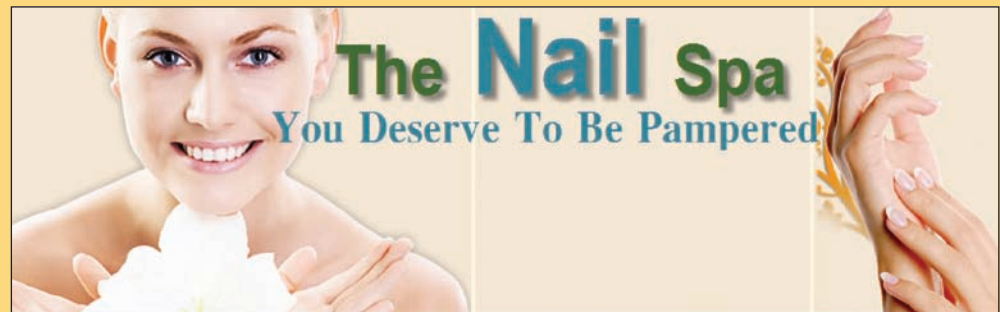
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COMPARISON SHOPPING

Thinking of boycotting? How easy would it be to boycott Target or Best Buy and stick to companies with high Equality Index ratings? We took a few products available at these stores and compared. Prices are current this week from the stores' websites.

• LEVI STRAUSS

Levi's not only has a 100 percent rating itself, the San Francisco-based company practically invented corporate equality. They were one of the first corporations to extend benefits equally to their LGBT employees and one of the first to market to the community.

Target: \$24.99-\$27.99

J.C. Penney: \$32.99-\$49.99

Levi Outlet Store: \$19.90-\$128 (Not the same styles but the outlet store offered the widest selection.)

Closest Penney store to Oak Lawn: Valley View Mall. Penney is locally based and has a 95 percent rating

Closest Levi Outlet Store: Grapevine Mills.

Company-owned with 100 percent rating.

Jeans alternatives: Gap, Old Navy, Banana Republic. 100 percent rating. Closest stores to

Oak Lawn: Banana Republic in West Village. Gap in NorthPark. Old Navy in Galleria. Only carry their own store brands.

• "GLEE" DVD

The first season of "Glee" (available Sept. 14) "Glee" aired on Fox, owned by News Corp: unrated.

Target: \$38.99

Best Buy: \$37.99

Borders: \$40.59 (Borders is at West Village and has a 100 percent rating)

Alternative: rent it at gay-owned TapeLenders

• CREST TOOTHPASTE, 4.2 oz. size

Crest is manufactured by Procter & Gamble, which has a 100 percent rating.

Target: \$2.49

Kroger: \$2.50 (Kroger has a 75 percent rating and has a store on Cedar Springs.)

• FRISKIES, 5.5 oz. can

Manufactured by Purina, which has a 75 percent rating.

Target: 40 cents/can

Walgreens: 50 cents/can (Walgreens has stores in Oak Lawn, Oak Cliff and throughout the city and has a 100 percent rating.)

BOYCOTT

From Page 17

The New York Times ran an editorial highlighting the company's public relations nightmare.

Target's CEO apologized for supporting an anti-LGBT candidate and said the company's support for the community is unwavering. The company is a sponsor of the upcoming Out & Equal convention in Los Angeles and supports a number of Pride events.

David Ethridge is a local activist who believes in standing on principle when deciding where to shop: "LGBT Americans represent almost \$800 billion in annual buying power and are a serious consumer force to be recognized and valued," he said. "We have to vote with our dollars, because that's the only language that a corporation speaks."

Liz Cappon said she disagrees with the donations both companies made but is not boycotting.

"I can guarantee that there are tons of other stores that have done or are currently doing the same thing with candidates and PACs but maybe they just aren't receiving the same attention right now," she said.

She said some friends of hers have switched to Wal-Mart. That company's CEI score is 40 percent.

"I would prefer to shop somewhere that treats their gay employees well," she said.

"Target wants to sell me socks, and I want to buy socks from Target, but first I have to feel good about where my sock money is going," Ethridge said.

Ethridge said it's too early to know what long-term impact the reaction to Target's donation will have.

Sainz held talks with Target that produced no immediate results. He said his talks with Best Buy continue.

"I think there's a silver lining," he said. "We, as a community, sent a message to corporations to factor in our issues."

He said that there's no way to measure the effect the boycott of Target has had, but thinks companies that care about public reaction will be more careful about their political donations in the future. ■

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Cook, Griffin realty agencies merge

Two powerhouses in the LGBT real estate market combine forces but retain their brands

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Virginia Cook and David Griffin have announced they will merge their real estate companies. They are two of the largest firms selling property in Oak Lawn and Oak Cliff and to the LGBT community.

"A major emphasis of our company is the in-town neighborhoods," said Griffin. "We have many gay and lesbian clients because the neighborhoods we specialize in are so special."

He said David Griffin & Company's specialty is property in livelier neighborhoods with diversity, community activity and urban excitement.

Griffin founded his firm in 1982 and has been a one-office boutique operation located in Uptown, with satellite offices in projects to which the company markets.

Cook opened Virginia Cook, Realtors with business partner Sheila Rice in 1999. They have grown into one of the largest residential real estate companies in North Texas with a number of top-producers who are members of the LGBT community. They have offices in Plano, Sherman and Fort Worth as well as several locations in Dallas, including one at 2626 Cole Ave. in Oak Lawn.

The combined company will have more than 500 residential agents with headquarters on Sherry Lane near Preston Center in North Dallas.

The company will retain both the Virginia Cook



Virginia Cook, Sheila Rice and David Griffin

and David Griffin Company brands.

"This merger feels very natural. I started my career working for Virginia at Henry S. Miller," David Griffin said. "We worked together for five years."

"Our firms have complementary strengths," said Cook. "The opportunity to bring together the agent talent, marketing resources, industry and community connections of our two firms is very exciting."

Griffin said the combination offers scale of economy. He'll have more tech options and, with a larger sales force, more training options.

Rice said that Griffin adds "authoritative understanding of close-in neighborhoods."

Griffin said he gains multi-office visibility, Cook's relocation division and excellent management experience. ■

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LEADING THE WAY



Sewell Automotive Companies and Sewell Subaru, which market to the LGBT community in Dallas and have on staff openly lesbian sales manager Vicki Gullion, have donated \$10,000 to help establish Guide Dogs for the Blind's first Texas group of guide dog raisers. The Dallas-based group, Lone Star Puppy Raisers, will use Sewell's donation to help fund the costs of initial training and raising of future guide dogs. "We are thrilled to help bring this very important group to Texas and wanted to help the volunteer families as they get the puppies started on their journey to becoming wonderful service dogs that are beloved companions," said Chris Chick, general manager of Sewell Subaru. "Both Sewell and Subaru are dedicated to the support of animal organizations and we're looking forward to a continued partnership with GDB and Lone Star Puppy Raisers." Chick is pictured with Lone Star Puppy Raisers' first group of volunteers and their puppies.

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Making use of a chance to educate

Instead of working to block controversial film, TENT wants to put transgender issues on the front burner at Austin film fest by sponsoring discussion of movie

Recently, Transgender Education Network of Texas has made a very difficult decision. We have been following the controversy surrounding the film, "Ticked-Off Trannies With Knives." We have been discussing the issue with Austin Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival (AGLIFF) and both organizations believe that there needs to be dialog surrounding the film.

To that end, AGLIFF will bring the film to their well-attended festival in the fall, and TENT will facilitate a discussion afterward. This was not a decision we made lightly and we want to take a moment and clarify our position.

Many trans activists, as well as GLAAD, have been very vocal critics of this film and the "negative portrayal of trans people in it."

The majority of our board has screened this film and, though many of us don't think the film the greatest piece of celluloid art out there, we all pretty much agree that on its surface, it doesn't portray trans folk too negatively.

Quite to the contrary, it shows drag queens (part of the trans community) fighting back against people who want to hurt them (and are very successful ... at least physically).

I'd like to lay all of our cards on the table here. Originally, we were looking at this film to use as a fundraiser for TENT. After all, with all the controversy and shouting, it was bound to be a money-maker.

And we felt strongly that we needed to have a conversation around what was really making us angry; as an organization whose mission is to educate folks about the gender diverse, we felt an obligation to facilitate a conversation.

But after our second viewing and subsequent discussion, it became clear to many of us that using this film as a fundraiser would be adding more fuel to an already over-stoked fire.

We also felt that doing nothing was not an option either. You know, if folks didn't raise a fuss about this film it may not have even made a ripple in our community.

As a matter of fact the controversy, arguments and protests have done more to pique the interest of viewers than any standard marketing that La Luna Entertainment had planned to do.

So, it is out there; we can't do anything about that. So we feel it is necessary to talk about it.

We also feel that to have an intelligent discussion about the film, it is necessary to actually see it. Many of the protesters have not seen it and don't plan to for fear of giving the appearance of condoning the film. We hope they change their minds when it comes to Austin.

Let's take a moment to talk about what the critics are saying.

One of the biggest issues early on was the use of the murders of Angie Zapata and Jorge Mercado in the trailers marketing the film.

“ It is time to watch the film and talk about it.

The film gives a nod to the "blacksploitation" films of the 1960s and is graphically violent, shot in high contrast and is very campy. The protesters (rightly, in my opinion) strongly objected to the use of the two very real and very tragic murders in the marketing of this admittedly violent and campy film.

The filmmaker listened to the critics and quickly removed those quotes. I didn't see that trailer (it had already been pulled) and when I spoke to Israel Luna, the maker of the film, I said to him that had I seen the original trailer, I would probably be equally as offended.

I asked him if he understood that and he answered, "Yes, and that is why I removed those references."

Although they have been removed from the trailer, this is still an issue that the critics hold on to as a reason to protest.

The other reason that the protesters and GLAAD would like to see the film banned is because "... it demeans actual transgender women

who struggle for acceptance and respect in their day-to-day lives."

We're not so sure we agree with this statement. Whereas drag queens are not indicative of all or even most of the gender diverse community, they are a part of the community and, I for one, am proud to stand side by side with them.

After all, it was the drag queens that hurled the first bottles to start the protest at Stonewall, a protest that launched a movement.

Now drag queens, by definition, are usually caricatures of women. We all know what it means to wear "drag queen" make-up, and few women wear the exaggerated make-up and clothing on the street in their day-to-day lives.

But that is the nature of being a drag queen; they are performers wearing a costume. And guess what? They exist in real life. I know quite a few and are honored to call them friends.

In my opinion, the drag queens characterized in the film are pretty darn accurate. For the most part, I liked these characters. They were real! Yes, I said it: Real.

Finally, there are a couple of criticisms that I may agree with. The first is the title.

I don't condone the use of the "T" word; I don't use the "T" word, and I advocate that no one use it.

The other criticism that has a bit of credence is the speed in which the film goes from a relatively realistic portrayal of horrendous violence perpetrated against these trans women to a "check your brains at the door" campiness. I have some real problems with that and would have a few suggestions for Mr. Luna for a re-edit if he wants to hear them.

But, all of those things aside, it is time to watch the film and talk about it.

It is for that reason that we are not blocking AGLIFF from bringing it to the film festival. In interest of full disclosure, we were given the opportunity to block it; if TENT said "no," AGLIFF would not have brought it in.

But we feel strongly that this controversial film can open a dialog that can do a lot of good. So we said, bring it in and let us sponsor the discussion after. We hope to have the filmmaker, the critics, the supporters, and GLAAD all participate in this important discussion.

Lisa Scheps is executive director of Transgender Education Network of Texas, based in Austin. The talk-back will be held immediately after the screening of the film on Friday, Sept. 10 at 9:45 p.m. at the Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Lisa Scheps
Special Contributor

Do private schools have the right to turn away children with LGBT parents?
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• Depends: 9 percent
• Not sure: 3 percent
139 Votes cast

Making hay out of hate

Journalists, politicians generate fear for personal gain over plans for mosque near site of 9/11 attack

I recently saw a video clip that sent chills down my spine of a supposedly "grassroots" rally outside a closed Burlington Coat Factory in New York City where protesters were chanting against building a mosque on the site. They were chanting words this publication wouldn't print.

The hatred was so great that, at one point, a carpenter working on the new building that will replace the World Trade Center passed through the crowd and was verbally and physically attacked. Apparently the hate-filled crowd thought he was a Muslim. He was simply a black man with a skullcap. The level of vitriol was hard to watch: So much anger — and at what?

The truth is not nearly as sensational as the people at Fox News would have you believe. Cordoba Center, the building that is proposed, is not just an Islamic Cultural Center, it will also contain inter-faith spaces for Christian and Jewish worship and meditation. Of course you have not heard that story in the news, because it is easier and more sensational to call it the Ground Zero Mosque and show pictures of scary guys in turbans for ratings.

The fundamentalists and right wing have grabbed onto this issue like a chew toy and are shaking it for all the fear and hatred it is worth. That is what bothers me the most. Fear and hatred are two tools that have been used to galvanize people against us for centuries, and I suspect we are uniquely attuned to recognize them.

It is easy to see where all this is coming from as well. It is a great deal the fault of the right-wing media, like Fox News with their demagogues Glenn Beck and Bill O'Reilly. But it also has become a cause célèbre for politicians seeking a little extra boost. It would be easy to look at these videos and events and see a "clash of cultures" building. But that is not the reality of the situation.

What we are seeing is a carefully orchestrated fear mongering narrative guided by some pretty cynical folks. Just think back a few years ago when candidates were using the fear of homosexuals to rile up their base.

Fake research groups like the Family Research Council published papers claiming that "35 percent of pedophiles are homosexuals and a child molester is 17 times more likely to be homosexual than heterosexual." Both these figures are intentional misinterpretations of the actual studies done by real researchers.

The point is, both these "issues" are really no more than jingoistic talking points that rally people

into a frenzy. These kinds of false controversies only feed on the underlying real issues of racism, homophobia and xenophobia and blur the picture.

That leaves the question of why? Why would anyone want to stir up this kind of anger? Again, I look to the cynical folks causing it.

For fundamentalist preachers and organizations it is an "easy sell." Every tent revivalist knows you can get a much fuller collection basket when the congregation is riled up.

The same holds true for the organizations like American Family Association. Fear fills their coffers. For politicians, the answer is obvious. As Sarah Palin says, "mama grizzlies," once angered, are hard to stop. A populace who is scared will vote for whoever offered them "security."

Just look to the previous administration and how they successfully manipulated a manufactured war to win re-election. For the "news" organizations like Fox, fear sells. Why spend money on real reporting when you can create events?

As a sidenote, it is further proof of the cynical nature of right-wing media that Al-Walid bin Talal,

a Saudi financier, owns a big chunk of Fox News and is also funding the "Ground Zero Mosque" through his charitable contributions. You'll never hear in the fear narrative being pushed by Fox.

We LGBT Americans know just how powerful fear and hatred can be. We need to look past the sound bites and bumper stickers and see the real issues behind this whole ruckus. It's about the right to be different. That is a founding principal of our country: Freedom to build a place of worship, a community center, an AIDS clinic or whatever should not be hindered by baseless fears. If we fall prey to the media spotlight beating the drums to "stop the mosque," we should not be surprised the next time that spotlight falls on us.

It isn't easy to see past the glare of this craziness. Like the lyrics to the song from the musical Chicago say, "... how can they see with sequins in their eyes ... Razzle dazzle 'em. And they'll never catch wise!" ■

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



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

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Do church-affiliated schools have the right to discriminate against children with same-sex parents?

Cori Braziel — "Uhhh ... No! Do we have the right to discriminate when they're sexually abusing our children? There ya go."

Ty Pressley — "There would be public outrage over a church-affiliated school that was unwilling to accept the child of a heterosexual couple."

Arthur LeBon — "Short answer: They don't, but they do."

Lyle Schiele — "It's wrong for them to exercise their bigotry and hatred toward innocent kids who happen to have same-sex parents, but then I wouldn't want to send my children or my money to a school like this anyway."

Terry Don — "With open and accepting churches, why, as a gay parent, would you subject your child to a school environment you know to be unfriendly?"

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



NEWS ITEM: ANN COULTER PLANS TO ADDRESS GAY REPUBLICAN GROUP OVER OBJECTIONS OF OTHER CONSERVATIVES.

Mama knows best

Vicki Lawrence works to keep Mama up with the times in a new show she brings to Fort Worth

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com



We like our mothers and grandmothers just the way they are: Ornerly or pleasant, they are, for the most part, the only people who can get away with being themselves and remain dear to our hearts.

Tell this to comedian Vicki Lawrence. This Saturday, she's bringing her most famous character, Thelma Harper — or as we know her, Mama — to the Laugh With a Legend Gala at Casa Manana. But it might be fair to say this is Mama 2.0.

"Mama has changed a lot," Lawrence says. "I told myself for this run that I wouldn't be happy going back. We need to go forward, and so we set about making Mama incredibly modern."

Will our favorite ol' grump be tweeting her snarky retorts? That would be a "no." But Mama has come a long way since her inception on *The Carol Burnett Show*. Part of that evolution is thanks to Harvey Korman, whom Lawrence credits as really starting Mama's growth.

"She changed between *Burnett* and *Mama's Family*," she says. "Korman really helped out. He made the point that people couldn't just come home, relax and watch her be mean to everyone. She had to become a fun and silly character. I learned the most about comedy from Harvey."

Lawrence plans to keep Mama topical because she apparently has opinions on BP and Mel Gibson. But she also has visions of Lil' Kim in her head. For this show, Lawrence will perform Mama's Rap to prove she's no fuddy-duddy and knows what's what.

Her metamorphosis mirrors Lawrence's. As the years passed, Lawrence grew from 20something comedy ingénue into pop culture icon — and grew a little closer in age to Mama.

"She became this wonderful peacock of a character," she says. "But I have to say, I tend to agree with her a little more as I get older."

Through Mama, Lawrence has built her own gay fan base that surprised her initially. Her *Mama's Family* co-star Dorothy Lyman was the first to show Lawrence pictures of drag queens in old lady garb. But then it all seems to make sense for her.

"Everyone has a twisted family," Lawrence says. "And mother issues. But gay fans have been wonderful, and I guess they love that she is this outrageous female character — although probably not as much fun to dress up as as Cher."

Lawrence is spending more time on the stage than the small screen, touring with *Vicki Lawrence and Mama: A Two-Woman Show*. But her heart sounds like it's still in television. She's had bit parts

DON'T TALK BACK | Vicki Lawrence, left, has made Mama, above, into such an icon that now she shares top billing in her newest show, which Lawrence brings to Fort Worth Saturday.

on *Roseanne* and *Yes, Dear* and even played against teen megastar Miley Cyrus as Hannah Montana's, grandmother Mamaw Stewart.

"That was a fun set, but if it's television versus the stage, well that's a loaded question," she says. "We taped *Burnett* like a bat out of hell. I miss that kind of TV. Stage is like that with the live audience and interaction. I miss TV. Now, everybody's putting their two cents in via committee."

Lawrence sees today's TV, at least behind the scenes, as far different from her heyday. It's harder to have fun than when she was new to the medium.

"I wrote to Carol when I was in high school. She changed my

life and told me I would have found showbiz anyway," she says. "The funny thing is I don't know how comedy found me. I was gonna go to college to become a dental hygienist, marry a dentist and be done with it!"

Of course, then we wouldn't have Mama, or any of her other characters. But Thelma Harper is Vicki Lawrence's comedic legacy — which is a duel-edged sword.

"I'm definitely in Mama's shadow — she gets all the good jokes," she laughs. "I need to be me before I'm not anymore. We were watching the Michael Jackson memorial and I think sometimes I wanna do that for Mama. The sad thing is, if I were gone, people would miss her!"

VICKI LAWRENCE

Casa Manana Theatre,
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CasaManana.org.

Gay TV

'Glee,' 'Modern Family' lead a queer wave at the Emmy Awards

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

We're used to the Tony Awards being gayer 'n eight guys blowing nine guys. But when did it happen to the Emmys?

In truth, it's still no contest, though it lately seems like it. For decades TV has had the occasional *Soap* or *Will & Grace*; and reality shows have their gay contestants. But those always seemed tangential — marketing ploys or happy chances more than a systematic change. (Ian McKellen, for instance, is nominated for the miniseries *The Prisoner*, but there's nothing especially gay about the show.)

But this past TV season, the gay quotient has gone from in evidence to inevitable. And it's largely because of *Glee*.

Created by gay scribe Ryan Murphy, the musical comedy series is the frontrunner at the Emmys, which air Sunday on NBC. But all the nominated comedies except one (*Curb Your Enthusiasm*) have lots of gay: *30 Rock*, *Modern Family*, *The Office* and *Nurse Jackie*.

In addition to writing, directing and the series itself, several openly gay actors are nominated for their performances, especially in the support-

ing categories: Jane Lynch as conniving Sue Sylvester and Chris Cofler as the flamboyant teen Kurt on *Glee* are the highest profile, but Cofler goes head-to-head against other gay actors (or characters): Jesse Tyler Ferguson (gay) and Eric Stonestreet (gay on TV only) as the same-sex couple on *Modern Family*, and Neil Patrick Harris as a womanizer on *How I Met Your Mother*.

The guest performer categories include Kristen Chenoweth as the favorite playing an aging lush on *Glee* ... but she's up against Jane Lynch again as a therapist on *Two and a Half Men*.

30 Rock is one of the most inclusively amazing comedies on TV, with many gay plots and characters, including guest actor nominee Will Arnett; in the same category, Neil Patrick Harris faces his toughest competition from fellow *Glee* guest actor Mike O'Malley as Kurt's understanding father.

The dramas have less gay content, but some. The winner for the past two years, *Mad Men*, had



HARRIS TWEE | Gay actor Neil Patrick Harris, right, has three Emmy nominations this year, including his guest spot on the very gay comedy 'Glee.'

a heartbreaking plot involving the show's closeted art director, Bryan Batt (who has not appeared in the new season that just began airing), and *True Blood* from Alan Ball has sexy sodomites aplenty. Lily Tomlin took on a deeply serious role as a modern-day Lady Macbeth in this season's *Damages*; she'll probably win.

And of course there's Kathy Griffin, lobbying openly for another win for her *My Life on the D-List* show.

Oh, and the Tony Awards are nominated for variety special, giving host Harris three shots this year. The Tonys winning the Emmy with a queer host? How gay is that?

The 62nd Annual Emmy Awards air on NBC Aug. 29 at 7 p.m.



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Pas de don't

Movie about TBT director Sir Ben Stevenson mixes ballet with cliché

STEVE WARREN | Contributing Writer
thinhead@mindspring.com

A great story and some amazing dancing are, unfortunately, sacrificed on the altar of cheesy melodrama in *Mao's Last Dancer*. It's hard to believe the great Bruce Beresford (*Tender Mercies*, *Driving Miss Daisy*) could have watched this, let alone directed it. And no one who even typed the scripts for *Shine* and *The Notebook* could have been responsible for this screenplay, let alone the person who wrote or adapted them (Jan Sardi).

This is the true-ish story of Li Cunxin (Chi Cao), who was invited to spend the summer of 1981 with the Houston Ballet and decided to stay in America. In a throwback to movies of several decades ago, Bruce Greenwood plays the ballet's artistic director, Ben Stevenson — now the artistic director of the Texas Ballet Theater — as an obviously gay man who lives alone and has absolutely no life outside of his work.

Li, by contrast, is obviously straight, because even as a boy, every time he partners a female on stage there is another female in the audience looking jealous.

Nine years prior Li, one of seven sons of a

peasant couple, was plucked from his humble village to be trained at the Beijing Arts Academy, along with 39 other Chinese children. They're given a standard indoctrination in Communism, including being taught that China has "the highest standard of living in the world," and capitalist nations the lowest.

When he arrives in oil-rich Texas at the height of the boom, Li is overwhelmed, having never seen such luxury, even in Beijing; he can hardly believe Ben has such a house to himself. But the

Chinese consul has counseled him not to trust anyone, "especially women — they'll lead you astray."

The early part of the film toggles between Houston and Li's early years in China, where he is unhappy until an old-school teacher, later prosecuted for his teachings, makes him appreciate dance and his own skills.

When the Houston delegation visits Beijing in 1980, they're disappointed to see the students, except for Li, are more like athletes than dancers. In Houston Li gets a break but has only three hours to learn the pas de deux from *Don Quixote*.

★★★★★
MAO'S LAST DANCER
Bruce Greenwood, Chi Cao, Kyle MacLachlan. Rated PG. 115 mins.
Now playing at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station.



EN POINTE | Bruce Greenwood, left, plays Ben Stevenson, now the artistic director of the Texas Ballet Theater, who turns a poor Chinese dancer into a sensation in the schmaltzy 'Mao's Last Dancer.'

Li meets aspiring dancer Elizabeth Mackey (Amanda Schull), who, in this screenplay, is more a device than a person. Afraid of what will happen to his family in China if he defects, Li learns he can stay in the U.S. if he marries a citizen. (Ben pitches a hissy fit.)

Unable to contact his parents, Li worries about them constantly. Years later, Ben arranges for them to surprise him by showing up in the audience for a performance. It must have taken months to arrange and could have taken a lot of stress off Li if he'd known it was in the works, but the surprise makes for a more upbeat (and corny) climax.

That may be the stupidest thing in the movie but there are countless smaller things, like people working in a Washington office in what must be the middle of the night. Even original twists are presented in such a way as to look clichéd.

The ballet sequences, choreographed by Graeme Murphy, are the saving grace of *Mao's Last Dancer* — if only we got a two-hour recital instead of the story. Not to be shortchanged is the principal dancer, Chi Cao, who is also a decent actor as far as the script allows. He'd be a natural for a new film biography of Bruce Lee — I'd pay to see Chi replicate Lee's fight choreography. ■

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Satan's little helper

'Blair Witch' can go to hell — 'Last Exorcism' puts fright in the pseudo-doc



CAST OUT | A charlatan exorcist (Patrick Fabian) encounters the real deal in Nell (Ashley Bell) in this Eli Roth shocker with a gay twist.

STEVE WARREN | Contributing Writer
thinhead@mindspring.com

Pseudo-documentary horror movies seem to succeed in inverse proportion to their quality: the totally unwatchable *Blair Witch Project* and *Paranormal Activity* made gazillions, while the far superior *Cloverfield* was only a modest hit. So expect *The Last Exorcism* to sink like a stone.

Produced by Eli Roth and directed by Daniel Stamm, *Exorcism* has serious flaws, including an ending that won't please everyone, but when it's good, which is most of the time, it's terrific.

Patrick Fabian stars as Cotton Marcus, the subject of the documentary-in-progress. He followed in the footsteps of his preacher father from age 10, and the style, incorporating card tricks, and exorcisms, is the family sideline (his father has done about 150).

The premature birth of his son triggered a crisis of faith for Cotton, who continued to function on automatic pilot. He felt his exorcisms benefited people psychologically — as long as they believed actual demons were leaving their bodies they were cured — but following an incident two years ago where a child died during one in Texas got Cotton out of the business.

As a parting gesture, he's making a documentary to expose exorcism as a scam. For his last one, Cotton and a two-person crew head to Ironwood, La., where superstitious drunk Louis Sweetzer (Louis Herthum) thinks his 16-year-old daughter Nell (Ashley Bell) is possessed and has been killing their livestock.

Cotton turns on his oily charm for Louis, Nell and Nell's hostile brother Caleb (Caleb Landry

Jones), while privately exposing his tricks to the camera. He performs the exorcism, taking the alleged demon into his own body and freeing Nell from possession. Happy ending — except the movie is only half over.

As strange things start happening for real, *The Last Exorcism* becomes a whodunit, with Satan one of the suspects. There's even a gay twist along the way to an ending that doesn't tie up all the loose ends. I would have liked a few more questions answered before the perfect final shot, but it's still a hoot.

One major drawback is the lack of accents on the major characters, especially those who live in the Louisiana backwoods. Even in Baton Rouge it's unlikely the congregation would trust a preacher

who sounds like a Yankee — even if he is second-generation and turns it on a little in the pulpit.

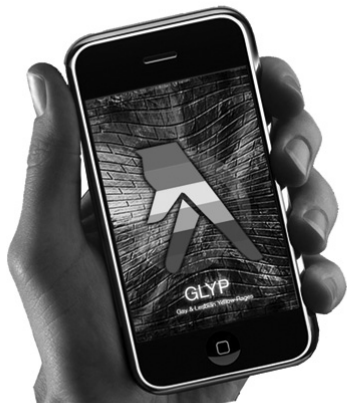
With that exception, the acting is very good, especially that of Bell, who will erase Linda Blair from your memory for all time with her physical and emotional performance as Nell.

While there are some of the requisite shaky-cam shots, the fact that professional filmmakers are supposed to be behind the video camera keeps *The Last Exorcism* from causing nausea or otherwise being hard to watch. (Cat lovers will have a problem with one scene.)

The wit and subtle satire of the first half and the mystery and suspense of the second combine to make this a pleasant late-summer surprise that deserves to stay around until Halloween. ■

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Rainbow connection

Jose Reyes, chair of the DSO's gala, makes a musical outreach to the gay community

When the Dallas Symphony Orchestra people began planning their season kickoff gala and after-party, longtime volunteer Jose Reyes had an a-ha moment: An ultra-lush soiree of society's finest that *wasn't* being pushed to the LGBT community? It didn't make sense.

When he chimed in that this should be a direction to consider, the DSO went him one better.

"They asked me if I wanted to chair the event," Reyes says. "I said absolutely!"

This brought to light a bigger notion to Reyes prompting him to root out the connection between Dallas' premium philharmonic and the gay community. As a 20-year DSO supporter and a member of the gay community, the answer was really in front of him the whole time, and obvious to all Dallas gay ... whether they realized it or not.

"The Easter concert at Lee Park targets us," he says. "The DSO is keenly aware that the audience that day isn't just Mr. and Mrs. Jones, it's also Mr. and Mr. Jones and that is perfectly fine with them."

The annual event is right there among gay events with the Pride Parade and the Halloween block party in terms of visibility. With that, Reyes witnesses the DSO's support of the community upfront and now wants to turn that around. He knows there's a strong connection that needs to be realized.

"It's no secret the gay community is a huge supporter of the arts. We're the tastemakers aren't we?" he says. "That concert may be free to you and me, but it's very expensive to put on so I feel it's important we support them back."

Reyes figures this gala will do just that, because gays love a good party. This year, they gala — a fundraiser for education and programs by the DSO — will be a huge, saucy affair (see sidebar).

"The gala concert with pianist Jeffrey Kahane and the after party experience is going to be fabulous and the only ticket in town. The Meyerson



As chair of the DSO's gala after party, Jose Reyes sees this as the perfect opportunity to reach out to the gay community.

lobby will be completely transformed into a romantic 18th century European garden in the time of Beethoven."

He thinks with a direct push to the community, it will respond. Sometimes all that's needed, according to Reyes, is an invitation. He assures this is the one to get.

"The gays are gonna love it," he assures. "And the DSO loves its gays."

—Rich Lopez



PARTY ALL NIGHT

Jose Reyes is not kidding that the DSO's kickoff gala will be over the top. The event is hosted by conductor Jaap van Zweden's daughter Anna-Sophia and they've commissioned designer extraordinaire Todd Fiscus, pictured, to create the lush look and transport partygoers back to 18th century Europe.

Fiscus' design concept for the event is described as an "elegant interpretation of Beethoven's garden with rich greenery, treelike decor and soft tonal florals." With some creative lighting, the ceiling will recall the night sky. This doesn't sound like an after-party as much as it does a dreamy oasis.

Don't fall for it. There is still a party to be had and van Zweden won't let you forget that. She hosts two "star bars" throughout the evening. In the first, DJ Lucy Wrubel will provide the dance tunes. In bar No. 2, they go live with local band Goga providing the live music.

Already the Dallas Symphony Orchestra is making an impression on the gay community.

—R.L.

Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. Sep. 11 at 10:30 p.m. \$150. 214-692-0203. DallasSymphony.com/2010GalaAfterParty.

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That's so gay

Queer connections infiltrate lots of the upcoming season of arts

When you have a gay theater company (as Dallas does in Uptown Players) and another troupe dedicated to bringing Broadway musicals to town (as Dallas Summer Musicals does), you can be pretty confident in finding gay appeal in the lively arts.

But cast your gaze — and your gays — outside the usual focus, and there a lot more to discover across the arts in North Texas this season.

Chief among the highlights: The Dallas Opera's coup in snagging dreamy gay baritone Paulo Szot, who won a much-deserved Tony for the revival of *South Pacific*, in the title role in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (Oct. 22). Director Stephen Lawless returns to helm *Anna Bolena* (Oct. 29). DallasOpera.org.

Of course, Uptown Players and DSM are getting into the action with their upcoming shows as well. UP's final production of their 2010 season is the American premiere of *Closer to Heaven*, written to the songs of the Pet Shop Boys. The musical drama opens Oct. 1 at the Kalita Humphreys Theater. The group will announce its 2011 season on Tuesday. Uptown-Players.org. And DSM's national tour of *Shrek* is the State Fair Musical this year, opening Sept. 28. (See story, Page S8). DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Next week, Theatre Three produces the local premiere of *Songs from an Unmade Bed*, a song cycle about a gay man working his way through a relationship. In previews from Sept. 3 in the Theatre Too space. Also in Theatre Too: Bruce R. Coleman's latest play, the puppet show *Tales from Mount Olympus*, and spring welcomes *Why Torture Is Wrong*, and the *People Who Love Them* by Christopher Durang. Next up on the main stage is *Laramie Project* creator Moises Kaufman's *33 Variations*, followed in December by the local premiere of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Contemporary Theatre of Dallas continues its presentation of Ed Graczyk's world premiere Texas-set comedy-drama with a gay twist, *Blue Moon Dancing*, which runs through Sept. 12. Its 2010-11 season kicks off in October, and includes



Tony Award-winning gay baritone Paulo Szot, above, is a coup for the Dallas Opera; Pink Martini, below, gets the Meyerson jumping as the Dallas Symphony Orchestra's guest next week.

plays directed by Rene Moreno (*The Trip to Bountiful*) and Michael Serrecchia (*Cheaters*), plus a play by gay playwright Alan Ball (*Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*). ContemporaryTheatreofDallas.com.

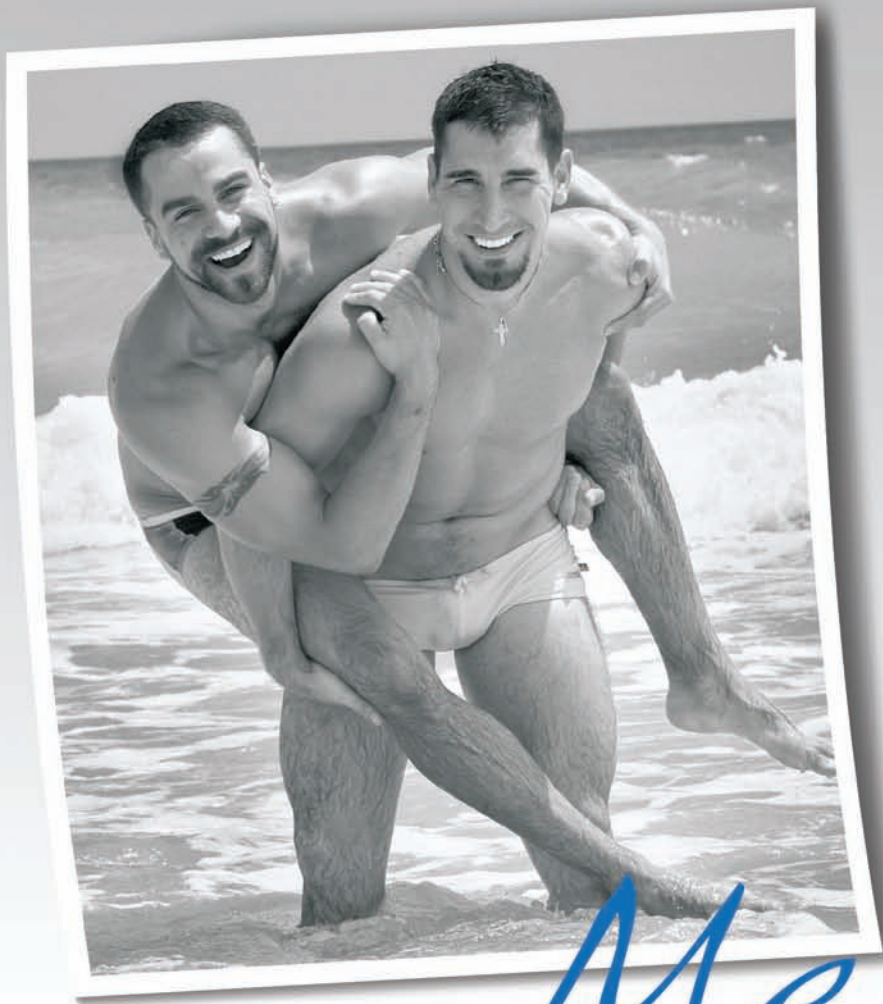
The Dallas Theater Center launches its new season next month with the company's gay artistic director Kevin Moriarty's adaptation of *Henry IV* (opens Sept. 11). The season ends with the musicals *Cabaret* and *The Wiz*. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

WaterTower Theatre begins its season with its artistic director, Terry Martin, directing and starring in *Our Town* (previewing on Sept. 24), and closes the season with Howard Ashman's camp-tastic *Little Shop of Horrors* in July. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Bass Hall brings in *Spring Awakening* on Nov. 9-10, followed by *Mamma Mia*, *A Chorus Line*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *9 to 5* later in the season. BassHall.org. In Dallas, the Lexus Broadway Series includes *Young Frankenstein* (Jan. 4) and *Billy Elliot* (June 8), while TITAS starts with *MOMIX* (Sept. 10) and the return of *Complexions Contemporary Ballet* (May 11). ATPAC.org. The Dallas Black Dance Theatre stages a dance by local legend *Bruce Wood* in the spring as well (see story Page S6).

It's not just opera and theater that goes gay, either: The Dallas Symphony Orchestra welcomes queer-led bank *Pink Martini* on Sept. 3, and *The Music of Michael Jackson* starts Sept. 1. DallasSymphony.org.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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CONSUMER BRIEF SUMMARY
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Patient Information

Read the Medication Guide that comes with KALETRA before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or treatment. You and your doctor should talk about your treatment with KALETRA before you start taking it and at regular check-ups. You should stay under your doctor's care when taking KALETRA.

<p>What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir and lopinavir. 	<p>Medicines you should not take with KALETRA.</p>
<p>KALETRA may cause serious side effects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interactions with other medicines. It is important to know the medicines that should not be taken with KALETRA. Read the section "What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?" Changes in your heart rhythm and the electrical activity of your heart. These changes may be seen on an EKG (electrocardiogram) and can lead to serious heart problems. Your risk for these problems may be higher if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> already have a history of abnormal heart rhythm or other types of heart disease. take other medicines that can affect your heart rhythm while you take KALETRA. <p>Tell your doctor right away if you have any of these symptoms while taking KALETRA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> dizziness lightheadedness fainting sensation of abnormal heartbeats <p>See the section below "What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?" for more information about serious side effects.</p>	<p>What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?</p>	<p>Serious problems or death can happen if you take these medicines with KALETRA:</p>
<p>What is KALETRA?</p> <p>KALETRA is a prescription anti-HIV medicine that contains two medicines: lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is called a protease inhibitor that is used with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).</p> <p><u>It is not known if KALETRA is safe and effective in children under 14 days old.</u></p>	<p>KALETRA may not be right for you. Tell your doctor about all your medical conditions, including if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have any heart problems, including if you have a condition called Congenital Long QT Syndrome. have liver problems, including Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C. have diabetes. have hemophilia. People who take KALETRA may have increased bleeding. have low potassium in your blood. 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ergot containing medicines, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 pimozide (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®)
<p>Who should not take KALETRA?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please see "Can I take other medicines with KALETRA?" and consult with your doctor about all other medicines you take. 	<p>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.</p>	<p>Medicines that you should not take with KALETRA since they may make KALETRA not work as well:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the herbal supplement St. John's Wort (hypericum perforatum) rifampin (Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®) <p>Medicines that may need changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> birth control pills that contain estrogen ("the pill") or the birth control (contraceptive) patches certain anticancer medicines, such as nilotinib (Tasigna®) and dasatinib (Sprycel®) 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®) and nelfinavir (Viracept®) anti-seizure medicines, such as phenytoin (Dilantin®) carbamazepine, (Tegretol®), phenobarbital medicines for erectile problems, such as sildenafil (Viagra®), 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®)
- pain medicines, such as fentanyl (Duragesic®, lonsys™, Fentora®) and methadone

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 Eptol®), phenobarbital (Luminal®), 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.
- **Allergic reactions.** Skin rashes, some of them severe, can occur in people who take KALETRA. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a rash when you took another medicine for your HIV infection or if you notice any skin rash when you take KALETRA.

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.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Throw away any medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need.</p> <p>Keep KALETRA and all medicines out of the reach of children.</p> <p>General information about KALETRA</p> <p><u>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 <i>Mycobacterium avium</i> complex (MAC) infections.</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>What are the ingredients in KALETRA?</p> <p>Active ingredient: lopinavir and ritonavir</p> <p>Inactive ingredients:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>KALETRA oral solution contains 42.4% alcohol (v/v). "See How should I take KALETRA?"</p>	<p>KALETRA Tablets, 200 mg lopinavir/50 mg ritonavir Manufactured by Abbott Pharmaceuticals PR Ltd., Barceloneta, PR 00617 for Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, IL 60064, U.S.A. KALETRA Tablets, 100 mg lopinavir/25 mg ritonavir and KALETRA Oral Solution Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, IL 60064, U.S.A. 2010, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED</p> <p>* The brands listed are trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of Abbott Laboratories. The makers of these brands are not affiliated with and do not endorse Abbott Laboratories or its products.</p> <p>This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.</p> <p>Ref: 03-A387-R8 Revised: June, 2010 036-395113 MASTER</p> <p style="text-align: right;">039-418110</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>
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Come back to West Texas, Ed Graczyk, Ed Graczyk

'Jimmy Dean' playwright goes back to the llano estacado for new play

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

Ed Graczyk is kicking the back of my chair. Like every other member of the audience, he's sitting in the dark watching the world premiere of *Blue Moon Dancing*, which opened last week at the Contemporary Theatre of Dallas (see review below). But unlike everyone else, he has a reason to be a bit antsy. After all, he wrote it.

"This is the first time actors have spoken these words wearing costumes," he says, emphasizing how, even though he spent three years writing the play, it's still a new experience for him. Even at 69, it's a thrill he doesn't forget.

Graczyk had one of his biggest professional triumphs more than 30 years ago, when he saw his first major play, *Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*, mounted on Broadway (and later filmed) with Robert Altman directing and Cher starring. If left him agog.

"I was the new kid on the block, about to have my first play produced on Broadway and di-

rected by Altman. I loved Cher, I loved the entire cast — probably Sandy Dennis more than anyone. Sandy was always my first choice. God knows the movie kept the play alive. But Cher had done television and was used to making up lines on her own, so I had words with someone. But everyone got along fine."

Graczyk began his passion for theater as a teenager, acting in community theater in his native Erie, Pa., then becoming a set designer. He became a playwright almost on a dare, first writing for children. After a while, he decided he needed to go in another direction.

"I needed to go somewhere I could use swear words," he says. He took over a community theater, where he programmed edgy stuff like *The Boys in the Band*.

As with *Jimmy Dean*, *Blue Moon Dancing* is set in the fictional town of McCarthy in West Texas, which could lead a viewer to believe that Graczyk is himself a Texan (certainly those boots he kicked my chair with suggested as much). But aside from a five-year stint working at a children's theater in

They shoot homos, don't they?

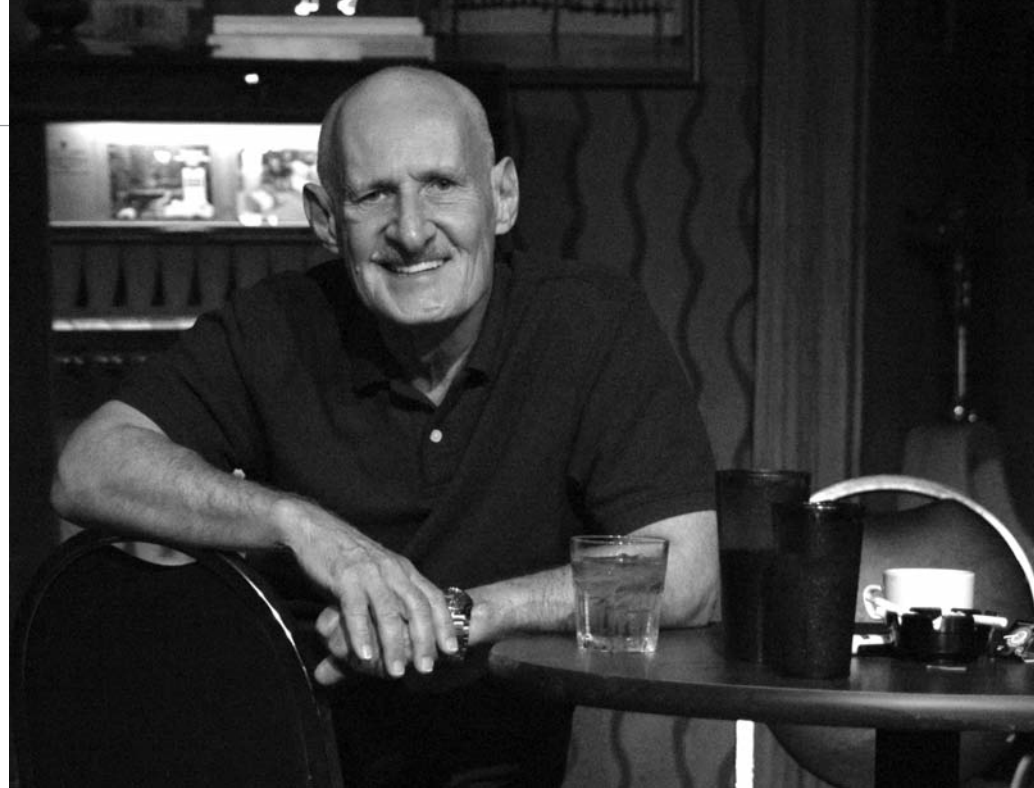
Like guys on GRINDR, Contemporary Theatre of Dallas has a definite "type." The sentimental Southern comedy. To *Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Steel Mag-*



nolias and the Texas Trilogy, add *Blue Moon Dancing*. This twangy West Texas idyll lopes through the lives of small-town folk who dream of Dallas. There's a plot, but really, it's about character.

That means it rises and falls on its cast, and this one is top-notch. Cindee Mayfield, as the community theater queen with aspirations for the Dallas Theater Center, has the face of a clown, perfectly communicating happiness and sadness with heart-breaking familiarity. Jenae Yerger-Glanton as a naive would-be bride who may be marrying a gay man (Kevin Moore, both pictured) captures both hope and desperation excellently. Catherine Wall, made up like a drag queen, and Nye Cooper as a redneck get the most laughs with the least effort. Sounds like a day in West Texas to me.

— A.W.J.



GRACZYK UNDER FIRE | Although his most famous play and his latest are both set in West Texas, Ed Graczyk spent only five years in the state 40 years ago. (Photo courtesy Russell Dyer)

Midland in the late 1960s, he's a Midwestern boy, through and through. So what led him to set two major plays in Lone Star plains?

"Have you ever *been* to West Texas?" he asked rhetorically. "You know what it's like. I tried to set [*Blue Moon*] in Ohio, but it had to be geographically remote. People 300 miles from a major city, they have dreams and hope that keep them alive and make them get out of bed every morning. I find the people down there, especially the women, to be so open with their emotions. But these people live everywhere."

His characters, then, are closely analyzed, though not always observed from personal contact. He included a transsexual character in *Jimmy Dean* — controversial and groundbreaking at the time, though now popularly performed by high schools — as a reaction to an effeminate boy who he knew at the Pickwick Players in Midland.

"He was always being picked on but he had a strong core and was a very special young man and talented actor," he says. "When you start putting this stuff together [for a play], you realize you're walking through life looking forward,

but your periphery takes stuff in. This kid came into view."

Still, when he wrote *Jimmy Dean*, he had never even met a transsexual; he has been gratified that so many trans people have since said how accurate the emotional life of that character is.

Blue Moon Dancing also has a gay plot, first introduced by a raid on the local rest stop, but coming into focus when it's clear one of the characters is tragically closeted, even though it's never said aloud (Graczyk himself is coy about his personal life, quipping, "I am a 69-year-old enigma with borderline senility who has never been married and has no regrets").

Graczyk shared agent Audrey Wood with Dallas' own Preston Jones (author of the "Texas Trilogy"), though the two never met; but they also share the style of Southern-fried charm. Still, he bristles at the idea he write comedies.

"I don't write one-liners, I write humor," he says. "Humor comes out of sincerity. When things get serious, I get nervous and I write jokes naturally."

That, and kick the chair in front of him. ■

BLUE MOON DANCING

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L+S stage

Fugue state

Circle Theatre scores (ahem) with Itamar Moses' lilted 'Bach in Leipzig'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
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I've always thought that there's one thing missing from classical music to make it relevant: slapstick comedy. Apparently, Circle Theatre and playwright Itamar Moses concur; hence, **Bach in Leipzig: A Farcical Fugue**.

There are no pies in the face nor romantic bed-hopping among the all-male cast (pity, with sexy actors like Steven Pounders, Andy Baldwin and Stephen Levall onstage). No, the farce here is mostly of the intellectual kind: Puns and plots, but also swordplay and, yes, a bit of cross-dressing (as if wigs and stockings on men wasn't drag enough) — a restoration comedy with contemporary bite.

It's 1722, and the most famous church composer in Germany has died, so every wannabe (and a few already-are) organist in the country comes to Leipzig to vie for his job ... all first-named either Johann or George (a silly bit that somehow doesn't get tired). Fasch (Pounders) thinks he's the rightful heir to the position; Schott (David H.M. Lambert) craves a post he was unfairly denied; Steindorff (Levall) wants it just to please his daddy; Graupner (David Coffee, bedecked to look and sound like Albert Finney) seeks it simply to one-up his archrival, Telemann. There are intrigues and sabotages, secrets and counterfeits, robberies, hoaxes, druggings and chases. And it's all fabulous.

Moses' banal baseball play written for the Dallas Theater Center last year, *Back Back Back*, was a hollow piece that felt observed by someone who didn't know or care about his subject matter. This play — which he might have titled *Bach Bach Bach* — is the exact opposite. There's a keen sense of character and form, and the enthusiasm for music and its potential to move the listener is palpable, like *Amadeus* with more jokes.

There's a whole lot going on beyond just the backbiting among musicians, although the civil catfights are juicy fun. Politics and religion, especially how minor differences in Protestant Reformation sects generate venomous enmity, feel entirely relevant, like something from *The West Wing* or Gore Vidal's play *The Best Man*. Putting it within the construct of a post-modern adapta-



RESTORATION HAR-DEE-HAR-WARE | Composers (clockwise from left, David H.M. Lambert, Stephen Levall, Steven Pounders and Andy Baldwin) compete for a plum job in Circle's hilarious comedy.

tion of Moliere or *A Midsummer Night's Dream* just emphasizes its daring genius.

Much of the success, though, rests with director Robin Armstrong, who also designed the wondrous costumes (try counting the hundreds of buttons on these elaborate frocks if you get bored — but you *won't* get bored). She's wonderfully adept at staging and pacing comedy, with pinpoint entrances and exits (except a bungled missed cue on opening night from a performer whose only job it is to come and go four times). But she also delves into the music of the show, both the notes and Moses' lyrical wordplay.

Armstrong's cast of fey dandies serves her well. Andy Baldwin is always exhausting to watch, a perpetual-motion machine who makes campy self-awareness look beautifully overwrought. His forlornness is clownishly sweet. I've always like Pounders' wild-eyed energy, with its conspiratorial edge. He's an expert at making the audience feel complicit in his plans. Coffee's defeated grandeur, Chris Hague's cuckolded nincompoop, Lambert's froth-mouthed pretender and Levall's dashing milquetoast are equally good.

Although resplendent with running gags (the composers' names, the use of carrier pigeons to deliver messages) and heavy with set-ups and exposition, the play bounces along at a lively pace. *Allegro vivace, con molto bravura*. *Bach in Leipzig* is one of my favorite shows of the season — of the year, really. *Bravissima! Ancora!*

BACH IN LEIPZIG

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CircleTheatre.com.

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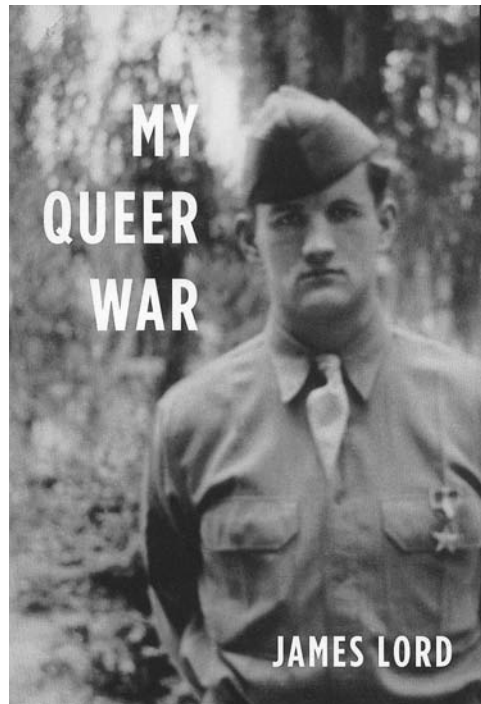
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War before DADT

Late author's memoir tells of gay love for the Greatest Generation

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER | Contributing Writer
bookwormsez@yahoo.com



LORD IN THE FOXHOLE | James Lord's account of his life in the Army is both shocking and sad.

In his memoir *My Queer War*, James Lord explains how a tiny fib to Uncle Sam changed the course of his life.

Lord hated college, just like he had hated prep school. A loner, he always felt awkward, and the higher the educational setting, the higher the level of discomfort. Finally, he did the one incongruent thing he could think to do: 19 and naïve, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps 11 months after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor — and decades before “don’t ask, don’t tell.”

By this time in his life, Lord suspected his attraction to boys, and he was horrified. He saw himself as abnormal, an “abominable thing.” Still, when asked at his induction, “Do you like girls?” he paused. “And I, to tell the truth, had known a couple of likable girls, so I said, ‘Yes, Yes, sir.’”

Much like his introduction to the Army, Lord’s months of service were unique. Basic training was spent in a moldering hotel in New York. Assignments in California, Nevada and Utah were

mostly of the hurry-up-and-wait kind, where boredom was rampant.

But Lord fell in love: First with a man who was a mentor but almost turned him in; second, with a confused longing. When the government sent him back to school, Lord, who was as green as grass, learned to cruise gay bars.

But the Army sent him overseas to France and Germany, assigned to the Military Intelligence Service, a job where he learned brutal truths about others and himself.

Several times in this book, the late author indicates his love of the arts, particularly the works of James Joyce and Thomas Mann. He also expresses a love of poetry. All this shines through, for the good and the bad.

My Queer War is a sometimes-painful, sometimes-shocking, surprisingly chaste account of a man hiding from himself and his government, lest he be ridiculed and shunned. Lord is a fine storyteller with his smart-aleck humor and his goosebump-inducing, just-the-facts, somberly gentle writing.

What’s not enjoyable, though, is that this book is dripping with the influence of the aforementioned authors, as well as other creators of High Literature. While it gives this book a period fla-

vor, it also tends to bog it down more than I think the average reader will want to endure.

Still, in post-Prop 8 America, *My Queer War* may provoke thinking not only among gays but straights who think they already know all they need to about gays in the military. ■

★★★★★
MY QUEER WAR, by James Lord.
Farrar, Straus & Giroux (2010).
\$27. 344 pp.



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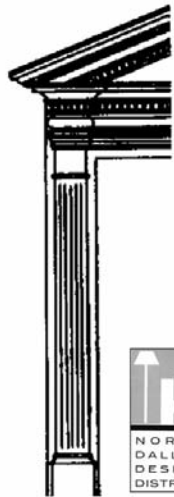
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CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
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Mary and Russel Wright's *Guide To Easier Living*, published in 1950, is still a great read. It tells all of Stepford domestic divas out in suburbia how to while away their days without domestic help, keeping their homes organized and chipper. According to the book, it took 80 hours per week while the apparently lazy-assed breadwinner pecked away a measly 40 hours.

If those over-worked Mrs. lived today, at least a few of them would drive a Honda Accord Crosstour to make their lives easier.

Houses then were designed with room to relax, and that's exactly what you find in a Crosstour.

It is a big car, roomy with near crossover space, 60/40 split/fold rear seats and a hatch as big as a cargo plane's through which

Buster, dollhouses and wooden hobby boats can be loaded. Father could hide his stamp collection in the concealed rear underfloor storage bin.

Comfortable, informal space was also coming into vogue. Upholstered with heated leather

front seats, and shaped like the inside of a BMW, the Crosstour is an upscale yet unpretentious ride. Eschewing formal parlors, use the Crosstour without concern for damage. Mommy and mommy can clean up the kids' messes, as most surfaces are easy to wipe clean.

In a car or home, the deep interior is most reflective of our private lives. Tinted rear glass and a cargo cover keep peepers out of the Crosstour while everybody rides tucked down in the tall body sides. A backup camera, USB audio interface, 6-disc changer, Kevlar cone speakers, aluminum dome-type front tweeter speakers and satellite-linked navigation keep you tuned to the world through 360 watts of delicious sound.

All around the house, the Wrights lay down their ideas for making large entrances to control dirt, easy opening windows, and the best drapery designs. For the Crosstour, Honda fitted dual-zone automatic climate control with second row ventilation, auto up/down front windows, and a large sunroof with shade. The Wrights also advocated lots of closet space, which the Crosstour has every-

'10 ACCORD CROSSTOUR

Honda. 271 horsepower, 3.5 liter V6. 17/25-MPG city/hwy. As-tested price: \$36,220

MAKE ROOM FOR DADDY

Or mom along with the kids in the ultra spacious new Honda Crosstour.

where from cubbies in the doors to a roomy front center console.

To add more comfort, check the sheets for cruise control, steering wheel audio controls and leather steering wheel. Reversible cargo floor panels defend against dirty puppy feet.

Perhaps outdoor living gives an impression of the interior. It took more than a jiffy to warm up to the styling, but now I'm a fan of the Porsche-like rear view, sleek roofline and wide exotic grille. Wider tires on the optional 18-inch aluminum wheels and larger chrome exhaust outlets would go well with the chrome door handles for high-road Panamera style.

The Wrights would have the lady of the house put a stopwatch to her tasks and define efficient standard work. Time studies, my ass! Put a stopwatch to this, bee-yotch. Taking a load off the family budget, the car achieves 18/27-MPG city/hwy. When dad needs to get to work in a



blizzard, available AWD is nifty.

If you really want to get a handle on the dirty work, grip the wheel and head to the road for an old-fashioned family vacation. The four-wheel independent suspension system soaks up highways like a '55 Buick, but carves the snaky two-lanes to the campground more like a European wagon. Cruising the neighborhood looking for Fluffy, or moving mama's bouffant hair, the Crosstour is a slick ride.

It is really hard to get good help these days, what with their demands for minimum wage and healthcare. Today's automotive servants include navigation, XM radio and active sound control to erase harsh noise. The book provides tips on how to manage your domestic's time ef-

psst...

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Drawing Dallas

Inked and edgy, Italian stallion **Pietro Elina** likes breaking the rules

MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com

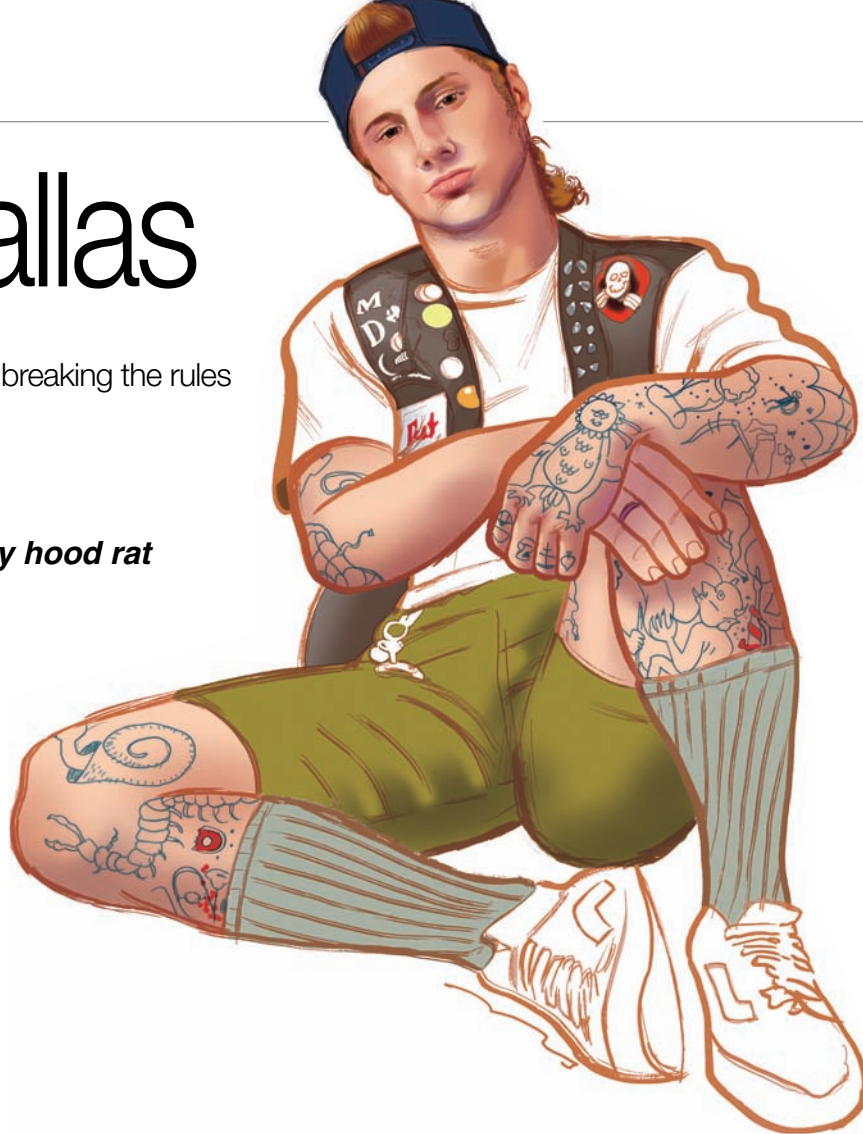
Hunky hood rat

Name and age: Pietro Elina, 20

Spotted at: Lemmon and Haskell avenues

Occupation: Carpenter and tattoo artist

When this Italian rule-breaker is not building and “barging” renegade D.I.Y. skate ramps in the burgeoning skateboard scene, you can find this Dallas native playing bass guitar for a punk band. A non-conformist by nature — he added those tattoos to *himself*, if you can believe it — Pietro is in the process of publishing a ‘zine which will cover the local punk/skateboard/art/music scene.



fectively, but the only paid help you’ll require is a trip to the Honda dealership for oil changes and regular maintenance.

A good host cares for your entire being. Starting with its reinforced ACE body structure and including electronic stability control, anti-lock brakes

with electronic brake force distribution, brake assist, side curtain airbags with rollover sensors, dual front bags, multiple threshold front airbags and active front seat head restraints,

this Honda serves brilliantly and will give up the ghost if the ultimate sacrifice is required. I doubt any cocktail-serving, coat-taking, house Barbie would have done so much for her guests.

It’s a good thing I’m gay because I don’t think I would have much patience for going to work all day so Her Highness could re-decorate the house while drinking mint juleps on stylish patio furniture with her fellow hags. Of course, I work all day to make sure His Highness can re-decorate our mid-century ranch, but that’s an entirely different matter. Maybe I’ll have him read the damned book — and drive the cool Honda Accord Crosstour. He can put some of his own hard-earned money towards the \$36,220 as-tested price.

Just kidding, baby.... ■



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Saturday 08.28

We'd go for the food *and* the beef

This has caused quite a dilemma. If we were going to Visions: The Women's Expo this weekend, we'd want to nosh on Fort Worth chef Scott Jones' culinary demonstrations, but there is no way in hell we'd miss the Hot Firefighters Auction. Along with fashion shows, style makeovers and exhibitors, we are learning one thing — it's hard to be a woman.

DEETS: Dallas Market Hall, 2200 N. Stemmons Freeway. Through Sunday. \$10. VisionsExpo.com.

Saturday 08.28

Marvin's room is gonna be a big one

Composer Marvin Hamlisch may achieve gay icon status because of his work with Barbra Streisand (an Oscar for "The Way We Were," yo), but he doesn't need a diva to prove he's amazing. He's gonna give it up for Dallas George Gershwin style as part of the pops series of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Which means, you'll witness a legend at his best.

DEETS: Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. 8 p.m. \$22-117. DallasSymphony.org.

Sunday 08.29

We get it — comics aren't just for kids

A weekend of adults dressed in sci-fi outfits may be daunting but two things make this Dallas Comic Con worthwhile. Battlestar Galactica's Edward James Olmos appears and Dallas' own The Variants (aka Zeus Comics) make an showing.

DEETS: Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Road. Noon. \$10-\$20. SciFiExpo.com/DCC.



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 9/26 ANTON SHAW AND TROUBLE



FRIDAY 08.27

COMMUNITY

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous.

Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m. Maple Plaza, 5353 Maple Ave, #130 (Entry in rear of building).

Unwired Dallas. Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA) meets for those wishing to quit. Also meets on Mondays and Wednesdays at the same time. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7:30pm. Free. CrystalMeth.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.

Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair & Arts Festival featuring authors, poets and artists for the event. African-American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave. in Fair Park. Through Sunday. Tulisoma.com.

THEATER

The Beauty Queen of Leenane by Martin McDonagh and presented by ICT Theatre on the Edge. Rudy Seppy Rehearsal Studio, 2333 W. Rochelle Road, Irving. Through Sep. 4. Fridays-Saturdays at 8 p.m. \$8. IrvingTheatre.org.

The Blue Moon Dancing by Ed Graczyk. Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, 5601 Sears St. Through Sep. 12. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays



TOPSY TURVY | Rising Gallery goes 'Inception'-like with this piece in its newest exhibit 'Community.'

at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 p.m. \$22-\$32. ContemporaryTheatreofDallas.com.

A Bollywood Lysistrata. A musical retelling of the Aristophanes play presented by Level Ground Arts. KD Studio Theatre, 2600 N. Stemmons Freeway, Suite 180. Through Sep. 5. Fridays-Saturdays at 8:15 p.m., Sep. 5 at 2 p.m. \$20. LevelGroundArts.com.

Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits presented by Uptown Players. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Sunday. Friday-Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. \$30-\$40. UptownPlayers.org.

Sherlock Holmes in the Crucifer of Blood. Theatre Three, 2800 Routh St., Suite 168. Through Sep.

5. Thursdays and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays at 8 p.m., weekend matinees at 2:30 p.m. \$10-\$40. Theatre3Dallas.com.

ART

Community featuring works by Dallas artist Jim Hastings and Brooklyn-based John Skibo. Rising Gallery, 4631 Insurance Lane. Opening reception at 6 p.m. Through Oct. 2. RisingGallery.com.

Multi-Media with artwork by Clayton Lee Bailey, Jim Frederick and Deborah Scott Lightfoot. Artisan Style, 2417 Mahon St. Through Sep. 4. ArtisanStyle.net.

Tangled in Aura featuring the work of local artist

Michelle Ruvalcaba. Tony Collins Art + Home, 1916 S. Lamar St. Opening reception at 5 p.m. Through Aug. 27. TonyCollinsArt.com.

Stripped, Neo-Minimal Strategies in Contemporary Art group exhibition featuring work by Rupert Deese, Tom Orr, Kathy Webster and more. Marty Walker Gallery, 2135 Farrington St. Through Sep. 4. MartyWalkerGallery.com.

SATURDAY 08.28

COMMUNITY

Youth First Texas groups 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. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

Legacy social group of adults 50 or older from Cathedral of Hope. Monthly potluck or outing. 972-387-3345.

Dallas Diablos Rugby Boot Camp. Annual event to recruit players and educate about the sport. Lake Highlands Park, 9500 E. Lake Highlands Dr. 11 a.m. DallasDiablos.org.

SUNDAY 08.29

COMMUNITY

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

■ CALENDAR, Page 44

*One Heart,
One World,
One Pride.*

Alan Ross
**Texas Freedom Parade
Special Edition**
Publishing Sept. 17, 2010

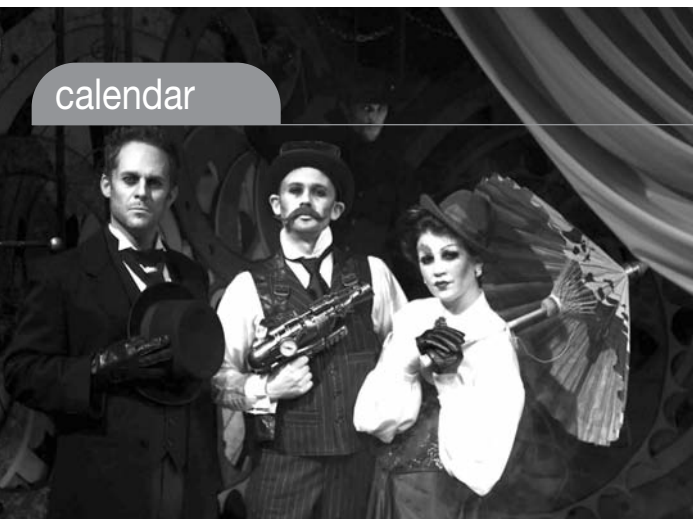
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SPECIAL OPS | See whodunit as Sherlock Holmes concludes his case this weekend at Theatre Three.

■ **CALENDAR**, From Page 43

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

The Sunday Show. An old-fashioned radio show with music and interviews with Bible figures. White Rock Church, 9353 Garland Road. After the 10:45 a.m. service. WhiteRockChurch.org.

Yoga of the Breath for people living with HIV. Pride Pharmacy, 2929 Carlisle St. Commitment needed for the eight-day program. Through Sep. 3. Weekdays 7 p.m., weekends at 10 a.m. Free. 469-212-3797. ArtOfLiving.org.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is Cece Cox, executive director for

Resource Center Dallas. 89.3 KNON-FM at noon.

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

MONDAY 08.30

COMMUNITY

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

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.

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.

BROADCAST

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

TUESDAY 08.31

COMMUNITY

The ONE Church East 6246 Broadway Blvd, Suite #100, Garland. 7:30 p.m. Dallas1Church.org.

Q's-Day Potluck. All are welcome to this friendly, casual LGBT gathering every Tuesday evening. The

Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth, 817-446-3395.

CreativesinDFW.com Launch Party for the new online directory of creative professionals to meet business needs. House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. 6 p.m. Free. Register at CreativesinDFW.com

BROADCAST

Ilume-A-Nation Tuesday with Jack E. Jett. Streams weekly at 11 a.m. on ilume.com.

The Jack E. Jett Show with co-host Jackie Stal-lone streams every Tuesday and Thursday at 3 p.m. on RationalBroadcasting.com.

WEDNESDAY 09.01

COMMUNITY

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

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

Blue Plate Special Project by AIN. Preview of original painted plates to be auction at the upcoming fundraiser. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. The Shack at Stanley Korshak, 500 Crescent Court #100. 6 p.m. \$5 AIDSinterfaithNetwork.org.

THURSDAY 09.02

COMMUNITY

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

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

Career Fellowship at 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.

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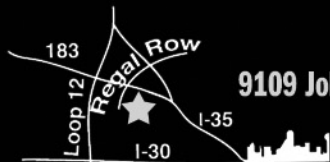
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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig

Rachel Zoe turns 39 on Wednesday. Thanks to Bravo, the masses have to endure the nasally fashion judgment of the fashion stylist every week on *The Rachel Zoe Project*. With gay assistant Brad Goreski in tow, who cries at the drop of a hairpin, we can't get enough of the sass and attitude. Add celebrities and fashion to the mix and Zoe is our go-to lady.



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Let others plan your birthday party. You're having trouble with details trying to make your bash worthwhile. Trying to look sexy is sure to backfire. Be yourself and they'll come running.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Worries about your relationship are exaggerated and unfounded. Go over them carefully, preferably with your partner, strip away needless fears and get a clearer vision of problems to work on.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Friends are too eager to help. There might be some good suggestions in all that meshugas. Competing with colleagues can drive you crazy. Focus on your best. You'll accomplish more.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Your long-range plans are not looking good. Normally you'd adapt. Now it looks more serious. Revisions need to be made. Analyze problems now and solve them next month.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Work is looking good if you can keep your mouth out of the way. Absorb information and take time to figure that out before responding. Family offers excellent lessons for building your future.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

You may be able to convince everyone you're right, but something at the heart of your argument is wrong. Invite criticism. Open discussion can help you figure out where the flaw is.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Money and sex are the two biggest issues for couples to deal with. Get ego and miscommunications out of the way. Humility and admitting mistakes is necessary, but only for yourself.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Strive for your best without comparing yourself to colleagues. Even efforts to cooperate will highlight your ego. But as long as you're your own sharpest critic, that can be good for you.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Too often you feel your best isn't good enough. Your efforts are appreciated. Playfully exaggerating those feelings and whatever comes up with them can help you get clarity.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Maybe you should find your fun outside for now. Either way, remember that standing in your community is based more on cooperation than being the best at anything.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Slips of the tongue reveal what you really think about your roots and your job. Pick your company carefully and have a confidante you can trust. Use these accidental insights to revise your plans.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Be very careful of your facts and figures. You're likely to exaggerate the humiliation of being caught in a mistake, but the financial costs of errors can be much more real than the cost to your ego.

THIS WEEK

Venus and Mars dancing through Libra while opposing Eris boost competition and conflict. Mercury retrograding past the sun in Virgo brings egotistical miscalculations into the picture. Go slow, easy and careful. Be the tortoise, not the hare.

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

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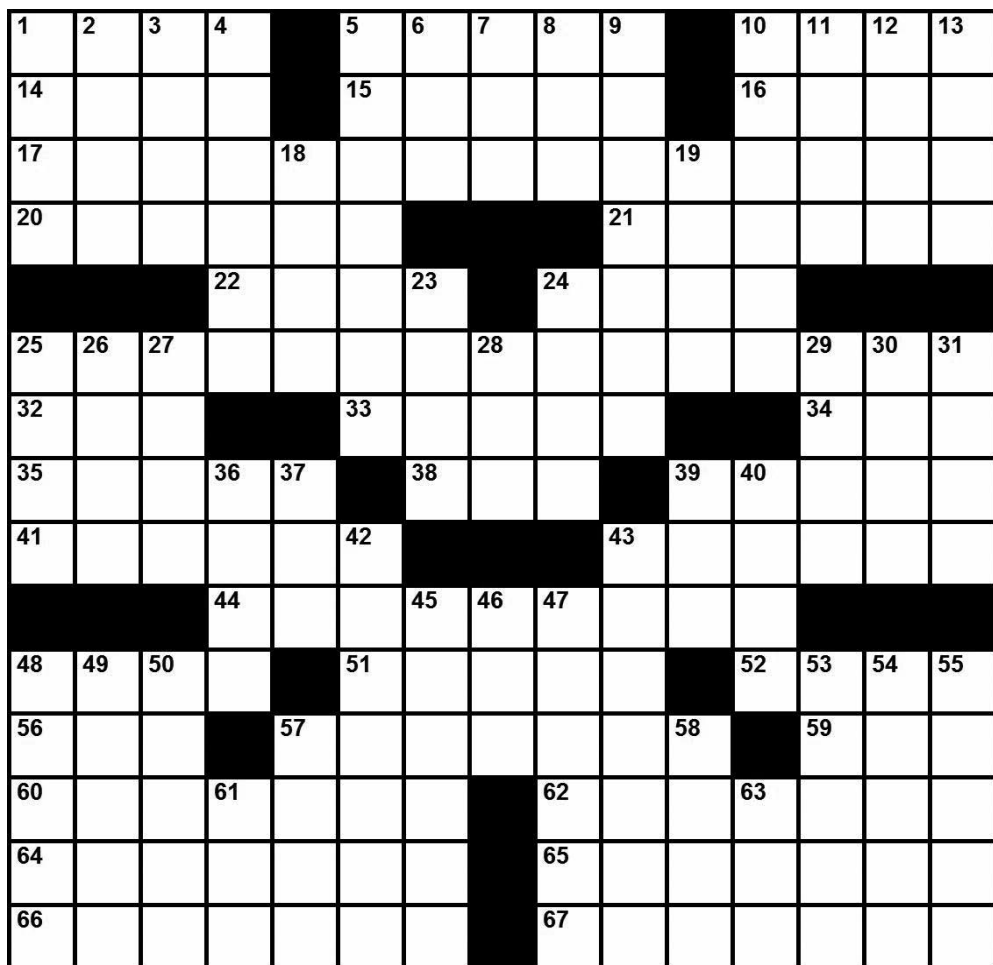
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Geographical Orientation

Solution on page 44

Across

- 1 Their fruits are acorns
- 5 Take by force
- 10 Sushi ingredient
- 14 Buck heroine
- 15 Where Bruce Wayne kept Dick Grayson
- 16 "Like ___ not"
- 17 Start of a straight man's reply to a woman coming out
- 20 Nova follower
- 21 Like Marcia Brady, to her sisters
- 22 Hint in an Ellen Hart mystery, e.g.
- 24 Regarding
- 25 More of the reply
- 32 Boy played by Martin and Duncan
- 33 Nancy's older son, on "Weeds"
- 34 Earthlink competitor
- 35 Opportunity for Glenn Burke
- 38 Where a trucker parks his bottom
- 39 Snake charmer's pet
- 41 Streisand's "Funny Girl" costar
- 43 Book about autoeroticism?
- 44 More of the reply
- 48 Vegetable soup bean
- 51 One of a "Full House" twosome

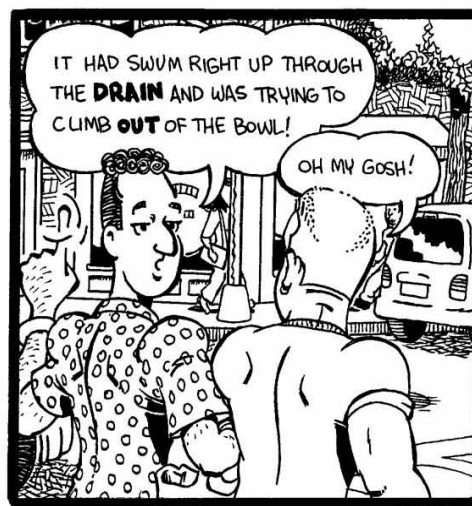
- 52 Some writers work on it
- 56 Did an encore of "Food, Glorious Food"?
- 57 End of the reply
- 59 The whole shebang
- 60 Be good in bed
- 62 WWII site where a flag was erected
- 64 Bit
- 65 Compensation in a lawsuit
- 66 "CHiPs" costar Erik
- 67 Rubbers

Down

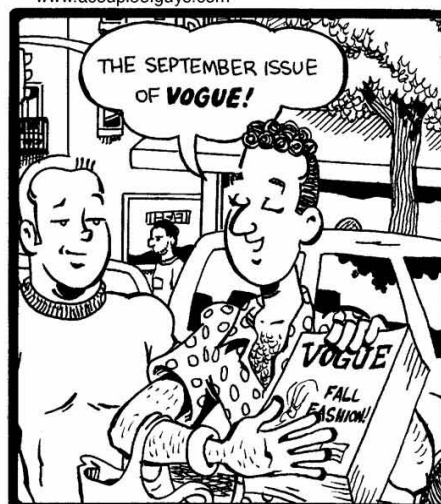
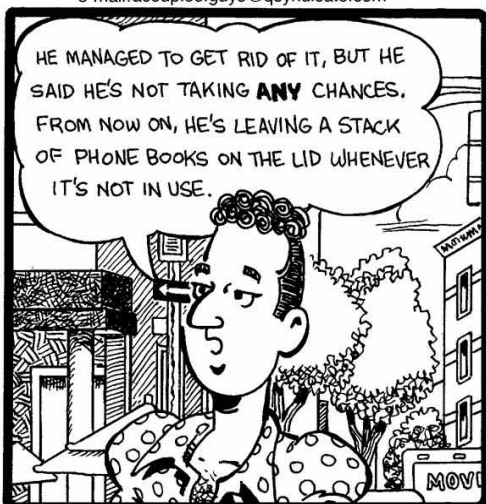
- 1 Package appreciation cries
- 2 Guinness of "The Lavender Hill Mob"
- 3 Boxing win
- 4 Tattletale
- 5 German marks
- 6 So, in Alan Cummings' tongue
- 7 Us, to Rilke
- 8 "Chicago" director Marshall
- 9 Mychal Judge and Malcolm Boyd
- 10 In a way
- 11 Suffix with leather
- 12 George Michael's Johns
- 13 Bapt. or Meth.
- 18 Leon Uris' " ___ 18"
- 19 One kind of opera queen
- 23 Really big tale
- 24 Gaza Stripper, e.g.
- 25 Cruising areas
- 26 "\$#@!&", e.g.
- 27 The New York Liberty's org.
- 28 Home st. of Harper Lee
- 29 Perfume brand
- 30 Traditional round dance
- 31 Jerusalem server
- 36 "Aida" solo
- 37 Carol contraction
- 39 Rainbow flag sticker site, often
- 40 Dollar bills
- 42 Left with mouth wide open
- 43 Stud of the early days of horse racing
- 45 Audre Lorde, to Hunter College
- 46 Overdraft letters
- 47 Abuse orally
- 48 Spell of forgetfulness
- 49 Michael Musto's tidbits
- 50 Type of badge for the morally straight
- 53 Peter of "Say Uncle"
- 54 Male-on-male kissing target of Bugs
- 55 School group
- 57 It may put one in an awkward position
- 58 Home of Picasso's Stein portrait
- 61 Eleanor's beard?
- 63 Pres. without a first lady Buchanan



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This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE



Shawn Michael and Joel at BJ's NXS!



Ice and Kyi at Sue Ellen's.



Edward at Kaliente.



Gabe, Carlos and Danny at Pekers.

For now it feels a little cooler outside. Let's hope it stays that way **MicahB** spins the '80s tunes Friday for **Cocktails at Rush**. The club also celebrates its third anniversary. They grow up so fast **Station 4** goes retro and hosts **Toga Party** Friday night. But get there early because it's free togas while they last. Sweet! ... How does a club without a pool host a pool party? Find out Saturday as **the Round-Up Saloon** hosts **Pool Party II: Last Splash**. Sunday, the club welcomes home the Dallas teams from the **Gay World Series**. Afterward, stick around for **Victoria Weston's Cabaret** show Catch pop rockers **A Rotterdam November** with **Anton Shaw** and **Trouble** Sunday live on **The Patio** outside TMC: **The Mining Station** Start getting in the mood for some football Sunday at **Woody's** when the **Dallas Cowboys** whoop up on the **Houston Texans** **Zayra** performs live at **the Rose Room** Thursday It's nice to see all the **live music** options in the LGBT club scene. **Jack's Backyard** contributes with **Ciao Bella** on Friday night, a double bill of **Ashley Anderson** and **Kristi Jo** on Saturday and **Kathy and Bella** every week at **Sunday Night Live** **Sue Ellen's** gets its action with **Lori McCracken** and **Shut Down Town** live on Friday and **Ciao Bella** again on Saturday. Those Bellas get around **The Dallas Eagle** steers you into **Cruise Control** Friday. Show off your body art at the **Ink and Steele Party** Saturday night. Then hit up your game action at **Bare Chests & Bare Backs Blackjack Night**. Whew! That's a mouthful, which is probably how they like it Party it up, people!

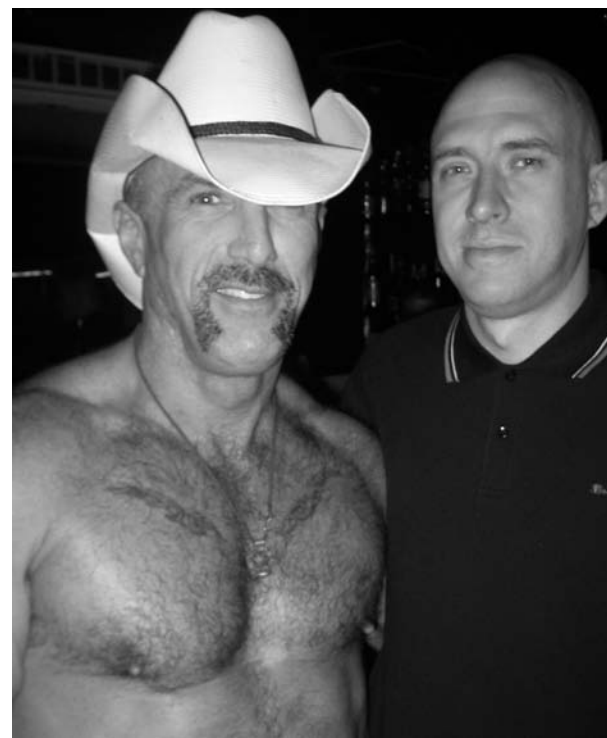
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Jesse and Mandie at Drama Room.



Trace and Frank at Station 4.



Dean and Jason at the Dallas Eagle.



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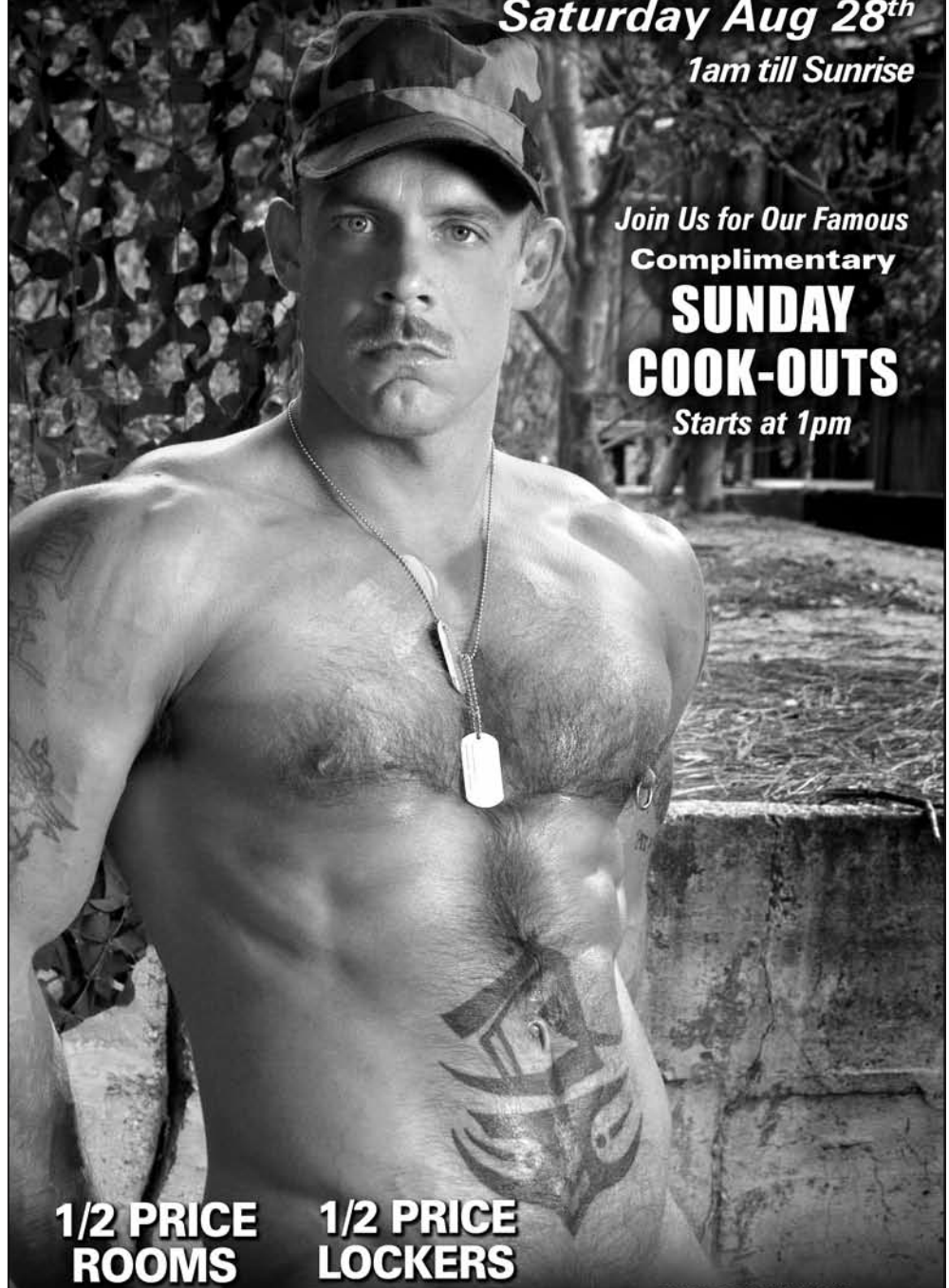
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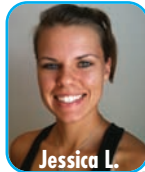
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