

# Fort Worth Opera goes gay (again)

Allen Ginsberg goes to the opera with 'Hydrogen Jukebox'

Director Lawrence Edelson finds universality in queer poet's messages

■ OPERA, Page 16



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Established 1984 | Volume 28 | Issue 1

FREE | Friday, May 20, 2011

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story beginning  
on Page 11



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John Boeglin with a photo of Jamie Boeglin. Photo by Andrea Grimes. Cover design by Kevin Thomas.

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# Turnout key in Dallas mayoral runoff

Kunkle, Rawlings pledge to stay on message; advocates say LGBT vote could have significant impact

**TAMMYE NASH** | Senior Editor  
nash@dallasvoice.com

Turnout. That's the key for Dallas mayoral candidates who wrangled their way into runoffs after the May 14 general elections.

Mike Rawlings and David Kunkle are facing off in the June 18 runoff, and both said this week that turnout and support in the LGBT community will play key roles.

Gay former Dallas City Councilman Ed Oakley knows something about runoff strategies. Four years ago, he lost his bid for mayor in a runoff with Tom Leppert. Oakley said this week that Rawlings and Kunkle "have about five weeks now to get their voters re-energized to go back to the polls" on June 18. It won't be an easy task.

"They have to raise about the same amount of money they raised for the general election [to pay for] advertising on TV, mailers — all the same things they paid for before," Oakley said. "On top of that, the candidates will end up having to do all the debates all over again.



David Kunkle

Mike Rawlings

"It's totally different in a runoff. Messages get refined," he added. "In my race, we ran a great ground campaign and we raised the money, but we got off message. The media started targeting the gay issue" — Oakley was in a position to become the first openly gay mayor of a large U.S. city, which became a focus in the media — "and that became such a big issue that our message got lost."

Oakley also predicted that Kunkle, who got 32 percent of the general election vote, faces an uphill battle against Rawlings, who ended the general election with 41 percent. Rawlings outspent all three of his general election opponents, while Kunkle relied on a strong grassroots effort.

"You have to hand it to [Kunkle] and his staff. They ran a great grassroots campaign to get into the runoff. But while the grassroots campaign is great, in a runoff he has to be able to spend the

money to reach out to different voters, and I think he is going to be a little handicapped," Oakley said.

Kunkle himself said this week that "in the most simple terms, I have to get my voters out a second time and try to get as many of [third-place finisher] Ron Natinsky's supporters over to my side as possible."

Kunkle said he will focus on his vision for the city, and will work to differentiate himself from Rawlings and his approach to governing Dallas.

"We are two different people with different backgrounds, different values and different decision-making processes," Kunkle said. "I know this city, its neighborhoods and its people, and my priority is creating strong, livable neighborhoods, and building a good future for the city by driving sustainable economic development."

Rawlings said his efforts leading up to the runoff will be to "do what I always do, which is look at what has worked and keep doing that."

Rawlings said he will focus on "improving in areas where I did well [in getting votes], but also looking at those areas where I didn't knock it over the fence and try to improve there, like in Angela Hunt's district, District 14."

Rawlings said he believes his message in the general election "resonated well with the voters,"

■ **TURNOUT**, Page 9

## Trans candidate places 3rd in Amarillo mayoral race

Dunn proud of her efforts, but says she won't run again without more community support

**JAMES BRIGHT** | Contributing Writer  
editor@dallasvoice.com

Transgender mayoral candidate Sandra Dunn placed third in Amarillo's mayoral election May 14 in an 11-candidate field that included an anti-gay pastor. Dunn said voter turnout was a major concern in the election, with fewer than 15,000 votes cast, according to the Amarillo Globe-News.

Mayor-elect Paul Harpole won the election with 77 percent of the vote. Roy McDowell came in second with 13 percent and Dunn in third with 3 percent.

"It seems traditionally most people do not realize that local votes are critical," she said. "People think they just need to vote nationally and that's just not the case. There have been several cases in the past where an election has been decided by just one vote."

Dunn is not disappointed about her placement though. "Third out of 11 is nothing to be ashamed about," she said.

Even though she lost the election, Dunn said her

third-place finish should give her some weight in the City Council.

She also said she would not run again unless a committee was formed for her election and she received support both socially and financially.

"I'm not trying to beat my own drum, but I did this one all by myself," Dunn said. "I put out several feelers nationwide asking for help and I received zero support."

Dunn also said her work in politics is far from over. She has already been talking to Amarillo's city manager about job discrimination and the restroom issue: "I'm going to approach the city about getting some things added to certain policies to take in consideration issues that affect transgender people."

According to Dunn, transgender people using public restrooms has become a major concern among the city's straight population. She said the idea of transgender people using family restrooms appealed to both groups.

"A family restroom is a single stall room," Dunn said. "You can go in lock the door and no one will bother you. It will help us as transgender individuals and help parents who have two or three kids on an outing."

Dunn said her primary goal politically is to

push for legislation that would prevent all discrimination in the work place.

Dunn's military service also stood out in this election. Denny Meyer, media director for Transgender American Veteran's Association, said although endorsing candidates can get a bit tricky the group supports all members of the LGBT community who run for public office.

"It's almost a victory to celebrate that she came in third in that district," Meyer said. "It's a positive sign in that field and means independent voters by large went for her."

Monica Helms, president of TAVA, said the organization takes a lot of pride in people like Dunn and their efforts to make progress in the world, both politically and professionally. "She [Dunn] represents some of the best of our community, and some of the best of our transgender veterans," Helms said.

If Dunn were to run again, Helms said she would have the support of TAVA in the future.

Transgender people have frequently been

■ **CANDIDATE**, Page 9



Sandra Dunn

## instantTEA

DallasVoice.com/Instant-Tea

### Preparing for 2012 elections

Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats held a fundraising party Thursday in preparation for the 2012 election cycle, according to TCSD President Lisa Thomas.

The event was held at Blue Mesa Grill, 1600 S. University Drive.

Thomas noted that TCSD has not endorsed any candidate in the Fort Worth mayoral election runoff between Betsy Price and Jim Lane because the race is non-partisan. But she did say that Lane, a former City Council member who is a Democrat, was invited to the fundraising event.



— Tammye Nash

### 3rd El Paso suspect arrested

A third suspect has been arrested in a brutal beating outside a gay nightclub in downtown El Paso on May 7. Ivan Gallardo, 17, is charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Two other suspects, ages 16 and 19, have also been arrested in connection with the attack outside the Old Plantation, which police say was gang related. The 22-year-old victim, Lionel Martinez, remains in critical condition after suffering a fractured skull and brain swelling.

A total of six people reportedly jumped Martinez while he was waiting for a ride, punching him, kicking him and hitting him with a baseball bat.

Martinez is straight, but LGBT advocates say it was a hate crime because the suspects were yelling anti-gay slurs, and the FBI is investigating the incident as a possible civil rights violation. Police have increased patrols around the nightclub in the wake of the incident, and an anti-hate crime rally reportedly is planned for next week outside the County Courthouse.

— John Wright

### Dallas marks IDAHO

About 45 people attended a candlelight vigil in downtown Dallas on Tuesday night to mark the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia. This is the first time Dallas participated in IDAHO.

A number of pedestrians also stopped along the sidewalk to listen to speakers at the JFK Memorial. The evening began with singing and an invocation by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

After the speakers, there was a candlelight vigil along several downtown blocks.

— David Taffet

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## localbriefs

### COTL Church holding garage sale

Celebration on the Lake Church on Cedar Creek Lake will hold its second annual Mega-Garage Sale fundraiser Saturday, May 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The sale will offer furniture, appliances, clothing, household items, decorative items and more, all donated by the congregation and community.

Under the guidance of Pastor Kathy Bowser, Celebration on the Lake Church offers outreach programs that include contributions to Toys for Tots, Mabank Nursing Home, Meals on Wheels, the Library at Cedar Creek Lake, Humane Society of Cedar Creek Lake and others.

Celebration on the Lake Church holds Sunday services at 10 a.m. each week in the sanctuary at 9120 Highway 198 in Payne Springs. For more information, go online to [COTLChurch.org](http://COTLChurch.org) or call 903-451-2302.

### 'Economics of Equality' panel set

The Out & Equal DFW Regional Affiliate and Resource Center of Dallas will present a panel discussion on "The Economics of Equality" on Tuesday, May 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., at the Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.

Panelists are Rebecca Solomon of Bank of America, Roger Poindexter with Lambda Legal and attorney Rebecca Covell. RCD Executive Director Cece Cox will moderate.

Topics will include tax disparities faced by same-sex couples, inheritance and retirement issues and developing inclusive workplace policies.

Admission is free, and a light breakfast will be served.

For information, call 214-528-0144.

### TDWCC meeting Monday

The next general meeting of Texas Democratic Women of Collin County will be held Monday, May 23, at 6:45 p.m. at the Preston Ridge Campus of Collin College, 9700 Wade Blvd. in Frisco, in Founders Hall, Shawnee Room F148.

The speaker will be Dr. Richard Adams, a developmental-behavioral pediatrician, discussing the topic of children in Texas and their health and well-being.

Adams has researched and published widely on issues related to children with special needs and has chaired the Committee on Children with Disabilities for the Texas Pediatric Society. In 2004, he was the recipient of the "Advocate of the Year" award from the Texas Chapter of the National Association for Nurse Practitioners, and he was recently selected to the executive committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Children with Disabilities.

TDWCC meets the fourth Monday of each month at Collin College. For more information, go online to [TDWCC.org](http://TDWCC.org).

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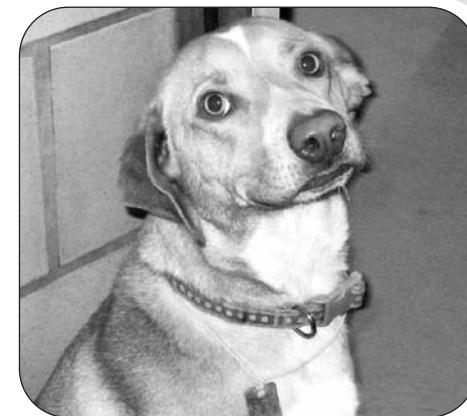
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## ■ texasnews

# North Texas candidates prep for runoffs

Dallas, Fort Worth mayors' races head to runoff; Hunt sails to re-election; Griggs upsets incumbent; Hightower also in runoff

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Mike Rawlings will face David Kunkle in a runoff for Dallas mayor on June 18. The two will meet in a debate sponsored by Dallas Voice on May 24 at Cathedral of Hope at 6 p.m.

Rawlings, who outspent all three of his opponents combined, drew 41 percent of the vote. Kunkle, who was endorsed by Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, received 32 percent of the vote.

DGLA endorsed Ron Natinsky, who got 25 percent of the vote.

Both Kunkle and Rawlings have supports from the LGBT community, but in heavily gay Oak Lawn and Oak Cliff precincts, Kunkle drew more votes.

### Dallas city council

In City Council races, Angela Hunt sailed to a re-election victory with 65 percent of the vote against three challengers. Gay candidate James Nowlin received 30 percent and Vernon Franko and Brian Oley split the remaining 5 percent.

"I was humbled by the support, especially in the Oak Lawn precincts," Hunt said. "It meant a great deal to me."

Because of term limits, this will be Hunt's last two years on the council. But she said she hasn't thought about future plans.

"We have some serious challenges we need to address over the next two years," Hunt said.

In a rare upset, challenger Scott Griggs defeated two-term incumbent Dave Neumann in District 3.

"It's a new day for District 3," Griggs said. "Our message resonated with voters."

His message included wise use of tax dollars for small economic development projects in his district and stopping gas drilling within the city

limits.

Pauline Medrano who represents parts of Oak Lawn was re-elected with 75 percent of the vote.

Delia Jasso, who represents a large section of North Oak Cliff, ran unopposed.

Casie Pierce, a lesbian who was challenging Carolyn Davis for District 7 in South Dallas and Pleasant Grove, lost her race.

In District 6, Stonewall-backed Monica Alonzo defeated DGLA-backed Luis Sepulveda in the race with the lowest voter turnout.

### Tarrant County

In Fort Worth, former Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector Betsy Price will face former Mayor Pro Tem Jim Lane.

Of the five mayoral candidates, Price's answers to a right-wing religious voter guide were the least LGBT-friendly, but Price said this week her answers were inaccurately represented (*see story, Page 4*).

In the non-partisan race, Price is running with the most Republican support, including that of U.S. Rep. Kay Granger, who is a former Fort Worth mayor.

The candidates will meet in a debate on June 1 at Four-Day Weekend Theater, 312 Houston St., Fort Worth at 5:30 p.m. Fairness Fort Worth and the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the event that will be moderated by Dallas Voice Senior Editor Tammye Nash and Fort Worth Star-Telegram reporter Bud Kennedy.

Chris Hightower, District 5 City Council candidate in Arlington, also made it into a runoff. He will face incumbent Lana Wolff and if elected would become that city's first openly gay elected official.

Hightower was the top vote-getter with 39 percent in a five-way race.

"We feel good about where we are," he said. "We have a broad base of support in the district, and we are going to just keep at it, keep delivering that positive message to the voters. We are ready to go. We came into this prepared for a runoff. We will still be doing some fundraising, but we are in good shape. We just have to put our heads down and keep going." ■

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## ■ TURNOUT

From Page 4

considering that he garnered 41 percent of the vote, and he believes that those who supported Natinsky before will be drawn to his campaign now.

"I think my message as far as economic development and focusing on growth as a city matches up very nicely with what Natinsky's supporters are looking for."

Both Rawlings and Kunkle said they believe support in the LGBT community is essential for a runoff victory.

"I have always appreciated so much the friendships I have had for a long time in the LGBT community and the new friendships I have made during this campaign," Rawlings said. "I think the LGBT community is a great example of what makes Dallas strong, and that is inclusion, rather than exclusion."

"More than that, I think it comes down to how we treat each other and the degree of civility involved. That should go beyond group to group; it's about individual to individual. Government should do a better job in that area, and I have decided I will make a difference in that" if elected.

Kunkle pointed to his long-standing relationship with the LGBT community dating back to his days as Dallas police chief.

"I have the support of Stonewall Democrats, and I won all the precincts that are identified as strong GLBT precincts," Kunkle said. "One of the things that makes Dallas successful as a city is that it is a cool place to live, and it has a growing economy, and I think people in the GLBT community can feel comfortable coming to Dallas, given the equal opportunity here in employment and the strong community that exists here."

"And the reason [LGBT people] come to Dallas is not because it has this giant downtown where you can go work in some corporate headquarters, but because it has strong neighborhoods and a strong community. That's what I want to help to grow and improve."

## LGBT support

Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink and DGLA PAC Chair Damien Duckett this week agreed that the LGBT community could have a significant impact on the outcome of the mayoral runoff.

DGLA endorsed Natinsky in the general election, and Duckett said the PAC is meeting Friday, May 20, to "determine whether we want to recommend a new slate of candidates for the runoff, and that include the mayor's race, since our endorsed candidate didn't make it through."

But, Duckett said, DGLA isn't considering new endorsements just because the organization's

## ■ CANDIDATE

From Page 4

thrown under the bus, according to Meyer.

"They were completely left out of 'Don't Ask Don't Tell,'" he said. "It did not even occur to them [legislators] when they wrote [the bill] that transgender people existed."

## MAYORAL FORUM SET FOR TUESDAY

Dallas Voice, partnership with a slate of community organizations, will present the 2011 Mayoral Runoff LGBT Community Forum on Tuesday, May 24, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road.

Runoff candidates Mike Rawlings and David Kunkle will participate. Admission is free.

original candidate didn't make the runoff.

"It's our responsibility to make a recommendation to our community, based on the candidates who are available," he said. "We have a responsibility to make sure our community hears from us."

In issuing endorsements for the general election DGLA not only backed Natinsky, the organization also issued a "warning" against Rawlings, saying his strong focus on business and economic development might override his commitment on civil rights issues.

Duckett said one issue that concerns him in the runoff is "whether the candidates are keeping honest. This is the runoff; this is sudden death. And this is where candidates can get desperate and start slinging mud, where they start making promises they don't intend to keep and showing false sincerity in paying attention to issues presented to them."

"I hope our mayoral candidates are being honest instead of just saying something that is politically expedient," he added. "I hope the voters and the media will really pay attention to what is said in the coming weeks and how that measures up to what was said in the general election."

Fink pointed out that especially in elections where turnout is low — as was the case with the May 14 general election in Dallas and is likely to be the case in the June 18 runoff — the LGBT community, if it turns out in force, "has a real opportunity to have our votes become more inflated in terms of influence."

She pointed to the District 6 council race where Monica Alonza, endorsed by Stonewall Democrats, defeated Luis Sepulveda, endorsed by DGLA. Only 1,035 people voted in that race, with Alonzo getting 634 votes to Sepulveda's 401.

"If we [DGLA] had just mobilized 200 people in our community in District 6 to get out in vote on Election Day, that would have been huge in that race. That would have been one-fifth of the total electorate in that race," Fink said.

"Turnout is, historically, much lower in runoffs, and the smaller the number of total votes in an election, the more impact each vote has," she added. "Our community, if we will turn out and vote, could have tremendous impact on who is the next mayor of Dallas." ■

*Watch the May 27 issue of Dallas Voice for coverage of the mayoral runoff in Fort Worth and in Chris Hightower's runoff effort to become the first openly gay member of the Arlington City Council.*

But, he said, Dunn's campaign shows a significant gain in changing that. "It's not just gay people getting elected, but transgender people advancing as well," Meyer said. "It's the final frontier."

For now Dunn said she will continue counseling transgender people, spending time with her family and working on her master's degree in psychology. ■



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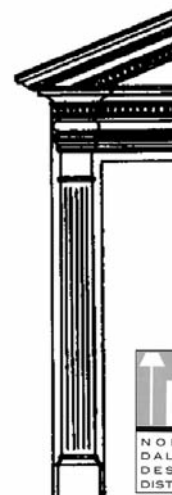
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## ■ spirituality

### ‘A roomful of silent witnesses’

Collection of stoles from LGBT clergy on display at Northaven UMC, including stole from local minister Stephen Sprinkle

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com



**NO LONGER SILENT** | The Rev. Steve Sprinkle, assistant professor at Fort Worth's Texas Christian University, donated his stole to the Shower of Stoles project in 2001. He added the line of bells along the bottom so that he would never again be silent about his sexual orientation.

The Shower of Stoles — a portion of which is now on display at Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas — is a collection of liturgical stoles from LGBT religious leaders representing about 30 Jewish and Christian denominations from six countries on three continents.

Stoles are the religious garb worn by clergy around the neck, usually over a clerical robe. This collection, started by a lesbian minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) whose ordination was threatened when she came out, is designed to “connect with people emotionally,” creating an impact similar to that of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, said the Rev. Rebecca Voelkel of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Voelkel said the collection is an important artifact of the ongoing battle for ordination equality in mainstream churches.

In 1993, Voelkel explained, the Presbyterian Church called for a three-year period of open dialogue on human sexuality. The Rev. Martha Juillerat, a Presbyterian minister from rural Missouri, participated by traveling around her district participating in dozens of conferences and opening dialogues in churches throughout the area.

Despite the invitation to come out, there was no guarantee that Juillerat wouldn't face repercussions. And in fact, she did.

Voelkel said that when the Presbyterian Church threatened to revoke Juillerat's ordination in 1995, she put word out for other LGBT clergy to send her their stoles and stories. Within a week she had 75.

When Presbytery officials gathered to discuss her case, “she lined the room with stoles,” Voelkel said. Within a few weeks the collection had grown to more than 200.

After Juillerat retired, she donated the collection to the NGLTF's Institute for Welcoming Resources, which now maintains it. The collection has grown to about 1,200 pieces.

Today, parts of the collection are exhibited in about 100 places each year. Voelkel said that some churches use the display as part of the welcoming process, but others bring in the collection before they are even ready to talk about it.

She called it “a roomful of silent witnesses.”

Those witnesses can have an impact. Just last week, 18 years later Juillerat's fight, the Presbyterian Church voted to allow ordination of LGBT clergy.

A display of 50 stoles will be on exhibit at Northaven United Methodist Church through June 5, said the Rev. Eric Folkerth. The church is a welcoming congregation with a large LGBT

membership. Northaven is also a beneficiary of the Black Tie Dinner.

Folkerth said his church has hosted the exhibit before: “It was very moving and an inspiring thing to see.”

While other churches use the collection to begin a dialogue, Folkerth said, “This is a reminder that we are so blessed.”

Folkerth said that in terms of creating change, it would be better for the stoles to be somewhere else. But, “It's important to remind ourselves what's going on in the rest of the church.”

Among the stoles in the collection is one from the Rev. Steven Sprinkle, an associate professor at Texas Christian University. In his accompanying story, Sprinkle said that he served several congregations as a single person. Congregants suspected he was gay and he was targeted with graffiti on his house and had his car ties slashed.

“In an attempt to drive me away, my pet Basset hound, Beau, and my English bulldog, Buck, were butchered and hung up in the backyard of my parsonage,” Sprinkle said. “There was a lot of fear in my life.”

But Sprinkle said he didn't run. Instead he came out after a close friend told him, “If there are no secrets, Steve, there can be no ambushes.”

*Shower of Stoles exhibit, Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Road. Mon.–Fri., 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m. and Sun. 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m. through June 5. 214-363-2479. Northaven.org.*

# Missing inaction

Jamie Boeglin lived on the fringes of society, and now that she has been missing for a year, her family fears they have lost her forever



**FAMILY GATHERING** | Jamie Boeglin, seated center in white, loved to be part of family gatherings and was especially adamant about her family celebrating her birthday, says her brother John. The fact that Jamie's 48th birthday passed last July with no word from her to her family heightens John's fears that Jamie met with foul play. (Photo courtesy John Boeglin)

**ANDREA GRIMES** | Contributing Writer  
 editor@dallasvoice.com

Jamie Boeglin lived in Fort Worth, but she didn't really have any kind of permanent home to go missing from.

Sometimes she crashed at her brother's house on the west side or squatted in an abandoned house. She'd spend a night at a shelter here or there, or just sleep on the street.

Many times, she could have listed her address as a jail cell after she'd been picked up for shoplifting or fighting.

Jamie Boeglin did have one place she could reliably be found — the AIDS Outreach Center where she went to refill her medicine.

There, she'd chat up the case workers and get her upcoming medical and mental health appointments in order. She might miss a few of those — could be jail time, could be she'd landed in the hospital — but she always, always came back to seek help from the folks at the AOC.

Except this month, it'll have been one year since Jamie Boeglin picked up her medication.

No one — not her family, not her doctors, not her counselors — has seen her since May 18, 2010.

Her brother, John Boeglin, says he knows Jamie could be unreliable. But not this unreliable.

"We've not heard anything," says John Boeglin, who along with his four other siblings in North Texas and New Mexico, has been trying to understand how and why their relentlessly "attention-seeking" Jamie dropped off their radar a year ago.

To the Boeglins, however, Jamie is "Jimmy," their brother, who was born James Martin but began transitioning toward living as a woman in 2008. Though most people came to know her as Jamie, John Boeglin finds it hard to call his missing sibling anything but Jimmy.

"He's just always been our brother," says Boeglin, and despite the family's many ups and downs dealing with Jamie Boeglin's homelessness and addiction problems over the years, they're desperate to find out whether Jamie has run away or if, as John puts it, she's "a pile of bones under a bush somewhere."

Even as John Boeglin distributes flyers to area shelters and cruises in vain down Fort Worth's blighted Lancaster Avenue, looking for any sign of his missing sibling, he knows in his heart that Jamie isn't the kind of person who'd intentionally go very long without trying to get someone's attention.

To make things worse, John fears his sibling may have been a victim of anti-transgender violence.

"What if he's been hauled off by someone who doesn't like transvestites or transsexuals or transgenders?" John wonders. But he's so far been unsuccessful in convincing the Fort Worth Police Department that harm may have come to Jamie.

Because they've found no clear evidence of foul play, a representative at FWPD says there's little they can do when an adult does not want to be found.

"We have no reason to suspect foul play," Fort Worth's LGBT Community Liason Officer Sara Straten tells the Dallas Voice. As best they can tell, says Straten, Boeglin left town "of her own volition," based on their detectives' investigation.

Because Boeglin is listed as a missing person, if she were to be arrested or stopped by police for anything at all, the Fort Worth Police Department would be notified.

"If she's out there, we're going to hear about it," Straten says.

But that's precisely one of the reasons John

■ **MISSING**, Page 12



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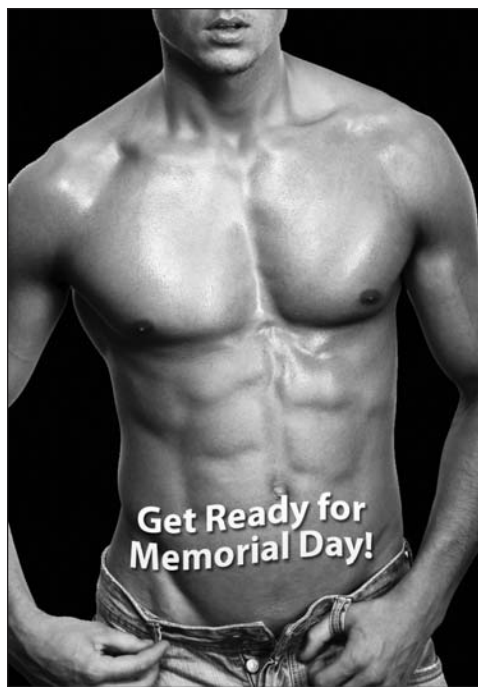
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## coverstory

### RECORDING THE INJUSTICE

In February, the National Center for Transgender Equality paired with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to release a scientific survey of thousands of American transgender and gender non-conforming people called "Injustice at Every Turn." Here are some of the survey's findings:

- Transgenders who are also African-American are far more likely than white transgender people to be victims of police brutality.
- Transgenders are nearly four times more likely to live in extreme poverty.
- Transgenders are twice as likely to be unemployed.
- 41 percent reported attempting suicide, compared to 1.6 percent of the general population.
- 90 percent reported harassment, discrimination or mistreatment at work.
- Nearly half said they'd been fired, not hired or denied a promotion.
- 20 percent had been homeless at some point in their lives.
- More than 50 percent of those who sought assistance at a shelter reported being harassed by staff or other residents.
- 41 percent of transgender people live without identification that matches their gender identity.
- 20 percent reported harassment by the police; 38 and 36 percent of black and multi-racial respondents reported harassment by police.
- Transgender people have HIV at four times the national average.
- Smoking, drug and alcohol use are more prevalent among transgender and gender non-conforming people.

— Andrea Grimes

### MISSING

From Page 11

Boeglin believes Jamie's disappearance isn't voluntary: His sibling has a real habit of running afoul of the law.

In just the first few months of 2010 alone, Jamie Boeglin was cited by Fort Worth police as the victim in a drunken fight that landed her in the hospital with 19 reconstructive pins in her skull. Then, she was arrested for criminal trespass in May, a little more than a week before she was last seen at the AIDS Outreach Center.

In fact, even when the police weren't involved, it was always some kind of drama with Jamie, remembers her brother — especially around her birthday and on holidays.

John didn't hear from Jamie last July, which would have been her 48th birthday, and when it comes to holidays, John says Jamie never misses an opportunity for "raising a big stink" about presents and get-togethers.

"Unless he is amnesiac or dead, then there is really no reason that he would not be trying to contact us on a regular basis," John insists.

But as annoying and dramatic as he says Jamie could be, the most frustrating part of all for John is knowing that, in fact, there is information out there that could help him find out if Jamie is dead or alive. He just can't access it.

Because of governmental restrictions, John cannot find out whether Jamie's Social Security debit card has been used in the past year. To do so would require a court order — something he can't get as long as the police consider Jamie to be absent of her own volition.

If John just had that debit card information, he says, he'd know if his sibling were alright — angry, perhaps, and estranged, but at least alive and well.

"At least we'd know he's alive and doesn't want to be contacted," says John, who says he wouldn't even care to know where the card has been used — just that it has been. "That's probably the most frustrating thing."

But pain and frustration are recurring characters in Jamie Boeglin's life story.

While homelessness, substance abuse and other catastrophic life events can happen to anyone, transgender people especially lack the help and resources they need from law enforcement, social services and medical professionals. A survey on discrimination against transgender people (*See Sidebar*) released earlier this year by the National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force details just how mad-deningly common Jamie Boeglin's situation is.

According to the study, "Injustice At Every Turn," transgender people are nearly twice as likely to be homeless than is estimated for the general U.S. population, which correlates with the fact that they are also very likely to be incarcerated or suffer from drug or alcohol addiction.

And when it comes to HIV, says Mara Keisling, executive director of the NCTE, transgender people have a "hugely disproportional" infection rate — four times the national average — due in large part to economic marginalization.

"[Jamie] has got to feel fairly discarded by society," says Keisling, whose her research has made her a difficult person to shock when it comes to stories like Jamie's. The possibilities Keisling sees for Jamie are many — and none are very positive.

"She's more likely to be disrespected by the medical community and law enforcement," says Keisling, which could prevent her from getting help in a crisis.

Keisling added that it's "fairly common" for transgender people to be victims of violent criminals who "often will look for the most marginalized people."

These kinds of possibilities weigh on John Boeglin's mind, especially because he admits that over the years, he's wished Jamie would stop being such a nuisance in the family.

"He's done something to alienate every one of the siblings," says John. "But when it's like this, we want him to be around."

Even their tumultuous family life hasn't broken the bond of blood, and John dwells on the times he and his siblings wished for Jamie to leave them alone: "For a long time we really wished he would disappear, and now he has. We wish we'd never had those moments of thought." ■

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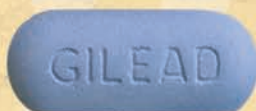
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# HANDS OFF HIV Prevention

By Michael Weinstein, *President, AIDS Healthcare Foundation*



The sexual health of gay men belongs to us. Not to drug companies, who want us to take expensive medication instead of taking precautions, so that they can make another billion dollars. It does not belong to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which is under orders to do HIV prevention, “without promoting homosexuality.” It does not belong to the academics.

If we are going to protect our community’s health, it is going to have to come from us.

The drug company Gilead wants us to take a \$10,000-per-year pill (Truvada) to prevent HIV, even though their study showed it was only 44% effective under optimal circumstances. The CDC wants us to believe that collecting a group of men in a room for a few sessions of “sharing” is going to have a permanent benefit. Academics write endless papers that have nothing to do with the real world.

Gay men have unsafe sex for a variety of reasons. They love a man and think that having unprotected sex is the best way of showing it. They are too drunk or stoned. There is no condom around. Or, they don’t think that their life is important enough to protect.

In the ‘80s and ‘90s, safer sex was almost universal. We were so freaked out by watching our friends get sick and die we wouldn’t take the chance of getting infected.

So, where are we today? About half of all new infections in the U.S., some 28,000, come from men who have sex with men. More than half of those come from men who are unaware they are infected. So, with half a million men who know they are HIV-positive, only about 12,000 actual new infections happen each year from a man infecting another man. That is too many, but it indicates that most gay men are taking precautions most of the time.

We need a grassroots movement led by young gay men. We need an individual commitment to protect ourselves and our partners. We need to get as close to the heat of the moment—when people are actually making these decisions—as we can get.

So when a drug company tells you that prevention has failed and a pill will protect you, hold on to your wallet. When the CDC tries to prevent sexually transmitted disease without speaking frankly about sex, ignore them.

*We ourselves have to reinvent HIV prevention in a new generation’s image for our own benefit.*

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# Fighting the normalcy bias

Gas pump sticker shock brings home some hard lessons we all need to learn

After months of ignoring it, sticker shock at the gas pump has finally registered in my consciousness. And that moment of enlightenment has led me to do a little research about economics.



**David Webb**  
The Rare Reporter

I now know that I've been acting exactly how the experts predict the average consumer will when faced with an unprecedented personal experience.

It all started when I filled up my gas tank at a service station in Oak

Lawn the other day, and the tab came to more than \$60 for just a few drops more than 15 gallons. It occurred to me as I drove off that using a credit card at self-service pumps could lead someone to be blindsided in a big way when the monthly bills arrive.

I drive a modest four-cylinder sedan, so I don't even want to consider what people who drive big gas guzzlers are paying to fill up — not to mention the shock that could be in store for them at the end of the month.

To put things in perspective, I started driving when I was 14 and at that time — I'm talking about nearly a half-century ago — gas cost about 33 cents per gallon. If I'm figuring correctly, I think that's about a 1,200 percent increase in my lifetime of driving.

Admittedly, talking about price increases that have occurred over a 50-year period, the increase might not seem so radical. But just a little over a decade ago, gas cost less than \$2 per gallon. It cost me less than \$30 to fill up a similar car's gas tank back then.

If it were only gas that had increased in price, it might not seem like such a big deal. But everything that we require to go about our daily lives, such as groceries and clothes, has increased just as dramatically.

Even the price of beer, which one needs in order to cope with the stress of all the other high prices, has skyrocketed.

We've all been warned for a long time by people who lived through the Great Depression of the 1930s that hard times could be coming. But most of us never took those predictions seriously.

After my gas pump experience the other day my research revealed that my delayed awareness



of the seriousness of the situation is not abnormal. In fact, it is a condition that is known as "normalcy bias."

Basically, what that means is that if a person or group of people have never experienced a type of disaster or other traumatic experience, they tend to discount the possibility of it ever occurring.

I assume that's why — despite the repeated warnings that prices for gas and everything else that depends on energy for its production and distribution would be going through the ceiling — that so many of us have ignored the threat.

It's clearer to me today than it was a week ago that all of us could be on the brink of making some pretty severe changes in our lifestyle to cope with the economic hardships that appear to be on the horizon. Considering the numbers of people who are unemployed, surviving on food stamps or even homeless, there's a real crisis out there that most of us just don't fully comprehend.

What's really scary is that all of the states and local governments are bankrupt and are quickly becoming unable to help support people who are in trouble. The federal government is in the same shape, and the dollar is losing its value quickly.

An even scarier scenario is that many people live beyond their means and amass big debts that will crush them should they become unemployed or lose a paycheck for any other reason.

Again, someone who has never lost a job or

been unable to find one may not realize that it could indeed happen to them as well, according to the "normalcy bias" theory.

One of the examples of "normalcy bias" afflicting a whole group of people reportedly occurred in Germany in the 1930s when Jewish people who had lived in the country for generations failed to realize the dangers they faced from Adolph Hitler and his Nazi Party. These intelligent, affluent, accomplished and sophisticated people simply were unable to comprehend what was about to happen to them.

Some things are out of our direct, individual control as regards what could happen to the economy. But there is something that everyone probably needs to do in troubling times: I now remember financial experts on talk shows recently advising people to get out of debt, stay out of debt, start foregoing some luxuries, build a strong cash reserve to take care of basic needs and fill pantries with nonperishable foods.

Until my moment of awareness at the gas pump the other day, I might have considered such a plan to be a little alarmist, because like most people I know, I've never gone without anything. But that could change.

Now, it just seems like good common sense. ■

David Webb is a veteran journalist who has covered LGBT issues for the mainstream and alternative press for three decades. E-mail him at davidwaynewebb@yahoo.com.

# Feedback

## On Nowlin not congratulating Hunt following her District 14 victory:

Nowlin ran a bad campaign and shows a lack of class by not congratulating Angela. Maybe the Stonewall Democrats and Steven Graves can send her best regards instead of Nowlin.  
*M Streeter, via Instant Tea*

"If the President passes the most important piece of environmental legislation in history, and does it despite our negative endorsement, our political weight in the future will rank somewhere below the Save the Spotted Owl Society."  
— Leo Solomon, head of environmental lobbying group in The American President.

Welcome to the Spotted Owl Society, Dallas Stonewall Democrats.  
*Sue Z., via Instant Tea*

After the way Hunt and her supporters trashed Nowlin and his supporters, she doesn't

deserve a call. The lies and smears initiated by Hunt's supporters were pathetic, yet consistent with her reputation. It's unfortunate that the gay community followed her lead and treated Nowlin and his supporters with such venom.  
*Andrew, via Instant Tea*

James Nowlin ran a horrible attack campaign that lost him this election. And clearly, if you look at the election results in Oak Lawn, Uptown and M Streets (areas of high gay populations), Angela thrashed Nowlin. That can only mean that the gay community never supported Nowlin in the first place. Stonewall Democrats need a wake up call if they want to be relevant in Dallas politics any longer. And quite frankly, Steven Graves needs to learn a lesson, too. People have the right to say what they want, but they also have to suffer the consequences. And people need to leave Steven Graves Insurance, as he ran one of the worst negative attacks on a friend to our community that I have ever seen.  
*Nathan, via Instant Tea*

Who does James Nowlin think he is? What an ass. If he was smart, he would have run a positive campaign, probably would have lost, but two years from now, would have been set up as a

shoe-in for the election. Now he has ticked off so many people that they will never support him in any fashion. I agree with what someone said above, too: Stonewall needs to wake up. Their days in Dallas have ended and they need to do some soul searching if they want to be a part of Dallas politics.  
*Kevin, via Instant Tea*

I, like so many of my friends, was initially going to vote for Nowlin. But from the moment I saw the Steven Graves ad in the Voice, I knew I had to support Angela Hunt. I don't like the nasty, negative campaigning and Nowlin's campaign turned me off. I was so pissed off, I don't think I would ever vote for that guy, even if it was for dog catcher. The funny thing is, my insurance was coming up to renew and I had planned to go to Graves Insurance. Not anymore.  
*Hank Reich, via Instant Tea*

I am so glad this horrid election is over! I am even more glad that I no longer will be receiving trash in the mail from Nowlin and his campaign. I am most excited that the last thing I got to do as a citizen of Dallas before I am completely moved away from this city was to vote for Ms. Hunt! She deserved to win in my opinion having had the

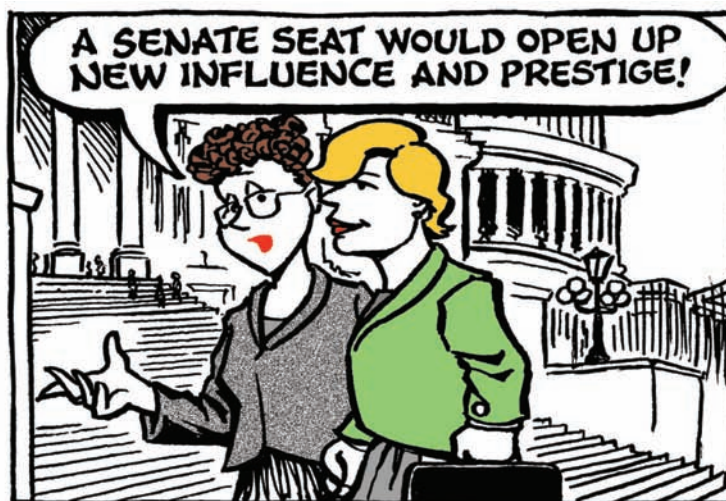
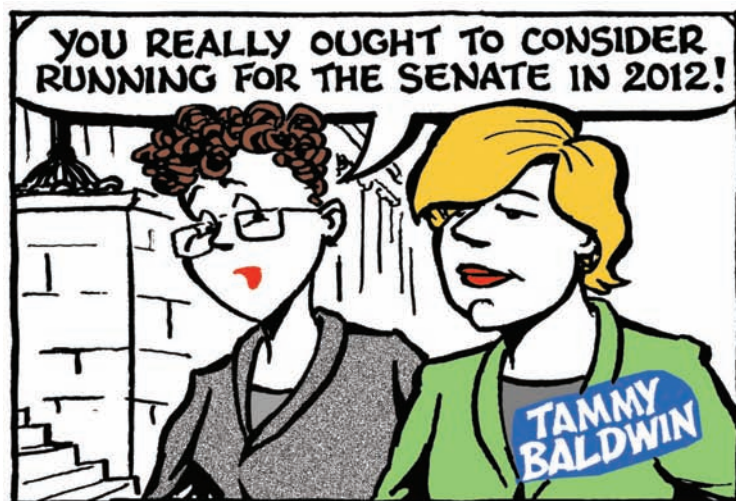
**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Some Nowlin supporters commenting on the Dallas Voice Facebook page noted that James Nowlin did, in fact, congratulate Angela Hunt during a concession speech on Election Night. When contacted Thursday, May 19, for clarification, Nowlin told Dallas Voice that during that speech he did offer best wishes to Hunt. But, he added, "I will not be congratulating somebody who does not want the job. I will not be reaching out to her directly because I don't believe that that's where her heart is. Her heart is in being mayor, not being councilwoman for the 14th District. And I don't believe in congratulating somebody who does not want job."

pleasure of working with numerous members of City Council over the past seven years closely.  
*Ryan, via Instant Tea*

I am new to Dallas and new to this district, but the reason I voted for Hunt over Nowlin was how negative and nasty the Nowlin campaign was. You should never vote for a candidate just because they are gay. Always vote for the better candidate. And clearly the gay community in Dallas felt that hunt was the better candidate and I have to agree.  
*Steven, via Instant Tea*

As a volunteer who served on James Nowlin's campaign, I am ashamed by some, if not most of the comments I have read. If you attack and portray him as a dastardly scoundrel then you attack every hard working volunteer that poured countless hours of blood, sweat and tears into his campaign. Ask yourselves this: How are you supposed to point out to a voter the fundamentals of what needs to be changed if you don't present them the record of the contentious issues to begin with? The very issues which constitute the change to begin with? I can't help but laugh at the obtuse, obscure and delusional mindsets that some of you have. How is someone supposed to point out the errors of the incumbent without hurting anyone's feelings?  
*Ryan W. Evans, via Instant Tea*

**TO SEND A LETTER** | We welcome letters from readers. Shorter letters and those addressing a single issue are more likely to be printed. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity, but we attempt to maintain the writer's substance and tone. Include your home address and a daytime telephone number for verification. Send letters to the senior editor, preferably by e-mail (nash@dallasvoice.com). Letters also may be faxed (214-969-7271) or sent via the U.S. Postal Service (Dallas Voice, 4145 Travis St., Third Floor, Dallas TX 75204). All letters become the property of Dallas Voice.



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## Speak Out Poll

CAST YOUR VOTE ONLINE AT DALLASVOICE.COM

Will you vote in the runoff election?

### RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Were you satisfied with apologies from Blake Shelton and Kobe Bryant for using anti-gay language?

- Kobe's, not Blake's: 5 percent
  - Blake's, not Kobe's: 13 percent
  - Satisfied with both: 3 percent
  - Satisfied with neither: 79 percent
- 84 Votes cast

# Opera with an edge

Ginsberg & Glass team up for 'Hydrogen Jukebox,' the latest in FWO's out-of-the-box operas

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

What do you get when you combine the Mobius-strip music of Phillip Glass with the vulgar, passionate lyricism of gay poet Allen Ginsberg? Believe it or not, you get an opera. Or an opera of sorts, at least.

Ever since converting to a festival format four years ago, the Fort Worth Opera has established a rep for doing edgy, unusual versions of that most august of theatrical forms: Opera. Yes, they have done grand operas in the classic vein (*Carmen*, *Don Giovanni*, *Turandot*), but they've also introduced world premieres and unheralded new works with complex, modern (often gay) themes: gay composer Tom Pasatieri's dark *Frau Margot*, Jorge Martin's challenging, frank adaptation of gay Cuban poet Reinaldo Arenas' *Before Night Falls*; the reimagining of an opera based on *Angels in America*.

Up this time is perhaps the most unusually named opera in a while (*Hydrogen Jukebox*) composed by a master of minimalism and set to the granddaddy of the Beat Generation.

This is not your father's — or your grandfather's — idea of opera. Or, for that matter, the director's.

"I never thought I'd direct a Philip Glass piece," admits Lawrence Edelson, who is choreographing and directing *Hydrogen Jukebox* for his debut at the FWO. "They do not follow linear narrative arcs, and I personally tend to drift toward the more narrative type of opera as a director. As much as I've enjoyed his music, I never thought it was something I'd dive into. The conventional ideas about storytelling are put on hold."

But Edelson was drawn to the piece, in part after meeting Glass.

"It was something quite unique — he's an icon in American music," Edelson says. "There's usually not a tight relationship with the text [and his music], so what's really fascinating about this work is, it's Ginsberg's poetry, and there's a tremendous respect for the treatment of it."

Setting the *Howl* author's poems to music might seem like a foolish exercise, but actually, it's a natural fit.

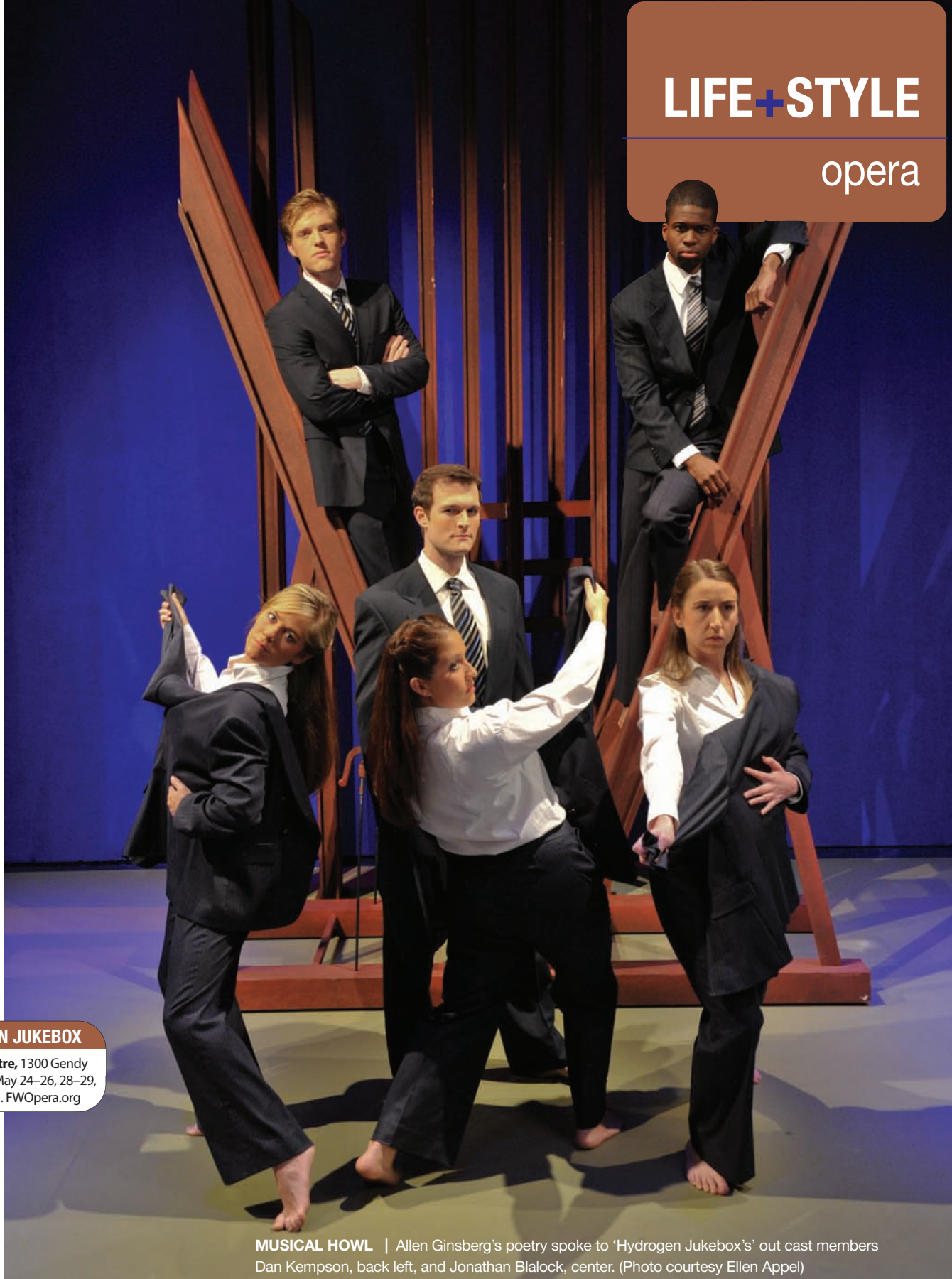
"Ginsberg really believed in the performative aspect of poetry, that poetry should live off the page," Edelson says. And his poems, culled over 40 years for this opera, still speak to contemporary issues.

"Ginsberg's poetry really spoke to me, and many of the issues he was struggling with in the '50s, '60 and '70s are among the same issues we still struggle with today," says Darren Woods, general director of FWO.

"Ginsberg was a very out gay poet — his poems are about freedom from sexual repression and gay lib, and though this isn't a gay piece *per se*, there are a couple of poems that" address those issues, Edelson says. "As a gay man, to be able to work off of material that has personal relevance, but I am *not* the same sort of gay man Gins-

## HYDROGEN JUKEBOX

Sanders Theatre, 1300 Gendy St., Fort Worth. May 24–26, 28–29, June 1–2, 4–5. FWOopera.org



MUSICAL HOWL | Allen Ginsberg's poetry spoke to 'Hydrogen Jukebox's' out cast members Dan Kempson, back left, and Jonathan Blalock, center. (Photo courtesy Ellen Appel)

berg was! My life is not so colorful," Edelson says. "*Hydrogen Jukebox* could be gayed up; I think that would be wrong. Ginsberg was not writing just for gay America, but for everybody."

Interpreting poetry for the stage posed an interesting dilemma for Edelson: As a director, he's accustomed to creating a specific reaction in an audience; poetry, however, is subject to multiple interpretations, none of which are wrong.

"My job [this time] is not to impose a specific interpretation but rather to set up an environment where the audience is able to take in the poetry in a way that's meaningful for them," he says. "All these things will inform the way you receive it."

For out cast members Jonathan Blalock and Dan Kempson, the work has personal significance.

"I find it interesting that the portion of the opera that deals with

a gay love story ["Green Automobile," an elegy to Neal Cassady, with whom Ginsberg has a long-term affair] is presented as just one story," Kempson says. "It speaks to a universality of love, not just presented as 'We're gay! Notice us!' It's as normal and as painful and as lovely and as beautiful as any love story."

"I think it's wonderful Fort Worth Opera is brave enough to attack off-the-beaten path operas, both musically and topically," says Blalock, who also appeared in *Before Night Falls*. "It can be scary for a number of reasons, including financial, but the FWO has brought their audience along with them to the 21st century."

Blalock was in the closet when he first met Kempson four years ago, so doing this production together has brought him full-circle in more than one way: "In this show, I kiss someone, but it's a girl. It's OK, though," he says, "I'm a good actor." ■

LIFE+STYLE

opera





# Hairiography

Disney-fied metalrock meets 'Xanadu' camp in the oddly gay-friendly 'Rock of Ages'

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

Broadway has become so terrified of becoming irrelevant, it has spent much of the last decade trotting out jukebox musicals that approximate other, more popular forms of entertainment. The latest result: The ear-splitting hair rock musical **Rock of Ages**, now at the Winspear.

For the first hour or more, *Rock of Ages* comes off as little more than an annoying, loud concert with trite set-ups and stereotypical characters interspersed to give it some small amount of structure upon which to hang '80s metal anthems like "Cum on Feel the Noize" and "Sister Christian." By intermission, I was ready to write it off completely.

Then something unexpected happened: It got better.

Audiences have become used to campy, self-mocking musicals that poke fun at their catalogue of songs, from *Mamma Mia!* to *Xanadu*. Perhaps I was resistant to the idea that non-disco rockers would have as good a sense of humor about themselves to notice it, but *Rock of Ages*

couldn't be gayer if it had a score of only ABBA songs. When you can finally see the comedy for what it is (a Disney-fied version of rock, about as threatening as the Rock-N-Rollercoaster at Walt Disney World), and give it cred for welcoming a gay sensibility to a genre known for its homophobia, it becomes a hoot: Call it *Rock of Fagulas*. (It makes sense, too — metal rock is just drag of another kind.)

*American Idol*'s Constantine Maroulis is the headliner (playing a bar-back who dreams of rock superstardom), but the show is basically stolen by Patrick LeWallen as a hip-swishing, mullet-headed narrator (part Frank-N-Furter, part Zach Galifianakis) and three musical numbers: Peter Dinklage, panting sexy as a David Lee Roth clone, sets hearts racing with his rendition of "Wanted Dead or Alive;" two losers standing up for themselves to "Hit Me with Your Best Shot" and the campy twist in "I Can't Fight This Feeling." By the time the finale rolls around with the now-over-used rallying anthem "Don't Stop Believin'," much of the bad blood from Act 1 has been washed away. It almost makes you yearn for a resurgence in Spandex and wine coolers. ■

**ROCK OF AGES**  
Winspear Opera House,  
2403 Flora St. Through May 29.  
\$50-\$150. ATTPAC.org

**METALHEADS** | 'Rock of Ages' improves as its camp sensibility shines. (Photo courtesy Joan Marcus)

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# An Horse, of course

Don't argue grammar with Kate Cooper, the lesbian half of the Down Under duo An Horse

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

First things first: Grammarians and language mavens might have trouble with the band An Horse. Not that there is anything wrong with the *music*, but that two-letter article strikes some nerves — including with this writer.

But Kate Cooper is fine with any way people talk about it.

"Oh, people get so worked up about it, but it is arguably correct," she says.

Cooper, who is touring with bandmate Damon Cox, brings the international pop stylings of An Horse to Dallas Monday. With their second album, *Walls*, An Horse seems to have found their sound, a polished collection of a dozen tunes that play as if a sprawling backing band helped out.

A job well done ... but that name.

An Horse. Yeah, it's tough to work with.

"I'm happy that it gets people talking about grammar," she chuckles.

The story about the name related to an argument Cooper had with her sister over the use of the article *a* in front of words beginning in *h*. That resulted in her sister making a sweater for Cooper with the words on it and subsequently being asked if that was a band ... and thus band history was created.

Cooper and Cox are on a high from supporting *Walls*. Even though the band has played Dallas before, she disputes it was a proper showing (a last minute venue cancellation and other problems marred it), so Cooper figures this time will be better.

"Yeah, we're looking forward to it and we've stayed in Dallas before so we kind of know the city," she says. "We've stayed there while making our way to Austin and every time we drove through, we'd play the *Dallas* theme song. That's always my impression of the city."

An Horse's debut, 2009's *Rearrange Beds*, was really a collection of demos cobbled together. With a label behind them this time around and an actual production team in place, this might be An Horse's winning run.

"It just feels like a proper record from a proper band," she says. "The first time, we weren't re-

ally a band so much as just friends wanting to make music. Next thing we knew we had an album and were on tour and it was all kind of an accident."

Cox and Cooper worked in a record store together and became BFF's before becoming a band. Little did they know they'd catch the eyes and ears of some big names. Garnering attention from major music pubs like Rolling Stone and Pitchfork put An Horse on the map. Cooper knows they are still young and green, but such accolades comfort and encourage her.

"It's all great even though I don't read them," she says. "It's good to get the attention and for a band from Australia, that's impossible. But we're still both learning and taking more things in. We're just better equipped this time around."

Even if they weren't receiving the high praise, it doesn't matter to Cooper. She would still make music.

"Yeah, but I'd be doing it just in my bedroom," she says.

Although from Australia and now based in Canada, Cooper hasn't found any difference in attitudes among countries when it comes to her being an out lesbian musician.

"I'm lucky I'm surrounded by people and fans that it's not a thing to them," she says. "Everywhere we go it's just me being me. Occasionally I'll hear a comment but they are usually a lazy reference point. I just say more power to them and their small minds."

And they're not so indie that they'd skip out on playing specifically LGBT events. It's just a matter of timing and, well, requests.

"I know it's come up once or twice, but the scheduling didn't work," she says. "But we haven't been really been asked to play any Pride events. I'm very proud of being a gay person and I'd be stoked to do that."

Are you listening, Dallas Tavern Guild? ■



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**SADDLE UP** | Kate Cooper, foreground, says this time in Dallas will be a proper showing for An Horse.

# High nooner

In classic 18th century picaresque novels, young men bounce bawdily from maiden bed to maiden bed, banging a few horny housewives in between, usually in service of a comic satire of sexual liberation peppered with commentary on politics and cultural mores. They are lascivious and funny — that's what gets people reading them. It's what makes them part of a genre.

*Twelve Thirty* follows a similar structure — Jeff (*Glee*'s Jonathan Groff), a flirtatious young man, claims sexual inexperience but gets laid more often than beige carpeting during a remnant sale, bedding two sisters and their mother. But the thing is, the film isn't especially (at all?) funny; it has a frank, raw energy (there's a good deal of sex and nudity) and it's character-driven with intensive exposition, but it doesn't amount to much.

*Twelve Thirty* is ripe with sexual liberation and tons of quirk, but the quirkiness feels forced.

Writer-director Jeff Lipsky's style echoes indie filmmakers Henry Jaglom and Hal Hartley: It's sophisticated and

smart in a cocktail-party-chatter way, but the emotions are treated with academic aloofness. You don't feel the movie, you merely experience it.

Lipsky doesn't mind addressing sex, or even showing sex pretty explicitly, but he prefers to talk about sex. And talk and talk and talk. (The title, I'm guessing, is a joke about having a "nooner" — after it's over, you still need to find something to talk about from 12:30 on.) So, we get a few tantalizing moments of a naked Groff (and some naked ladies, including a surprisingly perky Karen Young), but much, *much* more conversation. If the dialogue were scintillating, that might suffice. But while the characters are painstakingly conceived (Young's character, the mother of two girls, is a furrier who still sleeps with her

gay ex-husband), there's not much insight and the chats generally go nowhere (two British women turn up for moments of colorful backstory, then disappear). The film does take a dark turn bordering on cruelty or madness, but then ends as suddenly as it began. Huh?

The film itself has as much a crisis of identity as Jeff himself: It's a romantic comedy in search of comedy. And romance.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



**LAID ON END** Jeff (Jonathan Groff, left) seduces three women but is cursed with talking to them as well in the unfocused sex parable 'Twelve Thirty.'

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### Dallas ComicCon hunks it up

John Wesley Shipp is best known as Dawson's dad on the *Creek*, but for one season in 1990, the gay actor played a superhero on the live-action drama *The Flash* ... and gay fanboys will never forget it. Shipp will be in attendance — along with luminaries Leonard Nimoy and Stan Lee — at Dallas ComicCon this weekend.

Irving Convention Center, 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd., Irving. May 21–22. SciFi-Expo.com.





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Friday 05.20

**Just don't poop on the runway**

The Four Legged Fashion Collection returns where canines strut couture and then it's auctioned off. These aren't your PetSmart sweaters. Designers like Nicolas Villalba and Micheal Simon contributed to the 30-plus collection. Don't need to dress the doggie? The auction block is filled with other items to bid on, all of which benefits animal rescue groups.

**DEETS:** Dallas Trade Mart, 2100 N. Stemmons Freeway. 6:30 p.m. \$75. FourLeggedFashion.org

Friday 05.20

**Prick up your ears**

The latest show at 1111 Studio Gallery gives face time to artist Eric Trich. He grabbed a lot of attention as one of the younger artists on the local scene. Seems like he's come into his own with his new solo show *Can You Hear Me Now?* The show also features a performance by Sour Soul.

**DEETS:** 1111 Studio Gallery, 1111 Dragon St. 7 p.m. \$5. 1111StudioGallery.com.

Thursday 05.26

**Closet cases**

MBS Productions' new comic farce *Outrageous Sexy (nekkid) Romp* turns the tables on being in the closet. When one half of a gay couple comes to the realization he may be straight, can his drag queen friend Lovely Uranus help him figure it all out? Or does he keep the peace in the closet?

**DEETS:** Stone Cottage Theater, 15650 Addison Road. 8 p.m. \$18-\$22. MBSProductions.net



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## FRIDAY

05.20

## COMMUNITY

## Triangle Networking

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

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

## SATURDAY 05.21

## COMMUNITY

**GayBingo.** With hosts Jenna Skyy and Patti Le Plae Safe. The Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m. \$25. 214-540-4495.

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

## CONCERT

**Joy-Fest** with Julie Bonk, Gary Floyd and Cornell Kinderknecht. Heart & Soul Coffeehouse, 4615 E. California Parkway, Fort Worth. \$18. OpenDoorProductionsTX.com.

## SUNDAY 05.22

## COMMUNITY

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

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

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

**Interweave** meets for lunch. Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2875 E. Parker Road, Plano. Noon. 972-248-9343.

## MONDAY 05.23

## COMMUNITY

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

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

**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.

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



**THREESOME** | Bonk, Floyd and Kinderknecht team up for Joy-Fest this Saturday.

## TUESDAY 05.24

## COMMUNITY

**Lambda Pride Toastmasters.** Regular meeting for improving communication and leadership skills. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Lambdapride.freetoasthost.us.

**JEWEL Writing Discussion & Exchange** meets on the fourth Tuesday. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Visit website for the discussion topic and assignment for the month. RCDallas.org.

## WEDNESDAY 05.25

## COMMUNITY

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

**Common Bond**, an alternative lifestyle book group. Barnes & Noble, 362 East F.M. 1382, Cedar Hill. 7 p.m. 972-293-9367.

**Youth First Texas Collin County.** Open to ages 14 to 22. 1200 Commerce St., Suite 121, Plano. 6:30-8:45 p.m. 214-879-0400.

**Lambda Weekly.** LGBT radio for North Texas has moved to drive time. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m.

## THURSDAY 05.26

## COMMUNITY

**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.

**Career Fellowship** unemployment support group. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. 972-662-4499.

## this week's solution

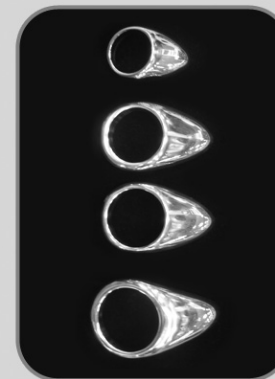


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**CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY**

By Jack Fertig



**Pam Grier** turns 62 on Thursday. The iconic actress helped defined the blaxploitation film movement of the '70s with *Coffy* and *Sheba, Baby*. She resurfaced in Quentin Tarantino's *Jackie Brown* which she followed up with her role as the fun-loving Kit Porter in the lesbian drama *The L Word*. She came to Dallas last year to promote her bio *Foxy: My Life in Three Acts*.

**GEMINI May 21-Jun 20**

You're sexy as hell. So what? You really need to buckle down to work and think hard about the future. You may not like what your friends are telling you, but they have good advice. Pay attention.

**CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22**

Your imagination is a trap sucking you away from much needed work, but it's also a powerhouse to fuel your ambitions. Stay focused. Your partner is there when you need attitude adjusting.

**LEO Jul 23-Aug 22**

Get ready to lose an argument. Getting rid of something you're sure of can be the best thing that could happen. Deluxe bonus: Being an open-minded good sport will be mighty sexy.

**VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22**

Achieving your goals takes some shrewd maneuvering. Be careful whom you trust. Your mate has helpful insights, even if they are sneaky. Better ideas come while away from work.

**LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22**

Explore new ideas to your health regimen. Competitive sports help keep you healthy. Competing with yourself counts. Keep it cheap. A library book can be better than a gym membership.

**SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21**

Verbal aggression helps you get ahead. A little creative writing — journaling, imagined dialogue or a short story — can help you find the words you need.

**SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20**

If you're looking for true love, get involved in an arts program and let go of expectations. Keeping a love you have will require abandoning expectations and working some of your creativity.

**CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19**

You come off way too strong in a turf war. The resulting argument exposes old resentments but starts a healing process. Well, it could, but that won't be easy.

**AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18**

Struggle between your deepest desires and economic necessity feels brutal. A light, playful conversation with your partner can help you find a way to afford your dreams, or find reconciliation.

**PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19**

A siege mentality at home will not solve any problems, and instead make them worse. Same old tactics get same old results. Keep your mind on long-range goals and entertain new ideas.

**ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19**

Clear the air and get something off your chest, but how you do that can make motivations look nasty and bring similar results. Confide in your partner, or look for guidance from your boss.

**TAURUS Apr 20-May 20**

Give yourself room to vent. Everyone's feeling the pinch. Economic problems are everywhere, but holding the pressure in and stewing silently only undermines your ability to cope.

**THIS WEEK**

Pluto and Eris, both in hard aspect to the sun, bring out everyone's competitive streak, crank up the stakes and complicate the struggle. Communication is the key, which means you have to listen very carefully.

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

**JANE'S WORLD**



JaneComics.com

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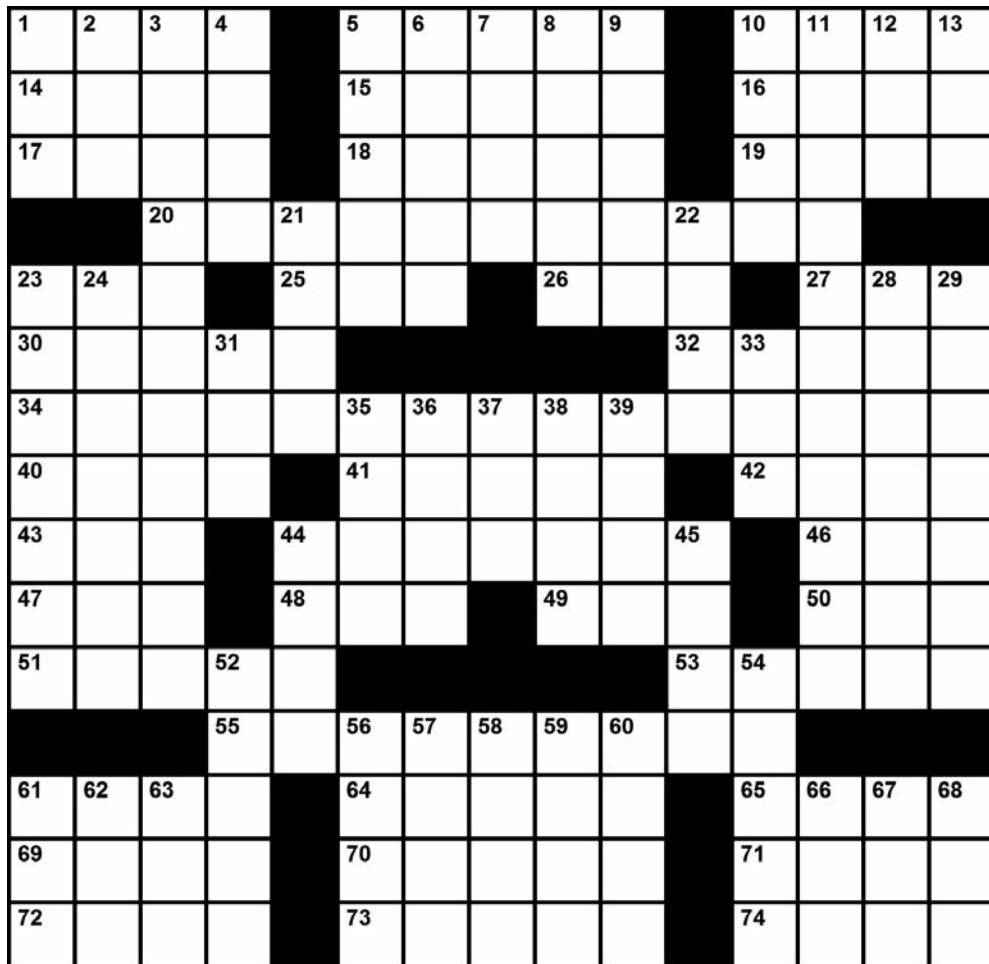
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# Getting in Gear for Dick

Solution on page 25

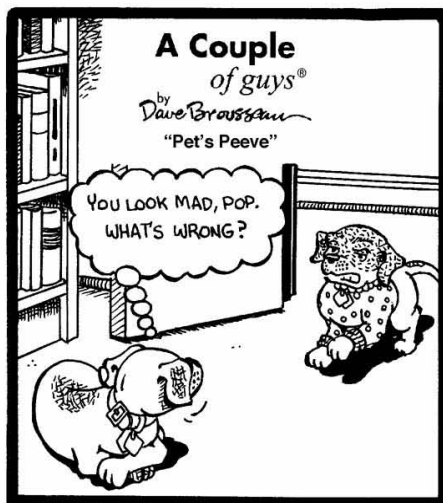
**Across**

- 1 "You are all a \_\_\_ generation" (Stein)
- 5 Family name of Boy George
- 10 Online auction site
- 14 Piece of Aaron Copland
- 15 Sal of Rebel Without a Cause
- 16 High flat area
- 17 Cole Porter's Indiana hometown
- 18 "You can't teach \_\_\_ dog ..."
- 19 Like a squid's defense
- 20 Start of a quote from Cam on Modern Family
- 23 Big diamond
- 25 Mouth-open-wide sound
- 26 1 of 100 in DC
- 27 Short one for Morse
- 30 Ferries, for example
- 32 Total agreement
- 34 More of the quote
- 40 Miss Lane of The Planet
- 41 Poet Lorde
- 42 Pink Triangle Press publication
- 43 Conversational hesitations
- 44 More of the quote
- 46 Magneto portrayer McKellen
- 47 Butterfly catcher
- 48 Hrs. in Key West
- 49 Snake's warning

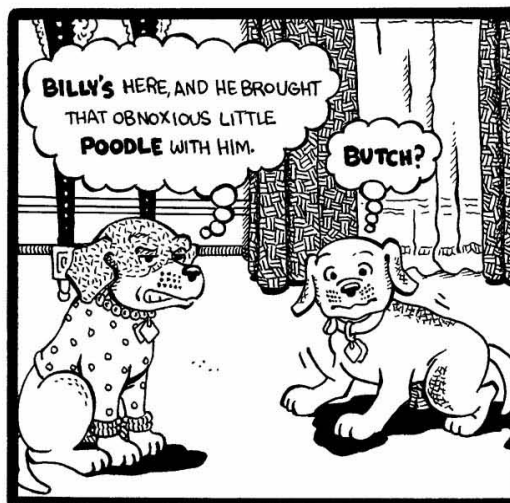
- 50 Mel of Giants fame
- 51 Ford lemon that was not fruitful
- 53 The sounds of music
- 55 End of the quote
- 61 Roman deity identified with Diana
- 64 Butler's burden on the stairway
- 65 Ginsberg's "Gotcha"
- 69 Ever so slightly
- 70 Vidal's \_\_\_ to a Small Planet
- 71 Baja abode
- 72 Calendar boxes
- 73 Nice buns, for example
- 74 Frequent award for Neil Patrick Harris

**Down**

- 1 Be a branch manager?
- 2 Uncork, to Shakespeare
- 3 Some contemporaries of Lorca
- 4 Poet Kitty
- 5 Marlon Brando's hometown
- 6 Shore of Palm Springs
- 7 "You want the light \_\_\_ off?"
- 8 Joins with a torch
- 9 Artful move, in Oliver!
- 10 Islamic leader
- 11 Prayer at Metropolitan Community Church
- 12 "Don't \_\_\_ me!"
- 13 "Huzzah!"
- 21 Item on a docket
- 22 "No mo'!" to Gomer
- 23 Chisholm Trail town
- 24 In pink, for example
- 28 Keep saying
- 29 Rulers like Caligula
- 31 USA alternative
- 33 Give a thumbs-down to
- 35 Retreat for D.H. Lawrence
- 36 Linda of The Year of Living Dangerously
- 37 August hrs. in Augusta
- 38 Heavenly balls
- 39 Some escorts want them up front
- 44 Cut
- 45 Movie dog
- 52 "Great Caesar's ghost!"
- 54 Not straight up?
- 56 Blazing star
- 57 Anything but that
- 58 Cumming in drag?
- 59 Great Lakes city
- 60 Damon of The Bourne Identity
- 61 "When I was a \_\_\_ ..."
- 62 Actress Hagen
- 63 Anti's answer
- 66 Beaver job
- 67 Homoerotic tail?
- 68 "... pretty, witty, and \_\_\_"



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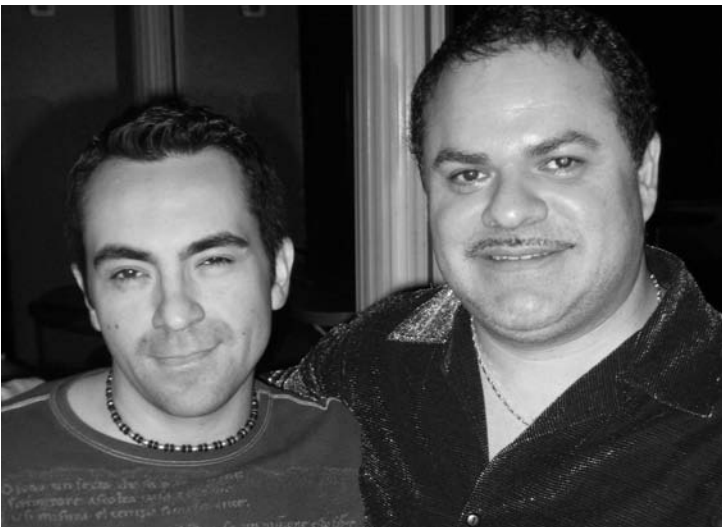


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Ed and Ken at the Round-Up Saloon.



Mark and Eddie at the Brick.



Michael and Bryan at TMC: The Mining Company.



Manuel, H. and Javier at the Tin Room.

While you're waiting for **Lady Gaga's *Born This Way*** to officially drop on Monday, these might keep your interest in the meantime .... Head to **the Rose Room** this weekend for all sorts of treats. They give away **Ke\$ha** tickets on Friday night and then turn around to give away **Rihanna** tickets on Sunday. In between, they host **GayBingo** on Saturday. Then the **Drag Race Tour** stops in on Thursday with winner **Raja** and fellow contestants **Alexis** and **Carmen Carrera** .... Head to **the Brick** on Saturday night for their big party of the weekend **One Night in Bangkok**. New York's **DJ Escape** comes back to headline with **DJ Moses** opening. The night benefits **Resource Center Dallas** and the **Turtle Creek Chorale** .... **Leading Story** leads the way onstage Friday night at **Sue Ellen's**. Then **Miss Marcy** and her **Texas Sugardaddys** sweeten the stage on Saturday. You got game? Test it every Tuesday at the club's **Dart and Pool Tourney** and **Texas Hold 'Em Poker** .... Inhale on Friday at the **Lone Star Cigar Men Club Night** at **the Dallas Eagle**. Get your butch on at **Military Man-euvers** on Saturday. **The Leather Knights** sponsor the event that includes military haircuts, boot blacking, uniform contest and dog tags, all benefiting the **Nelson-Tebedo Dental Clinic**. Talk about open wide! ... Have you tried the **Gay Sing-Along** with **Gary Poe** at Pekar's on Fridays? it's a must .... Find a familiar face at the new bar **Level**. **Whitney Paige** performs every Monday night .... Local music faves **Gary Floyd**, **Julie Bonk** and **Cornell Kinderknecht** perform at **Joy-Fest** Saturday at the **Heart & Soul Coffeehouse** .... **Klub Wet** is officially open with piano music Tuesdays-Sundays. ■

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES. FOR MORE, VISIT DALLASVOICE.COM.



Sara, Alicia and Raven at Havana.



Cesar and Jin at Exklusive Lounge.



Brad and Brandon at JR.'s Bar & Grill.

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- Saturday - 6:00 to 9:00 - Gary Poe
- Sunday - 3:00 to 6:00 - Rik DeRose
- Sunday - 6:00 to 9:00 - Gary Poe

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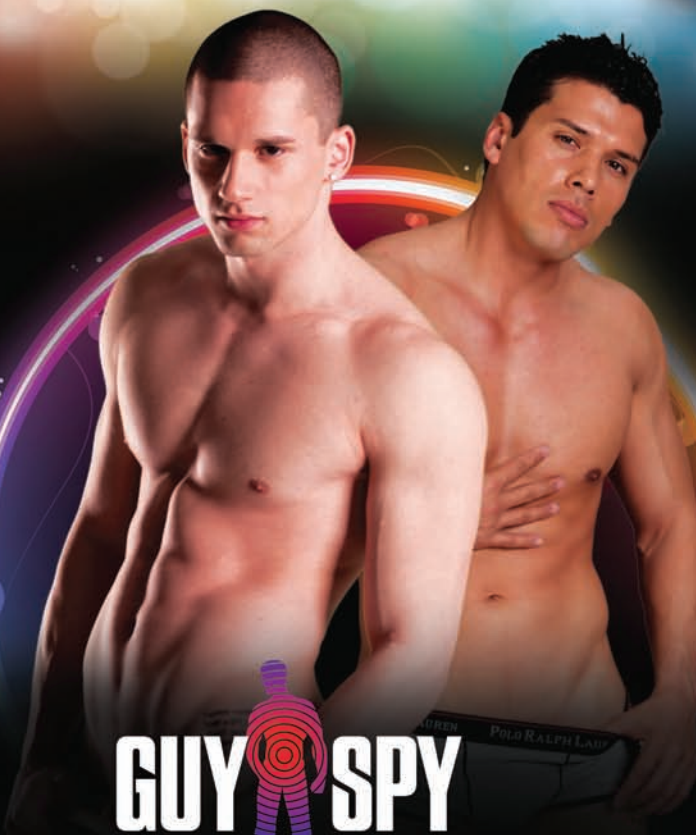
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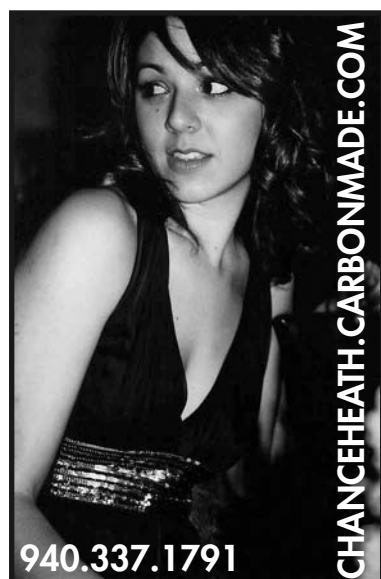
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