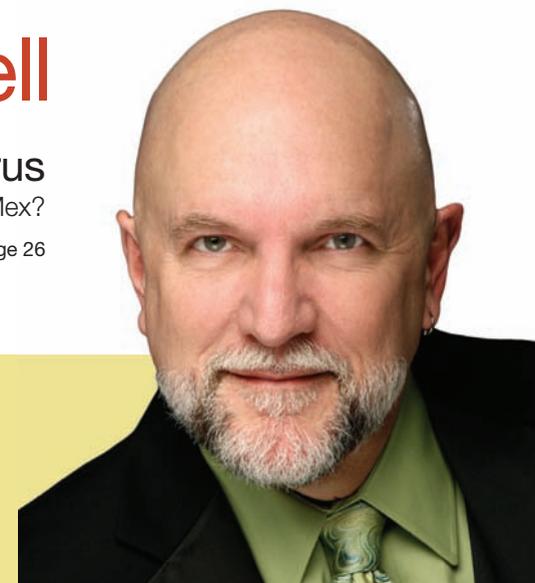


A final bow: Tim Seelig says farewell

Conductor to head San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

What'll he miss most? Would you believe Tex-Mex?

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Santa's helpers



HOLIDAY CHEER | Donald Solomon, Gregg Kilhoffer, Ben Polachek, Marcus Wuntch and Chris Bengston divide presents for each class at Sam Houston Elementary School in Oak Lawn coordinated by Caven Enterprises as part of an annual holiday gift drive for students at the Oak Lawn area school. Staff members and patrons from Dallas Tavern Guild member bars participate now in the effort. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Questions arise over FW trans ordinance

Double negative included in addition to protections adopted last year could bar trans from using gender-specific restrooms

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — A double negative in one sentence of an addition to the nondiscrimination protections in the Fort Worth ordinance would enshrine one form of bias against transgressors.

Proposed Section 17-48 (b) says "It shall not be unlawful for any person or any employee or agent thereof to deny any person entry into any restroom, shower room, bathroom or similar facility which has been designated for use by persons of the opposite sex."

Fort Worth assistant attorney Gerald Pruitt confirmed that, as written, the clause allows anyone to deny a transgender person presenting as one sex entry into a restroom if that person has not completed transition.

The concern among members of the transgender community stems from an incident in which a transgender woman was arrested in Houston for using a women's restroom in a public library.

Earlier this year, Mayor Annise Parker issued an executive order that prohibited that form of discrimination, allowing transgressors to use whichever restroom they feel is



Lisa Thomas

appropriate in any city facility. The library would have been included in Parker's order.

The November arrest contradicted the order but the action was against earlier laws already on the books.

"We have a number of transgender employees in Fort Worth," Pruitt said. "I have no knowledge of any action like this ever being taken."

He said that a situation arose about five years ago when someone began transitioning on the job. Someone who had been male was suddenly presenting as female and began using the woman's room, he said.

"I think that's where most of the angst is," he said, explaining that someone everyone knew as a man began using the women's restroom.

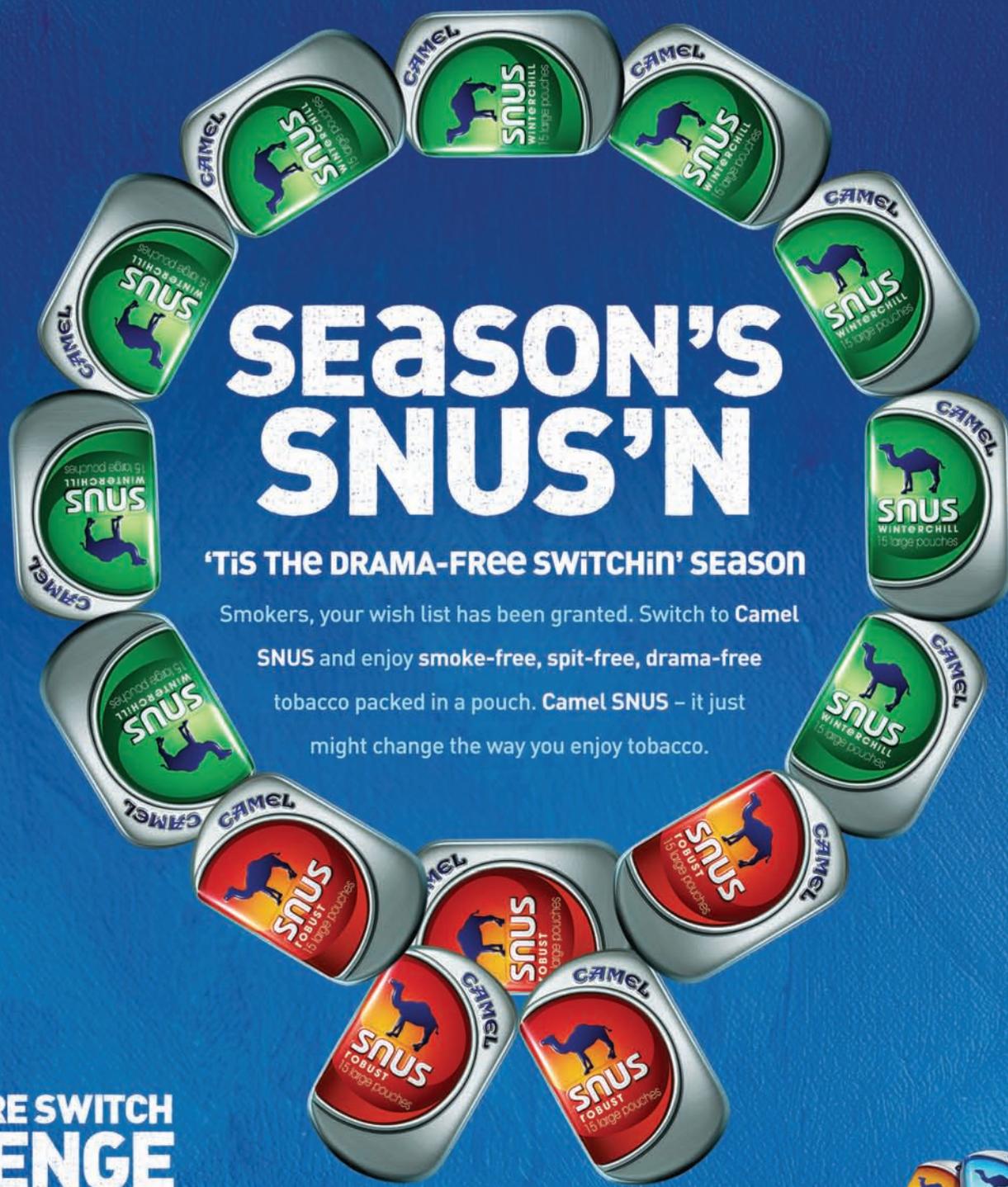
Pruitt said that the solution that satisfied everyone was that a bathroom convenient to the trans woman's office was designated as her private restroom.

But he denied that this particular clause was in reaction to the Houston case, which he said he had not heard about before. And he said that as far as he knew, the wording

■ ORDINANCE, Page 15

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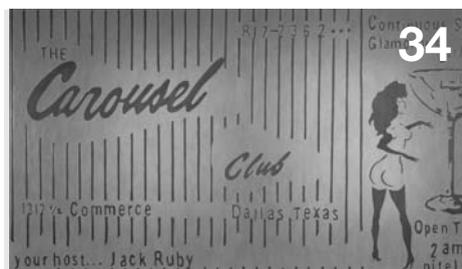


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Stone stepping into a quieter life

Founder of PFLAG-Dallas, Late Bloomers leaving group to focus on painting, involvement with church

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

The Tuesday night, Dec. 14, meeting of Late Bloomers was a bittersweet event for Pat Stone. It marked her last meeting as leader and an active member of the organization she founded 13 years ago. But it also marked her first full steps into the next stage of her life.

Stone, who started Late Bloomers for women life herself who came out as lesbian later in life, was also one of the founding members of the Dallas chapter of Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays in 1992. Stone and her former husband helped start the PFLAG chapter in support of their lesbian daughter and were the driving force behind the Dallas organization in its early years.

She was president of the Dallas chapter for five years and was also on the national PFLAG board.

Then in 1997, after coming out as a lesbian herself, Stone started Late Bloomers to give other women coming out later in life a place other than nightclubs to go where they could meet other women like themselves and to learn about the LGBT community.



Pat Stone

Stone said this week that her decision to leave Late Bloomers was, in truth, a decision to retire from her nearly 20-plus years as an activist on LGBT issues. Now, she said, she will concentrate on her life with her partner as part of a vibrant LGBT community in the Cedar Creek Lake area,

her involvement with Celebration on the Lake Church, and on her painting.

"It's been 13 years since I started Late Bloomers, and I just think the time is right to move on," said Stone, adding that the monthly trip into Dallas for the group's meetings from her home on Cedar Creek Lake was becoming increasingly arduous.

"I think it's time [for Late Bloomers] to find someone local to lead the group," she said. "I am stepping away from it for so many different reasons."

One of those reasons, she said, is that she didn't want to get "burned out, and I could feel that starting to happen."

That is in due, in part, she said, to the fact that "the last couple of years were pretty rough" as she dealt with the break-up of a long-term relationship, the death of her mother and, later, the beginning of a new relationship.

"Linda [Sands] and I are living at the lake, and I think it is just time for us to concentrate on a quieter life out here with my friends. And I want to get back to my oil painting, too," Stone said.

"I have begun doing more paintings that are geared to the elderly, researching on the types of things that older eyes can more readily pick up on, like plainer backgrounds and things like that," she explained. "I have been in contact with the Mabank Nursing Home, where my mother

■ **STONE**, Page 12

Friends remember shooting victim as strong, generous

Police arrest homeless man for using Cheung's debit card; no murder charges filed yet in gay man's death

JOHN WRIGHT | Online Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

Aaron Cheung was remembered this week as a strong, outspoken, caring person who was living his dream of owning a restaurant.

Cheung, 27, was found shot to death in the backseat of his car outside a condo in northeast Dallas in the early morning hours of Sunday, Dec. 12.

Dallas police say the motive for the crime was robbery, and they have no reason to believe Cheung's sexual orientation was a factor.

On Thursday, DPD arrested a homeless man who they say used Cheung's debit card at a downtown 7-Eleven after the murder.

Charles Edward Freeman, 58, is charged with fraudulent use or possession of identifying information, a felony, and was being held on \$50,000 bail. As of Thursday morning, Dec. 16, Freeman

was considered a "person of interest" but had not been charged in Cheung's robbery and murder.

Cheung was a founding member of Fuse, the LGBT young men's group at Resource Center Dallas, according to his close friend Alex Ortega. Cheung also once served on the youth board at Youth First Texas.

But for the last few years, Ortega said, Cheung devoted most of his time to Bacon and Friends, his restaurant in Mesquite.

"That was his dream," said Ortega, who worked at the restaurant last summer. "His passion was food. He was always talking about watching Food Network and then trying different things. He was just really creative and a real people person. He had so many regulars, and they all asked for him. ... He was very meticulous about the food, and people just really gravitated to that, all the effort he put into everything. It was always busy."

Cheung had just gotten home from work at about 3:30 a.m. on Sunday morning and was retrieving a box from the backseat of his car outside a condo he shared with his parents in the 8100 block of Skillman Street when he was shot, accord-



Aaron Cheung

ing to police. The suspect ambushed Cheung from behind and shot him once in the head before making off with his wallet and several hundred dollars in cash.

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, police released surveillance video

from a 7-Eleven on Commerce Street, showing a short, older black man with a limp using Cheung's debit card to purchase cigarettes and chicken wings.

Freeman was arrested at the Bridge, a homeless shelter, after people there recognized him from the surveillance video.

Police say Freeman fits the description of a man who was seen by a witness fleeing the area of

■ **SHOOTING**, Page 12

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Gay LULAC chapter honors Sanchez, Mancha, Univision

LULAC 4871 – The Dallas Rainbow Council will hold its third annual Holiday Party on Friday, Dec. 17, featuring traditional Mexican holiday dishes, Christmas music and awards to recognize outstanding achievement in the LGBT Latino community.

LULAC 4871 will award its "Man of the Year" to gay rights activist Fernie Sanchez. Sanchez was instrumental in getting the word out about the anti-bullying movement in the Dallas Independent School District to Spanish-speaking households. He shared his own personal story of being harassed for being gay



Jesse Garcia

and advocated for acceptance during interviews with the local affiliates of Telemundo and Univision. Sanchez also coordinated interviews with other LGBT Latinos to share their bullying stories on a nationwide Univision program. Sanchez was instrumental in holding immigration forums in the LGBT community, assisted with LULAC 4871's very first National Latino AIDS Awareness Day event and helped promote the Census in both LGBT and Hispanic communities.

"Woman of the Year" will be awarded to Patricia Mancha, a straight ally who has advocated for the LGBT community. Along with Sanchez, Mancha has done outreach with Spanish-language media during the height of the gay suicide epidemic in the fall and also helped dispel myths about HIV during National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. Mancha volunteered to co-sponsor a LULAC youth council and mentors the group every other week.

The "Se Presta Award," a community award that lauds a non-member of the council who has partnered with LULAC 4871 during the year and made a difference, will recognize long-time community organizer Rosa Lopez. Lopez helps organize West Dallas neighborhoods. She advocates for better streets, public safety and improved schools. Her mostly Hispanic and African-American neighborhood associations consider her a great leader and have no problem with her being a lesbian. She commands the respect that most of us in the LGBT community ultimately want by mainstream America. She is involved her community's issues and gives a voice to those who have none.

Univision Television and Radio will receive the organization "Se Presta Award" for its in-depth coverage of gay suicide tragedies and the DISD anti-bullying movement. Univision covered this issue more than their English language counterparts. The local network and radio station have shown that they are community partners with the LGBT community — even asking members of our community to sit on their advisory boards and placing us on their public service announcements.

For more information about the Holiday Party, e-mail LULAC4871@aol.com or visit www.lulac4871.org. New members are welcomed.

— Jesse Garcia

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LEATHER KNIGHTS DONATE | Leather Knights President Jason Kloss, front left, and Charitable Events Chair Derrick Dawson present a check to Steven Pace and Larry Finch of AIDS Interfaith Network for \$1,001 raised during the Dragon Lady of the Realm pageant in February. AIN was one of four organizations who received donations from the Leather Knights during a reception at Youth First Texas on Monday, Dec. 13. Youth First Texas received \$1,404 raised during the Buy Daddy's Box auction in November. The dental clinic at the Nelson-Tebedo Health Center received \$1,200 raised during Military Manuevers in November. And AIDS Services of Dallas received \$2,000 raised during AWOL 2 in May.

Death

Sharla Diane Rippetoe, 60, died of cancer at her home in Dallas on Dec. 12.

Rippetoe was born April 2, 1950, in Texas and had lived in the Dallas area for the past 40 years. She graduated from Richardson High School, and was a business owner, author and artist as well as a beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She was the owner of Grammy Sits pet-sitting service and a former delivery driver for Dallas Voice.

Rippetoe is survived by her wife, Maryann Ramirez of Dallas; her parents, Charles David Forest and Clara Jackson; her siblings, Belinda

and Charlie; her daughters, Patricia, Veronica and Stephanie; her sons, David and Kevin; her grand-



children, Ean, Tasha, Degan, Helen, Thomas, Jonathan and Ashley; and her great-grandchildren, Eden, Avery, Aspen and Aiden.

A celebration of her life is being planned for a future date. The family asks that memorial dona-

tions in her name be made to SPCA of Dallas or to Community Hospice of Texas (CHOT.org). ■

Pavillion owner recovering from hit-and-run

Website taking donations and fundraisers planned to help pay medical bills for Dan Friessen

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Barbara's Pavillion owner Dan Friessen is out of the hospital and recovering after being struck by a hit-and-run driver about 6 p.m. on Dec. 9 as he was walking from his car toward the bar, located at 325 Centre St. in Oak Cliff.

According to police, Friessen was crossing the street, but not at a crosswalk. A Honda only described as gray or silver hit him and threw him 45 feet into a parked car.

The driver fled without rendering aid or leaving identification.

Three witnesses from Dallas Can Academy across the street saw the incident but did not get a license plate number.

Friessen was rushed to Methodist Hospital where he was admitted to intensive care with multiple injuries that were not life threatening.



Dan Friessen

He had surgery to repair his facial injuries. His jaw is wired shut since the surgery and he remains on a liquid diet.

Because of injuries to his ankle, he was unable to stand unassisted.

On Dec. 12, he was released from the hospital and on Monday, he stopped by the bar.

Friessen has no insurance. A website, HelpOut-Dan.com, and a Facebook page called "Help Out Dan Friessen" have been created to assist with the cost of medication and to help cover medical bills. Other fundraisers are planned. ■

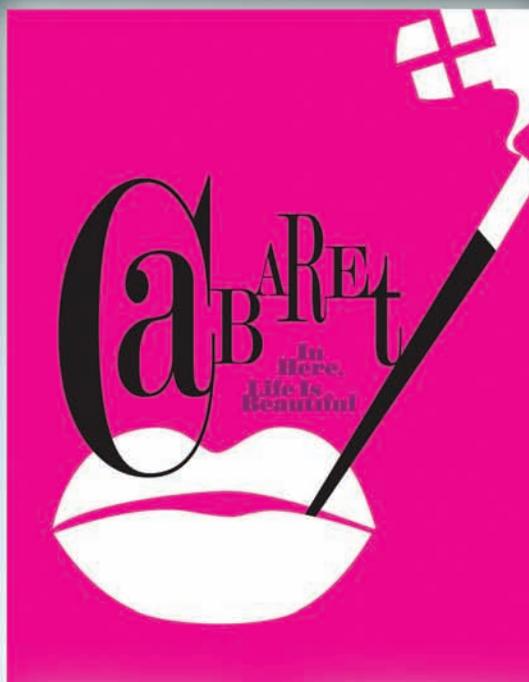
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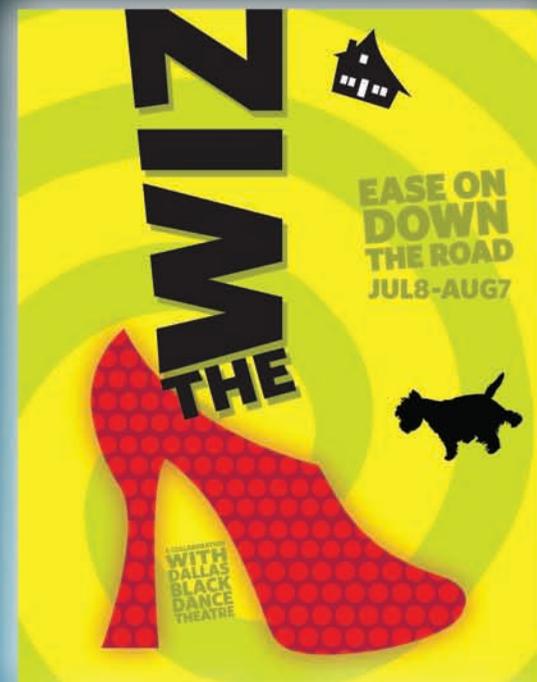
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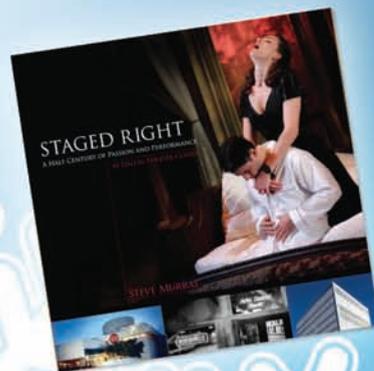


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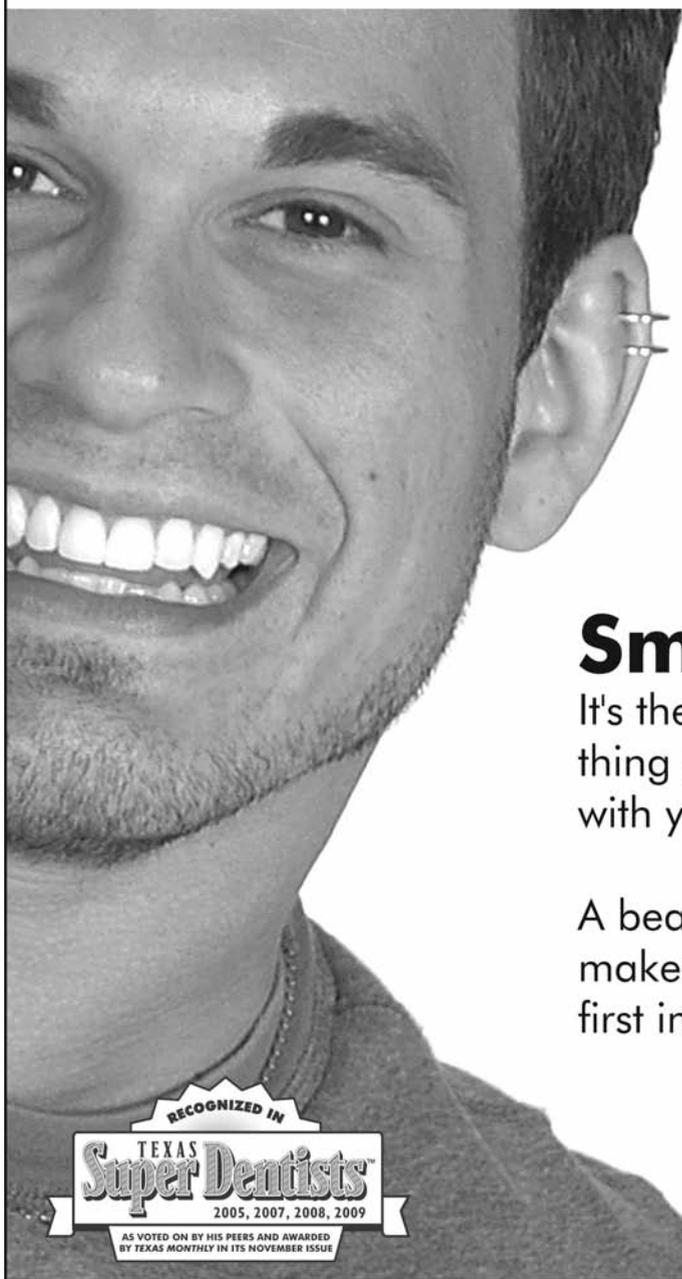


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■ **texasnews**



CITING THE NUMBERS | Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns, left, listens as Equality Texas Executive Director Dennis Coleman outlines the findings of a poll showing that nearly 80 percent of Texans favor inclusive anti-bullying legislation. Equality Texas kicked off an intensive effort to get such a measure passed during the upcoming session of the Texas Legislature at a press conference in Austin on Monday, Dec. 13. (Tammye Nash/Dallas Voice)

Equality Texas pushes for anti-bullying legislation

Group also releases poll results showing support for LGBT rights

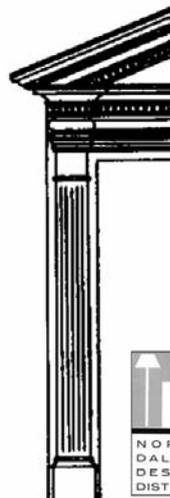
TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

AUSTIN — Equality Texas started ramping up efforts to get a comprehensive anti-bullying law passed in the upcoming session of the Texas Leg-

islature with a press conference Monday, Dec. 13, highlighting results from a recently completed poll on LGBT issues.

In the poll — commissioned by Equality Texas and conducted by the national polling firm Glan-gariff Group Inc. — 79.2 percent of all respondents said they favored legislation that would “provide direction to Texas teachers on how to protect all children from bullying, harassment and

■ **BULLYING**, Page 11



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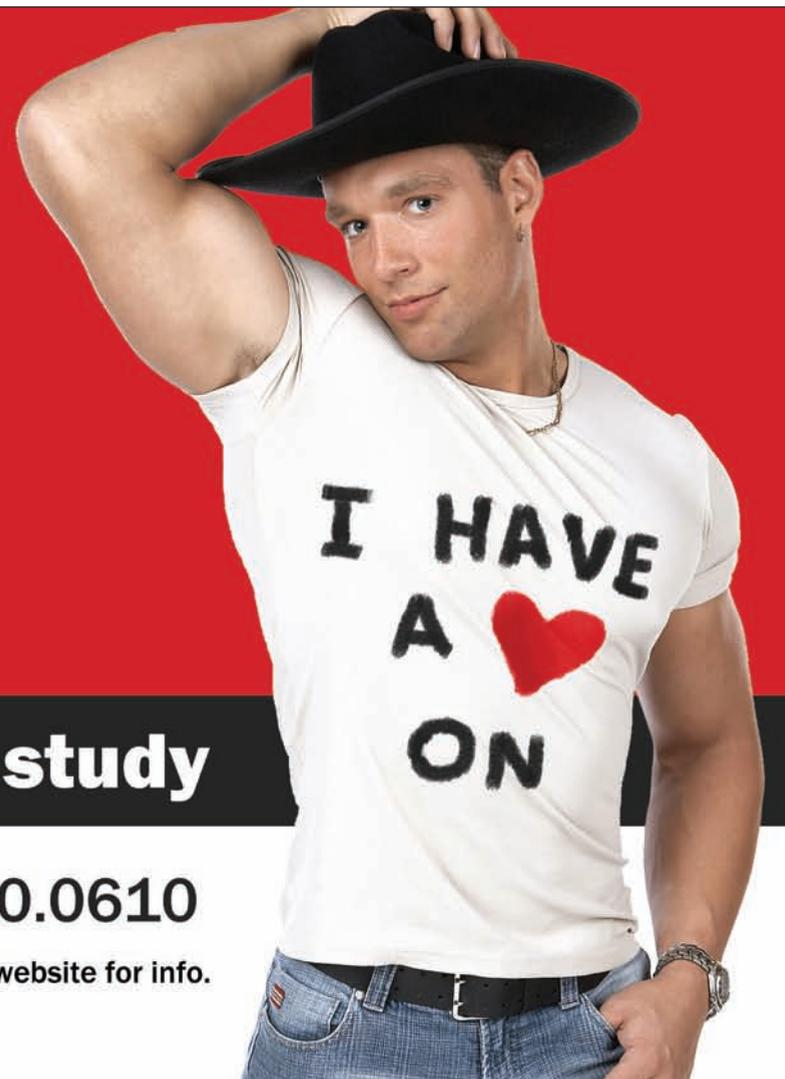


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BULLYING BILL

From Page 8

discrimination in school, including the children of gay and lesbian parents or teenagers who are gay," according to Equality Texas press materials.

Dennis Coleman, Equality Texas' executive director, said at Monday's press conference that while bullying in schools is not new, the recent spate of gay teen suicides stemming from such bullying has "moved this issue up the ranks of issues that need to be addressed as soon as possible.

"The Dallas school district recently approved new policies to address bullying. Now it is time for the state as a whole to do the same," Coleman said.

Coleman said that some seven bills addressing bullying have already been pre-filed for their 2011 legislative session. But, he added, Equality Texas "will not support legislation that does not include all children."

Chuck Smith, the lobbying organization's deputy executive director, said that Equality Texas prefers the language in legislation prefiled by Sen. Wendy Davis, which updates the definition of bullying and includes cyber-bullying, and which specifically includes LGBT students.

The bill also calls for data to be collected on bullying and provides guidelines for teachers and administrators on how to respond.

Rep. Mark Strama of Austin has prefiled a similar bill in the House of Representatives. However, Smith said, Strama's bill does not specifically include the requirement of collecting data on bullying targeting a student's gender identity or expression.

"That phrase is very important," Smith said. "Strama's bill includes gender identity and expression in the definition of bullying, but not in the section requiring collection of data on bullying."

"These bills provide a present-day definition of what bullying is, and that is so important because too many lawmakers conjure up an image of a skirmish on the playground. That is not bullying," Smith said. "Bullying is a repetitive pattern based on an imbalance of power and intimidation."

Smith also said the data collection requirements are an essential piece of the anti-bullying effort.

"In most districts, if you were to ask them they would say they don't have a problem with bullying. But if you ask them specifically how many incidents they had last year, they can't answer because they are not currently required to collect that data," Smith said.

Collecting such statistics, he added, will allow districts to inform their teachers and administrators, at the campus level on whether their anti-bullying training programs are effective.

"There are a lot of common sense things you would assume are already in the Texas Education Code, but they aren't," Smith said. "We want to see legislation passed that fills those gaps."

Gay Fort City Councilman Joel Burns — who became the face of anti-bullying efforts when video of his Oct. 12 speech on his own experience of being bullied as a gay teen went viral — spoke at the press conference, agreeing with Coleman that bullying "is a problem we cannot afford to ignore another day.

Burns said, "As I stand here, there are Texas chil-

dren who believe their only escape from the bullying and harassment is to put a gun to their heads and pull the trigger, empty the pill bottle into their mouths and swallow, or tighten the noose around their necks and step off the chair.

"Today and every day, those children, without hope, live in our Texas cities and towns, in our neighborhoods, go to school with our children, and unfortunately, might even be children in your own family," Burns said.

Anne Wynne, new co-chair of the Equality Texas board, participated in the Monday press conference, reading a statement from former Texas first lady and U.S. first lady Laura Bush in support of anti-bullying legislation.

"Bullying of any kind is terrible, and we as adults have to be the ones to do something about it," Bush's statement said.

She also described how proud she was of Burns for having the courage to make such a public statement about his own experiences.

Vicki Baldwin, a retired educator with 42 years in the field, said passage of anti-bullying legislation is "a moral issue. You do not treat people — anybody — badly. You do not pick on people because they are different. This is a moral issue, and Texas needs to take the lead" in addressing it.

"In general, I don't like policies, and I don't like legislation" Baldwin said. "But I also know everybody isn't like me. I try to do the right thing, and I always assumed that other people try to do the right thing, too, just instinctively. But that's not the way it happens. We have reached the point that people's lives, their actual lives, are involved here, and it is critical that we do something to address it."

Burns agreed. "Any one life lost is worthy of us taking action," he said. "And it is past time to take action now."

Other issues in the poll

Although Monday's press conference focused on the need for anti-bullying legislation, Equality Texas also released responses from the poll indicating that support for LGBT equality is higher in Texas than most people would assume.

According to the poll, 88 percent of the respondents support a guaranteed right for lesbians and gays to visit their partners in the hospital, and 75.4 percent support prohibiting employment and housing discrimination based on sexual orientation, while 69.7 support prohibiting employment and housing discrimination against transgenders.

Surprisingly, the poll found that 63.1 percent of those responded support allowing gays and lesbians to get a civil union.

In other findings:

- 75.1 percent support a guaranteed right for lesbians and gays to make end-of-life decisions for their partners.
- 68.8 percent support giving gays and lesbians the same legal rights as heterosexual parents regarding their children.
- 67.3 percent support hate crime legislation protecting transgenders.
- 65.4 percent support legal rights of gays and lesbians to inherit their partners' possessions when

■ BULLYING BILL, Page 13

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STONE

From Page 4

lived at the end of her life, and I want to do paintings to donate there, paintings that the residents there can see better and that might make them think of all their good memories."

Stone continued, "I will be 68 this month. That's not ancient, but I just think it's time to concentrate on my community here at the lake and my involvement with the church and the things I want to do now."

Stone said the enormity of the change she is making by leaving Late Bloomers hasn't really hit her full force yet, although she began to really see it during last Tuesday's meeting. "There was a full house there. It was sad for me. I shed a few tears. But I was able to get through it," she said.

She said many of those who attended Tuesday talked about how much Late Bloomers has meant to them through the years. Some recalled how scared they were to attend their first meeting, but how the members of the group have, over the years, become like family to them, and how the group has helped give a specific voice within the community to women who come out later in life.

Stone said she had been worried that the group might not continue after she left, but that her fears were allayed at this week's meeting.

"I know things are different now than they were 13 years ago. But I sure wouldn't say that this group isn't needed any more," she said.

"There are still women out there who are going through this [coming out process as older women], and they need specific kinds of help. Women who come out later in life still face some very specific issues that other people don't face."

Stone said she was glad to hear on Tuesday that Late Bloomers members want to keep their group going, and that new leaders are already stepping up.

"They said this group meant so much to them to let it die," she said. "So a new committee was formed to transition the group. They even met that night. They are dividing up the duties and are determined to continue. I was so proud of them and the fact that so many stepped up to the plate to save the organization."

Among the new leaders for Late Bloomers is Linda Harwell. Anyone with questions or who wants to be involved with the group can contact her at 410-868-8244.

While there is certainly a degree of sadness that comes with the decision to turn her life in a new direction, there is also a sense of satisfaction and excitement at the adventures to come, Stone said.

"It's been almost 20 years that I have been involved in activism, and it is hard to step away from that," she said. "But I am happy and content that I have helped many parents of gay and lesbian kids, as well as women who have come out later in life."

"Dallas has a great gay and lesbian community, and I am just so proud to have been a part of it for all these years." ■

SHOOTING

From Page 4

Cheung's murder.

"It's going to take some forensic evidence before they can list him as a suspect," DPD spokesman Sr. Cpl. Kevin Janse said Thursday morning.

"They're still looking at him as a person of interest."

Ortega said he was glad that police appeared close to solving the crime.

"He was the strong one of the people I knew and hung out with," Ortega said of Cheung. "You'd never think anything would hurt him, so it was just a complete shock. He's from the East Coast, originally from New York. He was really tough and outspoken."

"He had a lot of street smarts, and you would never think this would happen to him, ever."

A memorial service for Cheung was held Thursday afternoon in Rowlett.

Ortega said Cheung was an only child and he hoped the service would help his parents cope.

"I think it's a really good thing for his family to be able to see how many people he affected," Ortega said. "He really did do a lot for people who were in his life. If he cared about you, he would give you the world."

"He would do just about anything to help you out." ■



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BULLYING BILL

From Page 11

no will is in place.

Poll results were also examined based on the political party affiliation of respondents:

- Democratic voters support all 12 LGBT rights listed in the poll by a majority above 65 percent.

- 77.8 percent of Democrats support civil unions for gays and lesbians.

- Independent voters give majority support to 11 of the 12 rights, supporting six of the 12 by more than 65 percent.

- The only right independent voters do not support is the right of same-sex couples to marry. However, 59.4 percent of independent voters do support civil unions.

- A majority of Republican voters support nine of 12 of the LGBT rights covered by the poll, including supporting five of the 12 at levels higher than 65 percent.

- Republican voters do not support the right to same-sex marriage, but 57.6 percent do support civil unions for gays and lesbians.

In looking at responses broken down by religiosity, the poll found:

- A majority of respondents who attend weekly religious services support nine of the 12 rights covered in the poll.

- 51.1 percent of those who attend religious services weekly support civil unions for gays and lesbians. ■

BRINGING HOLIDAY CHEER



HOLIDAY GIFT PROJECT CONTINUES | Employees of Dallas Tavern Guild member bars fill 1,000 gift bags Thursday afternoon, Dec. 16, at S4 for local men and women with HIV. Event coordinator Paul Lewis said that after filling the gift bags, they loaded them in trucks to deliver them to AIDS Services of Dallas, Hillcrest House, AIDS Arms, Parkland Hospital, Legacy Cottage, AIDS Interfaith Network, Resource Center Dallas and the AIDS Food Pantry. This was at least the 25th year for the event, started in 1985 by Alan Ross. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

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nationalnews

House OKs stand-alone bill to repeal DADT

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@me.com

The U.S. House of Representatives voted Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 15 to approve a measure to repeal "don't ask, don't tell." The vote was 250-175. It was the second time this year the House approved such a measure. In May, the vote was 232 to 180.

The measure will now go to the Senate where Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has scheduled a vote that could happen as early as Saturday morning, Dec. 18.

White House Press Secretary said late Thursday that he believes the DADT repeal measure has the 60 votes necessary to pass in the House. Sen. Joe Lieberman, a Connecticut independent who has been a strong supporter of repeal, also said he believes the 60 votes needed for passage are there.

Debate in the House

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi took to the floor early in the House debate to urge passage of the measure and cite polling data released Wednesday showing 8 out of 10 Americans support repeal.

"It is my hope to encourage the Senate to take this long overdue action," said Pelosi.

Rep. Patrick Murphy, urging support for repeal, said, "Enough of the games. Enough of the politics. ... This vote is about whether we're going to continue telling people willing to die for our freedoms that they need to lie in order to do so."

Rep. Susan Davis, D-Calif., controlled debate for Democrats and led with remarks saying, "The time to act is here." Davis is a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

"Change is never easy but it rarely is as necessary as it is today," said Davis. "If we miss this opportunity to repeal this law, history will judge us poorly."

Rep. Buck McKeon, R-Calif., who will be the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee beginning in January, expressed "strong opposition" to the repeal measure. He lamented the committee was not being given an opportunity to hold its own hearing on the Dec. 1 report submitted by the Pentagon. The Senate Armed Services Committee held such a hearing on Dec. 2 and 3.

Many of the Republicans who spoke lamented the fact that Congress has yet to pass the annual Defense Authorization bill, suggesting that debating the DADT repeal was somehow interfering with that bill. The irony, of course, was that Republicans in the Senate blocked consideration of the Defense Authorization bill, in large part because it included DADT repeal.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., called Republicans out on that, saying they've repeatedly blocked

consideration of the defense bill. He also argued that it's not servicemembers who are uneasy with the change, but Republican members of Congress.

The Senate last week fell just three votes short of moving to consideration of the issue through the Defense Authorization bill, which includes repeal language.

West Virginia activists and the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network delivered 800 petitions to the offices of West Virginia's new Democratic senator, Joe Manchin, on Wednesday, hoping to reverse his recent vote against consideration of DADT repeal. Manchin, the only Democrat to vote with Republicans to keep a filibuster going last week, said he voted no because he hadn't had enough time to review the issue.

Sen. Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark., said last week she would have voted for cloture on the defense bill had she been in the chamber during the vote. And Sen. Scott Brown, R-Mass., has said he would vote for cloture after the Senate completes passage of a bill to extend tax cuts. Sen. Olympia Snow, R-Maine, also announced her support for DADT repeal on Wednesday.

The Senate on Wednesday passed the tax cut extension bill and then moved immediately to consideration of a new arms control treaty (START). Some are predicting the House will soon pass the tax cut bill, too, fulfilling a Republican Party demand that has prevented consideration of DADT repeal and other issues.

One troubling development for repeal — though not one that is expected to deliver much punch — was a statement Tuesday from U.S. Marine Corps Commandant James Amos. Amos told reporters at a Pentagon briefing that he thinks repeal threatens the lives of Marines in combat because a soldier's being gay presents a "distraction" to Marines and "distractions cost Marines' lives."

"I don't want to lose any Marines to distraction," said Amos. "I don't want to have any Marines that I'm visiting at Bethesda [Army Hospital] with no legs."

President Barack Obama issued a statement Wednesday night applauding the standalone repeal bill's passage.

"The process contained in this legislation allows for a smooth and responsible repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' in a way that maintains good order and discipline in our military ranks. Indeed, all of the Service Chiefs have said that when this law is changed, they will implement an orderly transition effectively and efficiently.

"As the comprehensive study by the Department of Defense clearly shows, we can move to a new policy in a responsible manner that ensures our military strength and our national security." ■

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ORDINANCE

From Page 1

was correct.

Tom Anable at Fairness Fort Worth was concerned about that one clause. He wondered why, if something was described as “not unlawful,” it would have been listed under the heading “unlawful acts.”

“I have sent it to staff at [the Human Rights Campaign] to ask for input on this,” Anable said.



Lisa Thomas, appointed to Fort Worth’s Human Rights Commission by Council member Joel Burns, said she had been “made aware of this discrepancy.”

“I’ve asked the chair and administrator of the commission to investigate what is the intent of these words, knowing it is not the intent to bar admission to restrooms,” Thomas said.

She said that in all discussions in the city, the intent has been not to discriminate.

“But we have to make sure we are all in alignment and right now it doesn’t seem like we are,” she said.

Section 17-48 (a) (1) adds language that bars discrimination against transgender persons. “Sexual orientation, transgender, gender identity or gender expression” are added to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability and age as protected categories.

No “person, employee or agent” may deny anyone “advantages, facilities or services” that Section states. So section (a) (1) contradicts Section (b) since the second section does deny admission to facilities.

Section 17-48 (a) (2) makes it illegal to deny anyone admission or expel someone from a place of public accommodation “for alleged non-compliance with a dress code.”

Exemptions to the ordinance include any facility whose services are restricted to members and their guests, religious organizations, private day cares, kindergartens or nursery schools.

But that exemption applies equally to ability to discriminate based on race or religion as sexual orientation or gender identity.

Again, section (a) (2) contradicts Section (b) because admission is denied.

Violating any provision of the code is a misdemeanor. So presumably, any person discriminating against a transgender person by refusing to allow them to use a specific restroom would be charged with a misdemeanor.

The word “not” may have been placed in the sentence by mistake. If so, these additions have not been adopted yet and may be changed before the city council votes on them. ■

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NEW IN TOWN | Members of the Turtle Creek Chorale get off the bus in Tyler for their concert at First Presbyterian Church. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

On the road to Tyler with the Turtle Creek Chorale

Gay men's chorus went to East Texas prepared for protest, but instead found a warm welcome

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

TYLER — After their trip to Spain last summer, Turtle Creek Chorale Artistic Director Jonathan Palant invited me to join them on their next trip. With expenses approved, I was ready. Little did I know that the group's next tour would be a bus trip to Tyler.

On Saturday, Dec. 11, I accompanied the chorale members as they traveled to East Texas for an out-of-town tryout of their upcoming holiday concert. One chorale member on the bus assured me, "It's just like Spain — except nothing like it at all."

Controversy surrounded the Tyler trip since the church that was originally to host the concert rescinded the invitation. That happened after several large donors threatened to pull their support, causing Marvin Methodist Church to inform the chorale they were no longer welcome to perform there.

But nearby First Presbyterian Church stepped in and welcomed the group to perform a concert as part of that church's December music and fine arts series.

On Saturday afternoon, Dec. 11, the Chorale left from Cathedral of Hope at 2:30 p.m. in two buses. Several members drove separately.

The group started off for Tyler with at least a little nervousness. Demonstrators had protested the performance of *The Laramie Project* in Tyler over the summer.

The play about Matthew Shepard recalled a similar incident that occurred in Tyler in 1993 when Nicholas West was kidnapped and murdered in Bergfeld Park. On World AIDS Day this year, a plaque was unveiled in the park memorializing West's death. That mere placing of a marker to remember a murder also stirred controversy in this East Texas city.

And the demonstrators had threatened to return to protest Saturday night's chorale performance. Singers said that threat was on their minds as they drove to East Texas that afternoon. In its 31-year history, the chorale has never been protested.

When the buses pulled up to the church right off of Broadway, Tyler's main street, only church

■ CHORALE, Page 18



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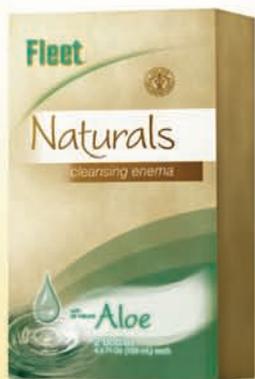


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■ texasnews

TCC

From Page 16

staff greeted the chorale. No protesters in sight.

Chorale members retrieved their garment bags from under the buses, filed into the church, laid their concert attire down over the pews and quickly gathered at the pulpit to begin blocking and rehearsing.

Several songs got full run-throughs. The singers' entrance and exit from the pulpit-turned-stage was quickly improvised. Small groups like Encore, soloists, a drum group and a tambourine quartet figured out how they would make their way from various positions among the chorus to front and off-center on the main floor.

Betelehemu, a Nigerian Christmas song, required foot motion and hand gestures during the performance. A few members weren't coordinating their motions. Palant suggested those singers only do the hand gestures. A second run-through of the song went smoother.

At 6 p.m., the church served dinner in the Fellowship Hall. By 6:50 p.m., most of the singers were upstairs in the classrooms, changing into their tuxedos.

I checked the sidewalks around the church. Still no protesters.

The pews were already filling up.

At 7:10 p.m., everyone met in the chapel behind the main sanctuary. Don Jones, who signs every concert for the hearing-impaired, re-

hearsed the group's signing of Silent Night.

Then Palant reviewed what he called stage etiquette.

"Jackets unbuttoned," he said.

Someone joked that was because Palant could no longer button his.

"Never applaud our own singers," Palant said. "Smile."

Don't wipe tears. Emotion is good. Wiping is distracting. Place hands down when jazz hands aren't required.

For the chorale, no gesture, no motion, no entrance on stage goes unrehearsed.

Before leaving the chapel, everyone joined hands for a pre-performance chorale ritual: Palant said the Jewish prayer of thanks that marks special occasions called *Shehechianu*.

He said the prayer was a favorite of his in his own tradition and it became a chorale tradition in his second season. Members embraced it and several explained its beauty to me.

Palant told the singers that this concert was an example of "the power of harmony to tear down walls."

Some audience members had arriving early because of a mix-up in the newspaper. The Patriot Singers and Chorale of UT Tyler were scheduled at 6 p.m. the following night. The newspaper switched the Dallas group and UT's appearances.

When told who tonight's performers were, one couple left. Another several shrugged and

decide to stay anyway.

By 7:30 p.m., the sanctuary was standing room only. Although no protesters showed up outside the church, the audience was as aware of the controversy as the chorale.

Cecily Luft is a board member of the church. She said that two weeks earlier, the chapel where the chorale was now gathered was the site of a World AIDS Day service and the dedication ceremony for the Nicholas West plaque.

Rabbi Neal Katz from Tyler's Congregation Beth El and the Rev. Stuart Baskin, First Presbyterian's pastor, conducted the service, said Luft. Sheriff Lupe Valdez also spoke at the event in the church.

Luft said that when Music Director Donald Duncan told the board about what happened at the Methodist church down the street, they unanimously voted to invite the chorale to perform there.

"Gay" never entered the discussion, she said.

"This is the most gay-friendly church in Tyler," Luft said. "It just was never an issue."

Then she boasted, "And we have the best acoustics in Tyler."

The acoustics were magnificent in the church and the chorale sounded best from the choir loft or balcony at the rear of the church.

After the chorale filed into the sanctuary and sang its first number, *Deck the Halls*, Duncan welcomed the group to Tyler.

■ TCC, Page 20



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GETTING READY | The Turtle Creek Chorale rehearses at First Presbyterian Church in Tyler before their performance there Saturday. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

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■ texasnews



READY TO TAKE THE STAGE | Turtle Creek Chorale members dressed for performance wait to begin their concert at First Presbyterian Church in Tyler. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

TCC

From Page 18

"Despite the controversy surrounding your venue, we are very glad you are here," he said. "As you can see by the crowd, a whole lot of people in Tyler are welcoming you, too, and you are welcome back anytime."

His remarks were interrupted by applause several times.

Later in the concert, Palant introduced several people, including the group Tyler Area Gays, which filled several rows and had done much of the publicity for the event. Loud applause from the crowd greeted Tyler's gay group.

Duncan acknowledged NPR reporter Wade Goodwin, who was there working on a piece about the chorale for Public Radio.

The audience took Palant's jokes in good humor, including calling Tyler "the bastion of liberalism," although his question, "Are there any Latin scholars here?" met silence followed by uneasy laughter.

Throughout the show, the applause was warm, but *Betelehemu* brought a number of audience members to their feet. If any of the swaying on stage was not coordinated, no one noticed.

After the concert, CD sales were brisk.

One audience member filing out of the church made a point of saying, "We're Methodists and we loved it," indicating that not everyone at Marvin Methodist agreed with that church's decision to uninvite the group.

On the return bus trip to Dallas, everyone was excited about the day.

"I thought it was a great performance," said chorale member Kevin Hodges. "I told a woman who said 'thank you' that it's a joy for us."

"I was choking back tears," said singer Gene Olvera. "Invigorating," added Darrin Humphrey, another chorale member.

"To me, it's the sort of thing that made me stay in the chorale 17 years," said C. E. Bunkley. "There's purpose to it."

Palant told the riders in his bus that he wants to do another out-of-town performance next year in another city that might not be completely welcoming.

He said that unlike many other gay men's choruses around the country, the chorale gets out of the gay ghetto: "That's part of our mission."

"It was fun," said chorale President Dean Baugh. "Up until the point I looked out and people were crying."

"I was very proud," said singer Hank Henley.

On the return bus ride, chorale members discussed the lack of protesters. Several suggested that as much as some might have been offended by the chorale's appearance in town, maybe that group has more shame than Fred Phelps' notorious Westboro clan and just wouldn't protest a church.

Palant commented on the energy he felt from both the audience and his group. "As a performer, you perform with your dukes up," he said. "You puff up your chest and it influences the performance. Tonight was a good example. They fed off our energy and we fed off theirs. We wanted to give them more."

He said he consciously did not bring up the controversy of the location but was glad that Duncan had.

"I wanted to make an issue of it earlier on," said Stephen Tosha, the chorale's senior executive director. He said he wanted the chorale to move more in that direction.

But singer DiMarcus Williams summed up why most of the members of the chorale devote so much time and energy and why they spend so much of their own money to continue performing with the group.

"It was nice to be performing in front of such a welcoming and receptive audience," said Williams.

Turtle Creek Chorale Holiday Concert, Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. Dec. 20 and 22 at 8 p.m. \$30-\$67. TurtleCreek.org.



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Pat Summerall



'Happy Holidays' vs. 'Merry Christmas'



Progressive religious leaders weigh in on 1st Baptist's 'Grinch Alert' website, calling it everything from a marketing ploy to just plain mean

Artwork by Chris Edwards

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Locally owned Viewpoint Bank is on First Baptist Church's naughty list. They have poinsettias in their branches, but they don't have a Christmas tree.

American Airlines made the naughty list because of "excessive use of holiday, no mention of Christmas. With a name like American Airlines, come on."

Because what's more American than telling someone else that they need to observe your religion?

Cracker Barrel "includes Santa and Christ in store." That's nice according to First Baptist.

Hopefully it's Santa as we know him today — in the red suit that was created by Coca Cola for a 1935 ad campaign. The red was chosen to match

Coke's corporate color. Apparently, nothing says Christmas like corporate greed to First Baptist.

Previously, Santa was "dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot, and his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot," as described in *Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

To combat the so-called "War on Christmas," First Baptist Church in Dallas created a new website, GrinchAlert.com, for people to report stores and other service companies that are naughty or nice. Naughty is anyone who greets you with that offensive term, "Happy Holidays."

The Rev. Steven Pace suggested the website shows that First Baptist isn't paying attention to the right issues this holiday season.

"I can't believe an institution with that kind of capacity to do real social action work could concern itself with something so trivial," Pace said.

■ GRINCH, Page 22

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■ spirituality

GRINCH

From Page 21

"They need something more meaningful to do."

Yet emphasizing the consumer side of Christmas and penalizing retailers that don't put Jesus in the middle of their marketing plans is, apparently, exactly what First Baptist wants.

Macy's in the Galleria is on the naughty list because a single employee in a single transaction returned a customer's "Merry Christmas" with the offensive "You, too."

And no doubt it was the Muslim extremists in the small town of Crowley, Texas south of Fort Worth who hung "Happy Holidays" in huge letters in front of city hall. Or was it their massive Jewish population?

"How about peace on earth and good will to all?" suggested the Rev. Colleen Darraugh of MCC of Greater Dallas. "It's the kind of thing that gives Christians a bad rap."

She said that although she's Christian and celebrates Christ at Christmas, she has Jewish friends whom she wishes Happy Hannukah.

"We want to wish happy holidays and seasons greetings to people of all faiths," she said.

Darraugh said that by emphasizing what retailers are doing, it emphasized that Christmas was for consumers.

She questioned whether the website's creators know about the religious part of the holidays ... uh, Christmas.

Cantor Don Croll of Temple Shalom in North Dallas said, "So I guess at New York-style delis, they should just say 'Happy Hanukkah.'"

He pointed out that The Christmas Store in Richardson has a large Hanukkah section and wondered if it offended First Baptist that a store with that name would be selling anything else, or if it should offend Jews to shop in a store with that name?

"I guess I'm old fashioned. I like saying happy holidays and including everybody," he said.

The Rev. Jo Hudson of Cathedral of Hope was aghast at a church's emphasis on the retail aspect of the holiday rather than the religious part of Christmas.

"It shifts focus from what it should be," she said.

Hudson suggested more appropriate lessons

from a church might be feeding the hungry, caring for the sick or, if retail must be the emphasis, buying toys for poor children.

She admired it as a successful marketing scheme. But questioned whether Christmas be used as such a blatant promotional mechanism by a church?

But Hudson did acknowledge the ploy's success.

"The website is clever because people have responded to it," she said.

Northaven United Methodist Church Senior Pastor Eric Folkerth agreed with Hudson, but he questioned whether the campaign appealed to prospective members or the lowest denominator of the church's base.

"The pastor there has shown himself to be a master of publicity," Folkerth said. "But it only speaks well to the people they already have."

Folkerth called the campaign silly, annoying and mean.

"Among his base it sells, but it sells a theology of division. He has a remarkable way of doing divisive things," Folkerth said, referring to Pastor Robert Jeffress of First Baptist Church.

Folkerth also suggested that during a recession, the website sends bad signals.

"Given the way the economy is, it's such a bad message to say we're not going to this store or that because of a perceived lack of Christian-ness," he said.

Folkerth said that religion should call us to our better natures.

"This doesn't seem like our better nature," he said.

"People who are secure in who they are don't have to impose it on other people," Hudson said, adding that people of different faiths have more in common than they have differences.

"How you greet people isn't a measure of your faith," she said.

"How you treat people is."

She said the GrinchAlert.com website was a good example of people not treating each other well and she found it particularly offensive during Christmas.

"Someone can wish me Happy Holidays and I can wish them Merry Christmas," Darraugh said.

Taking either of those greetings as anything but best wishes, she said, "flies in the spirit of Christ who brought good will for all." ■

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Will we let our gay language die off?

Polari — a mixture of Italian, Romany and Yiddish with some backward-spelled English sprinkled in — is a unique piece of the history of LGBT culture

It almost knocked my ogle fakes off my eek when I aunt nelled that the bona omis and palones at Cambridge University reported Polari was in danger of dying out. Without Polari, cackle about that fantabulosa trade you vardered — you know, the omi with the vogue in his screech and the bona basket? — would never be the same.

Before you go blaming the editor for that previous unintelligible paragraph, I assure you it was mostly proper English with a smattering of Polari sprinkled in to make it understandable only by those in the know.

Polari (from the Italian parlare, “to talk”) is an old slang language that was used by actors, circus and carnival folk and the gay subculture of Brittain. It comes from a strange mix of Italian, Romany and Yiddish, with a few odd backward-spelled words added here and there.

Though it started in England, many words color the vernacular still used today in our own LGBT culture.

The term “camp” is Polari for “exaggerated.” Our expression “rough trade” also descends



DOLLY OMI PALONES | The Austin Babbist Women know how to camp it up. Have you ever told someone about the “campy” drag show you saw at the club? Or maybe you recommended that “butch” lesbian mechanic who did such a great job repairing your car? If so, then you have spoken Polari.

from this slang.

It was a colorful way for gay people to communicate without being overheard in potentially unfriendly surroundings.

But why should I care if this archaic slang dies out or not? Well, Polari is part of our heritage, every bit as much as the Stonewall Riots and Harvey Milk.

Next time you hear someone use the terms “chicken” for a younger man, or “butch” for a masculine woman or man, they are using elements of Polari. If you have ever admired a “basket” or “zhooshed” your hair, you are using remnants of that near-dead language that have seeped into our daily lexicon.

It might seem like a small thing, but I find myself fascinated with it and feel the LGBT community and culture will be a little poorer if it fades away.

So in the interest of proving the linguists at Cambridge University wrong, I offer a compiled list of useful Polari words:

- Ajax — close by
- Aunt nells — ears
- Auntie nelly fakes — earrings
- Basket — the bulge of a man’s crotch
- Batts — shoes
- Bijou — small
- Bod — body
- Bona — good
- Bungery — bar, pub
- Butch — masculine
- Camp — effeminate or exaggerated
- Capello — hat
- Carsey — toilet
- Chicken — young boy
- Charpering omi — policeman
- Cottage — public restroom
- Cottaging — do the math!
- Crimper — hairdresser
- Cove — friend
- Dish — attractive male backside
- Dolly — pretty, pleasant
- Drag — clothes, esp. women’s clothes
- Eek — face (abbreviation of ecaf which is face backwards)
- Feele — young
- Feele omi — young man
- Naff — bad
- Ogle — eye
- Ogle fakes — Glasses
- Omi — man
- Omi palone — effeminate man
- Palone — woman
- Palare — to talk
- Riah — hair (backwards)
- Slap — make up
- Troll — walk or wander or cruise
- Vada — to walk or wander
- Vogue — cigarette
- Walloper — dancer
- Zhoosh — fix or tidy up.

Now go out and troll off to some bona bijou bungery and palare with your coves.

If you are interested in more details on Polari, check out Paul Baker’s book, *Fantabulosa: A Dictionary of Polari and Gay Slang*.

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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At what grade level should anti-bullying programs start in schools?
 • Elementary: 94 percent **76**
 • Middle school: 5 percent **Votes**
 • High school: 1 percent **cast**

Feedback

On 'In defense of Fort Worth's response to the Rainbow Lounge raid,' Community Voices, Dec. 8

Hear, hear. Those of us in the trenches know we could've pushed an adversary into a corner and made them cry uncle — but that's way too easy and short-sighted. The REAL work has come from bridging some huge gaps, educating those who were ignorant and acutally bringing them over to our way of thinking. Today, the LGBT Community in FW has straight ambassadors within city leadership who actively create opportunities for us where few existed before, simply because we chose to take the longer, higher road. Funny thing is it turned out to provide the quickest results! Trust relationship will do that. This work lasts far beyond the memory of one night. I'll take that any day.

As one of those fortunate to teach the GLBT Diversity Training I can tell you the impact we're making is astounding. Every City of FW employee from sanitation engineer to city manager MUST undergoe this 4-hour class and learn about our community and the proper way to



treat us as citizens, vistsors, vendors, etc. There's no city in the entire country that has made such a huge commitment. We've actually become the role-model proto-type for smaller and mid-sized cities in Middle America that will next take our movement forward. (And if you think we're done — hold onto your hats...) I'm proud to say that Fort Worth is Where The West Begins — AGAIN!

David Mack Henderson, via DallasVoice.com

Thank you to Jon Nelson for the spirited defense and enumerated accomplishments of the Fairness Fort Worth group, and all in the city who work for justice. Sorry that you were offended by

my estimate. On all points of error in fact, I stand corrected. But may I point out that Fairness Fort Worth was not the only group "in the trenches" on this issue, and that many other persons worked for accountability, too. No matter the enumerated accomplishments Mr. Nelson articulates so well (and, as I read them, many worthwhile), the contrast between the Eagle case and the Rainbow Lounge case still stands, I believe. What are the agenda items yet to be addressed in regards to the Rainbow Lounge? Would my honored friend say that there are any, or has the effort accomplished with these good workers wanted to accomplish? In Atlanta, the City Council balked at issuing an apology, and in fact never-

sued one. So Fort Worth's City Fathers are not alone in that. But the award to the Atlanta Eagle is an acknowledgment of the error and harm done there that cannot be denied. Nothing comparable exists in the Rainbow Lounge case, though the harm done here was just as great. The magnitude of the ongoing problem of LGBTQ community in North Texas is still great, as well, whether we are faced by detractors from without or divisions from within (and there are plenty of both). When the Dallas Voice asked for permission to repost my opinion from my blog (and I was sought out in order to grant permission), I freely granted it. While I never sought to pick a fight, I am still looking for a better way to overcome the social and political divisions that make us weaker in the face of our dedicated opponents in the religious and political communities of North Texas. If the contrast I draw is so controversial as to elicit such a response, it seems to me that this matter is not as settled as some of our leadership would like to believe. If there were no grounds for disagreement, then my post would be dismissed with little or no attention. But there is more to be done here, as this strong response shows me. On a personal note, I am pleased that Mr. Nelson's comments are so forthcoming. He has always been gracious to me personally.

Stephen Sprinkle, via DallasVoice.com

query 12.17.10 BY DAVID TAFFET

What's your preferred holiday greeting and why?

John Kroll — "I respond however I'm greeted. 'Merry Christmas' gets 'Merry Christmas;' 'Happy Hanukah' gets 'Happy Hanukah,' and so on."

Terry Don — "A hug. No matter the greeting it gets a hug."

Tomi Kuczynski — "My preferred is 'Merry Christmas' because it is what I grew up with and has many memories attached to it. But I also believe in respecting others' cultures and beliefs by greeting with happy holidays when with an acquaintance or client."

Courtney Davis — "I say 'Happy Holidays' out of respect for someone's culture and religion. The nasty right wing gets so upset over this. Really?"

Jason A. Walker — "Depends on what holiday it is and what the cultural/religious tradition of the person I'm speaking to is. If I don't know the person to whom I'm speaking I generally go with 'hello.'"

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

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Lightning strikes again

Tim Seelig felt blessed to lead the chorale for 20 years. But he begins a new stage of his life and career outside Texas with his post at the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

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

Timothy Seelig is all about reinvention. He's done it almost too many times to count. The first, of course, was when, as a married adult with children active in the church, he came out of the closet and moved to Dallas to lead the Turtle Creek Chorale. For 20 years, he helped build it into one of the preeminent men's choruses in the world. While there he became something of a musical entrepreneur, releasing albums, commissioning new works and teaching voice at SMU.

After he stepped down from the TCC four years ago, he continued to be active in Dallas life, as director of Art for Peace & Justice at the Cathedral of Hope and serving as the founding artistic director for a new mixed vocal ensemble, Resounding Harmony.

But the change this month is big even for him. He's moving to California to assume the baton as artistic director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus.

"Wow," he said just hours after inking the agreement. "I mean, the history of that chorus! Gosh."

A month later, he's fully packed and sharing a much smaller space in Dubose Triangle near the Castro District where his partner, Shawn Northcutt, has lived for 18 months while working a long-term contract with Apple. On Jan. 10 — his 60th birthday — he'll lead his first rehearsal.

"It hasn't soaked in at all," he says. "We did not sell our loft [in Dallas] so I'll come back a lot."

It's a major feather in a cap already plumed more than a peacock.

"I loved, *loved* my time in Dallas," Seelig gushes. "At the end of my 20 years at the chorale, I felt if I never did anything more significant, I would have lived a life more gratifying than most. It was a life that was full. If I'd had the money, I could have rocked on a rocking chair. But to start back over is icing on the cake and an opportunity not many people get."

"I could speak about Tim's legacy, his accomplishments, his infectious personality or his energy," says Jonathan Palant, who took over from Seelig as artistic director of the chorale. "It was under

Tim's baton that our mission changed to include the four pillars against which the Turtle Creek Chorale measures everything today: to entertain, educate, unite and uplift. We wish him all the best!"

Seelig steps into a chorus with a storied history.

"In the GALA Choruses network, they are the grandfather," he says. "In June of 1981, they were two years old and decided to take a national tour to spread the gospel of gays singing. It was a legendary tour — they went to Dallas, Minneapolis, Bismarck and planted the seeds of all these choruses. Many looked to SFGMC for their motivation 30 years ago." The tour was even detailed in Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*.

With such a legacy, "anytime [the artistic director position] has come open, everybody considers it," Seelig says. So last August, when the SFGMC announced that Kathleen McGuire (who led the group for 10 years) would be stepping down, Seelig jumped.

It was a bit of *déjà vu* for Seelig, who had considered the post a decade earlier, "but it was the year we were commissioning Sing for the Cure, and I couldn't step away. But this time was different. I had to think long and hard, but it was a door I could not *not* walk through." He was selected as one of the three finalists and got the job last month, just days before Resounding Harmony's final concert of the season.

Still, leaving Dallas — Seelig has lived only in Texas and comparatively brief stints in Europe and Oklahoma — was not an easy decision for him.

"I love my life in Dallas and Shawn has had a fabulous career. Life is happy and Resounding Harmony is one of the most fun things I've ever done in my life." His son and parents, who are elderly, are also local. But he knew it was the right move. His daughter lives in San Francisco; she had Seelig's first grandchild prematurely, just days after Thanksgiving.



PICKING UP THE BATON | After 24 years in Dallas, Tim Seelig leaves his Texas home to take over as artistic director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. But as excited as he is about the move, he'll really miss eating good Tex-Mex. (Photo courtesy Shawn Northcutt)

"The biggest factor of all was the birth of my granddaughter, Clara," he says. "They've already picked out names for me and Shawn: Honey and Bubbles. I'm Bubbles. The fact I had conducted that chorus for four months a year-and-a-half ago gave me a real taste for the city, too, though living there will be different. But I could see myself there."

Still, there's a lot he will miss.

"Leaving Resounding Harmony is really, really hard — they are doing just wonderfully. The board members are staying, I think they'll do a wonderful job," he says. "It was hard to leave SMU and my students and leave the cathedral as well. I was really enjoying working with Jo — I am a big Jo Hudson fan. But I'm not the kind who looks back. There's no time for that. SFGMC is like jumping on a moving bullet train. Getting up to speed is incredible."

"And I can tell that fairly first hand, I will miss chicken fried steak and good Tex-Mex. And I'm gonna miss a lot of the music-making from the wonderful music community that Dallas has provided. It's wonderful place to be gay and be a musician. Also, Dallas is wide open — if you can dream it up and raise the money, you can do it. I'm gonna miss that."

There are also things that make him apprehensive about going to a new city — like, his bigger-than-life personality and cheeky turn-of-phrase.

"So far, they find my Texana adorable — they think it's real cute, like saying y'all. I just hope that's not gonna wear off," he says. ■



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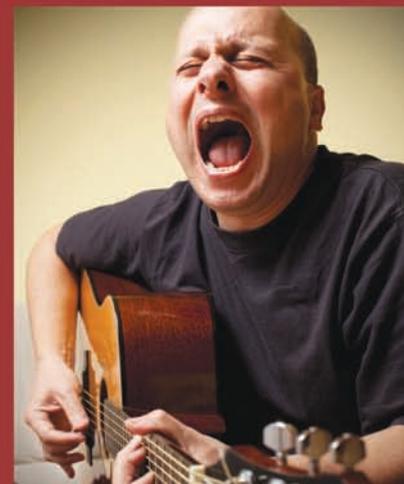
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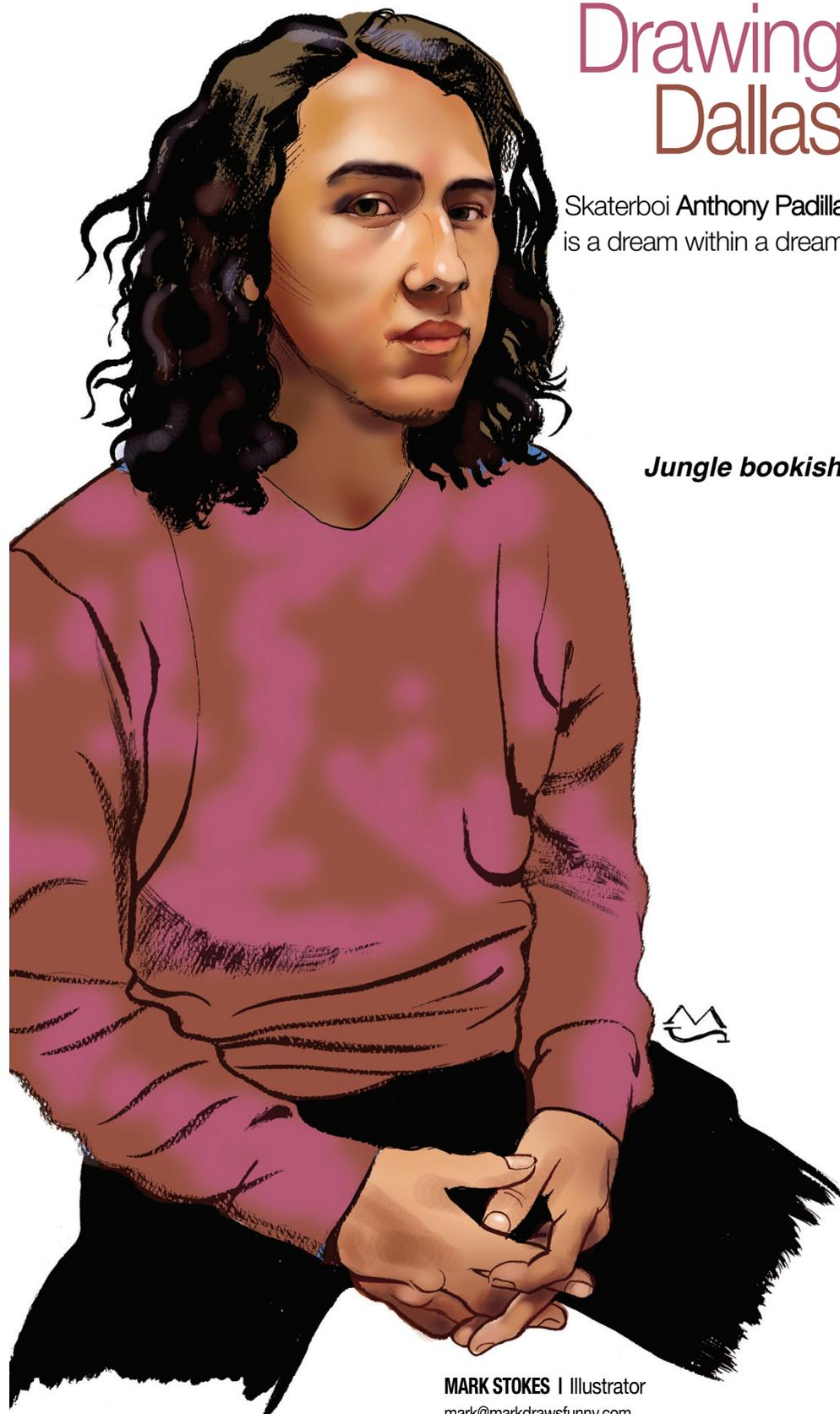
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L+S sketches

Drawing Dallas

Skaterboi Anthony Padilla is a dream within a dream



Jungle bookish

MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com

Name and age: Anthony Padilla, 23

Spotted at: Mockingbird Station

Occupation: Pool cleaner/student

Hey, good lookin': This raven-tressed Leo could have been pulled right out of an Edgar Allen Poe tale, with his smoldering good looks and piercing eyes. A native Dallasite, Anthony is a team rider for Index Skateboard Shop at Mockingbird Station. Anthony is also a student at El Centro College, studying science with an eye for a career in physics. His interests are painting animals in acrylic, playing keyboard and guitar.

Call him Mowgli: A free-spirited loner, Anthony spends the majority of his time outside skateboarding (he's known for his skill at doing a "backside nose blunt," a particularly difficult board feat), climbing and motorcycling. Any spare time he has, you'll find him restoring his 1975 Yamaha 250-RD. Friends affectionately call him Mowgli, from the Kipling stories (and Disney film) *The Jungle Book*.

'The Fighter:' 'Rocky 2.0'



With all the homoeroticism (and lesbian subplot) in *The Wrestler* two years back, I was hoping **The Fighter** — with an always-buff Mark Wahlberg, above left, as an aspiring welterweight — might, *Rocky III*-esque, idealize the male form for gay audiences. No such luck. We have to settle, instead, for a gritty and highly watchable character study set in the world of boxing. I'll adjust.

In many ways, *The Fighter* is the obverse of *Black Swan*: One is about a girl in the arts that lures you in with clichés about ballet films, then turns out to be something totally different; the other is about man in sports that avoids a lot of clichés until, about three-quarters through, turns out to be *Rocky* in disguise. (Both films also have the hand of Darren Aronofsky in them, who also directed *The Wrestler*.)

Such misdirection works in the film's favor, because it allows the story to unfold with the immediacy of a family drama, and this family is full of drama. Mom (a fabulous Melissa Leo) coddles her seven useless harpy daughters while offering up her son Micky (Wahlberg, more heartfelt than ever), the only one with potential, in a series of bad bouts.

Even worse: The entire town of Lowell, Mass., idolizes Micky's crack-addict brother Dicky (Christian Bale), a has-been who spends more time getting high than helping his little brother achieve what he couldn't.

That may sound like a familiar plot, and it is familiar — you think of *On the Waterfront*, and are tempted to call it *Rocky 2.0* — but the approach is cattywampus, almost disorienting. You think you know where it's headed, but it surprises you.

With its cinema verite look and painfully authentic performances — especially by Leo and Bale, who's gaunt and scary as a tweaked-out loser — conjure up everything that's frightening about poisonous relationships of all kinds. It's the season's most unexpected crowd-pleaser.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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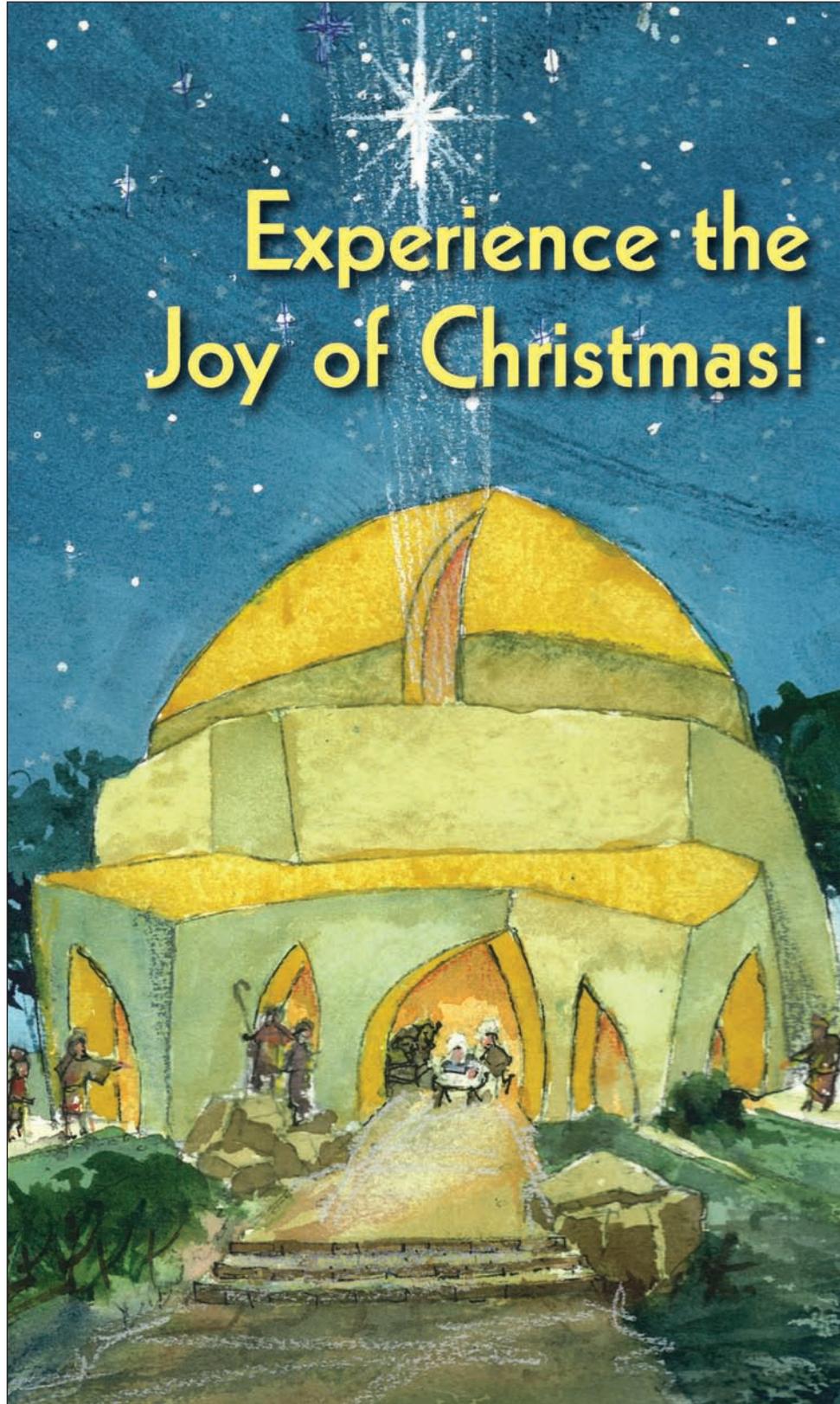
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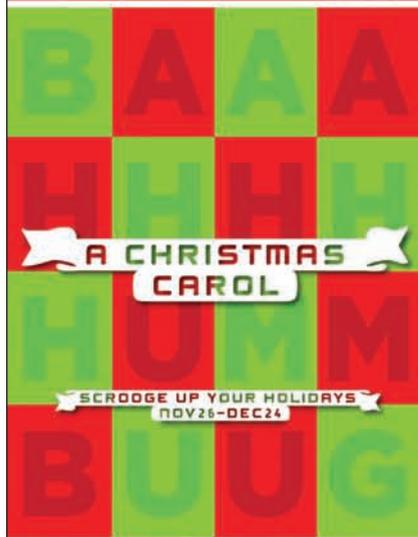
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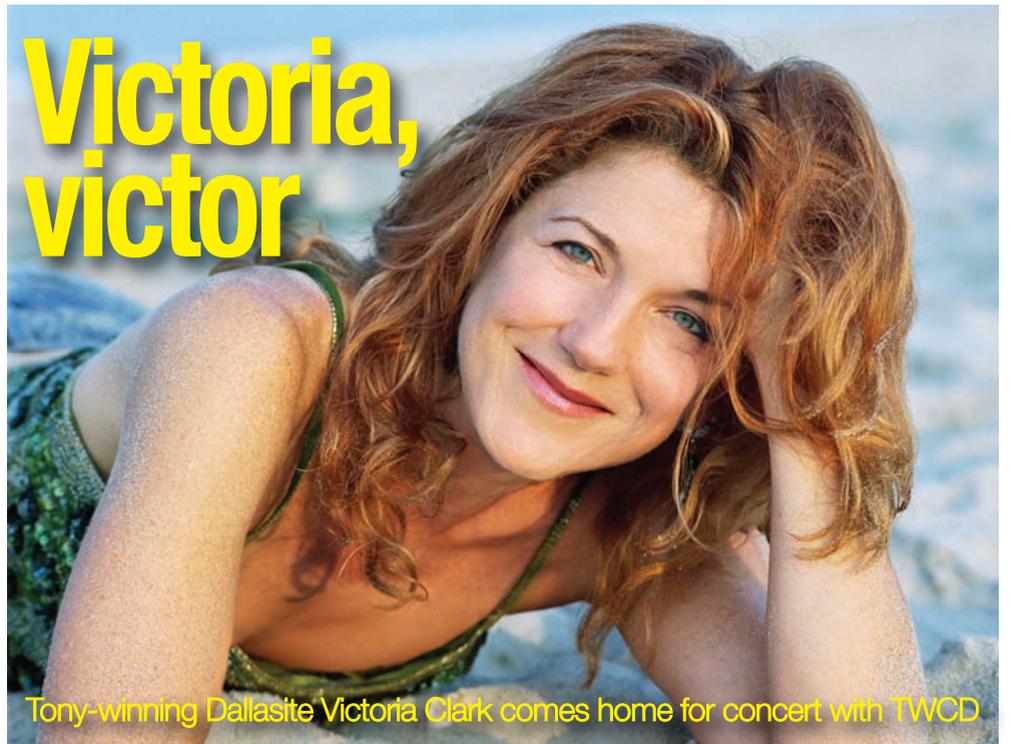
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L+S concerts

Victoria, victor



Tony-winning Dallasite Victoria Clark comes home for concert with TWCD

MARK LOWRY | Contributing Writer
marklowry@theaterjones.com

Broadway was not what Victoria Clark had expected.

The Hockaday School graduate always knew she wanted to perform, studying opera in Austria and at Michigan's prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy and matriculating Yale University before headed for New York's Great White Way. She had a vision of what it would be like.

"I thought everyone was going to come to work with big moustaches and capes and be drinking and crazy," she says, laughing. "But they would say things like 'I couldn't find a parking space' or 'my son is having trouble in English,' talking about what normal people talk about. I think I *wanted* them to be more eccentric."

Some 25 years after her first show (she was cast as an understudy in Stephen Sondheim's Pulitzer Prize-winning musical *Sunday in the Park with George*), Clark has proven that the normalcy of working in New York theater is just fine — and that you can make a living at it (with insurance and benefits, even).

She had supporting roles in revivals of *Guys and Dolls*, *How to Succeed... and Cabaret*, then won a best actress Tony Award in 2006 for the Adam Guettel-Craig Lucas musical *The Light in the Piazza*. She takes center stage again this weekend, as she returns home to perform with The Women's Chorus of Dallas in its annual holiday concert at the Wyly Theatre.

Clark grew up in the Greenway Park area near Inwood Road and Mockingbird Lane. Although her parents weren't especially artistic, their children found outlets for creativity. Clark's brothers dabbled in bands, and her sister, Dawn Prestwich, became a screenwriter with an impressive list of television writing credits.

For Clark, though, it was all about singing —

something her grandmother encouraged. She also developed a love for it at Hockaday, where she attended all 12 years, and became involved in drama as well.

"I remember that we learned to do everything," she says. "We made the blintzes for *You Can't Take It With You* and then ate them [in the show]."

One of her instructors, Ed Long, who's still at Hockaday, encouraged her to attend Interlochen. Her choral director at First Community Church, Don Herman, and Ed DeLatte of the now-closed Dallas Repertory Theatre, were both influential in pushing her to keep training her voice.

So she did, always finding the not-so-strange world of New York theater a welcoming place. She admits there have been many

missed opportunities along the way, such as when she didn't take the offer to workshop one of the Stepsisters in Sondheim's *Into the Woods* ("When you get in early in a

job like that, unless you kick someone in the shin or something like that, and you do a reasonable job, they ask the same group back").

But one big opp she wasn't about to pass over was Margaret Johnson, the American mother on vacation in Italy whose daughter falls for a hunky Italian man (played by *Glee*'s Matthew Morrison), in *The Light in the Piazza*.

"We did it three times, in Seattle and Chicago and then New York, and the show kept getting better and better," she says. "The part was not written for me, but by the end I felt that it was. Pretty quickly they liked what I was doing with it."

But even after 20 years of working in New York at that point, she was still not always confident. "Like every project, every day I

TWCD: LOVE & LIGHT

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Dec. 19, 7 p.m. \$20-\$48. 214-520-7828.
TheWomensChorusofDallas.com.

was afraid I would get the call and they would tell me I was going to be replaced. Luckily Adam is very picky about voices and he liked my singing. That's the one thing I could bring: I have a distinctive sound."

That sound might bring her to Broadway again this spring, in a project that she can't talk about yet. And it's one that will charm

audiences on Sunday night with the Women's Chorus. She'll sing "Fable," her big number from *Piazza*, as well as songs from her 2008 debut record, *Fifteen Seconds of Grace*, along with carols with the chorus.

And it's a good bet that there won't be any eccentrics with moustaches and capes hanging backstage — unless you count Santa. ■

Love her way

Despite her Scottish accent, Oona Love is an all-American girl



FOLKING AROUND | Oona Love may dress like Stevie Nicks, but she finds inspiration in lesbian icon Mary Gauthier.

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Oona Love thinks she's boring. The most interesting thing about her, if she says so herself (and she does), is her Chihuahua mix, which joins Love and her girlfriend on the road while she's performing and booking gigs across the country.

But Love herself has a Chihuahua's tenacity. Prior to her Saturday gig at Sue Ellen's, the Scottish singer by way of Nashville has booked shows at Lakewood Bar & Grill and after arriving in town, she lined up two *more* appearances.

So how does a "boring" Scot thrive in an indie music career filled with lesbians and guitars?

"My message is trying to promote peace, love, understanding and action," she says. "My generation gets lost in talking about stuff but not doing anything. So all I'm doing is just really trying to get my music out there. I logged 38,000 miles for the last year, trying to get people to hear that message."

Love arrived in America 20 years ago to attend college, but she also knew that if anything in music was going to happen for her, it would be here. This is where her heroes are from.

"I'd always been into American singer-songwriters," she says. "I'm kind of embarrassed to say it, but I really like John Denver!"

For Love, old-school folk inspired her music, offering the optimistic messages she shoots for. With a folk revival in recent years, she doesn't find much in common with newer bands, though.

"I sometimes write about love and shit, but I always try to write more with a message like those singers," she says.

Lesbian icons aren't lost on her, either. She's a

big fan of Sinead O'Connor, but also gushes over folk icon Mary Gauthier and highly recommends her new album. Just don't get her started on one self-proclaimed bisexual artist.

"I don't get Ani DiFranco anymore," she says.

"She's married with a kid now but, oh, I dunno."

Love melds traditional undertones with a strong Americana perspective tying both cultures. In her album, *Out of the*

Ashes, producer Doug Driesel and Love provide a fairly cohesive set of songs with heart and nice texture. Despite being more American than Scottish, the Celtic instrumentation isn't lost. And she says the gays like it — and she means the boys.

"I do have a good gay male following," she says. "Maybe it's because I look like a drag queen. I'm a redhead with giant boobs, so that kinda helps. But it's fantastic to play lesbian bars because it feels like you're coming home. I'm a bit freer before a gay audience."

Love doesn't play the boxed-in-because-I'm-lesbian card. She refreshingly embraces the fact that she is going to appeal more to LGBT audiences, but also won't hold back if performing in non-gay bars. She's learning to play the game of booking various clubs, what to perform and how to reach out to her audience. But she's still going to sing love songs to her girlfriend.

"I have no restriction. I don't feel I need to walk into some hick bar and be overtly out, but I still sing to a woman," she says. "I don't raise issues about straight or gay, but if they like my music. But I try to set a good example by living an out lifestyle."

Which doesn't sound boring at all. ■

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Art you ready for some...art?

Contemporary art gets some play time with DMA's Big New Field exhibit

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

The last person you'd think of taking to a contemporary art show is that beer-guzzling, La-Z-Boy sitting pal/partner/relative glued to a Sunday's worth of televised football. Why would he (or she) want to look at random smatterings of paint flicked on a canvas when there're refs to be yelled at?

But combining the sports and art worlds — without LeRoy Neiman in sight? The Dallas Museum of Art has done that for you.

In Big New Field, the museum showcases selected works by artists whose works are also part of the installations on view at Cowboys Stadium. With Super Bowl XLV approaching in February, sports fans will get more than an eyeful of art at the complex. But New Big Field successfully previews those works in a quieter setting — and for those of us not making it to the game. It should be noted that this isn't art depicting sports.

"The art program at Cowboys Stadium has enriched the North Texas art community with a unique commissioning program that brings together sports fans and art aficionados," says the DMA's Bonnie Pittman.

Art fans win with an eclectic selection that's mind-boggling and awe-inspiring at the same time. Although the exhibit opens with the kind of contemp art where people will respond, "I could've done that."

What that means is it opens weakly: Two wall installations introduce Field but with lackluster appeal and convey immediate pretension that non-fans will slam. Lawrence Weiner's typographical art of phrases doesn't offer strong intent and the opposing wall of stripes broken up into small frames by Daniel Buren won't win anyone over immediately.

The treasures come quickly after, though. Walk into the next room, and the exhibit mixes painting and sculpture in fascinating ways. Many of the works play on the eye's sense of dimension. Annette Lawrence's *Free Paper* answers what to do with all those Dallas Morning News circulars for neighborhood sales. She takes junk mail, rips it into specific-sized strips and chronologically stacks the trash into this mixed-media piece. The guide talks about art mixing with ecological sensibilities, but this really just reminds me how pissed off I get when I keep trying to



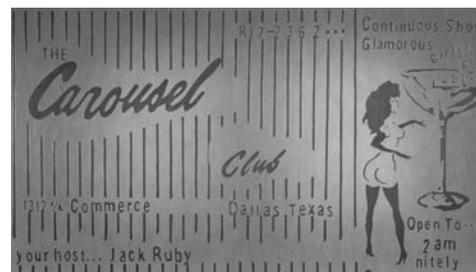
PLAYING THE FIELD | Franz Ackerman's 'My Ready Now' splashes color into the exhibit while Gonzales' 'Carousel Club' recalls Dallas history.

unsubscribe from those circulars. Its 3-D effect creates an exciting texture. There's nothing ugly-duckling about it, because a swan it doesn't make. Instead, it's an interesting timeline that really signifies waste in artistic fashion.

The project piece *The outside of inside* shows a variety of geometric shapes centered by a silver ball bearing on the wall. This trippy slideshow plays with the mind and eyes as you focus on the ball. Overlapping boxes turn into triangles and images imprint on your vision after they are long gone. The 12-minute run is hypnotic and fun actually. We forget what art can do in its various forms and Olafur Eliasson reminds what an impression, even if whimsical, it can make.

What should be the centerpiece is Wayne Gonzales' *Carousel Club*. His rendition of matchbook art from Jack Ruby's famous club is both elementary and exquisite. He conveys vintage Dallas nightlife with the club's logo, the bare-bottomed girl and cocktail. The acrylic on canvas is lush in red and would make most people drool with envy. If it weren't for the lurking do-cent, I would have hidden this in my jacket and put it up in the living room stat.

Big New Field works beautifully here and the larger works of each artist at Cowboys Stadium are equally impressive. The works are bold and represent the broad spectrum of contemporary art, even in some of its lingering pieces. The show, made possible by Two X Two for AIDS and Art, amFAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research and the DMA, still may have to try harder to reach those sports fans who aren't art fans, but at the very least, they will probably say "That's cool." Hey, it's a start. ■



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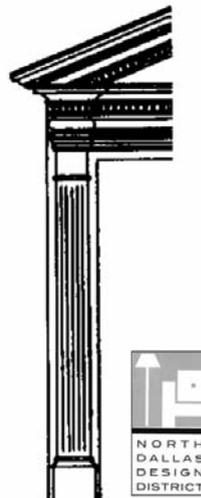
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Spinning his wheels?

Gay racer Evan Darling needs major sponsors to keep his motor running

MIKEY ROX | Contributing Writer
mikey@paperroxcissors.com

Professional racecar driver Evan Darling is at a crossroads in his career: His engine is revved, but he's running out of gas.

"The LGBT community has been very supportive and happy to see me doing what I am for the community — just not financially," says the 42-year-old openly gay NASCAR athlete.

A lack of sponsorship may force the adrenaline junkie to trade in his fire suit for a grease monkey's jumpsuit sooner than later.

"Things are not looking good for next season and I may have to go back to being a mechanic," admits Darling, who competes in NASCAR's Grand Am series. "I have had many say I would not get support, and I would hate to prove them right. I will always put effort into trying to get sponsors and race on a pro level — and I have put all of my resources into it over the last few years. But the well is dry."

Darling had his first pro race in April 2007, finishing 7th out of 37 starters, and raced Daytona in 2008. He was also on the Out 100 list in 2007.

But since 2009 he's been almost raceless on the circuit. He's secured local sponsors in Florida races, but none big enough to foot the \$450,000 price tag needed to fund a full season. If he doesn't snag the money before Jan. 5, he'll miss the first race of the season and probably have to go back to being a full-time mechanic.

"I'm at the end of my financial ability to survive and will need to start over," he says.

It's not been for lack of effort. Darling approached LGBT political supporters with the promise of using their money to place a Trevor Project logo on his car to bring awareness of the initiative, but such supporters are not typically interested in sporting events... odd, considering that Gay Inc. makes a big stink about wanting pro athletes to live and play out-and-proud.

"I told my publicist I would be way more popular if I wore a pink sequin blouse under my racing suit," Darling quips. "But that's not me — I'm a regular guy that happens to be gay."

Much to the chagrin of his teammates. Professional sports are notoriously homophobic, perhaps none more so than NASCAR, which is perceived to cater to rednecks, rappers and religious organizations — groups not particularly fond of the LGBT community.

"Many people have made derogatory remarks about my sexuality. I was fully expecting that going in [to racing]," he says. "I am a mechanic by trade and have had to put up with this mentality my whole life, so it's not new to me."

In fact, Darling's dealt with bigots since childhood. His father, an attorney, represented the Irish-American war veterans in preventing Boston's LGBT community from participating in its annual Veterans Day parade. His brother Brian is director for U.S. Senate Relations for the ultra-conservative Heritage Foundation, which



REVVED UP | As NASCAR's only out racer, Evan Darling stands out — but still can't nab a sponsor.

famously feuded with Rosie O'Donnell on *Larry King Live*. Even his mother is still in denial about her son's sexuality. But at least he can shrug that last one off.

"Things are a bit better now between us," he says. "I visit them at Christmas and sometimes if I am in the area I stop in. I also call them every week as they're getting up there in age."

Darling's tepid relationship with his family is indicative of how he's approaching this new chapter in his life — one that may see him fixing cars instead of racing them. Much like his parents, he suggests, NASCAR just isn't ready for a gay driver — and, as he's realized, changing the minds of the unwilling is an uphill challenge.

"I think it would be great for the sport and the LGBT community," he says, contemplating what would happen if someone like Sprint Cup superstar Jeff Gordon came out of the closet. "[But] there would be huge fallout from the NASCAR community. It would be very difficult for anyone that came out with that kind of career. I'm sure it would be interesting to see how his sponsors would react."

The reality is, some of his current sponsors would certainly abandon him. But with the media frenzy an announcement of that caliber would create, new sponsors would surely step up to the pit, checkbooks in hand — probably none faster than Gay Inc. Because as Darling knows all too well: "It's all about the bottom line" even if that should be, "supporting the community that supports you." ■

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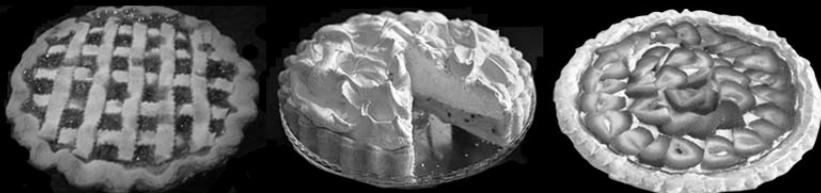
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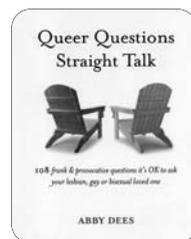
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L+S books

Good question

Lesbian writer Abby Dees wrote her book more for straight friends of gays than for gays themselves



Abby Dees wrote *Queer Questions Straight Talk* from her own experiences while learning about how others perceived gay people. The book, with "108 frank & provocative questions it's OK to ask your lesbian, gay or bisexual loved one," was

imagined as a gift from gays to their straight parents, family or friends, to put them at ease about what being gay means — and to see that others have had the same questions. But Dees has also heard of gay people using the book to ask each other questions as a party game. But she can see it used as a part of a sensitivity training session, as well.

While she discusses the topics briefly, the book is a collection of questions, not answers. And she starts out with the basics: "Do you think you were always gay or lesbian or bi?" Comedian Carol Leifer submitted that one; others were collected by e-mail and through Facebook.

Dees found that virtually all of the questions were things she'd heard before — everything from "Does this mean I'm not going to be a grandmother?" to "Are there any real lesbians like the ones on *The L Word*?"

She mostly avoids sexually graphic questions and steers the conversation to "What's your perfect date like?" (A response of "Dinner, good conversation and a movie, what's yours?") is more likely to help someone understand similarities than vast differences.

"What's the most challenging thing about having a relationship with someone of the same sex?" she asks. Her own answer is that she



Author Abby Dees. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

would find it more challenging to have a relationship with a member of the opposite sex because of vastly different interests of men and women.

Dees says that her relationship with her mother has always been good and her mom edited the book. But reading the questions prompted them to have more discussions.

"She's very proud of this book," Dees says. "She went from 'happy with you honey' to a PFLAG mom who outs me every opportunity she gets."

Dees describes her evolving relationship with her mother as more than a 20-year process. The questions in this 100-page book are meant to start a series of conversations, and were not meant to be raced through in one quick session.

The toughest section of the book to write, she says, deals with religion. She wrote it first and then went back to it last to lighten the tone. She admits that for the person whose only reference is that if you're gay, you're going to hell, this book might not help. But for others, "Do you feel you can be [gay] and go to heaven" might be a good starting point for a conversation.

She stressed that there are no right or wrong answers. And you don't need to be an expert to answer these questions. "'I don't know.' is a really good answer," she says.

— David P. Taffet

Stuff That Makes a Gay Heart Weep: A Definitive Guide to the Loud & Proud Dislikes of Millions by Freeman Hall (2010, Adams Media) \$14; 216 pp.

How many fashion *faux pas* does someone have to endure before everyone understands that plumber's butt and muffin tops are not acceptable? Don't those people look in mirrors before they leave the house? Do you need to rent a plane and sky-write "Wear pants that fit?" It's enough to make you scream or want to break down in public — but you hate that.

But that's not the only thing that you hate. There are dozens more, as you'll see in *Stuff That Makes a Gay Heart Weep*.

So somebody gives you a bottle of cheap booze or wine. Or you got tacky home décor for Christmas. These kinds of things make you want to simply crawl into a fetal position until it all goes away ... and they're all throughout this book.

Justin Bieber: Now he really makes you want to bawl your eyes out. So does Richard Simmons and a certain Mama Grizzly with lipstick. The Kardashians — sniff. Guidos and Guidettes — *pah!* And that

Angelina Jolie and Hugh Jackman are *not* gay? Waterworks.

If this book doesn't make you weep from laughter, there's something wrong. It's absolutely hilarious.

With his signature snarky sense of humor and his feel for the absurd, author Freeman Hall pokes fun at kitschy, faddish, everyday things, places and people that practically beg to be ridiculed. There are more than 200 entries so hilariously, awfully tragic that you don't have to be gay to want to break down in tears, even if you're a guilty party (though it doesn't hurt). And once you're done reading, you almost have to come up with your own "Stuff List."

Wrap yourself in your Snuggie because you need a good laugh out loud. *Stuff That Makes a Gay Heart Weep* is an absolute scream.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer



Game time!

RCD puts a twist on themes for its 10th season of Gay Bingo

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The 10th anniversary season of Resource Center Dallas' monthly Gay Bingo fundraiser begins Jan. 15 with a celebration of the Super Bowl and gets more fabulous with each coming month.

Gay Bingo Football XLV is just the first of the monthly themed games, which in 2011 — Dallas' 10th season of the event — plays like a list of greatest hits from previous years.

"For our 10th anniversary, we decided to revisit some of the best themes over the past decade, and put a new spin on them for 2011," said Henry Ramirez III, center programs manager for Resource Center Dallas and coordinator of Gay Bingo, which has released a new logo.

Jenna Skyy and Patti Le Plae Safe will continue to co-host Gay Bingo in Station 4's Rose Room, along with celebrity guests and M.C.s. Asia O'Hara has officially joined the cast as well.

Proceeds from the campy game support RCD programs and initiatives, but partnerships with more organizations in the new year will also help with fundraising for Black Tie Dinner, Home for the Holidays and other charitable events.

"I think what's important is that people understand Gay Bingo is a part of RCD and know more where their money is going to," he says.

For 2011, the themes are:

Feb. 19: Gay Bingo Carnival will celebrate Mardi Gras madness.

Mar. 19: It's Spectacular! Spectacular Gay Bingo at the Moulin Rouge.

Apr. 16: DIVA of Gay Bingo wants you to bring out that inner diva.

May 21: Tribes of Gay Bingo will test players' survival skills.

June 8: Gay Bingo Studio 70 will bring back the bellbottoms and flared collars.

July 16: Gay Bingo Live! will be the official 10th anniversary celebration.

Aug. 20: Gay Bingo Cinema will ask what your favorite black and white film is.

Sept. 17: Hope your hair wins at Wigstock Gay Bingo.

Oct. 15: The Gay Bingo Daily Planet will pit superheroes against villains.

Nov. 19: Do ask, do tell at Gay Bingo Platoon.

For more information and to pre-order tickets, visit RCDallas.org.



PLAY DATE | Even the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence need a bingo fix. (Photo courtesy RCD)

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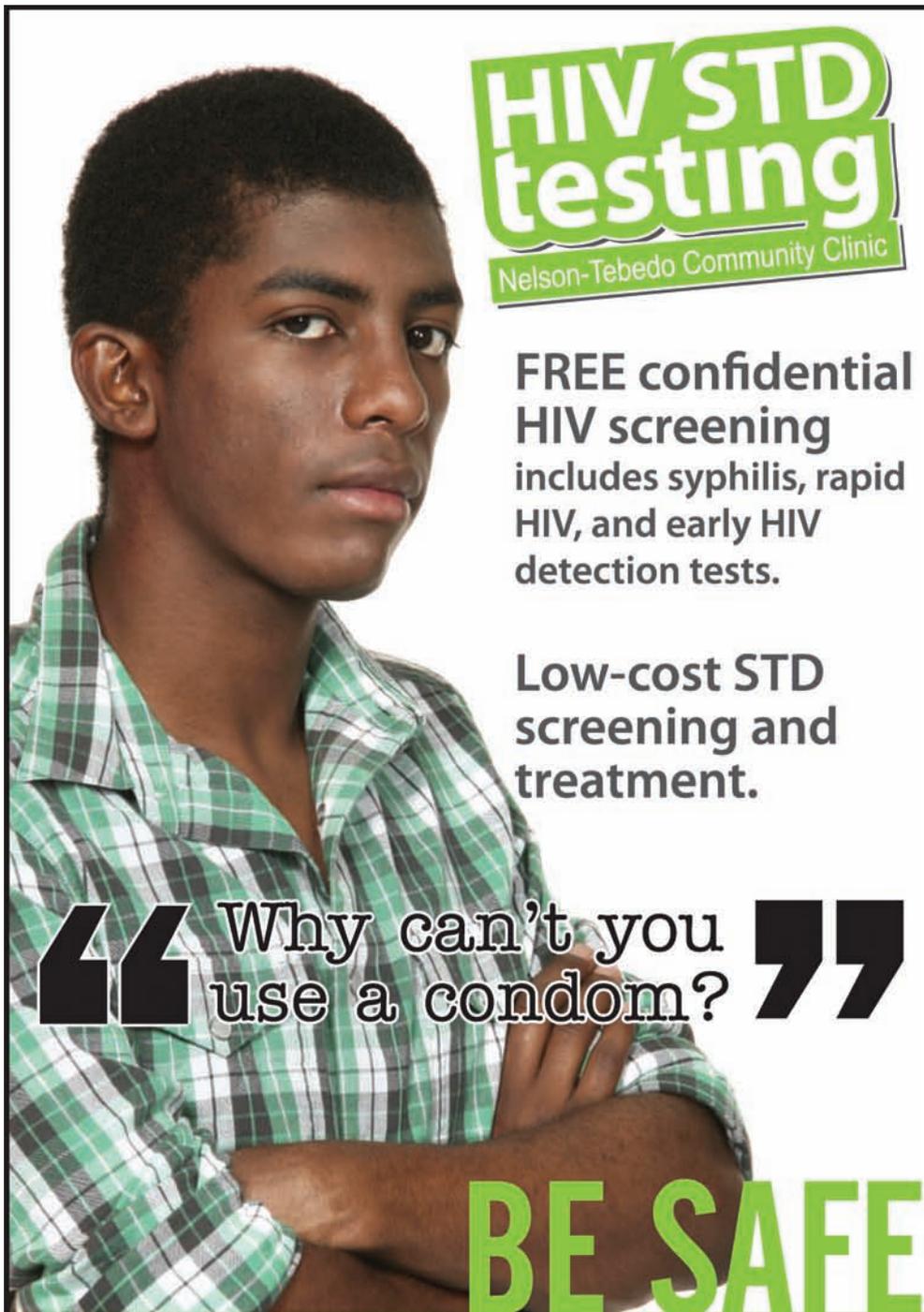
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L+S travel

Nether region

Amsterdam, possibly the gay-friendliest city in the world, is a monument to tolerance — of all kinds

MARK LOWRY | Contributing Writer
marklowry@theaterjones.com

Amsterdam, the capital and largest city in the Netherlands, is often called the most liberal city in the world. Holland was the first country to legalize gay marriage (in 2001), and cannabis and prostitution are not only legal, but there's a live-and-let-live vibe about them (as well as other vices). This idea of acceptance is not new: Amsterdam was a safe haven for religious refugees going back five centuries.

But perhaps nothing speaks to the city's passion for tolerance as much as a small area near the city's Jordaan District, in the Western Canal Ring. Across the street from the Anne Frank House, now a museum and one of the world's greatest symbols of intolerance, sits the Homomonument: Three large pink granite triangles that form a larger triangle, on the same small patch of land where one of the city's oldest churches, the Westerkerk, sits.

The Homomonument, designed by Dutch artist Karin Daan, opened in 1987 as a tribute to persecuted gays and lesbians around the globe. Tying it more closely with the Anne Frank House, the pink triangles represent the emblem that homosexuals wore in Nazi concentration camps.

Both are stirring tributes to horrors of a war from the not-so-distant past, from a country that shares a border with the Netherlands. But despite the Nazi occupation and a history of warring rulers wanting to claim Amsterdam as their own, the city is remarkably well-preserved. The signature row houses from the 17th and 18th centuries still hold up beautifully. Some of the older structures, with the neck gables atop four or five stories, even display the date of construction proudly. It's not uncommon to see "1627" or such on one of these buildings ... and that's not referring to the address.

That's all part of the storied history. But what's interesting about Amsterdam is that it's completely feasible to hang out here for a good week (or longer) without even visiting the museums and historical sites, and still get a strong sense of this world-class city.

Everyday life — people bustling on their way



DUTCH TREAT | Rainbow flags are peppered throughout the streets of Amsterdam. (Photo courtesy Mark Lowry)

to work, most of them riding bicycles and ringing bells on their handlebars to warn pedestrians — intermingles seamlessly with the tourism industry. Travelers from all over Europe and the world arrive on trains and leave from the Central Station and throughout the Old City Center and Canal Rings, hanging out at one of the many outdoor cafes by the edge of one of the city's famous waterways. (There's actually more canal mileage here than in Venice, reflected in Amsterdam's nickname "the Venice of the North." Doing a canal tour is a must.)

They also populate the coffee shops, where you'll find the younger generation, as that's where marijuana is legally sold, even to foreigners. It can be purchased in joint form, smoked in pipes, or in baked goods, such as hash banana bread (yes, there are brownies, too). In fact, walking through the tourist-heavy Old City Center, it's impossible *not* to get a bit of a contact high — pot smoke wafts from everywhere.

Perhaps that's why the Dutch seem so laid-back. There's a word they often use, *gezelligheid*, that refers to the sense of leaving all your cares behind and chilling.

Where to stay

We have nothing but raves for the gay-owned bed-and-breakfast in the Jordaan District, Mae's Bed and Breakfast. American Ken Harrison and his Russian partner Vladimir Melnikov have run this spot for more than 15 years, and even have a newer property down the street. Rooms are spacious and comfortable, and the breakfast goes far beyond the typical continental fare found at European hotels. Mae's is a few blocks' walk to the Anne Frankhuis.

They can also guide you to some of the city's gay-owned restaurants and establishments. We



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE | Amsterdam's extensive canals earned it the name 'Venice of the North.'

especially recommend the bar Prik. Gay bars are all over the city and not necessarily clustered in any one neighborhood, another sign of Amsterdam's acceptance of all walks of life. If you need further help, find the Pink Point tourist kiosk, which caters to gay travelers. It's easy to find: Just a few feet from the Homomonument.

Getting around

It's not a huge city, so walking to many of the attractions is feasible. But there's also an easy bus and tram system, and you can take bicycle tours, too. At the Centraal Station, pick up an "I Amsterdam" card, which gets you free transportation for one, two or three days, and free entrance into many attractions, plus discounts to restaurants.

What to do

Here a few tips for places to visit on your trip to Amsterdam. If you don't get to them all, don't worry — this is one of those cities that beckons you to come back for more.

Rembrandt's House. Holland was home to a number of well-known artists, including Van Gogh and Vermeer, and you can visit museums that tribute them in Amsterdam. But the one not to miss is the house where Rembrandt lived and worked. The multistory house is a fantastic history of 17th century Dutch life, and is filled with Rembrandt's paintings. If you're walking through as an etching demonstration is going on, don't miss it.

The Red Light District. The most famous Red Light District in the world is on streets that spoke out from the city's oldest church, the Oude Kerk, which began construction in the 14th century. You'll see red lights denoting spots where the prostitutes are, posing in full windows for willing customers. The industry is regulated by the government, so it's closely watched and the workers are kept safe. (You'll notice that when they're not working, they often file their nails or talk on cell phones, as bored as most other people at the daily grind.)

The Red Light District is not only a great place to people-watch,

it's filled with some of the area's best restaurants. Their Chinatown, one of the best in Europe, is nearby. And considering that Amsterdam has one of the largest international populations of any city in the world, there are plenty of choices, including Spanish, Russian, Argentinean, Mexican and even Tibetan. Indonesian is especially popular, considering that the Southeast Asian island nation was once a Dutch colony.

Another popular food in Holland is pancakes, slightly thicker than French crepes and large in diameter. You can get them with sweet toppings, but also with savory ones, such as Thai red curry. (We have a theory as to why pancakes are so popular in Amsterdam: Munchies.)

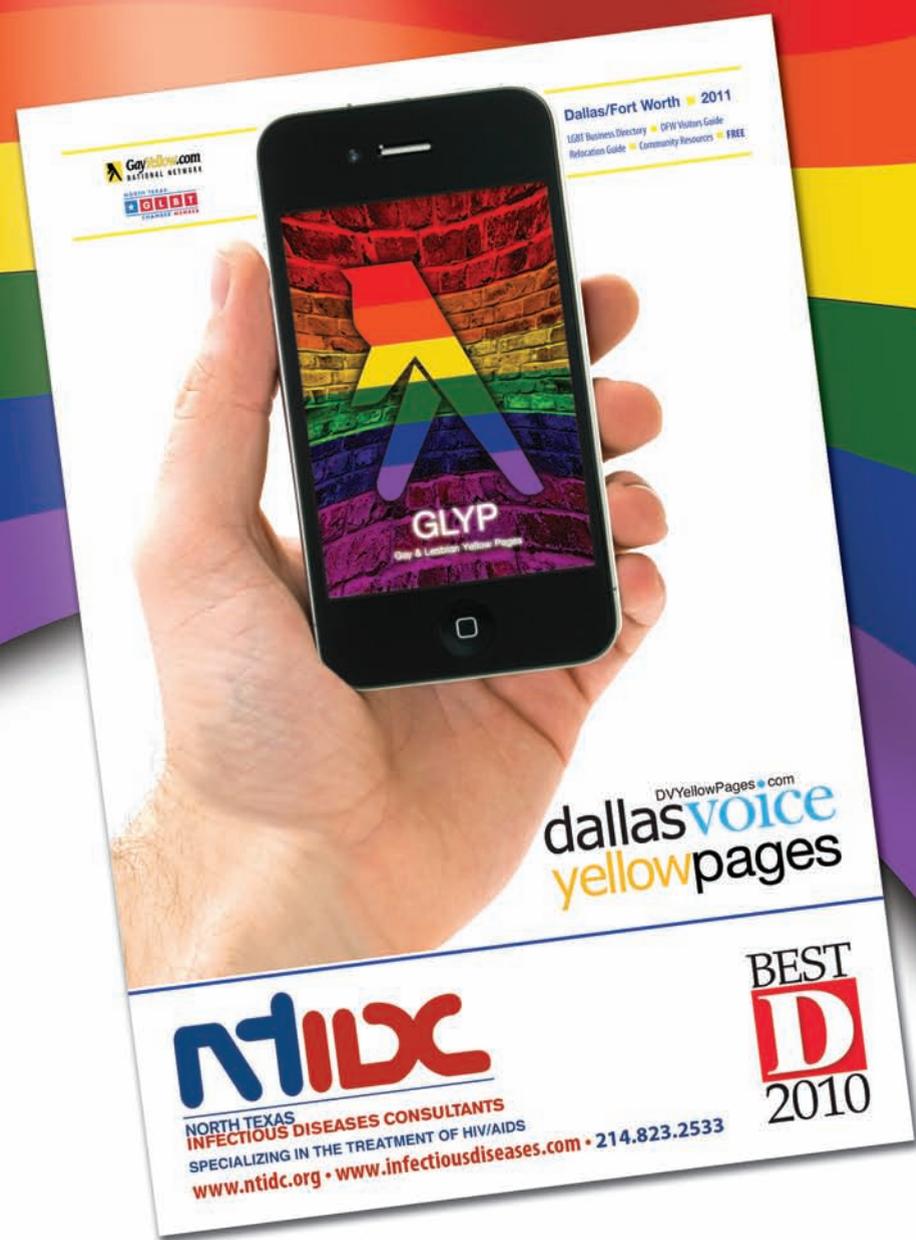
The Anne Frankhuis (Anne Frank House) is the most popular museum in Amsterdam (aside from the famous tulips, which bloom in April), and if you plan to go, get there early, because the line gets long quickly.

It's a fascinating tour. The building next to the apartment where Frank and seven others hid out from the Nazis for nearly two years is a museum. From there, you walk up winding, steep stairs and enter, through the bookcase that was used to mask the hiding spot, the area where the Frank family and their friends stayed. In Anne's room, her pictures from movie magazines are still there, preserved by her father Otto, who was the only one of the eight hideaways who survived the concentration camps after they were discovered. It's truly an awe-inspiring tour. ■



GET YER GAY HERE! | Kiosks like this one, catering to the gay community, are common in the city. (Photos courtesy Mark Lowry)

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Friday 12.17

It's gonna be a Love fest

When Loni Love speaks, you better listen; especially if she's talking about celebrities on *Chelsea Lately* or *The World's Dumbest*. Her stand-up isn't too bad either. When Variety and Comedy Central name her as one of the top 10 comics to watch, well, that goes a long way. But it's her snarky wit and diva fab humor that will keep you laughing for days after.

DEETS: Improv, 309 Curtis Mathes Way, Arlington. 8 and 10:30 p.m. Through Sunday. \$15. Symfonee.com.

Saturday 12.18

Not the time to be modest

Being humble is charming, but it won't get you anywhere in the Dallas Voice's search for DFW's Ultimate Diva. Don't think diva and drag queens. Musicians, activists, allies; if you're the best at it then go for it. The incentive? How about winning \$1,000 for your favorite nonprofit or charity. Gotcha.

DEETS: Deadline is Dec. 23. Visit DallasVoice.com/Diva for rules and application.

Sunday 12.19

These herald angels sing with glory

TeCo Productions stages *Black Nativity*, the retelling of the story of the birth of Christ by gay playwright Langston Hughes. With gospel, dance and poetry as elements of the show, Hughes' version is both stirring and uplifting.

DEETS: Bishop Arts Theater Center, 215 S. Tyler St. 3 p.m. \$15-\$20. TecoTheater.org.

Monday 12.20

The Chorale keeps tradition going

Director Jonathan Palant says this year the Turtle Creek Chorale is going back to basics. *O Holy Night* will feel like going home for the holidays with all the songs and carols we know. But it wouldn't be a TCC Christmas without some flair. With some new arrangements on hand, we figure they won't disappoint.

DEETS: Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. 8 p.m. \$20-\$65. TurtleCreek.org.



FRIDAY 12.17

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 using meth. Also meets on Mondays and Wednesdays at the same time. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7:30pm. Free. CrystalMeth.org.

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

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

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

Triangle Networking Tarrant, for gay-owned and gay-friendly businesses. Dos Gringos, 1510 University Ave., Fort Worth. 6 p.m. \$5. 817-496-3479.

Winter SolstiCelebration 2010. The 18th annual celebration is themed Imagine Peace and will act as a tribute to the life and vision of musician John Lennon. Live music from local artists highlight the event. The celebration is preceded by Yule Fest. Food and winterwear donations accepted. Cath-



PARTY BY PATRICE | Austin-based musician Patrice Pike may not have cupcakes, but her band and indie rock should liven up the weekend just nicely. The out bisexual singer returns to Poor David's Pub this Saturday night.

dral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. \$10-\$12. EarthRhythms.org.

THEATER

The Beulaville Baptist Book Club Presents: A Bur-less-Q Nutcracker! MBS Productions brings back its holiday show. Stone Cottage Theater, 15650 Addison Road. Through Dec. 26. \$18-\$22. MBSProductions.net.

Manos: The Hands of Fate based on the 1966 b-horror film. KD Studios Theatre, 2600 N. Stemmons Freeway. Through Saturday. 10:15 p.m. \$20. LevelGroundArts.com.

Santa vs. The Martians is based on the 1964 movie and adapted and directed by Andi Allen. KD Studios Theatre, 2600 N. Stemmons Freeway. Through Saturday. \$20. LevelGroundArts.com.

SATURDAY 12.18

COMMUNITY

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

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

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

DFW Bi Net, a social and support group for bisexual men and women, brunch. La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon Ave. 10:30 a.m.

The Symphony Within meditation and inspiration session with Rev. Lee Wolak, Jim Bunch and Donna Collins. Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. InterfaithPeaceChapel.org.

Khush LGBT South Asian social meets every month for dinner, movies and other events. Meetings are restricted to LGBT South Asians and their partners. Meeting location is disclosed only to those attending to protect members' privacy. KhushTexas.org.

FILM

Fish Out of Water screening with director Ky Dickens in attendance. Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910

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Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Interfaith-PeaceChapel.org.

MUSIC

Patrice Pike and band brings her acoustic rock back to town from Austin. The bisexual singer is widely know from her stint on TV in the music competition show Rockstar. Poor David's Pub, 1313 S. Lamar St. Doors at 6 p.m. PoorDavidsPub.com.

The Angels Sing concert featuring holiday favorites. The show is performed by the chamber choir Texas Voice and directed by Alan Dyer. Northway Christian Church, 7202 W. Northwest Highway. 6:30 p.m. \$22. TheTexasVoices.org.

BROADCAST

Cathedral of Hope worship service. Ch. 8 at 12:35 a.m. (Friday after midnight).

SUNDAY 12.19

COMMUNITY

Awakening Heart Community of Mindful Living. LGBT-Friendly "meditation and more" event. All faiths welcome. Dallas Meditation Center, 727 S. Floyd Rd, Richardson, TX 75080. 5 p.m. AwakeningHeart.org.

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

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

The Set, a group of the Legacy of Success Foundation for SGL African-American men meets every third Sunday. South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. 6 p.m. (cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m.)

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

Lutherans Concerned, LGBT affirming group for Lutherans. King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Freeway. 7 p.m. 214-855-4998.

Order of St. Francis and St. Clare every first and third Sunday. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 12:30 p.m.

Family Pride Coalition, a monthly support group for gay and lesbian parents and their children,



EQUAL TIME | Dennis Coleman, executive director for Equality Texas, guests on this week's 'Lambda Weekly.'

meets at a private home. For time and location 214-521-5342 ext. 1708.

Friends Associating and Relating, LGBT social group, meets twice a month for potluck dinners, game nights, and more. Newcomers welcome and there are no dues. Call 214-328-6749 for details.

Health Benefits of Touch and Intimacy lecture with Dr. Steve Hines, M.D. Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m. Interfaith-PeaceChapel.org.

Traveler's Christmas Worship. Self-guided tours available the hour before service. Interfaith Peace

this week's solution

B	A	T	H		P	S	S	T		C	P	L	U	S
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A Good Conversation and Some Cruising



BANDING TOGETHER | Performers from this year's Winter SolstiCelebration will celebrate the life and vision of musician and activist for peace John Lennon. The event happens Friday at Cathedral of Hope.

Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. InterfaithPeaceChapel.org.

The House of Glamour, a forum for African-American women and hosted by the Legacy of Success Foundation. Brooklyn's Jazz Cafe, 1701 S. Lamar St. 3 p.m. LOSF.org.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is Dennis Coleman, executive director of Equality Texas. 89.3 KNON-FM at noon. LambdaWeekly.com.

MONDAY 12.20

COMMUNITY

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

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

Self esteem support group provided by AIDS Outreach Center meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 1:30 p.m. AOC.org.

DFW Prime Timers play bridge every week at 1 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

Kabbalah meditation sponsored by the Global Peace Project. Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Interfaith-PeaceChapel.org.

BROADCAST

One Girl Five Gays airs Monday-Wednesday on Logo at 1 a.m. LogoTV.com.

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

TUESDAY 12.21

COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

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

Cathedral Ringers handbell rehearsal. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:45 p.m. Contact my.cross-white@gmail.com for information.

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

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas.

Ojeda's Restaurant, 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. 214-887-4990.

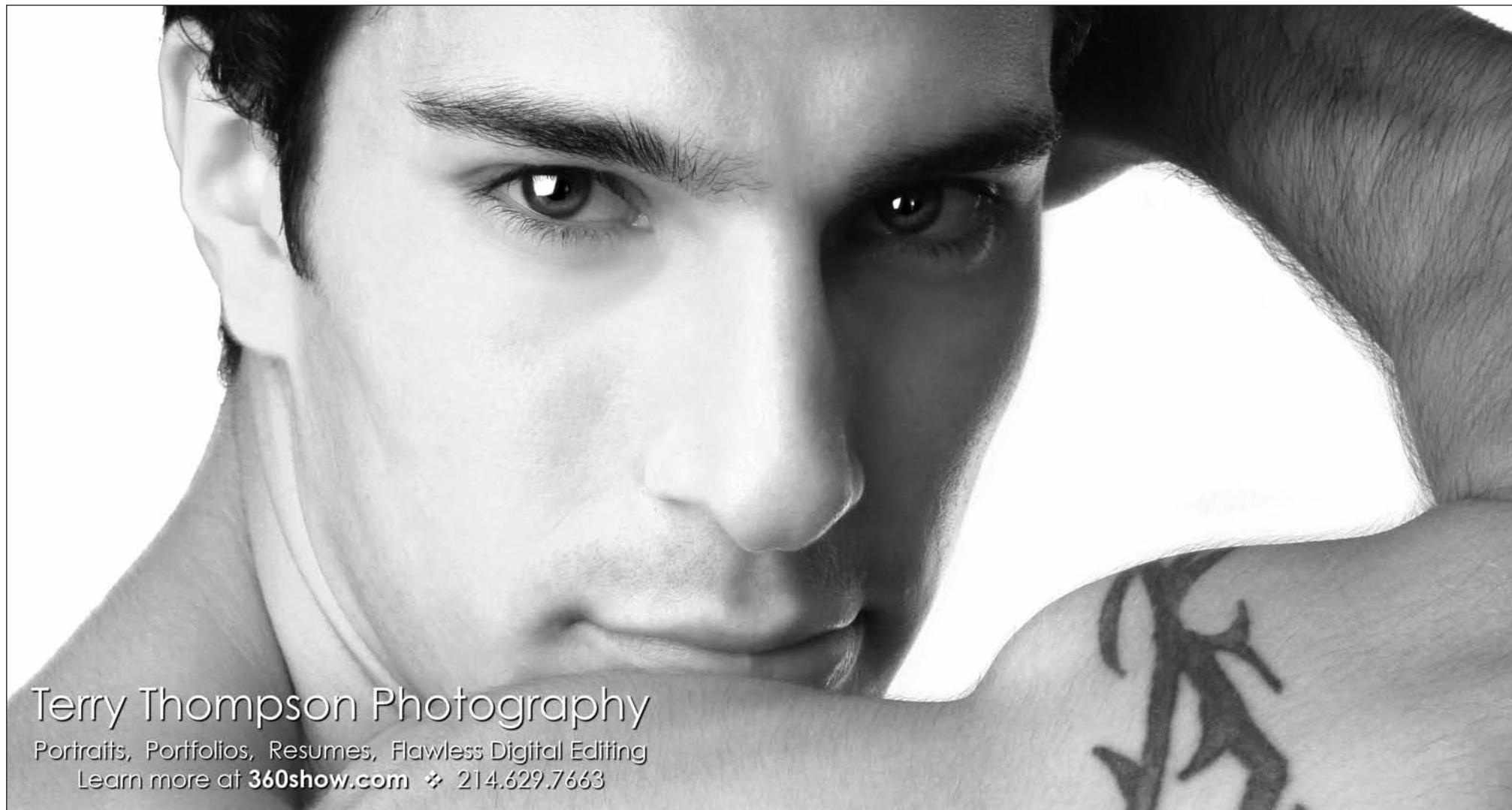
Lesbian Book Club. Borders Books Music Cafe, 10720 Preston Road. 7 p.m. Julie at 214-363-1243.

A Night of Hope and Remembrance at Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Interfaith-PeaceChapel.org.

BROADCAST

Girls Who Like Boys Who Like Boys airs weekly every Tuesday at 9 p.m. on Sundance Channel.

The 10% with Israel Luna and Richard Curtin streams every Tuesday and Thursday at 3 p.m. on RationalBroadcasting.com.



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NOT WILL AND GRACE | But Sahid, left and Rosebud (yes, really) are close in Sundance Channel's new hit show, 'Girls who Like Boys who Like Boys.'

WEDNESDAY 12.22

COMMUNITY

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

DFW Prime Timers play bridge every week at 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

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

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

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

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

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

Prime Timers Prime Lunch at Dallas Chinese Buffet, 9239 Skillman Road. Noon. Call 972-504-8866 to attend.

THURSDAY 12.23

COMMUNITY

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

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

The Group. Support group for black men who are HIV-positive. Every second and fourth Thursday of the month. Call 214-455-7316 for more information.

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Andy Dick turns 45 on Tuesday. He played the quirky Matthew Brock for five seasons in *NewsRadio* which ended in 1999. Since then, the bisexual actor has floated around movies and television. We love him voicing Jesus Christ in the animated show, *Mary Shelley's Frankenhole*, but lately he's been touring with his *Andy Dick's Stocking Stuffer Music and Comedy Show*.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Trying to figure out your finances now will only make you crazy. If you must worry about debts, also make a list of assets. Don't worry about getting it all penny perfect. That will come later.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Your efforts to get ahead get costly. Think ahead. Financial success is only a means to comfort and options. Focus on deeper values and keep everything else in proportion.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Worries that normally lurk in the back of your head are in your face. Tear them apart and put into perspective. Be adaptable and open without dithering and doubting.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

The future looks scary for good reason: It ain't pretty. Still, your imagination is better put to finding light in the darkness than worrying about doom and gloom. Consider that your mission in life!

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Your friends mean well but they have a poor understanding of what you need to get ahead. Thank them for their support, but be clear on your goals and what it really takes to reach them.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

A tendency to mouth off gets you into trouble. You need a challenge and will find it more trying to develop a deeper appreciation for classical art or music.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Sexual experiments take you to places you never imagined and prove dangerous. Maybe that's good, but be careful. This is not the time to experiment with skydiving or recreational drugs.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Mad, wild passion is thrilling, but don't take a rush of hormones and sweat too seriously. Enjoy the moment. If you want to make promises, wait a while and be sure you can keep them.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Your eagerness and force of personality are a runaway train. Check with colleagues often and be attentive to their processes. Moderation is the key to cooperation and good health.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Safety first. A rush of playful enthusiasm gets you into all kinds of trouble whether it's a scandal at work or a sports injury. Anything that can work up a sweat may be considered "sports."

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Think about the best you can reasonably hope for and what it would take to get it. This season drips maudlin sentiment that easily provokes disappointments. Keep your balance.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Efforts to rectify family problems cause more trouble than they solve. Knowing the problem is good. Waving it in everyone's face, not so much.

THIS WEEK

With Mars semi-square Neptune enthusiasm and ideals can ignite huge fires. Especially in this holiday season of dreams, trying to dodge disappointments and enthusiastic partying isn't easy. Focus on meditation, charity and humility.

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

JANE'S WORLD



Jane's World © Paige Braddock 2010

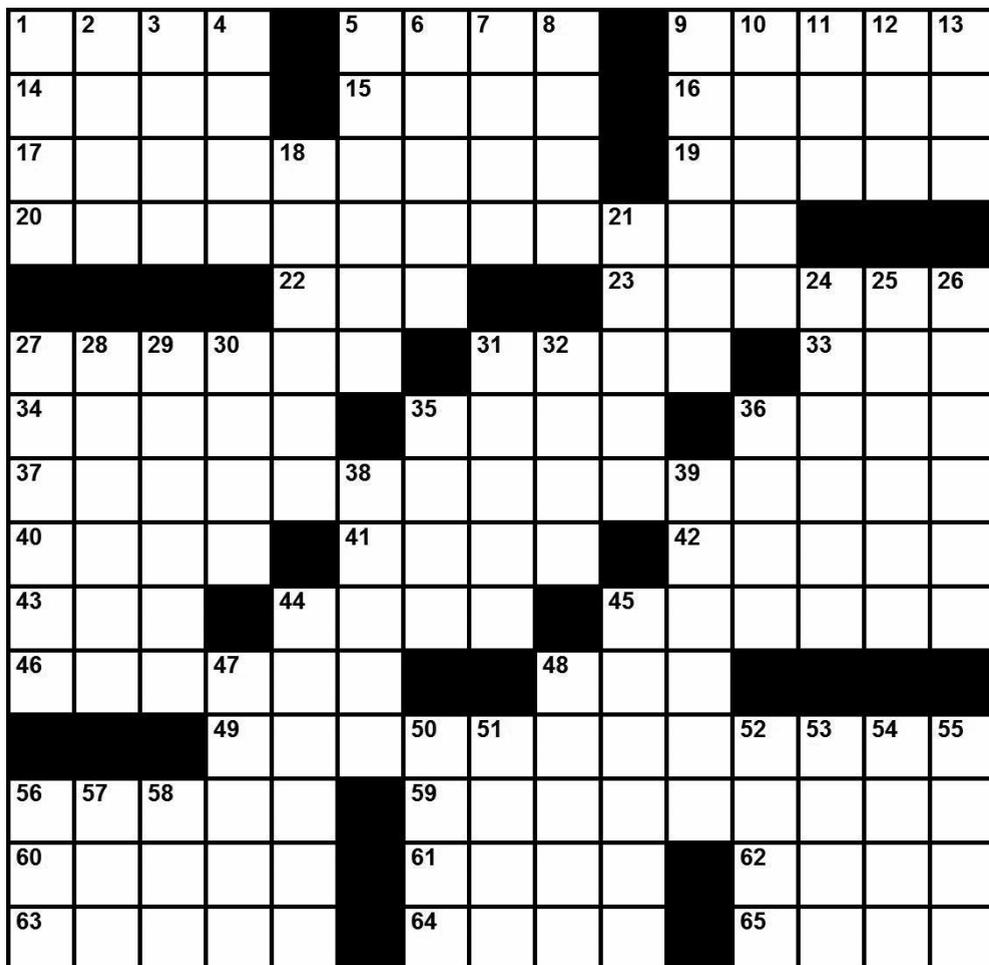
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He Loves You, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah

Solution on page 43

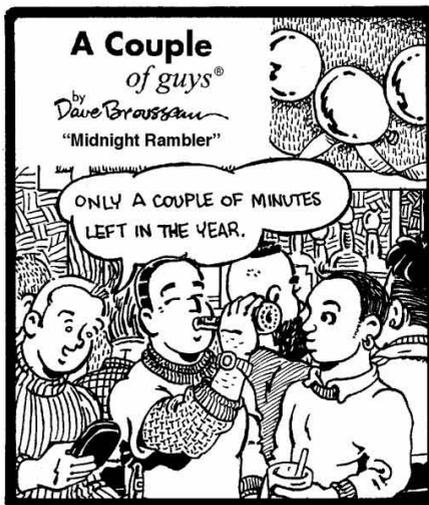
Across

- 1 Three-men-in-a-tub event
- 5 Oral attention getter
- 9 So-so grade
- 14 Point of view intro, at Gay.com
- 15 "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" singer
- 16 Prayer starter
- 17 Hides of hairy guys?
- 19 Workers under Barney Frank
- 20 He had a crush on Beatle John
- 22 Start of MGM's motto
- 23 Dean, and others without causes
- 27 Bye Bye Birdie sounds?
- 31 Burn a bit
- 33 Kit letters
- 34 Two to one, for one
- 35 Cat on ___ Tin Roof
- 36 Lacking locks
- 37 Early Beatle song that expressed how 20-Across felt
- 40 Use your tongue
- 41 Edison's middle name
- 42 Dorothy, to Em
- 43 Three on a sundial
- 44 Joel of Cabaret

- 45 Somewhat formal
- 46 Roman orator of note
- 48 Prefix with political
- 49 Where the relationship of 20-Across stayed?
- 56 The Great Garbo
- 59 Rae of Facts of Life
- 60 Jam ingredients?
- 61 Stud fee?
- 62 Obscene four-letter word
- 63 Sharon of If These Walls Could Talk 2
- 64 Name repeated in a Stein quote
- 65 Country suffix

Down

- 1 Lettuce variety
- 2 US citizen
- 3 The king in _The King I_, for one
- 4 Time for Frida
- 5 Fireplace rods
- 6 Bounds gaily
- 7 Deadly septet
- 8 HIV exam, e.g.
- 9 One that reproduces without sex
- 10 Backup strategy
- 11 ___ Cabin Federation
- 12 Moist ending
- 13 '60s radical org.
- 18 Type of tool
- 21 Muse for Millay
- 24 "My Cup Runneth Over" singer
- 25 Whitman's dooryard bloomers
- 26 Site of Gay Games VI
- 27 Rex Reed, for one
- 28 Where they say "Aloha" when they come
- 29 Not straight up
- 30 Button's place
- 31 Chase of Community
- 32 Georgetown athlete
- 35 Ready and willing partner?
- 36 Cheese for Ms. van de Kamp?
- 38 Composer Copland
- 39 Spread open
- 44 Rosie's Broadway musical
- 45 Formal order
- 47 Eulogizer of Diana in song
- 48 Responders to "Bite me!"?
- 50 Tenn. neighbor
- 51 Cry after getting the shaft
- 52 Reactions to seeing a hottie
- 53 RBI to Glenn Burke
- 54 Kett of the comics
- 55 Jack McPhee, in Dawson's Creek
- 56 "Jumpin' Jack Flash," to Mick Jagger
- 57 The daily grind
- 58 WWII command



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Israel and Lars at Alexandre's.



Johnnie, Moses and Jesse at TMC: The Mining Company.

Don't have all your egg nog in one place. Try these few stops in between your Christmas parties **The Brick** brings in Billboard charting DJ **Dan De Leon** Saturday for its **Toys for Tots Benefit**. Right before he takes the turntables, the **UCLSE** will host **Jingle Ball 4** which benefits **Youth First Texas** **Oona Love** comes from Tennessee to perform Friday at **Sue Ellen's**. **Kickback** plays Saturday night. Sunday is fun day at the club with **Anton Shaw's Christmas Extravaganza**. We expect lots of live music and we hope she read our gift list **The Round-Up Saloon** hosts its **Snowflakes and Snowballs** happy hour event Friday. They turn around and heat it up with **Frank and Gabriel's Chili Cook-Off** on Sunday. **Jenny P** hosts and with a donation, you can get a sample. Hey Round-Up, next time you need food judges, we're totally available. After the cook-off, catch **Candyland Retro Sunday** The **DFW Leather Corps** take over **the Dallas Eagle** Friday night. For all you footwear fans, it's **Boot Camp** boot fetish night on Saturday. With the **Leather Knights** also in the house, it should be an eventful evening. **DJ Perry** spins the weekly **Trash Disco T-Dance** on Sunday. Cuddle up to a warm ursine on Thursday at **Bear Night** **Best Friends Club** in Fort Worth hosts the **Miss and Mr. Ho-Ho-Ho Pageant** on Sunday. It's **BF Karaoke** every Wednesday and don't miss the **TGRA's Final Show of 2010** Thursday night. Cowboys and cocktails? See you there ... ■

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES



Staff at Kaliente.



Heather and Kelsey at 1851 Club.



Elen and Alan at Drama Room.



Chris at The Brick.



Mattie and Monroe at Sue Ellen's.

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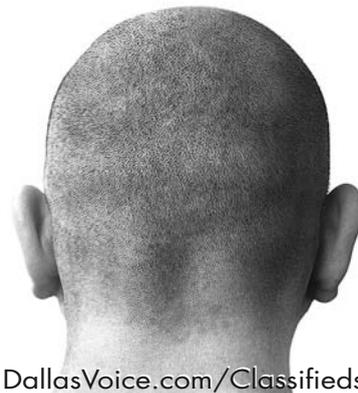
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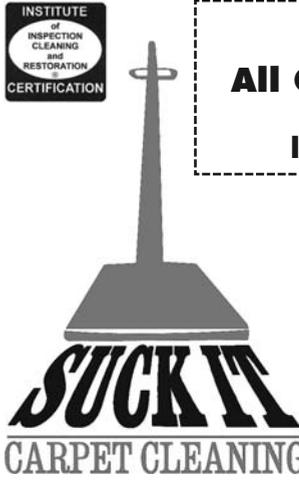
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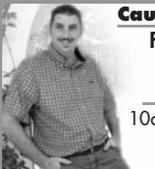
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