

Motherhood, in art and in life

'Next to Normal,' about a bi-polar mom, is a coup for Uptown

Themes hit close to home for new mom Patty Breckenridge

■ STAGE, Page 18



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The road to fatherhood

Terry Clayton and Steve Oxley traveled all the way to India to find a surrogacy agency that could make their dreams come true.

■ Read the complete story on page 10



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Photos courtesy of Steve Oxley and Terry Clayton. Design by Michael Stephens.

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May 24 assault now classified as hate crime

Fairness Fort Worth criticizes FWPD's initial handling of attack; asks for FBI to investigate as well. FWPD denies charges of delay in reclassifying attack

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — Fort Worth police officials this week confirmed that a May 24 attack on two gay men is being investigated as a possible hate crime, but denied charges that classification of the attack as a hate crime was improperly delayed.

The LGBT advocacy group Fairness Fort Worth this week released a statement on Wednesday, June 7, saying that the attack should have been classified as a hate crime in the initial report by responding officers and calling for "additional training of officers about hate crimes."

In addition, Fairness Fort Worth President Thomas Anable said that on Monday, June 6, he contacted the local office of the FBI to request an investigation of the incident under the federal hate crimes law. Anable said that within hours, the agency had assigned an agent who had contacted him and the Fort Worth PD.

"The FBI will conduct a separate investigation of the incident and is willing to assist the Fort Worth Police Department in its investigation," according to the Fairness Fort Worth statement.



AFTERMATH | Jason Sanches, who suffered facial injuries in a May 24 attack, says the Fort Worth officer who initially responded to the attack did not treat the incident seriously.

FBI Special Agent Mark White, media spokesman for the agency's Dallas office, said Thursday, June 9, he could neither confirm nor deny that the FBI is conducting an investigation, as per office policy.

According to police reports, Jason Sanches, his partner Ray Easley and his sister Joni Mariscal were attacked by a group of six men and one woman outside a convenience store on South Hulen, just south of I-20, in the early morning hours of May 24. The trio had walked over from

their nearby apartment, and left the store after buying a pack of gum.

Sanches said that the suspects accused them of "talking shit to my girl" inside the store, and attacked him with a stun gun before shoving and punching him until he fell to the ground. Easley was also attacked with the stun gun three or four times.

Sanches, who refused ambulance service and later drove himself to the hospital, was hit in the face and had several teeth knocked out. He said Thursday that he is recovering, but still has pain around his eye socket, which was fractured in the attack.

Sanches said he believes that the "girl" to whom the attackers referred was a young Asian woman who is a member of the family that owns the store. He said he did not see the woman in the store before the attack, but that when Easley drove back to the store later to look for the suspects, the woman pulled a gun on him and told him to leave.

Sanches also told Dallas Voice shortly after the attack that he was upset at the way officers and paramedics with MedStar ambulance company that responded to the initial call treated him and his partner and sister. He said the officers and the paramedics did not seem to take the attack seriously and that the officers ignored his statements that the attack was a hate crime.

Sanches said he did tell responding officers that the attackers used anti-gay language, but the initial report, supplied by Fort Worth PD, ■ **ASSAULT**, Page 9

LGBT groups, Holocaust museum partner to bring gay history to Dallas

Dallas Holocaust Museum opens exhibit on Nazi persecution of gays

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

About 100,000 gay men were arrested in Nazi Germany, targeted by Adolph Hitler's barbaric regime as an obstacle to building an Aryan population. An exhibit that opened June 3 at Dallas Holocaust Museum helps bring some of that hidden LGBT history to life.

Despite the massive amount of literature about the Holocaust, little was known about the gay victims of the Nazis until the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum opened in 1993 and began doing research.

At that time, Paragraph 175, the statute dating from the Weimar Republic that was used to arrest gays, was still on the books in Germany. It remained law, with the brutal amendments that Hitler added, until 1994.

The exhibit created by the USHMM, called

Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945 and opening at the Dallas Holocaust Museum in time for Gay Pride Month, came to Dallas through a partnership formed between the museum and members of the LGBT community.

The partnership began a year ago when Westboro Baptist Church protested at the Holocaust center. While museum staff and board members were apprehensive about the demonstration, hundreds of members of the LGBT community confronted the Phelps clan in the street.

Museum President and CEO Alice Murray said that Westboro's visit taught her how extreme hatred can leave such a devastating impact on the world. But the visit also forged a friendship between the museum and the LGBT community.

"Not only is our relationship strong, but we've evolved into a partnership teaching tolerance as the response to bigotry and indifference," Murray said.

Louise Young, an exhibit sponsor, became a Dallas museum volunteer last year when she arranged a program about the Holocaust at East



Alice Murray

Central University in her hometown, Ada, Okla.

"About four years ago, I established a fund for an endowed diversity lecture series in my name at the university," Young said. "Each year the university allows me to set the topic for the annual lecture."

This time, she wanted to bring a Holocaust survivor to the school.

The museum's education director, Kathy Chapman, "quickly put me in touch with a remarkable Dallas resident, Max Glaubien, who survived horrible conditions in Nazi slave labor concentration camps, and then a death march from Dachau at the end of World War II," Young said.

Glaubien spoke at the school to standing-room-only audience, filling a 1,000-seat auditorium. After a standing ovation, the president of the

■ **HOLocaust**, Page 8

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Kunkle backers not giving up

It might look to some like frontrunner Mike Rawlings has the momentum building for an easy win in the Dallas mayoral runoff, but Kunkle supporters claim they are going to come from behind for an upset victory on June 18.

LGBT political activist Jesse Garcia said there are many "unknown factors" that could lead to a Kunkle victory. Runoffs traditionally produce poor turnouts, and without any South Dallas candidates on the ballot there will be fewer votes cast where Rawlings did so well in the election, Garcia said. Another unknown is the number of voters that abstained in the election but might vote in the runoff.

In a recent blog post I wrote that Rawlings had received endorsements from many past and present gay officials, and Garcia said that misrepresented where the majority of the LGBT community stands politically. "He only has certain key people, not the whole community lined up," he said. Garcia added that Kunkle also has major support from LGBT "super activists" who contribute so much to civic affairs. Garcia also noted that it is unclear how those people who voted for Ron Natinsky, who failed to make the mayoral runoff and threw his support behind Rawlings, will actually vote. The runoff in District 12 for Natinsky's former council seat is also on the ballot, so presumably many of his supporters will be returning to the polls, along with District 14 voters that traditionally turn out in large numbers.

My blog post, in which I wrote that LGBT leaders might want to start paving an inroad to a possible Rawlings administration in light of his failure to attract any endorsements from LGBT groups, apparently didn't greatly concern the Kunkle camp until The Dallas Morning News commented on it. That did cause a commotion several days after my post had drifted into what I had believed to be obscurity. Garcia told me my post was unfair, and that it gave the impression that LGBT voters should just give up and vote for Rawlings. That's not what I meant, but interpretation often swings wildly between writer and reader.

Dallas Morning News City Hall reporter Rudy Bush referred to my blog post as a "remarkable editorial" and noted that it could be a sign of a shift in LGBT support and even influence how the community might vote. That was real flattering, but the truth is my opinions do not reflect the official position of the Dallas Voice, nor do I command that much influence in the community.

Even so it prompted Stonewall Democrats of Dallas and the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance to take the remarkable step of issuing a joint press release condemning me for expressing my opinion and The DMN for reporting it. For the record, I didn't endorse anyone, nor did I suggest that anyone "roll over" or "suck up."

At any rate, Garcia is correct in his assessment that the race is not over and anything can still happen. But I still think it is a good idea for our community to be sure we enjoy good relations with both candidates. It wouldn't hurt to start laying the groundwork for whatever develops and whomever winds up at the top of City Hall.

— David Webb

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localbriefs

Parks Foundation hires Stiles as director of development

Samuel Stiles has been appointed director of development for the Dallas Parks Foundation. The foundation's board of directors announced his appointment during a recent reception.



Samuel Stiles

Stiles served as development director the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS in 2008. Previously he worked as vice president of marketing for Northern Trust, and he spent several years working in development for The Dallas Opera.

ANNIVERSARY



Donnie Sweat and Timothy Christopher mark their anniversary on Friday, June 10, celebrating 15 years of love and happiness together.

Death

Frank Marion Smith IV, 46, of Round Rock died May 27. He was born Oct. 2, 1964, in Kaufman and raised in Dallas. He had lived in Round Rock for the past 10 years. He was a freelance artist known as Frankie or Frank Smith who signed his work with a star over his name. He was active in the LGBT community in Dallas in the 1990s and often contributed to charitable causes.

Smith was preceded in death by his mother, Patricia Bray Dewees. He is survived by his partner,

Kenneth Dye of Round Rock; father, Frank Marion Smith III of Arlington; sisters, Toie Levinrad of Citrus Springs, Fla., Halaina Walsh of Arlington, Carrie Throgmorton of Allen, Elizabeth Barber of Alexandria, La., and Tammy Dewees of Dallas; brothers, Paul Dewees and Richard Dewees Jr. of Alexandria, La., and Mark Smith of McKinney; stepfather, Richard Dewees Sr., of Alexandria, La.; nieces, Candice Hobson of Savannah, Ga., Haygen Walsh of Arlington, Alee Dewees, of Alexandria, La., and Bre Anna Dewees of Dallas; and nephews, Brandon Hobson of Gulf Shores, Ala., Cory Dickson of Jacksonville, N.C., and Austin Lilly, Ethan Barber and Luke Dewees of Alexandria, La.

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Creating magic for the cause

Robin and Sylvia King help make opening and closing ceremonies something special at LSR

M.M. ADJARIAN | Contributing Writer
editor@dallasvoice.com

Creating the magic that is the Lone Star Ride is a group effort. Just ask Robin King, who, along with his wife and business partner, Sylvia, runs Ambient Stage Lighting Inc.

This quietly dynamic duo has been part of LSR from the beginning. In 2001, they served as pit crew volunteers. But from 2002 on, they signed on as official sponsors and have since overseen the staging, lighting and sound elements that go into the opening and closing ceremonies and the ever-popular Saturday night Camp Show.

Setting up the props, truss riggings, lights, speakers and microphones that are part of those events, only to take them down a few hours later, is no glamour job. It's hard work.

"But to Sylvia and me, it's second nature," the ASL company president says. "It's what we do as our profession every day."

Since all the LSR events, including the entertainment, take place outside, King and his wife are at the mercy of the elements. And in this, they are no different from anyone else who rides or crews for the event.

But what makes this part of LSR a challenge for them is that they, unlike other participants, can't seek shelter from inclement weather. The show must go on regardless of the havoc Mother Nature may wreak.

So when the great Saturday rainout of 2010 happened, the Kings couldn't just sit tight and wait alongside the LSR riders and pit crew mem-

bers at the American Airlines Training and Conference Center, located on Hwy. 360, just south of Hwy. 183.

"[We had] to pull the trigger and cancel anything electrical — the fun, creative stuff," King remembers. "We [ended up] scrambling around, coming up with last-minute, makeshift alternatives that we could pull off inside."

Despite situational constraints, the entertainment portion of the 2010 LSR was still a success, largely because of a shared sense of commitment among those directly involved with it.

Says King, "The band expected to get this nice stage and a little additional space and extra sound support. They were in the same position [as we were], but they perform[ed] regardless of the circumstances."

The couple first became aware of LSR when a lighting technician named Tim Olson — who was among the very first group of LSR cyclists — told them about it.

The decision to participate was an easy one for both. This was especially true for Sylvia, who has seen what HIV and AIDS can do close up: Her maternal uncle lives with the disease.

Eleven years later, King and his wife can't imagine not being part of the ride. It's become too much a part of their lives for them to ever stop participating.

And Robin and Sylvia King help make LSR something participants look forward to every September. What they do follows a life-and-death cycle of sorts, but one that, like the riding itself, is meant to bring a permanent end to suffering and death that AIDS has caused among so many millions in the last 30 years.

"That's really what it's all about and the sole reason why I do it," King says. ■

Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS takes place Sept. 24-25. For more details or to donate to a specific rider or team, or to the event overall, go online to LoneStarRide.org.



Robin King

■ HOLOCAUST

From Page 4

school made Glauben an honorary alumnus.

Young has been working with the museum ever since.

"Maria McMullen, director of development, called me in April to ask for my help in both raising funds for and suggesting community partners in the Dallas GLBT community for their upcoming exhibit," she said. "I jumped at the chance to contribute."

Earlier this year, the museum opened new, temporary exhibit space. Members of the LGBT community suggested bringing the traveling exhibit on the treatment of gays during the Holocaust to the museum.

Museum staff contacted the U.S. Holocaust Museum about availability. The only opening for several years was this summer, so they booked it and began a fundraising blitz to raise the money to transport it and program around it through the summer.

Among the sponsors are Dallas' LGBT synagogue Congregation Beth El Binah, Young and her partner Vivienne Armstrong, and Jay Oppenheimer and Dolf Haas. Resource Center Dallas, the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce and the Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas are community partners. Dallas Voice is the media sponsor.

Other sponsors include Texas Instruments, Waldman Brothers and Raytheon.

Museum Marketing and Communication Director Nanette Fodell said that programming around the exhibit is still being planned. Director of Exhibitions and Curator Edward J. Phillips from the UUSHMM speaks on June 16 at a reception for sponsors and museum members.

Fodell said that she would like to put together a program on bullying that includes members of Youth First Texas. Glauben, who was arrested and put in a concentration camp at age 10, said that the Holocaust began with bullying.

The film *Paragraph 175* will be shown later in the summer.

To schedule a private reception or a group tour of the exhibit, contact Chapman at the museum. ■

Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 Record Street at West End Station. Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed July 4. \$8. 214-741-7500.

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RCD continues United Black Ellument

DSHS takes over funding from CDC for peer-to-peer education program

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

United Black Ellument, a social and support group for African-American men with HIV/AIDS, has changed from an independent program to a program of Resource Center Dallas and will now be funded by the Texas Department of State Health Services. U-BE's staff became employees of RCD on May 1.

U-BE works to reduce HIV infection among young gay and bisexual African-American men through peer-to-peer education, program officials said.

The program, created by Dr. Susan Kegeles of the University of California, San Francisco in 2009, was previously funded by the Centers for Disease Control.

The CDC was unable to continue funding beyond two years and UCSF looked for alternative sources of support but was unable to find any.

When DSHS stepped in and agreed to fund the program, the Texas agency looked for partners they have worked with successfully in the past to administer it and chose to partner with RCD.

RCD will maintain the program's current space on Commerce Street in Deep Ellum.

Program director Ruben Ramirez said the office will remain open Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"We're providing a safe space to socialize," Ramirez said. "To talk in a judgment-free zone."

He said many of the men who attend have no other place to go and meet people like them.

The program includes a social component with everything from bowling or crawfish boils to an evening of coffee and conversation, he said. But it also includes a prevention and skill-building component.

"We teach how to use a condom and do it properly," Ramirez said. "How to negotiate safer-sex conversations with partners."

Through separate funding to Kegeles, the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies in San Francisco will continue evaluating U-BE and its impact on the community and providing technical assistance and training to the staff.

"We welcome the opportunity to continue the outreach and prevention efforts established by U-BE," said RCD Executive Director Cece Cox. "This opportunity leverages the Center's expertise in HIV prevention and outreach, still serving men who have sex with men as well as impacting a demographic that has been disproportionately impacted by HIV — the African-American community." ■

3116 Commerce St., Suite C. More information and calendar at UBEDallas.org.

ASSAULT

From Page 4

includes no mention of the slurs being used.

Sanches said Thursday he has not filed a complaint against the officers, but is considering doing so. He also said he has spoken with a detective to whom the case was assigned, but had not heard anything from officials "since last Wednesday."

When Sanches first contacted Dallas Voice, Voice staffers suggested he contact Fort Worth police's LGBT Liaison Officer Sara Straten. According to a spokesman in the department's media relations office, Straten then filed a supplemental report that included information on the anti-gay language used by the suspects and indicating the attack could be a hate crime.

According to the Fairness Fort Worth statement, Police Chief Jeff Halstead contacted a FFW representative on Monday to notify them the case had been assigned to the major case unit and would be investigated as a hate crime. The statement also said Halstead had "expressed disappointment in the department's initial steps which failed to properly investigate the incidence as a hate crime."

But in a statement released late Wednesday, Lt. Paul Henderson, Halstead's chief of staff, defended the way the department had handled the case.

Henderson's statement noted that initial reports did not include reference to the anti-gay language

suspects used in the attack. But, he added, patrol officers are trained to respond to emergency situations and calls for service, and their "primary mission is to respond and conduct a basic investigation" and file an initial report.

While some patrol officers do conduct "in-depth investigations," Henderson said, most are "not necessarily trained investigators" and they are not trained to investigate hate crimes.

Henderson said those initial reports are then funneled to detectives in the proper divisions who conduct thorough investigations. Evidence from those investigations is then used to "make determinations if a crime actually occurred, what charge would be filed and whether there are any special circumstances that need to be considered for the district attorney's office," he said.

In terms of the Sanches case, Henderson said, "we respectfully disagree that there was a delay in making a determination that this was a potential hate crime. Those types of determinations are made by assigned detectives who are trained investigators."

Henderson said that based on the initial report by the responding officer, the attack was not considered a potential hate crime and was assigned to a detective in the division where the attack occurred.

However, after Sanches provided a written statement, on May 28, regarding the anti-gay slurs

■ ASSAULT, Page 12



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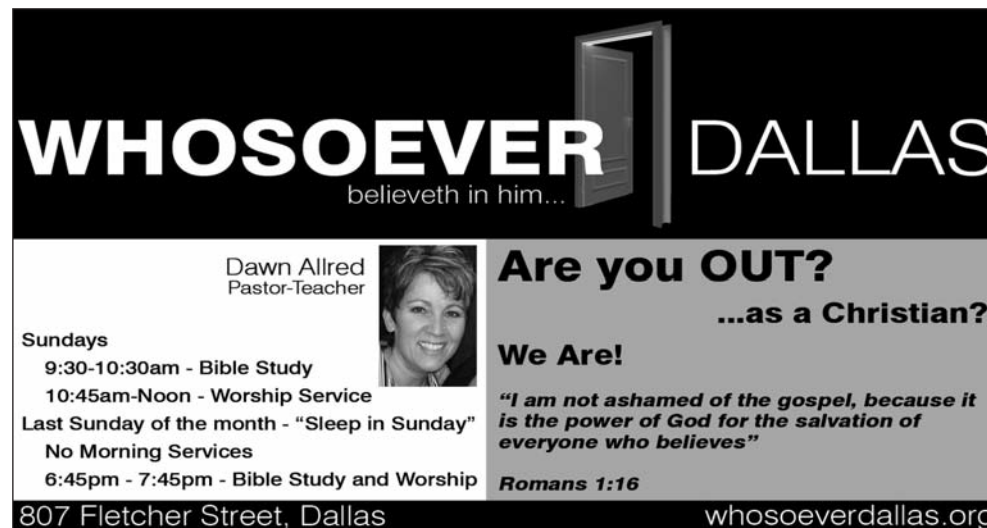
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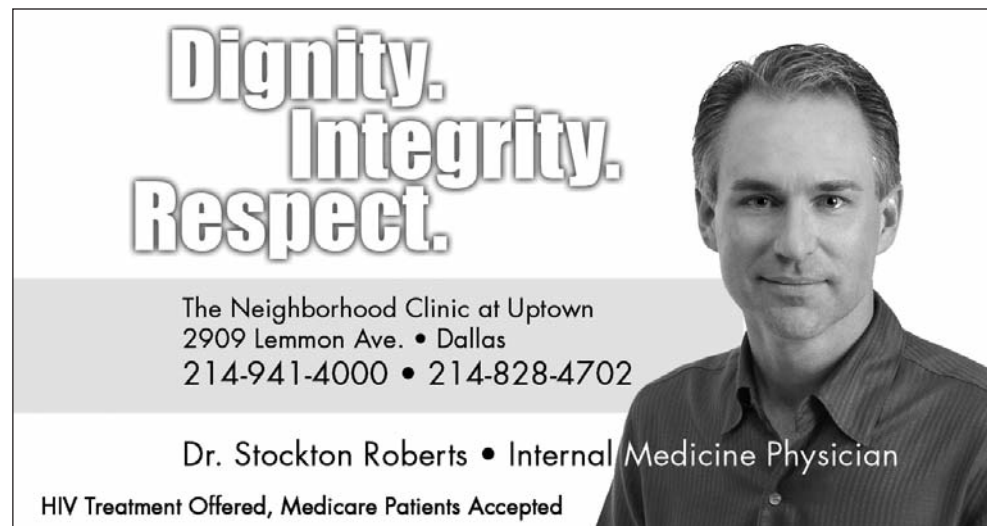
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coverstory

The long road to fatherhood



FIRST MEETING | Terry Clayton, left, and Steve Oxley hold their sons Ajay, left, and Jag for the first time, about two hours after the twins were born in New Delhi. (Photo courtesy Terry Clayton and Steve Oxley)

Terry Clayton and Steve Oxley had to travel halfway around the world to get their sons, but the journey was worth the effort

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

Terry Clayton and Steve Oxley knew early on in their relationship that they wanted to be parents. And after a little research, they decided that commercial surrogacy was the best way to go.

Still, as Clayton notes, surrogacy wasn't without its potential pitfalls.

"We were certainly concerned about the perils of commercial surrogacy. You hear these stories about the mother changing her mind at the last minute. And commercial surrogacy isn't legal everywhere. It is legal in some states, but not others," he said.

The couple, who lived in California at the time, also quickly found another drawback: cost. Although commercial surrogacy is legal in California, Clayton says, they discovered that going through a reputable agency would cost them about \$100,000 to \$125,000 for the full package of services.

"That just wasn't affordable for us," Clayton says.

But he and Oxley weren't ready to give up on their dream. So they started researching the issue and quickly found online a large community of

people who either already had children through commercial surrogacy or were in the process of having children that way.

Clayton travels frequently in his job as senior vice president of sales with a California-based furniture company. He was on a business trip early in 2009 when he found out, through that online community, that commercial surrogacy is a thriving business in India, where the service is available for about a quarter of what it would cost in California.

"I called Steve and said, 'What do you think?' And he was all for it," Clayton recalls. "So I emailed a clinic I found in Mumbai. I chose them because of the price — about \$26,000 not including the travel to India — and because they had a really nice website and they specifically marketed themselves to the LGBT community."

And so the process began. Clayton and Oxley started by choosing an egg donor after studying profiles on the available donors, including their height, weight, medical history and religion. The profile on each included a "tiny head shot," but no names. Donors, Clayton says, remain "completely anonymous."

Clayton adds that in looking through the profiles, he and Oxley noticed that many of the women "looked unhappy." So they decided to find one who "looked pleasant, happy" and who was relatively tall.

Clayton explains that while they chose the egg donor, the biological mother of their children, the clinic itself chose the surrogate, the woman who

Continued on Next Page

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From Previous Page

would carry the children. Having separate women as the egg donor and the surrogate, Clayton says, helps cut down the possibility of an emotional attachment between the women and the child.

The couple also had to decide which of them would be the biological father of their future child. For Oxley, that decision was an easy one.

"I have [siblings] who have children, so my parents already have grandchildren that they have biological ties to," Oxley says. "But Terry is an only child. I thought it would be nice his parents to have grandchildren that they were connected to biologically."

With that settled, Clayton began a series of tests that included "a lot of bloodwork," an HIV test and an analysis of his sperm to ensure he was a good candidate for the procedures. Then about a month later, after paying the full fee up front, Clayton boarded a plane to India.

Oxley stayed home on that first trip to help contain costs, the men explain.

Physicians at the Mumbai clinic retrieved the eggs from the donor mother and the sperm from Clayton, and fertilized the eggs in vitro. The fertilized eggs were then implanted in the surrogate.

The surrogate, Clayton says, got pregnant on the first try, and he came home to California to wait. And then, one day shy of 12 weeks later, they got the bad news. The surrogate had miscarried.

Clayton wrote about the experience on the blog he had been maintaining about their efforts, and soon found out that other couples who had used the Mumbai clinic had been equally disappointed.

"I found two other couples online who were commiserating about that clinic, about how poor their communications were," he says.

Oxley adds, "We got an email saying she [the surrogate] had miscarried. An email!"

And although the contract said they would receive a refund if the surrogate miscarried within the first 12 weeks, they ended up getting only about a third of their money back.

The men knew they still wanted to have a child, but the sadness of losing the first child made them delay. Eventually though, through an online contact in Australia, they heard about Dr. Shivani

 see more online

Go to DallasVoice.com to see more photos of the Clayton-Oxley family and for more information on commercial surrogacy.

Sachdev Gour, a London-trained physician who had just recently opened Surrogacy Centre India in New Delhi.

"She put together a great package for us," Clayton says, noting that the price this time was lower — only \$23,000 — and that instead of having to pay the full price up front, they made payments as the process went along.

So again the couple went through the process of choosing a donor and again Clayton traveled to India. This time, Dr. Shivani took two sperm samples, separating the sperm into four vials and freezing three of them so Clayton wouldn't have to make another trip if the first implantation effort failed.

This time the surrogate again got pregnant on the first try, but she miscarried at seven weeks. At this point, Clayton says, "We decided we needed to take a breather. We were racking up quite a bill, with all the travel and everything. And we decided to wait a bit before we tried again. We wanted to make sure we were ready, emotionally and financially."

In the meantime, the couple had decided to move to Texas, where they would be closer to Clayton's parents and where they could more easily afford a larger home for their soon-to-be-growing family.

When they decided to try again, they chose a third egg donor. Even though the woman's profile information had been inadvertently left blank except for her photo, Clayton and Oxley knew she was the one they wanted.

"The second we saw her, we knew she was the one. She was 5-foot-5, the tallest of any we had seen, and she looked like an Indian version of my mother," Clayton says.

The new procedure started out well. The donor produced 32 eggs and almost all fertilized. Four of the fertilized eggs were implanted, while the rest were frozen for possible future use.

■ PARENTHOOD, Page 12



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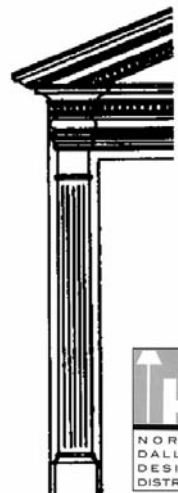
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coverstory

■ PARENTHOOD

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Of the four implanted eggs, three took, and the surrogate was pregnant with triplets.

In the U.S., Clayton explains, surrogacy clinics are only allowed to implant two fertilized eggs at a time. In India, doctors can implant four to increase the chances of a successful pregnancy.

However, if more than two of the embryos are still viable at 11 weeks, doctors have to perform what is called a "selective reduction," since surrogates are not supposed to carry more than two babies to term. That's what happened in Clayton and Oxley's case.

"It was awful, just awful," Clayton says with tears in his eyes. "I can't stand to think about it even now."

From that point on, though, the surrogate had "basically the perfect pregnancy," Clayton says. "If she complained that her toe hurt, they took her to the hospital. They took very, very good care of her."

At the 36-week mark, Clayton and Oxley packed up and headed together to India. They were able to go with the surrogate for her last ultrasound appointment, and a c-section was scheduled for the next week.

"We had rented an apartment, but when they told us it would be the next week before the babies were born, we decided to go away for the weekend," Clayton recalls. "It had been so stressful, and we just wanted to relax those last few days."

But the babies had other plans. The daddies-to-be packed for their weekend trip then went to bed about 3 a.m. At about 6 a.m., Dr. Shivani sent a text to let them know the surrogate was in labor and about to deliver.

By the time they woke up, saw the text and made it to the hospital, their twin sons — Ajay and Jag — were about two hours old.

"Terry held Ajay first and I held Jag first," Oxley says. "It's interesting, to this day it seems each of us still has a special bond with the one we held first. We both love them equally, but there's a bond there with the one we held first."

The boys' names, Clayton explains, are Hindu. Ajay means "invincible," and Jag means "the uni-

verse."

"We wanted them to have a connection to their mother's heritage, even though we don't even know her name. We are both Catholic, but we want them to be exposed to a variety of cultures. We want them to connect with their Hindu heritage, too."

So they had their sons, at long, long last. But Clayton and Oxley still had more hoops to jump through to get their twins home. They spent a total of five weeks in India, paying "expediting fees" to get the babies' birth certificates and the exit visas necessary to take the children out of India. The government also sent an investigator to interview the couple and the surrogate who delivered the twins before Clayton and Oxley could bring their sons home.

Finally, though, they made it, returning to their new North Dallas home in the first week of October.

Today, Jag and Ajay are just shy of their first birthday, and Oxley's second-parent adoption of the twins was finalized at the first of June. Oxley, who worked in property management in California, stays home these days to be a full-time dad, while Clayton still has to travel often for work.

It's hard to be away from his family so much, Clayton says. But he uses the phone and the Internet to be close to them, even when he isn't physically present. And the grandparents on both sides of the family are thrilled with their new grandchildren as well.

On a recent Friday afternoon, Oxley's mother was already at their home, and Clayton's parents were on their way back, for the second weekend in a row.

But the change for Clayton and Oxley is profound.

"We have a family now. As the years go by, we won't be just two old men growing older, we'll have a family. We'll have our children and our grandchildren," Oxley says.

Clayton adds, "It took a while. We had to go through a lot more than straight couples. But we wanted children and now we have two beautiful sons."

"Everyone deserves to have a family," he says with a proud smile, "even if it looks a little different." ■

■ ASSAULT

From Page 9

used during the assault, the case was sent to the Major Case Section for further review, and then assigned to a Major Case detective for investigation as a possible hate crime.

"It is important to note that had the responding officer listed the specific details in the original summary narrative regarding anti-gay slurs, the same process of investigation would have taken place, leading us to the same conclusion that this is a potentially hate-motivated crime," Henderson said.

He also pointed out that "hate crimes are presented as such during the trial for the underlying

ing offense, in this case, aggravated assault. Once a crime is determined to be potentially motivated by hate, it is the responsibility of the prosecuting attorney to determine beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant intentionally selected the victim or victims based on bias or prejudice."

LGBT advocates have often criticized the way Texas' hate crimes law is implemented by prosecutors.

The law allows for enhanced penalties in convictions where crimes were motivated by bias, but prosecutors often choose not to ask for a hate crime conviction and penalty enhancement because of the increased burden of proving such bias existed. ■

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From bad to much, much worse

If Rick Perry runs for president, he's likely to move toward the middle, but not on LGBT issues

Just when I thought the social and political atmosphere couldn't get any more depressing or bizarre than it already is, I witnessed Gov. Rick "Pretty Boy" Perry tell television reporters the other day he was thinking about running for president.

The governor followed that remark with the disclaimer that he tends to "think about a lot of things." But if you ask me, he would probably have a difficult time proving that because everything that comes out of his mouth sounds like it's been prepared by the Southern Baptist Convention's advisory board.

But that could change according to The Economist, a weekly news and international affairs publication owned by a London-based publication that was founded more than a century and a half ago.

The Economist article speculated that if he ran for president, Perry would likely soften his stance against same-sex marriage, and that there really hadn't been much of a debate about gay marriage in Texas.

It went on to say there hadn't been a "serious effort" to legalize same-sex marriage or civil unions in Texas.

I had to reread that passage about three times to make sure that I really comprehended what I was reading. And when I was finally sure I was reading what I thought I was reading, it occurred to me The Economist staff must all be nuts and/or stoned.

The likelihood of the governor softening his stance on same-sex marriage is about as probable as him growing a ponytail and going skinny-dipping at Hippy Hollow on Lake Travis.

I think Perry probably shudders every time he remembers the rumors that spread across the



NOT LIKELY | Despite predictions by The Economist, if Texas Gov. Rick Perry decides to run for president, he may take a more moderate position on some issues, but he probably won't move to the middle on LGBT issues.

country in 2004 that claimed he was a closet homosexual who had been caught in flagrante delicto by his wife, Anita, in the governor's office with a high-ranking male public official.

That was the first time I was ever able to get Perry's public relations office to return a call to the Dallas Voice after literally years of unsuccessful attempts. Soon after I left a message that I was writing about the widespread rumors, a spokesman quickly called me back to say the governor certainly was not a homosexual, had never been a homosexual and furthermore, never would be one.

The truth is that Perry has gone out of his way to offend the state's LGBT community over the years:

He opposed the inclusion of sexual orientation in the state's hate crime law. He told reporters he thought the state's sodomy law was "appropriate" before it was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court. He supported the passage of a state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage in Texas. And he told a Fort Worth audience that gay and lesbian veterans returning from war should look for a more liberal state in which to live.

So to The Economist, I would have to say that I don't think Perry is going to change his stance on same-sex marriage anytime soon, and that we

have talked about same-sex marriage quite a bit in Texas, that we fought the passage of a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage with everything we had and failed.

The reason we failed is that Texas is overpopulated by people who share the same ideology as Perry and keep voting him and other politicians like him into office. And what's even scarier is that there are a whole lot of gay and lesbian voters and other socially liberal people who voted for Rick Perry.

It's hard to believe, but it's true. They don't vote their consciences. They vote for what they consider is best for their pocketbooks.

I do think that if Perry were to run for president that he would attempt to move more to the middle from his current position on the far right. And it could work.

Former Texas Gov. George Bush was able to do it, and he even managed to convince a dozen or so LGBT political leaders that he would be gay-friendly.

Of course, we all know how it turned out with President Bush — very badly. But I don't think things would turn out the same way with a President Rick Perry in the Oval Office — I think it would be much, much worse. ■

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



David Webb
The Rare Reporter

A long road still lies ahead in the fight for equality

Pride Month celebrates our accomplishments, but an East Texas funeral service reminds us that we have a long way to go

This is national Gay Pride Month. In the 40-plus years since 1969 and the Stonewall Rebellion, there have been significant changes for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, and it's important to celebrate our accomplishments.

Take a look at what has happened in the last year: The federal government took the first steps toward repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy which bans open military service by gays and lesbians. Federal officials also unveiled new guidelines on how hospitals should deal with LGBT patients and their families.

Closer to home, DFW International Airport and Dallas County added policies to protect their LGBT employees from employment discrimination, and Dallas ISD adopted a comprehensive anti-bullying policy that protects all students regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

I'm happy to say Resource Center Dallas played key roles in these local accomplishments.

In addition, public attitudes are changing. A Gallup poll released last month shows more than half the people surveyed now find gay and lesbian relationships, in the words of the survey, "morally acceptable." The poll also showed half the people surveyed support marriage equality; up from 26 percent in 1996.

Much of this growth is attributed to people under the age of 35, and a change of attitude among men.

With all of these positive developments, we could become complacent. We could think the heavy work is done. At times, I've allowed myself to fall into this self-congratulatory trap.

Then I hear a story, as I did over Memorial Day weekend, which jars me back to the reality that our lives are precarious. It reminded me that there are far too many hearts and souls whose attitudes toward us have not changed.

At a funeral for a gay acquaintance of mine in East

Texas, the minister delivered an anti-gay message from the pulpit, as did a relative of the deceased. In fact, the relative said he did not accept his brother's sexual orientation in life, and wouldn't in death.

Think about that for a minute. Can you imagine what the LGBT friends of the deceased must have felt, hearing those words in that setting?

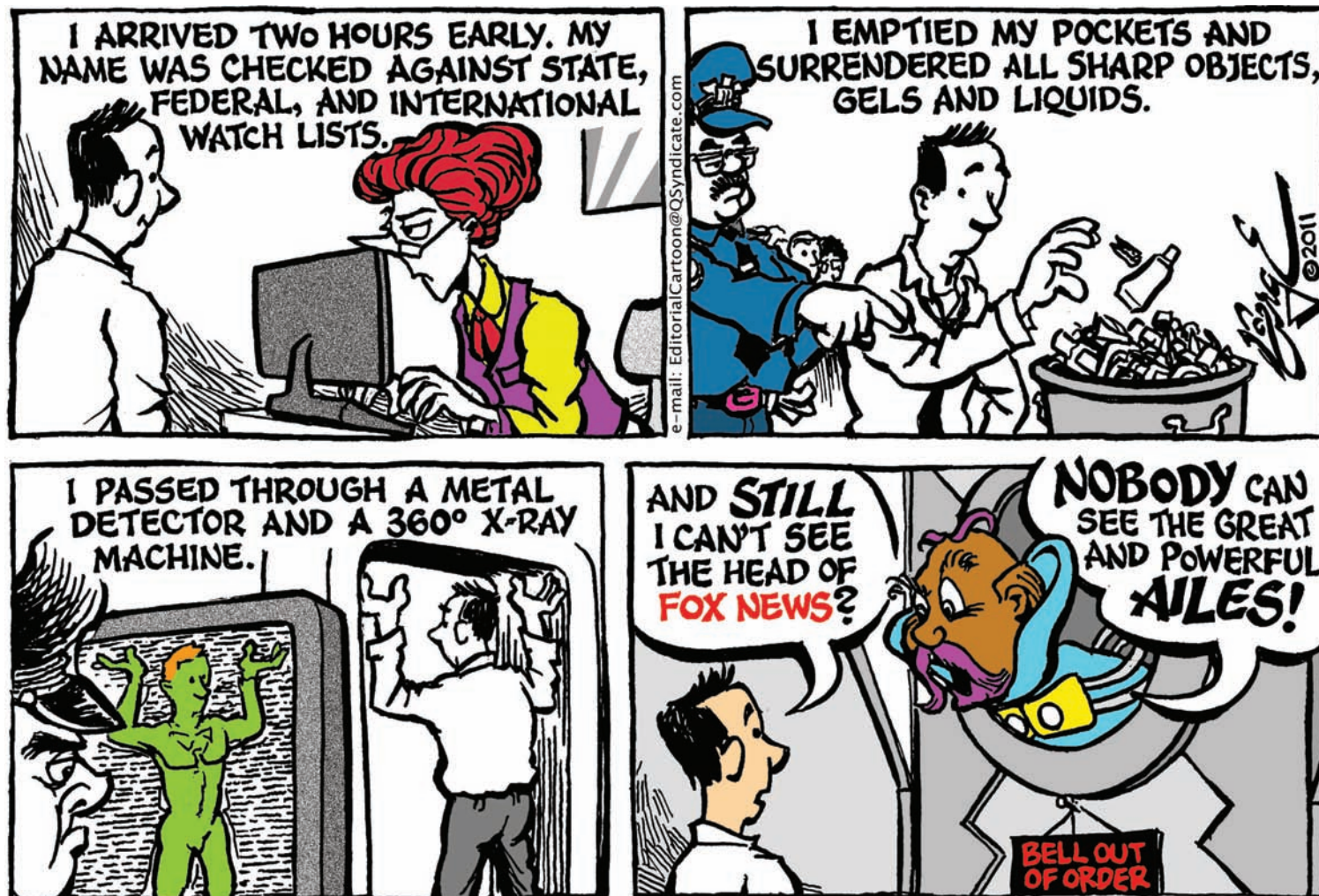
This happened in 2011, a short drive from Dallas/Fort Worth. It stunned me, and reminded me of several recent events that together show the path for full inclusion remains bumpy.

When a state representative tries to eliminate funding for LGBT resource centers on Texas public college campuses, we have a long way to go. When a state senator attempts to restrict the rights of transgender Texans to marry, we have a long way to go.

When criminals target people because of their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, we have a long way to go. When LGBT people can still be fired from their jobs because of who they are or who they love, we have a long way to go.



Rafael McDonnell
Special Contributor



NEWS ITEM: FOX NEWS CEO ROGER AILES HAD BOMB-PROOF GLASS INSTALLED IN HIS OFFICE TO PROTECT HIM FROM "THE GAYS."

When there are laws labeling our relationships and partnerships as less than legal and equal, we have a long way to go. When LGBT seniors face discrimination in long-term care facilities, we have a long way to go.

When we are treated unequally under federal programs like Social Security and Medicaid, we have a long way to go.

This is not meant to be a bucket of cold water on a festive, celebratory time. We've shown over and over again in the years since Stonewall that we have created communities, forged alliances and literally moved mountains to affect positive change for the LGBT community. We've rallied over the people we've lost and the temporary setbacks dropped in our path by lawmakers.

Rather, I think we should use Pride Month as an opportunity to look forward as well as back. Our pride in being who we are, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, isn't limited to 30 days every year, or a parade in the early fall. It's pride in how we live our lives and how we work to fulfill the promise of equality for those who come after us.

Remember, this promise of equality is — for us — only a theoretical promise. To achieve equality, much more needs to be done, and each one of us must play a part.

Rafael McDonnell is strategic communications and programs manager for Resource Center Dallas and a former broadcast journalist. Email him at rmdonnell@rcdallas.org.

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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Stepping up

LIFE+STYLE

dance

4 years after closing his acclaimed dance troupe, **Bruce Wood** is back — this time in Dallas, and more defiant than ever

MARK LOWRY | Special Contributor
marklowry@theaterjones.com

It was a sad day in 2007 when — after 10 seasons of delivering some of the most exciting contemporary ballets North Texas had seen from a local dance outfit — Fort Worth's Bruce Wood Dance Company folded.

Officially, the reason for the closing was that Wood had spent the previous few years running the whole show himself; he simply didn't have time to devote to both fundraising and dance-creating.

But it has also been suggested that the edginess of his work, notably the frequent pairings of male dancers, shocked and offended some audiences. While same-sex groupings are nothing new in contemporary dance, Wood's frank use of it may have driven away some of Cowtown's big-money donors.

All of which makes Wood's reemergence (this time in Dallas) after four years away all the more exciting. The Bruce Wood Dance Project debuts Friday at Downtown's Arts Magnet, with two world premieres and a revival of one of his best-known works, 2001's *Bolero*.

One of the new dances — called *Our Last Lost Chance* and set to the music of contemporary Finnish composer Ólafur Arnalds — does feature a duet between two men. But Wood sounds almost defiant about it this time around.

"There are things I was afraid to do in Fort Worth because of [reaction from] donors," Wood now says. "Now I don't care and I'm going to do them anyway."

Nevertheless, Wood, who is gay, says he never pairs same-sex dancers to make any kind of statement.

"It's simply a part of who I am and I give it no more thought than I would about having gray hair," says the silver-maned Wood.

"Having said that, I have found that the general audience often feels it is some kind of sexual thing. It generally doesn't occur to some that it could simply be a dance between two men that explores their relationship as friends, brothers, father and sons."

The nature of dance, however, is admittedly imbued with a certain degree of sensuality that can provoke visceral reactions among its audiences.

"I don't try to be subversive, but dance by its physical nature has dancers touching, holding and supporting and that can lead to all kinds of interpretations. As long as I approach the dances with honesty and integrity, I find that the audience does as well," he says.

Wood's new company features 16 dancers, with two of his



former collaborators, Kimi Nikaidoh and Doug Hopkins, onboard. Hopkins, the longtime partner of Q Cinema founder Todd Camp, will showcase his comedic skills in the other new work on the program, *Happy Feet*, which features onstage music by Fort Worth Euro-gypsy band Ginny Mac.

Wood insists this is not a one-shot pilot program. Even before his official return to the stage debuts, Wood has already begun planning the next performances of his company (the dates will be announced later). And he has committed to one twist in particular: Using all male dancers.

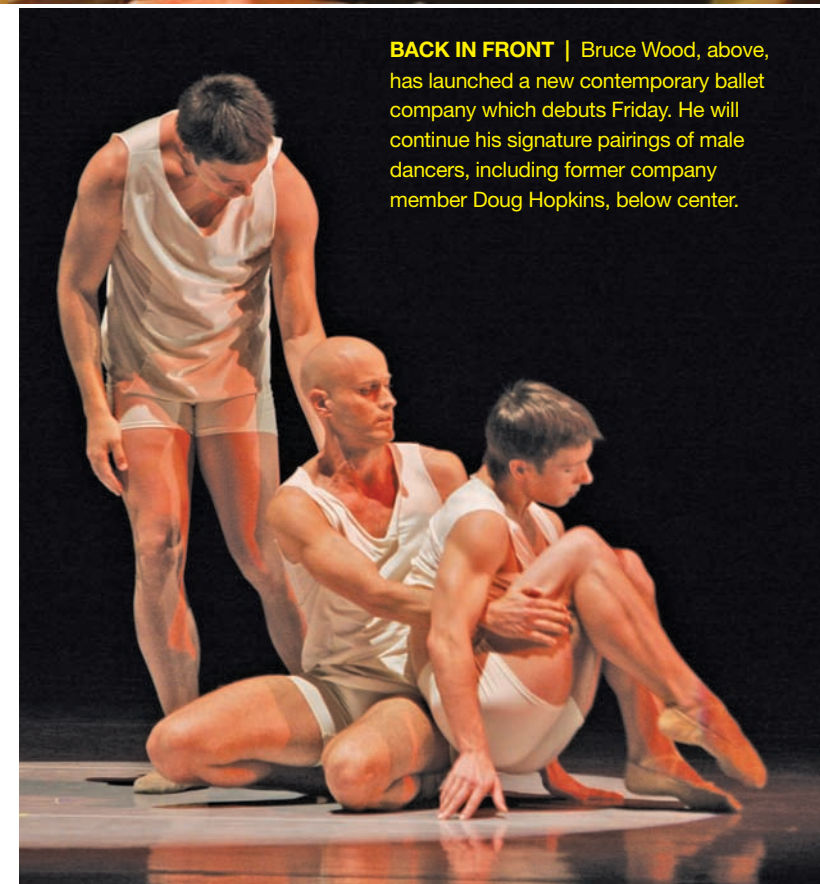
"I have been wanting to do this for a long while, and I now have the resources to do so," Wood says. "It will be a full evening of dances where the cast is all men. It will explore the concepts men have about themselves — what it is to be a man, and how others see them."

But he's not considering it a "gay night of dance." "Men deal with the physicality of dance very differently than women," he says. "They're heavier, they deal with gravity differently, they deal with each other differently, and they can be physically rougher. All of these things will make the dances in this new project completely different from anything I have ever done before."

And when Bruce Wood says he's headed somewhere new, no one who cares about dance can be anything other than thrilled. ■

BRUCE WOOD DANCE

Booker T. Washington High School for Performing & Visual Arts, 2501 Flora St. June 10-11. \$35-\$45. BruceWoodDance.com



BACK IN FRONT | Bruce Wood, above, has launched a new contemporary ballet company which debuts Friday. He will continue his signature pairings of male dancers, including former company member Doug Hopkins, below center.

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Paolo Roversi, *Toni* Bedrossiantz, 1992. Barbè's collection, Women's prêt-à-porter fall/winter 1984-1985, digital print, private collection. © Paolo Roversi

DallasMuseumofArt.org

Bi-polar bearable

Understanding 'Next to Normal,' a musical about mental illness



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

SHOCK AND AWE | Stars Gary Floyd, left, and Patty Breckenridge, right, have both worked on hit productions with director Michael Serrecchia, but for 'Next to Normal,' they really brought their A-game. (Photo by Mike Morgan)

Patty Breckenridge is entirely aware of the cliché that having a child changes your life. But she can't avoid it.

Earlier this year, Breckenridge and her partner Carrie became mommies to son Logan, around the same time she changed jobs. Pursuing acting opportunities would have to take a backseat for a while.

And then she heard that Uptown Players was producing *Next to Normal*. And she made an exception.

"I put all my eggs in one basket and said, 'This is it; this is the one show I will be able to do for a while [now that I am a mother],'" Breckenridge says. "My wife has been so supportive; Carrie is absolutely my hero."

Especially since she is a new mom, tackling this role — that of a bi-polar woman coping with deep issues related to her son — struck unnervingly close to home.

"I've never done as much work for a role in my life," she says. "When my brother, and my other friends, saw this on Broadway, they said, 'This was meant for you.'"

It may have impressed her friends, but one

person who wasn't initially convinced was the show's director, Michael Serrecchia.

"My first reaction [when I saw a scene performed on the Tony Awards] was, 'I don't like it,'" he says with an ironic smile. "Who would watch that?"

But Serrecchia, who teaches acting and voice in town, said his students began to convince him of its appeal; before long, he was "feeling addicted to the score."

The 2009 Pulitzer Prize winner for drama, *Next to Normal* was an unlikely hit and has become a cult favorite, winning a Tony Award for its rock-opera score about the dark, often taboo topic of mental illness. It closed in January.

This is the second consecutive Pulitzer winner they have mounted (following *The Young Man from Atlanta*), and this marks the first production of the show outside of New York or the recently started national tour. It's a coup for the company that only last season moved to the bigger digs of the historic Kalita Humphreys Theater.

"*Next to Normal* fits with our mission statement of tolerance and dignity," says company co-founder Jeff Rane. "And the family issues will

LIFE+STYLE

stage

be familiar to our audience." It has sold so well, additional performances have already been added.

That puts the pressure on Breckenridge, Gary Floyd (who plays her husband) and Serrecchia to do it justice. None of them saw the Broadway production, nor do they have personal experience with bi-polar disorder. At least, they didn't think so.

"I didn't realize how many people I know who do suffer from it until they found out I was directing it," Serrecchia says. "I'd say maybe a dozen people have called me."

To be as accurate and respectful of the material as possible, Serrecchia arranged for a woman, whose life closely mirrors Breckenridge's character Diane, to speak to the cast about what mental illness is like from the inside out.

"She made me really want to do it justice," Breckenridge says.

"We're all bringing our A-game."

That won't be easy. The sung-through score is the equivalent of "vocal aerobics," as Serrecchia puts it.

"As a singer, you have to pace yourself," says Floyd. But it's also necessary to convey the intense

emotions of the songs. Floyd says the cue he was given to understand mental illness is that it is "like walking through cotton candy."

Serrecchia also wanted to give the audience visual cues to the psychology of the characters. Andy Redmon's set, a multi-story behemoth, qualifies as one of Uptown's most ambitious ever.

"The whole play is in 2s," he says. "There's all this doubling, these mirror images, these layers. I wanted everything parallel. So you have all these intersecting stairs to show each transition."

For the cast and crew, just doing a show like this is a major transition itself into the big leagues. ■

online exclusive

It has been a busy week in North Texas theater, with *The Hand, Pippin, Abraham Lincoln's Big Gay Dance Party* and *Outrageous, Sexy (Nekkid) Romp*, pictured, all opening. Read full reviews at DallasVoice.com/Stage.



1 of the girls

Nate Borofsky, the lone male in queer-folksters *Girlyman*, is just fine with his role

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

The last time *Girlyman* toured these parts, Nate Borofsky had a chicken fried steak at the same place they were gigging: Deep Ellum's All Good Café.

The band has changed since then, from adding a drummer to experiencing a serious health scare. What hasn't changed is Borofsky's position in the band: He's the sole member putting the "man" in *Girlyman*.

"Oh, I'm used to it and for the most part I kind of enjoy it," he admits. "I think if I were in an all-male situation, I'd be a little freaked out and looking for my girls."

The trio became a quartet with the addition of J.J. Jones last year, which made Borofsky wonder: They had gotten along just fine without drums. Their signature three-part harmonies and acoustic guitars kept the band's sound on a joyous cloud. Would drums weigh them down? Borofsky worried fans would revolt.

"Personally, I'm very surprised how natural it all has happened," he says. "To suddenly add a new member was a change, but it felt so easy and it feels like she's always been with us. And the feedback was so positive. Plus, we can now go much further and have a bigger sound, yet she also plays light. It's very dynamic."

The band may not get as big a dinner as last time, but refreshments are likely when they play the Fifth Street Coffeehouse in Fort Worth Satur-



day.

Although their last album, *Everything's Easy*, came out back in 2009, they enjoy staying on the road, not only to support the CD, but also to make a buck. That took a detour when band-

mate Doris Muramatsu was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia late last year. CML is treatable with prescription drugs and has a high survival rate, but the band still had to scrap tour dates ... and their primary source

of income. That was a bump, but the band is back on track — with some caution.

"Her health has been really good," he says. "In many ways, she's responded really well. We've been touring a couple of weeks on and then off, but it's been great with her."

As for Borofsky, he's fine in his testosterone role in the band and the girls don't get in the way if he might want to mack on a cute guy in the audience.

If only he would let that happen, he sighs.

"Honestly, I just wanna go back to the hotel room after a show." ■

GIRLYMAN

Fifth Street Coffeehouse,
800 W. 5th St., Fort Worth.
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FifthStreet.org

FOLK OFF | Borofsky, far right, says *Girlyman* has rebounded after a health scare and is back on the road right where they like to be.

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Before he could write '¡Gaytino!,' Dan Guerrero first had to find his roots

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Growing up gay and Latino can be a tough hand to play. In a culture that revels in religion and machismo — hell, the word “machismo” is Latino — coming out poses pitfalls.

But Dan Guerrero lucked out. With some artsy upbringing by a musician dad and a not-so-practicing Catholic background, Guerrero's closet was easy to open. In fact, it was harder for him just to be Hispanic.

“Los Angeles never made me feel like I was good enough,” he says. “I fell in love with musicals in junior high. I wanted to hear Julie Andrews in *Camelot!* Who gives a rat's ass about mariachi?”

His dad might have given one. He was famed musician Lala Guerrero, the father of Chicano music who popularized the Pachuco sound in the 1940s (the beats most associated with Zoot suits and swing dancing). While Guerrero appreciated his father's legacy, he established his own identity by moving to New York to become an actor. That didn't work out so much, but becoming an agent did.

“It was kind of by accident, but I ended up being an agent for 15 years,” he says. “I got into producing and I loved it.”

Although he stepped away from performing, Guerrero finds himself back onstage Friday and Saturday at the Latino Cultural Center with *¡Gaytino!* The autobiographical one-man show is part comedy, part cabaret, with Guerrero recounting in lyrics and punch lines his experiences growing up gay and Latino, life with father ... and having to rediscover his roots after moving back to L.A.

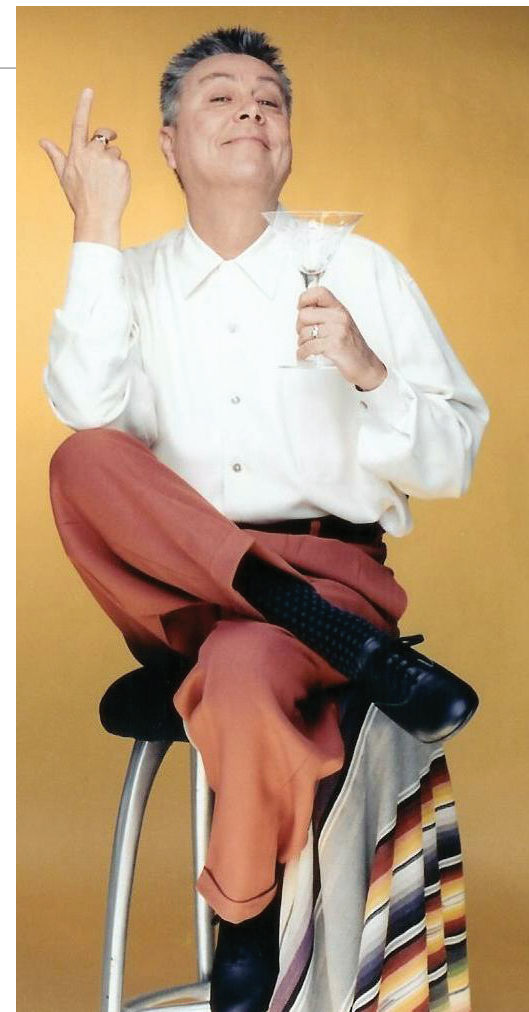
“The main reason I did the show is, I wanted to know more about my dad and my best friend. I was already fabulous,” he laughs. “So I don't think of this as my story. I wanted to embrace his legacy and celebrate him and our lives, but also tell of being a born-again Hispanic.”

In L.A., Guerrero rediscovered his heritage. While still working in entertainment, he noticed a lack of Latinos behind the scenes. He started a column in *Dramalogue* to change that, interviewing actors like Jimmy Smits and Salma Hayek and producing shows that spoke to Latin audiences.

And then came *¡Gaytino!*

“Well, the word itself hit me first so I trademarked it. Then it was madness as I set about writing it,” he says.

When the show debuted in 2005, Guerrero hadn't performed in 35 years. He was a different



MUY FUNNY | Dan Guerrero works for laughs while being gay and Latino in his one-man show.

man, no longer a young buck with nothing to lose and untarnished optimism. He was a behind-the-scenes producer and casting agent. He was — *gasp!* — older.

“I remember thinking, ‘What am I gonna do? What if I forget my lines?’ I'm an old codger,” he says. “But I got onstage and it was like I had did it the day before. Performing is just part of who I am.”

With his successful day job (he once repped a young Sarah Jessica Parker), a healthy relationship (32 years this November) and irons in many other fires, why bother with the daunting task of writing a show and carrying it alone?

“It still feels like I'm breaking into show business. At least when you've been around as long as I have, you can get the main cheese by phone,” he answers. “But really, I had something I wanted to say and I love doing it. I've been lucky to stay in the game this long but it's not by accident; it's all been by design.”

What he loves isn't just *doing* his show, but how it pushes positive gay Latino images. He's dedicated this chapter in his life to that. Guerrero now feels parental toward the younger generation — maybe because he has no children of his own.

“I do feel a responsibility and not just to younger people, but to all,” he says. “For *¡Gaytino!*, I first want them entertained, but I hope audiences will leave more educated about some Chicano culture and history and *Gaytino* history.”

QUEER CLIP: 'BEGINNERS'

Beginners is such a dreadfully forgettable and generic title for what is the year's most engaging and heartfelt comedy, you feel like boycotting a review until the distributor gives it a title it deserves.

Certainly the movie itself — a quirky, humane and fantastical reverie about the nature of love and family, with Ewan McGregor as a doleful graphic artist who, six months after his mother dies, learns his 75-year-old dad (Christopher Plummer) is gay and wants to date — charts its own course (defiantly, respectfully, beautifully), navigating the minefield of relationships from lovers to parent/child with simple emotions. It's not a movie that would presume to answer the Big

Questions (when *do* you know you've met the right one? And if they aren't, how much does that matter anyway?); it's comfortable observing that we're all in the same boat, and doing our best is good enough.

McGregor's placid befuddlement over how he should react to things around him — both his father's coming out and a flighty but delightful French actress (Melanie Laurent) who tries to pull him out of his shell — is one of the most understated and soulful performances of his career. (His relationship with Arthur, his father's quasi-psycho Jack Russell, is winsome and winning without veering into *Turner & Hooch* idiocy.) But Plummer owns the film.

Plummer, best known for his blustery, villainous characters (even the heroic ones, like Capt. Von Trapp

and Mike Wallace), exudes an aura of wonder and discovery as the septuagenarian with the hot younger boyfriend (Goran Visnjic, both exasperating as cuddly). As he learns about house music at a time when his contemporaries crave Lawrence Welk, you're wowed by how the performance seethes with the life-force of someone coming out and into his own. His energy is almost shaming.

Writer/director Mike Mills' semi-autobiographical film suffers only being underlit and over too quickly. It wouldn't be a bad thing to spend more time with these folks.

—Arnold Wayne Jones

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Saturday 06.11

These weiners don't tweet

We're not sure what culinary masters would think of this pairing, but Weenies & Martinis sounds just fine to us. The Lone Star Ride fundraiser features a weiner roast (jokes welcome), s'mores and all the ingredients for a grown-up campfire. The best part is that 100 percent of the proceeds go to LSR Fighting AIDS.

DEETS: Jack's Backyard, 2303 Pittman St. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Search the event on Facebook.com

Sunday 06.12

Next comes the senior discount

Likely your funny bone has been tickled by Paul J. Williams at one point or another. So pay him back with birthday greetings at his 50 and Fabulous gathering in the upstairs bar. He'll appreciate your presence far more than the subscription to AARP that will be in his mailbox soon.

DEETS: JR.'s Bar & Grill, 3923 Cedar Springs Road. 9 p.m. PaulJWilliams.com

Tuesday 06.14

The Holy Grail comes to town

Seriously, our email inboxes should be called *Spamalot*, but those Monty Python people took it before we could. King Arthur's quest never came across as all that funny until now in this musical version of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

DEETS: Music Hall at Fair Park, 909 First Ave. 8 p.m. Through June 26. \$15-\$70. DallasSummerMusicals.org



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**FRIDAY
JUNE 17**

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BANG!

Prince Poppycock! Thursday, June 30

finalist on America's Got Talent

+18 ADMITTED

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Station 4



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FRIDAY 06.10

COMMUNITY

High Tech Happy Hour is organized by the TI Pride Network, Texas Instruments' LGBT employee diversity group. Monica's Aca y Alla, 2915 Main St. 5:30 p.m.

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

Congregation Beth El Binah Gay Pride Shabbat service at Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7:30 p.m. 214-521-5342 ext. 1784.

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

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

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Daily at noon and 7:30 p.m. 2438 Butler St., #108.

THEATER

Billy Elliot: The Musical. The movie comes to life in this stage adaptation with music by Elton John. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. \$30-\$150. Through June 19. ATPAC.org.

Outrageous Sexy (nekkid) Romp. Stone Cottage Theater, 15650 Addison Road. 8 p.m. Through June 18. \$18-\$22. MBSProductions.net.

SATURDAY 06.11

COMMUNITY

Young Femme Professionals meets every first Saturday. YFP is a business networking organization for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 2 p.m. Find the group on Facebook or Meetup.

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

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



MILLER TIME | Local artist Cathey Miller is included in the new exhibit '6 Arms to Hold You' opening this week.

ART

6 Arms to Hold You. A new exhibit by Ro2 premieres work by Cathey Miller, John Gonzales and Joey Seeman. Through July 8. The Aloft Hotel, 1033 Young St. Opening reception at 6 p.m. Ro2Art.com.

SUNDAY 06.12

COMMUNITY

Expressions, a free gender support group for men and women led by volunteers. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. 214-540-4475.

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

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

MONDAY 06.13

COMMUNITY

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

PFLAG Mesquite meets. St. Stephen UMC. 2520 Oates Drive, Mesquite. 7 p.m. 972-279-3112.

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.

TUESDAY 06.14

COMMUNITY

QLive! Open Mic. The weekly event is for would-be comics only. Percussions Lounge, 426 S. Jennings Ave., Fort Worth. 9 p.m. QCinema.org.

Late Bloomers, social support group for women who came out later in life. La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon Ave. 6 p.m. 903-778-4446.

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.

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.

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

BROADCAST

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

WEDNESDAY 06.15

COMMUNITY

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

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.

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

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 06.16

COMMUNITY

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

Career Fellowship meets. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. 972-662-4499.

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

BROADCAST

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

Reckless After Dark. LGBT radio show hosted by Chase Brooks. Airs on FishBowlRadioNetwork.com every week at 5 p.m. ChaseBrooks.com.

this week's solution

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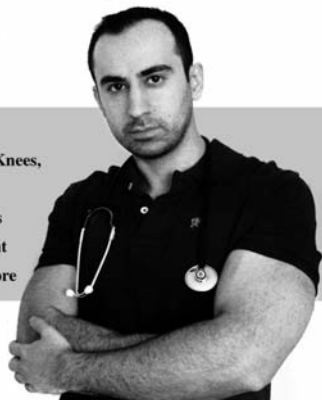
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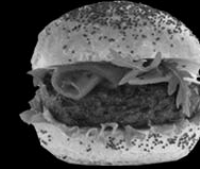
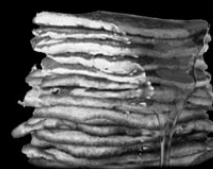
Pain: Neck, Back, Shoulders, Knees, Sciatica - Anxiety - Insomnia
 Fatigue - Headaches - Arthritis
 Allergies - Weight Management
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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Boy George turns 50 on Tuesday. The '80s music icon announced earlier this year that he and the rest of Culture Club will reunite for a 30th anniversary tour as well as a new album for 2012. Although the band's non-updated official website gives us pause. Here's hoping he'll tumble for us soon and without the drama.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

In financial matters, family is more reliable than friends. Evaluate advice without giving away what you plan to do, unless you're consulting an expert. Listen to your partner's opinion.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Opening up a bit is good for you, but be careful. Friendly and conversational is good; just don't reveal everything. What you say affects your professional reputation.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Dazzling your friends is easy. Be more creative and don't worry who notices. You need downtime to balance private desires and public expression. Consider what sacrifices are necessary.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Rising to economic challenges helps you go far. Your partner and friends exaggerate your talents, but they're not entirely wrong. Modesty includes acknowledging the range of your talents.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Start talking up your ambitions and accomplishments. Count on colleagues to support you. Your partner's good intentions in that regard could do more harm than good.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Outspokenness gets you in trouble with colleagues. Watch your tongue at work, but don't be shy with your partner or friends. At the right time, your ribald wit could be brilliant.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Exploring new sexual techniques unlocks avenues of creativity. Watch what you discuss and where. Digging up family secrets can help keep you out of trouble and deepen that creative spurt.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Getting involved help you clarify where you really belong in the world, what you've learned from elders to pass on to future generations, and what you could be doing for the kids.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

You are more outspoken and innovative. That includes disruptive outbursts, distractions and accidents. Find a safe outlet to be as outrageous as you like. Elsewhere, think ahead and cool it.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Feeling lost is the first step toward finding yourself. Expressing questions is more important than finding answers. Find your way through art and mysticism. Let friends provide grounding.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Bold moves prove profitable, but keep your eyes forward. The difference between bold and reckless is the difference between success and disaster. Double check your instincts.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Loquacious urges reveal more than you intended. That is advantageous, relieving the pressure of needless secrets. For those who do need to keep quiet, have a chat with someone you trust.

THIS WEEK

Mercury moves into Cancer, squaring Uranus and triggering outbursts, mostly tempests in teapots, but Jupiter softens the square, offering practical wisdom that might be gleaned from those brainstorming and arguments. Mercury will also aspect Neptune and Pluto, drawing ideas and conversations to bizarre extremes; deep and inspiring, but be pragmatic!

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

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

309

WELL, I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO HELP YOU DISPOSE OF THE DEMON SEED OF DARTMOUTH, BUT...

...WE BOTH KNOW I'M NOT WELCOME HERE, SO I'D BEST BE ON MY WAY.

RICHARD... WAIT.

EH?

I... UM...

...I LIKE YOUR NEW HAIR COLOR.

OH, THIS? I THOUGHT I'D TRY A NEW SHADE OF RED.

NOW THAT I'M STARTING A...

OH, RICHARD... SNIFF... I'M SO SORRY...

HUH? FOR WHAT, KYLE?

FOR EVERYTHING! FOR MAKING YOU MOVE OUT... FOR NOT FORGIVING YOU...

...FOR BEING SO HARSH... SO COLD TO YOU...

...A NEW PHASE OF MY LIFE, IT FELT RIGHT.

WHICH I TOTALLY DESERVED! KYLE, LISTEN...

...I'M GLAD YOU DIDN'T KEEP ALL THAT ANGER AND RESENTMENT BOTTLED UP INSIDE!

THAT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HEALTHY!

WELL, I... DEFINITELY LET IT LOOSE.

DID YOU EVER.

RIGHT. INTO THE SNOW.

THAT WAS A MAJOR DIVA MOMENT, KYLE. I DIDN'T THINK YOU HAD IT IN YOU.

OH, RICHARD... I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH. WOULD YOU CONSIDER MOVING BACK IN?

GEE, I DON'T KNOW, KYLE. I'VE REALLY GOTTEN USED TO DELIA'S COUCH.

I STILL HAVE VISIONS OF YOU TOSSING MY ENTIRE JUSTUS BOYZ UNDERWEAR COLLECTION OFF THE FRONT STEPS OF THIS HOUSE!

I'M ACTUALLY... KIND OF PROUD OF YOU.

OH, WELL--

PLEASE. I'LL BE PACKED AND BACK HERE BEFORE SUNSET...

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bitter girl
heading into avoid

YVONNE, DO NOT MOVE OUT OF YOUR BUILDING JUST BECAUSE KRISTA'S MOVING INTO IT.

THAT'S INSANE.

THIS LOOKS NICE... WHY'M I EVEN TALKING? I SHOULD JUST HIT YOU.

555-3000

555-3000

KLONK!

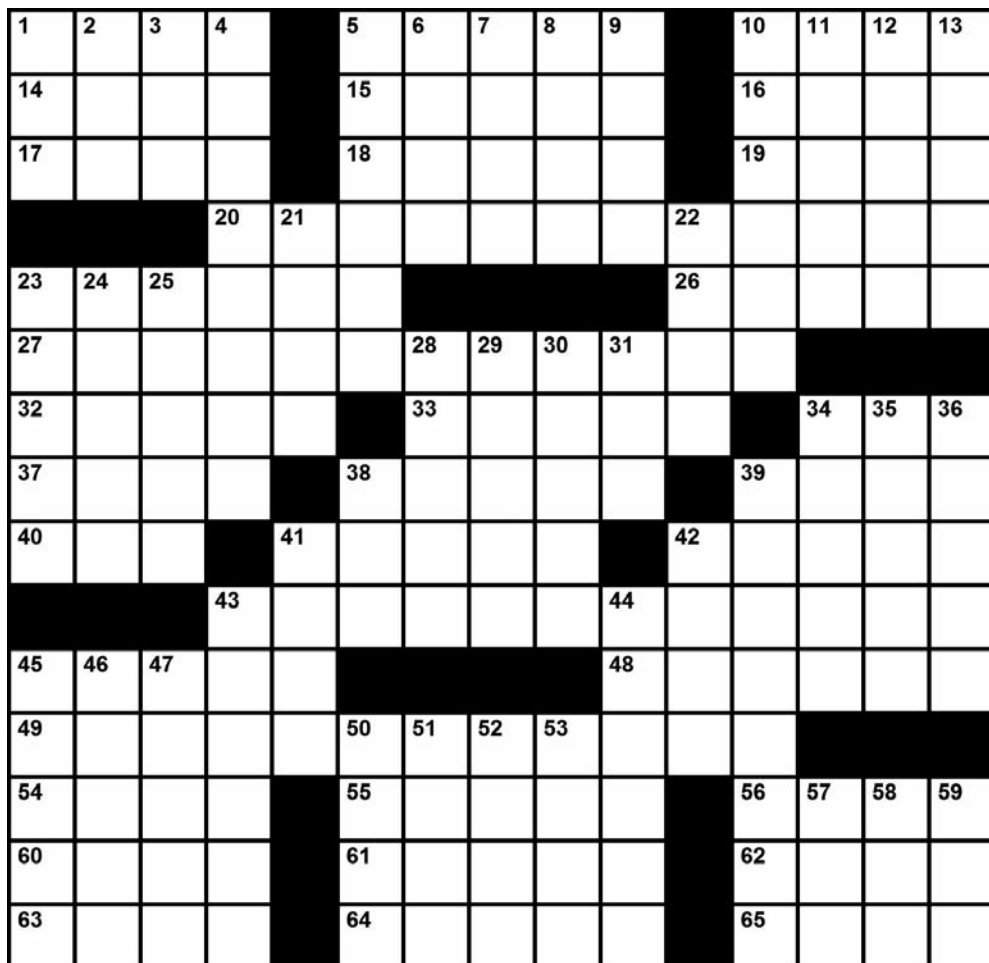
THAT'S NOT EVEN HARD ENOUGH TO HOSPITALIZE ME PAST HER MOVE-IN DATE!

I'M OUTTA HERE.

email: bittergirl@qsyndicate.com

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Alas, Poor Doric

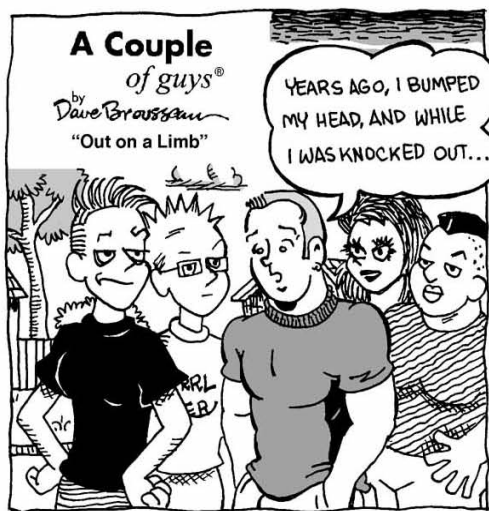
Solution on page 25

Across

- 1 Sally portrayer of Cabaret
- 5 Puts the finger on
- 10 Blows away
- 14 Lysol target
- 15 Eat away at
- 16 To ___ (unanimously)
- 17 Ginsberg's Gay Adult Coloring ___
- 18 Big splash
- 19 "Here it is!"
- 20 Doric Wilson's first play
- 23 Not like the sound of music, traditionally
- 26 Degauss a tape
- 27 Wilson play of 2000
- 32 Fancy parties
- 33 Blow away
- 34 CBS forensic drama
- 37 Date of March madness?
- 38 People not in Caesar's class
- 39 Kellogg's selection
- 40 Hrs. in P-town
- 41 Oyster center
- 42 What Oliver begged for more of
- 43 Wilson play of 1961
- 45 Nationality prefix
- 48 Kushner's ___ in America

Down

- 1 Soft toss
- 2 Possible commitment ceremony vow
- 3 Park for petting, perhaps
- 4 Novella collection by David Leavitt
- 5 Tattooist's tool
- 6 Bishop prefix in a Cather title
- 7 Marilyn Monroe facial feature
- 8 Red rind contents
- 9 Finland's queer rights org.
- 10 Divine director John
- 11 Beach near Utah
- 12 Goes in only partway, at the beach
- 13 Catch in a trap
- 21 Slangy refusals
- 22 Stag party?
- 23 Harmon once of Law & Order
- 24 Sticky-tongued critters
- 25 One of the little hooters
- 28 Self-contradictory bra size?
- 29 Quick on the uptake
- 30 How a queen acts
- 31 Trig. ratio
- 34 Car class
- 35 Wizard's weapon
- 36 Lesbos and more
- 38 This makes ink pink
- 39 The L Word et al.
- 41 Que. or Ont.
- 42 Trait carrier
- 43 Tickle pink
- 44 Cruise in a cruiser
- 45 Otherwise
- 46 Zipper piece
- 47 Shaw of swing
- 50 Civic group
- 51 Come and go
- 52 Queens tennis stadium
- 53 Hit bottom
- 57 Exerciser's unit
- 58 Road top
- 59 Oink pen



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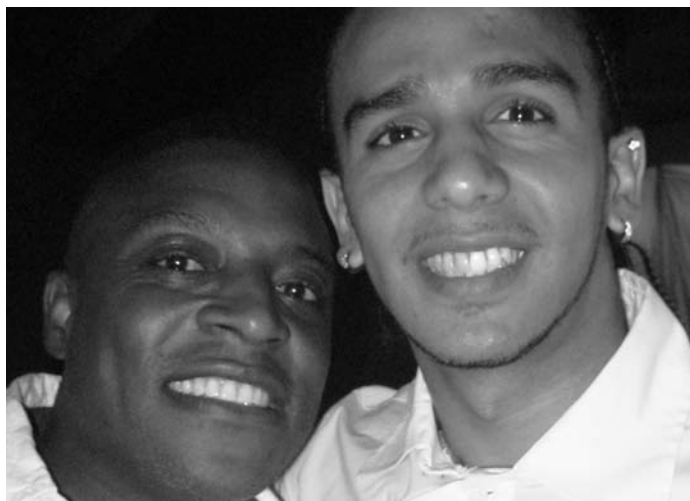
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This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE



Roy and Foued at Level.



Pennie, Nicole and Nicky at Sue Ellen's.

Like weiners? No, not political ones. Saturday, Lone Star Ride's **Team Dallas Voice** heats up the weekend with the **Weenies & Martinis** fundraiser at **Jack's Backyard** with **Ciao Bella** performing. **The Lost Immigrants** rock it out the night before on Friday. Need some humpday audio pleasure? **Emily Frye** and **Emy Taylor** tag team the tunes on Wednesday Head to Cowtown to get some line dancing on. **Club Reflection** is Fort Worth's new c&w gay bar. We're digging the **Jocks in Jockeys** on Wednesdays and **Ladies in Lingerie** on Thursdays. Those cowboys are frisky ones, it appears **TI Pride Network** hosts its **High Tech Happy Hour** Friday at **Monica's Aca y Alla** Creationists may not get behind **Evolution Saturdays** at **the Brick**, but DJ **Adam Metts** does and he'll get you on the dancefloor **Cassie Nova** hosts **Turnabout** on Tuesday at **JR.'s Bar & Grill**. The bar and club staff of **Caven** clubs get their drag on for one night benefiting the **C.E.B.A.** ... Catch the country twang of the **Kat Moore Band** Saturday at **Sue Ellen's**. Former **SouthFM** frontman **Paco Estrada** performs Sunday We imagine things could get steamy (and touchy) at **the Dallas Eagle's Dance Your Ass Off Blackout Party**. And, you know, we can be fine with that Of course, we can't forget our **Dallas Mavericks**. Maybe **Gov. Perry** should have proclaimed a **Day of Prayer** for the Mavs to take home the **NBA Championships** this weekend. Just a thought. ■

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



Lyle and Seth at TMC: The Mining Company.



Bryce and Kolby at Rainbow Lounge.



Greg, Tony, Angel and David at Station 4.



T.J., Andrew and David at the Round-Up Saloon.



Jake, Terry, Josh, Brian and Ruben at Pekers.

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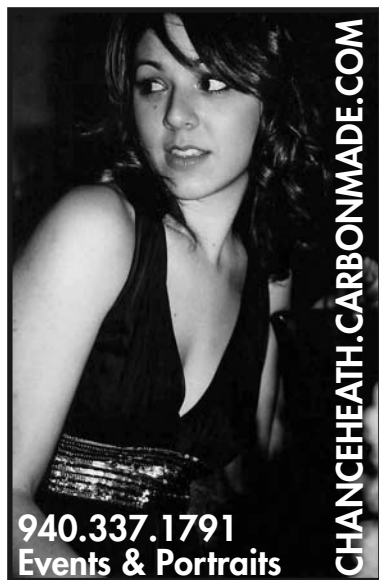


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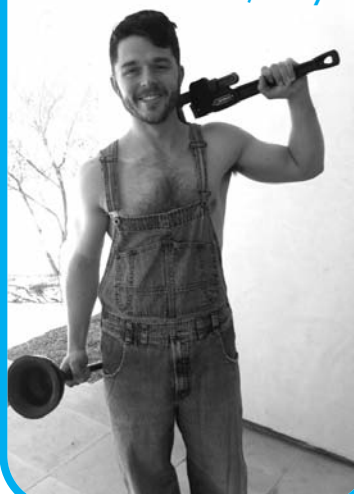
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