

# Promoting South Dallas HIV prevention

Abounding Prosperity launches new initiative

First South Dallas AIDS Walk takes place on March 19

■ Health, Page 12



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# BEAR HUGS

As the annual TBRU approaches, some locals talk about what it means to be a bear

Read the full story beginning on Page 9



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# YFT plans new lobby effort

Teens tell lawmakers personal stories of bullying, suicide attempts

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Ten teens from Youth First Texas went to Austin to talk to legislators about anti-bullying legislation on March 7. They joined about 350 LGBT activists and allies from around the state who came for Equality Texas lobby day.

Equality Texas executive director Dennis Coleman talked to the group about coming back to Austin later in the session to testify before committees that will hear testimony about the proposed laws.

As they rehearsed their stories, trying to pare them down to one minute each, the teens realized that they wouldn't be able to speak to every representative and senator personally. But because they believed their personal stories could make a difference in the way lawmakers vote, the teens began brainstorming on how to get their stories out.

They came up with the idea of recording their stories to DVD to send to each senator and

■ YFT, Page 8



**SPEAKING UP** | Members of Youth First Texas gather in Sen. Florence Shapiro's office on Monday, March 7, as part of Equality Texas' Lobby Day efforts. The teens visited lawmakers to tell their personal stories of bullying and harassment in order to get support of anti-bullying measures now being considered by the Legislature. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

## MacLeod says past mistakes make him a better candidate

Candidate is challenging incumbent Pauline Medrano in Dallas' District 2

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Bill MacLeod has run for a seat on the Dallas City Council before. In the last election, he pulled in about 23 percent of the vote against incumbent Councilwoman Pauline Medrano. MacLeod said that wasn't bad for a candidate that had every one of his signs stolen.

And that was a big jump up from his first race. In 2003, he ran against John Loza and got just 4 percent of the vote.

This time, MacLeod said, he's learned enough



Bill MacLeod

about running a council race that he thinks he can win.

"I have a team together and a strategy," he said.

"Pauline is adored by the community," he said, referring to Medrano who represents part of Oak Lawn. "But where is her voice on issues that matter?"

MacLeod cited the recent Dallas Voice article that noted that of the more than 50 discrimination complaints the city received since the LGBT non-discrimination ordinance passed, none has been prosecuted.

Medrano, along with District 14 incumbent Angela Hunt, said they were looking into the matter. MacLeod called that "reactive at best."

Among the candidate's top concerns is last summer's tax increase.

"She [Medrano] was the swing vote on taxes," he said, a charge opponents throw at Hunt as well.

He said his solution is to increase revenue to the city, not raise taxes. And he has several ideas that he said haven't been looked at.

MacLeod mentioned the North Texas Tollway Authority, the deal AT&T got to locate in downtown Dallas and the low rate at which the city sold land to the Perots to build the arena as bad deals and possible revenue sources.

While some of these examples are done deals, MacLeod said new deals are always being made behind closed doors, and he wants to make sure those previous mistakes aren't repeated.

MacLeod said that this election would be different: "This time we have people listening."

In the last election, MacLeod accused Medrano's people of targeting anyone who had one of his signs in their yard. He said her

■ MacLEOD, Page 8

## Ark. trans woman murdered

Officers with the Forrest Hills Police Department and the St. Francis County Sheriff's Department in Arkansas are investigating the March 8 murder of trans woman Marcal Camero Tye, who was found dead near a highway outside Forrest City.

Sheriff Billy May said Tye had apparently been shot in the head and then dragged by a car for several hundred yards.

Initial news reports by WREG News Channel 3 out of Memphis, Tenn., angered LGBT activists by referring to Tye as "a man in women's clothing" and using male pronouns.

Although WREG quickly corrected the language in its report, other news outlets continued to refer to Tye as "a cross-dresser," "a man in a dress" and "a man in drag."

— Tammye Nash

## Lady Gaga nixes Target deal

Metro Weekly has reported that Lady Gaga has ended her new relationship with Target. Gaga was in talks with the retailer to release an exclusive edition of her upcoming album as well as negotiating their stance on donations to anti-gay politicians, but apparently that has dissolved. The report says no further details were available.



— Rich Lopez

## Rep. Mike Villarreal introduces state ENDA

Rep. Mike Villarreal of San Antonio introduced the Freedom from Workplace Discrimination Act in the Texas House of Representatives (HB655).

The bill will be heard by the Small Business and Economic Development Committee. Most LGBT-related bills are sent to the state affairs committee where they promptly die.

If enacted, this Texas employment non-discrimination law would prohibit employers, employment agencies and unions from using an individual's sexual orientation, gender identity or expression as the basis for employment decisions such as hiring, firing, promotions, compensation or from subjecting an individual to different standards or treatment based on their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

Religious organizations are exempt from the law and would be free to continue discriminating.

— David Taffet

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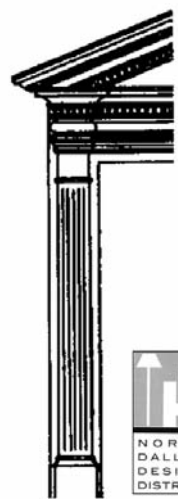
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## localbriefs

### LOSF introducing new officers

Legacy of Success Foundation will hold a meet-and-greet reception Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m. at Chocolate Secrets, 3926 Oak Lawn Ave.

The reception is being held to introduce the foundation's new executive director, Lawrence Galloway, and new board members.

### Meet the mayoral candidates

Two of the three major mayoral candidates said they will meet with members of the LGBT community next week.

Mike Rawlings will be the guest speaker at the monthly Stonewall Democrats meeting on Tuesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Ojeda's Restaurant on Maple Avenue. Ron Natinsky said he will also attend.

On Thursday, March 17, Natinsky will speak at LULAC 4871 Dallas Rainbow Council at 6:30 p.m. at Havana's on Cedar Springs Road.

### TDWCC fundraiser set

Texas Democratic Women of Collin County will hold a fundraising screening of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" on Thursday, March 24, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Angelika Theater at Shops at Legacy in Plano.

The film, directed by Abigail Disney, is an account of how Christian and Muslim women de-

## Deaths

Mark Leon Lockridge, 57, died Jan. 16



in a Kansas hospital. A native of Little River, Kansas, and a graduate of Little River High School, Lockridge lived in Dallas from 1989 to

1991. He is survived by his best friend and caregiver, Tyner Whitman of Russell, Kansas; two sisters, Chris Lockridge of Salina, Kansas, and Sharon Simpson of Abbyville, Kansas; his nephew, Rex Lockridge of Salina, Kansas; and his former partner of 10 years and friend forever, Steve Ramsey of Dallas. Memorial donations in his name can be made to Resource Center Dallas' food pantry.

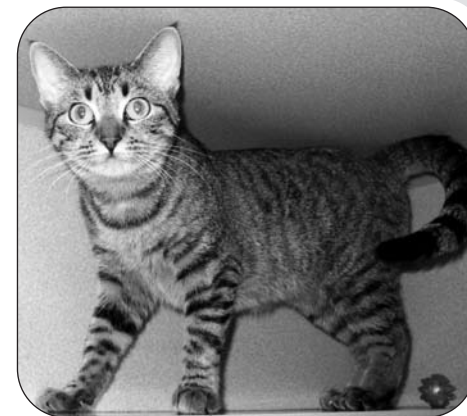
manded peace for Liberia after decades of civil war.

The program for the monthly meeting on Monday, March 28, will follow the theme of the movie and will include a panel discussion on "Religion, Tolerance and Politics" featuring a rabbi, an imam and a protestant church leader. The monthly meeting will be held at 6:45 p.m. ■

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## ■ texasnews

### YFT

From Page 4

representative. The teens planned to start the project as soon as they returned to Dallas.

The group's first stop in the Capitol on Monday was the office of Sen. Florence Shapiro of Plano, who represents the district in which three of the teens live.

YFT member Giancarlo Mossi, one of the three living in Shapiro's district, began telling the group's story to two legislative aides. He said he was regularly called a faggot at Plano Senior High School, and other students threw things at him on the bus.

Reporting it didn't make a difference and the harassment continued through graduation, Mossi said.

Pierce Magnus is still in school. He walks with a cane and said he has always been treated differently. At best, other students give him the cold-shoulder, something that's been going on since middle school. At one point, he tried to kill himself.

After his suicide attempt failed, Magnus said, he was put in an institution and is now on medication. He blames the suicide attempt on bullying and harassment by other students and the indifference with which the school staff reacted.

"That's a terrible way to go through high school," Magnus said.

Alice Nightingale said that her high school teachers know how she's treated and don't do anything about it.

"I stood up for myself once and got suspended," she said. "It seems like we try and just do more harm."

Magnus and Nightingale also live in Shapiro's district.

The students were lobbying lawmakers to vote for Asher's Law, Rep. Garnet Coleman's anti-bullying bill that he renamed this week and reintroduced into the Texas House of Representatives. Sen. Wendy Davis of Fort Worth introduced anti-bullying legislation in the Senate that will be heard in Shapiro's education committee.

Mossi said that passing Asher's Law was crucial.

"I try to let people know they're not alone," he said. "But I'm not in high school anymore."

Magnus said that YFT is a safe space, but "Passing this law will make schools a safe space, too."

Sen. John Carona's office was the group's next stop. Carona represents Richardson, the Park Cities, parts of Garland and most of North Dallas. Other YFT members explained their experiences to Carona's staff.

Elliott Puckett said that when he was attacked in the bathroom at his high school, the principal told him he brought it on himself.

"I've been through so much bullying," said YFT member William Morvant, "I almost became one of those statistics."

He tried killing himself three times, he said.

"I'll be graduating from school soon," Morvant said. "But I don't want others going through this."

Morvant was among those who had also spoken at a Dallas Independent School District meeting before their new anti-bullying policy was adopted.

After their morning lobbying session, the group walked across the Capitol lawn toward First United Methodist Church on Lavaca Street, where Equality Texas provided lunch.

They returned to speak to more legislators in the afternoon and stayed through Tuesday for a second day of lobbying. ■

### MacLEOD

From Page 4

campaign called 311 to complain about legally placed signs and had the city pick them up.

MacLeod said that changing demographics in the district should work in his favor. New apartments in the Design District and renovated and new housing in The Cedars south of downtown have added 2,500 new voters to the district, he said.

MacLeod believes this is the election to win. It would be Medrano's fourth and final term if she wins.

"If we don't replace the incumbent, they're going to hand this over to one of their own," he said.

MacLeod grew up in New York and first moved to Texas to attend college.

He was a student at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches when, he said, he and his mother simply ran out of money. So he joined the Navy and served for four years. Upon discharge he returned to Texas and finished his degree.

Today, MacLeod is a consultant helping companies manage call centers.

He said his background wasn't perfect.

"Bad behavior plagued me," he said, acknowl-

edging that he had a DWI and misdemeanor arrests and making no excuses for that.

"I'm not running despite my behavior," he said. "I'm running because of it."

MacLeod said that after his DWI, he worked with Mothers Against Drunk Driving. His other arrests led him to work with the homeless and with Dallas shelters.

MacLeod said he is passionate about helping the less fortunate.

"If I didn't go through that myself, I wouldn't have been able to help hundreds of kids that I got into treatment programs, kids that I got back with their families, kids that I introduced to Phoenix House," he said. "I would never have been able to go under the bridges and talk to the homeless guys. Stay with them. Do street solutions. Put some of these guys to work. I would never have been able to reach out to the addicted population."

In working on other campaigns, MacLeod said he hired homeless people to distribute fliers and put out yard signs.

MacLeod asked the LGBT community to take a good look at both candidates.

"Who is out there fighting for the Resource Center?" he said. "Who is out there fighting for Cathedral of Hope? Who is out there fighting for the LGBT community?" ■

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# Embracing the bear

With the arrival of TBRU, we ask a fundamental question: What is it that makes a gay man a bear?

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

With the warming weather and approach of spring, bears across the continent are emerging from their winter hibernation and striking out to enjoy what life has to bring. And many of them will be headed toward North Texas.

Not, of course, the ursine variety: These bears shop in the big and tall department of the clothing store and have been known to pound back beer like men in the desert.

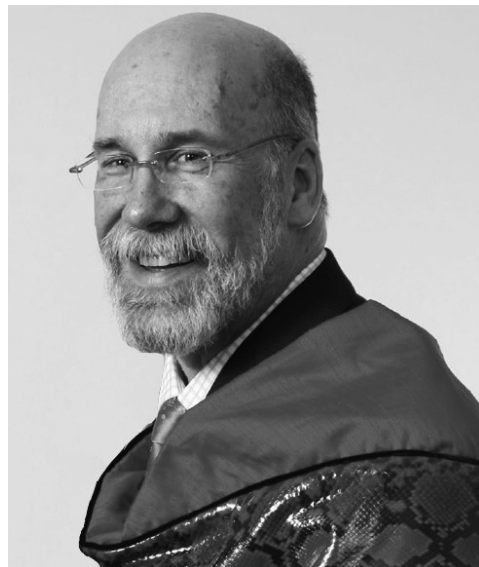
Texas Bear Round-Up XVI is almost here.

By the close of official pre-registration earlier this week, the annual fellowship of the hirsute gay male — which chose for its theme this time Bears of Justice: Heroes and Villains — had exceeded 1,100 confirmed attendees, and organizers say many walk-ups are expected throughout the weekend at various events. That makes it among the largest of gay-specific social events in Dallas.

But why do bears feel they need their own “runs” — the common name for the dozens of bear gatherings around the country?

“That’s a very interesting concept,” observes John Ahrens, when pressed to explain why barevents have proliferated (See sidebar, *Bear events and resources*).

Ahrens has attended several TBRU events in the past and, at 6-feet, 2-inches and 270 pounds of furriness (everywhere but the top of his head, he



**PAPA BEAR** | John Ahrens says bear culture is for gay men who don’t fit the buff, young mold.

notes), has long identified as a bear.

“Why do they have to have a bear round-up [and not a twink round-up]? I really don’t know. The whole concept of bears was originally that we never fit the cut, buff, skinny young look [that dominated gay culture]. This is a culture for the rest of us. It was to counteract the exclusivity of the rest of it — a place where big hairy guys could go to be themselves.”

The Bear Movement emerged from a reaction to a kind of cultural elitism within the gay community that tended to value youth, gym memberships and low-digit waistlines above all

■ **BEAR**, Page 10

## What is a bear?

The terminology associated with bear culture actually reaches deep into a variety of other animal identities: Bears “woof” at each other (a distinctly canine trait) and have subclassifications with the community that relate to other wild animals.

Although definitive descriptors are elusive and subject to change, here is a primer on some of the most common and the generally accepted definitions.

**Bear** — A member of the Bear Movement, usually identified as tallish, hairy (on the face and/or body) and with a certain amount of meat on his bones. Can be anywhere from morbidly obese to a few extra pounds around the middle.

**Musclebear** — The same as a bear, but the meat is usually more muscle — often, though, while maintaining a stocky build. To be considered a musclebear, one normally has to have and keep a certain amount of body hair and not merely have a gym body.

**Cub** — A younger and/or smaller (McDonnell theorizes 5-feet-8 and under) bear; also, a bear who identifies more as a submissive in a sexual relationship.

**Otter** — A hairy guy who is usually thin; can be old or young, but often considered younger.

**Grizzly** — An older, heavy, often aggressive or dominant bear.

**Polar bear** — An older, often larger bear with white or grey hair.

**Wolf** — An older, sometimes thinner bear-identified male; also, one who tends to be aggressive.

**Grey wolf** — The same as a wolf, but with salt-and-pepper hair.

**Daddy** — Not strictly part of the bear culture, many bears are considered daddy-types, being older and somewhat nurturing of younger, more docile gay men.

**Admirers/chasers** — Gay men, usually younger, who do not personally exhibit the characteristics of a bear but are physically attracted to men of that type.

— A.W.J.

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## coverstory

### BEAR

From Page 9

else. Bears dared to stake a claim on the alternative to the stand-and-model twink ideal or the flamboyant drag queen that often defined gay culture, both in mainstream society and within the LGBT community itself.

Which raises a fundamental issue about bearhood: What, exactly, *is* a bear?

It's a question that, when posed to self-identified bears, does not elicit quick or consistent responses. The term, by design or accident, has become a portmanteau word that tends to encompass all those gay men who like to identify as "other." But other than what is not wholly clear. (See sidebar, *What is a bear?*) For that matter, bearhood is something that often must be embraced, almost like its own version of the coming out process: When does a bear admit he is one?

"I never thought you'd ask that," says Rafael McDonnell, programs manager at Resource Center Dallas and a member since 2007 of the Dallas Bears, the organization which mounts TBRU.

"It's a question of identity which, to a certain extent, is claimed by people. There are different parts to what our identity is; it's where you end up fitting in the world as it is."

"It's very flexible and fluid and very personal," says Ahrens. "I have a really close friend who never identified as bear for years, but there he is now, right on Bear411.com. The definition is so vague. Generally, I want to say the bears tend to be older, but that's not really true, either."

Not at all. Carlos Deleon lives in Chicago and will be returning to TBRU for a fourth time later this month. And he just turned 30.

"It depends on where you come from. Some guys don't look particularly bearish but identify deeply with it. Then there's the big guy who goes to a bar and is told he's a bear."

"For most of the guys around my age, it ends up being driven by an online thing: Looking at the various websites and finding one where you find guys who you think are attractive. You start dating those people. Then you spend more time in that part of the world," Deleon says.

For a long time bears couldn't go into regular gay bars and couldn't find people to interact with, says Deleon, "so they kept finding safe spaces to congregate."



**BEAR IN MIND** | Dallas Bears member Rafael McDonnell says bearhood is an identity you have to claim.

That led to events such as TBRU.

But that was nearly 30 years ago, Deleon points out; "It's a lot different than it was. Now it's big business."

And business sometimes leads more toward exploitation than inclusion.

"What finally put me off the whole [bear] thing is that it has become anything *but* inclusive — if you aren't big or hairy, or are morbidly obese, you would be asked, 'Why are you here?'" says Ahrens. "And that crap about bear codes? Oh, geez. The whole concept is trying to find an alternative community that accepts you. But [some in the bear community] have gone to the opposite extreme."

Not everyone agrees with that assessment, although McDonnell says he has seen it.

"I think one reason TBRU has been successful is we are inclusive and organized," he says. "I attended my first bear run outside of TBRU last fall in a city I won't name. This event was *disorganized* and *exclusive*."

### The myth of masculinity

Bear culture hasn't always been its own beast, although the cliché has usually been that bears represent a less metrosexual, so-called

■ BEAR, Next Page



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**LEATHER BEAR** | Mr. TBRU 2007 Scott Moore says being a bear is something you grow into.

## BEAR

From Previous Page

“masculine” version of gay culture.

“Some gay men didn’t enjoy the prevailing ideas of looking and acting and being a certain way — that urban aesthete gay man,” says Deleon. “They grew up being truck drivers and wanted to stay truck drivers even though they were gay.”

Initially many such men joined the leather community, but bears slowly carved their own, separate identity. “There is the crossover with the leather stuff, too. There’s a basic assumption of masculinity in bear culture, which we both know is perfectly false. You can wear lots and lots of dead cow and be the nelliest person in the world,” says Ahrens.

“I think about guys who are rugby players but do leather, too — are they in both communities?” asks Deleon. “Bears were more a part of the leather community [once] and now are more separate from it. Younger guys who are attracted more to traditional daddy types may feel they are still separate communities.”

Scott Moore, who was Mr. TBRU 2007 and is the current Mr. Dallas Eagle (a leather title), is a prime example.

“I think the easy part for the crossover is that leather is a fetish, so it’s open to anyone of any type and background — it’s something you choose to be,” Moore says. “Being a bear, you grow into — it’s more of a character trait than a choice. I think in my case it was both nature and choice,” says Ahrens. “I don’t like skinny hairless guys; I like big hairy guys and I am one. I just turned 60 and there’s this whole daddy thing that kind of goes along with it.”

“Here’s what I find interesting: Among the Dallas Bears, there is lots of cross-pollination with the court system, the Leather Knights, etc.,” says McDonnell. “I don’t know if that’s unique

among bear clubs.”

One thing that newcomers often notice that is typical among bear clubs is that bears often engage in their own rituals and forms of, well, *etiquette*.

“If you can call it that at all,” laughs Ahrens. “Compare the balcony at JR.’s to the patio at the Hidden Door: There are fewer boundaries. That ultimately for me was kind of off-putting,” although he agrees it probably contributes to the conventional wisdom that bears are among the friendliest of gays.

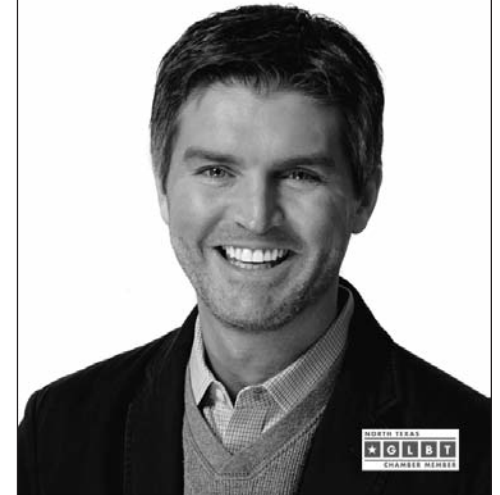
“The boundary lines are somewhat different,” agrees McDonnell. “There’s much more of a tactile physicalness [to bear culture], but I’m not sure where it originated. The thing I have found is, it is an extraordinarily welcoming and affirming community, to borrow some religious language. You can go into a bear bar in Vancouver and receive the same level of acceptance as you would in Denver or Dallas.”

Whatever the definition, or the appeal of the culture, one thing is certain: Sometimes you can’t put your finger on something — you just have to know it when you experience it, and be open to its mystery. “It’s pinning Jell-O to a wall. Some of it has to do with body size, but [being part of bear culture] is a combination not only of physical characteristics but that elusive thing that is chemistry,” says McDonnell. “Life isn’t the Sears catalogue.” ■

*The Texas Bear Round-Up runs March 17–20 with events across the city. Visit TBRU.org for a complete schedule of events.*

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# Abounding Prosperity promotes HIV prevention

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Abounding Prosperity will launch its new initiative, "Dallas Taking Control," at a town hall meeting that will be held next week in conjunction with the first South Dallas AIDS walk.

Kirk Myers, Abounding Prosperity's CEO, said his organization is the only African-American run AIDS organization in South Dallas. The agency's offices are located across the street from AIDS Arms' Peabody Clinic.

Among the initiative's goals are increased access to prevention education and outreach to men who have sex with men, and increasing awareness of the urgency of HIV/AIDS through social networking and increase partnerships.

Myers said that while AIDS Arms cares for people with HIV, his organization is dedicated to preventing infection.

He referred to the \$8 million AIDS Arms is raising for a second clinic.

"Eight million dollars can prevent a lot of HIV cases too," he said.

He said he isn't criticizing the work of AIDS Arms, but is questioning the county's and state's commitment to promoting awareness and preventing the disease.

The South Dallas AIDS Walk will be held on Saturday, March 19. The Anthony Chisolm AIDS Foundation that scheduled the walk planned a town hall meeting the night before at Cornerstone Baptist Church. Phill Wilson is the featured speaker.

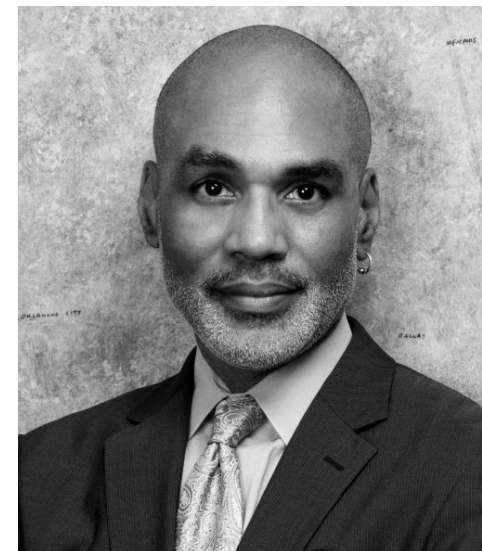
Wilson founded the Black AIDS Institute in 1999. Before that he co-chaired the Los Angeles County HIV Health Commission and was director of policy and planning at AIDS Project Los Angeles.

After Wilson speaks, Dallas' new first lady, State Rep. Barbara Mallory-Carroway, will moderate a panel discussion about the Dallas Taking Control initiative.

Among the panelists will be Dallas County Health Director Zachary Thompson. From the



Kirk Myers



Phill Wilson

Texas Department of State Health Services, the director and the manager of the TB, HIV and STD division, Felipe Rocha and Dr. Ann Robbins, will appear along with Kevin Jones, a behavioral scientist with the Centers for Disease Control.

A study issued by the CDC last year found that gay black men in Dallas had among the highest rates of HIV in the country. Myers called the statistics a disaster and his organization requested a state of emergency in Dallas.

While the state of emergency was denied, Myers said that the panel is a result. He said this is the first time county and state health officials have come together specifically to address the black gay community in Dallas.

Myers said that his organization continues to grow and is receiving more recognition for its work.

Abounding Prosperity operates Prosperity House in South Dallas as a temporary housing providing low-cost transitional housing.

Myers said his agency is looking to expand to provide free temporary housing for at-risk gay

black youth aged 17 or older.

The agency also provides HIV and syphilis testing, counseling and referral services. Myers said his group is not a nine-to-five office-hours, HIV testing organization.

"Our goal is to serve the most at-risk people," he said. "We do it at times convenient to our clientele."

That includes sending staff to clients' homes when necessary, Myers said.

Abounding Prosperity also runs substance abuse meetings for men dealing with alcohol and drug problems.

This year, Black Tie Dinner approached the group about applying to become a beneficiary. Myers said the agency completed and submitted its application and he is waiting to see if Abounding Prosperity is accepted as a beneficiary.

Myers said he appreciated the outreach by Black Tie and added that it confirmed that the work his organization is doing within the black gay community is being recognized beyond the South Dallas community as well. ■

## First South Dallas AIDS Walk steps off on March 19



Auntjuan Wiley

The Anthony Chisolm AIDS Foundation will hold the first South Dallas AIDS Walk on Saturday, March 19.

The 5K walk begins and ends at the South Dallas Cultural Center on Fitzhugh Avenue near Fair Park. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the walk at 10 a.m.

"The goal is to inspire, galvanize and rally South Dallas," the foundation's executive director, Auntjuan Wiley, said.


He said the dollar goal is \$100,000. "We still need sponsors, vendors, volunteers, walkers and teams," Wiley said.

At the end of the walk, he said there will be entertainment and children's activities.

Wiley said the foundation, which began in 2008, provides financial assistance for people with HIV. They help with rent, utility bills, insurance payments and access to medication. Transportation vouchers help clients get to their medical appointments.


For more information, please call Auntjuan Wiley at (214) 455-7316. You may also visit South-DallasAIDSWalk.org.

— David Taffet




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# There is no magic pill.

## An Open Letter to Gilead on PrEP:

As the nation's largest AIDS organization, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) takes the matter of HIV prevention very seriously. We are concerned about the implications of a recent study of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) using Gilead Sciences, Inc.'s drug Truvada using 2,500 gay men and showing a 44% effectiveness rate in preventing HIV transmission.

Such modest results are insufficient to support U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of Truvada as an HIV prevention tool for gay men because:

- *PrEP lacks effectiveness* - 44% effectiveness is much too low to merit FDA approval as a prevention tool. If we were talking about protecting the general population with a treatment that was only 44% effective, would we be celebrating?
- *Real world information is lacking* – The 44% who received a benefit from Truvada were intensively counseled monthly and tested frequently for sexual infections. This is in no way representative of the real world.
- *Increased risk* – How likely are uninfected men to take pills every day for the rest of their lives to prevent a possible HIV infection? The consequences of patients who take Truvada haphazardly are that they will become infected, develop drug resistance, and spread drug-resistant virus to others.
- *Condoms work* – HIV prevention with Truvada has not been shown to be as effective as condom-use. Using medication to prevent infection is based on the premise that we cannot succeed in getting gay men to use condoms. Are we really ready to give up on gay men protecting themselves and their partners?

AHF supports continued research on HIV prevention, but opposes quick fixes that run the risk of contributing to the spread of HIV and drug-resistant viruses. We must consider these issues if we are going to offer up hundreds of thousands of gay men for this experiment.

For more information or to send a letter to Gilead CEO John C. Martin,  
Please visit [nomagicpills.org](http://nomagicpills.org).



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# America, the home of the whopper

Supreme Court's ruling in Westboro Baptist case doesn't consider veracity, common decency

Sometimes people continue telling lies even after they have been shown to be liars. I guess they figure that if they change their tune, they will look like the liars they are, or worse, lose control of the narrative.

The narrative is the story that the press and the public already have in their collective psyches, so anything that goes against it is usually dismissed. Controlling narratives is what lying is all about.



**Hardy Haberman**  
Flagging Left

Take Tony Perkins of the Family Research Council. Tony keeps trotting out the old line that pedophiles are mostly gay men.

It doesn't matter that almost all the major professional organizations in social work and psychology have

debunked that lie long ago, he keeps telling it.

His latest whopper was in defense of the federal Defense of Marriage Act, and using discredited research and twisted figures, he justified his statements, aligning to the Family Research Council's narrative precisely.

More importantly, he speaks while holding a nice soft leather Bible in his hand. The message is none too subtle: It's the truth, "because it is in the Bible," and holding the Bible makes him look "trustworthy."

It doesn't always work.

Take the "godly" folks from the Westboro Baptist Church. They can hold all the Bibles they want, and they still look like loonies.

My bet is that that's exactly what they want to look like. Their narrative is, "We are religious zealots bent on agitating everyone," and they stick to it.

They are picketing soldiers' funerals for the sole purpose of getting people angry at them.

I understand that may be the way they fund their activities, from litigation against those who they have angered to violence. It's like waving the red flag in the face of a bull and then suing the bull when you get hit.

Both Westboro Baptist and Mr. Perkins fall into the same category, and yet the Supreme Court says they have the right to free speech.

Now I am a big proponent of free speech. Without it I would be left writing away with no one to read it.

The problem comes when free speech is



**LYING LIARS** | Decency goes out the window when the Westboro Baptist group comes to town for a protest.

abused, and that is what the WBC and the FRC are doing.

These folks have found the loophole in democracy that lets you say just about anything you want as long as you have sufficient legal representation and parse your words.

Now in the interest of being fair, none of this is a personal attack on anyone, I am merely musing about the sad state of what passes for free speech in our country. (Note the careful parsing of words?)

Apparently, it's become OK to quote from studies your own organization creates specifically for the purpose of "proving a point." Apparently, it's OK to make blanket statements about groups with no proof whatsoever, as long as you don't go attacking specific people.

Apparently, it's OK to scream just about anything as long as you don't go personally attacking an individual.

Therefore, I think it's about time our side took note and began our own narrative that goes something like this:

"Heterosexuals are dangerous people. More than 90 percent of all crimes are committed by self-confessed heterosexuals.

"Overwhelming numbers of heterosexual men abuse women making them patently unfit to be in marriages.

"The vast majority of child neglect cases are directly attributable to heterosexual couples, and that, therefore, makes them the worst can-

didates for parents or guardians.

"What's worse, heterosexuals are responsible for more rapes than all LGBT people combined.

"On the religious front it's even worse. Christians are the most violent people in our country. The vast majority of criminals who identify their religion are Christian.

"It's a very dangerous group and we must be suspicious of them at every turn."

Do I have proof of this? Some of it is indeed true, simply because of the demographics of the population. The rest is conjecture.

But I have a right to say it according to the Supreme Court, so why not?

Well, here's why not:

I could stoop to the despicable practices of the people who seek to deny us our rights; I could legitimately make most of the claims in my rant above. But there is an important item missing from that, and that is plain decency.

Decency has been lost in our discourse these days. It is the principal that says the simple fact I can do something doesn't mean I should.

It is the principal that says sometimes, "It's none of my business what other folk do."

Too bad that principal I learned as a "basic family value" has been lost.

Want fries with those whoppers? ■

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

# Trying to understand the inconceivable

A friend's suicide leaves a reporter with questions that can't be answered and a pain that won't diminish

If there is any criminal act that leaves the victim's survivors more bewildered, frustrated and tormented than suicide, I can't imagine what it could possibly be.

Four months ago, I discovered one of my former college classmates and best friends of more than 40 years dead in his home, apparently by his own hand. The official ruling was suicide by a shot to the head with a handgun that I didn't even know he owned.

I now understand that he bought the gun for protection several decades ago. The idea that my friend would even own a gun for protection seemed ludicrous to me because I couldn't imagine anyone who was so loving, peaceful and gentle being capable of shooting anyone, let alone himself.

I've been told that some people buy guns for protection because they believe that the exhibition of one will scare an intruder away. That must have been what he was thinking.

I've finally decided to write about this because The Dallas Morning News columnist Steve Blow recently wrote a column noting that older white men are more likely to commit suicide than other groups of people. My friend fit in that category.

It is inconceivable to me that my friend — who as a young man had been beautiful, talented, athletic, affluent and charismatic — could ever succumb to such a fate. But if it could happen to him, I guess it could happen to anyone when they grow older.

My friend was a 61-year-old straight guy who had never been married, and his best friend was his elderly Jack Russell Terrier who was dying of old age. He became so depressed one time that he went to bed and was found later, nearly dead of starvation and dehydration.

As a young man, my friend was adored by both women and men. But when he grew

older, the attention from everyone died away. He had trouble making dates and trying to form a relationship in his older years.

He also was experiencing devastating financial problems of which few people were aware.



David Webb  
The Rare Reporter

My friend had suffered a similar depressive experience five years ago when his mother died of natural causes. But he seemingly had recovered enough to function for a few years before his

death. But he apparently quit taking the medication that had brought him back to sanity in years past. He suffered a terrible relapse as a result.

My friend was admitted to a hospital's intensive care unit and later transferred to a mental

hospital. Although his family and many friends rallied around him with loving care, he just never made it back to where he had been. His beloved dog was put to sleep while he was hospitalized.

He was released from the hospital, but it was clear he was not well. He was registered for outpatient care but apparently could not face it.

Within two days, he was dead. Many things come to my mind about this on a near-daily basis now. It is so unbelievable to me that he could shoot himself or anyone else that I sometimes have trouble believing it was really a suicide.

I think that's what they call denial. Logically, I know it was suicide, and I'm glad that he is free of the severe mental illness that he had apparently endured for a number of years.

Emotionally, I search for answers and often think, "What if?" I would never have left him alone for those two days had I known he was in such danger from himself.

The two lessons I believe that can be learned from this are that if someone has suffered a mental illness, they should never be left alone until it is ascertained they are again stable.

The other message is for the mentally ill who are considering suicide if they are able at that point of making logical decisions: The pain and suffering that will be wrought upon the surviving friends and family will result in a lifetime of utter agony for them.

A friend of mine whose mother went into her garage many years ago, started her car and died, said to me, "Your mind is going to be raw for a very long time." And it is.

David Webb is a veteran journalist who has covered LGBT issues for the mainstream and alternative press for more than two decades. He is a former Dallas Voice staff writer and editor. E-mail him at davidwaynewebb@yahoo.com.



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Is Tom Leppert anti-gay?

- Yes: 64 percent
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108 Votes cast

# Who's Tommy?

Maybe you think you know gay stage icon **Tommy Tune**, but even he's still learning things about himself

**W**hen I get Tommy Tune on the phone for the first time, I finally get to tell him about my three Tommy encounters: One was on Broadway when he appeared in *My One and Only*; one was in his one-man show *Tommy Tune Tonight!* at Fair Park Music Hall; but the first time was in the locker room of the Watergate Hotel where we were both staying. He was changing clothes after a swim. And I confess to him my 30-year secret: That I saw his naked ass.

"How'd it look?" he hoots with an excited cackle. "Great!" I tell him. "Well, you know dancers," he says with a flirtatious laugh.

This dancer just turned 72 — a number that rather delights Tune: "If you add together 7 and 2, it equals nine. And nine has always been a lucky number for me."

It has indeed. Tune directed and choreographed the original stage musical *Nine*, and has won an astonishing nine Tony Awards in four categories over his 50-year stage career — a career that launched, in several ways, here in North Texas.

"I began at the Dallas Summer Musicals," says the Texas native, whose sister still lives in Fort Worth. "I got my Equity card there. John Rosenfield, who was the king of culture [in Dallas for decades], reviewed my first professional job in *Redhead* with Taina Elg. In the last paragraph of the review, he wrote: 'We cannot let this report pass without mentioning Tommy Tune, who handles his incredible long form with grace control and power.' That was the energy that sent me to New York. I had the courage after that. And I just linked that up."

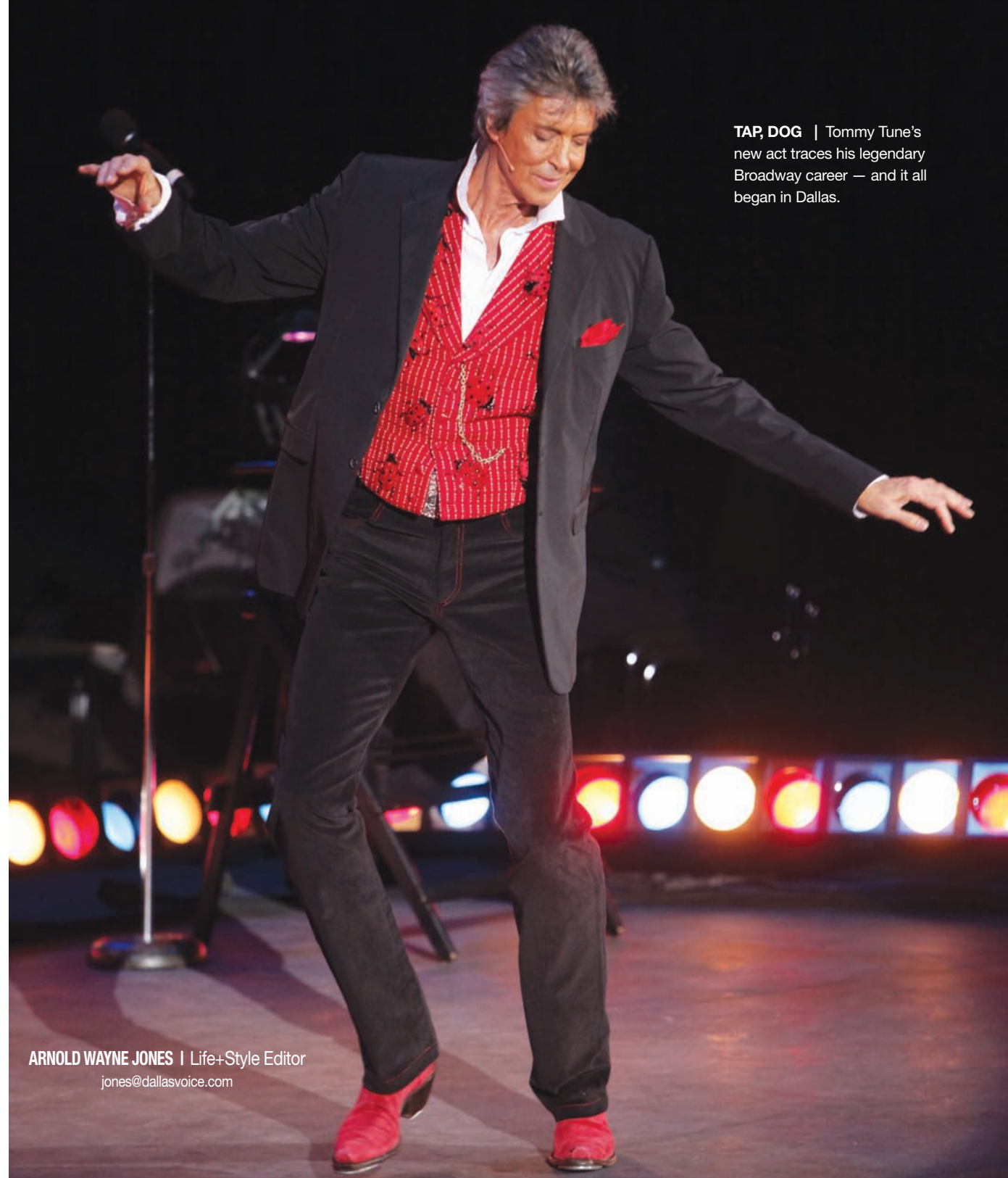
Where he links that up is in his new one-man showcase, *Steps in Time*, which opens Tuesday on the same stage where Tune got his start.

"Everything I do in *Steps in Time* is the truth," says Tune. "I've done four acts and this one is the most personal and the purest and it works better than the others. It doesn't have the glitz, but there's depth."

It's also a work in progress. Tune has performed it about 100 times so far, but often in one- or two-night stands; he'll be in Dallas a week, and the version includes new material he's only recently added. It also has the added bonus of getting him back to his Texas roots.

"I still like to get my feet in the Texas mud, which is different than all other muds," he says.

Tune kicks off his show with his arrival in New York on St. Patrick's Day 1962. His beginnings were auspicious: He auditioned for a show and got the job on the spot. That led to dozens more shows as an actor (*Seesaw*, which won him his first Tony), di-



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

rector and choreographer (*Grand Hotel*, *Nine*, *The Will Rogers Follies*). But he's loathe to choose a favorite experience.

"I'm gonna have to answer the next one will be my favorite," he says. "Every show I've done, I'm not satisfied with. But there is a sense of dissatisfaction that keeps you marching."

Still, he coos about many of the talents he's worked with over the years. Raul Julia "was a dream." With Julia and Keith Carradine he recalls "not one bad moment. It's so easy for an actor to give a director problems. Actors can be quite contrary. But these two guys worked for the good of the show." And there was the great Vaudeville hoofer Charles 'Honi' Coles, whom Tune co-starred with in *My One and Only* and who "was the best dancer that I ever worked with. He taught me more than anybody. And when I worked with him he was 76, so he's still got a few years on me."

Tune recounts one joyful memory about appearing with Coles: They performed a number together — a charming soft-shoe — that on opening night led to a tumult of uncontrollable applause. It literally stopped the show.

"I was just gobsmacked," he says. "I leaned over to Charles and said, 'What should we do?' He smiled up and said, 'Let's do it again.' So I just broke the fourth wall like you don't do and said, 'Let's take it again from the top of the dance.' We did it! I just thought, 'That's opening night — everything's up for grabs.' But we did over 1,000 performances together and we never failed to stop the show — it happened every night! It's when that magic thing happens, when the audience takes control of the show, that you love like theater."

Which is exactly what Tune *didn't* enjoy about one aspect of his career: Making movies. Tune kicked off his film career with a prime role opposite Barbra Streisand in the Oscar-nominated adaptation of *Hello, Dolly!* but he quickly soured on Hollywood.

"I hated making movies," he says. "My whole thing is about the audience connection. In movies, you are not performing for the crew but for a machine — the camera — or yourself. It was just so unfulfilling. You never get the joy of performing a number. After *Hello, Dolly!* they put me in a couple episodes of *Nanny and the Professor* but I was burning to be back on Broadway. I asked them, will

**TAP, DOG** | Tommy Tune's new act traces his legendary Broadway career — and it all began in Dallas.

## STEPS IN TIME

Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. March 15–20. \$20–\$75.  
DallasSummerMusicals.org.



you let me out of that deal? Off I went, and fast!"

And he's still returning to it — as a performer, director and a patron. His favorite recent shows? *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* and *American Idiot*.

"Those are my two favorites. And it worries me that neither has found their audience but both speak to now, but work through then. [The lead in *Andrew Jackson*] is so good, I saw it four times. It made me laugh so hard. Maybe it was a

mistake that they moved it to Broadway, but it was better than the off-Broadway version. They really sharpened it. *American Idiot* is highlight. I was new to *Green Day* — I don't usually do anything more contemporary than the '50s — and they just knocked me out. I'm so grateful I've got to do this with my life. But we need to still be respectful of our fabulous invalid called the theater." ■



## Flying solo

Hilarious actress-playwright **Lauren Weedman** brings her one-woman show to Out of the Loop

### OUT OF THE LOOP

**NO...YOU SHUT UP** at Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Circle. Friday–Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. WaterTowerTheatre.org

trip, she thought she was the shocking one among her friends; but once there, she turned into a Puritan, "mostly about the overall passion for nu-

idity all the Dutch people seemed to have," she says. "I mean, if I was a seven-foot-tall skinny Dutch lady with uncomplicated nipples, I'd be naked all the time, too. But you just could not keep clothes on those people."

Her varied life experiences show up in some form or fashion in many of her shows. *No... You Shut Up* comes to Addison via, of all places, Boise, Idaho, where a theater commissioned a play focusing on motherhood — even two-mommie households.

"Well, it's a play. That starts to get annoying to hear, at least that's what my friends always say because I'm always saying it whenever someone refers to it as 'my act.' As in 'Lauren, you should meet my sister. You'd love her and you'd want to put her in your act,'" Weedman says. "I've done standup, but it's not what solo theater is to me. The last two shows I've been focused on trying to make a narrative — plot-driven, character-driven, semi-autobiographical, fast-paced dark comedies."

The rapid-fire switching of characters takes a lot of skill. And Red Bull.

"It's like a dance, so I don't have to think about it, or grab a hat and spend 14 minutes changing costumes to become another character. I get bored easily — I like to keep it moving."

As a strong, funny woman, she naturally attracts her share of gay admirers.

"I think that my solo shows have continued to evolve and get better and better instead of sliding into delusion. All thanks to my very bossy, judgy gay friends, who come and see all my shows and let me know *everything* that they think. I'm a guest on a Sirius Radio show on *Out Q* with Frank DeCaro and Doria Bidle and they always make me feel like I'm this gigantic star who is just so underappreciated. So I love those gays. I always say the gays keep me on top because they yell at me and they monitor my weight. So they are like family. They are my family." ■

**STEVEN LINDSEY** | Contributing Writer  
stevencraiglindsey@me.com

Get this straight: Lauren Weedman is *not* a standup comedian; she's an actress who just happens to be insanely funny. There's a big difference. Even as a straight woman and new mother, the Los Angeleno often portrays lesbians in plays she writes. It's all in a day's work for a woman making a career channeling multiple characters in a single show with a precision and nuance that's a joy to behold. This weekend, local audiences have an opportunity to witness her in action in her newest play, *No... You Shut Up*, part of the Out of the Loop Fringe Festival.

Weedman officially got her big break as a correspondent on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and is a regular contributor on an NPR radio show, but her career began long before that.

"I started doing on-camera professional stuff when I was living in Seattle around 1995 when I was on a local TV show called *Almost Live*," she says. "But if you call Indianapolis community theater 'the entertainment industry' — and I don't know if you should — it's since third grade. I'm show-folk. Or circus-folk. Or a dirty artist-hippy — whatever you want to call it."

*The Daily Show*, she admits, was an incredible coup, "even though nobody ever remembers me. And I wasn't on that much during the year I worked there. And I was fired. Otherwise, wow! What a job."

Weedman spent five years in Amsterdam studying, writing and performing. Before that

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L+S travel



# An island calling

Faded but still fierce, Catalina oozes tropical romance just off SoCal's coast

NICK VIVION | Contributing Travel Writer  
[gaytravel.com](http://gaytravel.com)

"Are there more resident bald eagles on the island or resident gays?" my traveling companion asks a gay resident of Catalina, who works for the Catalina Island Conservancy, which controls 88 percent of the land here.

"Definitely gays," exclaims Shaun, the knowledgeable biologist tasked with removing invasive plant species on the island.

It's a fair question. There are a whopping 22 bald eagles living on the island, and there can't be too many gays on a spit of land only 55 miles around. Catalina Island isn't the first place that comes to mind as a gay destination, but this unassuming vibe is one of its best traits. It's a mixed crowd, allowing you to mold your experience.

"I don't think many gay people realize that other gays come to the island often. It is gay-friendly, relaxed and comfortable," Shaun elaborates after the laughter simmers down.

Catalina was originally developed by the Banning Brothers during the period of prosperity in the late 19th century that brought the newly moneyed set to the island in droves, ready to party politely in their modest, fully-clothed bathing gear.

As Hollywood developed, so did interest in Catalina. It quickly became a glamorous getaway for the Tinseltown set, and its appeal was accelerated after chewing gum czar William Wrigley bought the island in 1919, bringing his Chicago Cubs here for spring training until the 1950s.

While the glamour has faded somewhat,

Catalina's historical tapestry has golden gay threads woven throughout, and the feeling permeates your stay on the island. And there's still a fascinating history magnifying the romantic aura of the island. This place has a distinct whimsical appeal that combines with top class amenities and attractions to become a perfect gay getaway for those in Southern California and beyond.

Catalina Island has a growing and well-deserved reputation as an adventure destination. For those who crave an escape from the concrete gridlock of Southern California, there is not a single spotlight on the entire isle.

It has its modern perks. The Eco Zip Line is the newest activity on the island, and it's pure joy. Strong winds on add a wholly unexpected dimension to the experience of flying down steel cables 300 feet above the Descanso Canyon floor.

The numerous outdoor experiences make for a soul rejuvenating weekend escape. In a two-day visit, we explored a botanical garden, avoided rattlesnakes as we hiked a portion of the 37.2 mile Trans-Catalina Trail, checked out one of three scenic and remote campgrounds, parasailed high above the ocean and went zip lining from mountain to sea.

There is also an incredible Marine Preserve called the Lover's Cove, calm and ideal for snorkeling amongst the scintillating orange Garibaldi and spotted opaleyes. Several extensive wrecks are accessible for walk-in SCUBA diving on Casino Point, and you can

RAINBOW'S END | Small and still elegant, Catalina Island is a haven for wildlife — and gay adventurers.

tackle the challenging trails on mountain bike or by foot. Last but not least, exploring the island's perimeter in an ocean kayak is an unparalleled way to get out onto the legendary crystal-clear waters along the Catalina Coast.

Catalina Island has been a romantic's playground from the beginning of its development in the Gay Nineties. Dozens of movies have bestowed romantic allure, and the Four Preps' 1958 hit song "26 Miles" extolled the virtues of its romantic side, which is now a perfect soundtrack to the quaint, timeless aesthetic on the island.

Development is strictly limited, so the architecture remains consistent. There is a 15-year waiting list for conventional cars on the island, so personalized golf carts dominate transportation. Walking's not bad, either. Take a leisurely stroll from Avalon around the point past the stunning, 12-story Art Deco Casino, and onwards to the tidepools past Descanso Beach. Then end the night sitting by the blazing fire pit at the pleasantly updated Pavillion Hotel, sipping pinot noir and nibbling on goat cheese as the sun sets somewhere beyond the hills, and the clouds in Avalon harbor turn a fierce purple. Romance, indeed. ■



### The gay ski week fraternity adds its newest member: Shoot the Butte

Aspen has been holding a Gay Ski Week so long, the Village People weren't considered a nostalgia act yet — they were still on the pop charts. But everyone has to start somewhere. Which is how the newest entry in the gay ski week fraternity got going.

**Shoot the Butte**, which runs March 19 through March 26 in Crested Butte, Colo., isn't starting small, either. The inaugural week-long event, designed for queer skiers and snowboarders, serves both as one big party and as a fundraiser for the Matthew Shepard Foundation. In fact, among the scheduled events is a staged reading of *The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later*, the acclaimed play about the murder of Shepard in neighboring Wyoming more than 11 years ago.

Among the other activities are daily "hookups" (meet-ups with other skiers), an apres-ski tubing party, "Martini Monday," the Splash Pool Party (yes, you can swim in the mountains if you know where to go for the heated lanes) and a closing-night party with O.A.R. and DJ Logic. And if you book for at least four nights in the host resort, you get a complimentary "GayCard" that admits you into all the authorized events. There's nothing like turning a little downhill fun into a worthwhile benefit.

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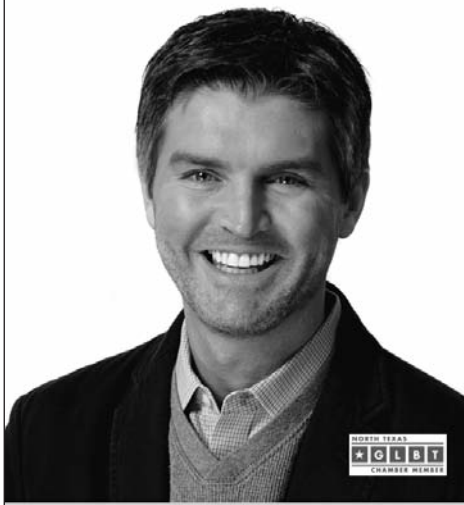
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L+S concerts

# Mister Sister

Headlining or opening for Gaga? It's all the same to Scissor Sisters' Marquis



**MAKING THE CUT** | Del Marquis, far right, has sex appeal with bearish qualities, even though frontman Jake Shears, second from right, gets press for taking his shirt off.

**RICH LOPEZ** | Staff Writer  
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Despite headlining their own tours and high profile music festivals for their acclaimed CDs, the Scissor Sisters kinda had a secret agenda when they joined Lady Gaga's tour as the opening act. As big as the band is, when you go on the road with The Biggest Pop Star of the Moment, benefits abound. The Sisters may not seem like they *need* the benefits — having their own rabid following — but guitarist Del Marquis thinks it could always be bigger.

"There are only a few people you'd want to open for that are well beyond our capacity," Marquis says. "We think her audience would get us but may never see us. We don't get video or radio play, so after our show people may go and look us up."

Funny, being that Scissor Sisters has just been named to big time gigs at the Coachella festival in April and headlining a night at the U.K. festival, Lovebox, in July. But for Marquis, headliner or not, this shakeup keeps the band on its toes.

"When we headline and we feel like we own it, we work it and peddle our wares," Marquis says. "But people have paid a certain amount to see Gaga and so we just work harder but in a different way. Yet it's fun to work for it that way again."

Besides, it's less work.

"Oh yeah, half an hour on stage and we're done," he laughs.

Vanessa Franko from the InLandSoCal blog wrote recently that "the band is still tragically under appreciated." Scissor Sisters aren't an obscure indie band, but their very radio-friendly music doesn't get the mainstream play. In that regard, Marquis brazenly agrees.

"In the States, yeah, but of course, tragic is a point of view," he says. "I think we write great songs *and* we're great live band. There are not a lot of both out there. Songwriting is almost just a vehicle to a performer now and some bands are a bore live but have great songs. We work really hard at both things, so we're a rarity. There are a lot of rock bands and pop stars, but we're a pop band and, against the odds, become something larger."

Which the band seems to have found overseas. The Brits love the Sisters, and maybe it has something to do with the band's constant comparison to vintage Elton John that go even beyond having flamboyant gay members like Marquis and lead singer Jake Shears.

"We do love our U.S. tours, but the audiences seem much bigger in Britain," Marquis says. "They are really great and there we don't play to people with arms folded. But really, whether it's a crowd of 1,500 or 33,000, we play to get an immediate reaction anywhere. We are blessed we do get in that high range of audiences. We want to indoctrinate more people."

Marquis has enough sex appeal to rival frontman Shears (for that matter, so does fellow bandmate BabyDaddy), but he might appeal to a more fur-appreciating contingent. With the Texas Bear Round-Up around the corner, Marquis and his hairy chest would fit right in. Except Marquis is not inclined to embrace an ursine identity.

"Am I a bear?" he laughs. "No, I don't like to think of myself as an animal. A lot of my best friends are bears, though."

Marquis isn't shy, but says he is rather ordinary compared to his frontman's explosive

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charisma, as seen in the recent coffee table book *One Day in the Life of Jake Shears* by photographer Tim Hailand. Marquis admits a book about his day just wouldn't be all that.

"Oh, I don't think it would be all that exciting," he says. "I find pleasure in mundane things. I like to walk and garden. I'm not too exciting so all that would have to be staged. My extrovert is on the stage."

If ever his stage moments are gone, Marquis is keeping his future options open. If there is ever a post-Scissor Sisters existence outside of music, Marquis hints that it could involve design work or even shrubbery.

"I have a new idea every few months about what the future holds. It'll always be there in a sense," he says. "I'm constantly driven by pleasure and fulfillment and inspiration, but because music is so heavily saturating my life, I have to turn to something else as a hobby or a pleasure. So sometimes I think I might get back into design or even small business. I'm even interested in landscape architecture."

Cooking however, is not on his list. Marquis has admitted to loving food, but don't expect a dish from his hands.

"Yeah, I don't cook," he says. "I like to find boyfriends for that." ■



**BOY IN THE BAND** | Marquis doesn't mind the 'opening band' status when he and the Scissor Sisters are opening for 'the biggest pop star in the world.' They just plan to find more fans.

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## Friday 03.11

### Grown up to be cowboys

The rodeo is back in town, or close by, at least. TGRA's A Texas Tradition Rodeo fills the weekend up with barrel racing, bull riding and break-away roping and a whole lot more action for the LGBT cowboys and cowgirls heading out to Alvarado to compete. James Allen and Weldon Henson provide the music along the way.

**DEETS:** Diamond W Arena, 8901 E. Highway 67 Alvarado. Through March 13. TGRA.org.

## Monday 03.14

### Third time is a charm

Maybe it's just us, but the buzz doesn't seem as loud for this week's return of Lady Gaga. And we're certain the gays haven't forgot about it. She returns to Dallas after two sold-out shows last year, but this time she's armed with a new number one hit, "Born This Way," and the Scissor Sisters as openers. OK, now we hear the buzz.

**DEETS:** American Airlines Center, 2500 Victory Ave. 8 p.m. \$52-\$178. Ticketmaster.com.

## Thursday 03.17

### Mother always knows best

In this Outtakes Dallas screening of *You Should Meet My Son*, a mother discovers her son is gay and then decides he needs to have a hubby and her fabulous adventures begin. Way to go, Mom!

**DEETS:** Magnolia Theater, 3699 McKinney Ave. 7 p.m. \$10. OuttakesDallas.org.



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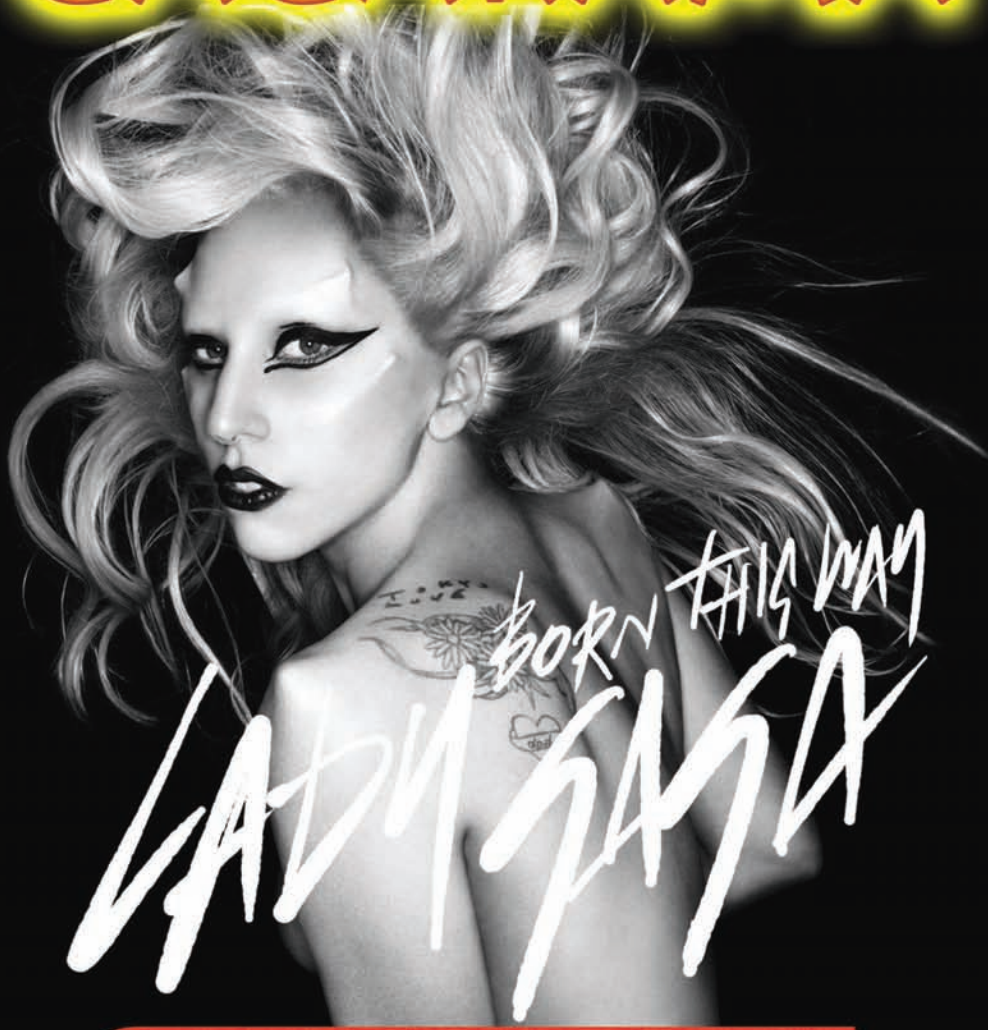
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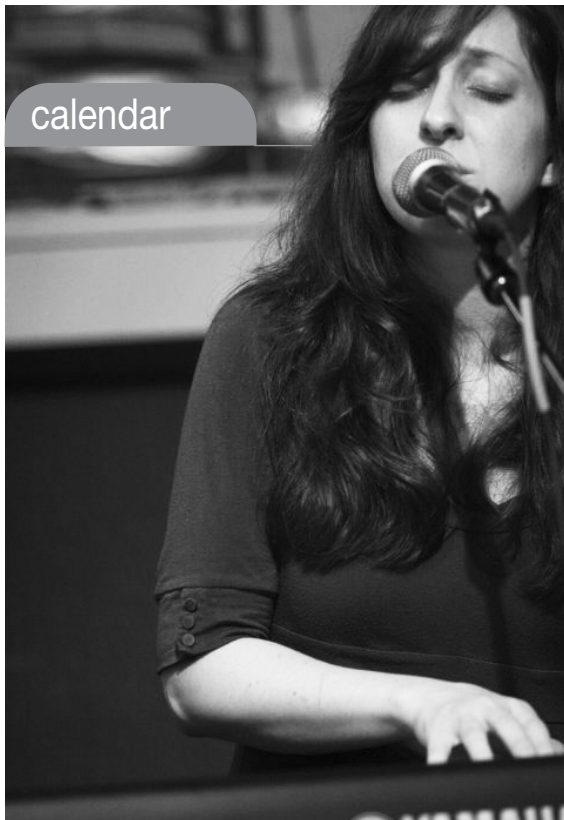
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AND FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

★ The Rose Room is going on the road!

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**KEYBOARD QUEEN** | Emmeline joins the cast of Twist Dallas this week. The bi-monthly music event showcases original music by local LGBT musicians. (Photo by Stephen Potter)

## SATURDAY 03.12

### COMMUNITY

**Choctaw Casino/Bingo** trip leaves the second Saturday of every month from 709 Magnolia St., Arlington. \$7. 817-548-8110.

**Once in a Blue Moon**, women's dance. DanceMasters Ballroom, 10675 East Northwest Highway, Suite 2600B. 7 p.m.-midnight. \$10. 972-479-0774.

**DFW Prime Timers Prime Beefer** potluck at private residence. Call 972-504-8866 to attend.

### BROADCAST

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

## FRIDAY 03.11

### COMMUNITY

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

**JEWEL Crafting Circle** meets on the second Friday. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Visit RCDallas.org for the craft project of the month.

**FUSE** drop-in weekdays for gay and bi guys up to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. Tuesdays-Fridays at 2 p.m. DFWfuse.com.

**Youth First Texas** groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. Fridays-Saturdays and Tuesdays-Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Thursdays at 4 p.m. YouthFirstTexas.org.

### THEATER

**Arsenic & Old Lace** with Betty Buckley and Tovah Feldshuh. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through March 13. \$15-\$70. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Out of the Loop Fringe Festival.** The annual festival features theater, music, dance and art. Actor Robert Wuhl closes the festival with his one-man show. WaterTower Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Sunday. \$10-\$20. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

## SUNDAY 03.13

### COMMUNITY

**Expressions**, a free gender support group for men and women led by volunteers. Sponsored by Dallas Gender Society. Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. 214-540-4475.

**DFW Prime Timers** play Uno at private residence. Call 972-504-8866 to attend.

## MONDAY 03.14

### COMMUNITY

**Stonewall Democrats of Tarrant County.** Tommy's Hamburger Grill, 3431 W. 7th St., Fort Worth. 7 p.m. 817-913-8743.

**PFLAG Mesquite.** St. Stephen United Methodist Church. 2520 Oates Drive, Mesquite. 7 p.m. 972-279-3112.

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

### BROADCAST

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

## TUESDAY 03.15

### COMMUNITY

**Stonewall Democrats of Dallas** meets and is open to the public. Guest speaker is Dallas mayoral candidate Mike Rawlings. Ron Natinsky will also be at the meeting. Ojeda's Restaurant, 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.

**JEWEL Lesbian Fiction Book Club** meets on the third Tuesday. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Visit website for meeting dates if they change due to author's availability. RCDallas.org.

**Tuesday Night Fellowship** with The ONE Church. Buffalo Wild Wings, 4140 Lemmon Ave. 7 p.m. OneChurchTX.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.

### BROADCAST

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

## WEDNESDAY 03.16

### COMMUNITY

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

**Apartment Managers and Stakeholders Crime Watch.** Oak Lawn Branch library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road. Noon. 214-670-1359.

**DFW Prime Timers Prime Lunch** at Bavarian Grill, 221 W. Parker Road, Plano. Call 972-504-8866 to attend.

### MUSIC

**Twist Dallas.** SuZanne Kimbrell's bi-monthly music event featuring local LGBT bands, singers and visual artists. This month's lineup includes Emmeline, Leslie Sakal, Sonya Jevette and artist Justin Comer. Lakewood Bar & Grill, 6340 Gaston Ave. 8 p.m. \$10. TwistDallas.com.

### BROADCAST

**Lambda Weekly.** LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guests are K.C. and Larry Jansson. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

## THURSDAY 03.17

### COMMUNITY

**LULAC 4871 Dallas Rainbow Council** meets. Guest speaker is Dallas mayoral candidate Ron Natinsky. Havana's, 4006 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Lulac4871.org.

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

**Tarrant County Lesbian Gay Alliance.** Luby's Cafeteria, 251 University Ave., Fort Worth. 6:30 p.m. 817-877-5544.

### BROADCAST

**The Jesse Garcia Show.** Latino news talk and entertainment by the prominent gay and Latino local activist. Aired on KNON 89.3 FM Thursdays at 7 a.m. JesseGarciaShow.com.

**Reckless After Dark.** LGBT radio show hosted by Chase Brooks, Cat Michaels and Auntie J. Aired on FishBowlRadioNetwork.com every week at 5 p.m.

## this week's solution

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**CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY**

By Jack Fertig



Kevin Williamson turns 46 on Monday. The screenwriter scared us with his *Scream* trilogy and upgraded the teenage drama with *Dawson's Creek*. The out writer keeps churning out the hits with his latest TV creation *The Vampire Diaries* and has just penned the script for *Scream 4*.

**PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19**

How does sex fit in your relationships, reflect your values and connect you to your deeper self? Take time to meditate, to understand better whatever gaps you may be trying to fill.

**ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19**

Ideas from the top of your head are probably wrong. Take time to figure out why. Well-meaning friends stumble in their efforts to assure you; give them credit for trying.

**TAURUS Apr 20-May 20**

Being a raging control queen will not relieve the stress; getting some professional help could. Relax. Meditate. Doing nothing is the best answer. Consider process and priorities.

**GEMINI May 21-Jun 20**

Your friends lead you astray if you give them a chance. It could be an adventure if you're ready to pay the price. Think ahead, but remember the biggest regrets are the things you didn't do.

**CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22**

Don't keep secrets. Keep your attention elsewhere. You're probably exaggerating threats from someone close to you. Staying focused on goals will help you keep perspective.

**LEO Jul 23-Aug 22**

Resisting the urge to correct ideas can be the biggest challenge. A touch of surrealism can be fun. If practicality is necessary, ask how those wild ideas would work rather than insisting they can't.

**VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22**

Whatever you say is likely to come out sounding dirtier than you intend. That can be great for fantasy role-play, but awkward in real life. Listen between the lines for what's really important.

**LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22**

Enjoy some twisted fun now, but trying to make it last will get less fun. Criticism to or from your partner is more projection than either of you admit. Do not start or end a relationship now.

**SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21**

Worries about home and family are exaggerated, but not out of place. Meditation helps keep perspective. Clean up what you can, admit you were wrong and the rest takes care of itself.

**SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20**

Your mouth is determined to get you into trouble. Stick to the facts and accept lots of correction. Creative writing is safer than speaking. Just don't let anyone read it.

**CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19**

Criticism at home challenges you to re-evaluate your career goals. Some adjustments may be necessary, but do not doubt yourself! You need to stay especially sharp now.

**AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18**

Whatever you say is easily misunderstood. Hone your arguments on screen or paper where you can review your own sympathies and see how they affect your logic, or vice versa.

**THIS WEEK**

A Mercury-Saturn opposition normally sharpens minds as well as tongues, but with Neptune in hard aspect to both planets, misguided bitchiness and ill-considered control games are a lot more likely. Examine your own anxieties. They are too easily projected onto others.

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

**Kyle's Bed & Breakfast** by Greg Fox

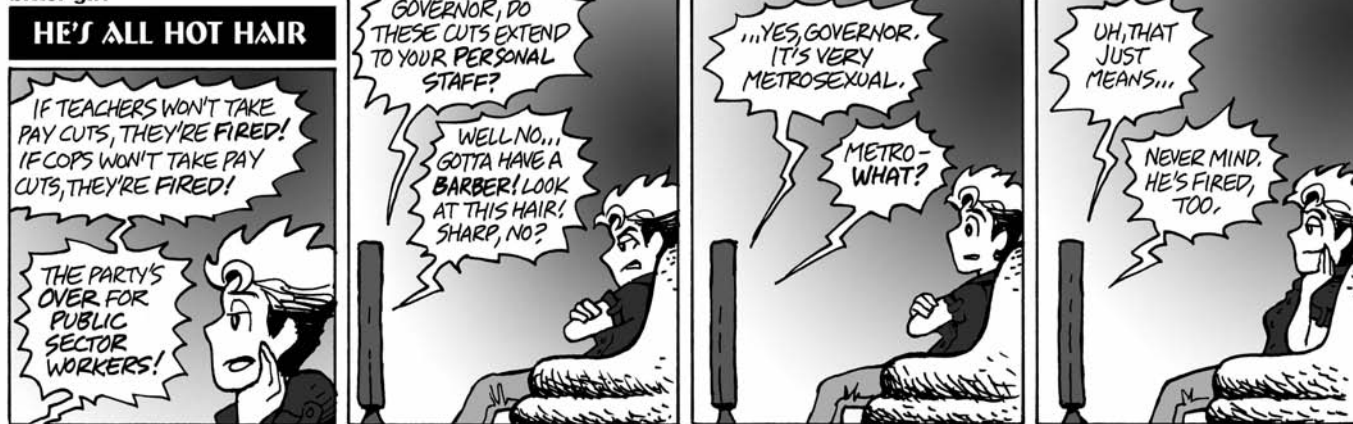
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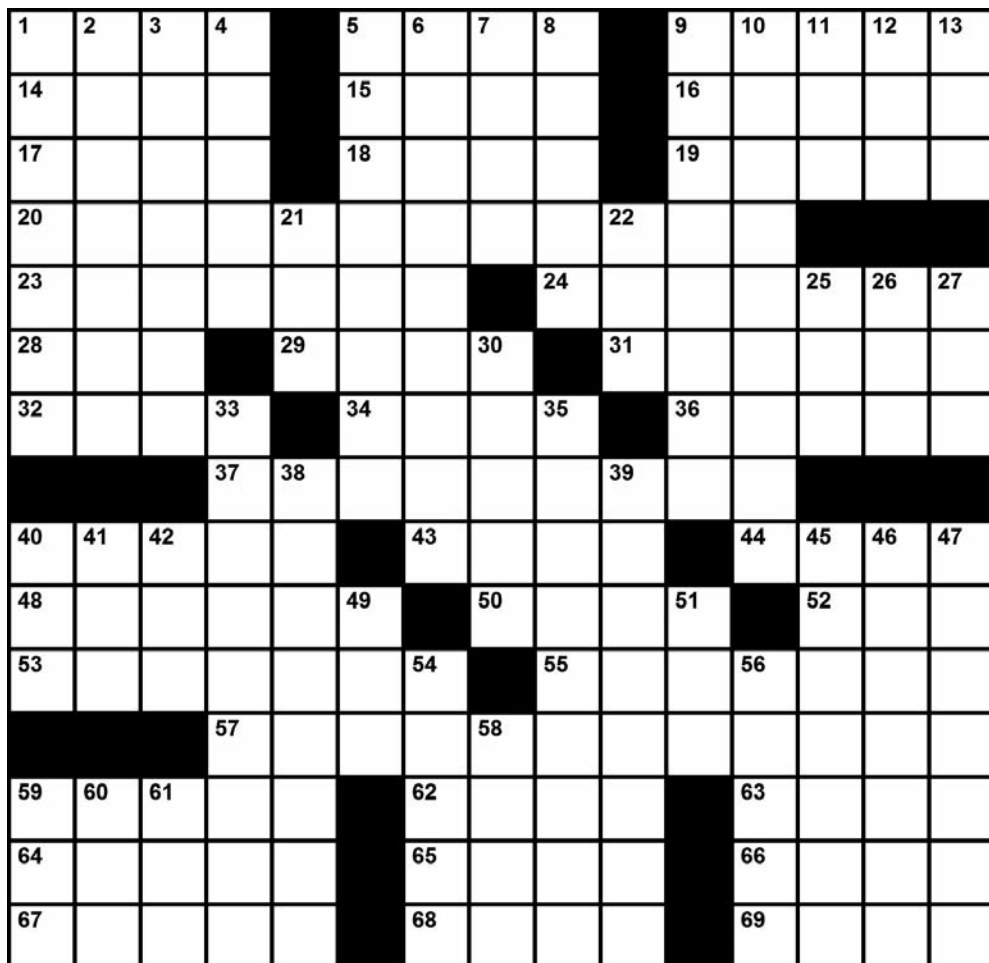
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# Proud Parents

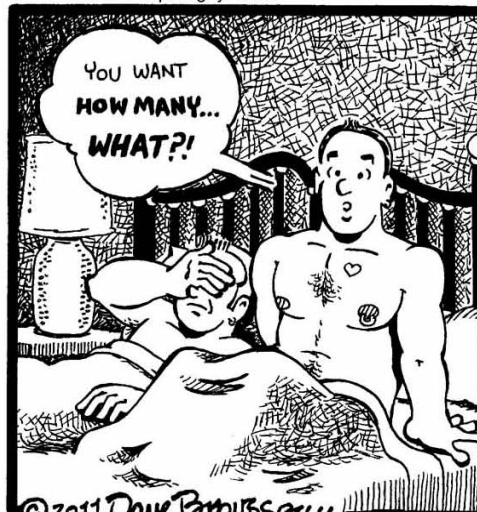
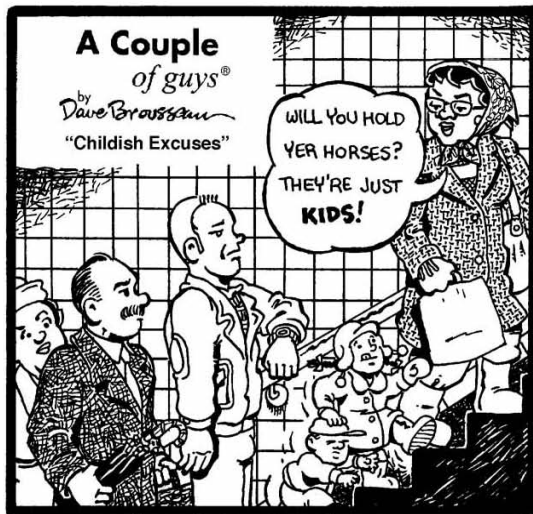
Solution on page 25

## Across

- 1 Guy embraced by homophiles?
- 5 Put out
- 9 Continental coins
- 14 Go from one gay bar to another, e.g.
- 15 Ironically-named burning software
- 16 Dick's running mate
- 17 Vivacity
- 18 Eat beaver-style
- 19 Like a mouth, in B&D
- 20 *Sex and the City* star
- 23 Bouncing off the walls
- 24 Climbing plant's leafless organ
- 28 Beginning of a hickey?
- 29 Billy Douglas on *One Life to Live*, for one
- 31 Kahlo's devil
- 32 Meadow moms
- 34 Time line divisions
- 36 Not erect
- 37 Marinoni (partner of 20-Across)
- 40 Where *Aida* premiered
- 43 Bring home the pork?
- 44 "What would you have \_\_\_?"
- 48 \_\_\_ fours (tea cakes)

## Down

- 50 Enjoy with the tongue
  - 52 A striking blow
  - 53 Streetcar track
  - 55 Like someone easily seduced
  - 57 New-born son of 20- and 37-Across
  - 59 Jack, who licked it clean
  - 62 Kind of a drag
  - 63 Setting for *At Swim, Two Boys*
  - 64 Drag queen's facial application
  - 65 Sea flier
  - 66 Baltic Sea feeder
  - 67 Gay rodeo target
  - 68 Badgers or horses
  - 69 Come clean, with "up"
- 
- 1 Come ahead of
  - 2 Milk source at the Crystal Cathedral?
  - 3 Great Scott romance
  - 4 Slow, to Saint-Saens
  - 5 Bring about with some effort
  - 6 Williams' glass animals
  - 7 Caspian Sea land
  - 8 Namely
  - 9 Language related to Finnish
  - 10 Praise of an early morning erection?
  - 11 Tombstone letters
  - 12 Vein filler
  - 13 "Get out!" to Orton, with "off"
  - 21 Single, to Glenn Burke
  - 22 Crossed through
  - 25 Baseball card stat
  - 26 Not in the pink
  - 27 Worldly fate
  - 30 Like a pair of orifices
  - 33 Where Esera Tuaolo drew the line?
  - 35 Pubescent person
  - 38 It surrounds three men in a tub
  - 39 Has a slant
  - 40 Von Trapp's rank
  - 41 \_\_\_ Lingus (Irish airline)
  - 42 Suffix that changes senior's gender
  - 45 One that comes out on the beach
  - 46 Actress Del Rio
  - 47 Tools in kitchen drawers
  - 49 Clinton blows it
  - 51 Family
  - 54 Aden's land
  - 56 "\_\_\_ Aquarius"
  - 58 Byron poem
  - 59 MTF operation
  - 60 Gold holder
  - 61 Golden Girl McClanahan





Josh, Will, Larry and Chris at JR.'s Bar & Grill.

There is lots going on. Let's just hope you didn't give up good times for **Lent** .... We say "road trip" because **TGRA's A Texas Tradition Rodeo** gets its horse action on in **Alvarado** this weekend at the **Diamond W Arena**. This is that time to save a horse and ride a cowboy .... We've said it already a couple of times here but **Lady Gaga** returns to Dallas Monday night performing at the **American Airlines Center** along with queer-based band **Scissor Sisters** opening. Should be quite the gay explosion .... And if you haven't read the cover story by now, well, all the bears are heading to town for **TBRU XI** which starts Thursday .... Speaking of Gaga, **Station 4** will be giving away tickets to the concert Friday night. After the concert on Monday, head to the club for the dancefloor event **GagaRama** .... Have a drink with the **Texas Instruments LGBT peeps** at **High Tech Happy Hour** on Friday at the **Cedars Social** .... Wanna have fun old school style? Head south to the **Q-Roc & Roll LGBT Skate Party** at **Red Bird Skateland** in Duncanville. A night of roller skating and adult beverages will make an interesting mix and the night benefits **Q-Roc TV** .... Proprietors convene for the **Bar Owner's Drag Show** on Sunday at **the Rose Room**. Is your favorite bar gonna be represented? Better tell them to be there. The event benefits the **Dallas Tavern Guild** and its charities .... **Twist Dallas** is back with a new lineup of local LGBT musicians and artists. The bi-monthly event happens Wednesday at the **Lakewood Bar & Grill** .... **The Brick** hosts the **Bear Grindr Meet-Up** on Thursday. But aren't they all on **Scruff**? ... That is one jam-packed week and **St. Patrick's Day** is in there somewhere. ■

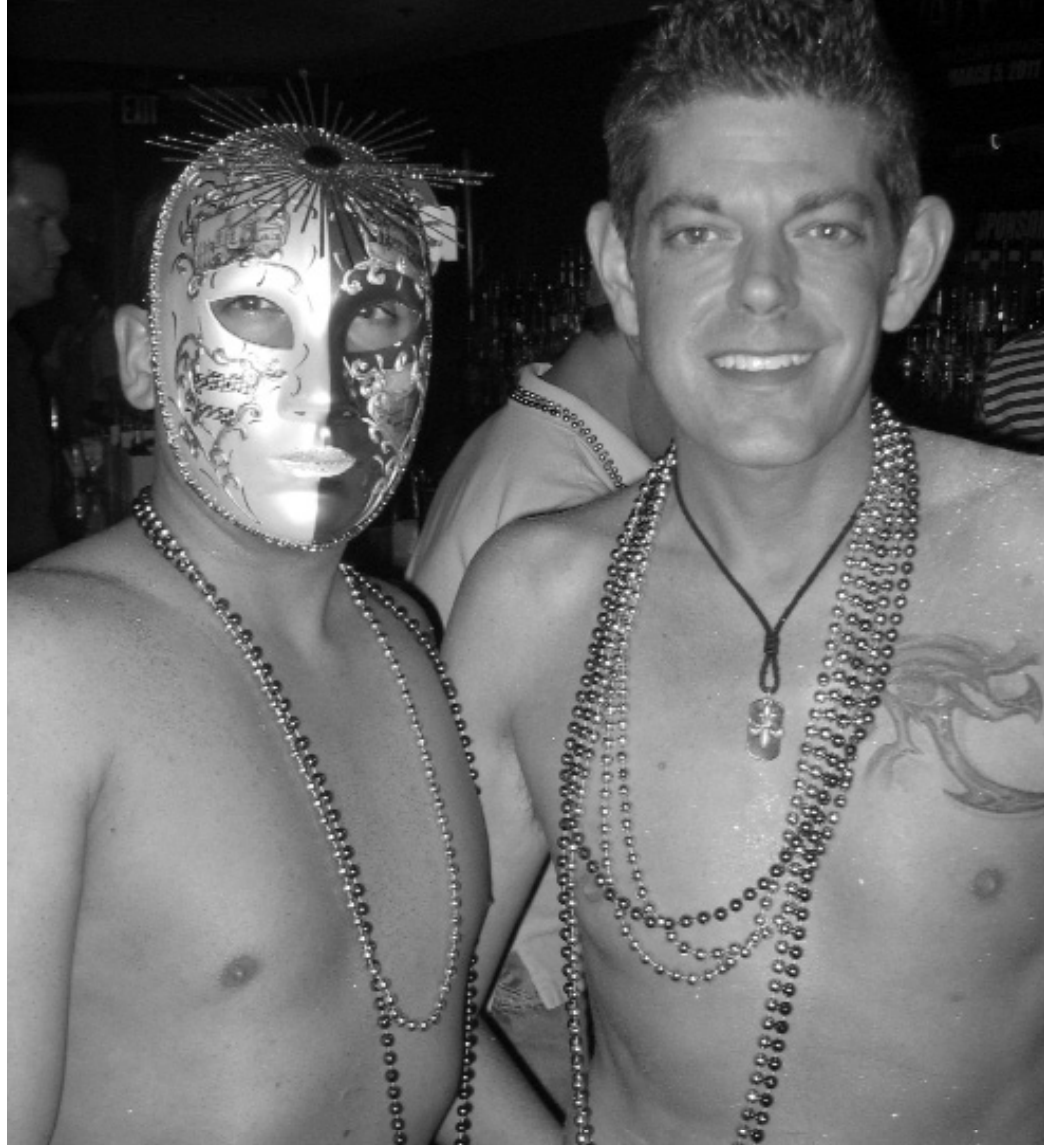
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES. SEE MORE AT DALLASVOICE.COM



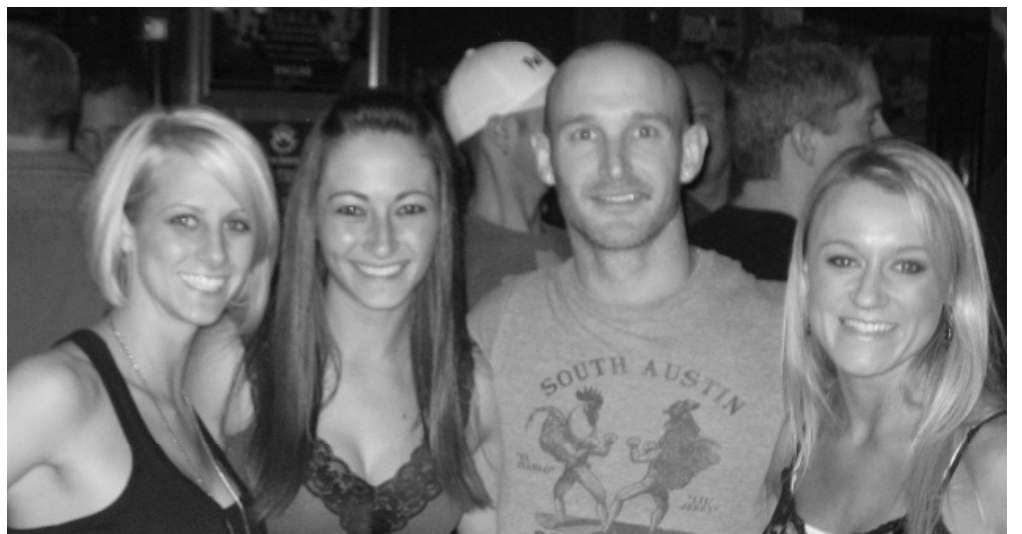
Steve at TMC: The Mining Company.



Lisa and C. at Sue Ellen's.



Jemya and Cody at Station 4.



Sherry, Alison, Daniel and Shandelyn at the Round-Up Saloon,



Preston on the Strip



Ex and J.W. at Randy Bee-z Cafe.

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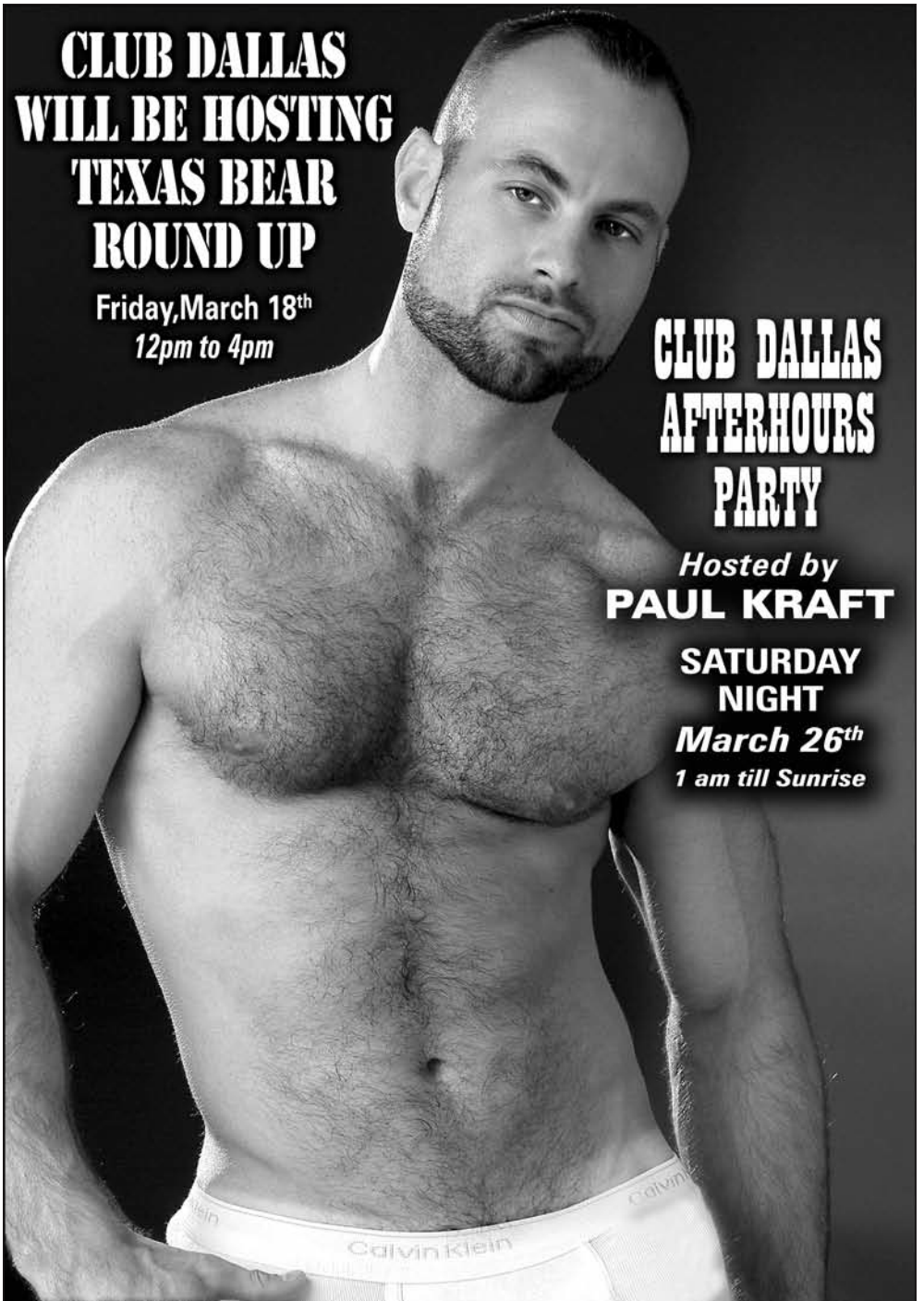
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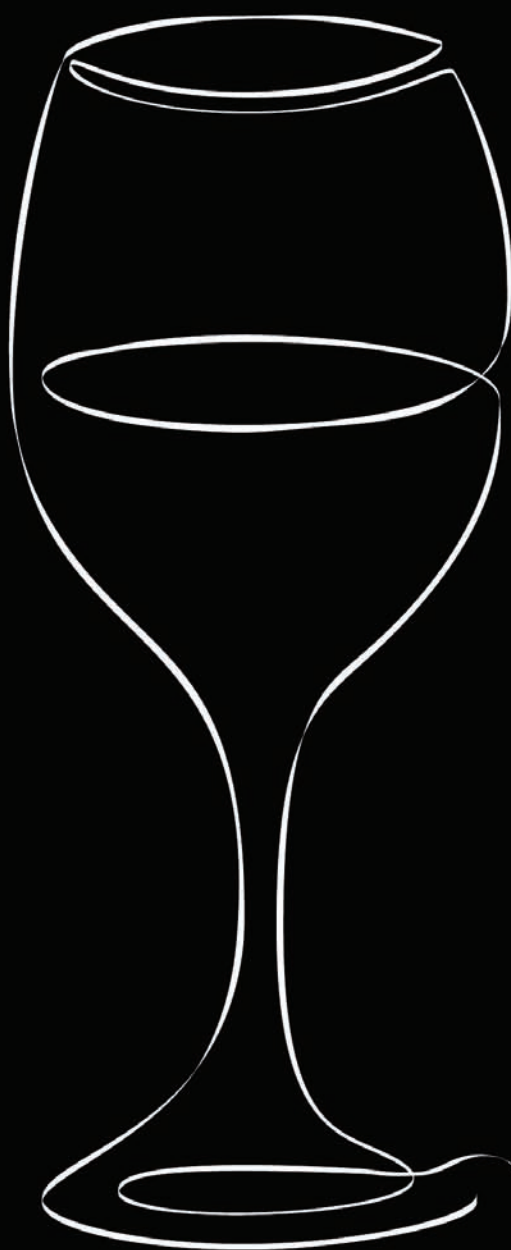
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