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Ryan Lewis and Natalia Fridmanovich want to bring ballroom out of the gay underground

■ DANCE, Page 25



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Established 1984 | Volume 28 | Issue 9

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BLACK, trans, MAN

Carter Brown knew from personal experience that African-American transmen are among the most invisible and most underserved people in the LGBT community. So he founded a new organization in hopes of filling in the gaps.

■ Read the entire story starting on page 17



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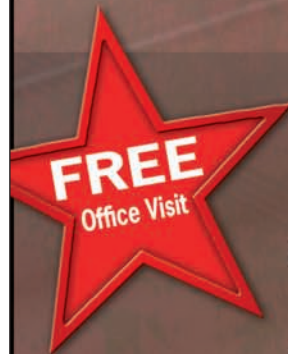
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Photo provided by Carter Brown.
Design by Kevin Thomas.

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DYSD succeeds in effort to 'Light Up Oak Lawn'

Group notified this week that 45 new lights will be erected in the area within 60 days

DRACONIS VON TRAPP | Intern
intern@dallasvoice.com

After a year of pushing the city for more streetlights in Oak Lawn, Dallas Stonewall Young Democrats saw their efforts pay off this week when city officials announced plans to install 45 new lights in the area.

"We're excited and think it's a great thing for the community," DSYD President Jared Pearce said. "We decided to take on the challenge of improving the street light situation in Oak Lawn because many of us have friends who have been victims of crime in this area. The fact that city officials have listened to us and are taking action to resolve this problem gives us even more drive to make changes that can benefit the entire community."

The Oak Lawn neighborhood has been afflicted with a disproportionately high crime rate and lack of appropriate street lighting. After a series of muggings in the neighborhood, DSYD got to-

gether as a board and the topic of street lighting came up. They then created what is now known as the "Light Up Oak Lawn" campaign.

DSYD then held another meeting at JR's with members of the community and local businesses to rally support, deciding to take the issue to the City Council, namely District 14 representative Angela Hunt and District 2 representative Pauline Medrano.

Volunteers went on foot around the Oak Lawn area one night and did their own preliminary audit, recording the number of broken streetlights and places that were cloaked in darkness, also taking note of foot traffic and the proximity of residential and business housing.

Along with their audit, DSYD vols also did research on the correlation between street lighting and crime in other cities around the U.S. and the U.K., trying to make as convincing a case as possible. They then took all their blood, sweat and tears and got in contact with Hunt and Medrano.

Nearly seven months later, nothing had been done. DYSD reached out to remind city officials of nearly every mugging that happened in that area — but still no cigar.

"We didn't want to count on the city for

■ **DYSD**, Page 12



Jared Pearce

Candidate touts Democratic values

Sean Hubbard plans to campaign as a liberal, including supporting same-sex marriage

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

"I'm tired of the Democratic Party being afraid," said Sean Hubbard, 30, who is running to take Sen. Kay Baily Hutchison's place in the U.S. Senate.

With the vacancy left by Hutchison's decision not to run for re-election, this election cycle presents the Democrats with a rare opportunity that might not come around again for another generation.

Although Hubbard filed with the Federal Election Commission three days before Hutchison announced her plans to retire, her departure leaves a rare opening.

At the time he registered his intention to run for the Democratic nomination for the seat, Hubbard thought Hutchison's recent turn to the right was a ploy to head off a Tea Party challenge. Instead, her departure presented an opportunity.

In the general election, Hubbard said, he'd rather run against a Tea Party candidate than a well-funded, well-known opponent like Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. But he's prepared for either.

Only one other candidate has indicated an in-

tention to run for the seat on the Democratic ticket by filing with the FEC — Gen. Ricardo Sanchez who was commander of coalition ground forces in Iraq in 2003-04. Candidates have until Jan. 1 to register for the 2012 election.

Hubbard has been speaking to party leaders across the state. After the resounding defeat of Houston Mayor Bill White in his race against incumbent Gov. Rick Perry in 2010, few well-known names in the Democratic Party appear to have an appetite for a statewide race in Texas.

Hubbard cites some of the mistakes recent candidates have made, including running from core Democratic values.

"I'm an open supporter of gay marriage," he said.

He bases his opposition to civil unions on Brown vs. Board of Education and said that separate is not equal.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas was one of the first groups Hubbard visited to ask for support.

He also supports a stronger focus on public education and hiring more teachers, rather than firing them.

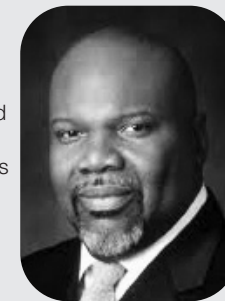
"The goal of Republicans is to destroy public education," he said. "I have to make sure Texas has schools that teach about Thomas Jefferson and not the Heritage Foundation."

Hubbard said that attracting the Latino vote is crucial to his campaign, and he has visited both

■ **SENATE**, Page 13

Bishop T.D. Jakes and Irvin's Out magazine interview

I finally got around to reading the Out magazine piece about Michael Irvin, and here's my only question: Did Bishop T.D. Jakes of the Potter's House megachurch in Dallas give Irvin his blessing on this? In the story, we learn that Irvin considers Jakes his "spiritual father" and that it was under Jakes' counseling that Irvin finally came to terms with his brother's sexual orientation — and his own homophobia. But Jakes isn't exactly the type of pastor about whom you'd expect to hear that. He's made some pretty bigoted statements over the years, calling homosexuality a "brokenness" and saying he wouldn't hire a sexually active gay person. In fact, Jakes seems like exactly the type of person Irvin is referring to in this passage:



Irvin wants to eradicate homophobia in every corner of American society. He points to churches that have skewed the word of God to persecute those who don't share their dogma; he shakes his head at the black culture he says has gone adrift in a sea of homophobia; and he said it's time to end the second class citizen status of gays in the eyes of the law.

"I don't see how any African-American with any inkling of history can say that you don't have the right to live your life how you want to live your life. No one should be telling you who you should love, no one should be telling you who you should be spending the rest of your life with. When we start talking about equality and everybody being treated equally, I don't want to know an African-American who will say everybody doesn't deserve equality."

On one hand, Irvin considers Jakes his spiritual father, but on the other, he says he doesn't even want to know an African-American person who doesn't support LGBT equality — which, based on past statements, would be a fairly accurate description of Jakes. I'm curious as to whether the author of the Out story, Cyd Zeigler, asked Irvin about this seeming incongruity, and if so, what Irvin said. Here's one possible explanation: A few years back, Jakes' son was arrested in a gay sex sting at Kiest Park in Dallas. Has that changed Jakes' views about gay people, just as Irvin's brother's sexual orientation changed his? If so, is Jakes going to speak up about it like Irvin has? And if not, is Irvin working on Jakes? If Jakes, one of the most influential African-American pastors in the nation, were to come out in support of LGBT equality, it would be just as significant — if not more — than Irvin doing so. We're all ears, bishop, all ears.

— John Wright



Sean Hubbard

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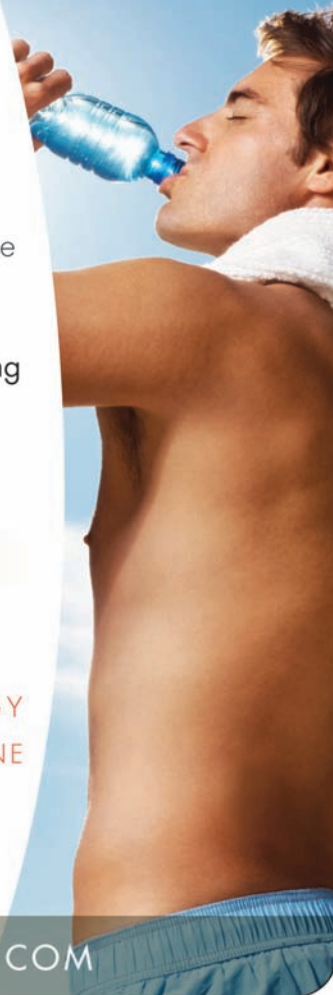
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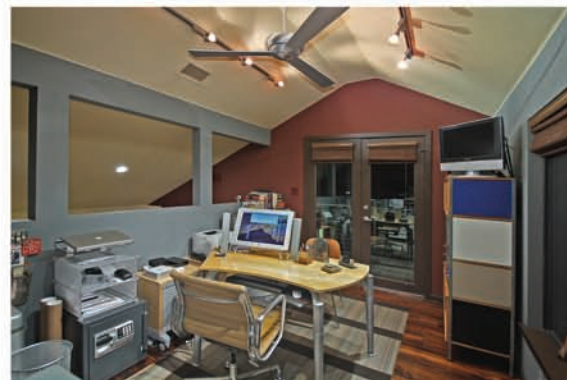
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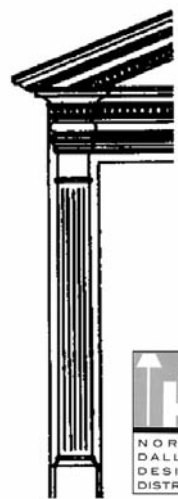


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localbriefs

Gaybingo marks 10th anniversary

Resource Center Dallas marks the 10th anniversary of its monthly Gaybingo fundraiser on Saturday, July 16, in the Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games start at 6 p.m.

The theme for the evening is "Gaybingo Live!" and a number of special guests from previous events will be on hand to help celebrate the anniversary.

Hosts are Jenna Skyy, Patti Le Plae Safe and Asia O'Hara, and featured performers are the BVDs (Bingo Verifying Divas and Dudes).

The cost is \$25 for 15 games of Bingo, including 10 regular games and five speciality games.

For advance tickets, go online to RCDallas.org. Advance ticket holders get in first when the doors open.

LSR sets Casino Night

Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS will present its fourth annual Casino Night on Thursday, Aug. 4, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Games include craps, blackjack and hold 'em poker.

The event will be hosted by Audi Dallas, 5033 Lemmon Ave., and tickets are \$50 in advance and \$65 at the door. Admission includes cocktails and appetizers as well as enough chips to get started at the tables.

Players can spend their winnings on silent auc-

tion items when the tables close. The auction items include a \$250 Aveda gift certificate, a \$500 personal training package and more.

Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS is a two-day cycling trip through and around the Dallas/Fort Worth area set for Sept. 24-25. LSRFA offers a number of routes, ranging from a one-day, 45-mile ride to a two-day, 180-mile ride.

LSRFA is an independent, non-profit organization that benefits AIDS Services of Dallas, AIDS Outreach Center of Tarrant County and Resource Center Dallas, and has donated nearly \$2 million to the three beneficiary agencies since 2001.

For more information, go online to LoneStarRide.org.

Speakers set for trans summit

HOUSTON — Dr. Paige Schilt and Meghan Stabler have been announced as keynote speakers for the third annual Texas Transgender Nondiscrimination Summit scheduled for Aug. 12-13 at the University of Houston.

Schilt, former director of national communications for Soulforce, will speak Aug. 12. She teaches English, communications and gender studies at Southwestern University, where she also recently served as interim assistant dean of multicultural affairs.

Schilt is a contributor to The Bilerico Project blog where she writes about trans family life.

■ BRIEFS, Page 13

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Watching her 'baby' grow

As first LSR event manager, Janie Bush is proud of her role as the event's 'mother'

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

Janie Bush calls the Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS her "baby," a term that suggests deep affection for the event.

But get to know her and you'll see that "baby" isn't just a figure of speech. It's a word that identifies the Trinity River Foundation office manager for what she is — the birth mother of the Lone Star Ride.

Conception wasn't a solo act for Bush; she had help from a few men she names as Ride "fathers."

The first was Larry Townsend, who, like Bush, had been affiliated with the LSR's predecessor, the Texas Tanqueray AIDS Ride. His profound disappointment at how little money TTAR had raised for its beneficiary agencies mirrored Bush's own.

"So we put together a proposal and said, 'We can do this,'" recalled Bush. "[After talking] with Don Maison at AIDS Services of Dallas and Mike McKay, who was the AIDS Outreach Center of Tarrant County executive director at the time, we kicked [the proposal] back and forth and decided to go for it."

Bush then took over as the first Lone Star Ride event manager in 2001, a position she held for five years. Like all new "mothers," the ardor she had for her "newborn" was boundless; and so she signed on as the first rider, only to discover she'd bitten off more than she could chew.

"[I had no] clue what the LSR was going to be like," she laughed. "I thought I'd have plenty of time to train in addition to creating the Ride. And then I found I had no time to get on my bike for the event."

Her background as an investment banker and non-profit professional made her the ideal person to guide the LSR through its sometimes-turbulent infancy and early childhood. That Bush had also been a witness to the deaths of numerous friends afflicted with AIDS served as her own painful private goad.

"I lost my first two friends in 1987 when they were still quarantined at the hospital," she said. "It was pretty horrific."

During Bush's tenure, not a single penny — whether earned or spent — ever went unaccounted for, she said. Her hard working ways and

tightfisted fiscal conservatism put the organization on solid financial footing in short order.

At the same time, both traits also became the focal point for some good-natured personal ribbing.

Remembered Bush, "I was pretty well known for only getting a few hours of sleep in the last couple of weeks prior to Ride, because I would stay in the office until really late. So the first night [after a ride], I would fall into a very deep sleep at camp."

One year, a few participants decided to play a joke on her.

"More often than not, I would sleep in my car because the seats reclined," she said, clearly enjoying the memory. "Some of the riders and crew went out to my car and totally wrapped it in toilet paper and caution tape. They were waiting with cameras for me when I woke up."

Here Bush began to chuckle. "[After I came out,] they said to me, 'We spent our own money to buy the toilet paper. It's not ride TP!'"

Although she retired as event manager in 2006, Bush has continued to nurture the Ride in less direct — but no less impactful — ways; a child may grow up, but a mother always remains a mother.

"I'm [always] available to answer questions," said Bush. "And [new event manager] Jerry Calumn and I have spent a lot of time talking about stuff. As long as we continue to increase the amount of money brought in and stay somewhat steady with the ridership, [I'll be glad]."

"But I would absolutely love to see him blow that out of the water," she added.

Pride, and a certain wistfulness, characterize the way Bush describes what she and her LSR colleagues have done to help her "baby" find its way in the world. It's an experience on par with childbirth — or even volunteering on behalf of the Ride, for that matter.

"Every muscle in your aches, including muscles you didn't know existed," she said. "And then you forget it. And then you're ready to do it again." ■



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Telling the stories of persecution

Curator calls the exhibit in Dallas the most personal of all the Holocaust stories he's told

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Of all the exhibits Ted Phillips has worked on in his 17 years as director of exhibitions and resources at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., *Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945* is "nearest and dearest to my heart," he said in a recent interview.

The traveling show is currently on display at the Dallas Holocaust Museum. On a visit to Dallas for the opening of the exhibit, the curator said he spent two years of his life researching the topic.

"My friends thought I was doing it 24/7," he said. "It was all I talked about."

Phillips said that at times he had to stop looking at the pictures of men who were so similar to him — gay and around his age — who were tortured to death by the Nazis. Sometimes he had to put the pictures aside to write the script, he said.

Phillips was an unlikely candidate for his current position. With no museum experience, he said that if he applied for the job today, he would never be considered for it.

"I fell into it," Phillips said.

With a Ph.D. in Russian history, he had been teaching at the University of Maryland. In 1994, the museum was still looking for staff and a colleague suggested, "How about a nice historian."

Phillips, who has been with the museum for 17 years, has been part of every exhibit the museum has created since then. That includes the one currently on display at the Dallas Holocaust Museum.

"When the museum [in Washington] was putting itself together in the late '80s, early '90s, they wanted to tell more than the core story of the persecution and murder of six million Jews," he said.

He said that after the museum was up and running, ideas that were originally brochures, such as the treatment of gay men, were developed into full-blown exhibits.

The museum opened to the public the same weekend that the 1993 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights took place. Many people who were in town for the LGBT rights demonstration visited the museum.

"So we knew we had strong audience interest in the subject from the beginning," Phillips said.

But work on the show now in Dallas didn't begin until about 10 years later.

While assembling the exhibit, Phillips made two trips to Germany to work with the Schwule (Gay) Museum in Berlin. A contract researcher in the city also sent information back.

"So much of what we were working with were police files," Phillips said.

He said that drawers of files and documents in German back up the story as told in the exhibit. However, little personal testimony exists.



Ted Phillips

Phillips speculates that since Nazi-era laws regarding homosexuality remained on the books until 1969 in West Germany, few gay people came forward to talk about the persecution they suffered. Some who sought reparations in the 1970s were rebuffed and told that gays were not persecuted and not entitled to compensation, Phillips said.

In East Germany, the Nazi version of Paragraph 175, the anti-homosexuality law, reverted to that of the Weimar Republic, he said. That law had fewer generalities under which so many men were arrested.

But discrimination continued and East German gays had other reasons to not tell their stories.

Phillips said that he worries about the first section of his exhibit. That portion details how it was possible to go from acceptance of gays in Berlin to thousands of people put in concentration camps.

But while most people who visit the Holocaust Museum are horrified by the inhumanity, Phillips said he wonders what some people have gotten from the exhibits.

"Obama is Hitler," he said, is one comment that he sees visitors enter in the guest book, and he calls that utter ignorance of history. But that is why he worries about the introductory panels in Nazi Treatment of Homosexuals.

"Is the beginning a how-to?" he asked.

During his study of the subject, Phillips learned about the difference between the Nazis' ultimate goal with Jews and with gays. The objective was to rid society of Jews so Jews from every place under Nazi control were sent to concentration camps and death camps.

But the goal with gays was to change their behavior so they would help build the Aryan population. Gays — other than those who were also Jewish — were still considered Aryans. With hard work, they could be changed to produce more

■ STORIES, Page 11

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LGBT rights are now a central issue for the anti-Vietnam War group revived in 2006

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Students at El Centro College and UT Arlington have organized new chapters of Students for a Democratic Society, and the group has popped up on as many as 90 college campuses around the country.

The reincarnation of SDS, a major force in the antiwar movement during the Vietnam era, began in 2006.

At the Equality March for LGBT rights held in Downtown Dallas on June 25, members of SDS marched for gay rights and spoke at the rally at the JFK Memorial. All of the SDS members participating were straight.

Brashad Lewis does public relations for the local groups and plans to start a group on a Tarrant County College campus that he'll attend in the fall.

He said the group hopes to bring the national convention of SDS chapters to Dallas or Arlington in October. They've submitted their bids and will hear back soon.

But organizers say that should the Dallas bid win, one minor obstacle stands in the way: The El Centro group is currently without a faculty advisor.

Stephen Benavides, a graduate student at UTA, said that he was at El Centro and a Dallas County Community College officer motioned for him to come over and then assaulted him with a police baton.

Benavides said that a complaint has been filed. Then four days later, the faculty advisor to the group abruptly quit.

Deante Toombs, an El Centro student, said that to reserve rooms for the conference, the group needs to be recognized, but finding another faculty advisor should be no problem.

Benavides said that the advisor at UTA is a former SDS member from the '60s with tenure and has no fear of reprisals.

But he said that the incident at El Centro shows that the group is being followed and members being targeted despite the peaceful history of SDS.

In another incident, SDS organized a protest of cuts to teaching staff and financial aid and increased class size. Protesters planned to meet at Rosa Parks Plaza near El Centro. Rather than the peaceful demonstration planned, marchers were met with DART police on bicycles blocking entrance to the square. Marchers used streets and sidewalks instead and paraded on downtown streets to protest the cuts.

Toombs said that LGBT equality is a central issue for SDS.

"SDS stands in solidarity with issues affecting minorities, gays, women," Toombs said.



STUDENT RADICALS | Deante Toombs, left, Stephen Benavides, center, and Brashad Lewis helped revive the '60s anti-war group SDS on college campuses in the Dallas area. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

"It's 2011," Benavides said. "Are we still having problems with this now?"

He said that's why the group participated in the Equality March and may march in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

Toombs said that the group is being targeted differently than it was in the '60s. Then the FBI infiltrated with agitators to get information while trying to break the groups up through dissection.

Today, they're being threatened with prosecution under the Patriot Act as if they're a terrorist threat.

In addition to local campus issues, the original SDS organized nationally to protest the Vietnam War. Benavides said that local issues — LGBT rights, cuts in school funding — are important to SDS groups across the country, but the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and now Libya are why they came together.

Lewis said the attacks from campus police, reportedly instigated by federal authorities that want SDS disbanded, are using the divide and conquer method.

Toombs said that the group at El Centro has protested peacefully and exercised its right of free speech.

What has surprised him is the power the name still holds 40 years after the original group officially folded.

SDS is the model for all types of student groups based on causes that followed over succeeding decades — women's rights, LGBT rights, AIDS, civil rights, environmental issues. These groups worked on a shoestring budget and used direct action to demand certain results. Without Facebook or the Internet to interact, SDS held annual national conventions to meet each other and exchange ideas.

At a convention in 1969, SDS officially ended, but a number of local campus groups lasted into the early to mid '70s to continue protesting the war and to work on local campus issues.

Best known among early SDS organizers was Tom Hayden. Hayden later went on to serve in the California Legislature and ran for California governor, Los Angeles mayor and U.S. senator. But he is still best known as the first husband of Jane Fonda. At the time, Fonda was known more for her antiwar activism rather than her acting.

Bernadette Dohrn, another well-known SDS member, founded the radical wing known as the Weather Underground with her husband Bill Ayers. Dohrn is now an associate professor of law at Northwestern University School of Law, but during the early '70s, she was on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list.

Still, most of the actions of the group were peaceful. They staged draft-card burnings to protest the war. They did sit-ins to take over campus administration buildings. They marched and rallied.

Benavides said that if they took over a campus building today, they'd send in the SWAT team.

But Benavides, Toombs and Lewis have fashioned their campus groups on the model of the peaceful wing of the group.

"Education is a right," Benavides said.

Toombs said that discrimination can't be tolerated.

But none proposed any violent action to achieve their goals. ■

On July 27, SDS is sponsoring a conference on Islamophobia and the New McCarthyism at UTA. They're working on a women's conference in August and hope to host the national convention in October.

David Taffet, who wrote this article, was a member of SDS at SUNY Albany in the early 1970s.

AOC holds 'Evening of Hope'



CELEBRATING | Sandy Lanier, center, co-founder of AIDS Outreach Center's Sandy Lanier Nutrition Center, was on hand along with AOC Executive Director Allan Gould Jr., right, and AOC Director of Development Jim Downing for the agency's second annual Evening of Hope Gala.

2nd annual gala marks Tarrant County ASO's 25th anniversary

FROM STAFF REPORTS
editor@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — AIDS Outreach Center continued its 25th anniversary celebration in June with the second annual Evening of Hope Gala, held June 25 at Ridglea Country Club.

The event featured Tony Award-winning Broadway producer Michael Skipper as keynote speaker, along with NBC 5 news anchor Scott Friedman as host. Sandy Lanier, cofounder of AOC's Sandy Lanier Nutrition Center, was honorary chair, and Michael Cinatl was event chair.

The evening began with a VIP reception, followed by an open reception and a silent auction, then dinner, a live auction and dancing.

AOC Executive Director Allan Gould Jr. said that as the country marks the 30th anniversary of HIV/AIDS, AOC is, after 25 years, celebrating its

transition from its initial purpose of providing end-of-life services to those with AIDS to today's mission of "giving those with HIV/AIDS a promising future, with hope through ongoing scientific advancements."

"As long as we continue to find individuals who test positive for HIV, we will remain resolute in our mission," Gould said. "AIDS Outreach Center will grow and transform itself to be at the forefront of testing, outreach, prevention and education to halt the spread of HIV. We will be steadfast in delivering the compassionate care and essential services to those already infected/affected. We are here as long as there is a need!"

AOC is the only 501(c)(3) organization in Fort Worth serving Tarrant County and seven surrounding rural counties, offering prevention, education and outreach programs and comprehensive direct HIV support services to men, women, children, and their families.

AIDS Outreach Center also advocates for a strong and sound HIV public policy. ■

STORIES

From Page 9

Aryan children.

So only German gays were arrested.

"Being forced to work hard would correct their behavior," Phillips said of the Nazi mentality about gays.

Except for about 2 percent who were considered incorrigible, Nazis considered gays' behavior something that could be unlearned. Generally the sentences given were relatively short — about 18 months. But gays were often assigned to punishment battalions.

"They got the hardest work, longest hours, least food and quickest death," Phillips said. "The mortality rate was extraordinary, but they weren't sent to the gas chambers."

Lesbians were generally not arrested because they could still produce children. Those who were

detained were often taken for political reasons or for being "asocial."

Phillips said there was, oddly, no record of gay Jews. The pink triangle with an overlaid yellow triangle (pink indicating gay and yellow Jewish) was listed in a Nazi chart of prisoner markings. But the usually meticulous record keepers did not chronicle any examples of its use that Phillips could find.

"So it was established, but there's no evidence that it was put into use," he said.

Phillips said he used the term "homosexual" in the title of the exhibit because it reflected the connection and importance of sex and reproduction to the reason for the arrests.

He said that "gay" as known it today is something quite different.

The exhibit remains in Dallas through Sept. 5. ■
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. \$8. 214-741-7500.

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■ texasnews

Violent crime down near Cedar Springs, but car burglaries help fuel overall increase

Violent crime was down 29 percent in the first half of 2011 in the roughly 1-square-mile hotspot that encompasses the Cedar Springs gay entertainment district, according to statistics obtained this week by Dallas Voice.

However, nonviolent property crimes are on the rise, jumping 23 percent near the strip during the same time period.

The Wycliff-Maple Target Area Action Grid (TAAG), previously known as the Cedar Springs-Wycliff TAAG, recorded 51 violent offenses from Jan. 1 through July 11 of this year, down from 72 offenses year-to-date in 2010, according to the statistics provided by the Dallas Police Department. Violent crimes include murder, rape, aggravated assault and robbery.

Of those offense types, only aggravated assaults have seen an increase this year in the Wycliff-Maple TAAG, going from 14 in the first six months of 2010 to 17 in 2011. Robberies of individuals, considered the main crime issue for club-goers in the area, fell from 46 last year to 27 this year.

But when it comes to nonviolent crimes, the area has seen big increases in two categories — business burglaries and motor vehicle burglaries.

The number of business burglaries nearly doubled, going from 13 in 2010 to 25 this year, while motor vehicle burglaries jumped from 119 to 192. Vehicle thefts stayed the same at 63, while residential burglaries dropped from 62 to 55, and “other thefts” fell from 58 to 53.

All told, the number of nonviolent offenses jumped from 315 last year to 388 this year in the Wycliff-Maple TAAG.

Combined with the violent crime numbers, it adds up to a 13 percent increase in what are known as Part 1 offenses in the Wycliff-Maple TAAG this year. The area has seen 439 Part 1 offenses so far in 2011, up from 387 year-to-date in 2010.

That puts the Wycliff-Maple TAAG at No. 5 for Part 1 crimes on a list of 27 similar crime hotspots citywide.

The No. 1 crime hotspot in Dallas? Ross-Bennett, which has recorded 695 Part 1 offenses this year. Overall, the 27 TAAGs have seen a combined 15 percent drop in Part 1 crimes.

— John Wright

■ DYSD

From Page 4

funding,” DYSD Communications Director Michael Maldonado said. “So we went to the city officials to determine what we would need to do and how much it would cost.”

City officials told the group they needed a more thorough audit of the area in which they wanted streetlights erected. So, DSYD volunteers went out and did it all again, making sure to leave no streetlight unchecked and no dark corner unrecorded.

They contacted the city officials again with their new information and finally started to see some progress.

Maldonado said that he doesn't think the crime in the Oak Lawn area is necessarily LGBT-related, but that there's “genuinely a lot of traffic in that area,” making it an ideal site for criminals to strike.

In April, the city's Street Services Department received the DYSD audit and promised look it over and give recommendations.

After an article published in Dallas Voice about yet another mugging, DSYD members finally got the approval to have streetlights posted at every location noted in the audit.

Oncor, the corporation responsible for the lighting in Dallas, was given a work order to put up 45 streetlights within 60 days. The lights will improve visibility and hopefully decrease the night time crime rate in the area bounded by Oak Lawn Avenue, Lemmon Avenue, Wycliff Avenue and Maple Avenue, Maldonado said.

Hunt said she believes the new lights will in-



Angela Hunt

crease safety not only for the LGBT community of Dallas, but also the residential and business communities that make their home in the Oak Lawn area.

“This is a terrific example of the community and City Hall working together to improve a vital area,” Hunt said. ■

■ SENATE

From Page 4

LULAC and Rainbow LULAC chapters in Dallas. He said his understanding of immigration issues comes from his wife, who arrived in this country as a refugee from Cambodia. She was born in a Khmer Rouge concentration camp and is currently expecting the couple's first child.

"I have to work for the Latino vote," Hubbard said. "Without it you can't win," adding that not fighting for those votes was one of White's biggest campaign mistakes.

Hubbard said his age is always part of the discussion about his candidacy. But within the Democratic Party, he said it's been a plus.

"We need young blood in there," he said party leaders have told him. "It's time to get younger people involved."

He notes that he's already older than Vice President Joe Biden was when he was first sworn into the Senate.

Hubbard was born in Austin and raised in Scurry, a small town in Kaufman County. He graduated from UT Dallas with a major in political science and economics. Currently he works for a family-owned company that sells doors and moldings to custom home builders.

Hubbard said that while he expects Republican candidates to talk about deficit reduction, he plans to talk about job creation.

"We should be talking about jobs and not the debt ceiling," he said.

His jobs plan includes increased spending for infrastructure to build high-speed rail — in which he'd like Texas to lead the nation — and roads and bridges.

He'd give tax credits to small businesses that

hire more employees and would like to see government-funded training for green energy jobs.

Low-interest loans should be given to people who want to start green industry businesses, Hubbard believes.

"Banks need to lend a certain percentage of money they are given from the government," he said. "They can't just sit on it for cash reserves."

He said there's no evidence that cutting spending creates jobs, as Republicans suggest.

Hubbard said he looks forward to campaigning with President Obama next year.

"Running away makes you look ashamed and disingenuous," he said. He called that a mistake other Democrats have made.

He said when Texans are asked who they like better, Obama polls higher than Perry. Hubbard said that this was the right time for him to run.

"I don't believe in waiting until the time is right," he said, "Because the time will never be right."

Hubbard said he understands the fundraising challenge and has a successful, retired Democratic fundraiser from Kentucky working with him. The fundraiser came out of retirement to work on the Hubbard campaign because he liked that the candidate is not afraid to run as a Democrat in Texas.

"I'm invested in the future of this country," Hubbard said. "I'm 30 years old, and about to have a baby. I have to make sure America succeeds. I have to make sure Texas succeeds."

If elected, he plans to live in Texas and commute home weekends. He wants his children to attend Texas public schools.

But Hubbard is realistic about his chances.

"I know I'm a long-shot candidate," he said, "But I represent Democratic values. ■

The event, called "The Response," was arranged by the governor as a day of praying and fasting over the "crisis" the country faces.

It is being financed by the anti-gay American Family Association, which has been designated as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

It is the AFA's connection to the event that has the members of the Fort Worth church and others most upset.

Phil Barnett, a lay leader with the Fort Worth church, said the AFA has "used hate speech disguised as the gospel of Jesus Christ, causing pain and suffering to GLBT people as well as people of faith traditions outside of Christianity."

Protest organizer and church deacon Marvin Vann added, "We certainly respect the governor's call to pray and fast for the welfare of our country, but we strongly object to doing that in collusion with a group that engages in hate speech and, therefore, misrepresents the gospel."

Organizers said 15 to 20 people from Fort Worth First Congregational Church are expected to travel to Houston to protest Perry's "Response" event, and they expect to be joined there by people from other churches around the state.

Protesters intend to be gathered outside the stadium as "Response" attendees arrive that morning, and will "protest via posters, flyers and silent witness." ■

■ BRIEFS

From Page 6

Stabler, scheduled to speak on Aug. 13, is a nationally recognized trans spokeswoman and political activist. She has appeared on television, radio and in print media around the world to discuss LGBT and political issues.

Stabler, a past president of Pride Houston, an active leader on the Human Rights Campaign board of directors and AIDS Foundation, is a senior director at CA Technologies.

Josephine Tittsworth, chair of the committee organizing the summit, said the committee is "very excited" to have "two of our most outstanding leaders" speaking at the event.

Committee member Lou Weaver said that Schilt and Stabler are "some of our most dynamic community activists" and "some of our most knowledgeable experts on the trans community."

FW church to protest Response

Members of Fort Worth First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ voted unanimously during a congregational meeting on Sunday, July 10, to endorse plans by some church members to protest Gov. Rick Perry's day-long prayer event set for Sunday, Aug. 6, in Houston's Reliant Stadium.

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■ nationalnews

Republican presidential candidates split over right-wing 'Marriage Vow'

But candidates' refusal to sign pledge not an indication of a shift in views on gay marriage

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@me.com

The campaigns of Republican presidential frontrunner Mitt Romney and four other GOP presidential candidates said this week they would not sign the bizarre pledge that at least two other GOP competitors did sign — a pledge that promises the candidate will vigorously oppose even "court-imposed recognition" of same-sex marriage.

The refusal of Romney and the other candidates does not signal a change in their opposition to same-sex marriage, but does appear to suggest the GOP field may be re-evaluating how far it is willing to go to appease the party's far right wing.

The pledge, called "The Marriage Vow," is being circulated by a Christian-oriented political advocacy group — The Family Leader — that organized the successful recall of three Iowa Supreme Court justices because they ruled in favor of marriage equality.

The rambling two-page pledge, which includes two additional pages of footnotes, calls on candidates for state and federal offices to "vow" that they will not receive any campaign support "from any of us without first affirming this Marriage Vow," that they will "uphold and advance the natural Institution of Marriage," and remain faithful to their own spouses.

Among the 14 specific positions called for in the Marriage Vow is an "Earnest, bona fide legal advocacy for the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) at the federal and state levels." The 1996 federal law bans federal recognition of same-sex marriages and asserts that individual states can ignore marriage licenses issued by other states to same-sex couples.

The Marriage Vow also requires candidates to give a "steadfast embrace" to a proposed amendment to the federal Constitution to ban same-sex marriages nationally.

In an apparent reference to the repeal of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, the Marriage Vow has a candidate promise support for "safeguards" for military personnel from "intrusively intimate commingling among attracteds (restrooms, showers, barracks, tents, etc.)."

And one footnote contends there is no "empirical proof" that same-sex "inclinations are genet-



Tim Pawlenty

ically determined, irresistible and akin to innate traits like race, gender and eye color"

The Marriage Vow does not limit itself to gay-related issues. It also calls for candidates to say "robust childbearing and reproduction is beneficial

to U.S. demographic, economic, strategic and actuarial health and security," to support the "downsizing" of government, and to support the protection of women from "sexual slavery, seduction into promiscuity, and all forms of pornography and prostitution, infanticide, abortion and other types of coercion or stolen innocence."

A spokesperson for the Romney campaign told the Wall Street Journal, in an article published July 13, that Romney "felt this pledge contained references and provisions that were undignified and inappropriate for a presidential campaign."

Jimmy LaSalvia, head of GOProud, a national conservative gay group, said Romney "should be praised for those comments, and for keeping his campaign focused on the issues that the American people care about the most: jobs and the economy."

R. Clarke Cooper, head of Log Cabin Republicans, the national gay Republican group, said the pledge is "outside the scope of mainstream views."

"Republican presidential candidates seriously seeking to win the general election are wise to avoid such an extreme position," said Cooper. "Divisive and sometimes off-the-wall rhetoric on social issues will obscure a solid conservative fiscal message. Americans will not vote for somebody who has demonized their family, friends, neighbors and colleagues."

Other Republican presidential candidates who have, thus far, balked at signing the pledge are former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson and former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman.

Johnson issued a statement calling the Marriage Vow "offensive to the principles of liberty and freedom on which this country was founded." His website includes a video urging that it is un-American to discriminate against

■ VOW, Next Page

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Senate hearing on DOMA repeal is set

'Respect for Marriage Act' has 27 co-sponsors so far, all Democrats

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@me.com

The U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee has scheduled Wednesday, July 20, at 10 a.m. to hear testimony on a bill to repeal the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

The specific bill in question is the "Respect for Marriage Act" (S. 598), introduced by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., for herself and Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-NY, and Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

Leahy, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, announced last week he would hold a hearing on the bill — the first Congressional hearing on a proposal to repeal DOMA.

The Respect for Marriage Act would also stipulate that, "for the purposes of any federal law in which marital status is a factor, an individual shall be considered married if that individual's marriage is valid in the State where the marriage was entered into. ..."

It also calls for recognition of marriages licensed in other countries.

The bill currently has 27 co-sponsors, including Sens. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, Richard Durbin, D-Ill and John Kerry, D-Mass.

No Republicans have yet co-sponsored the bill.

Live webcasts of Senate Judiciary Committee hearings can be viewed at the committee's website: judiciary.senate.gov.

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VOW

From Previous Page

others "for the way they were born" or to use the federal government to "override the decisions of the states."

Pawlenty posted a statement July 13 on his campaign's website July 13, saying that, if elected president, "I would vigorously oppose any effort to redefine marriage as anything other than between one man and one woman." But while he said he "deeply respects" the Family Leader's commitment regarding marriage, he would "prefer to choose my own words" concerning marriage and would "respectfully decline" to sign the pledge.

Gingrich, in an appearance before the Family Leader July 11, reportedly said he would offer some edits to "sharpen" the pledge. The Des Moines Register said Gingrich said he wanted to review the document and was "working out some details."

The only two Republicans to have signed the pledge — Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota and former Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania — came under heavy scrutiny for having done so.

Bachmann and Santorum both had to address criticism for signing the Marriage Vow because the pledge originally included a sentence implying that African-American children were better off during slavery times than they are now, under the administration of the first African-American president.

According to the Huffington Post, the pledge originally included this sentence: "Slavery had a disastrous impact on African-American families, yet sadly a child born into slavery in 1860 was more likely to be raised by his mother and father in a two-parent household than was an African-American baby born after the election of the USA's first African-American President."

Huffington Post noted that the sentence has since been removed, and Bachmann told Fox News on July 12 that the sentence "was not on a document that I signed."

"I just want to make it absolutely clear," Bachmann told Fox News, "I abhor slavery. Slavery was a terrible part of our nation's history. It's good that we no longer have slavery. And under no circumstances would any child be better off growing up under slavery. That isn't what I signed. That isn't what I believe. What I signed was a statement that affirmed marriage as an important part of our nation. And I agree with that."

The Human Rights Campaign issued a statement July 12 calling Bachmann's signing of the pledge "a dangerous level of extremism."

Bachmann, Santorum, and four other Republican presidential hopefuls have also signed the "Pro-Life Citizen's Pledge," promising that their nominees to the federal courts will be committed to "not legislating from the bench," that their executive branch appointees — such as Cabinet positions — will be "pro-life," and that they will "advance pro-life legislation to permanently end all taxpayer funding of abortion."

The other four candidates include Gingrich, Pawlenty, and Reps. Ron Paul of Texas and Thaddeus McCotter of Michigan.

All but McCotter, who just recently announced his candidacy for the nomination, spoke before the Family Leader's "Presidential Lecture Series," as did candidate Herman Cain. Romney did not.

The head of the Family Leader organization, Bob Vander Plaats, was the organizer of the successful campaign last year to oust three Iowa Supreme Court justices who were part of the unanimous decision that the state constitution requires that same-sex couples be treated the same as heterosexual couples in the issuance of marriage licenses.

Meanwhile, the Human Rights Campaign posted its own petition for GOP candidates July 12, asking HRC supporters to sign a statement urging GOP presidential candidates to speak out publicly against therapy that alleges to change gays into straights. ■

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Statement puts Baldwin a step closer to historic Senate bid

Press release from Wisconsin Democrat's campaign identifies her as 'likely candidate' for seat being vacated by Herbert Kohl

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@me.com

Her campaign stationery says "Tammy Baldwin 2012." But the text of the July 13 press release walks the U.S. House's only openly lesbian member one step closer to an historic bid for a U.S. Senate seat:

"She is a likely candidate for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI)."

That statement echoed a comment she made to the Capital Times newspaper in Madison July 2 when she said, "I think I am likely to run."

If she does enter the race, Baldwin will become the first openly gay person to make a run for the U.S. Senate. And clearly, her supporters are urging a bid.

According to the press release, Baldwin raised more than \$435,000 in the month of June, the month after the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund re-

ported sources close to Baldwin as saying she was eyeing the seat.

Kohl announced May 13 that he would retire, rather than run for re-election in 2012. Newspapers in Wisconsin immediately began identifying a list of potential candidates that included Baldwin.

Others mentioned, on the Democratic side, include former U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold, who lost his re-election bid only last year to newcomer Republican Ron Johnson.

Feingold would be considered the Democrats' strongest candidate because of his name recognition and long-time service in the Senate.

A Public Policy Polling survey in May of 784 likely Democratic primary voters in Wisconsin found 70 percent supported Feingold for the seat; Baldwin came in second with 12 percent. Six other Democrats earned between one and five percent each.

"Remove Feingold from consideration," said a Public Policy Polling press release May 27, "and the race becomes considerably more wide open, but Baldwin would start out with 30 percent..."

Her closest competitors, according to the survey, would be former U.S. Rep. Steve Kagen with

17 percent and current Rep. Ron Kind with 16 percent.

Capital Times Executive Editor Paul Fanlund said, in a July 5 article, that Baldwin is "steaming toward a 2012 candidacy" for the Senate seat and "it almost seems the only person who could alter her course is former senator Russ Feingold ..."

Feingold has said he would make an announcement of his intentions in September. But he urged other Democrats considering a bid to go ahead with their plans and not wait for his decision.

Baldwin told the Capital Times she thinks she would have to raise between \$15 million and \$20 million for a Senate race.

Her July 13 press release indicates that her July 15 quarterly report to the Federal Election Commission shows she has raised \$502,485 "for the second quarter" of the 2011-2012 election cycle. For the same second quarter in the previous election cycle (2009-2010), she reported raising \$107,533.

At her July 15 quarterly in 2009, she had \$561,563 cash-on-hand in her campaign coffers. Her press release this month says she has \$1.1 million.

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U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin



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Carter Brown

BLACK, *trans*, MAN

Carter Brown knew from personal experience that African-American transmen are among the most invisible and most under-served people in the LGBT community. So he founded a new organization in hopes of filling in the gaps

TAMMY NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

Transitioning is never an easy process for anyone, but African-American female-to-male trans people face some special challenges, according to transman Carter Brown.

"Our lives, the path we feel we have to take is a challenge. We are voluntarily accepting the role of Public Enemy No. 1: The black man is the most feared man in America," Brown said. "When we transition from female to male, we are accepting all the challenges that black men in this country face, from society, from our families and from our-

selves. It's a lot to bear."

And Brown noticed early on in his own transition process that black transmen, in many instances, had to face those challenges alone. That's why he decided to launch an organization focusing primarily on helping others like himself.

That's when Black Transmen was born.

Brown said that, having been born biologically female, he knew from a young age that he was different. As a teenager, he came out as a lesbian and "found a place in the community as a butch lesbian."

But still, something was missing: "I still didn't feel complete," he said.

Then one day, when he was 24, Brown was watching TV and saw a talk show that included a transman as a guest.

"It just turned a light on for me," he said. "Finally the pieces started to fall into place."

So he started going to the library, using the computers there to look for information and resources that could help in his quest to transition. He found some resources and made connections with other transmen in Yahoo groups. But few of

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coverstory

TRANS

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those resources addressed the special challenges of black transmen, and few of those new friends were transmen of color. They couldn't relate, Brown said, to the special challenges black transmen face.

"I couldn't find people who were like me. That's why I decided to start this organization, to reach people like me and move us forward."

Brown said he started out by creating a page on Facebook, and he was amazed at how many people were drawn to it. The more comprehensive organization grew out of that Facebook page, and today, Brown said, Black Transmen has about 300 members nationwide and is led by a three-member board consisting of Brown and two other transmen that he chose not to name out of respect for their privacy.

Brown said he and the organization's other leaders have worked to create a structure with programs and outreach designed to address the needs of transmen in general as well as the specific challenges that transmen of color face.

One of the greatest challenges for black transmen, Brown said, is financial, adding that "a majority of black transmen fall into the lower financial class," and finding money for a therapist and for medications is difficult. So one of the organization's first goals was to find a way to address that need.

So Brown and the other group leaders began compiling a list of therapists to whom they could refer newcomers, and they established the FTM Fund. Through this program, he said, transmen can earn financial assistance to help pay for medications and other costs by putting in volunteer hours.

Careers

Black Transmen also works to help transmen pull themselves out of that lower end of the financial spectrum with a program offering advice on developing their careers.

"A lot of guys feel that they are male, but they haven't actually walked in the world as a man," Brown said. "We have to be socialized as men, to learn how to speak as men, wear professional clothing, even how to shake hands."

Looking again to his own experience, Brown said that when he was first beginning his transition, he communicated online with a group of other transmen, all of whom were caucasian. He said those men, as they transitioned, often found themselves with new opportunities for advancement in their careers.

"But for me, it was the opposite. As a black man, I saw my opportunities decrease," he said.

The group also offers advice on if, when and how to come out as a transman on the job, something that Brown knows from personal experience can be problematic. He said when he began his transition, he was fired from his job. And at another job, when he came out as a transman, he was "harassed until I finally had to quit." Now, he said, he stays quiet about his trans status at work.

"What I found was that I was back in the closet," Brown said. "The people at work see me as the man I am. But I can only get so close to someone without them knowing that I am trans. And being in the closet is a hard way to live. You have to find a balance."

Health

Providing resources to help transmen stay healthy is another primary goal for Black Transmen as an organization, Brown said. The organization works to provide resources to help transmen find the doctors, therapists and surgeons they need, and is looking now for outside funding that will allow the group to help individuals with the costs of those services.

But Black Transmen is also actively involved in HIV/AIDS and STD education and awareness, he continued, and in August will participate in the Hip Hop Summit for HIV.

"A lot of transmen are not being tested for HIV and AIDS," Brown said. "A lot of them are not educated on how the disease is contracted and how to avoid being infected."

"A lot of guys still sleep with cis-gendered men and have unprotected sex. But they are ashamed of that, and because they are ashamed they don't protect themselves," he continued. "One of the things we try to do is get guys to understand there is no reason to be ashamed of who you sleep with. We try to give them a place to go where they can be comfortable talking about these things."

And there are other health concerns that black transmen face that their white counterparts don't, Brown added.

"For instance, African-Americans in general are more prone to have high blood pressure. We want to address those issues as well," he said.

Black Transmen also works to help transmen balance their mental health needs as well, offering peer mentoring, either online or through a 24-hour telephone hotline.

"Our goal is to provide an overall support system that will help transmen have a healthy transition and a healthy life," Brown said.

Culture

Perhaps the most difficult challenges for black transmen, Brown said, is dealing with some of the "culturally specific issues we face not as transmen but as black men in general."

"In the African-American community, because I am a man, they expect certain things of me. They expect me to be very aggressive, to not care about getting an education, to not care about the arts," Brown said. "Too often, we feed into those negative stereotypes people have of black men, things like sagging your pants, being a womanizer. If you don't do these things, then you're seen as weak."

And then there is the opposite end of the spectrum, where black men are expected to be heavily involved in the churches that play such a big role in the African-American community — something that can be problematic for transmen who are often shunned by religious communities.

"And the African-American community

■ TRANS, Next Page

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Black Transmen Services and Info

Black Transmen currently has a Facebook page at Facebook.com/black.transmen. The second Facebook page, Facebook.com/BlackTransmenUnited, offers transmen a place to connect and discuss issues.

Black Transmen seeks to empower the FTM trans community and to support healthy growth through the female-to-male transition, with emphasis on forming a complete identity, including culture, spirituality, heritage, family, health, sexual identity, employment, entrepreneurship and kinship.

Black Transmen advocates for all FTMs, with specific focus on the concerns affecting African-American communities.

The organization offers a mentoring program for transmen of all ages and stages of transition, with one-on-one, group and peer-to-peer relationships available online, by phone and in person. The group also offers resources and support for the family, friends and spouses of transmen.

Black Transmen is concerned with and involved with anti-bullying efforts, transgender homelessness, transgender hunger relief, AIDS prevention, suicide prevention, domestic violence prevention, FTM surgery funding and FTM educational scholarship and grants.

For more information, call 469-287-8594 or email blacktransmen@live.com.

■ TRANS, From Previous Page

depends on men to care not just for themselves and their immediate family, but for their extended families, too," Brown said. "That can be a very heavy burden, and some of the [transmen] just are not prepared to carry that burden. We are here to help them with that."

Although his journey has not always been an easy one, and there are still challenges he has to overcome, Brown said it has been worth the trip.

"I feel free," he said. "I feel like now that I am no longer consumed with my transition, now I can focus on being who I am, on being a comfortable and confident man. And I want to help others like me reach that same place."

"That's what this organization is about, helping black transmen be free within themselves, letting them see other guys who have been where they are and who can say, 'I understand. I'm here to help,'" Brown continued. "This is a safe space, where guys can come and find encouragement, where they can find family that understands and has no judgment."

Around the edges of the circular logo for Black Transman are the words, "One is not born a man, he becomes one."

And that, Brown said, is the organization's goal: to help transmen become the best men they can be.

"That's what it's all about," he said. "We are men. We are unique, exceptional men. And we are there for each other." ■

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■ spirituality

Celebrating 50 years of inclusiveness



'DOING EQUALITY' | Inclusiveness has been a tenant of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Oak Cliff for all of its 50 years. Church members, from left, Kelley O'Conan, Kimberlyn Crowe, the Rev. Mark Walz, Michael Cipollo and the Rev. Marcia Shannon stand in front of a banner in the UUCOC sanctuary that reads "Marriage is a civil right." (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Oak Cliff Unitarian church has moved beyond tolerance and acceptance and has been doing equality for a long time, leaders say

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Oak Cliff, the LGBT community isn't just accepted. LGBT members are an integral part of the church.

The church is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

The Rev. Mark Walz said that his church was the first in the country that was chartered after the merger of the Unitarian and Universalist denominations in 1961. He said that actually 15 churches were admitted that day, six of which are still in existence. But in the records, the Oak Cliff church was first.

Board member Michael Cipolla has been a member of UUCOC for two years. He was raised in the Catholic Church and tried a number of other faiths, including Mormonism. But then he and his partner found UUCOC.

"For the first time, I feel incredibly normal," he said.

Cipolla is not the first gay board member and he doesn't know who was. He said the church has just been "doing equality" for a long time.

Walz said that the first time he presided over a same-sex wedding was in 2004. He was almost embarrassed that his first took place so late because the denomination had embraced marriage equality long ago.

"That was the first time I was asked," he said. The denomination was one of the first to wel-

come gays and lesbians and one of the earliest to openly welcome LGBT clergy.

Walz said he has mixed feelings about denominations that finally get it and open their ordination to everyone. He said he's glad that they're finally doing the right thing, but what's different now than 15 minutes ago?

Like Cipollo, congregation president Kimberlyn Crowe was also not raised Unitarian but has been a member for about 10 years. She said that at UUCOC she can put her values in action.

"I can only be enriched by supporting someone else's journey," she said.

Member Kelley O'Conan said, "I was afraid to come to this church because I didn't think I would fit in."

The group laughed at that idea but agreed that she was different from most of the church's members — she's fairly conservative.

Crowe said one issue that the congregation is dealing with now is immigration might not be the same as many other members. But at UUCOC, differences are not just tolerated, they're embraced.

Walz said that it was so freeing to be in a congregation where he can let everything go. He called all the prejudice that so many people live with a burden.

Because the Unitarian Church is liberal in a conservative area, Walz said he gets hate calls. One recent caller asked if he required every member to be baptized. He said that while most were, it wasn't a requirement to come to his church.

"You're going to burn in hell," the caller told him.

Walz was amused that someone who probably

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■ **UUCOC**, From Previous Page

considered himself religious would call another church with that message.

The Rev. Marcia Shannon was ordained a Methodist minister and is the church's director of religious education.

"It's freeing not to have to worry about prejudice of people around you," she said.

She is surprised that more people do not know more about the denomination.

Universalist churches across the South were integral parts of the Underground Railroad and Unitarian churches in New England and across the north worked to abolish slavery.

Walz said that a misunderstanding of history leads fundamentalists to claim that the country was based on their right-wing Christian values. At least five presidents were UUs including John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. More signers of the Declaration of Independence were associated with their faith and other founders like Paul Revere and Ben Franklin were also Unitarians.

But part of the Universalist belief was that God doesn't play favorites.

Each of the members of the Oak Cliff church just wanted others to know how welcoming their church is — even if you're conservative.

O'Conan said, "And it's the only church I've ever been in where you can bring your dog into the sanctuary." ■

Clawson in concert at Celebration on the Lake

Celebration on the Lake Church presents a free, live concert by Grammy-winning singer and songwriter Cynthia Clawson on Saturday, July 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the church's chapel at 9120 Highway 198 in Payne Springs, near Cedar Creek Lake.

The concert celebrates the church's sixth anniversary. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP on the church's website, COTLChurch.org, or by calling the church at 903-451-2302.

Clawson has received a Grammy and five Dove awards for her work as songwriter, vocal artist and musician during a career spanning more than four decades and 22 recordings. She began singing at age 3 when her father, a pastor, asked her to sing in church. She graduated from Howard Payne University with a major in vocal performance, and is perhaps best known for her performance of "Softly and Tenderly" in the soundtrack for the Academy Award-winning movie, *Trip to Bountiful*.

Clawson and her husband, author and playwright Ragan Courtney, live in Houston. Samples of her music are available online at the Celebration on the Lake Church's website, COTLChurch.org, and on YouTube.

Celebration on the Lake Church was established eight years ago as a satellite church under the direction of Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth, led by the Rev. Carol West. The Celebration on the Lake became independent of the Fort Worth church six years ago and is now led by Pastor Kathy Bowser. The church, which holds services each Sunday at 10 a.m., contributes to a number of programs in the community, including Toys for Tots, Mabank Nursing Home, Meals on Wheels, Family Resource Center, the Library at Cedar Creek Lake, Humane Society of Cedar Creek Lake and others.

Although the church began as a primarily LGBT congregation, all people are welcome, Bowser said.



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viewpoints

Overjoyed, yet full of consternation

UN resolution on LGBT equality is a victory, but also a reminder of how far we have left to go toward equality

The passage of a resolution by the United Nations Human Rights Council last month declaring that LGBT people around the world should be afforded equal protections with all other human beings left me overjoyed — yet still full of consternation.

The measure's passage represented a great victory for human rights advocates who pressed for it. But the very need for such an action underscored how dangerous it is to be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender in many parts of the world, including the United States of America.

Homosexuality remains illegal in 76 of the globe's countries, and it is punishable by death in five of them.

In the United States, where the Texas sodomy law — and in effect, all sodomy laws in the country — were struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2003, discrimination and violence against LGBT people continues to run rampant. An analysis of 14 years of FBI hate crime data by the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Project in late 2010 revealed that LGBT people are more than twice as likely to be violently attacked as Jews and blacks, more than four times as likely as Muslims and 14 times as likely as Latinos.

In a press release by the U.S. Department of State, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called the U.N. resolution an "historic moment to highlight the human rights abuses and violations that LGBT people face around the world based solely on whom they are and whom they love."

She noted that torture, rape, criminal proceedings and killings are sanctioned all over the world by religions that condemn anyone who does not adhere to traditional heterosexual norms regarding sexual orientation and gender identity.

The controversial resolution, which was proposed by South Africa, passed narrowly on a vote of 23 to 19. Although the measure was supported by the U.S. and other Western countries, it was opposed by African and Arab countries where the prosecution and persecution of LGBT individuals is the most severe.

Three countries, including China, abstained from voting.

Reaction to the U.N. resolution from opponents of LGBT rights was telling.



HATE LIVES ON | Like the Ku Klux Klan that vilified all minorities in its terroristic oppression of people and also operated under the guise of Christianity, today's militant Christian Rights groups target LGBT people for scapegoating.

Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, the Vatican's representative to the Human Rights Council meeting in Geneva, denounced it as a maneuver in an international agenda to restrict the freedom of churches.

Tomasi claimed the church opposes violence against homosexual behavior and punishment based on a person's "feelings and thoughts," but he condemned the measure as detrimental to society and likened laws against homosexuality to prohibitions against incest, pedophilia and rape.

In Ghana, the Rev. Joseph Bosoma of the Sunyani Central Ebenezer Presbyterian Church called on President John Evans Atta Mills to crack down on homosexuality in the country, warning that society was on the verge of a punishment similar to what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah in Biblical times.

The president assured the pastor that the government would take action to check homosexual activity.

Similarly, Alex McFarland of the American Family Association, the group that is sponsoring Texas Gov. Rick Perry's The Response Prayer Rally in Houston on Aug. 6, declared recently that the world is now in "The Latter Days," in response to the passage of marriage equality in New York.

He argued that LGBT rights are not the equivalent of human rights.

Soulforce, an LGBT group that monitors conservative religious groups, noted that another host of Perry's rally, Lou Engle, the leader of The Call, is one of three evangelical leaders in the U.S. who supported the "Kill the Gays" bill in Uganda.

For three decades, the greatest impediment to the LGBT rights movement has been Christian Rights groups and their leaders who have seized on the concept of a "homosexual agenda" bent on destroying American culture and society. James Dobson, founder of Focus on the Family, declared the fight

against LGBT rights to be a "second civil war."

Some of these Christian Rights groups have earned the distinction of being identified as hate groups by the Southern Poverty Law Center because they have resorted to crude name-calling and spreading false information about LGBT people in an effort to draw support to their cause.

Like the Ku Klux Klan that vilified all minorities in its terroristic oppression of people and also operated under the guise of Christianity, today's militant Christian Rights groups target LGBT people for scapegoating.

LGBT people comprise the last minority group left that it is politically correct in some quarters to attack, and Christian Rights groups and politicians like Gov. Perry are making the most of it.

The beginning of this summer marked the 16th anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention's apology to black people for its abominable treatment of that race over the years, and some gay activists, such as Wayne Besen of Truth Wins Out, petitioned the church group to issue a similar apology to LGBT people.

That, of course, did not happen, but one day perhaps it will.

Until groups like the Southern Baptist Convention, which urges followers to "go the extra mile when witnessing to gay people," recognize LGBT people as equal, freedom will continue to be a worldwide challenge.

The U.N. resolution was a milestone in that journey to equality, but the road ahead for LGBT people will continue to be a long and difficult one. The U.S., which admittedly is far behind some countries, will likely see success long before LGBT people in some parts of the world feel free. ■

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.

As a birthday nears, everything old is new again

Looking back on the battles we've fought, and forward to the battles yet to come, as another year is marked off the calendar

Last week I stumbled across a picture of myself from the 1980s. Now that doesn't seem so long ago to me — until I talk to friends who were born during that decade! And then I start to feel really old.

The photos pretty much sealed the deal. Who was that slender — or at least average-sized — guy with dark brown hair who looked like such a child? What's worse, I was already in my 30s back then, already no spring chicken.

Age has its advantages. There is the whole "older and wiser" thing, and being older does give you a sense of perspective on minor problems that used to seem like life-altering crises when I was younger.

Today, I really don't worry about missing a night out at the bar or making sure I am not wearing last season's fashion. That just isn't all that important in the grand scheme of things.



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

a gay man creeping into his 60s "quality of life" is very much "top of mind."

First of all, I never expected to live this long.

What is important is something I paid little attention to as a young man: Quality of life.

That doesn't mean much to someone in their 30s, since most have few problems aside from sports injuries or the occasional hangover. But to

After all, many of my gay friends from the 1980s died during the first wave of AIDS. Watching all those men prematurely age and pass away really can put a damper on your expectations for the future.

Amazingly, I have survived and remain HIV-negative. Now what do I do?

If you are younger than me, here's what you may have to look forward to: Aches. Muscles, bones and especially joints just don't feel the same as they did. I don't bound up stairs anymore, and the idea of dancing the night away seems almost ludicrous to me now.

First of all, my legs just don't have the pep they used to have. Secondly, 61-year-old guys dancing to Lady Gaga just look like a cry for help.

Aside from dancing, I don't have the desire to do as much as I used to. Part of that comes from being settled down with a loving partner for more than 16 years, and part is just from the whole age thing. The idea of a nice dinner

at home and an evening of TV and conversation with my guy is much more appealing than hanging out in a bar or an evening of retail therapy.

Yet, the more things change, the more they remain the same.

Though we've had 30 years of education and research into AIDS/HIV, it is still with us and once again a growing problem for gay men. You'd think we would have gotten the message, but the younger generation has recklessly embraced barebacking and the older generation has forgotten that AIDS does not discriminate because of age.

It's time to haul out the safer sex information that was squelched in the name of "abstinence only" and start educating again.

As the election cycle approaches, the same-sex marriage issue will continue to be on the forefront, while the real issue of full civil rights for LGBT citizens is pushed aside. I guess it's not sexy enough to get media attention.

So I guess I will have to keep pounding away at the real equality issue until our politicians can get some kind of focus on the big picture.

And the whole idea of an aging generation of LGBT seniors has yet to hit the activists' radar. Oh, there is a lot of talk about it, but who is going to assure that when I get old enough to need assisted care, my sexuality and my partner will not be ignored?

Guess there is still a lot to do. Time to get up off the couch and start getting busy.

Perhaps that will keep me from just being an old curmudgeon — like a kinky, gay Andy Rooney.

So time to get busy. If 60 is the new 40, then I fully intend to have an action-packed middle age.

Hardy Haberman, who will celebrate his 61st birthday on July 27, is a longtime local LGBT activist and a board member of the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at DungeonDiary.blogspot.com.

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Let's get ready to rumba!

For fleet-footed Ryan Lewis and partner Natalia Fridmanovich, ballroom dancing is still an underground gay scene in Dallas

JEFTINGLEY | Contributing Writer
lifestyle@dallasvoice.com

For those of us with two left feet, just the words “foxtrot” and “cha-cha” can induce panic attacks and sweaty palms. Dancing is like public speaking to a beat: It’s a deep fear, the kind that can’t be erased — even by images of a *Dirty Dancing*-era Patrick Swayze as your partner.

But according to professional gay rug cutter Ryan Lewis, ballroom dance doesn’t have to be scary. In fact, it can be a place where you can find your inner Fred Astaire or Ginger Rogers ... or maybe a combination of both.

“The gay community has many outlets [for people] to participate in and express themselves whether it be sports, clubs, politics or the art scene,” says Lewis. “However, as a gay man, I realize that some of these opportunities are not well known. [My dance partner] Natalia and I feel that ballroom dance is a perfect fit... While the community has plenty for someone to feel comfortable with their sexuality on a Friday night, I wished, when I was coming out, there were more avenues for me to be comfortable in my own skin, as well as [to] participate in activities alongside the heterosexual world.”

Lewis has been training and competing for more than 13 years in international Latin and standard dance, specializing in international Latin for the past eight years. Last June, after trying out with other dancers on the competitive circuit, he made a visceral connection with Natalia Fridmanovich, a Russian native who began dancing in her father’s studio at age 11. Fridmanovich holds titles that include Eastern Russia ballroom champion. After she relocated to North Texas, she and Lewis started dancing together and have been a team ever since.

Last month, Lewis and Fridmanovich traveled to Italy for the Italian Open, an international ballroom dance competition, where they were the only couple representing North Texas; they had an impressive showing, making it to the semi-finals, putting them in the top six couples out of nearly 100 entered.

It’s not just competing that keeps them busy. The duo teaches classes in Latin and standard dance, which embraces favorites such as the waltz, foxtrot and tango. Although the classes aren’t specifically created for same-sex couples, Lewis welcomes them, and says it’s not uncommon for the pairings to occasionally end up that way anyhow.

“Each class is 45 minutes of warm-up followed by 45 minutes of partner work. Since we usually have more girls than guys in the class, you end up with girls dancing with girls — but it could be the same if there were more guys in the class, too,” he says.

Lewis credits the popularity of TV shows like *Dancing With The Stars* and *So You Think You Can Dance* with raising the visibility of ballroom, yet people still feel like they won’t have a chance to use it. Lewis claims that’s only true if they don’t know where to look.

“Most people don’t realize that in just one [dance] lesson, you can learn enough to go to social dances and be able to do one or two dances that evening,” he says.

For beginners, Fridmanovich recommends simple steps like the foxtrot and rumba. Once armed with a repertoire of moves, the couple suggests joining an organization like USA Dance Dallas, whose sole mission is to “promote social dancing throughout the city.” To do this, the



SO THEY KNOW THEY CAN DANCE | Lewis and Fridmanovich, who teamed up last year, bring professional ballroom to North Texas.

group holds weekly dance classes and annual shows and workshops.

While Lewis ranks Dallas’ ballroom dance scene on the national scale as top 20, it’s not in the top 10, and still something seen as slightly underground. “If you don’t know it exists, you would never see it. But once you see it, you know it is everywhere.”

One example of these lesser-known dance

hideouts is Gloria’s restaurant at Beltline and the Tollway. “On Saturdays at like 11, they clear all tables and chairs and until one or two in the morning it’s salsa and partner dancing like merengue,” says Lewis.

That’s certainly a different kind of salsa than you usually find at Gloria’s ... but one that can be just as addictive. ■

For more, visit RyanNataliaDance.com.

More than 5.3 million KALETRA prescriptions have been filled in the US*

If you have HIV, ask your doctor if KALETRA could be right for you

- KALETRA may help lower viral load and raise T-cell (CD₄) count
 - Some patients may develop signs and symptoms of serious infections they already have after starting anti-HIV medicines
- KALETRA is used with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to increase the chance of treatment response in people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection
- KALETRA does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS and does not stop you from passing HIV-1 to others. You may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV-1

Please see KALETRA Use and Important Safety Information on the next page.

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KALETRA Use and Important Safety Information¹

Use

KALETRA® (lopinavir/ritonavir) is a prescription anti-HIV-1 medicine called a protease inhibitor that contains lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is used with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to increase the chance of treatment response in people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection. It is not known if KALETRA is safe and effective in children under 14 days old.

KALETRA does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS and does not stop you from passing HIV-1 to others. You may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV-1.

Important Safety Information

Do not take KALETRA if you are allergic to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including lopinavir or ritonavir. Skin rashes, some of them severe, can occur in people who take KALETRA. Tell your doctor if you had a rash when you took another medicine for HIV or if you notice any skin rash when you take KALETRA.

Drug Interactions:

The list of drug interactions below is not complete. You must tell your doctor about all medicines you are taking or planning to take, including those without a prescription, vitamins, and herbal products.

Serious problems or death can happen if you take these medicines with KALETRA: ergot-containing medicines, including ergotamine (Cafergot® and others), dihydroergotamine (D.H.E. 45® and others), ergonovine (Ergotrate®), and methylergonovine (Methergine®); triazolam (Halcion®); midazolam oral syrup; pimozone (Orap®); lovastatin (Mevacor®); simvastatin (Zocor®); rifampin (Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®); sildenafil (Revatio®) only when used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension; alfuzosin (Uroxatral®); or products containing St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*).

The following medicines may need changes if you take KALETRA: birth control pills that contain estrogen ("the pill"), birth control (contraceptive) patches, nilotinib (Tasigna®) and dasatinib (Sprycel®), atorvastatin (Lipitor®), rosuvastatin (Crestor®), efavirenz (Atripla® and Sustiva®), nevirapine (Viramune®), amprenavir (Agenerase®), fosamprenavir (Lexiva®), nelfinavir (Viracept®), phenytoin (Dilantin®), carbamazepine (Tegretol®), phenobarbital, sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®, Adcirca®), vardenafil (Levitra®), rifabutin (Mycobutin®), inhaled fluticasone (Flonase®), salmeterol (Serevent®) and salmeterol in combination with fluticasone propionate (Advair®), colchicine (Colcrys®), bosentan (Tracleer®), fentanyl (Duragesic®, lonsys™, Fentora®) and methadone.

KALETRA should not be taken once daily if you take carbamazepine (Tegretol® and Epitol®), phenobarbital (Luminal®), or phenytoin (Dilantin®).

There is an increased risk of certain problems when you take medicines used for the treatment of erectile problems such as sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®) with KALETRA, because the interaction with these medicines may result in an increase in their side effects, such as low blood pressure (dizziness or fainting), vision changes, and/or erections lasting more than 4 hours. Tell your doctor right away if you experience any of these side effects.

KALETRA oral solution contains propylene glycol and a large amount of alcohol.

- KALETRA oral solution **should not** be given to babies younger than 14 days of age unless your doctor thinks it is right for your baby. **Babies taking KALETRA oral solution may have side effects.** Call your doctor right away if your baby appears too sleepy or their breathing has changed.
- Talk with your doctor if you take or plan to take metronidazole (Flagyl®) or disulfiram (Antabuse®). You can have severe nausea and vomiting if you take these medicines with KALETRA.

KALETRA can cause serious side effects:

KALETRA may not be right for you. Tell your doctor about all your medical conditions.

Changes in your heart rhythm and the electrical activity of your heart can occur when taking KALETRA. These changes can lead to serious heart problems. Your risk for these problems may be higher if you already have a history of abnormal heart rhythm or other types of heart disease, or if you take other medicines that can affect your heart rhythm while you take KALETRA. Tell your doctor right away if you experience dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, and/or a sensation of abnormal heartbeats.

Liver problems, including death, can happen in people who take KALETRA. Blood tests in people who take KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as hepatitis B or C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. People should tell their doctor right away if they have any of the following signs and symptoms: loss of appetite, yellowing of skin or eyes (jaundice), dark-colored urine, pale-colored stools, itchy skin, and/or stomach area (abdominal) pain.

Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis), which may be serious and cause death, has occurred in some people who take KALETRA. You have a higher chance of

having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, and/or abdominal pain, as these may be signs of pancreatitis.

Immune reconstitution syndrome may occur after starting anti-HIV medicines, including KALETRA. This happens when you develop signs and symptoms of serious infections you already have, which may require additional treatment.

Large increases in certain fat (triglycerides and cholesterol) levels in the blood have occurred in some people receiving KALETRA. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or strokes due to these increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.

New or more serious diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in some people who take protease inhibitors, including KALETRA. Tell your doctor if you notice an increase in thirst or urinate often while taking KALETRA.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some people who take anti-HIV therapy. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Increased bleeding has occurred in some people with hemophilia who take protease inhibitors, including KALETRA.

If you are taking birth control pills or using patches to prevent pregnancy, you should use an extra form or a different type of birth control, since birth control pills or patches may not work as well while you take KALETRA. Talk to your doctor about how to prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA.

It is not known if KALETRA will harm your unborn baby. If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor.

If you take KALETRA during pregnancy, you should talk with your doctor about how you can take part in an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry. The purpose of the pregnancy registry is to follow the health of you and your baby.

Do not breast-feed while taking KALETRA. There is a chance HIV can be passed to your baby through breast milk and your baby may have serious side effects from KALETRA.

Common side effects of KALETRA include diarrhea, nausea, stomach area (abdominal) pain, feeling weak, vomiting, headache, or upset stomach. These are not all of the possible side effects of KALETRA.

The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time.

This is the most important information to know about KALETRA. For more information, talk with your doctor.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088 (1-800-332-1088).

If you cannot afford your medication, contact: www.pparx.org or call the toll-free number (1-888-4PPA-NOW) or (1-888-477-2669) for assistance.

For additional information about KALETRA, call 1-866-KALETRA (1-866-525-3872) or visit KALETRA.com.

Please see Brief Summary of Prescribing Information on the following pages.

Reference: 1. KALETRA [package insert]. North Chicago, IL: Abbott Laboratories.

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KALETRA®
(lopinavir/ritonavir)

KALETRA® (kuh-LEE-tra) (lopinavir/ritonavir) Tablets

KALETRA® (kuh-LEE-tra) (lopinavir/ritonavir) Oral Solution

Patient Information

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

What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?

KALETRA may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Interactions with other medicines. It is important to know the medicines that should not be taken with KALETRA.** Read the section "What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?"
- **Changes in your heart rhythm and the electrical activity of your heart.** These changes may be seen on an EKG (electrocardiogram) and can lead to serious heart problems. Your risk for these problems may be higher if you:
 - already have a history of abnormal heart rhythm or other types of heart disease.
 - take other medicines that can affect your heart rhythm while you take KALETRA.

Tell your doctor right away if you have any of these symptoms while taking KALETRA:

- dizziness
- lightheadedness
- fainting
- sensation of abnormal heartbeats

See the section below "What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?" for more information about serious side effects.

What is KALETRA?

KALETRA is a prescription anti-HIV medicine that contains two medicines: lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is called a protease inhibitor that is used with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). It is not known if KALETRA is safe and effective in children under 14 days old.

Who should not take KALETRA?

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please see "Can I take other medicines with KALETRA?" and consult with your doctor about all other medicines you take.
- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir and lopinavir.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

KALETRA may not be right for you. Tell your doctor about all your medical conditions, including if you:

- have any heart problems, including if you have a condition called Congenital Long QT Syndrome.
- have liver problems, including Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C.
- have diabetes.
- have hemophilia. People who take KALETRA may have increased bleeding.
- have low potassium in your blood.

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if KALETRA will harm your unborn baby. Birth control pills or patches may not work as well while you take KALETRA. To prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA, women who take birth control pills or use estrogen patch for birth control should either use a different type of birth control or an extra form of birth control. Talk to your doctor about how to prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA.
- take KALETRA during pregnancy, talk with your doctor about how you can take part in an antiretroviral pregnancy registry. The purpose of the pregnancy registry is to follow the health of you and your baby.
- are breast-feeding. Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV-1. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby while taking KALETRA, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. If your baby does not already have HIV-1, there is a chance that HIV-1 can be passed to your baby through your breast milk.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Many medicines interact with KALETRA. Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your doctor or pharmacist. Your doctor can tell you if it is safe to take KALETRA with other medicines. Your doctor may need to change the dose of other medicines while you take KALETRA.

Medicines you should not take with KALETRA.

Serious problems or death can happen if you take these medicines with KALETRA:

- ergot containing medicines, including:
 - ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot, Ergomar, Ergostat, Medihaler Ergotamine, Wigraine, Wigrettes)
 - dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Emborex, Migranal®)
 - ergonovine, ergonovine and methylegonovine (Ergotrate, Methergine), ergotamine and methylegonovine
 - Ergotrate Maleate, methylegonovine maleate (Methergine)
- triazolam (Halcion®), midazolam hydrochloride oral syrup
- pimoside (Orap®)
- the cholesterol lowering medicines lovastatin (Mevacor®) or simvastatin (Zocor®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®) only when used for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension. (See "Medicines that may need changes" and "What are the possible side effects of Kaletra?" for information about the use of sildenafil for erectile problems.)
- alfuzosin (Uroxatral®)

Medicines that you should not take with KALETRA since they may make KALETRA not work as well:

- the herbal supplement St. John's Wort (hypericum perforatum)
- rifampin (Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®)

Medicines that may need changes:

- birth control pills that contain estrogen ("the pill") or the birth control (contraceptive) patches
- certain anticancer medicines, such as nilotinib (Tasigna®) and dasatinib (Sprycel®)

- certain cholesterol lowering medicines, such as atorvastatin (Lipitor®) or rosuvastatin (Crestor®)
- certain other antiretroviral medicines, such as efavirenz (Atripla® and Sustiva®), nevirapine (Viramune®), amprenavir (Agenerase®) and nelfinavir (Viracept®)
- anti-seizure medicines, such as phenytoin (Dilantin®) carbamazepine, (Tegretol®), phenobarbital
- medicines for erectile problems, such as sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®)
- medicines for tuberculosis (TB), such as rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- inhaled steroid medicines, such as fluticasone propionate (Flonase®)
- inhaled medicines such as salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol in combination with fluticasone propionate (Advair®). Your doctor may need to change to a different medicine
- medicines for gout, such as colchicine (Colcrys®)
- medicines to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), such as bosentan (Tracleer®) or tadalafil (Adcirca®)
- pain medicines, such as fentanyl (Duragesic®, lonsys™, Fentora®) and methadone

If you are not sure if you are taking a medicine above, ask your doctor.

How should I take KALETRA?

- Take KALETRA every day exactly as prescribed by your doctor.
- It is very important to set up a dosing schedule and follow it every day.
- Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- Swallow KALETRA tablets whole. Do not chew, break, or crush KALETRA tablets.
- KALETRA tablets can be taken with or without food.
- If you are taking both Videx® (didanosine) and KALETRA:
 - didanosine can be taken at the same time as KALETRA tablets, without food.
 - take didanosine either one hour before or two hours after taking KALETRA oral solution.
- Do not miss a dose of KALETRA. This could make the virus harder to treat. If you forget to take KALETRA, take the missed dose right away. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Instead, follow your regular dosing schedule by taking your next dose at its regular time. Do not take more than one dose of KALETRA at one time.
- If you take more than the prescribed dose of KALETRA, call your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
- Take KALETRA oral solution with food to help it work better.
- If KALETRA is being used for your child, tell your doctor if your child's weight changes.
- KALETRA **should not** be given one time each day in children. When giving KALETRA to your child, give KALETRA exactly as prescribed.
- KALETRA oral solution contains propylene glycol and a large amount of alcohol. KALETRA oral solution **should not** be given to

babies younger than 14 days of age unless your doctor thinks it is right for your baby.

- If a young child drinks more than the recommended dose, it could make them sick. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
- Talk with your doctor if you take or plan to take metronidazole or disulfiram. You can have severe nausea and vomiting if you take these medicines with KALETRA.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of KALETRA. The amount of HIV-1 virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may become resistant to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- KALETRA can be taken with acid reducing agents used for heartburn or reflux such as omeprazole (Prilosec®) and ranitidine (Zantac®) with no dose adjustment.
- KALETRA should not be administered once daily in combination with carbamazepine (Tegretol® and Eptol®), phenobarbital (Luminal®), or phenytoin (Dilantin®).

Avoid doing things that can spread HIV infection. KALETRA does not stop you from passing HIV infection to others. Do not share needles, other injection equipment or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

KALETRA can cause serious side effects.

- See **“What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?”**
- **Liver problems.** Liver problems, including death, can happen in people who take KALETRA. Blood tests in people who take KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these signs and symptoms of liver problems:
 - loss of appetite
 - yellow skin and whites of eyes (jaundice)
 - dark-colored urine
 - pale colored stools, itchy skin
 - stomach area (abdominal) pain.
- **Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis).** Some people who take KALETRA get inflammation of the pancreas which may be serious and cause death. You have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain while taking KALETRA. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- **Increases in certain fat (triglycerides and cholesterol) levels in your blood.** Large increases of triglycerides and cholesterol can be seen in blood test results of some people who take KALETRA. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia).** Some people who take protease inhibitors including KALETRA get new or more serious diabetes, or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you notice an increase in thirst or urinate often while taking KALETRA.
- **Changes in body fat.** Changes in body fat in some people who take antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and

face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

- **Increased bleeding for hemophiliacs.** Some people with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors including KALETRA.
- **Increased risk of certain problems when you take medicines used for the treatment of erectile problems such as sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®) with KALETRA:**
 - **low blood pressure.** If you get dizzy or faint, you need to lie down. Tell your doctor if you feel dizzy, or have fainting spells.
 - **vision changes.** Tell your doctor right away if you have vision changes.
 - **penis erection lasting more than 4 hours.** If you are a male and have an erection that lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.
- **Allergic reactions.** Skin rashes, some of them severe, can occur in people who take KALETRA. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a rash when you took another medicine for your HIV infection or if you notice any skin rash when you take KALETRA.
- **Babies taking KALETRA oral solution may have side effects.** KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol and propylene glycol. Call your doctor right away if your baby appears too sleepy or their breathing has changed.

Common side effects of KALETRA include:

- diarrhea
- nausea
- stomach area (abdominal) pain
- feeling weak
- vomiting
- headache
- upset stomach

These are not all of the possible side effects of KALETRA. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Tell your doctor about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store KALETRA?

KALETRA tablets:

- Store KALETRA tablets at room temperature, between 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C).
- Do not keep KALETRA tablets out of the container it comes in for longer than 2 weeks, especially in areas where there is a lot of humidity. Keep the container closed tightly.

KALETRA oral solution:

- Store KALETRA oral solution in a refrigerator, between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C). KALETRA oral solution that is kept refrigerated may be used until the expiration date printed on the label.
- KALETRA oral solution that is stored at room temperature (less than 77°F or 25°C) should be used within 2 months.
- Keep KALETRA away from high heat.

Throw away any medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need.

Keep KALETRA and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about KALETRA

KALETRA does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV-1 infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use KALETRA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give KALETRA to other people, even if they have the same condition you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about KALETRA. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about KALETRA that is written for health professionals. For more information about KALETRA call 1-800-633-9110 or go to www.KALETRA.com.

What are the ingredients in KALETRA?

Active ingredient: lopinavir and ritonavir

Inactive ingredients:

KALETRA 200 mg lopinavir and 50 mg ritonavir tablets:

copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: hypromellose, titanium dioxide, polyethylene glycol 400, hydroxypropyl cellulose, talc, colloidal silicon dioxide, polyethylene glycol 3350, yellow ferric oxide 172, and polysorbate 80.

KALETRA 100 mg lopinavir and 25 mg ritonavir tablets:

copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: polyvinyl alcohol, titanium dioxide, talc, polyethylene glycol 3350, and yellow ferric oxide E172.

KALETRA oral solution: acesulfame potassium, alcohol, artificial cotton candy flavor, citric acid, glycerin, high fructose corn syrup, Magnasweet-110 flavor, menthol, natural and artificial vanilla flavor, peppermint oil, polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil, povidone, propylene glycol, saccharin sodium, sodium chloride, sodium citrate, and water.

KALETRA oral solution contains 42.4% alcohol (v/v). “See How should I take KALETRA?”.

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Potter late than never

Final installment of 'Harry Potter' makes a fitting end to a decade-long series that even a Muggle can appreciate

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
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There's a tonal shift in the final installment of the *Harry Potter* series, part 2 of **The Deathly Hallows**, that's almost arrestingly apart from what has preceded it. Maybe it's the sense of finality that the story is truly coming to an end, a sentimental summing up that resolves most of the plot threads, explains just why Harry is so important and how Voldemort will finally be defeated. That coda gives us a sense of closure.

That the film works so well is astonishing, considering that *Part 1*, which came out eight months ago, was so disastrously heavy and convoluted. This one, dark as pitch, benefits from well-conceived set pieces and a streamlined arc.

Still, this *Potter* is a good 20 minutes shorter than the average for the series, and includes an epilogue well after the slightly unsatisfying climax. Given how it serves as the grand capstone to a popular series, you'd think they could have found time to, for instance, remind us what the deathly hallows of the title are.

(None of the films has ever recapped important plot points, the way the *Lord of the Rings* series did — and that was just three films, not eight spread over 10 years.)

So, prepare to go in either expecting to have to relearn some facts: Voldemort divided his soul into several "horcruxes" which Harry, Hermione and Ron are trying to find and destroy; meanwhile, the Death Eaters are ruling Hogwarts

under the iron thumb of Snape.

There are still some nearly insurmountable incongruities that only the most devoted fans could heedlessly overlook (how is it Voldemort and Harry can see inside each others' brains, but never know where the other is? If they can fly instantly through space-time, how does a creaky metal fence act as such a devastating barrier? etc.).

And Steven Kloves' script is problematic and cliché-filled (Snape actually delivers the line, "Some of you are probably wondering why I summoned you here at this hour").

But director David Yates has assembled some thrilling action sequences and added a Gothic flair that add weight and urgency. The siege of Hogwarts is a special effects extravaganza that evokes some real thrills and awesome moments, such as

a phalanx of stone warriors defending the school against an onslaught of giants. It also affords some of the long-standing characters the opportunity to emerge from the shadows of the series, including a defiant Prof. McGonagall (Maggie Smith) and the dopey Neville Longbottom as a surprise hero.

The thrust of the film, though, is explaining just *why* Harry is so special, and Daniel Radcliffe, who literally grew up before our eyes in the role, shows a remarkable maturity amid all the hoo-ha. I still maintain that the movies border on incoherence, but you can't deny the sincerity with which Radcliffe has always tackled the material, often sharing screen-time with some of the pre-eminent British actors of their age. When all is said and done, you cannot help but care for Harry and be vested in what happens to him. On that score, *The Deathly Hallows Part 2* does not disappoint. ■



WILD ABOUT HARRY | By growing up on screen in the role, Daniel Radcliffe has the audience vested in his fate.



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Dallas Voice intern Drake von Trapp (fourth from left) found acceptance in this Potter's field.

On the inside with a wizard: Dallas' gay-friendly Harry Potter club

For some people, the *Harry Potter* series amounts to a good read, a franchise to criticize or a childish fantasy blown out of proportion. For others, though, it's a way of life, the basis of friendships, even a social necessity.

For me, *Harry Potter* was the cornerstone of my adolescence. Prior to reading the series, I was little more than a home-schooled recluse. A three-month trip to Australia left me without much to do *but* read, and during my banishment, I devoured the entire series within weeks.

After returning to the Dallas, I joined the Harry Potter Dallas-Fort Worth club (HP DFW), an LGBT-friendly group of like-minded fans who shared my passion for the series. The group meets twice a month to discuss aspects of the books and movies. I was soon absorbed in the family-like atmosphere of the club and the intricacies of the fandom.

Members get together to not only argue over the pros and cons of house elves, but also to dress up as our favorite characters, attend Potter conventions and hold our own Potter-related parties.

I'm now the co-organizer for the group ("Filch of the Forums" is my formal title), and one of the many LGBT-identified individuals who are active in it. Like the characters in the series itself, HP DFW is an open-minded and supportive family of accepting nerds. And even Muggles are welcome.

— Draconis von Trapp

For more information, visit Meetup.com/hp-dfw

Blonde ambition

Dolly Parton keeps on truckin' with a new album, a tour — and late-night trips to the Kroger in full Dolly drag

LIFE+STYLE
concerts



Dolly Parton, the “Queen of Country Music,” reigns on our (gay) parade with her new album *Better Day* and her concert tour, at the Verizon Theatre Tuesday. *Better Day* marks her 41st solo album of original material, and she ties Reba McEntire with four No. 1 country singles in four consecutive decades. Parton is far more than a coun-

Dallas Voice: The first track on *Better Day*, “In the Mean Time,” is so feisty. What was your motivation for it? Parton: That is one my favorite songs because it sums up what is going on in the world, my attitude about it. Everybody is so down in the dumps and waiting for the end of time instead of doing something about it, enjoying the time they got. This whole album I wanted to write stuff to uplift people and give a positive spin on this negativity.

You’ve performed the first single, “Together You and I” on television, but is there a video in the works? Yes. Trey Fanjoy, who was director of the year at CMT this year, did a wonderful video that shows people from all over the world, love in all forms and fashions — more of a universal love. It is a beautiful video.

What can fans expect from your concerts now? We got all sorts of good things going with the *Better Day* World Tour. We have a lot of positive stuff in that by doing different things for the fans.

You have a huge gay following and they will always love you. Hey, a big shout out to them! We have fun with my gay crowds. We are going to be in L.A. for two days at the Hollywood Bowl, then in San Francisco. All ready so many of my gay fans have said they are going to be there in the front row. I love it. I have always loved my gay fans. They accept me and I accept them. We get along just fine. I am very proud and honored when they dress up like me or whatever they want to do!

What is your favorite thing about touring?

try music star. Even calling her “iconic” seems too small for the larger-than-life persona.

From her humble roots in Tennessee, our “Backwoods Barbie” continues to be a doll to her gay fans. With some rare moments to spare, she talks behind the scenes of her tour and what’s beneath the makeup and glitter.

— Jerry Nunn

People, the audience, I love that. I love to travel because I am a gypsy, but I enjoy performing for the fans that love to see it. I have been around so many years, worked so many audiences and had so many types of shows. Since the beginning, it is kind of fun to watch how things have changed. I have fans from little bitty kids now watching *Hannah Montana* with Aunt Dolly to my older fans and the new ones that have discovered my music. It is a really fun trip for me as you can imagine.

How fabulous is your tour bus? The set up is great. I have traveled on a tour bus since 1967. This current one is an updated, modern version, where there *is* room. Especially when it has stopped you can let the sides out and have a real home. I don’t stay in hotels so I just live on my bus. I’ve got everything from my kitchen to my televisions, DVDs and books. It’s a way to carry my wigs and my costumes. I am set up good for that.

Are you able to take off the wig and shop at Kroger without people recognizing you? Well, if I went to Kroger I wouldn’t take off my wig. I don’t go grocery shopping too much but when I do it’s usually in the wee hours after midnight. If I really want to cook certain things for a special occasion that I really need and I don’t trust anyone to find it I will go to the store. But I usually dress like myself and go in. I can’t be disguised because if I open my mouth you know it’s me! I sound as different as I look. There is no point in going and embarrassing myself by looking like hell.

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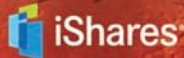
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Wiz, meet Liz

After a devastating fire and the loss of her mom, Dallas' Liz Mikel wowed NYC — but there's no place like home

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

Liz Mikel sprinkles her conversation with terms of endearment like “baby” and “child” the way others sprinkle sugar on cereal: Liberally, and to sweeten you up.

Mikel deserves a little sweetness in her life. 2010 proved to be a daunting year for the actress. She was in tech rehearsals for the world premiere musical *Give It Up!* at the Dallas Theater Center when her house burned to the ground. Four months later, her mother passed away.

“She was a brilliant shining light,” Mikel says, tearing up. “She had a doctorate but she always encouraged me [in acting and singing]. I had no choice — performing chose me.”

Those twin tragedies challenged Mikel, but did not defeat her. Indeed, *Give It Up!* (now renamed *Lysistrata Jones*) has become a flashpoint for her career. When the producing team decided to bring it to New York, Mikel was brought along to recreate her role as a sassy madam — a casting decision that led to a full-color photo of her in the Sunday Arts & Leisure section of the New York Times.

“That still boggles my mind,” she says, slightly aghast. “I did not know the magnitude of that. I was just grateful they found a way to get me up there. You plant seeds, and then it opens a different universe for you.”

That universe includes talk of moving the musical to Broadway with Mikel intact (there's already buzz she'd be in serious contention for a Tony Award), and though she's crossing her fingers “waiting for the call,” Mikel prefers not to think too much about it. “It's still just an out-of-body experience,” she says. “I don't even know how to put it in words.”

But Dallas doesn't need to worry too much about losing Mikel to the Great White Way. “This is my home, baby!” she says almost defensively. “I've been [with the DTC, where she is now a member of the resident acting company] since 1990. I'm not going anywhere.” She continues that association with the DTC when she opens in *The Wiz* tonight.

But Mikel has been familiar to Dallas' gay community even longer. “If I had been born a man, I would have been a drag queen,” says the 6-foot-1 actress who rarely wears flats in public. “I was about 18 when I started going to The Landing, which is where you'd go to see drag shows. I forced my best friend, whom I had known since the fifth grade, to come out to me by telling him he had to take me there.”

Mikel began singing in piano bars, where she developed a reputation as a full-throated diva with a gospel urgency to her voice. That has translated well onto the stage, especially in musical roles. But her current part, playing the wicked Evilene in *The Wiz*, is something of a departure for her.

“I usually do nurturing roles, but this is just over-the-top from the word ‘go,’ cracking the whip and screaming at people.”

It's also a chance for Mikel to take on a role in one of her favorite musicals — sort of.

“I loved watching *The Wizard of Oz* on TV,” she says, “waiting for that moment when Judy Garland goes from black and white to color.”

The message of the show rings especially true for Mikel after the trials of 2010, as she knows that, no matter what 2011 and beyond may bring, there's no place like home. ■

OFF TO SEE THE LIZ | Mikel tackles a villainous character in ‘The Wiz’ at DTC before (fingers crossed) returning to New York for a hoped-for Broadway production of ‘Lysistrata Jones.’ (Photo by David Leggett)

Sex in the city

'Bedpost Confessions' moves sex talk from the closet into Oak Cliff



RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

What would you do if your friend admitted to being a prostitute? Or if your sister talked about having sex outside of her marriage with a 21-year-old virgin? Sexual talk outside of the bedroom can still be taboo, even in today's desensitized world of fast hookups and Showtime melodramas. Bring up intercourse (or something far more intense), and most people will cringe or shy away.

Not Sadie Smythe. She says that such fear stems from shame, and she's on a quest to change that.

"We do it because there's this puritanical mindset pervading our culture," Smythe says. "We want to start a conversation about sex and sexuality. It's a pleasurable experience for people and that's part of why we do it."

Smythe is co-creator of the Austin-based show *Bedpost Confessions*, a sort of *Vagina Monologues* series of admissions and detailed sexual experiences featuring a roster of participants. *Bedposts'* first-ever performance outside of Austin comes to Oak Cliff July 21.

"I thought Dallas should be our first stop as a good jumping off point," says Smythe, a Dallas native. "Depending on how many people show up, we'll be in the upstairs room at the Kessler. That's such a great place and right in the middle of all that cool stuff."

She could be surprised. Although current RSVPs are modest, if it plays out like her first show, that could change dramatically. Smythe expected about 20 people to *Confessions'* debut and 60 showed up, crammed into a small space. Now the monthly event brings in close to 400 people — all there to talk about (and listen to others talk about) sex. With such a growth, the show plans for events in San Francisco and Boston.

Does that mean America is ready to shout out

their sexcapades to the masses? Smythe hopes so.

"The more sex is taboo the more shame that surrounds it. I see that as a problem," she says. "My feeling is that kids have a hard time understanding what sex and sexuality is about. Parents don't feel comfortable because of the shame so kids go into their formative sexual years inadvertently hurting each other. Shame creates harm and we aim to take that harm out of the picture. So we just talk about it."

She describes *Confessions* as pansexual because all perspectives are reflected and embraced. Local performer Roy G. Biv is a gay man who talks about a time in Japan when he partook in prostitution to pay the bills. Smythe, who is bisexual, has publicly discussed her open marriage in her book *Open All the Way*. She'll "confess" to her 21-year-old virginal conquest.

"My mother will be at this show so she's gonna get an earful," Smythe laughs. "But it's educational. That's part of the beauty of it. *Confessions* takes you out of your own experience and other people can encourage flight."

The audience can even confess their own sins, or ... "experiences."

"The hallmark of the show is the confessions," she says. "Although we highly curate these shows and make sure they are smart, funny and entertaining we add an element of interaction that's unpredictable."

Those that go to a *Confessions* show are given a card to come clean about that which gets them off. Without names, the cards are read aloud during the show. (A sampling are on the show's website.) Smythe says there's a cathartic element to opening up.

"The audience notes are usually funny, but it also unifies the group as they all engage in it," she says. "Sometimes they'll even inspire discussion and ultimately, it's a really fun and sexy show."

BEDPOST CONFESSIONS

The Kessler, 1230 W. Davis St.
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TALK DIRTY TO ME | Three of the four creators of 'Bedpost Confessions,' including Sadie Smythe, far left, are bisexual, giving a 'pansexual' bent to many of the sexy admissions.

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Master skater

With Gay Skate Night back, roller derby's Trigger Mortis offers some tips on making the floor your own

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer

lopez@dallasvoice.com

There was a time when the gays would routinely venture to Grand Prairie's Forum Roller World for the ritual of roller skating. Don Blaylock used to DJ the event and decided he wanted to bring it back.

"It got to be too much for people every week," he says. "I think that's why it fizzled out."

Scaling it back to once a month (every third Saturday) and moving it to the InterSkate Roller Rink in Lewisville, Blaylock wants to make it a more social event. Before heading to the rink, he chooses a place to eat where people can opt to meet up for a pre-skate nosh. He encourages carpooling up to Lewisville as well, all in efforts to get people "doing something" and "coming together."

Sounds like a plan.

The last time I donned a pair of quad roller skates, my age was still in single digit territory. At 9, I took lessons on Saturday mornings at the Broadway Skateland in Mesquite and became fairly comfortable with all the basics. That lasted a couple of years. Three decades later, I think I may be a little rusty.

"It's a whole lot easier if you're going fast so you can't feel any of the bumps on the rink," Trigger Mortis says. "If you go slow, you'll feel every plank of wood."

Thanks, lady, but I'm going slow.

Mortis is a member of the Assassination City Roller Derby league, and she agreed to give me some pleasant tips to aid my return to skating ... just like she'll be doing on the flat rink at Fair Park next Saturday when ACRD ends its season with the championship contest. My lesson, however, nixed the elbows and knockouts and all.

She started with the basics.

"First, you need to squat really low. The lower you are, the less distance your ass is from the ground," she says. "Bend your knees like you're sitting in a chair. That's really important."

Squatting really low is not a look that I'm comfortable with. I'd like to impress the crowd but not look like an idiot.

"You'll look more like an idiot if you fall standing straight up," she says.

That shut me up. Usually, when I find myself in an unstable standing situation, I just grab onto whatever's close by and hang on to reposition my posture — even if it is other people. Apparently, this isn't cool.

"Oh, no, don't do that. That's like the biblical rule No. 1: You can't grab anybody," she says.



"Just let yourself fall. Drop to your knees or on all fours."

This is not unfamiliar territory. Coincidentally, Mortis works at InterSkate in the skate shop. I feel this could prove fortuitous because she gave me some fashion and not-so-fashionable tips on preparing for my rollout.

"Get some wristguards," she advises. "And dress comfortably. Tight jeans, no. I've seen people split their pants; not cute. I think those little athletic shorts are fine; with knee-high derby socks and a headband you'd get total street cred with an Assassination City shirt. I'd hang out with you."

Mortis tried to convince me to go with the Roller Girl shorts that are made with "anti-cameltoe and muffin top technology."

But I'd lose all cool points if I went in my inline skates. She informs that quads (four wheels, yo) are where it's at and plus there's more of a base to distribute

my body weight on. That is if I don't flatten the tires. Inliners are passé and she warns that she and her girls will make fun of me in blades. All of the sudden, it feels like middle school again.

Face it. Being that it's Gay Skate Night, there is always the option for a potential hook up. You were thinking it! This wasn't lost on Trigger Mortis. Although she doesn't recommend throwing elbows or chairs, she says trying to skate backwards is as good as a pick-up line.

"Well, first, if you want to skate backwards,

FOUR WHEELIN' | Skate with caution to avoid this guy on the roller rink. Gay Skate Night returns every third Saturday at InterSkate in Lewisville. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

move your hips like salsa dancing," she says. It's like doing the Tootsie Roll. But you could have someone pushing you while you try it. If you happen to fall, the one thing that's gonna happen is they land on top of you."

Clearly, my kinda girl. ■



TASTING NOTES

2011 has witnessed a boom in restaurant openings, but this week, there were some closings of particular note, as well.

The Cultured Cup, the wonderful store run by tea sommelier Kyle Stewart and his coffee-savant partner Phil Krampetz, will be shutting the doors of its Preston Center location Saturday. But that doesn't mean it's going anywhere.

While the last chance to purchase from the storefront will be July 16 at 6 p.m., you can still order their selection of brewing beverages online at TheCulturedCup.com. If you wanna stop by Saturday and Sunday, they'll gladly feed you pizza and iced tea if you want to help them move.

Last Saturday ended up being the final day of service for **Hector's on Henderson** as well. The Uptown eatery — which is where **Central 214** exec chef **Blythe Beck** first made her culinary mark — was the child of **Hector Garcia**, frontman for **the Riviera** for years. Garcia, pictured, not only owned the place and worked the room, he also provided the entertainment on occasion, singing alongside the omnipresent piano.

Garcia — whose partner is former city councilmember **Craig Holcomb** — opened in the fall of 2004 (I vividly recall dining there on Election Night) to widespread acclaim. The closing was low-key, with Garcia thanking his longtime customers. "I never wanted a run-of-the-mill place, but rather something you would not experience anywhere else," he said.

Lolita's, the new Mexican restaurant that opened in the old Catalina Room space (later the short-lived Honey Shack), is adding entertainment to the menu. Husband and wife owners **Karlos and Teresa Urban** are launching a new Saturday night drag show, beginning at 10 p.m. on July 16. Even though the resto is in the gayborhood, the client base is largely straight, the Urbans said in a release, but they think the addition will appeal to both the gay and straight community. Cover is \$10.

Axiom Sushi Lounge at the **ilume** started its Martini Monday this week, with .99 cent house cosmos and \$2 off all regular price signature martinis.

— Arnold Wayne Jones


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CASINO NIGHT

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WHERE: Audi Dallas, 5033 Lemmon Avenue

TICKETS are \$50 in advance, \$65 at the door. Tickets available at www.lonestarride.org.



Friday 07.15

FIT for a queen

The Festival of Independent Theaters (FIT) returns with an inspired schedule of shows including works by Steve Martin and David Mamet. We're curious though about *The Madness of Lady Bright* with Larry Randolph, about an aging drag queen's descent into madness.

DEETS: Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Through Aug. 6. \$12-\$16. BathhouseCultural.com.



Sunday 07.17

Walk this way

Not often do we get to see both men and women compete in drag pageants together, but Miss LifeWalk is different that way. Everyone can make a run for the tiara, but the goal is to raise funds for AIDS LifeWalk and the amazing things they do. But for real, these contestants are still gonna do all they can to snag the crown.

DEETS: Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. AIDSLifeWalk.org/Miss-LifeWalk.

Thursday 07.21

Givin' up the Love

We don't have to rely on *Chelsea Lately* or *America's Dumbest Criminals* to get some Loni Love up in here. The comedian brings the laughs with her signature sass and we're all the better for it.

DEETS: The Improv, 309 Curtis May Way, Arlington. Through July 24. \$17-\$20. Improv.com.



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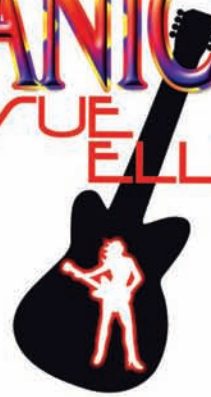
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FRIDAY 07.15

COMMUNITY

'til Midnight at the Nasher. Third Fridays at the Nasher come with live outdoor concerts and movie screenings in the garden. Bring blankets to spread on the grass and enjoy the night sky looming over Dallas. Nasher Sculpture Garden, 2001 Flora Street. 6 p.m. \$10. NasherSculptureCenter.org.

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 LGBTQ-identified youth up to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. Fridays-Saturdays and Tuesdays-Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Thursdays at 4 p.m. YouthFirstTexas.org.

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

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

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

ART

Better Gnomes and Gardens. Art Con's SEED event put local artists to the test with their reinterpretations of garden gnomes and pink flamingos and all are up for auction. Benefiting Art Conspiracy, the event will also feature local bands The Red 100s, John Lefler, The Blurries. Sons of Hermann Hall, 3414 Elm St. 7 p.m. \$10. ArtConspiracy.org.

THEATER

The Devil is a Lya. This gospel stage play tells the story of one family in four dramas. Garland Plaza Theatre, 521 W. State St. Garland. 8 p.m. \$15. BeeFlyProject.com.

The Wiz. The Dallas Theater Center and Dallas Black Dance Theatre present this retelling of *The Wizard of Oz*. Wylie Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Aug. 7. \$10-\$80. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

SATURDAY 07.16

COMMUNITY

TGRA Dallas Annual Underwear Auction with hosts Trisha Davis and Heather Thomas. Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. 8 p.m. DallasTGRA.org.

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

Headlights and Hounds bikini car and bike wash benefiting Best Friends Animal Shelter. Pet psychic, buffet, games and prizes also on hand at the dog-friendly event. The Lodge, 10530 Spangler Road. Noon. The-Lodge.com.

DFW Prime Timers play bingo at private residence. 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

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

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

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

Late Great Chevy Car Show. Guests can not only see a selection of vintage cars, but can also dress to participate in the sock hop costume contest. The event is hosted by Norma's Café Trinity Mills and continues every second Saturday through October. Norma's Café, 17721 N. Dallas Tollway. 8 a.m. Free.

SUNDAY 07.17

COMMUNITY

The Set, a group for mature-minded SGL African-American men to create a community meets. South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. 6 p.m.

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

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

Order of St. Francis and St. Clare every first and third Sunday. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar



BOXERS OVER BRIEFS | The Texas Gay Rodeo Association holds its annual Underwear Auction Saturday at the Dallas Eagle. Cowboys in undies can put most anyone in a charitable mood. The event benefits TGRA and its charities. Trisha Davis and Heather Thomas guest host the event.

Springs Road. 12:30 p.m.

Family Pride Coalition, a monthly support group for gay and lesbian parents and their children, meets at a private home. For time and location 214-521-5342 ext. 1708.

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

Breath of Life Interfaith Mindfulness Fellowship. LGBT-friendly "meditation and more" event. All faiths welcome. Dallas Meditation Center, 727 S. Floyd Road, Richardson. 5 p.m. Donations accepted. InterMindful.com.

The ONE Church, 2515 Inwood Road, Ste 213. Services at 11:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Dallas1Church.org.

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

Resounding Harmony holds weekly rehearsals at Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, 3014 Oak Lawn Ave. 7 p.m. Resoundingharmony.org.

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

MONDAY 07.18

COMMUNITY

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

Self esteem support group provided by AIDS Outreach Center meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 1:30 p.m. 817-229-4621. AOC.org.

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

CABARET

Mama's Party. Amy Stevenson hosts the weekly cabaret featuring local stage actors and musicians. Contemporary Theater of Dallas, 5601 Sears St. 7 p.m. MamasParty.com.

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TUESDAY 07.19

COMMUNITY

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. Ojeda's Restaurant, 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. 214-506-3367.

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

Q's Day Potluck. Friendly casual LGBT gathering every Tuesday evening. The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth. 7 p.m. 817-446-3395.

Sista to Sista support group provided by AIDS Outreach Center. Meets every first, second and third Tuesday. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 11:30 a.m. 817-335-1994 ext. 204. AOC.org.

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

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

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

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



GNOME SWEET GNOME | Local artists put their talents on lawn decorations at Saturday's ArtCon SEED event Better Gnomes and Gardens.

Q's-Day Potluck. All are welcome to this friendly, casual LGBT gathering every Tuesday evening. The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth, 817-446-3395.

Cathedral Ringers handbell rehearsal. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:45 p.m. Contact Jeremy.crosswhite@gmail.com for information.

Stop Smoking psycho-educational group by the AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 07.20

COMMUNITY

Legacy of Success Community Mixer encourages community networking and meets every third Wednesday. Catfish Blues, 1011 S. Corinth St. 6:30 p.m. LOSF.org.

DFW Prime Timers Prime Lunch at Mama's Daughter's Diner, 2610 Royal Lane. Noon. The group also plays bridge every week at 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details on both events.

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

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

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

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

CONCERT

American Idol Live. Verizon Theatre, 1001 Performance Place, Grand Prairie. 7 p.m. \$45-\$65. Ticketmaster.com.

THURSDAY 07.21

COMMUNITY

The Set is a forum by the Legacy of Success Foun-

ation for African-American men to dialog. South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. 6 p.m. LOSF.org.

The House of Glamour is a monthly event by the Legacy of Success Foundation for African-American women to meet and caucus. Brooklyn's Jazz Café, 1701 S. Lamar St. 3 p.m. LOSF.org.

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

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

this week's solution

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Simon Rex turns 37 on Wednesday. The actor has had quite the varied career as an actor in the TV series *Felicity* and *Scary Movie 3* and then as a rap artist under the moniker *Dirt Nasty*. He also VJ'd for MTV in 1995. But most gay men might remember him for his role in *Young, Hard & Solo II* and the sequel.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Venus in your sign enhances your charm and beauty. Don't be shy. Use your charm to promote charitable works. That also helps your career, but it's no substitute for good hard work.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Hide out in a creative retreat with a few friends who really stimulate your talents and productivity. Put your minds together. You and they will accomplish a lot.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Rally your friends toward a goal. This exercise in leadership will be good for you socially and professionally. Remember it's all about achieving the goal, not about your ability to run the show.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

You're rising to the top like cream, but staying sweet is a challenge. Keep your eye on the details and the basics. Remember who's on your side. Avoid arguments and other distractions.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Speaking up for what you want will work. Word will get around. New ideas for teamwork can transform your workplace. At both work and play, stay focused on your long-range priorities.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Verbal or not, playful teasing of your partner might easily get out of hand. A little is good, but it goes a long way. Always keep the Golden Rule in mind.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Flirtations at work need to be mild. Co-workers are not family, but a homey spirit can help build teamwork. Bring in some homemade goodies or arrange a potluck lunch for morale.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Working out is fun and creative at some level. Explore new ideas to stay engaged in your fitness regimen. Friends should have helpful suggestions. Don't be shy to ask.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

It's all about the home cooking! Old family recipes save you money and inspire you to economic perspectives that can help your career. Thrifty initiatives get you noticed.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

You are effective in defending your family and community, but responses to insults or attacks are short-sighted. Understand the history and context of any conflicts, to address them better.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Romantic and sensual as you are, you could be sexier. Challenge your values and old hang-ups. Examine inner conflicts with someone you trust. Push yourself out of your comfort zone.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

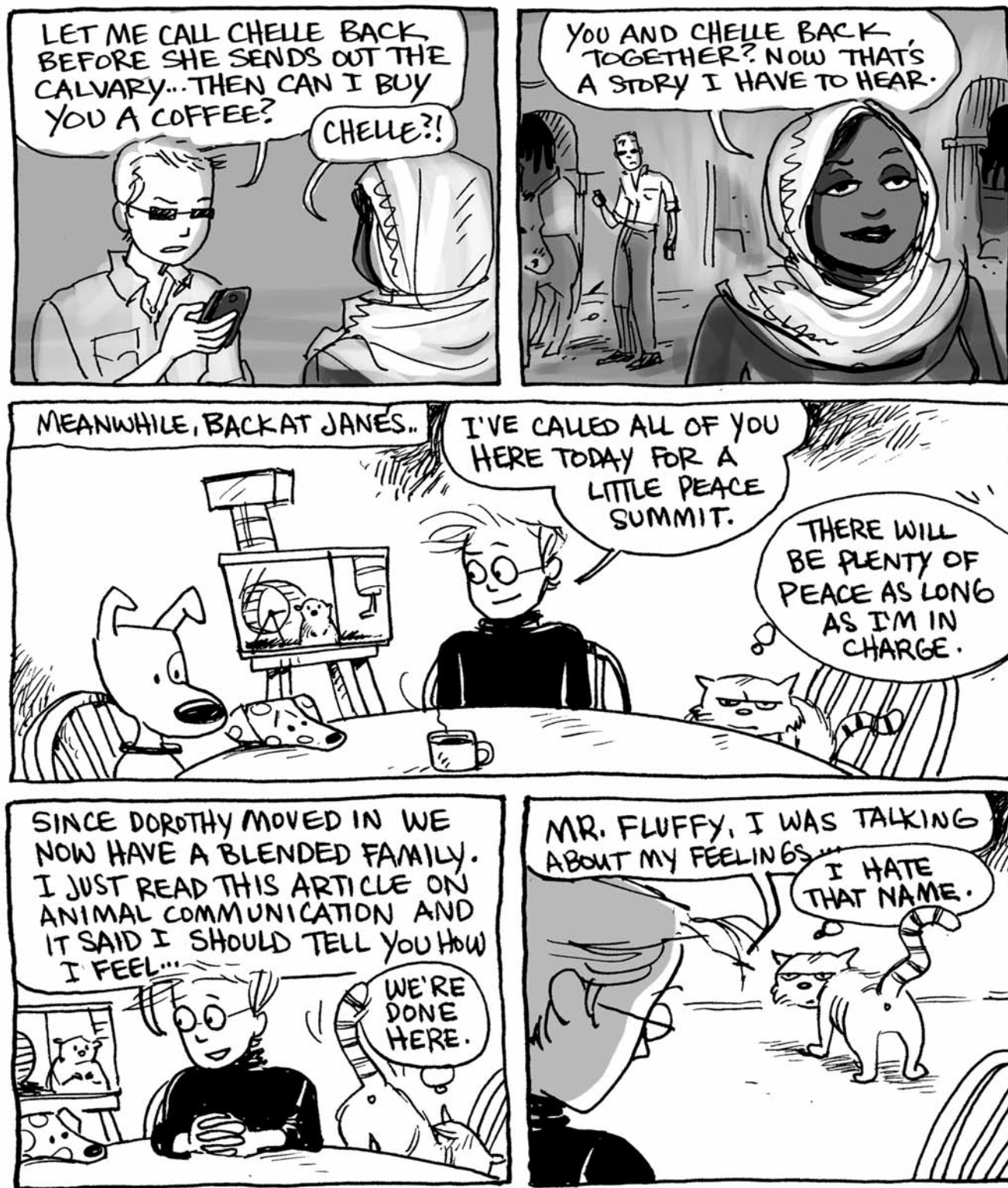
Harness your current surge of constructive energy. Resist the urge to outspend your pals, or fritter resources on mindless indulgences. Work with your partner toward a common goal.

THIS WEEK

Relationships aren't a competitive sport. Venus in Cancer aspecting Mars in Gemini should be good for whispering sweet nothings, but Eris aspects both, and Mars is right on the South Node. Resist temptations to be assertive and clever. Go for chocolates and exotic love poetry.

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

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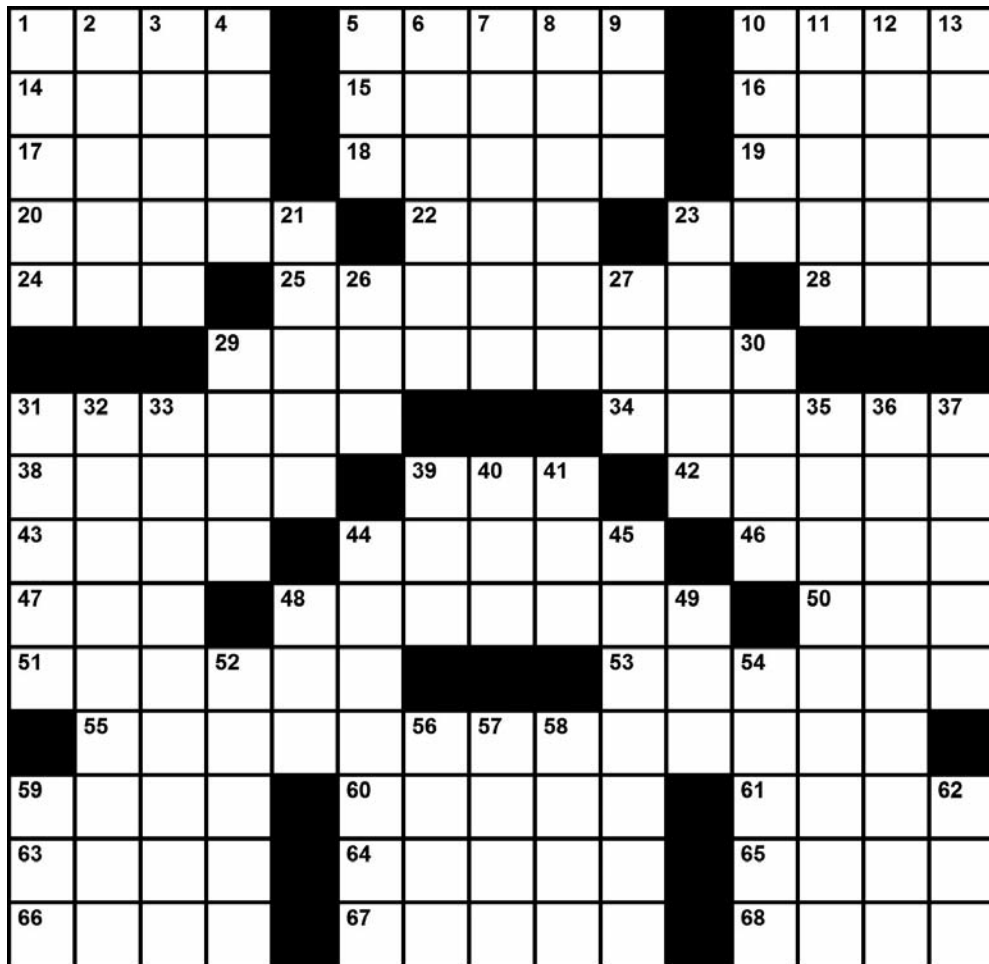
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NY's New Law

Solution on page 40

Across

- 1 Gossip from Ted Casablanca, e.g.
- 5 Radar images
- 10 Asks from one's knees
- 14 Word used in dating
- 15 All fired up
- 16 Go on and on
- 17 Muse to John Boswell
- 18 AZT, et al.
- 19 Morales of Resurrection Blvd.
- 20 Start of a message about NY's new law
- 22 Batman portrayer Kilmer
- 23 More of the message
- 24 Leave open-mouthed
- 25 Rio beach of song
- 28 Oohs' partners
- 29 End of the message
- 31 Early release
- 34 Family of R.E.M.'s Michael
- 38 Humped antelope
- 39 Cruising area
- 42 Celebrity outing, perhaps
- 43 Jockey's gear
- 44 Shut out
- 46 Suffix with differ
- 47 Request to Sajak
- 48 Venue of the message

Down

- 1 Country house, to Nureyev
- 2 Mother of the bride, to the other bride
- 3 Shoot off unseen
- 4 Goal for Sheryl Swoopes
- 5 ___ death (loss of interest)
- 6 Future flies
- 7 Nocturnal reptile of Tennessee
- 8 It extends from a pirate's crotch
- 9 AARP members
- 10 La ___ Tar Pits
- 11 2010 flick that references The Scarlet Letter
- 12 Grind one's teeth
- 13 Follows a direction from The Naked Chef
- 21 Triangle sign
- 23 Walking styles
- 26 Start of mature ejaculation
- 27 Rainey and Kettle
- 29 Goose sound
- 30 Commercial time of day
- 31 Piece of a pansy
- 32 He played Grace's dad
- 33 A real stud
- 35 Cho delivery
- 36 Where Christian Chavez rolls up his meat?
- 37 Writer Gertrude
- 39 Do the moguls
- 40 Had partners, with "out"
- 41 Tiny toiler
- 44 Janitor's tool
- 45 Debris from cornholing?
- 48 Bi plus mono
- 49 Score for Glenn Burke
- 52 Honshu port
- 54 Palindromic tennis star
- 56 "Here ___ go?"
- 57 Prepare for phone sex
- 58 Comic strip dog
- 59 Auberjonois on Deep Space Nine
- 62 Workloads for eds.



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LIFE+STYLE

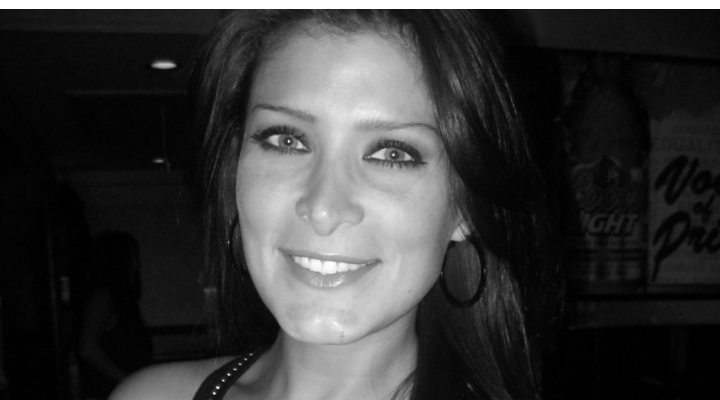
scene



Jessica, Yankee and Lindsey at Sue Ellen's.



Randy, Kristin, Red and J.R. at Best Friends Club.



Dancers at Zippers.

The 100-degree days are not good for the skin, so head inside Celebrate 10 years of **GayBingo** Saturday at **the Rose Room**. Where did the last decade go? ... DJ **Tristan Jaxx** flies in from **San Francisco** to DJ the **Spin** party Saturday at **the Brick**. DJ **Adam Metts** opens. Every Tuesday, local singer **Jurni Rayne** hosts **Karaoke Night** at **the Brick**. She's a damn fine singer herself, so try to score a duet **Jack's Back Patio** hosts live music every Friday and Saturday at **Woody's**. **Kathy and Bella** play the stage Sunday afternoon and Wednesday night. They are some busy ladies. **Anton Shaw** performs Thursday You might remember we mentioned **Best Friends** in **Fort Worth** closed. It wasn't for long. They are back open with new owners **Randy and J.R.** ... **The Dallas Eagle** has a full week of hot fun. They go **Dark & Dirty** on Friday night with a lights out party. They follow up with **Dance Your Ass Off** on Saturday. Then round out the weekend with the **Sinner's Sunday Social**. If you need a little more, hit up **Throb** every Wednesday **C.C. Cross** and band perform Friday night at **Sue Ellen's**. **Ciao Bella** and **Rich 'n' Rare** finish the weekend off. **Little Chalupa Karaoke** on Thursdays is never a letdown. That man knows his stuff Boot scoot to **Cowtown** to **Club Reflection** every Monday night for country and western dance lessons. Every Wednesday is **Latin Night** with a special guest DJ. Wonder who it will be this week? ... **Kelexis Davenport** hosts **Drag Warz** where queens and kings compete for major fabulousity points. ■

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Stephanie at Station 4.



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