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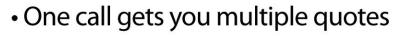
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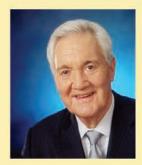
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Pat Summerall

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Cover photo by Terry Thompson. Design by Michael Stephens.

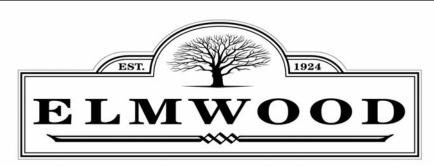
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Amy Gragert, M.A., L.P.C. **P s y c h o t h e r a p i s t** Tired of "mmm, uh huh, I see..." therapy? "The right kind of change doesn't take you away from yourself;" "The right kind of change doesn't take you away from yourself?" "The right kind of change doesn't take you away from yourself?" "Indiv, Couples, Group Therapy Exec./Life Coaching LPC Supervision 2610 State St., 75204 in Uptown Visit: amygragert.com Call for an Appt. 214-740-1600





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Changes on tap for Pride festival



Michael Doughman

Organizers don't expect decision to fence in Lee Park, ban outside alcohol at event following parade to have major impact on attendance

JOHN WRIGHT | Online Editor

wright@dallasvoice.com

When the Dallas Tavern Guild announced a \$5 admission charge for Sunday's Festival in Lee Park earlier this year, it led to some major backlash on social media networks and in the comments section of DallasVoice.com.

But Michael Doughman, executive director of the Tavern Guild, said the backlash hasn't translated into significantly reduced interest in the event from vendors and nonprofit groups. As of this week, only five fewer organizations had signed up for booths at the festival, which takes place before, during and after the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

'We don't consider that a loss in attendance at the park at all," Doughman said. "We do have some nonprofit organizations that opted

not to be in the park this year, and that's certainly their choice. We don't think that it's going to harm anything.

"We have over 70 vendors already paid in the park," Doughman added. "If that were the general consensus, a whole lot of those people wouldn't be coming either, but they are.'

The Tavern Guild, which puts on both the parade and festival, chose to fence in the park this year to be proactive since the city plans to require it in the future, Doughman said.

The fencing will also allow the Tavern Guild to prevent people from bringing in their own alcohol, which Doughman says has become a problem.

"We've had a really, really rapid rise in the number of people [getting] highly intoxicated," he said.

Those who want to consume alcohol at the festival this year will have to purchase it from vendors — who'll be selling plastic bottles of beer at the same prices as before, \$3 for domestics and \$4 for imports, Doughman said.

Lori Chance, special events manager for the city of Dallas, confirmed that her office likely **CHANGES,** Page 19

As funding cuts loom, LifeWalk helps fill the gaps

Walkers can register themselves and their dogs - online to participate in the 21st annual event benefiting AIDS Arms, 7 partners

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

As local AIDS service organizations face even more cuts this year in federal and state funding, local fundraising efforts are becoming increasingly important in their efforts to keep their programs alive. One of those local fundraisers is the annual AIDS LifeWalk, produced each year by AIDS Arms, Inc.

This year's walk, the 21st annual event set for Sunday, Oct. 2, also benefits AIDS Arms' seven partner agencies: AIDS Services of Dallas, Bryan's House, the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund, Legal Hospice of Texas, Resource Center Dallas, The Women's Chorus of Dallas and the Turtle Creek Chorale.

Tori Hobbs, director of development for AIDS Arms, said this week that LifeWalk this year is expected to account for about 5 percent of the agency's annual budget.

"As the government cuts back on funding to those most vulnerable, agencies such as AIDS Arms must try and fill in the gaps," Hobbs said.



WALK ON | Walkers head out along the 3.2-mile route out in the the 20th annual AIDS LifeWalk in 2010. Tori Hobbs, development director for AIDS Arms Inc., said funds from the walk this year are vital to AIDS Arms and its partner beneficiary agencies due to further cuts in funding from the federal government.

"LifeWalk is a very direct way to fill in those gaps in needed services for those impacted by HIV/AIDS.'

Hobbs said that currently, walker registrations

online — and fundraising — are lagging a bit off the pace set by last year's 20th annual LifeWalk, "so we really need folks to get signed up to walk LIFEWALK, Page 19

instant**TEA**

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SA approves DP benefits

The San Antonio City Council voted 7-4 on Thursday to begin offering domestic partner benefits to both gay and straight employees as part of the city's 2012 budget, according

to reports from Equality Texas on Twitter.

The DP benefits proposal. expected to cost \$300,000 per year, has drawn vocal opposition from anti-gay religious leaders in the Alamo City.



San Antonio, Julian Castro the seventh-

largest city in the U.S., will be the fifth city in Texas to offer DP benefits, joining Austin, Dallas, El Paso and Fort Worth.

Council members who voted in favor of DP benefits were Mayor Julian Castro, Diego Bernal, Ivy Taylor, Jennifer Ramos, Rey Saldana, Ray Lopez and Cris Medina. Those who voted against DP benefits were David Medina Jr., W. Reed Williams, Elisa Chan and Carlton Soules.

— John Wright

HRC wants OK leaders to condemn Sally Kern

Last week we told you about Republican

Oklahoma state Rep. Sally Kern's latest anti-gay rant, in which she repeated her infamous threeyear-old claim that homosexuality is a bigger threat to the U.S. than terrorism. In response to



Rep. Sally Kern Kern's rant, the

Human Rights Campaign is asking people to send emails to Oklahoma legislative leaders calling on them to denounce Kern's statements. So far, the campaign has generated more than 200,000 emails, according to HRC. However, Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin and House Speaker Kris Steele both also Republicans, naturally - have remained silent.

The silence of Gov. Fallin and Oklahoma's legislative leadership is deafening, particularly given the number of people we now see calling on them to speak out," HRC President Joe Solmonese said in a press release. "Enough is enough. Sally Kern has a long track record of outrageously slandering LGBT Americans, ethnic and religious groups, and women. It's time for Oklahoma's leaders to stand up to her bigotry and hold her accountable for her remarks.

Don't hold your breath, Joe.

John Wright



What has HRC done for me lately?

more than you can possibly imagine... more than we can list on this page!

But here's a short list of what the 1,000's of volunteer/donors have accomplished in the past year : Repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" | 50 Cities. 625,00 emails. 50,000 letters. 20,000 veterans mobilized 1,000 grassroots events • Fighting for Marriage Equality 6 states and D.C. offering marriage equality . Working to End Discrimination in the Morkplace | 100's of grassroots meetings. 1,000's of letters. 337 companies reaching 100% in the 2010 HRC Corporate Equality Index • Promoting Diversity in the Movement Mobilized more than 500 volunteers for 40 citizenship workshops in 20 communities Confronting Bullying | 65,000 Facebook calls against bigotry in Arkansas. 100's of postcard for Student Non-Discrimination Act. 125,000 participants in National Coming Out Day. Welcoming Schools focuses on Texas in 2011 • Exposing Anti-Gay Organizations and Leaders | website and partner ships that have generated 1000's of emails, letters and videos exposing the hate and bigotry Protecting Health and Increasing Safety Kaiser Permanente became the first healthcare network to have a fully inclu sive non-discrimination policy. 24 Transgender Day of Remembrance events across the country • Electing Fair-Minded Leaders | Endorsed 21 candidates for U.S. Senate, more than 200 dandidates for the U. House of Representatives, 16 candidates for governor, and 14 candidates for the New York state Senate \$850,000 to pro-equality Federal Congressional candidates and political committees. \$400,000 to support pro-equality state and local candidates. Deployed 39 staff to 17 states. 3.3 million election related action alert e-mails. 4,500 volunteers. 85,000+ phone calls • Advocating for All Families 50 Major Agencies sign the Pledge of Commitment to implement LGBT-inclusive policies and practices. Trained 500 + child we professionals in more than 10 states • Leading through Innovation | 900,000+-Facebook fans. 20,000+ Tw ter followers. 1,000 people in support of World AIDS Day. 50,000 Subscribers to the Buying Equality iPhone application.

The 600+ LGBT and ally members of the DFW Federal Club are proud to be Americans and especially proud to support the Human Rights Campaign with their time and money so that all LGBT Americans are ensured of their basic equal rights, and can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community. We challenge you to take action, join us at the September 16th Mixer.

DFW Federal Club September Mixer Friday, September 16th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm KENICHI | 2400 Victory Park Lane • Dallas 75219 www.kenichirestaurants.com





The DFW Federal Club is an organization of over 600 local individuals. As leaders of The Human Rights Campaign, we support fairness, equality and doing the right thing. Find out more at www.dfwfederalclub.org, www.hrc.org and at our Monthly Mixer.



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localbriefs

Scholarship applicants sought

The Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Leadership Education & Advocacy Program, a scholarship and leadership development organization, is currently accepting scholarship applications. In this first scholarship award cycle, GLBT LEAP will award up to \$7,500 in educational assistance.

All Texas residents who are beginning or continuing an undergraduate course of study or certificate program in January 2012 may apply. Applicants are evaluated on the basis of demonstrated financial need, academic achievement and involvement in community service. Preference is given to students who self-identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, members of GLBT families or allies who have been strongly supportive of the GLBT community.

To apply for a GLBT LEAP scholarship, complete the 2011 Scholarship Application Form available online at GLBTLEAP.org. Applications must be postmarked by Oct. 15 and sent to Leadership Education & Advocacy Program, ATTN: Scholarships, 3824 Cedar Springs Road, Ste. 417, Dallas, Texas 75219.

For more information, contact GLBT LEAP by email at scholarships@glbtleap.org.

OLLF selling annual calendar

The Oak Lawn Library Friends Inc. board voted at its recent annual meeting to give \$1,000 to add

new materials to the LGBT collection at the Oak Lawn Library, supplementing the funding that the city of Dallas already provides. These funds came from the sale of the organization's annual OLLF calendar.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the OLLF calendar, and this year's calendar is bilingual to reflect the diversity of the neighborhood. The calendars are now on sale at the library for \$5.

GAIN sets September meeting

Attorney Lee Taft will present the program at the September meeting of the GLBT Aging Interest Network (GAIN), a program of Resource Center Dallas, on Thursday, Sept. 22, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St.

LGBT seniors are more likely to be single, childless and reliant on their family of choice than their straight counterparts, and without traditional support systems in place, many LGBT seniors end up relying on institutions for care. And yet, there is little research on the experience of older LGBTS and institutional care.

At the September GAIN meeting, Taft will discuss one of the only studies on the subject, "LGBT Older Adults in Long-Term Care Facilities," published in April as part of a collaborative effort by SAGE, Lambda Legal, NGLTF, NCLR, NCTE and the National Senior Citizens Law Center.

LOCAL BRIEFS , Page 17

pet of the week / Sponsored by Petropolitan

RANGER

My name is Ranger and my brother's name is Zorro. We have had a strong bond with one another ever since we were rescued from awful conditions by an Operation Kindness Volunteer. We are about 5 years old and fully grown. Our first family could not take care of us because they needed to go to a nursing home. Please consider taking me and my brother home together, since we have never been separated and we love each other very much.

Many other great dogs and cats are available for adoption from Operation Kindness, located at 3201 Earhart Drive, 1 street south of Keller Springs and 2 blocks west of Midway Road, in Carrollton. The no-kill shelter is open 6 days a week: Monday, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.; closed Tuesday; Wednesday, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday, noon to 8 p.m.; Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The cost is \$110 for cats, \$135 for kittens, \$150 dogs over 1 year, and \$175 for puppies. The adoption cost includes the spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, vaccinations, heartworm test for dogs, leukemia and FIV test for cats, and more. Those who adopt two pets at the same time receive a \$20 discount. For more information, call 972-418-PAWS, or visit OperationKindness.org.



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Pedalling — and padding — his way to Zen

Chef Kerry Chace says cycling is a great way to burn off calories and relax, as long as you've got the proper gear

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

If you had told Kerry Chace a few years ago that cycling would one day become akin to a spiritual practice, he would've thought you were joking. But now, the joke's on him.

This second-year Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS cyclist can't imagine not spending his spare time pedalling for his body and mind as well as his community.

"I'm a corporate chef so I consume a lot of calories during the week, and I have to burn them off," Chace grins. "So every weekend I've got to get on my bike and burn off as many doughnuts as possible."

Chace came to LSRFA last year after he saw a Twitter post about it. When he signed up to participate, though, he had no time to do any of the fundraising required of each cyclist: It was already mid-September — just two weeks before the event.

But that didn't stop him.

"I just wrote the check myself at registration," Chace recalls. "And all of a sudden, I was in the Ride."

The Calgary native was no stranger to charity cycling events and had participated in the 1998 Texas Tanqueray AIDS Ride. But once the TTAR was over, he didn't saddle up for another 12 years.

> On a whim, Chace finally rolled out his bicycle again in the spring of 2010 and decided to go around White Rock Lake.

"[One day], some guy came up beside me and said, 'Dude, you need to get a better bike.' [I suddenly became aware that] I was pushing big fat tires and an old bicycle."

And, Chace said, that wasn't his only sudden realization. "What you see on a bike [is not what] you would see if you were in the car," he says. "If you're up by White Rock Lake, you can see the sailboats. It's amazing what you become aware of and smell and see."

To hear Chace talk, you would almost think that he is describing a spiritual experience. And in fact, he is: His lakeside outings helped him find inner tranquility and balance.

"I've told others that maybe [the feeling comes] because I'm moving faster than my brain is working," he explains. "It's a very calm feeling I get when I'm riding, even though it could be 110 degrees and I'm going uphill.

"I just kind of lose myself, so I say that it's yoga on wheels."

He chuckles: "Some people think I'm absolutely crazy. But while I'm riding, my mind is clear; it's really Zen."

His cycling experiences have only been enhanced by participating in the LSRFA. Not only has the Dallas chef been able to indulge his newfound passion for "yoga on wheels," he's also been able to make many new friends while celebrating the lives of those he's lost to the AIDS epidemic.

Chace says he has also gotten to know a lot about himself and the proper way to enjoy cycling.

"I remember when I first got my jersey and bike shorts. I didn't think [the shorts] were very flattering; it was vanity, I guess. I'm like, 'Wow, this doesn't make my butt look very good.' So I got some really cheap ones with very thin padding," he recalls.

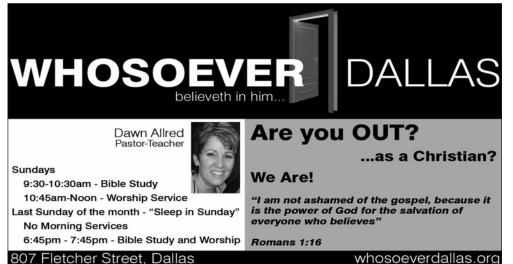
Chace now understands that to achieve a state of Zen bliss, he must be mindful of the choices he makes on the physical plane.

"You really want as much padding as you can back there," he grins. "Get yourself a good pair of shorts or you will be looking for a pillow."

Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS will be held Sept. 24-25. To donate to an individual rider, to a team or to the Ride itself, go online to LoneStarRide.org.

Kerry Chace





LSRFA announces new route

Poz Pedallers will lead the LSR parade entry and wheel the riderless bike down Cedar Springs Road

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

Just a week before the Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS, Event Coordinator Jerry Calumn has revealed the new route for the ride.

Rather than travel though country roads making a loop to the north and west of the American Airlines Training and Conference Center on Saturday, and a loop to the south and east on Sunday, this year's ride will travel through the Metroplex's largest cities.

Riders on Saturday will make a loop through Fort Worth, including a pit stop at the Rainbow Lounge and one downtown at The Pour House on 7th Street.

The Sunday route will include a pass by Cathedral of Hope and then travel down Cedar Springs Road for the first time in the ride's history.

Cathedral of Hope is planning a cheering section. A pit stop is scheduled along the route at Station 4.

The fastest riders should make it to Cedar Springs Road by 9 a.m. while slower pedallers will follow until about 11 a.m.

Calumn said that while last year's route was scenic, riders wanted to interact with people along the way. With the mostly rural routes followed in recent years, that hasn't happened.

At first, Calumn said, he thought the ride might stop by the Mustangs in Las Colinas. But another event was scheduled for the square that houses the statue. Instead, the city of Irving arranged for a stop at the new Irving Convention Center.

"Irving really wanted us," Calumn said. "We're thrilled to be stopping at the newest, greatest architecture in Irving.'

On Thursday, Sept. 15, Lone Star Ride held a pre-ride event at S4 to recognize those who had excelled in their fundraising.

In bicycling races, yellow is the color traditionally worn by the race leader. To recognize the top fundraisers, 45 yellow polos were awarded for those who had raised more than \$1,000, and 27 yellow jerseys given to those who had collected more than \$2,000.

This week, the ride topped the \$2 million mark in collective fundraising over its 11 years. The money will be distributed to beneficiaries AIDS Outreach Center, AIDS Services Dallas and Resource Center Dallas.

Chance Browning is the participant fundraising chair of the LSRFA Council and has been working to find ways to help riders meet their fundraising goals.

He said he has been spending the past few weeks calling riders to give them fundraising sug-



Jerry Calumn

gestions, often recommending "a multi-pronged approach."

Browning suggested riders send emails to friends, family and business associates, with links to the LSRFA website. The website provides a fundraising badge for riders to post on Facebook that links back to the rider's page where donations can be made.

Also, Browning suggested, "Check your company to see if they offer matching funds."

He said holding fundraising parties works for some people. But he said riders need to keep talking to people and asking for the money.

Browning said he rode for two years, but helping other people raise their money was his way of contributing this year.

In 2010, Dean Wilson was the development director for LSR and now is development associate for Resource Center Dallas. He said he'd be at the ride representing RCD, one of the beneficiaries. He'll also be cheering on his partner.

"Last year was my partner's first ride," Wilson said. "We both had such an amazing time, we can't wait til this year."

To begin the final countdown to the 2011 LSRFA, a number of ride participants will walk down Cedar Springs in the Pride parade on Sunday, Sept. 18. The Poz Pedallers — the team of HIV-positive riders and their supporters — will lead the group, walking the riderless bike, which memorializes those lost to AIDS, down the parade route.

Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS takes place on Sept. 24 and 25. Riders will stay at the American Airlines Training and Conference Center in Arlington on Friday and Saturday nights. Sunday late afternoon closing ceremonies, which will include a performance by the Turtle Creek Chorale, will take place there at the training and conference center.





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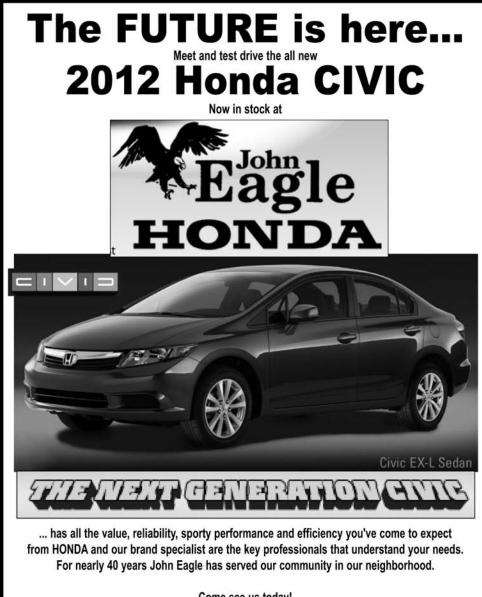
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texasnews

In LEAGUE with equality

As the employee resource group prepares to turn 25, it celebrates equality gained at AT&T and focuses on anti-bullying efforts

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

As Dallas prepares for the arrival of the national Out & Equal Workplace Advocates convention in October, LEAGUE, the LGBT employee resource group at AT&T, is making plans to celebrate its 25th anniversary.

The AT&T group was the original LGBT employee resource group, begun after the first March on Washington in 1987, and is a model that has been recreated since then across corporate America.

LEAGUE held its national convention at the Melrose Hotel in Oak Lawn on Sept. 9, and openly gay Fort Worth City Councilmember Joel Burns spoke at the Saturday night awards program about his "It Gets Better" experience (see story, Page 27). The group is beginning to prepare its own "It Gets Better" materials on behalf of AT&T, and in Burns' honor, the group made a donation to the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

Several awards were given to Dallas LEAGUE members during the convention last weekend.

National Executive of the Year went to Gary Fraundorfer, vice president of human resources, who was honored for re-evaluating all company HR policies to make sure AT&T's policies treat LGBT employees equally.

Fraundorfer recently joined the Resource Center Dallas board of directors.

"Awards from employees mean the most because they'll hold you the most accountable," he said.

But Fraundorfer wanted LEAGUE members to know just how committed to equality the company is.

"We mean it when we say we want things to be equivalent for spouses and partners," he said.



Theresa Bates-McLemore

"The goal is complete parity."

Among AT&T's 11 latest initiatives to ensure parity is the addition of gender reassignment surgery to the company insurance plan for the company's transgender employees.

John Cramer, LEAGUE's national public affairs director, was among the recipients of a "LEAGUE Cares about Bullying" award. He said that the company has rallied around the group's anti-bullying efforts.

LEAGUE President Theresa Bates-McLemore said she's heard from employees across the company thanking her for the group's anti-bullying efforts.

LEAGUE, Next Page

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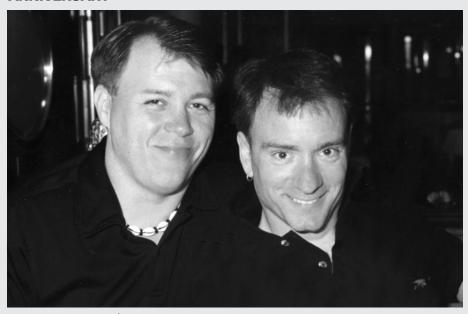
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ANNIVERSARY



CUEVAS-CUSIMANO | Tony Cuevas and Leo Cusimano celebrated their 30th anniversary on Monday, Sept. 12. Cuevas works for Southern Methodist University. Cusimano is advertising director for Dallas Voice. The couple live in Oak Cliff with their two sons, Elijah and JJ.

■ LEAGUE, From Previous Page

"I've heard heartfelt stories from straight people who said, 'We didn't know how to do this,"" Bates-McLemore said.

Cramer said that bullying is not just a gay issue and the LEAGUE campaign is helping employees across the company and others outside of AT&T as well.

The new chapter of the year award went to Puerto Rico.

"They took the League Cares About Bullying initiative to a new level," Bates-McLemore said. That chapter created an "It Gets Better" pub-

lic service campaign with Telemundo. LEAGUE has 45 chapters across the country

with about 750 members. Nationally, the group provides scholarships to at-risk LGBT youth and contributes to the "It Gets Better" campaign and has awarded about \$150,000.

■ LOCAL BRIEFS , From Page 12

Taft was founding director of Lambda Legal's South Central Regional Office in Dallas, he has been acting dean of students at Harvard Divinity School, a trial attorney, a chaplain and an ethicist.

Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. For more information, call 214-528-0144 or email gain@rcdallas.org.

Grief support group offered

Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St., hosts the Healing and Hope Support Group, for all those who have lost a loved one, which meets at the church the fourth Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck dinner. Rather than being a therapy or counseling-oriented grief program, this will be fellowship with others who have experienced a loss of a loved one.

Locally, LEAGUE supports the community in Dallas with Black Tie Dinner tables. Team AT&T will participate in the Lone Star Ride. And earlier this year the group made a \$5,000 contribution to Resource Center Dallas to support its communications technology needs.

And the group supports its members.

For LEAGUE member Mark Carden from Atlanta, the group has had a much more personal impact. He was already working at AT&T when he came out.

"LEAGUE made me feel more secure about myself and the workplace," he said. "It helped me grow personally and professionally."

Look for Cramer, Bates-McLemore and other Dallas LEAGUE members in the parade and at the festival in the park. They'll ride in an AT&T eco-friendly vehicle down Cedar Springs and give out T-shirts and beads.

The group is inclusive and welcomes members from the LGBT community. Those planning to attend should contact Bill Bucher by email at billb4665@att.net or call 214-520-0372 or 214-205-2317.

LegalLine offers advice

Volunteer attorneys will answer legal questions at no cost from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21, via LegalLine, a call-in program sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association.

Through LegalLine, anonymous lawyers are available to answer questions in many law-related areas ranging from divorce and child support matters, to wills, insurance, employment and criminal law matters. Residents needing assistance can call LegalLine at 214-220-7476. Individuals may also receive referrals to local legal or social service agencies.



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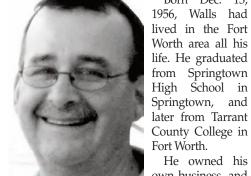
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Deaths

W.D. "David" Walls, 54, died of cancer on Sept. 6 at JPS Hospital in Fort Worth. Born Dec. 13,



High School in Springtown, and later from Tarrant County College in Fort Worth. He owned his

own business, and

he and Terry Mills were legally married March 26, 2010, in Des Moines, Iowa.

Walls was preceded in death by his father, W.D. Walls Sr.; and his brothers, Terry Walls Sr. and Marvin Walls.

He is survived by his spouse, Terry Mills-Walls, of North Richland Hills; his brother, Trevor Walls of Fort Worth; his nephews, Terry Walls Jr. of Azle and Phillip Steele of Fort Worth; his nieces, Shana Thompson of Azle and Caressa Walls Holland of Trophy Club; his sister-in-law, Ina Walls; his aunt, Dora Walls of Athens, Texas; and his cousins, Jenny Wiles of Bedford, and Kristy and Vance Fincher and Elizabeth Schultz, all of Athens, Texas.

A private memorial service will be held Sunday, Oct. 2, from noon to 4 p.m. in Keller.

Dr. Kenneth Ellery Riha, D.D.S., 48, died peacefully in his sleep of heart failure on Sept. 6 while celebrating his birthday with friends and colleagues in Cancun.

Born Sept. 10, 1962 in Houston to to JoAnn Marie Riha and Ellery Robert Riha, Riha graduated from Klein Forest High School in 1981, received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from Texas A&M University in 1986 and earned a doctorate of dental science from the University of Texas Dental School in San Antonio in 1990. He established Dental Solutions in Dallas on June 6, 1997. Riha believed a smile should be the universal language and devoted his career to improving the health, well-being, and self-esteem of others through dentistry. He felt it important to provide a soothing atmosphere, creating an exclusive doctor-patient communication and singular focus by scheduling only one patient at a time.

Riha was an alumnus of X Psi Phi Dental Fraternity, served as president of the fraternity from 1988 to 1989 and rush chairman from 1989 to 1990. In 1990, he joined the American Dental Association, the Texas Dental Association and the Dallas County Dental Society. He served on the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio Alumni Advisory Board from 1992 to 1995.

Riha served as the clinician host for the Southwest Dental Conference in 2008 and 2009, and was a host committee volunteer at the ADA Session in San Antonio in 2008. He was highly respected by his peers and was very proud to have received Texas Monthly Magazine's distinguished "Texas Super Dentist" Award in 2005, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Riha lived life in a playful manner and had a zest for pulling pranks. His biggest passions were Texas A&M University, travel and charity. He graduated in the Fighting Texas Aggie Class of '86 and bled maroon. He was a Century Club member of the Texas A&M University Former Student Association and was known to turn his phone off during Aggie football games, so he could watch and cheer without interruption.



He vacationed with family and friends around the world and his favorite destinations were Greece, Hawaii, Italy, Mexico, Spain and the Caribbean Islands. He thoroughly enjoyed skiing the slopes of Beaver Creek, Deer Valley,

Park City, Santa Fe, Sundance, Taos, Vail and Vancouver. He also cherished his visits to New Orleans, Lansing and McComb, Miss.

Riha's door was always open to his family and friends through losses, challenges, disappointments, tribulations, triumphs and celebrations. He was a rock of support for his friends and a remarkably fun-loving, kind, compassionate and giving soul. His drive, tenacity and determination were an inspiration to all who knew him. He believed in helping those less fortunate and gave generously to the St. Jude Children's Hospital. He cohosted Blend-A-Rama for many years, with proceeds going to the Bryan's House and Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS/Dallas.

Riha believed his time on earth was not without predestined purpose and assignment. He came and enveloped people with his contagious smile and embraced them in his infectious laughter. He never met a stranger and celebrated the differences in all he encountered. Though his physical presence is no longer here, you can still feel his gentleness in the calm winds, see his smile in the rising sun, hear his words of comfort in the soft singing of the wind chime and celebrate his life with your next smile.

Riha was preceded in death by his grandparents, Sophie and Robert Riha and Francis and Lawrence Grall.

He is survived by his mother, JoAnn Riha, and Jim Ingham; his father, Ellery Riha, and wife Alice; his sister, Theresa Riha; his brothers, Stephen Riha and wife Bridget, and Michael Riha; his stepbrother, Kevin Goss and wife Jody; his step-sister Stephanie Doyle and husband Brian; his nieces, Baileigh Sophie and Peighton Grace Riha, Emily Goss and Madison Doyle; his nephews, Jacob Goss and Christian Doyle; his aunts, Colette Riha, Dolores Kupsh and husband Harry, and Kathy Grall; and numerous loving extended family members and dear friends.

Friends are invited to join the family for a celebration of Riha's life Saturday, Sept. 24, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dallas World Aquarium, 1801 N. Griffin St. Donations in his memory can be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital (StJude.org), DIFFA/Dallas (DIFFADallas.org) or Bryan's House (BryansHouse.org.

CHANGES

From Page 10

would have required the Pride festival to be fenced beginning in 2012.

"Typically anytime alcohol is involved, we require fencing, and that's so they can control the ingress and egress," Chance said. "We're headed in that direction because of the alcohol. Their choice is to fence the entire park ... or to make a secluded area for alcohol, and the alcohol has to stay in that area only."

While the decision to fence in the festival was made in anticipation of the city requirement, Doughman said the \$5 admission charge is designed to raise money for the event's beneficiaries.

The Tavern Guild historically has donated a combined \$20,000 to \$25,000 to three or four beneficiaries. But in recent years, there's been only \$7,500 or \$8,000 left over for one beneficiary — Youth First Texas.

This year, the Tavern Guild has added AIDS Arms, AIDS Services of Dallas, AIDS Interfaith Network and Legacy Counseling Center.

"If you begrudge \$5 to be divided among four of the AIDS services and YFT, then that's not the spirit of Pride to begin with," Doughman said. "It's always been about raising money for the community."

The Festival in Lee Park normally attracts about 7,500 people, and organizers are predicting a decline in attendance of up to 1,500 this year due to the admission charge, Doughman said.

and start asking their friends and families to sup-

AIDSLifeWalk.org, and that when they do so,

they can create their own fundraising page and

use that page to send emails directly to friends

The cost to register is \$40 per person, and

walkers can get their pets in on the fundraising

effort as well, registering their dogs, for \$10 per

and family members to ask for donations.

She said that individuals can register online, at

port them in the walk."

pooch, for LifeBark.

From Page 10

Festival in Lee Park

Sunday, Sept. 18.

Park opens at 11 a.m. No coolers, glass containers or alcohol can be brought into the park. There will be an exception for vendors who want to bring in coolers for volunteers. Admission is \$5. ATM machines will be situated near festival entrances for those who don't have cash. More info at www.DallasPrideParade.com.

But even if attendance is as low as 5,000, it will still mean an extra \$25,000 for the beneficiaries. In addition, Doughman said 25 percent of net proceeds from alcohol sales will go to the Texas Gay Rodeo Association, while 75 percent will go back to the Tavern Guild and its beneficiaries.

Still, not everyone is willing to pay the price.

Rob Schlein, president of Log Cabin Republicans Dallas, said his group is among those that won't have a booth at the festival this year because of the admission charge, which he called "a stupid business decision."

Schlein said Log Cabin decided it wouldn't be worth the \$150 registration fee because of reduced attendance.

He said Log Cabin, which is also skipping the parade this year, used "free market principles" to make a statement.

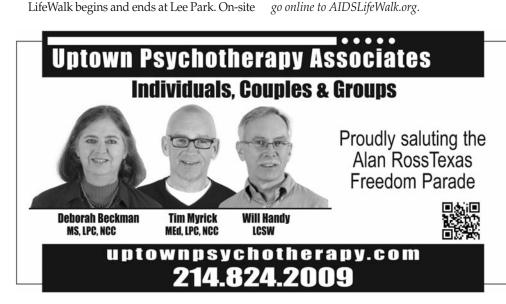
"To have to pay for it just doesn't seem to be in the spirit of gay Pride weekend," Schlein said. "This is a tax on the gay Pride parade."

registration begins at 11:30 a.m. in Lee Park on the day of the walk, and the walk itself begins at

1 p.m. "All the funds we raise will go directly to access medical care for our clients with HIV/AIDS," Hobbs said. "These clients can come to AIDS Arms and find the care they need. We are there to tell them that there is hope.

"We are really feeling the cuts from Washington right now, and we really need people to turn out again this year to support this walk, and to be part of this wonderful and caring community," Hobbs said.

For more information or to register for LifeWalk, go online to AIDSLifeWalk.org.







First-timers gearing up for Pride parade

Some 15 of the 2011 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade entries are participating for the first time, and organizers expect the annual event to go smoothly once again

■ pride2011

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

When the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade steps off at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18, a number of the participants will be marching for the first time.

According to Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Michael Doughman, about 15 percent of the entries are new participants this year.

Abandoned Vehicle Enforcement

Among the new entries is Abandoned Vehicle Enforcement.

The Fort Worth towing company has taken over much of the private property non-consent towing business in Oak Lawn over the last year. Owner Scott Gorby said that a towing company that had much of the business in Oak Lawn, but was damaging cars and acting illegally, is out of business.

He added that one property after another has been recommending his company, in part because he's part of the community and he services more than 2,000 accounts.

Of the company's 30 employees, Gorby said nine are gay and more than 20 want to ride the company float that will feature a truck on top of their flatbed with beach balls, frisbees, T-shirts, beads, candy and music.

The banner on the side of the truck will read, "It only gets better when companies support their employees of the LGBT community. WE DO."

"I never thought when I was 40 I'd be running a towing company," Gorby said, but that's just part of the diversity in the LGBT community.

Once in A Blue Moon

Once In A Blue Moon Dances has been staging women's dances for a dozen years but this is their first time participating in the parade.

"It's an awesome marketing tool," said Gloria McDonald, also known at the dances as DJ4Peace. "We'll get our name out and the best view is from inside the parade."

The group will have a float featuring a silhouette of ladies dancing against a moon.

Once in a Blue Moon holds women's dances the second Saturday of each month as well as theme dances on Halloween, New Years and Valentine's Day. They meet at DanceMasters, 10675 E. Northwest Highway.

Teddy Bears for Troopers

Teddy Bears for Troopers was created in 2005 by Jesse Boudria when she was just 9 years old. Her stepdad is a state trooper who mentioned to her that they often kept teddy bears in their patrol cars to give to children who are frightened of police during an arrest of a parent or when they were involved in a serious accident.

During her first year, Boudria collected about 100 bears but now has given Texas troopers more than 4,000. Dallas, Irving and Grand Prairie police have also received bears from her organization.

The group has started a new program called Komfort a Kid, designed to help children get through the first 24 hours after being removed from their home by Child Protective Services.

Boudria's mother, Tricia Adams, said that her daughter wanted to participate in the parade because she is very supportive of gay rights.

"Her 20-year-old brother is gay, as well as several other members of her extended family," Adams said. "By participating in the parade this year, she hopes to increase awareness about Teddy Bears for Troopers and hopes that people who are involved in various organizations will contact TBFT to schedule a teddy bear drive."

Boudria's already attended Pride three times. "We have a close friend who was a Strangerette Officer — David Cheek," Adams said.

Tyler Area Gays

Members of Tyler Area Gays have marched before with the East Texas P-FLAG entry. But this year, the group held spaghetti dinners and garage sales to raise the money to build a float.

Tyler Area Gays is a three-year-old group that has gained quite a bit of visibility in East Texas. On World AIDS Day last year, members dedicated a monument in Bergfield Park to remember hate crime victim Nicholas West.

Responding to Mayor Barbara Bass' call to plant trees in the city, TAG collected \$500 and planted 20 trees. And their name is posted along Highway 69 as part of the Adopt-A-Highway project.

Why that particular road?

"Someone in the highway department has a good sense of humor," a TAG spokesman said.

The group expects about 25 members to come to Dallas from East Texas to ride the float and others to just enjoy the parade from the sidelines.

Dallas Derby Devils

The Dallas Derby Devils, DFW's all-female flat track roller derby league, will be rolling down Cedar Springs on skates, tossing beads as they go. Organizer Julie Zais said her sister is bisexual

but she got the group involved. "I've been to the parade every year," she said,

"And I'm a huge supporter."

Zais said she hopes at least half the league's 120 skaters will be there.

"We have tryouts soon," she said, and the league's playoffs in North Richland Hills are coming up on Sept. 24.

Pride on parade

According to Doughman, this year's parade includes 105 to 110 entries, a few more than last year.

"We're somewhat constrained by the city," he said, explaining that the city doesn't want main intersections closed more than two hours and the parade crosses several busy roads including Oak Lawn Avenue at Cedar Springs Road.

"If it got bigger, we'd need a broader location," he said. And that means taking the parade out of Oak Lawn. "If we take it out of Oak Lawn, we'll kill it," he said.

Costs for producing the parade have almost tripled in the past decade. He said that Homeland Security and the Patriot Act have imposed restrictions that have added expense.

In the 1990s, the parade cost about \$50,000 to produce. This year, the Dallas Tavern Guild expects expenses to top \$140,000. Before recent regulations, 30 police were enough to cover the afternoon event. Now 85 must be hired. Fencing an area for festivals is the latest regulation adding to costs.

Still, Doughman expects this year's parade to appear as seamless as ever.

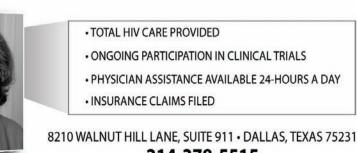
He advised people to arrive early to find parking, which is always a problem. DART's Green Line runs to Market Center Station and is a short walk to the end of the parade staging area on Wycliff Avenue, but about a mile from the main viewing area. No shuttle buses run from the station to the Cedar Springs area.

Gorby reminded people to watch for towing signs and not to park in private lots that do not share their parking with neighboring businesses and the community.

Although a record crowd may attend, Doughman expects little trouble. He said that last year there were no arrests and few incidents that required police.

The Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade steps off Sunday, Sept. 18, at 2 p.m. The parade begins on Cedar **PARADE**, Page 23

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The mom of Caven Enterprises



Chris Bengston

From cooking Thanksgiving dinner for Daire Center clients to heading up the team that builds the Caven parade float, parade co-grand marshal Chris Bengston has been a force behind the scenes of the community for 26 years

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

When Caven Enterprises' Chris Bengston saw the list of people nominated for grand marshal of Dallas' 2011 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, her name was not on it. And she wasn't at the Dallas Tavern Guild meeting where her name was added.

So when Caven Enterprises President Gregg Kilhoffer called her to come back to the office, she had no idea what was going on.

When Kilhoffer called, he told her that there was an incident at one of the bars and her name

was involved. So Bengston ran back to the office as quickly as possible, frantically trying to figure out what she had done.

Actually, everyone at Caven Enterprises just wanted to see her face when she found out that she would be one of this year's Pride parade grand marshals.

What they saw there on her face was shock.

To Bengston, all of the events she planned and dinners she cooked and money she raised for

Grand Marshal

practically every organization in the city over the years was just something she always did out of love for the community.

"I guess people were paying attention to what I was doing," she said, still incredulous that she would have been named to lead the parade.

Kilhoffer calls Bengston the company's mom. Before moving to Dallas, Bengston was married. Her husband served in the Army and went to Vietnam.

"When he came back, things didn't work out," Continued Next Page

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MOM, Form Previous Page

she said, adding that she just never remarried. "That's just the way things worked out," she said.

But when she was in her 40s, Bengston became pregnant, even though, she said, "I wasn't supposed to be able to get pregnant."

Her son, Alex, was the first Caven baby. He's now a sophomore at Texas State University in San Marcos.

But while Alex was the first Caven baby, he wasn't the last.

"What's neat," Bengston said, "are the number of employees with children now."

Kilhoffer said several employees became like a dad to Alex.

When Alex was young, Bengston took a number of young Caven employees along with her son on a variety of outings — to the Fort Worth Zoo or the Arboretum or sporting events. She exposed many young people to things they'd never done before.

Kilhoffer said Bengston gave many of the company's young employees the family they never had. He said she was "Caven's own Youth First Texas" and "It Gets Better" campaign before either existed.

"I'm constantly getting emails about her, thanking her for going above and beyond," Kilhoffer said. "She'll drop anything she's doing to help anyone."

Bengston has been involved in hundreds of projects over the years that benefited the community.

One of her fondest memories is working with the Daire Center, an adult daycare center for people with HIV/AIDS, when it was part of Oak Lawn Community Services. Kilhoffer remembers the annual Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners that Bengston cooked for the center.

"At 4 in the morning, she'd call to see where I was," he said. She was already preparing the holiday meal.

He said she spent days, not just cooking, but doing all the shopping and making more than just a ham or turkey. She wanted to make sure, he said, that people who had nowhere else to go would have a holiday celebration that started with hors d'oeuvres and didn't end until they had her homemade desserts.

"I could go on and on," Kilhoffer said. "She's been involved in so many things. Everyone knows they can call on her and she's the volunteer who will make things happen."

For years, Bengston and fellow Caven employee Donald Solomon have been involved in the holiday gift project for students at Sam Houston Elementary School. That school, located just a block behind the Cedar Springs bars, is one of the poorest in the Dallas Independent School District.

PARADE

From Page 20

Springs Road, at the Wycliff Avenue intersection, then moves down Cedar Springs, across Oak Lawn Avenue, to Turtle Creek Boulevard, where the route turns left to Each year, Caven employees, led by Solomon and Bengston, make sure that every child at the school gets a gift at Christmas.

And before the school year begins, they make sure that there are enough school supplies. During the year, Bengston will get calls from the school for additional items, and she always responds. The Oak Lawn Library also has relied on her help when they've needed supplies.

"For Razzle Dazzle Dallas [revived this year by Cedar Springs Merchants Association, of which Caven is a member], she was the one who calmed us down and kept us focused," Kilhoffer said.

Bengston organized a fundraiser after Hurricane Katrina for people who had been evacuated from New Orleans and were staying at Reunion Arena. And she's helped stage fashion shows in an alcohol-free Rose Room, located in Caven's Station 4 bar, to benefit Youth First Texas.

Bengston's also involved with GayBingo, held monthly in the Rose Room, helping Resource Center Dallas and a variety of other beneficiary organizations raise money. And she helps with LifeWalk. And the Pink Party, which raises money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Much of the \$50,000 that the Dallas Bears raised for community groups at their weekend roundup this year came from the Bear Dance — an event that Bengston made sure went off without a hitch.

"In the '80s and '90s, Caven lost quite a few employees to AIDS," Kilhoffer said. "She [Bengston] was such a help to those who were dying, and to their partners. She sat in the hospital and comforted so many people in their last days."

For years, Bengston spent the night before the parade building Caven's parade float along with three friends. Then she spent parade day working behind the scenes.

So she's rarely gotten to just enjoy the parade. But after she was named grand marshal this year, Bengston said she asked those three friends — Scott Pepin, Stacy Golf and Bill Scott — to join her in the carriage to enjoy the parade with her.

Bengston said she does the things she does because she's worked in the LGBT community for 26 years and she wants to see it remain strong.

"I am truly blessed," Bengston said. "I've made a very nice living and appreciate all of the years of memories and acceptance. I've had the best times of my life here."

And she plans to keep on giving. But there's one lesson she said she learned that keeps her humble after years of working with Caven.

After staging so many fundraising events at the Rose Room, Bengston said, "There are so many guys who look better in an evening gown than I do."

For more information on Caven Enterprises, go online to Caven.com.

end at Lee Park. The Festival in Lee Park immediately follows, and this year, for the first time, the park will be fenced in, with a \$5 entry fee charged at the gate. For more information on the festival changes, see the story on Page 10 in this issue. For more information on the parade and festival, go online to DallasTavernGuild.org.



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26 years of success, and it keeps getting better



Gary Miller, left, and Alan Pierce

Co-grand marshals Alan Pierce and Gary Miller say they are fortunate to have family, friends and a successful business

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

Alan Pierce and Gary Miller, co-grand marshals with Chris Bengston of this year's Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, have been partners in life for 26 years, and partners in business for 12.

The two, who own the popular country-western bar Round-Up Saloon, said this week they've seen a lot of changes through the years, and are first-hand witnesses to the fact that it does, indeed, keep on getting better.

"Last year when we were celebrating the Round-Up's 30th anniversary, we asked some of our customers who have been around awhile what they remembered from the early days of the bar, back in the 1980s," Pierce said.

"Back then, the cops were still harassing people in the gay bars. It was still illegal for two people of the same sex to dance together. So when the cops would come in the bar, all the customers would just stop whatever they were doing and sit down on the dance floor," Pierce said. "They would just sit there, very calmly, until the cops left."

It was the same, he added, in Houston where he lived and worked for about 5 years as a school teacher.

"They were still arresting people in Houston," Pierce said. "Since I was a school teacher, if I had been arrested, I would have immediately lost my job." These days, he said, "It's definitely not that way anymore. It has definitely gotten better."

Pierce, who was born and grew up in New Mexico, made his way to Texas when he went to college at Abilene Christian University. After college, he moved to Houston where he worked as a school teacher and came out as a gay man. In 1983, he left the field of education and bought in as co-owner of the Brazos River Bottom, a gay country-western bar in Houston, in 1983.

That's how Pierce met the new president of the Texas Gay Rodeo Association, a man from Dallas named Gary Miller.

Miller, born and raised in the Lake Texoma area, was married "for awhile" to a woman with whom he said he and Pierce "still have a great relationship. I have a wonderful son, and a wonderful daughter-in-law and two wonderful grandsons.

Grand Marshals

"They are all very accepting of us [he and Pierce]. They come down here to the bar to socialize with us, and we are included in all the family gatherings and events. That's a big part of why it just keeps getting better for us, because we have these children and grandchildren in our lives," Miller said.

Because he got married early and had a son, Miller — who Pierce gleefully points out is the older of the two — "didn't come out until I was a little older, in the early 1980s," Miller said. But he quickly got involved in TGRA, and it was on a TGRA trip to Houston that he met Pierce.

"We were just friends at first. We were friends for at least a couple of years before we actually started dating," Pierce said. Miller added, "When SUCCESS, Page 26



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SUCCESS

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we started dating, I was in Dallas, and Alan was still in Houston. We kept Southwest Airlines pretty busy, going back and forth to spend time together."

In 1987, Pierce finally decided to move to Dallas so he and Miller could be together full time. By then, Miller had been working for several years at The Round-Up Saloon, thanks to his friendship with bar manager Tom Davis. And when, two years later in February 1989, the Round-Up's building was destroyed in a fire set by an arsonist, Pierce was there to help rebuild.

After the fire — which was set by a man who had robbed the offices of the Dallas Gay Alliance next door and started the blaze to cover up the robbery — the Round-Up relocated temporarily to a building on Maple Avenue at Throckmorton (the building that most recently housed The Brick/Joe's until that bar relocated to Wycliff and the building on Maple was torn down).

It was the end of what had been a difficult decade for Dallas' LGBT community. "So many people were sick and dying," Pierce said, "and there was nobody willing to take care of them except the [LGBT] community."

But as the '80s came to an end, advances in treatment for HIV/AIDS were beginning to give those with the disease a brighter outlook, and Dallas' LGBT community was also beginning to shine. "The whole thing was really beginning to blossom," Pierce recalled. "We had all these organizations and services in place. We were still fighting the police department's ban on hiring gays and lesbians, but that was changing, too. Things were getting better."

Even the fire, which was without a doubt a horrible thing to happen, turned out to be a kind of blessing in disguise for the Round-Up, giving bar owner Tom Sweeney a chance to rebuild, creating a bigger and better space than before.

And Pierce, who had worked in construction, too, in Houston, was there to handle most of the rebuilding for the bar, Miller said.

Eventually, longtime Round-Up manager Tom Davis died, and Miller took over as bar manager. Then in 1999, owner Tom Sweeney decided he was ready to sell, and Miller and Pierce were there to buy the nightclub.

The Round-Up came with a long history of community involvement, and Pierce and Miller said since they bought the bar they have worked to keep that tradition alive.

"We lived through the '80s, through the AIDS crisis when we all got involved to raise funds to help our friends," Miller said. "And we have just kept on helping. Because once you get that feeling that comes from doing something good for someone, you never want that feeling to go away."

As a country-western bar, the Round-Up has al-

ways had close ties with TGRA, and has always helped to raise funds and supplies for the Resource Center Dallas' food pantry and other AIDS programs. The nightclub and its owners developed a relationship with Legacy Counseling Center and Legacy Founders Cottage, a hospice for people with AIDS, when some of the bar's employees needed the hospice's services, and the Round-Up continues to hold annual fundraising events for Legacy.

"We have a great venue for events, and it's necessary to continue raising money, so we do it," Miller said. "There's still an AIDS crisis and there are still a lot of people who need help."

Pierce added, "And if it's not AIDS, then it will be something else, someone else who needs help. I have always said that about the gay community: We take care of our own."

Despite the sometimes dire economic situation over recent years, Pierce and Miller said the Round-Up has continued to thrive. Its reputation as the premiere country-western gay bar in the country brings in plenty of people visiting Dallas, including some well-known celebrities over the years, like Tyne Daley, Chelsea Handler and Emma Watson.

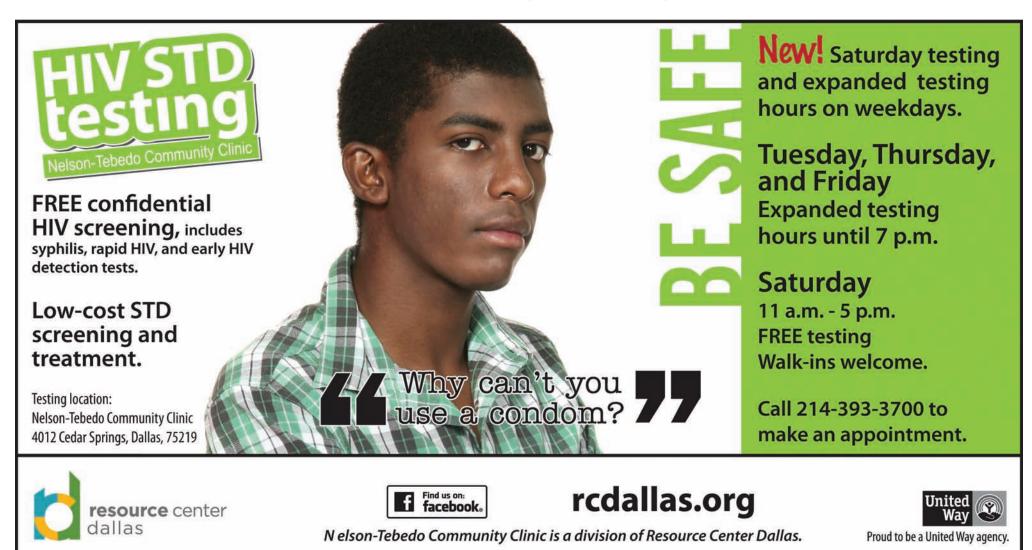
And of course, there's the Round-Up's status as the bar in Dallas that helped Lady Gaga get her start, booking the singer in 2008 when she was still an unknown. Now, Mama Monster makes it a point to visit the Round-Up whenever she's in Dallas.

The Round-Up is also a longtime member of the Dallas Tavern Guild, with both Pierce and Miller having held several offices there. They are also proud members of the Cedar Springs Merchants Association, which this summer revived Razzle Dazzle Dallas.

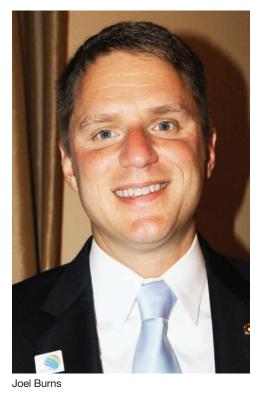
"We enjoy what we do, and we are always trying to think of ways to make things better," Miller said. "We've been very fortunate. And I'll tell you one thing that has helped make things better for us is the ban on smoking in the bars. Alan and I were behind that from the start. I know it hurt some of the bars, the ones that didn't have patios and didn't have any way to build a patio. But it's been nothing but good for us. Our business increased the first night of the ban, and it hasn't gone back down since."

Both Miller and Pierce agreed that luck has been on their side over the years, giving the Round-Up a chance to evolve into "a great place to socialize," Miller said.

"I think people like coming to our bar because they can relax and enjoy themselves there. There's no big drug scene there, and we work hard to keep the drugs out. We're not known as a place where there's a lot of fighting in the bar, because we just don't allow that," Miller said. "The scene has changed a lot over the years. There are a lot more straight people who come in now. They like SUCCESS, Page 28



Joel Burns: The difference a speech makes



When Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns followed his heart and spoke at a council meeting about his experiences as a bullied gay teen, the nation listened — and, he hopes, it helped make things get better

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

When Joel Burns made a speech to the Fort Worth City Council about his experiences being bullied as a teenager, he had no idea the kind of impact his words would have on people around this country.

But a year later, when organizers of the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade chose "It Only Gets Better," as the parade theme, Burns was the obvious choice for honorary grand marshal.

Burns said that his husband, J.D. Angle, calls the day Burns spoke at the council, "the day I blew up our lives." In some ways, that speech also blew up Fort Worth City Hall.

Burns received so many emails in the days following his emotional speech that the city had to replace its email server. The phone system was so overwhelmed that it also had to be replaced.

And Burns' office was so busy answering calls and replying to messages from teens from across the country who were bullied that the mayor's office was running messages to him.

Honorary Grand Marshall

During a speech at the recent national convention of LEAGUE, the LGBT employee resource group for AT&T, Burns joked about what he learned from his sudden celebrity: "Between Ellen [DeGeneres] and Matt Lauer, Ellen's the better kisser," he said.

But on a serious side, Burns recalled receiving a torn piece of paper from a teen. It was what would have been the rest of a suicide note, which the teen decided not to finish after seeing Burns' video.

"This is what remains of the note I left my roommate. Thank you," the young man wrote to

Burns.

Burns said that he wishes he could go back in time and tell his 13-year-old self that it really does get better.

He said that he believes that as human beings, we are drawn to bold action. But during our lives we tamp that impulse down. We learn that there are sometimes consequences and so we decide not to speak out, he said.

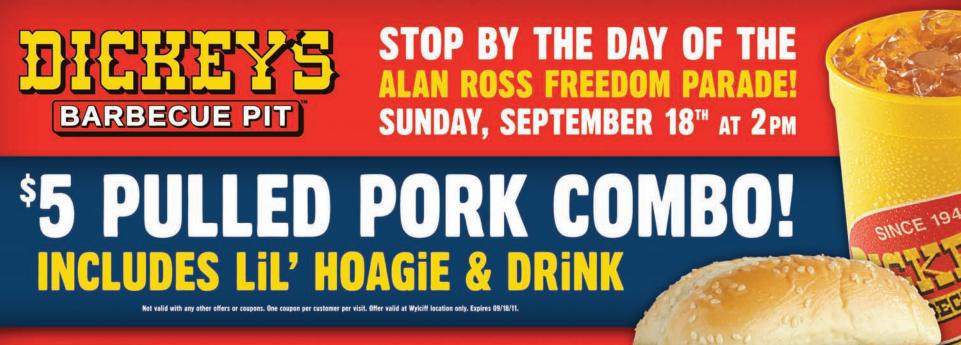
As a councilman, "My job is to fill potholes," Burns said. "That's what I'm supposed to do."

But last year he started hearing about young people taking their lives. He mentioned Asher Brown in Houston and a teen in Indiana who hung himself in his family's barn. Then came another suicide in California, then Zack Harrington who killed himself after hearing anti-gay hate speech at a city council meeting in Norman, Okla. "Someone should do something about this,"

Burns said he told himself.

The Fort Worth City Council meets on Tuesday evenings with pre-council meetings held throughout the day. When Burns decided to tell his story, he told Angle, who advised against it.

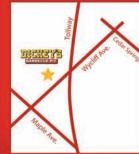
"But I remember what it was like to be 13 and SPEECH, Page 28



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SPEECH

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beaten up," Burns said.

So when Angle realized there was no stopping Burns, he suggested that his partner write his speech down.

"J.D. said I suck extemporaneously," Burns explained.

So Burns went home from the pre-council meeting and wrote a stream-of-consciousness account of what happened to him as a teenager. He said he had hoped to reach a few hundred people — those that actually watch Fort Worth City Council meetings online and those that sit through council meetings at City Hall.

But then local TV news stations broadcast portions of his speech, and then it was posted to YouTube. Burns called his parents as soon as he realized more people than just Fort Worth City Council junkies were watching it.

Inside Edition showed up at his parent's house the next day.

Burns said that he's closer to his family now than he's ever been. He laughed about his parents' differing reactions. He said his mother asked him if there was anything they could have done better and his father told him, "You need an alarm. And a gun."

Burns said he had an hour-and-a-half conversation with his brother Cody that week as well, the longest conversation they had ever had. His brother was 15 years younger and so Burns was already out of the house through most of Cody's life.

Burns said he cherishes that talk even more now because in March his brother was killed in a car accident.

When Burns spoke to the LEAGUE national convention in Dallas on Sept. 10, everyone attending had seen the YouTube video from the council meeting. As Burns told them the story behind the speech, the reaction was very emotional.

"I got beaten up everyday, not because I was gay but because I was Hispanic," said Ernie Renteria, a LEAGUE member from Austin.

LEAGUE member Darrin Chin was attending from Los Angeles and said he first heard of Burns after speech at the council meeting.

"He's a very inspiring person," Chin said. Chin and his partner have a 15-year-old adopted son. He said his son came out last year

SUCCESS

From Page 28

our music; they like to dance. Everyone gets along."

Pierce added, "I read somewhere not that long ago that gay bars are becoming extinct. I don't think we are becoming extinct, I just think we're evolving. And that's a good thing."

Miller and Pierce said it is a great honor to have been chosen to serve with Bengston this year as grand marshals of Dallas' Pride parade, and Pierce said they feel doubly honored to have been chosen and they worry about him being the target of bullying.

Josh Hampshire of Bay City, Mich. said he was called everything from "sissy to the fbomb. I was shoved into plenty of lockers."

For him, he said, Burns' speech really hit home.

"As someone who's been on the edge, it really does get better," Hampshire said. "I'm glad someone is looking out for our youth."

One of LEAGUE's youngest members is John Wakim of Providence, R.I. At 22, he's already been with AT&T for five years. He said the company gives him a place where he feels safe for the first time in his life.

"I think everyone was bullied at school," Wakim said. He agreed that things do get better for LGBT youth and that he can really relate to Burns' story.

Burns said he has no idea how many young people may have benefited from his speech during the council meeting that night and his many appearances afterwards. But from the volume of calls and emails he has received, he said he does believe he's made a difference.

But Burns said he is determined to not just use the video that went viral as platform for personal fame. He wants to make a real difference.

So when the Texas Legislature was in session this year, Burns lobbied House and Senate members with the parents of teen suicide victims Asher Brown. He said spending time with them was an honor, and Burns still tears up as he describes Asher's mother's anguish when she came home to a house wrapped in police tape.

In March, Burns also participated in a White House anti-bullying conference that he hopes will help set national standards for student safety in schools.

Burns said he is still surprised at the continued attention his council speech attracts, but that he realizes that his experience as a gay teen is a common one.

Burns said he learned from his experience that there are days that you're supposed to fix the potholes but there's a time when you have to speak out. He said that with two anti-bullying laws passed in Texas this year, "We've had amazing success here in Texas."

For more information, go online to FortWorth-Gov.org/Government/District9.

To watch Joel Burns' speech on being bullied, go to YouTube.com/Watch?v=ax96cghOnY4.

grand marshals of the Dallas parade and honorary grand marshals of the International Gay Rodeo Association's finals rodeo coming to Fort Worth in October.

"It's a good feeling, a really good feeling, when you're chosen by your friends and colleagues for something like this," Miller said. "Alan and I are very lucky in our life. We're a good fit for each other, a match that will really last. We've been together now for 26 years, and it really does just keep getting better."

For more information, go online to RoundUpSaloon.com

Making business better for LGBT Dallas

The North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce works to improve the business climate for its members

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

The 2012 Pride Guide was dedicated to the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce in recognition of the chamber's work to advance equality and make things better for the community. And chamber President and CEO Tony Vedda said this week that the chamber has planned an even busier year ahead.

In October, the Out & Equal conference comes to Dallas. The chamber was instrumental in bringing that convention to the city, the largest LGBT group that Dallas has ever hosted.

Pride Guide Dedication

Vedda said he hopes that more LGBT groups — both large and small — continue choosing Dallas for their meetings. He said he'd like to see Creating Change return and for the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund hold candidate training classes here. The next GALA choruses festival will be in Denver but Vedda's hoping Dallas will snag the one after that.

Vedda said that a variety of smaller groups that have never been to Dallas hold annual conventions, specifically mentioning the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association and the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association as groups he'd like to see come to Dallas for their annual conventions.

And, of course, he hopes the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber will schedule an annual meeting in Dallas sometime in the next few years.

Vedda said that Dallas has an advantage in bringing groups to the city because of the good working relationship the chamber and the LGBT community in general have with the Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau and with other city institutions.

"We have the same goal as any chamber," Vedda said. "We help our members become bigger and more profitable. That helps us do good work in the community."

He said that when an LGBT businessperson tells him that they don't need the chamber, he tells them that the chamber needs them. A strong LGBT business community helps provide good role models and supports the vast array of nonprofit organizations as well as chamber projects, he said, adding that in many ways, the chamber is a big, professional "It Gets Better" organization.

The organization's newest project is its LEAP scholarships.

"We love our acronyms," Vedda said, "And LEAP stands for Leadership, Education, Advocacy Program."

Students who self-identify as LGBT, members of LGBT families or allies who advocate for the

are eligible. The first scholarships will be awarded in December for the spring semester. Applications will be accepted through Oct. 15 and are available online at GLBTLEAP.org. Winners will be

LGBT community

Winners will be announced Dec. 8 at the Holly Jolly Ball, which is also

the chamber's Tony Vedda

major fundraising event for LEAP. Tickets will be \$75, with silent and live auctions raising money for scholarships and other LEAP projects.

Vedda said he expects applications for the 2012-13 school year to be available online soon after the first awards are made.

LEAP is also planning an LGBT leadership institute. Former participants in Leadership Lambda have been advising the chamber on what worked in the past. Vedda said he wants participants to leave with a good understanding of LBGT history and accomplishments.

"The goal is to develop more 'best and brightest' for the non-profit sector of our community," he said.

Those who go on to attend Leadership programs in Plano, Dallas or Fort Worth will be better representatives of the LGBT community, he said.

Working with the National GLBT Chamber, the North Texas chamber is offering a designation of LGBT-certified supplier, Vedda said.

"We're working to make sure opportunities are given to our community like other minority groups," he said.

The chamber holds two monthly general networking programs and maintains three closed networking groups.

"Those groups have closed millions of dollars in new business for members," Vedda said.

Several fun events are coming up as well.

A Cedar Springs Road progressive mixer will be structured like a progressive dinner. The evening starts at Tan Bar on one end of the block and works its way up the street, stopping at several chamber members before ending at Axiom Sushi.

The annual chamber dinner will be held in March. A community marketing conference will be held that month as well.

Vedda said he hopes each of these events and everything the chamber does helps Dallas' LGBT businesses grow and prosper. He said a strong LGBT business community supports equality and the non-profit groups throughout the community that make it get better for everyone.

For more information, go online to GLBTChamber.org.



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YFT Color Guard will wave the flags proudly



WAVING THE FLAG | Danny Rojas, one of the YFT color guard members with no experience, learns to wave the flag. (Draconis von Trapp/Dallas Voice)

Six-member team will perform routine to 'Take It Off' as they march in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade

DRACONIS VON TRAPP | Intern intern@dallasvoice.com

This year, instead of just marching in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and throwing beads and condoms, members of Youth First Texas have decided to throw flags.

In other words, the YFT Color Guard will be hitting the pavement of Cedar Springs Road, with six teens marching and twirling flags to the tune of "Take It Off" by Ke\$ha.

For some of the six, the parade will be their debut performance as flag throwers: Half of the team has some significant amount of drill team experience, while the other three are brand new.

Team Captain Michael Eaves has been in color guard for two years at his high school in Sachse. He leads the team with his experience and oneon-one instruction.

"It seemed like something fun," Eaves said.

"Most people do floats, so we do something different."

He said that there was one color guard team last year, so, "Why not have two?"

From Plano Senior High, 17-year-old Celina Blanco is one of the co-captains of her color guard squad, and she takes partial command of the YFT group. Blanco has been guarding for three years and has been captain for two of those years, giving her the experience she needs to successfully help guide the newbies through a basic color guard routine.

"It's kind of my goal in life to aid the youth and have a better upbringing, you know, more open," Blanco says. "Being able to participate in the gay Pride parade and being able to tell my straight friends that, you know, I'm gonna be in this and I support this completely."

Blanco was raised without any pressure over her sexuality or gender binary status, and she wants to be able to share that experience with other youth at YFT. Blanco also participates in Youth Board, a youth-run leadership program where the young people work with the YFT Executive Board to develop fundraising ideas and outreach activities, including deciding who and **YFT**, Next Page



REHEARSAL | Michael Eaves, left, leads rehearsal for the premiere performance of YFT's color guard in the Pride Parade. (Draconis von Trapp/Dallas Voice)

YFT, From Previous Page

what goes into the parade for YFT's group. Also from Plano Senior High and a part of Youth Board, 16-year-old Maz-E Magnus is holding her own flag in the routine for Pride. Unlike Blanco, though, Magnus doesn't have

ACURA

CERTIFIED

any previous color guard experience.

"I had gone to football games and I've seen them out on the football field ... and I was like, 'Eh, okay, I guess it's cool,'" Magnus said nonchalantly. "But then Celina was like, 'Oh, we're doing color guard at YFT!""

At first, Magnus just volunteered to be the music master, stopping and starting the music as needed by the team. But after watching the others spin around and toss the flags around, though, Magnus' interest was piqued.

"I was like, 'Oh, I can do this! Hey, can I join?'

And they agreed. It's still fun, but it's a lot of hard work; it's not as easy as I thought it would be," she confided, rubbing her shoulders and explaining the physical intensity that is required for color guard.

Another experienced color guard co-captain, 17-year-old Joeii Johnson, leapt at the chance to participate in the routine with YFT. From Lake Highlands High School, Johnson did both color guard and winter guard, which includes higherintensity routines and rifles and sabers as opposed to flags.

"I feel empowered," Johnson says about his love of color guard, "when I can throw something in the air, spin around and then catch it in the right spot. I like the fact that I'm the envelope pusher; I'm the one that does things no one expects me to do."

Johnson joined color guard when all his older brothers did contact sports.

"When [my family] sees what I do, when I toss something and I catch it ... they were amazed, and I felt good," Johnson says.

"It's about having fun and being proud that we even went out there to do this," Johnson said.

He acknowledged that the routine the YFT Color Guard performs in the parade on Sunday might not be perfect that day. But, he declared, they're still going to have a good time showing their colors.



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Tavern Guild names 5 parade beneficiaries

Organizations provide a variety of services for those in the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities

■ pride2011

DRACONIS VON TRAPP | Intern intern@dallasvoice.com

In recent years, increasing costs have forced the Dallas Tavern Guild to cut back on the number of organizations chosen as beneficiaries of the annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, choosing only one each year.

This year, however, the Tavern Guild has been able to expand its list of beneficiaries once again. In addition to Youth First Texas, the sole

Beneficiaries

beneficiary for the last several years, beneficiaries this year also include AIDS Arms Inc., AIDS Interfaith Network, AIDS Services of Dallas and Legacy Counseling Center.

Each of the agencies is profiled below:



AIDS Arms is the largest nonprofit HIV/AIDS organization in North Texas, serving more than 7,000 individuals every year. The agency's executive director is Raeline Nobles, and John Loza is chairman of the board of directors.

The AIDS Arms offices are located at 351 West Jefferson Blvd., Suite 300. The phone number is 214-521-5191, and the website is AIDSArms.org.

Raeline Nobles

AIDS Arms's case management programs offer numerous services to assist individuals in learning to live longer and healthier lives with HIV by providing access to medical care and support services specific to them. The agency's goals are to create and maintain long-term access and adherence to medical care and stabilization so clients can successfully manage the side effects of HIV and AIDS.

Professional case managers are trained to respond to clients' unique needs by providing a comprehensive assessment of needs and barriers to accessing medical care and support, as well as assessing clients for eligibility for programs such as HIV medication and health insurance assistance, Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security and other benefit programs that may help with the financial issues of HIV treatment. Case managers also develop a long-term care plan with the client.

The Case Management Resource Directory helps clients locate services such as food, housing, counseling, support groups, job training and more.

AIDS Arms offers multiple minority-specific programs for women, youth, substance abusers and those with mental health needs. The agency offers linguistic services with case managers versed in more than 10 foreign languages and dialects, and with a variety of diverse cultural and educational backgrounds and experiences.

The intake program helps newly diagnosed clients navigate the services available to them in Dallas.

AIDS Arms' Peabody Health Center is an outpatient medical clinic that offers comprehensive medical care in coordination with other services needed to increase access to care and maintain adherence to treatment. The clinic employs physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses and others professionals who are experts in the medical field and specify in HIV treatment.

AIDS Arms is currently in the process of opening a second clinic.

One specific support group, WILLOW (Women Involved in Life Learning from Other Women), is a program that brings together HIV-positive women to learn from each other and develop new skills. Activities and group discussion lend to the positive environment where women learn how to live healthier lives and form good relationships.

AIDS Interfaith Network

AIDS Interfaith Network was founded in 1986. Steven Pace is executive director. The agency's offices are located on 501 N. Stemmons, Suite 200, BENEFICIARIES, Next Page



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BENEFICIARIES, From Previous Page

and the phone number is 214-941-7696. The AIN website is AIDSInterfaithNetwork.org.

Among its programs, AIN offers Outreach, a program to guide individuals and gives them access to prevention and care services, make referrals and ensure that those affected by HIV/AIDS have access to proper care. The program specifically targets African-Americans (African American Health Coalition) and Latinos (Manos

Unidas). AIN offers a variety of programs, including linguistic services with interpretation and translation of written materials for Spanishspeaking clients, caregivers and other service providers.

Educational services, including prevention education and risk

Steven Pace

reduction sessions, are available for at-risk individuals, groups and communities, as well as collaborative HIV testing and prevention programs.

Another program offers HIV education for minority women at high risk of infections. The program specifically targets African-American and Hispanic women, but it is open to all.

AIN's client advocacy program receives referred clients and enrolls them into the appropriate programs. It also provides direct assistance by making referrals, providing follow up and collaborating with case management. This program collects client data, creates and updates files and provides documentation.

Transportation services are offered to clients living in both metropolitan and rural areas through van rides, bus passes for the DART and train system and taxi rides to ensure access to treatment facilities and support services throughout the prevention system.

AIN also operates the Daire Center, an adult daycare center that provides stabilization services and respite care to relieve caregivers. The center also includes monitoring, individualized support, activities, socialization and nutrition assistance. The meals program provides prepared breakfast and lunch daily in the Daire Center for clients who need assistance to meet or enhance their nutritional needs.

For those interested in taking part in helping affected clients, AIN's volunteer program recruits, trains and manages volunteers, offering different curricula of buddy and companion services for those affected. The program also provides on-site assignments at AIN to give program, administrative and project support and to participate in fundraising events.

For clients requiring spiritual support, AIN offers pastoral services for care, counseling, education and support. The program refers clients and accepts referrals, collaborates with Outreach, offers prevention education and recruits volunteers.

AIDS Services of Dallas

AIDS Services of Dallas was founded in 1985. Don Maison is president and CEO. ASD offices and apartment buildings are located in North Oak Cliff, near Methodist Medical Center. The phone number is 214-941-0523 and the website is AIDSDallas.org.

ASD's housing program provides furnished, service-enriched housing and assisted living in private apartments for people with HIV/AIDS. ASD never turns away clients due to an inability to pay rent and it is the largest licensed provider of medically supportive housing for infected individuals in Texas, with four facilities: Ewing Center, Revlon Apartments, Hillcrest House and Spencer Gardens.

Ewing Center consists of 22 units - five onebedroom apartments, 15 efficiencies and two special need beds/rooms. Revlon Apartments are designed to accommodate individuals and families, with 20 one-bedroom and seven two-bedroom apartments.

Hillcrest House, which provides service to individuals who are formerly homeless and living with HIV/AIDS, has 64 single-unit efficiencies. And Spencer Gardens, named in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, provides housing for 12 low-income families.

ASD provides morning and lunchtime meals five days a week and coordinates dinner meals through the Supper Club volunteer program. For immobile clients, the program also provides carryout meal services.



Don Maison

dents to recreational activities planned and implemented by the Resident Councils.

ASD's case management program provides professional social work staff to determine the psychosocial services needed for each individual resident and assist them in accessing communitybased service providers. In addition, the social workers provide on-site case management, substance abuse counseling, individual and group counseling and grief support as needed.

The Social Work Department provides recreational activities for the children of ASD and helps their adjustment to the community and public schooling. With funding from the ExxonMobil Community Summer Jobs Program, ASD has hired a children's activity coordinator to provide recreation during the summer months for the children residing at ASD.

ASD provides 24-hour care and support for its residents. Nurses provide both care and support BENEFICIARIES, Page 34



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to residents as well as implement the health maintenance programs. Personal care aides monitor every individual's needs and habits and provide full-time assistance with routine tasks of daily living for HIV-positive residents.

• Legacy Counseling Center and Legacy Founders Cottage



Established more than 20 years ago, Legacy Counseling Center provides mental healthcare, substance abuse treatment and housing services for individuals affected by HIV and AIDS. Melissa Grove is executive director. Legacy's offices are lo-

Melissa Grove Legacy's offices are located at 4054 McKinney Ave., Suite 102. The phone number is 214-520-

6308 and the website is LegacyCounseling.org. Legacy Counseling Center provides both individual and group therapy. In individual therapy, individuals receive one-on-one private therapy sessions with licensed professional counselors specially trained in mental health issues of persons affected by HIV and AIDS. They assist with coping, anxiety, depression and survivor guilt as well as medication compliance.

Group therapy is offered both during the day and the evening and helps HIV-infected individuals contend with many unique issues, and include female-only groups, Spanish-speaking groups and other targeted groups.

Legacy's Substance Abuse Program provides intensive outpatient substance abuse treatments along with ongoing relapse prevention services for HIV-positive individuals. The program also educates clients about drug abuse and how it ties in with HIV and AIDS in both group and individual therapy. The outpatient therapy schedule can be tailored to the individual's needs.

To take part in these programs, the individual must be HIV-positive with a letter of diagnosis, at least 18 years old and must remain alcohol and drug-free during the program.

Legacy also operates the Legacy Founders Cottage, a licensed, seven-room special-care facility for people living with AIDS in critical stages of their illness who require 24-hour supervised care.

Youth First Texas

Youth First Texas is staffed by Director of Development and Administration Sam Wilkes. The



YFT offices are located at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. The phone number is 214-879-0400 or, toll-free, 866-547-5972. The center is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; and the second and fourth Saturday of the

month from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

YFT offers free counseling to LGBTQ youth ages 22 and younger through volunteer counselors. All counselors are licensed professionals or student interns working under the supervision of a licensed counselor. All legal and ethical guidelines are followed including confidentiality and keeping files. Youth under the age of 18 must have written consent from a parent or guardian before receiving individual counseling services.

Counselors address issues such as coming out, family and school issues, bullying, self-mutilation, depression, isolation, relationships and dating, gender identity and expression, and drug and alcohol abuse.

YFT offers three main groups, but these may be supplemented with other support groups as the **BENEFICIARIES**, Page 38



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30th annual Tarrant Pride Parade moves to downtown Fort Worth

Organizers say this year's event will be bigger and better than ever, with parade and street festival on Saturday, and popular Pride Picnic on Sunday, October 1-2

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — The Tarrant County Gay Pride Parade marks its 30th anniversary this year, and organizers with the Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association said this week they are going all out to make this year's event the biggest and best ever.

This year the parade moves from its previous Sunday afternoon time slot to Saturday morning, Oct. 1, along with the street festival that is now in it's second year. The parade is also changing locations, moving from the traditional route down South Jennings to a more visible downtown route, moving down Main Street from Weatherford Street south to 7th Street.

The parade begins at 10 a.m., and the street festival — which will be set up in General Worth Square, on Main Street between 8th Street and 9th Street — follows immediately, from noon to 6 p.m.

TCGPWA's popular annual Pride Picnic is doing a little moving of its own this year: It will still be held in Trinity Park, at the intersection of Crestline Road and Foch Street. But this year the picnic is moving from its traditional Saturday time slot to Sunday, Oct. 2, from noon to 6 p.m.

"I think we're going to have a big turnout for the parade, just for the curiosity factor if nothing else," TCGPWA Secretary Carla Parry said this week. "We've never had the parade downtown before. Having it downtown has never been an option before. So I think there will be a huge crowd there."

Parry said that planning for the bigger events in the new location has been going very smoothly so far, and "Hopefully, no wrenches get thrown into our works between now and then!"

The expanded activities and downtown route this year mean higher costs for organizers, and the TCGPWA has been working diligently all year to raise the money needed to cover those costs. Parry said this week that things on the fundraising front also appear to be coming along well.

"The fundraising is right on target for where we need it to be," Parry said. "We are giving out a scholarship this year for the first time, and we would love to bring in over and above the amount we need just to pay for the parade and festival and picnic, so that we could put that extra in the scholarship fund. But we are on par for what we need to pay for everything. "Actually, all the money from the alcohol and food sales at the picnic on that Sunday comes back to the association, and that is money that we can add to the scholarship fund," she added.

Parry said that city officials have been "very accommodating" in the process of planning this year's expanded Pride events and moving the parade and street festival downtown.

She said that while the 2009 raid on the Rainbow Lounge by Fort Worth police and agents with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission was "a horrible thing that never should have happened," she is proud that the city and its LGBT community have used that event as the impetus for improving policies and relationships.

"We've made huge strides forward here in Fort Worth since the raid," Parry said, and those strides are reflected in the city's attitude toward planning this year's events.

One very visible sign of that improved relationship will be Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price's participation this year as one of three Pride parade grand marshals.

Tony Coronado, chair of TCGPWA's corporate partners and sponsorships committee, said that Price was nominated for grand marshal by Fairness Fort Worth President and TCGPWA member Tom Anable, who also confirmed with Price that she was available and willing to participate in the parade. Her nomination was then confirmed by a vote of the association's general membership, Coronado said.

Also elected as grand marshals this year are Q Cinema co-founder and activist Todd Camp, and female impersonator Zoe Daniels. Honorary grand marshals are retired Fort Worth Police Officer Mike Miller and female impersonator Tasha Kohl, aka Jerry Faulkner.

"Our grand marshals this year reflect the present and the future of our community, and our honorary grand marshals were chosen as symbols to remember and honor our past," Coronado said.

He explained that Miller is considered "our first, unofficial LGBT liaison with the police department." Faulkner, who brought Tasha Kohl, his longtime and very popular drag alter ego, out of retirement to perform in shows over the summer to raise money for the Pride events, has a history of fundraising for the LGBT community and organizations in Tarrant County and around the Metroplex.

"The female impersonators, the drag queens, have always played a very important role in the [LGBT] community in Fort Worth and Tarrant County," Coronado said, explaining why the TCGPWA includes them in the grand marshal and honorary grand marshal honorees for Pride each year.

"In fact, our annual Pride Picnic is actually our **TARRANT**, Page 38

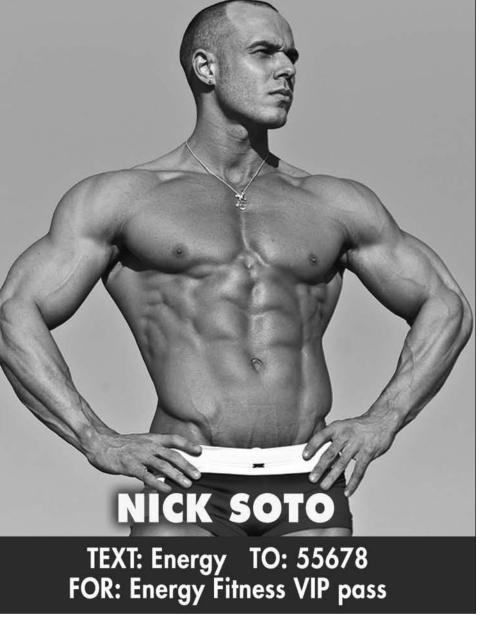


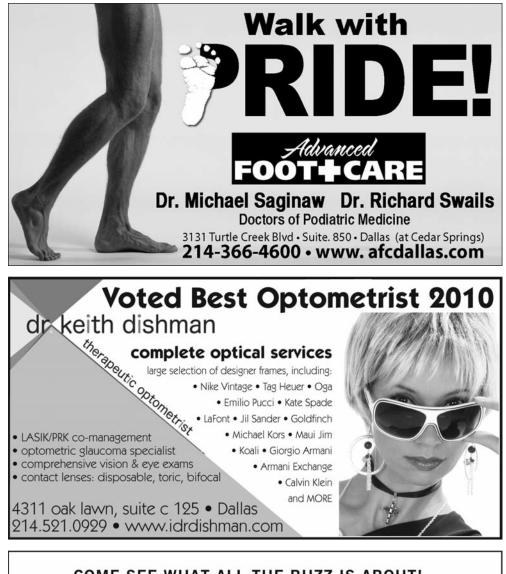
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pride2011 Black Pride: Much more than just a party

DFW Pride Movement has scheduled a full weekend of programs on HIV, relationship issues, trans issues and more, but they didn't forget the party

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

For many people, when they think of "Pride," they think of parades and parties. But for DFW Pride Movement/Dallas Black Pride, "Pride" means going beyond the parties to offer a slate of programs and events intended to "move the community forward and empower the people," DFW Pride Movement Executive Director Derek Spillman said.

"There's nothing wrong with parties, we just wanted to offer more," Spillman said of DFW Pride Movement, the local affiliate of the International Federation of Black Prides. "We are not a party promoter. There are party promoters who have chosen to work with us and to hold parties in conjunction with our Black Pride events," Spillman said. "Our purpose, though, is to have a weekend of programs that focus on the cultural aspects of Black Pride, that focus on social justice and advocacy."

Spillman said that the theme for this year's Dallas Black Pride, set for Sept. 39-Oct. 2, is "HisSTORY and HerSTORY," and events will focus, in part, on combating the spread of HIV/AIDS in the black community.

The host hotel is the Marriott City Center in downtown Dallas, and most of the programs take place there.

This year, Spillman said, Dallas Black Pride organizers wanted to tie in some of its programs with an HIV vaccine trial underway at UT Southwestern Medical Center, and has done so by bringing in a number of speakers who will focus on issues surrounding HIV/AIDS among African-Americans.

In fact, the first major program of the weekend will be the Black LGBT Community Summit on Friday, Sept. 30, featuring keynote speaker Christopher Bates, senior public health advisor to the deputy assistant secretary for health, infectious diseases, and executive director of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

The program takes place from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the host hotel.

The programs continue Saturday, Oct. 1, with the Empowerment Series starting with Session 1, from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. It offers attendees a choice between a panel on Lambda Legal, presented by Lambda's Southwest Regional Director Omar Narvaez; "TRANScending All Obstacles," presented by Carter Brown with Black Trans Men; "Financial FREEdom," presented by Treach Wilson; and "If It's So Wrong, Why Does It Feel So Right?" presented by Alex Byrd.

Options in Session 2, from 11 a.m. to noon, are "Stonewall Democrats," presented by Omar Narvaez; "Erotic Play for Men: Serious Business," presented by Dr. Herukhuit; and "Make It Last Forever," presented by the DFW Senators.

The noon special session will be "HisStory/HerStory: Telling Our Story — An Intergenerational Discussion."

Session 3 will be held from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., and will include "Lying and Dying in Denial," presented by author and poet Uriah Bell; "Sex and HIV Prevention Behind Prison Walls," presented by Mychael Patterson; "Project Vogue," presented by Stephaun Blahnik; and "The Ex-Factor: No More Drama — For Real," presented by Q-Roc TV.

The final session of the day runs from 3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., and includes panels on "TRANSformation," presented by Valerie Spencer and Kennedy Davenport; "HIV Through the Looking Glass," presented by Deneen Robinson; and "That's Not Love, That's Stupid!" presented by Angela Harvey.

The day's programs wind up with "The Official Dallas Social Affair: Tweet & Greet, Part 2" from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., and a live taping of GLO TV's "UNCUT: Sex and the Modern Man" from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

There will also be a "Greater Than AIDS" photo shoot from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., and "The Movement: Full Throttle Fashion Explosion" from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., and parties hosted by a variety of community organizations beginning at 11 p.m.

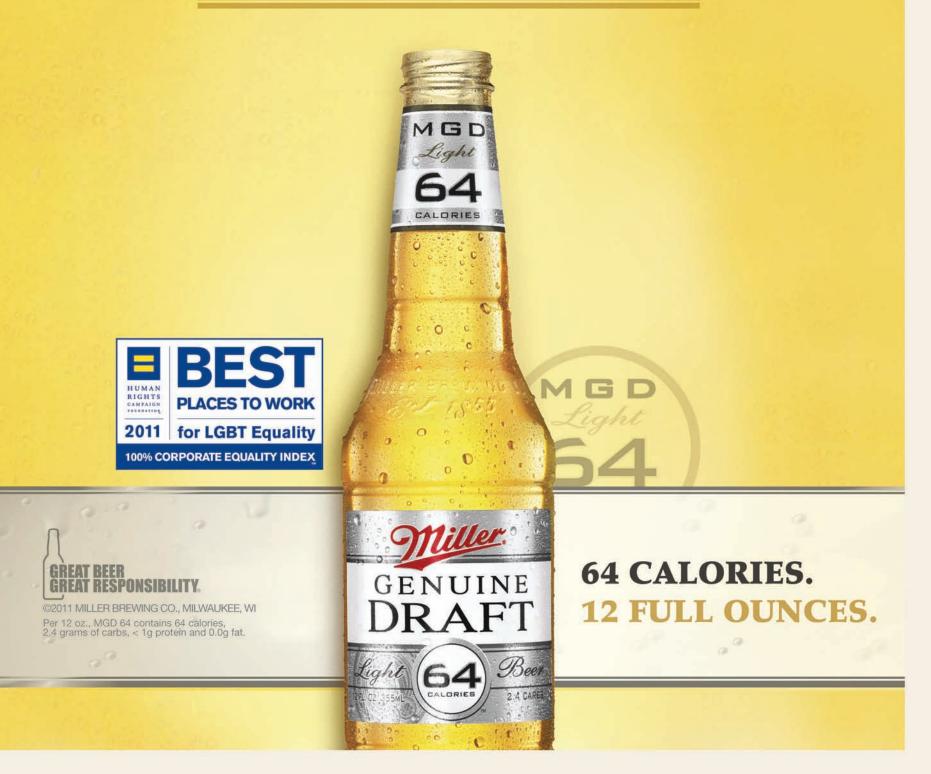
The weekend concludes Sunday with worship services at noon at Living Faith Covenant Church and Black Pride Dinner at Catfish Blues from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

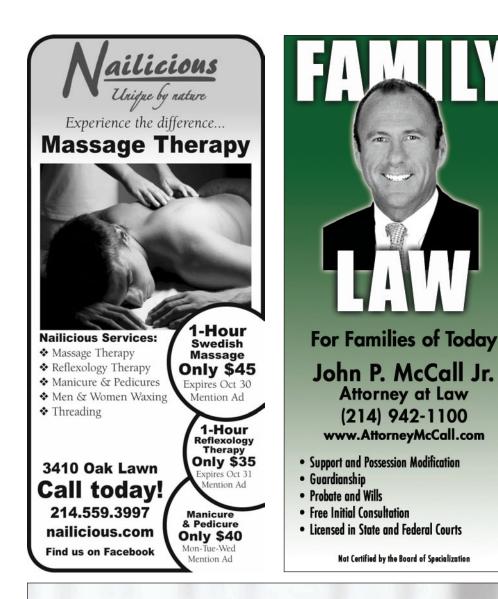
Spillman noted that organizers designed the weekend's schedule with the intention of reaching out to as many different aspects and interests of the community as possible. He said organizers were especially glad to have adult film stars Deneen Robinson, Ty Lattimore and Rock Rockafella attending to talk about HIV from the perspective of the adult entertainment industry.

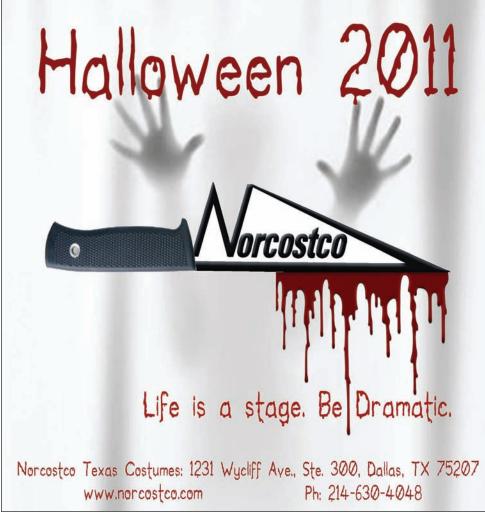
"These men will be appearing at some of the parties throughout the weekend also, but their main reason for being here is to talk to people about HIV and AIDS, and how everyone should protect themselves and how everyone should get tested," Spillman said.

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YOU HAVE ROOM FOR ANOTHER.







pride2011

The 'Circus' Circuit Party

Dallas Southern Pride, the Black Gay Pride circuit party held each year on the first weekend in October, returns this year with "Cirque, Cirque! Life is a Circus & We Are Your Ring Masters!" Sept. 29-Oct. 2, with Park Inn by Radisson as the host hotel.

Dallas Southern Pride kicks off Thursday, Sept. 29 with Hip Hop for Pride at Station 4, and continues Friday, Sept. 30 with the All-Star Pride Pre-Ball Party at Elm & Pearl and Cirque du Freak Ball at The Brick.

Saturday's line-up includes a Grambling vs. Prairie View tailgate party at Level, Elm & Pearl's Seductive Saturday's Femme Figure, Cirque du Femme: Strawberries and Chocolate at Level, and Cirque du Male: Party Under the Big Top at The New J. Pepes.

The weekend concludes Sunday with The Official After Party/Lip Stick Ball, presented at the host hotel by Elm & Pearl and Dallas Southern Pride; The Family Affair Carnival at Elm & Pearl; and The "Whip My Hair" Hair Show and After Party at The Brick.

For complete details for all events, go online to DallasSouthernPride.com.

Tammye Nash

BLACK PRIDE

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In another effort to encourage people to get tested, he added, everyone who gets tested can get their names entered into a raffle, with the prize being the opportunity to be a VIP guest of the celebrity of their choice at that evening's parties. "We want people to have a good time, and we

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foundational Pride event here, the first Pride event ever held in Fort Worth, and it was started by drag queens all those years ago who wanted to get the community to come together to relax and have fun," he said.

Parry said the street festival this year will be larger than the inaugural event last year, with corporate sponsors Coors Light and Coors Distributing Co. of Fort Worth once again donating the Coors Light stage. Local entertainer Aurora Blue headlines the entertainment for the festival, and will be joined in the lineup by a number of other performers.

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need arises. The three support groups are Survivors, Gender Identity and Coming Out.

Survivors' Group is a peer support group for youth who have suffered isolation, abuse or other trauma, offering them the opportunity to discuss things that are troubling them and receive feedback from peers in a safe space. This group is held on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Gender Identity Group is specific to youth dealing with issues related to gender identity and expression. The group is also open to youth who are curious about their gender-variant peers and gender issues in general. It is held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Coming Out Group deals with thoughts and feelings about sexuality. YFT periodically offers a

want people to celebrate Pride," Spillman said. "But we also want people to celebrate our culture and our community, and to learn and expand their thinking. These are the kinds of things we've been charged with doing by the International Federation of Black Prides, and these are the things that are important for our future."

A full schedule and more information on special guests and parties can be found online at DFWPride-Movement.org.

The festival will feature a kids activity area, including a booth with Fort Worth P.D.'s IdentiKid program, "plenty of vendors" and a number of food and beverage stands as well as organizational and game booths. Entertainment, vendors, informational booths, a kid's activity area and a games area with volleyball and horseshoes will again be part of the Pride Picnic on Oct. 2, Parry said, along with, of course, food and beverage stands.

Tarrant County Gay Pride officially kicks off Thursday night, Sept. 29, with shows and parties at nightclubs in Fort Worth, and continues through the following week.

For more information about Tarrant County Pride, go online to TCGPWA.org.

four-week support group, providing an opportunity to share with a small group of peers about sexuality and coming out.

YFT also offers multiple educational programs throughout the year. Among these are book club, café cinema, GED tutoring, "Our Roots Are Showing," Youth Defenders and GSA Network. The center also offers many recreational activities, such as Dallas PUMP!, Friday Night Kula Feast, Movie Camp, Open Mic Night, and the YFT Dance Group.

Throughout the year YFT participates in softball through the Pegasus SlowPitch Softball Association, volleyball through Dallas Independent Volleyball Association, concerts by the Turtle Creek Chorale, theater performances by Uptown Players and other functions. YFT participants are also kept privy to queer-related opportunities such as performing at their annual fashion show Give E'm Heel and the Gayla Prom by Resource Center Dallas.

Igbtseniors **LGBT seniors in Dallas** 'just out of luck'

One man's plight highlights the needs, dangers facing the entire community of older LGBT people

DAVID WEBB | Contributing Writer davidwaynewebb@yahoo.com

Almost a year after a well-known gay community activist was discovered wandering the streets and apparently suffering from dementia, he remains alone in a nursing home near White Rock Lake without any support from family or friends, according to representatives of Dallas' Crisis Intervention Unit.

"He is completely alone," said Valencia Hooper, a caseworker for the unit, which is a program administered by the Dallas Police Department. "He doesn't have anybody."

The activist, whose identity is being withheld because of his vulnerability, was arrested by police just before Christmas last year when he was allegedly discovered trying to get into a car that did not belong to him. At the time the activist was homeless and wandering the streets after being evicted from his Oak Lawn apartment.

It is suspected that at the time of his arrest he was too confused to understand what he was doing, and that he was likely trying to find shelter from the weather.

While he was in jail, the activist came into contact with a nurse who realized that he was suffering from dementia and did not belong there, according to Marilu Thorn, another caseworker with the unit that initially assisted him and tried unsuccessfully to locate family members or friends who knew him.

Thorn said that when she started looking into the activist's personal history in an attempt to find help for him, she was shocked to discover that he munity. A few years ago, the activist was on the Democratic Party's ticket running for a state representative's position for a district in central Dallas.

had been so wellknown in the com-

Thorn reached out to the Dallas Voice for help, and a notice was posted

on the newspa-Kee Holt per's blog featuring

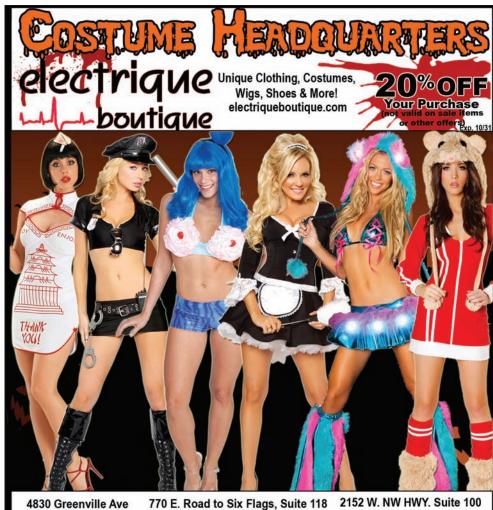
a picture of the activist and asking for assistance in locating his family. The effort was unsuccessful so the activist now only has contact with nursing home staff, other residents and the caseworkers who still monitor him.

"He's pretty much out of it," said Hooper, who noted that he needs someone to visit him and make sure that he has the personal things he needs such as clothing and shoes. "He's really a very sweet man."

Hooper said that as it stands now, if the activist were to die there wouldn't even be anyone to notify to determine if anyone wanted to hold a memorial service. "He is going to die someday," she said.

The activist, who moved to Dallas in 1975, is believed to have a son and a grandson somewhere, but apparently no one knows how to contact them. A former roommate of the activist's now reportedly lives in Florida.

Hooper said that when the activist was first evicted from his apartment, some of his neighbors LUCK Page 40



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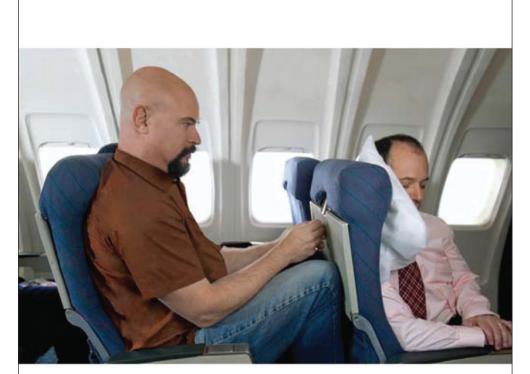
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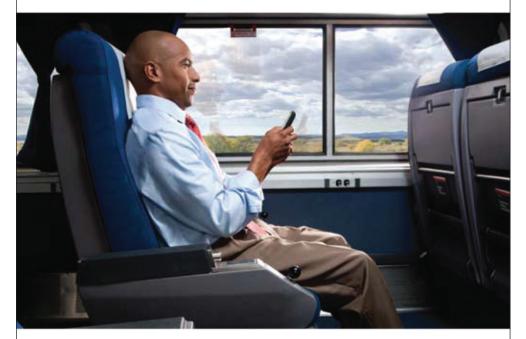
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Igbtseniors

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tried to help him for a while. One neighbor would let him sleep on her sofa at night. He would go to the streets during the day when she left for work. "They didn't know what to do," Hooper said.

"They kind of treated him like he was a little dog."

At the time the activist's plight came to the attention of the Dallas Voice, research showed that there were scarce resources dedicated to aging LGBT people who lack personal resources. Although the activist's plight sparked some concern in the community, apparently no progress has been made so far.

One reader who commented about the lack of resources said the community's resources are rightfully dedicated to HIV/AIDS services, and that there is no room for other programs. He said that LGBT people are already entitled to the same resources that benefit all elderly people, but another reader noted that many programs benefiting seniors are religion-based and reject homosexuality.

Resource Center Dallas sponsors a program for LGBT seniors, the GLBT Aging Interest Network or GAIN, but its primary focus is education, entertainment and social activities, according to Kee Holt, RCD's center services manager who oversees the GAIN Program.

After the activist began receiving help from the caseworkers, he was transferred from jail to a medical facility for evaluation and eventually was placed in the nursing home.

Thorn said anyone who was aware of the activist's plight could have called Dallas' 311 service to report his situation. That would have resulted in his case probably being referred to the Crisis Intervention Unit, and he would have avoided the trip to jail, she said.

"It shouldn't have gotten that bad," Thorn said. Holt said that as unfortunate as this man's story is, a nearly complete lack of services in Dallas for LGBT seniors means that he is probably not the only one in such a situation.

"There's really nothing at all out there for GLBT seniors in this city," Holt said. "If you're an older GLBT person here who needs some specific services, you're really just out of luck. There are no GLBT-specific shelters, no GLBT-specific services or resources. Oak Lawn United Methodist Church does have a program that helps a lot of people, but it's not GLBT-specific."

There are, of course, more general services and resources for senior citizens in the area, and Resource Center Dallas recently became a member of the Community Council of Greater Dallas, an umbrella organization for Dallas-area agencies on aging. But, Holt stressed, those services are often not educated on the special needs of LGBT seniors and in some instances are outright hostile.

"When I first took this job in 2008, I started just cold-calling all the nursing homes and assistedliving facilities I could find in this area, just to try and get a feel for what people knew about LGBT seniors and their issues and how welcoming they would be," Holt said. "I got hung up on a lot of times, and I even had some people tell me that they didn't have any LGBT residents because 'they grow out of it by now.' Some just told me, "We don't have that kind of thing here.'"

It's attitudes like those, Holt said, that put many older LGBTs in an untenable either-or situation: "They have lived their lives as out LGBT men and women, and now, they face the decision of either going back into the closet and spending the rest of their lives hiding who they are, or they can stay out and face being ostracized, maybe even mistreated, by staff members and other residents at the nursing homes and assisted-living facilities.

"It's just a really, really difficult situation, with no good answers right now," he said.

Holt noted that the Dallas Area Agency on Aging has recently asked Resource Center Dallas to conduct diversity training for its staff in an effort to increase understanding on LGBT issues. That is a step in the right direction, he said, but there are many more steps that are needed.

"The Resource Center needs a full-time staff person to work on just these issues. I don't have the time to do that, and the funding for that isn't there right now," Holt said. "What we need in Dallas is an activist organization focusing on these [LGBT senior] issues. I don't think that GAIN will be that organization. But we need one."

Dallas Voice Senior Editor Tammye Nash contributed to this report.



spirituality

Gay cantor finds welcoming home in straight synagogue

Don Croll left Broadway to find more consistent work as a Jewish cantor, coming out as gay along the way

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

Don Croll has learned that his path to becoming a cantor — with an Actor's Equity card and a Broadway run — was not that unusual. Today Croll is the cantor at Temple Shalom in North Dallas.

After graduating from Ithaca College with a major in theater, Croll was hired as a dancer for the Summer Music Theater in Charlotte, N.C. There, he earned his Equity card and next was hired by Fran and Barry Weissler for their National Theater Company.

At the time, it was one of the best children's theater companies in the country, Croll said, adding that the Weisslers have since become what Croll calls "the revival king and queen." Their production of *Chicago* has been running on Broadway since 1996.

"They liked me very much and would have used me one day," Croll said. He said he ran into the couple at Fair Park Music Hall, at the opening of one of their shows, and Barry Weissler told him, "You could have understudied Joel Grey in our revival of *Cabaret*."

Croll did make it to Broadway in a 1971 revival of *On The Town* with Bernadette Peters, Phyllis Newman and a pre-*Chorus Line* Donna McKechnie. He played the bill poster and the Congacabana master of ceremonies and was part of the singing ensemble.

"The New York Times hated us," Croll said. Although the show got otherwise decent reviews, it closed after just 71 performances.

Croll also toured with Howard Keel and John Raitt in *Man of LaMancha* and danced in a production of *Fiddler on the Roof.* He had begun to establish a solid career — solid but not consistent.

"Then I didn't work for eight months," Croll said. "At the time I didn't realize that wasn't so terrible."

But Croll said he hated working temp jobs. He was married at the time and contemplating a family, and he wasn't sure he wanted to be running around the country in national tours. That's when he decided to become a cantor, the clergy member who sings or chants the service in a synagogue.

In cantorial school Croll met others who had begun their careers on stage, and while he was studying for his career in sacred music, he came out.

"Once I came out, I never looked back," he said. After 10 years in New York, Croll accepted a



Don Croll

part-time position at Beth Chayim Chadashim in Los Angeles, the first LGBT synagogue.

"When I told the head of the American Conference of Cantors, he looked at me and said, 'Why are you ruining your career? You'll never work in a mainstream synagogue again.""

But a mainstream synagogue in Santa Monica hired him after members attended a service at BCC to hear him sing.

While in L.A., Croll resumed his acting career. Ironically, he was cast as a cantor in *Reasonable Doubts*, an early 1990s TV series that starred Mark Harmon and this year's Black Tie Dinner speaker SYNAGOGUE, Page 42

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spirituality

Beth El Binah plans High Holiday services

Congregation Beth El Binah celebrates the High Holy Days beginning Wednesday, Sept. 28 with an evening service conducted by the congregation's new rabbi, Steve Fisch, who was hired in June.

Alan Josephson will perform as the cantorial soloist. "We're expecting record crowds with our new rabbi."

congregation President Diane Litke said.

"The High Holidays encourage us to reflect on where we have been, where we are and where we can be," Fisch said. "Services are going to be fun. I'm going to try to bring a spirit of enjoyment to these beautiful days."

The High Holy Days begin with Rosh Hashanah, which celebrates the new year. The holiday is two days long and all Jewish holidays begin at sunset. So Rosh Hashanah runs from sunset on Wednesday, Sept. 28 until sunset on Friday, Sept. 30. Evening services begin at



8 p.m. at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center and

bian Community Center and continue with morning services at 10:30 a.m.

On Friday, the congregation will gather at Litke's house in Richardson for Tashlich service. The holiday season is a period of asking for forgiveness. Tashlich is performed sometime during the week between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur as an act of tossing away sins. Usually bread is torn into small pieces and tossed into a running body of water as prayers are recited.

Beth El Binah traditionally gathers on the second day of Rosh Hashanah for the ritual. Yom Kippur, the day of atonement, takes place 10 days after Rosh Hashanah. The day begins on Friday, Oct. 7 at 8 p.m. with Kol Nidre service, a somber chant that will be played on viola by congregation member Dan Sigale, who performs with the Fort Worth Symphony. Services on Oct. 8 begin at 10:30 a.m. and continue until sunset.

A week later is the eight-day festival of Sukkot, which marks the harvest with a celebration of thanksgiving. That holiday is observed with a meal eaten in a sukkah or booth.

The sukkah represents the small temporary shelters that were built in the fields for eating and sleeping during the harvest and are decorated with fruit and vegetables.

Beth El Binah's sukkah is built in member Wayne Wilson's yard in Lake Highlands and seats 50 for a large potluck dinner that will be held Friday, Oct. 14.

Fisch said that after the holidays he is planning to begin a class in basic Judaism. "The class is for people who want to convert or just learn more about Judaism," he said. *For more information about attending any service or class, email rabbi@bethelbinah.org.*

– David Taffet

SYNAGOGUE

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Marlee Matlin.

Then in Melissa Gilbert's thriller *Donor*, he played a rabbi.

Croll's partner, Jan Gartenberg, whom he met in Los Angeles, encouraged him to take a full-time job and Croll was hired by a synagogue in Albuquerque. And in 1996, Temple Shalom brought him to Dallas. After he was hired, Rabbi Kenneth Roseman asked Croll if he'd be moving to Dallas alone. Croll said his partner would be coming and is attending nursing school. Roseman said, "Then we'll find her an appropriate nursing school."

Croll said, "she is a he." Without missing a beat, Roseman replied, "Then we'll find him an appropriate nursing school."

Croll said the big question he was asked by Temple Shalom members about Gartenberg was, "Is he Jewish?"



nationalnews **Ready for the fight**



CAMPAIGN TRAIL | Openly gay members of Congress Rep. Tammy Baldwin, center, and Rep. Jared Polis, right, answer questions from Jonathan Capehart, left, at the International Gay Lesbian Leadership Conference in San Francisco in December 2009. Baldwin, a Democrat from Wisconsin, has announced she is seeking the seat in the U.S. Senate left vacant by the retirement of Democratic Sen. Herbert Kohl. If she wins the election, Baldwin will become the first openly LGBT person in the U.S. Senate.

"prepared to respond to any number of likely

attacks in this political age," including ones

she will seek the Democratic nomination to re-

place Sen. Herb Kohl, a Democrat who an-

nounced in May that he would not seek

person to run for a U.S. Senate seat, her cam-

paign has ignited considerable enthusiasm in

Although Baldwin is not the first openly gay

Baldwin, one of only four openly gay members of the U.S. House, announced Sept. 6 that

based on her sexual orientation.

re-election in 2012.

Baldwin says she doesn't believe anti-gay attacks against her in her U.S. Senate bid would work with Wisconsin voters

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service lisakeen@me.com

U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin said last week that her campaign for a U.S. Senate seat from Wisconsin "will not be about me," but she's



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Groups hope couples, lawyers will take the parenting pledge

New guidelines for same-sex parenting and custody aimed at stopping LGBTs from denying parental rights to ex-partners DANA RUDOLPH I Keen News Service lisakeen@me.com

Some of the most contentious lawsuits involving the rights of LGBT people have occurred when the biological parent of a child uses anti-LGBT laws to try and deny the child's non-biological parent custody or visitation.

But several LGBT legal organizations have published a revised set of standards aimed at stopping such behavior, and they're hoping parents and attorneys will take a pledge to abide by them.

The publication is "Protecting Families: Standards for LGBT Families," produced by Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, the National Center for Lesbian Rights and NCLR's National Family Law Advisory Council. It encourages lawyers to support and respect LGBT parents even when legal rights do not, and advises parents and lawyers to honor children's relationships with both parents, seek custody resolutions that minimize conflict, and use litigation only as a last resort.

Mary Bonauto, the director of GLAD's Civil Rights Project, authored the original version of the standards in 1999. She said the intent of the document is to urge same-sex parents to use whatever parental protections are available in their states, "for the sake of your children."

These protections may assist with issues such as medical decision-making, but may also help maintain both parents' relationships with the children when the couple breaks up.

The revised document is updated to reflect new laws in several states recognizing the relationships of same-sex couples, whether through marriage, civil unions or domestic partnerships. But it cautions that same-sex parents should not rely on such laws to protect their parental relationships with their children.

"[W]e still have a huge architecture of discrimination against same-sex relationships," said Bonauto. Many states do not recognize them at all or may not treat them in the same way as opposite-sex relationships. This may jeopardize the relationships of non-biological, non-adoptive parents to their children.

Even in Massachusetts, the first state to allow same-sex couples to marry, courts may not look favorably upon a non-biological parent who has not also done a "second-parent adoption" of a spouse's biological child, she said.

"There are still very parent-specific protections you should try to avail yourself of," said Bonauto.

Some protections may be available even in states that have constitutional bans against marriage for same-sex couples.

If parents do break up, Bonauto said, going to court is damaging financially and emotionally. And it can destroy the couple's ability to work together as parents.

There have been a number of recent cases across the country in which a biological or adoptive parent has tried to claim the other parent has no parental rights. Best known among them is the case of Janet Jenkins and Lisa Miller, which has grabbed headlines nationally.

Miller, the biological mother, asked courts in both Virginia and Vermont to deny Jenkins visitation and custody, and has taken issues to the **PARENTING**, Next Page



GLAD'S MARY BONAUTO | (Photo courtesy InfinityPortraitDesign.com)



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PARENTING. From Previous Page

U.S. Supreme Court five times, without success each time.

Miller was eventually ruled in contempt of court for defying a Vermont court order that she allow Jenkins visitation. The court then granted legal custody to Jenkins.

But Miller went into hiding with the girl at the end of 2009, and a man accused of helping her leave the U.S. was arraigned in a federal court last April.

Many similar cases exist, and the outcomes have been mixed.

The Delaware Supreme Court issued a ruling in March upholding the right of a woman to be identified as a de facto parent of a child she had been raising with her former same-sex partner - a child the partner adopted but that the woman herself did not.

The Nebraska Supreme Court in August ruled that a non-biological mom has a right, under the doctrine of in loco parentis - which recognizes a person who acts as a parent — to a custody and visitation hearing regarding the child she and her former partner were raising together.

But the North Carolina Supreme Court in December 2010 voided a lesbian mother's secondparent adoption. The majority on the court said state statutes permit adoptions only if the existing parent gives up all parental rights or is married to the person seeking to adopt, as in the case of a stepparent.

Other cases with biological mothers trying to deny parental rights to non-biological mothers have reached the appellate or state supreme court levels in the past few years in states including Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin — again with mixed results.

In several of these cases, notably Miller v. Jenkins, attorneys from conservative legal organizations such as Liberty Counsel and the Alliance Defense Fund have represented the biological mothers.

"They are making an industry of it," Bonauto noted of the groups. But many individual, private attorneys, including ones in the LGBT community, are also representing biological mothers against non-biological mothers in such cases.

GLAD will soon be launching an online pledge where attorneys can promise not to take these cases and to endorse the revised standards. Parents, too, can pledge to uphold them.

New Jersey attorney William Singer, a member of the Family Law Advisory Council, said he hopes attorneys will discuss the standards with parents, not just at the time of breakups, but also at the time of family creation, "to try and impress upon both parents why it's so important to maintain continuity of relationships for their children."

The standards are available via GLAD's Web site, GLAD.org.

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FIGHT

From Page 43

the LGBT political community.

Chuck Wolfe, head of the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, which supports openly gay candi-

dates for elective office, said in a telephone conference call with LGBT media Sept. 7 that the Victory Fund "believes this will be an important race for our community."

He predicted the community would "rally around" Baldwin, whom he called a "stellar" representative of the community.

Baldwin, who participated in that call and took questions from the media, said she expects the campaign to be "hotly, hotly contested," as are all Senate races in recent years.

The partisan balance has been closely divided for years. Democrats currently have 51 seats plus 2 Independents who caucus with them; Republicans have 47.

It takes a majority of 60 to break a filibuster staged by a minority party, and the Republican Party has made the filibuster an almost routine maneuver since 2008, in hopes of thwarting a second term for Democratic President Barack Obama.

Following Obama's election in 2008, Democrats and Independents held 60 seats.

Baldwin said her first challenge will be to introduce herself to parts of Wisconsin outside her district of Madison, the state capital.

She said current polling suggests between 52

percent and 55 percent of voters in the state recognize her name. And given the potential for a hotly contested Senate race to include an anti-gay attack, said Baldwin, she's eager to introduce herself to voters around the state before an attacker does.

Baldwin doesn't necessarily believe an antigay attack will be particularly effective in Wisconsin. She noted that the western part of the state has also elected an openly gay member of Congress before: U.S. Rep. Steve Gunderson.

Gunderson ran for re-election twice after he was outed in 1991.

Baldwin noted that she has been openly gay "all my adult life" and she thinks the voters of Wisconsin "appreciate values of honesty and integrity.

"And I have a lifetime commitment to equality for all," said Baldwin.

But "this campaign," Baldwin added, "will not be about me. It will be about the middle class, the threats they're facing, and which candidate is the best fighter for them."

Meanwhile, two state representatives in Wisconsin announced Sept. 7 that they will seek the Democratic nomination to run for Baldwin's seat.

One is openly gay Rep. Mark Pocan, who filled in Baldwin's state assembly seat when she was elected to Congress.

The other is State Rep. Kelda Roys, the youngest member of the Wisconsin assembly and former head of the Wisconsin chapter of NARAL.

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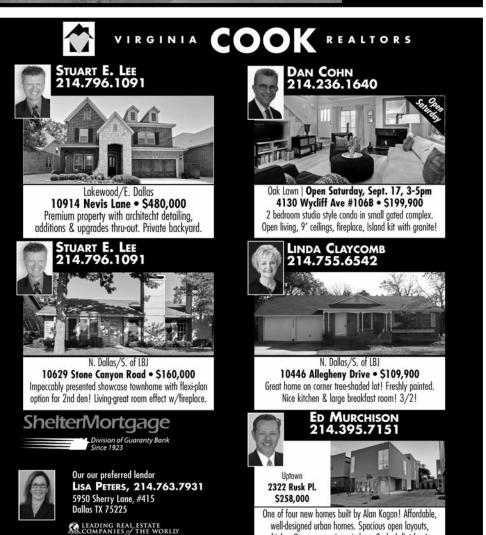
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nationalnews

DADT repeal starts Tuesday, but will discrimination continue?



STILL FIGHTING | Attorney Dan Woods, right, and Log Cabin Republicans Executive Director R. Clarke Cooper, left, pose together following the ceremony last December in which President Obama signed legislation repealing DADT. (Photo courtesy Log Cabin Republicans)

DOJ says Log Cabin lawsuit should be declared 'moot,' but LCR attorney warns that without ruling, discriminatory policies could be reinstated

LISA KEEN I Keen News Service lisakeen@me.com

"Don't ask, don't tell" will be off the books Tuesday, Sept. 20. But there is still concern among some that the removal of that specific law barring gays from the military will not stop discrimination against gays in the military.

And Servicemembers Legal Defense Network is warning active duty military to be aware of rules affecting them if they choose to be openly gay in uniform.

Log Cabin Republicans' attorney Dan Woods reminded a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals on Sept. 1 that Congressional repeal of DADT is not enough to end discrimination against gays in the military. Woods noted that before passage of DADT in 1993, there was a military regulation — not a federal law — that banned "homosexuals" from the military.

"That ban had existed for decades," Woods said.

And if the 9th Circuit panel does not affirm a district court decision finding DADT unconstitutional, Woods added, "the government will be completely unconstrained in its ability to again ban gay service in the military."

The 9th Circuit panel is considering a motion by the Department of Justice to declare the Log Cabin lawsuit moot since Congress has repealed DADT.

R. Clarke Cooper, executive director for Log Cabin Republicans said Tuesday, Sept. 13, that there is no prescribed timeline for the 9th Circuit issuing its decision on the motion.

"I know some people are expecting that we will have a ruling on that by Sept. 20 or just after that, but Dan Woods has told us that it could happen any time. And 'any time' means it could come in a month, or it could take several months. There's nothing that says when the court has to issue its ruling," Cooper said.

Woods pointed out that even since the repeal was passed by Congress last December, there is a new Congress now, there has already been **DADT**, Next Page

DADT, From Previous Page

a House vote to de-fund implementation of repeal, and there are "multiple candidates for president promising, as part of their campaign platforms, to repeal the repeal."

One member of the panel, Judge Barry Silverman, suggested the latter concern, about presidential candidates, seemed a bit "speculative."

"Well, there's an election next year," responded Wood.

"Come back next year," the judge shot back, with a barely stifled laugh. "If any of these things come to pass, it'll be a different story. But in the meantime, this is the situation we're faced with."

The Department of Justice is urging the federal appeals panel to declare the Log Cabin Republicans v. U.S. lawsuit moot. The lawsuit which won a powerful decision from U.S. District Court Judge Virginia Phillips in September 2010 — was largely responsible for prompting Congress to finally pass a bill repealing DADT in December.

Phillips had ordered the military to immediately stop enforcing DADT and, though the 9th Circuit put that order on hold pending appeal, military officials began warning Congress that it seemed inevitable the courts would strike down the law.

The military wanted a smooth transition to a DADT-free force, and Congress agreed.

Henry Whitaker, attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, urged the panel to declare the litigation moot. He said the government would submit a motion after Sept. 20 to vacate the ruling and have the case sent back to the district court for dismissal.

Whitaker said that, if the 9th Circuit does affirm the lower court ruling, the government might even consider appealing it to the U.S. Supreme Court. And he stated several times that, until repeal takes effect, the government "is defending" DADT on its merits.

Woods said that if the federal appeals panel agrees with the government and vacates the lower court decision, and then a new president or Congress reinstates the policy, "we'd have to start all over again to prove again that laws banning open gay servicemembers are unconstitutional.

"This case took seven years to get here today.

And it would be inappropriate to have to have people go through that all over again," Woods said.

Woods also noted that affirming Judge Phillips' ruling would remedy "collateral consequences" caused by DADT. Among those concerns, he said, are loss of benefits under the G.I. bill and benefits from the Veterans Administration, inability to be buried in VA cemeteries, and requirement that discharged servicemembers pay back their student loans.

The DOJ's Whitaker said Log Cabin's fear that a future Congress or president might re-enact DADT "does not pass the straight face test." And, he added, said individuals discharged under DADT could seek remedies to these collateral forms of discrimination through individual lawsuits.

But Woods argued that it "ought not be necessary for every one of the thousands of people who have been discharged under this law to have to do that.

"If you vacate the judgment and take away the case," Woods added "the government is unconstrained and simply might do it again. History might repeat itself."

For now, SLDN is trying to prepare gay active duty servicemembers for the historic change that is about to take place Tuesday when the 60-day review period will have ticked away following certification of military readiness to implement repeal.

And, not surprisingly, some organizations, including SLDN, plan to celebrate the end of the 18-year-old ban.

"Many servicemembers want to attend these celebrations, and some might want to speak at them," noted the SLDN website, adding that "no special rules apply to attendance at or participation in such events."

But SLDN did warn gay servicemembers not to criticize their commanders — past or present - or elected officials, and not to urge defeat of any particular elected official or candidate. And the organization warned servicemembers not to wear their uniform to an event that is partisan in nature

For more details on what's allowed and disallowed for active duty service members in uniform, see SLDN.org.

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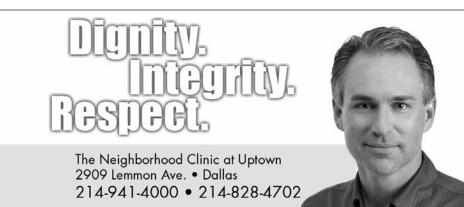
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nationalnews

LGBT issues again absent from GOP Tea Party debate

Fox News, Google sponsoring next debate on Sept. 22; citizens can submit questions for candidates through YouTube

LISA KEEN I Keen News Service lisakeen@me.com

There were no LGBT-related questions during the Monday, Sept. 12 Republican presidential debate, even though the driving interest behind the debate was the Republican Party's far right-wing.

The debate took place on the Florida State Fairgrounds in Tampa, with the same eight candidates as the most recent debate on MSNBC. About half the questions were posed by CNN news anchor Wolf Blitzer; the other half came from members of the Tea Party wing of the Republican Party.

There was considerable sparring on such issues as the survival of Social Security, how to deal with illegal immigrants and whether the government can require vaccination for a sexually transmitted cancer.

There were a lot of boos: The audience at the Fairgrounds repeatedly booed U.S. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas for saying the U.S. is threatened by terrorists because the U.S. occupies and bombs so many Muslim nations. Texas Gov. Rick Perry was booed for defending his state's offer of in-state tuition breaks for immigrants who are not yet citizens.

But there was a lot of cheering, too, primarily when the Republican candidates placed the blame for anything on President Obama, including the recession and the deficit.

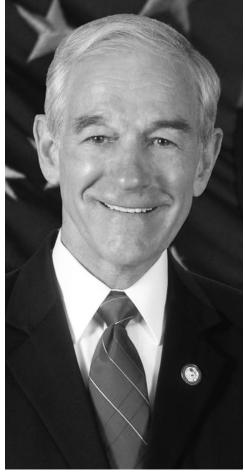
This was the fourth nationally televised debate among announced Republican presidential hopefuls since Aug. 11, when Fox News broadcast the first just prior to the Iowa straw poll.

And this was CNN's second debate. Its first was one in which it turned the questioning over to right-wing activists who posed questions that asserted their anti-gay political views as accepted fact.

There was some anticipation that the members of the Tea Party, also known as the Taxed Enough Already party, would focus on controversial "social issues," such as abortion and marriage for same-sex couples. That's because the Tea Party has — despite its supposedly taxfocused identity — established itself as the far right wing of the party on social issues.

The next Republican presidential debate takes place Sept. 22 at 8 p.m. CST, and is sponsored by Fox News and Google in Orlando, along with the Florida Republican Party.

The debate will take the form of 2008's infa-



Ron Paul

mous "YouTube debate" in which ordinary citizens submitted questions via YouTube.com and some of those were played back during the debate for candidates to answer. To submit a question for the Sept. 22 debate, go to YouTube.com/FoxNews.

As of the deadline, nearly all of the social issue questions proposed address the legalization of marijuana. But a couple of questions tackle LGBT-related issues.

One asks, "If our inalienable right as stated in our United States Declaration of Independence are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, which are endowed to us by our Creator (God), isn't the ban on gay marriage a violation of inalienable rights?"

Another question, directed to Michele Bachmann, asks, "You say that you are a small government conservative, yet you support big government on social issues. You want to ban all abortions, porn and gay rights. Isn't that hypocritical and unelectable?"

Visitors to the website are asked to vote on questions they most hope will be asked and these votes will reportedly influence the decision of Fox News as to which questions to ask.

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SYNAGOGUE

From Page 42

He is — and his brother is the rabbi of a synagogue in Juneau, Alaska.

"I told them, 'Jan's more Jewish than I am,'" he said

At Temple Shalom, Croll said he and Gartenberg are always invited to events as a couple, although, "In the beginning, some people were uncomfortable."

In fact, a few families left the synagogue, which now has about 800 member households.

But Roseman stood behind Croll and said, "These are the values by which we stand and they shouldn't be here if those are not their values.'

Early in his Dallas career, Croll was invited to sing at the installation of a new rabbi at Shearith Israel, the largest Conservative synagogue in Dallas. He received one hate letter.

"Every time you get up to sing, I'll walk out," he said the congregant wrote.

Croll showed it to the Shearith rabbi who, he said, was mortified and assured Croll he would always be welcome at their synagogue.

Croll said that his tenure at Temple Shalom has been rather noncontroversial.

"In 2003, we [he and Gartenberg] were married at Temple by five rabbis," he said. Family, friends and lots of Temple members were there to celebrate with them.

Then in 2008, the couple were legally married in Vancouver by a gay rabbi who was new to that Canadian congregation. They were the first gay couple married at that synagogue.

And this year, Croll said, he and Gartenberg will stand together when the temple honors couples celebrating long-term anniversaries: Croll and Gartenberg will observe their 25th anniversary in November.

Croll said he's spoken to groups a few times about his relationship, and he said parents sometimes have to explain to their children who Gartenberg is.

But after 16 years in Dallas, Croll said he is simply accepted as one of the faces of Judaism in the Metroplex.

He has also been there as a role model for the temple's youth. One boy that he bar mitzvahed a number of years ago recently stopped by to casually tell Croll that his boyfriend was moving in with him. And Croll thinks that's healthy and the way it should be.

Through his years in Dallas, Croll has participated in a number of events in the LGBT community. He's performed a number of times with the Turtle Creek Chorale and has participated with Congregation Beth El Binah.

When the LGBT synagogue hosted a conference, Croll emceed the evening's entertainment that included Estelle Getty, Roslyn Kind and local favorite Paul Williams. Last year, he represented the Jewish community at the dedication of the Interfaith Peace Chapel at Cathedral of Hope.

Croll said he isn't at Temple Shalom to make sure things get better. He's there making sure that everything's OK from the beginning.



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The Tea Party turns again to dirty tricks

viewpoints

Waxahachie Republican comes under fire from potential opponents over vote for anti-bullying bill and his connection with fundraiser for anti-bullying foundation

Politics just don't seem to get any nastier than they do in Texas, judging from a group of Texas Tea Party members' apparent plans to exploit an appearance in Dallas by an internationally known anti-bullying champion.

The Tea Party members reportedly hope a planned appearance by British rugby star Ben Cohen this month at

the Dallas gay rights parade can be used as a weapon against an incumbent Texas state representative in the Republican Pri-

mary. The legislator, state Rep. Jim Pitts, a Waxahachie Republican, is scheduled to appear at a fundraiser

for Cohen's anti-bul-

lying StandUp Foundation on Sept. 16, prior to the rugby player's appearance as a VIP guest at the annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade on Sept. 19.

Cohen, 33, retired from professional rugby in May of this year to focus on the Ben Cohen StandUp Foundation he created to combat homophobia and bullying. As an athlete he represented the brands Brive and Sale Sharks. He is married to a woman and has twin children.

In November 2000, Cohen's father Peter Cohen was killed while protecting an attack victim at a nightclub he managed in Northampton, England. He died a month later from head injuries. Three men were found guilty of the violence.

Cohen — a World Cup winner who is straight but has many gay fans — has said in interviews



TEA PARTY TARGET | Waxahachie Republican state Rep. Jim Pitts, left, talks with Waco Republican state Rep. Charles "Doc" Anderson during proceedings in the Texas Legislature in January, 2010. Members of the Tea Party are said to be targeting Pitts for defeat in 2012 after Pitts voted in favor of anti-bullying legislation this year, and reportedly hoped to use. (Eric Gay/Associated Press)

the stories he heard from gay people about being bullied and feeling suicidal as a result of the violence they experienced drew him to the issue years ago.

The Dallas fundraiser, organized by a gay resident, was scheduled to take place at Pitts' Highland Park home. It was relocated after published reports created controversy, and news of the uproar reached Cohen's representatives.

The situation nearly derailed Cohen's planned four-day visit to Dallas, according to the organizers.

The sports star's representatives reportedly wanted no association with Texas' volatile political climate, made infamous in recent years by ultra-conservative, anti-gay Republican presidential candidate, Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

Texas Tea Party members learned about Cohen's planned appearances when Dallas Voice published a report about them online.

At one point, the agitators who had heard about the report but couldn't find it online, erroneously claimed that the newspaper had pulled the story in an effort cover up Pitts' involvement with the fundraiser.

The Tea Party members antics came to light when they twice asked Joey Dauben, the publisher of the conservative Ellis County Observer website, to reach out to a Dallas Voice writer he knew for information.

In the last communication, the Tea Party members wanted to know if the newspaper or any other organization would be taking pictures at the fundraiser that they would be able to obtain for use against Pitts in a campaign.

The Tea Party members' supporters reportedly have no plans to demonstrate at the event or crash it.

Pitts reportedly is being targeted by Tea Party members because he advocated the passage of anti-bullying legislation in Texas and voted in favor of two measures backed by Equality Texas. The legislator reportedly offered the use of his home for the fundraiser because of his interest in the issue.

Although Pitts backed the anti-bullying measures, he has been criticized by LGBT advocates for voting to ban LGBT resource centers from college campuses. That has left some observers puzzled by the Tea Party members' tactics.

Dauben said that his criticism on his blog is more motivated by Pitts' apparent residency in Dallas when he represents Waxahachie, rather than his participation in the fundraiser.

Two Texas Tea Party members, Linda Bounds and T.J. Fabby, have announced plans to oppose Pitts, who has been in office since 1992, according to the Ellis County Observer. It appears the two candidates and their supporters are willing to do just about anything to get one of them elected.

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

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David Webb

Feedback

More on Schlein and the GOP

Regarding Rob Schlein's essay ("Why I will vote Republican in 2010," Dallas Voice, Sept. 2), in which he said, "If LGBTs really want to win equality, we must back the candidates that will help our pocketbooks, even if they take anti-LGBT positions":

This line says it all, "Because, at the end of the day, money is power. And we need to vote on the party that will best give us a chance to prosper, to accumulate wealth and, hence, all the power we need to accomplish our goals."

Schlein is clear about his lust for money and power. He apparently does not believe in the Constitution and the 14th Amendment's "equal protection" guarantee. Nor does he care about his gay sisters and brothers.

Finally, Schlein demonstrates that he cared nothing about fiscal conservatism during the period between 2000 and 2008, when a Republican president added \$6 trillion to the national deficit — the same president who showed no respect for gay women and men. So am I to believe that a Republican president will advocate for gay civil rights? As the Brits say, not bloody likely! *Jeffery Weber*, *Dallas*

Rob Schlein's article about why he will vote Republican ("Why I will vote Republican in 2012," Dallas Voice, Sept. 2) reminds me of the argument that many slaves were better off in bondage than they were after they were freed.

No level of economic privilege can compensate for the loss of basic civil rights. I will not live as a second-class citizen and hide in the closet, even if it buys me a nicer car and gets me a higher paying job. Even if I accepted Mr. Schlein's premise that voting Republican would lead to higher economic opportunities for the average person — which I don't — the price is still too high. That's why I will vote Democrat, no matter who is running. And I hope you will too. *Mark Swaim, Dallas*

In re: "Why I will vote Republican in 2012," Dallas Voice, Sept. 2, by Rob Schlein. Is this guy nuts? Bring back "don't ask, don't tell?" A federal defense of straight only marriage amendment? America got it wrong in 2008?

Hundreds of millions of Americans think not. Can we not be trusted to vote intelligently? How about we all do away with votes and have a permanent Republican government and bring back President Bush to save us from the recession he caused. What kind of gay man would dare show his face and tell us to vote for the most homophobic party in politics? He must be very stupid, or on the GOP payroll. *Nathaniel Ash, via the Internet*

On Sally Kern, gays and terrorists

If God was OK with this nation being founded with genocide of the native people and the total enslavement of others, Sally, I think he would be OK with us gays as well. This woman should be ashamed of herself.

Mike, via Instant Tea

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



IN A LAST-DITCH BID FOR PUBLIC SYMPATHY, MUAMMAR el-QADDAFI RESORTS TO THE GAY PANIC DEFENSE. This woman gives raving lunatics a bad name. *Harry Haines, via Instant Tea*

This bitch is so wrong! Some of my best friends are gay, and I don't believe for one minute that gay people are harmful to the U.S. Let's talk about the idiot in the house on Pennsylvania Avenue. He is sure as hell more harmful than any gay American. Sally, you make me sick! *Daun, via Instant Tea*

I wouldn't say gay people are dangerous, but they are wrong. Plus, this woman is just giving her opinion, so who is the real idiot? That's what is wrong with the country: God is slowly being taken out of everything. *John, via Instant Tea*

Sally Kern is exactly right. Keep on preaching the truth, Sally, even when all desert and abandon you! Stay strong! *Bob, via Instant Tea*

She is a terrorist by definition. *Aaron in D.C., via Instant Tea*

I'm so happy I moved away from Oklahoma. There are a lot of Sally Kerns in that dead-end state. Goodbye and good riddance to the hateful Okies.

Thomas, via InstantTea

Anyone who typically makes homophobic remarks or takes a strong homophobic stance is generally doing so to hide and/or mask their own homosexuality. I submit that Ms. Kern might be homosexual herself, as I submit that those who have defended her in this forum likely are as well. It simply goes to pattern. So, Ms. Kern, you're better off to face it, admit it, own up to it and deal with it. Otherwise, you will continue to a remain very unhappy human being like you are now.

James Simmons, via Instant Tea



No: 36 percent
 139 Votes cast
 Undicided: 14 percent



hankfully, there are no slushies in the face for members of UNT Glee Club, an organization inspired by the smash-hit Fox TV show, *Glee*. There's no Sue Sylvester, either. But there are plenty of similarities between the college club and their TV counterparts.

Founded in 2010 by Jose Coira, who recently graduated, the club arose as a direct result of the TV show.

"He was inspired to give students on campus an opportunity to shine like the stars they are," says Kendall Butler, a 23-year-old dancer and current president of the club. "UNT Glee Club is compiled of talented performers who sing and dance."

Unlike traditional collegiate glee clubs that focus on classical music, Butler says his group is inspired by and performs all types of music. Auditions for the 24-member show choir and 20-person dance team that comprise the club were so popular they had to turn away plenty of good talent.

"It's very competitive and nerve-racking because you want them all to be in Glee, but it just doesn't work out that way," he says. Comparisons to the show are easy because of the group's diversity, according to Butler.

"If I didn't know any better, I'd think they follow us around and steal ideas for the actual show," he says. "We get anything from the sweet Southern belle to the hard rocker, with only one thing in common: Music."

And music is definitely one thing that the University of North Texas is known for. Having a talented glee club blossom on its campus is not a stretch of the imagination at all.

"We get all sorts of talented students that audition. From music majors to bio-chemistry majors, students come from all over campus and impress us with their voices and technical dancing skills," Butler says. "Everyone we pick must be able to sing *and* dance. Most students can sing *or* dance, but we need our Gleeks to be well-rounded. Personality is also key — we want people who represent who we are."

When asked if they were interested in commercial success similar to what the stars of the television series have enjoyed with their No. 1 CDs and iTunes downloads, the reactions of its members are somewhat surprising.

"Personally, I don't feel like being world-famous or having record albums is what Glee is about," says 19-year-old soprano Lindsay Harris, a psychology major. "Glee is about making friends, having fun and the enjoyment of being on stage and performing. Don't get me wrong, I think seeing our glee club on a CD cover would be awesome, but our club is so much more than being famous."

Alto and fellow psych major Jessica Ailene Rogers, 21, agrees.

"We have had our fair share of news coverage, as well as different people hire us to perform, but when it comes to 'making it big,' we just prefer to have fun and put on a great show for our friends, families and local fans."

Butler believes a recording is definitely the direction the club would like to take eventually, but for now, everyone involved seems content to just explore their talents and have a good time. Most of all, UNT Glee is a place where students can be themselves, gay or straight, outgoing or reserved.

"It's the club where friendships are born," Butler says.

TEENAGED DREAMS | UNT Glee Club's 19-year-old members — RaShard Turley, Raena McEuin, Emmanuel Rodriguez, Gianna Millares (she's 20), Lindsay Harris and Marissa Davis — were inspired by the hit Fox series to pursue their love of performing. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

L+S travel

It's raining (ON) men

For one Southern Decadence virgin — and thousands of other gay men descending on NOLA — Tropical Storm Lee couldn't steal their thunder

JEF TINGLEY | Contributing Writer lifestyle@dallasvoice.com

Gay culture has a longstanding symbiotic relationship with low-pressure fronts. Chanteuses and drag queens alike sing about it in "Stormy Weather," it's H₂0 that ultimately does in the Wicked Witch of the West and the post-shower rainbow has become synonymous with LGBT Pride. It seems like we'll find any angle to work the adage "Every dark cloud has a silver lining."

So when it came time for my virgin voyage to New Orleans' "Gay Mardi Gras" known as Southern Decadence, I wasn't about to let a little rain (or even massive Tropical Storm Lee) steal my thunder — even if Lee's thunder was more than impressive.

As it turned out, I wasn't alone.

Clad in soggy leather, feathers and outfits slightly less revealing than a birthday suit, partygoers from across the nation braved the storm that flooded others parts of city to make sure that this 41st annual event lived up to its indulgent namesake. Organizers estimate Decadence brought about \$125 million in economic impact to New Orleans and a crowd of nearly 80,000 people (down from an 110,000 in previous years).

But beyond the loyal fans, what made Decadence really shine was its all-inclusive embrace throughout the French Quarter. The sense of notorious southern hospitality was almost palpable.

The hub of the activities began near Bourbon and Saint Ann streets, home of NOLA's largest resident gay bars — Oz and the Bourbon Pub/Parade — which were festooned in this year's official colors of fuchsia pink, black and silver for the occasion. Their crowded balconies provided great people watching, but there was plenty to see on the street below, too — like Miss Ashley. This self-proclaimed "traffic trannie" works the intersection with her best "Stop In The Name Of Love" moves along with a whistle and a whip to keep partygoers safe from

RAINING, Page 55



GET WET | Despite occasional cloudbursts, the French Quarter remained a hot-bed of activity all throughout SoDec weekend. (Photo courtesy Rod Orta)





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RAINING, From Page 53

passing cars. (She even has a Traffic Trannie Facebook page.)

Strolling along Bourbon Street, you'll note how clubs that usually cater to the heterosexual set during other times of the year ramp up their Kinsey Scale rating to 6.5 over Labor Day weekend, adding rainbow flags, hunky bartenders and drink specials to lure in the gays. It worked for our group, which made repeat appearances at a little-known bar called Bourbon Heat (711 Bourbon St.) that offered more breathing room, three-for-one drinks and front row seats to the action on the street.

Decadence is the kind of party that goes from morning-to-night - or morning-tomorning if you choose (throughout the year, there is no "last call" in New Orleans — bars stay open 24/7). But there are less crazy options if you need respite from dancing in the rain (or searching for your pants).

Places like the Carousel Bar at the Hotel Monteleone (214 Royal St.) is one such example. The bar is decked out like an old-fashioned carousel and your bar stool literally goes round-and-round to give you an everchanging vantage point. The setting was very relaxed with background music as eclectic as the crowd.

And while the temptation at Decadence can be to live on a "liquid diet" or simple street

foods like pizza and Lucky Dogs, we opted for one night of elegance at the world famous Arnaud's Restaurant (813 Rue Bienville). It's the Big Easy equivalent of dinner and a show. Before your meal, tour the upstairs Mardis Gras Museum. Some of the elaborately beaded and feathered costumes on display date back to the 1940s, almost resembling cave drawings that Bob Mackie might later turn into a gown for Cher. The real star, however, is Arnaud's extensive menu of Creole belly-rubbing goodness. And for true dramatic flair, make sure to order up the flamin' Bananas Foster for dessert (its presentation will have everyone in the room looking your way).

I'm sure that any other year, Southern Decadence might have received a much different beads and moral codes left in the gutter, but in this case the rain seemed to bring just some good clean fun. And as the talented Katy Perry was once

paraphrased as saying: "After you [drink a]



report of dignity exchanged for GLAM IT UP | Attendees at the annual Labor Day bacchanal let all inhibitions loose. (Photo courtesy Rod Orta)

Hurricane, comes a rainbow." Southern Decadence 2012, I'll be back. So get those blue skies and shirtless boys ready.

TRAVEL DIARY

Bus tours and hosted walking tours of cities are popular ways to learn what sights and stops to hit, but technology is making human contact so less relevant. GPSmyCity.com has developed smartphone apps for 180 international cities -

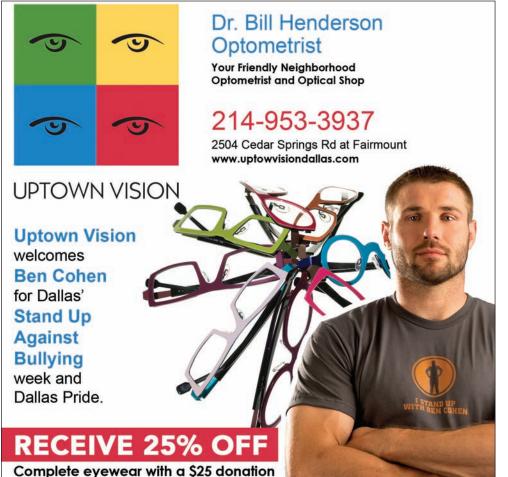
with some gay hubs having gay-specific apps: Buenos Aires, San Francisco, Orlando, Acapulco, Vancouver. Madrid, even Houston. The apps offer everything from "gay nightlife of



B.A." to "top-rated gay venues of Vancouver" and "LGBT entertainment in Madrid." The apps cost from \$3-\$5 per destination.

Dallas Pride officially lasts only until Sunday, but you can road-trip it to nearby Shreveport, La., for a week-long film festival of queer cinema.

PACE (People Acting for Change and Equality) hosts its third annual North Louisiana Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, Sept. 16-22 at its artsy Robinson Film Center. The festivities include an opening night appearance by Bruce Vilanch, who will introduce the documentary Get Bruce. Other films screening over the course of the fest include Undertow, pictured, Wish Me Away and Thy Will Be Done. Visit RobinsonFilmCenter.org, NLGLFF.org and PaceLouisiana.org for more. – Arnold Wayne Jones



Complete eyewear with a \$25 donation to the Ben Cohen Stand Up Foundation* *Some restrictions apply

Ben Cohen MBE, International Rugby Champion and Chair of the StandUp Fou



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A good head on his houlders

For actor Matt DeAngelis, the flower power musical 'Hair' isn't just a time capsule — it's a reminder of the transformative effect of theater

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

att DeAngelis wasn't even alive when the hippie Summer of Love took place, but for the last two years, he's happily relived it eight times a week as one of the original cast members in the Tony Award-winning revival of *Hair*.

"I didn't know a lot about the show before I

was cast in it," says the 28-year-old Boston native who now makes his home in New York. "I'm sort of a contemporary rock musical theater singer and always have been, so when I started doing *Hair* I said, 'How did I miss this for this long?' But my parents never listened to it — they didn't listen to the Beatles either, so I missed that, too."

HAIR

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DeAngelis and other members of the original cast bring the show to that reddest of reds when they open at the Winspear Opera House Tuesday as part of the Lexus Broadway Series. In fact, this company is coming directly from the New York production, where they spent the summer.

That means DeAngelis — who, like several members of the cast, is gay — was in New York when same-sex marriage was legalized in the Empire

State. To commemorate it, three gay couples wed on the stage of the St. James Theatre while the *Hair* company looked on.

"I was standing center stage for that," DeAngelis boasts. "A doorman and usher at different theaters were one couple, an actor whom I didn't know and a playwright were another couple, Terri White and her longtime girlfriend got married — Terri's a legend in our industry. It was fantastic!"

Combining theater and activism seems like a perfect fit for a

LIFE+STYLE stage

show like Hair.

"Gay rights are important to theater people, ya know? Gavin Creel, who was our original Claude [and who performed at last year's Black Tie Dinner], inspired us to do a bunch of work with Broadway Impact. We did a big benefit in London, we marched on Washington for the marriage equality rally. We have such a special group of producers they lost \$150,000 to let us go to Washington. But it's such a special cause for our company, because right is right. We've all taken the message of *Hair* and the idea of advocacy for what you believe in."

Don't expect to see similar commitment ceremonies on the stage of the Winspear, though.

"To me, marriage isn't symbolic — it is real," DeAngelis says. "I wish we could [perform a same-sex marriage] every night in every city. But that was really just a victory lap for us: It said in the biggest metropolis in the U.S., you can get married. If it wasn't legal it wouldn't have mattered."

Hair is a slightly formless musical, set in 1967 (before the madness of 1968 — the assassinations of MLK and RFK, the escalation of the war in Vietnam) where free-love (including then-provocative issues of interracial dating and homosexuality), drug use and counterculture attitudes are vigorously embraced. Still, some of the controversy over it, especially its notorious nude scene, puzzles DeAngelis.

"I think it's an incredibly powerful moment in the context of the show. We had one walkout where a woman grabbed her daughter and stormed out. People get all bent out of shape because we took our clothes off for 30 seconds, and it's not even sexual. But we do *far* more offensive things in the show with our clothes on: humping, drug use, language. I sing a song called 'Sodomy' — though granted, people walk

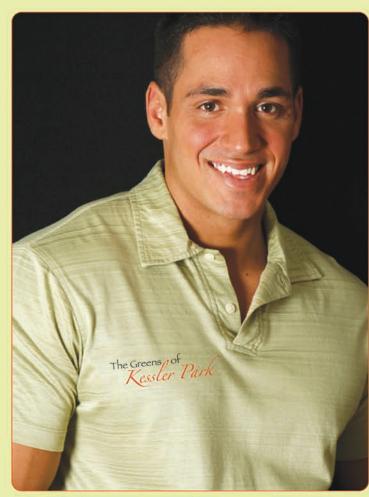
out during that too," he laughs. A show like this may be a good fit in gay-friendly NYC, but DeAngelis likes the idea of bringing the message to the people, and not just preaching to the choir.

"Not always playing to a liberal New York audience is sort of the point of the show for us," he says. "It's such a message show; taking it to the people is important. Just because you come see *Hair* doesn't mean you need to leave as a flower child. We say what we have to say and confront people. If we change a few minds, that's awesome, but what we really want to do is force people to think about it. That's the art form. Theater is important — I couldn't do it for a living if I didn't believe that. It really has an impact on people, shining a light on the darkest of corners."

And, like few other musicals, *Hair* certainly does let the sunshine in.







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Lips together, legs apart

The ultimate stage mom gets her turn — and it's a good one — at Lyric; a doctor rubs women the wrong way in Kitchen Dog's 'Vibrator Play'

ON THE BOARDS

3120 McKinney Ave. Through Oct.

8. KitchenDogTheater.org

GYPSY at Irving Arts Center.

3333 MacArthur Blvd., Irving. Through Sept. 18. LyricStage.org.

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

The puns for In the Next Room, or the Vibrator Play, now setting off sparks at The MAC courtesy of Kitchen Dog Theater, practically write themselves: "Stimulating!" "Probing!" "Certain to rub some people the wrong way."

But it's the less-obvious appeal of the play, and its unexpected and abiding humor, that makes all of those jokes accurate descriptions of a naughty but thoughtful comedy of manners.

Oscar Wilde it ain't — it is, rather, Sarah Ruhl, a MacArthur "Genius" Fellow who's an ac-

quired taste. Her brand of theatrical realism is difficult to pin down. The full title for this play sounds both ominous and dirty, but, at least in this version, it is neither. In fact, trying to pigeonhole it in any way is a fool's errand. It's a proudly feminist screed fulminating against male-dominated society while retaining nuance. It is sui generis: A woman-centric sex farce with lesbian overtones.

In the 1880s, after the Civil War and at the dawn of the age of Edison, women are still hemmed in by Victorian values even as modernity threatens to break them free. For Catherine Givings (Martha Harms), the electrification of her home, quite literally, turns a light on for her. She's bored with her husband (Max Hartman), a scientist of some kind who becomes known around town for treating women suffering from "hysteria," a blanket term for any female who

seems remotely dissatisfied with her life. How could any girl in her 20s, married to a man in his 40s and living in comparative luxury be anything other than content? Marc Cherry didn't invest desperate housewives; society did that generations ago.

Dr. Givings' treatment, discussed with clinical detachment, includes a new-fangled device made possible by electricity: It stimulates the

vulva, releasing the "pent up juices" that "congest" the female body and mind. IN THE NEXT ROOM at The MAC,

Basically, he's masturbating clients while their husbands wait in the next room, happily paying for a service they could perform for free if only they'd open their eyes.

A lot of the humor comes from the disconnect between Givings' therapies and the ecstatic rapture he induces in his patients, none more dramatically than Mrs. Daldry (Catherine DuBord). A modern doctor would easily diagnose Mrs. Daldry with post-partum depression ... at least until noticing that she seems to get her "juices" released better when Givings' nurse Annie (Kristin McCollom) performs the service by hand.

The play takes its most raucous turn when Dr. Givings is visited by a Leo (Austin Tindle). Male hysterics are rare, the doc notes, though it is more common among Bohemian types. He then proceeds to treat his patient by "massaging the prostate" with a cigar-shaped version of the vibrator, which Leo enjoys more than the supporting cast in a Falcon video.

LIPS, Page 61

EVERYBODY FLIRTS | A scientist (Max Hartman, left) treats hysteria in his wife (Martha Harms) and even a man (Austin Tindle) with a medieval dildo in scathing, hilarious 'The Vibrator Play.' (Photo by Matt Mrozek)

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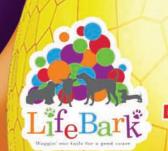
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L+S | stage

LIPS, From Page 58

Such absurdism — can the men truly be so ignorant? — clicks alongside some potent observations about how women are made neurotic by well-intentioned oppression, and about how homosexuality basically among men and women is best dealt with by ignoring it. The style is both scathing and sexy, funny and poignant. Just as Mrs. Daldry explores her incipient lesbianism, she's arrested in her burgeoning self-awareness by societal norms. (In some ways, not much has changed.)

Comedies about onanism in which people have onstage orgasms may seem like a hard sell, but director Jonathan Taylor makes it all work without digressing into lurid potty humor. He teases well-crafted performances from the entire cast, all of whom combine a modern perspective with a comfort level with the 19th century idiom ... which is to say, not all that comfortable. That's kind of the point.

There has probably never been a better book-musical written for the American musical theater than **Gypsy**, which Lyric Stage has mounted, as has been its wont in recent seasons, with a full 39-piece orchestra and magnificent sets and costumes (the clothes were actually bought from the recent Broadway revival with Patti LuPone).

Set in the world of Vaudeville, it's the perfect meta-play: A show *about* show people *for* show people. Hard-driving stage mom Rose Hovick (Sue Mathys) pushes her daughters into show business as kids: One will eventually become B-movie actress June Havoc; one the legendary ecdysiast Gypsy Rose Lee. But until then, they were just Shirley Temple wannabes schlubbing around the Orpheum circuit during the last gasps of Vaudeville.

The songs, by Jule Styne and Stephen Sondheim, are classics: "Everything's Coming Up Roses," "Small World," "Some People," "Rose's Turn." Just the names can give a theater queen chills. Still, music director Jay Dias could add a little more tempo to some of the numbers. "All I Need is the Girl" needs to sparkle as lightly as champagne bubbles, and charming as the num-



CLEAR THE DECKS | Rose (Sue Mathys) dominates her kids in 'Gypsy,' getting a full-orchestra treatment at Lyric Stage. (Photo courtesy Michael C. Foster)

ber is here, it could have more energy.

But who's gonna complain too much, when you get to *hear* these gorgeous numbers as they are meant to be, by a stellar cast. Mary McElree makes a convincing transition from mousy Louise to sophisticated seductress Gypsy Rose, and Sara Shelby-Martin steals her scene as Miss Mazeppa. But this is largely Mathys' show: She's short but firm, with the low center of gravity shared by all great male movie heavies. Her pipes are powerful but her acting is even better. You believe her mania even as you hold her in contempt. There's real magic in that.



Pride Performing Arts Fest wraps up

Uptown Players' inaugural performing arts festival, timed to coincide with Dallas Pride, was a risky venture, if only in training theatergoers to seek out new plays mid-week and in repertory. But the experiment has paid off so far; co-producer Craig Lynch reported that most of the performances in the upstairs Frank's Place space were complete or near sell-outs last weekend. Good for them, but even better for audiences, getting to see Paul Rudnick's hilarious **New Century**, where Lulu Ward gives the best performances I've seen on a stage this year, and a fully-dressed staged reading of the lesbian melodrama **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove** — both of which you can still see one more time (*New Century* on Saturday at 4 p.m., *Bluefish* on Friday at 8 p.m.). The whole event wraps up Saturday night at 7:30 p.m., with a cabaret performance RSVP Vacations vets by **Amy Armstrong and Freddy Allen**, pictured. — *A.W.J.*

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SMOKEY

L+S sketches



Singer and spokesmodel **Digna Mederos** balances multifarious interests in her life

MARK STOKES | Illustrator mark@markdrawsfunny.com

Name and age: Digna Mederos, 26

Spotted at: 7-11 at Oak Lawn and Maple Occupation: Marketing/promotions, spokesperson, brand ambassador, actress

This lovely Cuban-Mexican-American with the warm smile and long legs was born in Dallas and raised in neighboring Ennis. She was a

gorgeous child with personality to boot and her Cuban father nourished her burgeoning interest in performing with ballet classes (since age 3), singing, dancing, voice and piano classes.

Her World, the Stage. Digna attended community college for commercial music, and then switched her study to music theory and dance at a performing arts school in Corona, Calif. Her student life was put on hold when she was chosen as one of the finalists in "La Academia," a *Big*



Brother/American Idol type program produced in Mexico by Azteca-America. Although she didn't ultimately find herself in the final cast, the experience gave her a new perspective on the world of performing for television. You can also spot her in numerous local television commercials.

Digna has an incredible singing voice, honed from an early age. Her natural beauty and vocal chops won her the title of Miss Kaliente, after three

nights of stiff competition. The competitors were selected from three categories: swimsuit, formalwear and talent. She borrowed a dress from a drag queen, who helped her adjust it to fit her. Her win was guaranteed when she sang "No Me Queda Mas," one of Selena's most popular songs.

Digna's hobbies include attending art shows, tennis and Asian cuisine (Korean, Thai and Vietnamese are her favorites).



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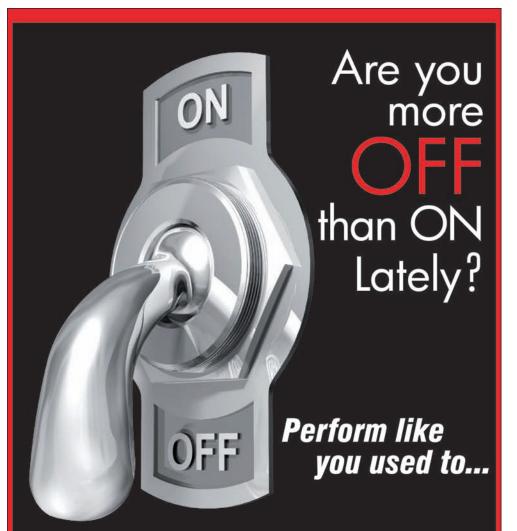
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Dallas ANTI-AGING

Drew's clues ay gets real about reality TV

L+S tube



Love it, hate it or maybe just love to hate it, reality television has put Dallas right in the middle of its crosshairs with shows like *Big Rich Texas*, the upcoming *A-List: Dallas* and Bravo's newest beehive of bitchery, *Most Eligible Dallas*, filming around town in recent months.

Eligible promises a front row seat to the lives of six of our city's most see-and-be-seen socialites (although popular opinion seems to question some of their pedigrees). We had a chance to visit with the lone gay member of this glitterati: Drew Ginsburg. As is boasted in his Bravo bio, the 29-year-old is "a proud gay man, [who] prefers cars to couture" and works for his family's business of high-end automotive dealerships.

Ginsburg shared some local haunts that did not make it on camera, and how he felt Dallas' reputation, and his own, were faring in the warmth of the Hollywood spotlight.

- Dallas Voice: How did you get involved in the show
 m

 to begin with?
 Ginsburg: I was actually approached
 in
- What was your reaction to the first time you saw yourself on TV? Was it the same as when you hear your own recorded voice and think, "I don't sound like that?" I was actually quite shocked. I thought I was going to come off funny. I didn't know I was going to come out looking as good as I am. I really had no expectation of how I looked on camera.

on Facebook by producers.

- The night the first show aired, we saw many Facebook posts about one of your first on-camera lines where you said you can "have everything you want at the push of a buddon." You seemed to catch a lot of flack for that pronunciation, especially given the context. Anything you want to add in your defense? Well here's a fact about the way that I said the word button: I'm dyslexic, I have ADD, and I was actually born with a speech impediment so some words just don't come out right. And if you don't like it, guess what? I'm lucky that I can even say "buddon." If [people] are going to attack me on the way I say button, I think it's kind of funny. Those are things I wear with honor and pride because they make me who I am. I was born this way, and if they don't like it they can go complain somewhere else
- In the second episode, you went to a matchmaker — a very old-school one who relies strictly on index cards, no computers. How did you even find her? My friend found her by Googling gay

matchmaker Dallas. I was shocked to go to her house in Bluffview and meet her. For some reason, when I heard matchmaker, I was thinking like matzo balls and dates — my family's Jewish. I was expecting Yiddish and Yenta... but I didn't get Yenta.

— Jef Tingley

- Even though your date with J.P., a diminutivestatured redhead from Chihuahua, Mexico, whom you called an "endangered species" didn't work out, would you recommend matchmaking for a friend? I'd recommend matchmaking to anyone. I mean, there's nothing wrong in my mind in taking a shot in the dark sometimes...especially when it comes to love.
- Who on the show would benefit the most from matchmaking? I think Courtney. I feel like sometimes you need to get your feathers ruffled and break out of your old routines.
- How do you think Dallas comes across on the show? I think Dallas looks incredible. They got a picture of the new bridge. That was kind of cool.
- Speaking of Dallas, we've seen you on the Katy Trail with cast mate Glenn Pakulak (and his dreamy washboard abs) and at other notable locations like Sfuzzi and Naan. Do you have any favorite local spots that didn't end up on camera so far? The Grapevine has not ended up on camera. It's one of my favorite hangouts. Same with Company Café and Bolsa.
- Since you're *Most Eligible*'s lone homo, where would you take your fellow cast mates to paint

ON THE TOWN | Ginsburg, above left, attends DIFFA, showing Bravo audiences the gay side of Dallas.

the town pink? [We'd] probably start at the Grapevine as a primer even though it's not a gay bar. Then around 11 p.m., I would take them to the Round-Up. It's fun and legendary... I got to meet Lady Gaga at my building after her performance at the Round-Up. She called me a "Little Monster," but I explained to her that I was six foot four and not that little!

While we are on the subject of being "the only gay in the village," were you out before the show aired? Did you just quote *Little Britain* to me? Yes, I was out before the show aired. But I have [heard from] a bunch of, like, high school friends ... they were all shocked to find out. I was the one in high school who was caught drinking with all the cheerleaders. I was also on the football team, so everyone thought I was a *playa*. But I was just hanging out with them.

Weight loss seems to be a big catalyst in your life. How long has it been? And how did you go from gastric bypass to injecting yourself with HCG (a hormone produced during pregnancy that helps with weight loss)? I'm glad you brought that up. In 2002, after watching my grandma pass away I decided that I needed to do something. I was 420 lbs., and I realized dieting was not the path to do something drastic to jumpstart the process. I talked to several doctors who said my only option was gastric bypass.

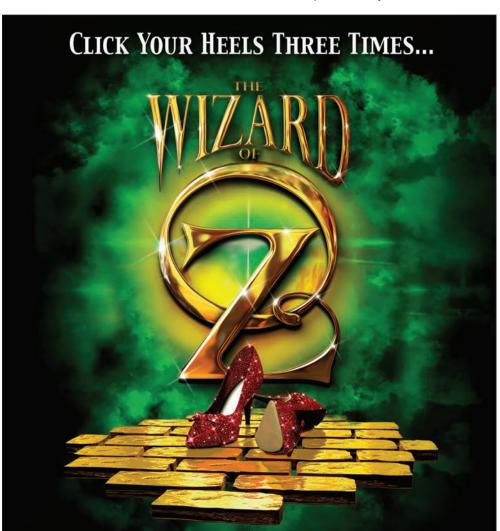
I started that process and my alcoholism took into effect

after my gastric bypass about two years later. I had to deal with that road bump, which I am glad I did because it helped me get to grips with my sexuality. Getting sober made me realize I had to be more honest with myself and come out of the closet.

When I came to Dallas, I did not have the same support system [as in California]. I went from 250 lbs. to 280 lbs. in 2010, and that's when I started HCG and working with a trainer and on my nutrition. My weight still fluctuates. During filming, I jumped from 212 lbs. to 235 lbs. because of the stresses of filming, work and not getting to go to the gym. But I have not used HCG since April of this year.

One of your claims to fame is that you are a car fanatic. What are you driving right now? I'm in the 2012 Audi A6. It's a brand new car. I've had every single model variation [of Audi] since I started driving. I've always loved this car: in my teens, in my 20s and now into my 30s.

- Cast mate Tara Harper is very involved with Paws in the City, a North Texas animal charity. Do you have a favorite local charity you support? I support Legacy Counseling and Hospice and DIFFA. My family has been supporting DIFFA since I was 16 years old.
- You mention that because of HCG, your pee will actually test positive during a pregnancy test. Have you ever been brave enough to waltz into the drugstore for your own box of EPT? Yes I did... and it did work!



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L+S tube

Scheeners Expect the gays to come in droves at the Emmys

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

The Tony Awards are always reliably gay, the Oscars and Grammys rarely (depends on how well received George, Elton and Pedro are that year), but the Emmys? Well, they are unpredictable. Except in recent years, as mainstream TV producers have embraced gay plots and characters — and the Emmys has embraced those shows - you're getting more out out there.

Case in point this year is the selection of last year's winner, lesbian actress Jane Lynch, as host of the show. The lanky comedian — known for playing the homophobic yet paradoxically dykey Sue Sylvester on the gayest TV show ever, Glee — has joked in promos all summer that she's not Ellen DeGeneres, another gay Emmy host of years past. Score one for the queer team.

But it's not just in the standard-bearer of Lynch that we get our gay on. Once again, Glee faces off against Modern Family and 30 Rock in the best comedy series category, as well as gayfriendly Big Bang Theory, Parks and Recreation and The Office. Family won last year, which seems a good bet again.

Most of the cast of *Family* is also up, including

gay hubbies Jesse Tyler Ferguson and last year's supporting actor winner, Eric Stonestreet. But my money's on Chris Colfer, once again bringing depth, humor and sass to what could have been a stereotypical role as flamboyant Kurt Hummel on *Glee*. (Please, God, let it *not* go to Jon Cryer.)

Last year's best leading actor in a comedy, out actor Jim Parsons from Big Bang, could repeat, though he'll have to best co-star Johnny Galecki and bear icon Alec Baldwin (30 Rock).

The Good Wife is the only best drama series nominee originally shown on a broadcast network, and it features a bisexual character, last year's winner (and again nominee) Archie Punjabi. But though it didn't have a great season and has nothing gay about it, we're kinda pulling for Friday Night Lights, which aired on the Audience Network before NBC dumped it in the summer doldrums. But why not give it to perpetually deserving *Dexter* instead, as well as best actor to Michael C. Hall?

The miniseries/TV movie category ain't what it used to be, but fortunately we have queer auteur Todd Haynes' multifaceted retelling of the campy classic Mildred Pierce to give a queer twist, likely dominating in best series, actress Kate Winslet and in the supporting categories, each



LYNCH PIN | The Emmys gets pretty gay from the start with a lesbian host (and 'Glee' nominee) Jane Lynch, but expect 'Modern Family' to dominate in a lot of categories.

with multiple deserving nominees.

The reality competition category is a who's who of gay, with faves Top Chef (gay), Dancing with the Stars (gay), So You Think You Can Dance (gay, gay!), Project Runway, (uber-gay!), American *Idol* (need we say more) against *The Amazing Race* (still pretty damn gay).

Jeff Probst has already been named the winner of the reality series host award for Survivor. Other announced winners include guest acting in a comedy winners Justin Timberlake (for hosting SNL), Gwenyth Paltrow for Glee (besting fellow nominee Dot-Marie Jones as Coach Bieste). And *Kathy Griffin: My Life on the D-List* already lost to The Deadliest Catch as best reality program, precluding a primetime appearance from the raucous gay icon. Emmys, schmemmys. It's all just a way to relax after the Pride parade. And maybe feel a little more Pride if Colfer, Lynch and others take the stand. That would be a nice end to Pride weekend.

The Emmy Awards airs on Fox, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m.

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2011

A Bra of SIZE

Breast cancer survivor Leslie Ezelle teams with artist George Tobolowsky to create a traveling sculpture of hope and female empowerment

JENNY BLOCK | Contributing Writer lifestyle@dallasvoice.com

THINK PINK | A huge bra sculpture will lead a 'pinking' trend where people can donate to Susan G. Komen.

tine art

Turning adversity into opportunity is the hallmark of a fighter. But using a giant bra do it? Well, that requires vision, commitment... and maybe a sense of humor.

"Cancer was not on my to-do list," says Leslie Ezelle, HGTV *Design Star* contestant, former Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader and breast cancer survivor. But as anyone who has wrangled with the disease knows, cancer doesn't care about to-do lists or anything else for that matter.

Ezelle, generally gregarious, withdrew when she got the diagnosis.

"I was a turd when I went through breast cancer, though people were fantastic the entire time," she says. Ezelle resented it when people gave her pink things as signs of solidarity and support.

"Someone gave me a hat and I threw it like a little baby brat. I was sick of anything pink. I was having what I call my 'titty-pity party.' Serving bitter, party of one!"

After six surgeries and a healing process Ezelle says would have gone much more smoothly had she laid down and rested as advised, Ezelle was cured but still withdrawn. Her mom finally snapped her out of her haze, encouraging her to audition for *Design Star*.

She was eliminated before the finale, but that didn't dampen her newfound love of life. After being kicked off the show, she started working with Susan G. Komen for the Cure to assuage some of her guilt about her bad patient behavior.

Enter a 14-foot high, 13-foot wide, 1950s-inspired metal bra sculpture, created by Ezelle and artist

George Tobolowsky, titled "Ann-e Girl." Named after the late sister of Ezelle's partner, who succumbed to breast cancer, the piece, crafted from metal straps, will be hung on a metal branch signifying the "tree of life." It will be the harbinger of "pinking" whatever location at which the bra appears, and help Ezelle in her goal to raise an additional \$29,000 for Komen — in about a month.

"You can't strap a good woman down is the theme," Ezelle explains. "The bra will move. Wherever the bra goes, that is when the building goes pink, trailblazing through Dallas and leaving a wake of pink behind it."

"Pinking" involves painting, lighting or decorating an area or building in pink to raise funds and awareness for the Komen fund. "Dallas is a little late to the party — pinking has been really successful in other cities," Ezelle says.

The movement will begin with the pinking of the West Village on Pride Saturday at 5 p.m., when the sculpture will be unveiled. The event will include live performances, video presentations and tributes to the battle against breast cancer. One of the videos is of mothers with breast cancer — survivors and those who have lost the battle — and their children.

"For the music, I've changed some of the words to a Bob Dylan song that Adele does called 'Make you Feel my Love," says Ezelle. "Now it's basically the words a mom who died because of breast cancer would have said to her kids. Like my contact at Komen always says, 'It's the tearjerkers that really get people involved.' This will be a tearjerker."

BRA, Page 75

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2701 Reagan St., Dallas, 75219 LGBT elders are more likely to be single, childless, and reliant on a

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L+S clubs

STEVEN LINDSEY | Contributing Writer

Pulling over to a McDonald's to access their free wi-fi in preparation for

an interview with legendary adult film

director Chi Chi LaRue seemed like a good idea at the time. A quick visit to

her website and a review of her bio

wouldn't take more than a few min-

Except it never got that far. When a

large photo of her film CockWatch, featuring stars with names like Drake

Jaden, David Chase and Colton Steele,

popped up on-screen ... well, let's just

say the kiddies in Playland weren't prepared for those kinds of McNuggets. So I scooped up my laptop and

headed to the car to call LaRue (the

drag alter ego of Larry David Paciotti),

who had just returned to Los Angeles

after a three-movie shoot in Florida and a tropical-storm-soaked weekend at

Southern Decadence in New Orleans. I

actually ran into the diva at a bar in

NOLA but didn't recognize her since her extraordinary weight loss. Since her gastric bypass surgery three years ago,

she's lost more than 150 pounds (or the

"I'm glad I did it; I'd do it again,"

about me. It's changed the way I even look at

myself as far as the Chi Chi LaRue character

goes. It took me a while to get back into charac-

get it into my head that I could still be big and

If anything, slimming down has energized

to directing gay porn movies in fabulous desti-

nations all over the world, she has a retail store

(and chi-chi) merchandise, and she books DJ

in West Hollywood that sells a variety of Chi Chi

Which is exactly what brings her to Dallas for

Pride. She'll be spinning at the Drama Room and

heads to the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade on

Sunday. When she found out the Drama Room is

next door to a certain Cedar Springs restaurant,

"Oooh, I love the Black-eyed Pea! I will be

having some fried pickles. Guaranteed. I love the

Other than a few quick ventures out for a little

Tin Room on Friday and Saturday nights, then

LaRue and kept her busier than ever. In addition

she says. "It's changed everything

ter. Having lost the weight, I had

it in my head that I wasn't going

to be my character anymore. But

the character's inside me. It's

thin, you can do that. I had to

what I exude and put out there

and how I present myself. Fat or

flamboyant even in a smaller body."

gigs at gay clubs from coast to coast.

though, she immediately perked up.

Black-eyed Pea!" she says.

equivalent of 1.35 twinks).

stevencraiglindsey@me.com

utes.

If you haven't seen Miss LaRue recently, prepare to be amazed

If you haven't seen Miss LaRue

HALF THE GAL SHE USED TO BE | Her hair's still as big as Texas, but the porn goddess and DJ has dropped 150 lbs.

> comfort food and her official public appearances, LaRue's travels have been pretty low-key.

"I like to stay in my hotel and just kind of chill and get ready for the DJ gig. I live my life as a vampire and stay in **CHI CHI LARUE**

during the day since I'm working Drama Room, 3851 Cedar Springs Road, 10 p.m.-midnight, Tin Room, 2514 Hudnall St.,

midnight-2 a.m., Sept. 16 and 17.

at night. When I'm only somewhere for a couple days, I don't like to go out and wear myself

out," she says. "I'm an old woman! I'm a 51-year-old twat!" Once the Dallas gig is over, it's back to the

grind of directing and traveling. "I'm shooting a movie with Chris Crocker. You know who Chris Crocker is, right? He's the boy who went on YouTube and did, 'Leave Brittney Alone!' He's now turned himself into a cutie boy and wants to do a porn. I'm shooting his probably first and only porn movie," LaRue says.

After that, it's another movie with the Russo twins, a new flick with Greg Everett and DJing in San Francisco for the Folsom Street Fair.

"It never stops," she says. "I just go, go, go. Same time, different year. And I'm happy with that. I've kept my name out there for 25 years. It's great that someone's stuck with me that long. I feel like Madonna, damn it! Well, sometimes I feel like Madonna, and sometimes I feel like Courtney Love the day after."

SEATED: Steven Michael Walters, Abbey Siegworth STANDING, L TO R: Hunter Ryan Herdlicka, Chamblee Ferguson Photo by Karen Almond.

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L+S clubs



Patrick Mikyles brings a decidedly masculine vibe to S4's drag stage

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God Is Sti

DRACONIS VON TRAPP Intern intern@dallasvoice.com

Patrick Mikyles raises the roof Thursday nights at the Rose Room, but he also raises some eyebrows: Entertainers dressed as men aren't the norm at the venue famous for its drag shows. But Mikyles has made his way into the ranks of queens and kings as a pioneer in his category.

Originally from Odessa, Mikyles started dancing in a show at Club Sin City there. His break came four years ago when he was supposed to dance back-up for a drag queen. At the last minute, the queen changed routines, so Mikyles approached the show director and asked if he could do a fill-in performance. The director agreed and said he could do the second show for \$30. When Mikyles asked if he had to pay before

or after he performed, the director gave him an

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR | Mikyles raised eyebrows when he was named newcomer of the year, defeating more than half a dozen female impersonators. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

odd look. "No, honey, I pay you \$30."

That was when Patrick Mikyles was born. Since then Mikyles has performed at multiple clubs from Amarillo to Florida. He refers to himself as a "true male entertainer."

"I can entertain the crowd with my clothes *on*," Mikyles jokes.

While he doesn't have a classical dance background, Mikyles has a eidetic memory when it comes to dance. He describes his style as "very energetic, go-getter" and says his influences range from Michael Jackson and Beyonce to James Brown. "It's really eclectic," he says. "There really is a lot of choreography that goes into it."

When he first moved to Dallas, Mikyles set as his goal to be the first entertainer to work the Rose Room as a male.

"[The Rose Room] is a staple in drag and performing arts, I think. It's really big for the LGBT community," he says.

While he encountered controversy upon winning the newcomer contest, Mikyles soldiered through until he was accepted. He knew it would mean a lot for the drag king community and other male entertainers to become a regular at the club. Since achieving that, Mikyles has opened the door for other male entertainers and drag kings, giving confidence to performers who don't specialize in female impersonation.

Even though he's a crowd favorite and gets plenty of tips each show, Mikyles still gets a few odd looks backstage. "I've met a lot of people while in the community," he says. "Layla LaRue has been a mentor, and I've known some of the queens up there for years; they're not strangers. But some of the upand-coming girls are kind of uneasy about it. I think it's just a matter of [them] not knowing me. I'm just an easy-going guy; I'm not here about the drama."

It's not just the other performers — sometimes the audience is unprepared for his act. The initial reaction can be something like, "What is this *guy* doing on stage?"

"By the second number they usually come around," he says. (The main performers usually do two numbers a night between the amateur acts.)

Even as an experienced performer, Mikyles still gets nervous. How does he get pumped for a show? "I take in plenty of alcohol," he quips, then adds quickly, "No, I'm kidding."

He still prays before every show and lets the music move him. Some of the thoughts swirling through his head include, "Don't fall," "Are they gonna like me?" and "Am I gonna remember the steps?" And while much of what he does is choreographed, Mikyles still improvises.

Mikyles has also won Mr. Amarillo USofA and hopes to tour while getting a few more titles under his belt before trying an acting career on radio, television, stage and in film.

When he's not on the dance floor, the 29-yearold works as a loan officer for Cash Store. "Some people say I'm a loan shark," he chuckles. And



when the work-week plods along, he always has Thursday to look forward to.

"Dallas has been great," he says. "I didn't think it would open its arms as much as it did. I still feel like a kid in a candy store."

Mikyles performs at the Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road on Thursdays. PartyAtTheBlock.com.



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LIFE+STYLE fashion

STEVEN LINDSEY I Contributing Writer stevencraiglindsey@me.com

f you've ever asked somebody local where they got their really cool eyeglasses, chances are good their response will be Fashion Optical. Already a mainstay in the gay business community, the Oak Lawn optical shop has become a favorite of some of Dallas' best-known celebs, from TV stars to football players to fashion icons and debutantes.

Évery frame in the store's vast selection of hip and trendy eyewear is handpicked for each client from one man, who can almost instantly match a client by the perfect pair when they walk through the door.

Having a flair for fashion has always been a part of who Morgan Gianni is. As the only boy in clothing construction class in high school, he knew he was different. But he also knew he was good, and any adversity he experienced only made him stronger and more determined.

"I marched to my own drummer," he says with a laugh.

In 2006, he and his partner, optometrist Randy Atwood, added the optical shop next door to their justleased optometrist office and combined the two into one venture: Fashion Optical. Within five years, they amassed more than \$7 million in sales, thanks to the ability of customers to see the eye doctor, pick out frames and have their complete glasses manufactured all in the same place.

Fashion Optical has become one of the top places in the city to pick up unique frames from unique and edgy designers like Alexander McQueen, Versace, Emilio Pucci, Tom Ford and Alain Mikli. But this year, a new designer line debuted that will forever change the store's future — and the destiny of Gianni himself, who designed each and every one.

The m.GIANNI Collection is already selling fast, though the design and manufacturing process has been going on for well over a year.

The first two collections, Gianni says, will all be sunglasses, but expansion into traditional eyewear is the next logical progression. To create the line, Gianni often imagined specific friends and clients while working on the designs, even naming them after his inspirations. Utilizing the highest quality Mazzucchelli acetate, each frame is handmade in Japan. Unique color combinations and

high-fashion accents like Swarovski crystals make each pair a showstopper. "When I design, just like when I'm buying, I'm picturing in my mind who this is going to look good on," Gianni says. "I was inspired by all these fashion shows I've done. I noticed that other designers' frames were way too heavy, too wide or the bridges didn't fit. I wanted to change that."

Gianni started with 161 sketches that eventually became the 17 models featured in the current collection, each coming in three colors or finishes.

"It's a really long process," he admits. "I sketched out charcoal drawings, then I converted everything to millimeters and then I turned them into graphic illustrations for a look book to help shop for manufacturers."

Once he had a manufacturer he trusted with his design vision, he finetuned his designs, keeping a few key principles in mind.

"I wanted everything to be original and I wanted everything to fit. There's a universal fit: If you study anatomy, you realize there are averages between the brow bone and the cheekbone. Some people don't take that into consideration," he says.

Vision-ary

After success at running Fashion Optical, **Morgan Gianni** sets his sights on a new path: Designing an eyewear line



FROM DRAWING BOARD TO YOUR FACE | Gianni started out sketching frames inspired by specific clients; two years later, the finished products are for sale at his shop, Fashion Optical.

The line features styles for women, men and a few unisex options; each can be fitted with prescription lenses.

"I know what customers like and I have the credibility to make that statement. Different facial shapes call for different frame shapes," he says. In fact, it's his experience working on the optical side of the business that helps him stand apart from other eyewear designers. By working day in and day out with clients to find the perfect fit, he's able to translate that knowledge into creating designs that would flatter.

Bringing the first m.GIANNI Collection line to life is just one accomplishment of many to come. Not just a hit with customers, it's been getting attention from some of the biggest names in fashion.

"I have been approached to design eye wear by Jean-Paul Gaultier Eyewear to be sold at the exhibit of his collection as it travels from museum to museum," Gianni says. "As you can quite imagine, I'm very excited by this possibility."

Spoken like somebody with a future so bright, he's gotta wear shades. But like few others on the planet, they'll be his own creations.

L+S | profile

BRA, From Page 69

Attendees will have the chance to register with Team Leslie for the Komen Dallas Race for the Cure on Oct. 15, and also to write something on a bra in honor of someone they love who is fighting or has lost the battle with breast cancer. The bras will be then be hung on the trees by Mi Cocina and the Magnolia moviehouse.

"Family and friends and Komen were there for me even when I

didn't want to play pink. As I'm working on this project, I'm realizing how lucky I am. I checked out emotionally but I didn't have to totally check out. I didn't have to die. Now that I'm drinking the pink, I get it. I understand why people are so into it. I see how great [being an activist] can make you feel and how infectious it really is."

It's hard to imagine where the idea for a massive, metal bra sculpture came from. But it was logical for Ezelle.

"My mom taught art and did this project with all of these bras made out of different materials," she says. "When all of this came up, I immediately thought of that project."

Four additional locations are already confirmed, but Ezelle hopes to add City Hall and Cowboys Stadium. The plan is to have businesses "buy" a strap on the bra for \$5,000,

ilume Gallerie gets its Pride on

The **ilume Gallerie** is settling into the start of its third year in its space (its sign went up last week) just in time for Pride, and as always, there's plenty of diverse art to appeal to every taste.

The current exhibit, **More than Words** by artists **Kat and J Taylor**, features dynamic oils and complex color compositions that speak to gay-positive messages with titles such as *Rights* and *Liberty*, below. It runs through Sept. 30 and sales benefit the charity Wednesday's Child.

Resident photographer **Jorge Rivas** also launches his new series, capturing the frescoes, sculpture and architecture of Fair Park with **The Esplanade Series**, right.

This is also the final weekend to participate in Rivas' **Faces of Life** project. For a donation of \$50 per person (\$75 for couples and families), Rivas photographs people with a signa-

ture red ribbon raising money and awareness in combatting AIDS. "Pets and creative expression are encouraged," says Ronald Radwanski, ilume Gallerie's director and artist-in-residence. No appointment is



necessary on Saturday from noon to 7 p.m. — just show up and contribute. The final exhibit will be on display in November. The Gallerie has enhanced hours over Pride weekend (Friday and Saturday from noon to 10 p.m.), but will be closed Sunday due to the parade and ilume celebration. — Arnold Wayne Jones



MODEL CITIZEN | After withdrawing from society after her breast cancer diagnosis, Ezelle is giving back by raising money for Susan G. Komen.

which will enable them to have the bra on display at their location and have their company name and an additional inscription engraved on the piece.

Ezelle has already raised more than \$30,000 but hopes that number will soar to \$50,000 by the end of October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. After that, she will make the sculpture available to other charities that support women's causes. "It's a sculpture that can do a lot of good things. We need to put her to work in other ways. Maybe with the bra straps I can do that," she says.

Because if a bra is supposed to do anything, it's provide support.

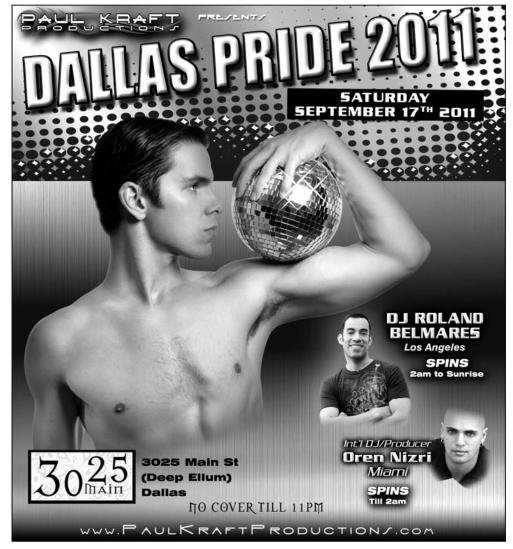
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Korean-born but European-bred, Kia's Optima EX has luxury and speed at a bargain price

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer crwauto@aol.com

The low point of Kia design was not the Sephia or Spectra — it was the Amati, which looked like some Saturday morning cartoon thought it would be cool to get a TownCar to cohabitate with an Accord and act out their affection upon America. It was a good car, but for prayer's sake, somebody needed to get Kia's design department drawing in the right direction.

That person turned out to be Peter Schreyer, who became chief design officer in 2006. Schreyer's resume includes some stunners, including the 1996 Audi A3, the 1998 Audi TT, the 1998 Audi A6 and the 2006 VW

Eos. That's just what he gets credit for before landing at Kia. Since then, his team sculpted the beautiful 2010 Forte, 2010 Sportage, and this Optima. Who says good design has to be ex-

pensive? Like Michael Graves for Target, Schreyer graced masterful styling upon the masses while teaching Kia to speak with a European accent.

You can tell an expertly designed car by the attention to detail. The Optima's design starts with a fairly conservative sedan with arched roofline, but designers spent considerable time sculpting the ridges on either side of the hood and fitting in a cool chrome band that runs from the base of the A-pillar, through the roof and into the top edge of the C-pillar.

Kia's trademark pinched grille dominates the

front, but makes friends with angled headlamps that give the car an aggressive face. A strong shoulderline anchors the bottom half of the car and helps break up the tall body. Tail lamps have dimension and resemble those on the new VW Passat.

(III)

I admire the exterior, but the inside is even better. A Saab-style wrap-around dashboard puts controls readily at hand and is enhanced with stitched sections on either side of the instrument cluster. No other mid-size sedan has a more perfectly-sized heated leather-wrapped steering

> wheel that also contains the Bluetooth phone controls. Heated and cooled leather front buckets are allday comfortable; outboard rear passengers soak in the heat.

Nobody makes an easier-to-use touchscreen for the navigation, XM

Satellite radio and USB-connected MP3 player. A panoramic sunroof only makes it easier to see the elegant bluish woodgrain on the doors and console. Schreyer apparently remembered the perfectly weighted gear selector from his Audi days, because the Optima gets its own.

So, what happens when an international designer meets world-class engineers? They create cars that not only look European, but drive that way, too. In fact, the front-drive Optima behaves like the last Saab 9-5, a personal favorite. Steering is nicely weighted and precise while the suspension is compliant, but firm. The chassis two-steps over rough pavement with nary a shudder, absorbing potholes without going weepy, while settling down for a long, quiet drive. You can feel the steering purring in your hands, telling you what the car's thinking. Four-wheel anti-lock brakes, traction control, electronic stability control, and hill-start assist control aid the driver with his or her duties.

I thumped the Optima hard on a one-day road trip of more than 600 miles. Kia's 200-HP 2.4-liter direct-injection four-cylinder engine, connected to a 6-speed Sportmatic transmission, is pretty sweet. The torquey little lump of motivation feels mightier than its sword suggests. Step on it at 80 mph, and the six-speed transmission clips down a couple of cogs, sending the car off to wherever you point it.

Running at least 10 mph over the legal limit most of the way, it returned nearly 33-MPG. (The EPA claims 24/34-MPG city/hwy.) There are some just re-designed competitors from bigname automakers that would die to have this powertrain. Kia owners will barely notice the fuel bill or any noise from under the hood.

It used to be that people bought Kias because they apparently liked being jokes of the neighborhood. Those days left to the heap of old school thinking like respect for Charlie Sheen. The Ashton Kutcher era brings us an entire line of Kias that you'll choose because you fall in love



INSIDE AND OUT | Kia's signature pinched grille, top, remains intact, but the stylishly redesigned interior, above, harkens to the finest and most user-friendly of Euro roadsters, like the Saab.

with them, like Korean Volkswagens. This, come to think of it, might be exactly Schreyer's point.

Not that the Optima needs it, but it comes standard with Kia's 10-year/100,000-mile powertrain warranty. Sans NAV, panoramic roof, and all of the heating and cooling for seats and steering wheels, the Optima EX starts at just \$22,495. As equipped as a Swedish treat, expect to pay \$27,440 — a freakin' steal for this dreamy ride. You'll just have to wrench the keys from my warm knurled fingers. Speaking European won't help your cause.



'11 OPTIMA EX

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76 dallasvoice.com ■ 09.16.11

Name: Tracy Hayes

- Occupation: Account manager for a logistics company
- What do you do for fun? Motorcycles especially with the Twisted Sisters — live music and cooking.
- How might the community know you? I've been around since The Landing and when pb&j's were 50 cents at the Bell Pepper.
- What kind of bike do you own? A 1999 Titan Sidewinder and a project bike — a 1983 Honda 400 which will be a cafe racer when I get through with it.
- Have you named your bike? Yes, her name is Roxie.
- What's a big misconception about motorcycle-riding women? That they don't ride and sadly that they are still thought of as passengers.
- Favorite road trip story? Well you never forget your first: That would be the Arkansas State Hawg Rally in Hot Springs.

What's the sexiest thing about your bike? She's my favorite color (orange) and has lots of bling.

- **Dream ride to...?** I have a couple: Sturgis, S.D., and San Francisco for their Gay Pride Parade with Dykes on Bikes.
- Is this a loud bike or quiet? Loud! Loud pipes save lives!
- How do you feel to be riding in the parade? We feel honored to represent our community.
- Tell us about Twisted Sisters. We began as the motorcycle escort for the Virgin Couriers in the parade in 1999, but for the last three or four years we have been our own entry in the parade. We welcome any riders who would like to participate!
- How do you celebrate Pride? By riding in the parade!
- So... do the ladies like a woman on a bike? I hope so! I always thought it added a rebel quality.
- Is the person riding "bitch" ever not going to look like one? Or a bottom for that matter? That's why I have a solo seat! My girl has her own bike, too.

Hawg vs. crotch rocket? Hawg.



What is it about riding a bike that appeals to

you? Everything: The wind in your hair, the

sun on your face and - yes, it does happen

How did you handle the heat this summer without A/C on your ride? Not very well, I

must admit. I have been parked for most of

the 100-plus degree summer, but I'm glad

that fall seems to be close and I will get to

Is this your everyday ride? No, my daily ride

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Far from Brokeback

With 'Hold Your Peace,' SMU grad Wade McDonald adds his name to a budding local community of queer filmmakers

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer

lopez@dallasvoice.com

When Southern Methodist University alum Wade McDonald set out to make his debut feature film, the one thing he didn't want to do was make a "typical" gay film: No naked boys as the selling point, no ridiculous gay-angst drama, no coming-out story. McDonald loves romantic comedies and wanted to make his

own — just with men.

His plan worked. The result, Hold Your Peace, seems to have resonated with audiences.

"We finished in April 2011 and HoldYourPea started applying to film festivals right away," McDonald says. "We premiered in Philadelphia and it snowballed form there to San Diego and even a non-gay film fest in Rhode Island. We got a distributor before the film even premiered! It was crazy."

Dallas audiences get their first chance to screen *Hold Your Peace* at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station on Tuesday — just in

time for Pride.

"It hadn't shown here yet, but a friend of our audio editor, Terry Thompkins, was kind enough to pay for a screening," he says. "I'm so excited it'll show at the Angelika because I love it there." McDonald describes *Peace* as a meditation on

HOLD YOUR PEACE Angelika Film Center, 5321 E. ockingbird Lane. Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. Free (passes at Buli or Skivvies).

 ree (passes at Buli or Skivvies).
 isn't too keen on going alone, much less going at all.

 HoldYourPeaceMovie.com.
 isn't too keen on going alone, much less going at all.

 What McDonald strived for
 was not a "gay movie" per se, but a film where

 tere to San
 characters happen to be gay. Anyone gay or

 Rhode Is straight can identify with the situation of unex

pressed love and torch-bearing. At the same time, it was important to create a fun and easy watch that fairly portrayed queer men. "It's a very human and very honest film. This

is a portrayal of normalcy," he says. "I've had



SO HAPPY TOGETHER | Soon-to-be-marrieds Max (Tyler Brockington, above left) and Forrest (Blair Dickens) trigger mixed feelings from Max's ex in the new film from local filmmaker Wade McDonald, on set right, opposite page.

straight people tell me they didn't think they would like this film. It plays a bit safer and I think more people can relate to it."

McDonald funded *Peace* mostly on his own, making it on a \$200,000 budget. By Hollywood standards, that's nothing, but it's high for indies. But he knew he had to make the production high quality. As a cinematographer by day, he had both the know-how and the equipment to shoot a film that looked polished. But he holds the entire cast and crew responsible for putting out a quality product. Don't call him the film's *auteur* — this was completely a team effort.

McDonald is intent on making his mark in queer cinema. Hollywood can take care of itself, he says, but he feels at home in Dallas. A bur-



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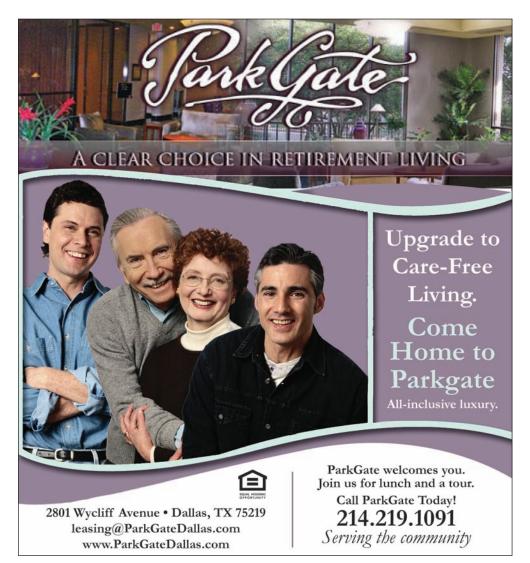
geoning community of local gay filmmakers has left him with the sense there's something special going on around here. He joins Israel Luna, Shawn Ewert, Robert Camina, Yen Tan and Mehul Shah as current or recent Dallasites forming a budding cinema community, turning Dallas into a Mecca of queer film. Hey, it could happen.

"I think it's something that's unique to Dallas," he says. "We are starting something here and if we begin producing enough content here then we can create an industry. Something that can let people quit their day jobs to work on something they love."

McDonald has no intention of moving to Los Angeles or New York for his movie career. He grew up here, went to SMU for school and he now lives with his partner in Plano. McDonald is the local boy done good, but who hasn't moved away. He prefers to keep it that way. "I'm proof positive you can do it in Dallas," he says. "I could move to L.A., but my personality doesn't mesh there and that's fine. It's inexpensive to shoot here, we have a great support system and I'd love to continue making films right here."

For now, McDonald is gearing up for his initial Dallas screening. He showed it to cast and crew already, but now the general public gets to see his finished product. For any filmmaker, putting his work out there is nerve-racking, but Mc-Donald and team already see the film taking on a life of its own.

"It's your baby in a way and you don't wanna be told you have an ugly baby," he says. "I'm very proud of what we accomplished with *Hold Your Peace* and everyone worked their butt off. We're not setting out to make great literature, just a film that's fun to watch. You're just supposed to enjoy it."



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Princess of Persia

The lesbian romance "Circumstance' breaks many taboos, but for director Maryam Keshavarz, it was simply a story that had to be told.

The Arab Spring has meant a significant liberalization in Middle Eastern countries. But political freedom is one thing; artistic expression is still quite another. And, for that matter, Iran is not Egypt or Libya.

Not that the revolutions in those countries mattered to Maryam Keshavarz, who made the dauntingly radical film *Circumstance*. Although shot in comparatively open Lebanon (where it is still illegal to be gay), the story tells a tale of two Iranian woman who enter into a romance.

Keshavarz chatted with critics recently following a screening of her film to discuss how the film was made, the price she and the crew had to pay and what it's like taking on taboo subject matter in a country where her film cannot even be shown.

Opens Friday at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station.

Question: How much of the film is autobiographi-

cal? Maryam Keshavarz: It is not an autobiographical film, but the girls navigating the underground world is my experience as a teenager with my cousins. The structure of the family is based on a very liberal uncle I had that was at university in America, went back to Iran in 1979 and got stuck there. Since he was very liberal, I wondered what it was like for him to raise his family in a very conservative environment.

- Where was this movie made, when and how? The film was completely shot in Lebanon. We could not shoot in Iran due to the subject matter, but I wanted to shoot in the Middle East. Even shooting in a liberal country, like Lebanon, was still difficult. It is still illegal to be gay there. Also there is a lot of tension in the country.
- As a filmmaker, did you run into backlash or difficulty making the project? There was a lot of risk in making the film. I had serious discussions with the actors that we likely couldn't go back to Iran after making the film.
- What has the reaction to the film been like in Middle Eastern countries? Unfortunately, we cannot show the film in Middle Eastern countries. The only countries that will show the film are Turkey and Israel. But we are trying to screen in other countries soon. There have been a lot of Middle Eastern immigrants who have seen the film and their reaction has been mostly positive, but some extremely negative. In terms of the young Middle Eastern and gay Middle Eastern, it has been extremely positive.
- What has been the response from the gay community? The response in the gay community

has been amazing. We won the audience award at Outfest and the Jury Award at New Fest.

- What were your cinematic or visual cues that inspired the look and feel of the film? In terms of the visuals, I worked closely with my director of photography. I met him at the Sundance lounge in 2007. We created an 80-page look-book where we mapped out the entire course of the film. The beginning is open and airy, with smooth dolly shots, but as the film progresses, as the brother becomes more intrusive, the image becomes more crowded and darker to make a sense of unease.
- Any specific films or filmmakers you modeled the film after? Or was it mostly intuitive or organic? I love Lucrecia Martel and Atom Egoyan.
- Were you pressured at any point to walk your audience more explicitly through mile-markers of Iranian history and social context? I trusted the audience in making the film. In terms of when I write, I try to write scenes that resonate with me both as an Iranian and an American. I wanted people to *feel* the social context, not necessarily be told about it. We painted those strokes with camera and music. There are specific references to political ideologies. There's the whole scene from *Milk*.
- Did you always plan for dance and music to play such central roles? Yes, music has always been a major character in the film. Especially the use of Persian hip-hop in contrast to the Persian classical music. In the beginning of the film, there is a lot of music and joy. As the environment becomes more oppressive, the music that does appear is discordant. Gingger Shankar and I worked on the music cues even before we shot the film.





MAGIC CARPET RIDE | Director Maryam Keshavarz, above, is currently working on a trilogy about Iran that includes insight into gay life. Her latest, 'Circumstance,' below, opens today.

- How open is the broader society to that kind of Persian hip-hop? Does it ever tackle these subjects directly in the music socially? Persian hip-hop is highly political. It's all underground, but the lyrics are very political and it's very popular with the young people in Iran. We will be releasing the soundtrack in November and there will be a booklet with the translations of the songs.
- Can you talk about your upbringing? Are you able now to go back to Iran? I grew up going between New York, New Jersey and Shiraz. Since my parents came to the U.S. in '67, I never had any issues going between countries. I had two passports. My uncle was killed in the war between Iran and Iraq. Because of this, my mom moved my brother and I back to Iran, so I actually went to second grade in Iran. I also did some of my graduate work at the university in Iran. I love that toggling back and forth.
- How important was the influence of Marjane Satrapi [*Persepolis*] on you? I think Marjane and I both speak to a lot of Iranis' experiences. I think what she did was only possible in animation. The broad historical analysis of a little girl.
- Were there any specific challenges or issues with filming in the Middle East? Was production ever halted? I've shot two films in Iran before, so I know shooting in the Middle East is a very delicate matter. It's about flying under the radar and picking the right team. We encountered some obstacles in terms of shutting down the production, but we were able to overcome them.
- I like how we don't know at first what headmistress means by "people like you," and how you raise issues of wealth/class. Can you say more about that? "People like you" refers to Shireen's parents' political background. She's been marked because of this. In terms of class, the film shows that the girls are on parallel paths until they are arrested. This is where circumstance of class comes in to play. Atafeh's parents can buy her way out. Shireen's choices are much more limited.
- Did you specifically try to find a beautiful cast? Casting was a huge problem. I auditioned 2,000 girls for the roles of Atafeh and Shireen. I was looking for girls that were over 18, but looked under 18, had

two passports, were good actors and weren't afraid to tackle the subject matter in the film. It's both girls' acting debuts.

- What are men most afraid of in regards to women in a culture like Iran? Women in Iran — it's a touchy subject. Because it's an Islamic state, women occupy a largely symbolic position in the culture. If women show too much of their hair or dress too promiscuously, this is an assault on the state. Women are largely more harassed in the culture. But it also creates very strong women as a result. The film is sort of a love poem to strong Iranian women, who in their daily lives and small acts stand up against the state.
- Given the environment, why is there not a mass exodus of women? That's not to say women don't create their own spaces for freedom of expression. You have a sense in the beginning of the film that despite all the surveillance cameras, the girls have found a way to still live their lives. They ride around in the city, still see their friends — like typical teenagers. The family has done quite well for themselves. The mother is a successful surgeon. So in any oppressive environment, safe spaces are created. But I was trying to evaluate, when are those safe spaces compromised?
- Are you currently working on any new, similarly risky projects? I'm working on a trilogy on Iran.
- Surveillance cameras have become a way of life in all countries and cultures. How do you think this changes us fundamentally as human beings? It's only when the threat comes from within that tragedy strikes. It's when the brother brings the state [surveillance] into the sanctuary of the home that everything starts to fall apart.
- Given Mehran's arc, are you comfortable with viewers seeing his newfound fundamentalism as its own form of addiction? Is that too pat or a viable read of the character? Mehran's not truly a fundamentalist. He's attracted to religion because it comes with power in Iran. His extremism is another form of articulating his addictive character. But he's quite lost and lonely. He's disempowered. I don't see him as a villain. Just as someone trying to find his place in the world.



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The ice cream man cometh

Gelato master (and part-time leatherman) Jack Duke is one cool character

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

hen Jack Duke first moved to the U.S. in 2005, the captain of his volleyball team predicted — accurately, it turns out — that lot of guys would ask him out. And from a food standpoint, almost every one was a disaster.

"Every single date I went on, they took me to an Italian restaurant," Duke sighs. Or rather, one they *considered* Italian: Spaghetti Warehouse, Macaroni Grill, Olive Garden. "They were just trying to make me comfortable," he says with generosity. "But, like, Alfredo sauce? We don't really have that in Italy."

Duke hails from the north of Italy between Milan and Venice — "Near Verona, where Romeo and Juliet are from. I didn't know them personally, but there is a statue of Juliet and it's good luck to touch her boobs," he laughs.

As an authentic Italian, faux Americanized versions of classics he grew up on didn't impress him much. Especially since Duke is a chef in his own right.

Duke's culinary roots are hereditary. "My dad is in the food business as well, doing prosciutto. In Italy, it is a small group of people who can really carve the prosciutto. And I grew up having good food anyway — my mom always cooked."

And while he cooks a lot at home (he's happily partnered now), Duke's particular skills in the kitchen run cooler than his hot Latin blood would suggest: Duke is a gelato master — one of only about two dozen in the U.S. And while that's impressive here, it is slightly less so back home.

"Gelato is way more diffuse in Italy — they say, one gelateria for every 3,000 people. So there's a lot. Gelato masters go to school and there are several different schools Italy, but a lot of people grow up in it and you can be very good without school. But in America it's different because we are so few — you get more status."

(One potential downside of being multinational: "When I fly back and forth to Italy, I have to fill out that white [customs/immigration] card. Under 'What do you do for business?' I tell them 'gelato master' but he did not understand, so he just wrote 'master.' I thought: I can be that, too," says the former Mr. Texas Leather, who came in third at IML last year.)

Modesty aside, Duke's skills with frozen treats keep him busy, traveling the country and teaching restaurateurs and chefs how to make gelato, ice cream and sorbetto.

"Frozen dessert in general," he says, up to

and including mousses, frozen yogurt and tiramisu. "In Italy there is no distinction. Sorbetto is something different — what you use in between meals — but they are all considered gelato: some made with water [what we could call sorbet], some with milk."

There is, however, a big difference in Italian ice creams versus American.

"Gelato is made with whole milk, ice cream with heavy cream, sorbetto with water," he explains. "Gelato has 4 to 8 percent fat; ice cream is 14 percent. And Haagen Dazs is 32 percent! Look at the label. There's also more air in ice cream – 60 percent is air, where gelato is less than 30 percent air."

If this also sounds esoteric — more chemistry than culinary — welcome to the wonderful world of the dessert chef.

"All frozen desserts have a base that is similar: Liquids and solids. Balancing those is how you create unique flavors," Duke says. "The solids are the same: You have a stabilizer, or emulsifier, often a gum; it used to be eggs but not any more because of risk of salmonella. Then come the sugars, which are the major part of the solids. The amount of sugar dictates how it melts. If it melts too quickly that's because there's too much sugar — sugar is not just a flavor, it's an antifreeze."

The kind of sugar you use — sucrose, dextrose, inverted sugar, corn syrup — also affects the consistency as well as the sweetness. And because fat molecules "grab" bubbles of air to make gelato fluffier, adding components like nuts (high in fat) alters the recipe ... not that Duke is sharing any of his recipes.

Duke designed one of the most remarkable desserts I've ever tasted: A chocolate sorbet (made with water, mind you) at Cibus in North-Park Center. How did he achieve such authentic richness? That's for him to know...

"Most gelato stores try to keep their recipes secretive," is all he'll say. "We maintain a big hushhush on the recipes."

He has some favorites of his own creation, including a pistachio gelato that was salty *and*

LIFE+STYLE

dining

A SURE BET | In Italy, being a gelato maker is a respected but not-unusual profession, but here Jack Duke is ice cream royalty, as one of a few dozen true gelato masters in the entire U.S. (Arnold Wayne Jones)

sweet. "I just got a machine that makes soft serve gelato or yogurt, so I made this mascarpone soft serve," he says. "One I am most proud of was probably the Shiner Bock gelato: Red beans, goat cheese, basil, saffron and rosewater. I did a good job with a cucumber yogurt once. I just got a phone call for maple gelato. I've never done that before, but I'll figure it out."

If some of those concepts sound scary and unusual, that's part of the fun of his job, Duke says — though sometime it leads to disasters. "The worst one I ever tasted was in New Orleans: eggs and bacon. I've tasted good eggs and bacon in Michigan but there it was gross."

He tries new things at home as well now, including one brand new recipe that will debut this weekend.

"For Pride, I am gonna make some pink grapefruit sorbet and a sangria dessert," he says. "I've already tried it; it's good."



Say cheese!

Macho Nacho turns apps into entrees, with queso the star

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

If you name your restaurant after one piece of food, you'd better be prepared to do it well and have people judge you by it. The Blackeyed Pea can't take black-eyed peas off its menu; Chipotle had better damn well have roasted jalapenos every time I come in — and good ones, at that.

So if you're gonna call your joint Macho Nacho, you're saying two things: First, we do nachos well. Second, and they can kick your ass, cowboy.

To a foodie, that's more than a promise — that's a dare. Bring it on, *pendejo*.

The fact is, I've never actually ordered the signature *macho* nachos here, a party platter-sized combo of tortillas, cheese and the remnants of a raucous cinch de mayo fiesta: pork, brisket, beef, grilled onions and more. For a single diner, or even two on a date, maybe that *is* macho (if you consider clogging your arteries "macho"). But the other nachos available? Those are more manageable. And pretty good ... if you can get yourself in the right mindset.

One problem is that, while some of these nachos *are* entrée sized, the concept of nachos

themselves conjures up an appetizer — something the comes *before*. We've all ordered the app-portion of quesadillas and made do with them as our main course (or, occasionally, gone to the dark side, making flan and sopapillas the entrée). But actually shoehorning them in as the main dish feels both indulgent and unsatisfying, like using the chapter menu on a DVD to fast-forward to the good parts.

Of course, there's no reason you *have* to make nachos the meal; there's enough else on the

menu that you can treat this upscale yet reasonably priced diner with Tex-Mex familiarity.

I was taken aback when my waiter suggested complimentary chips and salsa *after* I'd ordered the short stack of nachos (\$5 at lunch — a great deal), but I said yes anyway. You'd think that the snack chip and the tortillas in the nachos would be the same, yet ours were different. With the salsa (a bland, chunky style), the chips were dusted with chili seasoning, arriving thick-cut and long; as part of the nachos, they were triangular and thinner, though still sturdy.

That's nothing to take for granted: Nachos good ones, at least — are harder to get right than you might imagine. The chips have to be engineered to withstand the weight of melted cheese and salsa, not to mention any protein you add on like grilled chicken or, in this case, brisket. But you don't want heavy pita-like crusts, either — a tortilla needs to be firm but pliant, like a new boyfriend. Macho Nacho's style held up, never becoming soggy and limp (a sad ending to a good beginning), but hearty, with juicy brisket as the capper.

There are non-nacho items, too, some of which soar. We ordered the "skinny" queso (\$6.95), but fattened it up some by adding "muscle" (a dollop of ground beef). So, the beef probably counteracts the fit benefits of the skinny, but what's not to like about chucks of meat bobbing around in a sea of melted milk fat? It's like a reunion of cow parts with flavor.

Only the skinny version (60 calories per quarter-cup) has less cheese than the regular version, though you'd be hard-pressed to CHEESE, Page 84

EVEN PILES | They layer the cheese on thick at Macho Nacho for the short stack, above, though the namesake dish isn't for the calorie-conscious: It weighs about 8 lbs. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



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L+S dining

CHEESE, From Page 83

notice. It's creamy and gooey, though the body comes from a cauliflower purée, detectable only if you concentrate on parsing the slight vegetal aroma from the other ingredients.

Similar kudos are warranted for the guacamole, made obviously fresh with big chunks of avocado — like much guacamole, pretty tame on the palate.

Torta is a catch-all phrase for a panoply of sandwiches, though I was disappointed that the one I ordered did not come pressed *a la cubana*, but on a fluffy, torpedo-shaped hoagie roll. The fajita torta (\$7.95), though ordered without onions came with. The beef, while moist, lacked finesse, as if it had been overcooked and reconstituted, and the "spicy" mayo was not, in fact, spicy, though it was improved by dipping in the skinny queso. (That dish goes with anything; I may pour it on corn flakes, just to try it out.)

The street tacos (again, two for \$5 at lunch) were hit-and-miss. The chicken was acceptable, like the fajita meat in the torta, but did not pop; the pulled barbecue pork was significantly better, infused with hard-spice aromatics (cinnamon, mace) that kept it interesting. The small corn tortillas were wrinkled and firm but not hard, though no garnishes (salsas, cremas) were offered — they arrived pretty much as-is.

The décor is oddly soothing and slightly ele-

OVERALL RATING 🖈 🖈 🖈 ★

Macho Nacho, 4000 Cedar Springs Road. Open daily at 11 a.m. Macho-Nacho.com. Reimagined Tex-Mex with a cheeky retro vibe and kick-ass queso.



Food: ☆☆☆★★ Atmosphere: ☆☆☆★★ Service: ☆☆☆★★ Price: Inexpensive to moderate

gant — quite a departure from the rough-andtumble burger dive look of Hunky's that used to occupy the space. (The move across the street classed up Hunky's as well.) Macho Nacho looks like a high-end Tijuana cantina moved into a middle-class living room in the 1970s. If I sound like I'm making fun, I'm not — at least no more than the designer, who imbued the space with a sense of humor and whimsy: Dance music echoes off the dark-stained beadboard paneling and retro clocks with go-go leather seats and funky, dia-de-los-muerte colors on the signature "moustache" painting behind the bar. Maybe that's the real "macho" part of Macho Nacho: A bandito whose affection for Tex-Mex grows not just hair on his chest, but his upper lip, too. If that's the results of eating here, I can only add, "Ole!"

TASTING NOTES

This summer, Dallas became the latest Texas city to go fearless — with the **Fearless Critic: Dallas Restaurant Guide**. The collection of reviews and ratings of hundreds of local restaurants is a fun, informative romp through the food scene in North Texas. I should know — I'm one of the local food writers who contributed to it.

This weekend isn't just Dallas Pride, it's also the 25th annual **Grapevine GrapeFest**. Running through Sunday, the event focuses on Texas wines, features a champagne tasting and a grape stomping (just like Lucy and Ethel!). See the full schedule at GrapevineTexasUSA.com/Grapefest.

Got a recipe with taste and camp value you're just dying to share? There's still time to enter it in the **Great Gay Cook-Off**. Submit your recipe by Sept. 30 to be included in an actual cookbook, and win some of the \$1,000 in prize money in three categories. The winners will be announced at Palm Springs Pride in November. Entry forms are available at GreatGayCookoff.com.



— A.W.J.

A PB/TRACEL DOKING FOR DOKIN

A Thank You Letter to my Patients and Friends.

Dear Ones, since announcing my retirement in July, I have been both humbled and deeply moved by the outpouring of kind words, cards, and letters that you have given me. I had no idea of the depth of your appreciation and affection. It has come through loud and clear.

Now, I wish to tell all of you how very special you have been to me over the past 38 years. Yes, some of you have been my patients since I started practice at Southwest Clinic on Denton Drive in 1973. I have nicknamed you my "Charter Patients." I was a bit shocked at how many of you have stayed with me over 30 years. One special patient who started how me at Southwest Clinic at age 24 and is now 54. I have watched him grow into the seeing me at Southwest Clinic at age 24 and is now 54. I have many so many wonderful very fine man he is today. I wish there were time and space to recount so many wonderful memories.

I also want to remember the many patients and friends that we all lost in the 80's and 90's to AIDS before the advent of effective treatments for HIV. Back in the 80's, I would have never believed we would have come this far or this fast. HIV has become a very manageable disease, but regretfully, too many are continuing to be infected. My greatest wish as I retire is that all of you will strive to be safe and responsible in your activities.

I wish to thank Dr. Brady Allen for being my mentor in HIV Disease. I also want to thank Dr. David Lee for making the last six years of my career at Uptown Physicians Group the happiest years of all. I am thrilled to tell you that Dr. Don Graneto will be my successor in this practice and also tell you we have added an Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Edison Leary. You will be in good hands with these two very competent providers, and I hope that all of you will choose to stay with Uptown Physicians Group. It really is an incredible practice.

Finally, I want to thank you for the many years of trust and loyalty you have shown me. I have so many wonderful memories and will carry you with me as I enter a new chapter in my life.

With deep appreciation,

"Dr. H"

Robert W. Henderson, MD



"All of the providers and employees of Uptown Physicians Group would like to thank Dr. Henderson for his 38 years of service to the Dallas gay and lesbian community. His compassionate medical care, his humor, and his friendship will be missed in our office. We wish him the best of luck as he embarks on the next chapter of his life."

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TWO for the money

Solo Voice of Pride vets Angie Landers and Robert Olivas finally hit their stride as a team

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer

lopez@dallasvoice.com

lways bridesmaids, never brides: That has been the case for Voice of Pride veterans Angie Landers and Robert Olivas. Frequent competitors in the annual "Oak Lawn Idol" competition, they've never taken the top prize.

So of the many magical moments at this year's finale — Kristen Phillips belting out Tina Turner, Dru Rivera's winning take on Aerosmith, Steven Patterson's charming stage presence in both solo and group competitions — none was perhaps more special than the announcement of Spare Parts as the best duo. The flood of emotions displayed by Landers and Olivas touched everyone.

"This was very important to us. It was so awesome," Olivas says a few days after winning. "We really did work hard to represent well and I still can't unscrew my smile."

"It just worked out great," Landers adds. "I think we know each other so well now that I don't think we could have been as before. It's like a marriage but not a marriage."

As M.C. Richard Curtin announced them as the winners, Landers hopped with excitement while Olivas stood with a look of complete disbelief. The \$2,500 in prize money was barely on their minds; after years as also-rans, they finally walked away winners.

As a team, they pulled out that little extra in each other. Their first number was a powerhouse, singing Jason Aldean's "Don't You Wanna Stay," which killed the crowed with both drama and chemistry.

"After that song, I wasn't worried about winning," Landers says. "We knew our next song well and it was something nobody would expect from us."

With rousing applause, Landers' confidence was well justified. But at the very end, they tripped up the lyrics. Although they laughed it off onstage, backstage was another story.

"We didn't wanna go down in books being balladeers," Olivas says on picking the song. "We had two songs in which we could show our versatility."

"I was afraid it would come off cheesy, but it was more about our stage personalities and that we could entertain you outside of putting you to sleep," Landers says. "But when we missed the vocals, I knew we had just given it away. I hoped the judges surely wouldn't take points away for that but I was feeling the panic."

The bobble was only that, and it added charm to their performance. Now, Spare Parts prepares for their first Pride performance together at the Lee Park festival.

The way Landers and Olivas interact, you'd think they had known each other for years. They act like brother and sister or even a very happy husband and wife. Truth is, they just met in 2008 during the VOP competition and soon started singing karaoke together. Their voices harmonize, so pairing up made sense. All that remained was the question of what to call themselves.

"We wanted to do something with my knee replacement and the hip replacement that he needs," Landers says, so they started a poll to name the group on Facebook.

"If it hadn't been for all that stuff, we would have had our name!" says Olivas.

Both are strong soloists with a solid presence and great pipes. Together, they strike a chord that tends to balance both their strengths. Now they get to show it off much more.

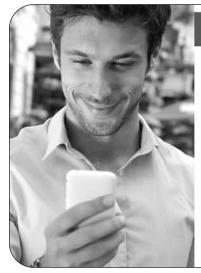
"We want to do something more with the title and take it above and beyond what any other winner has before," Olivas says. "I think that it's created a strong environment of competition that people are so dedicated to it and passionate about it. I think Voice of Pride can be a great thing."

With each competition comes a rush of

DALLAS VOICE LAUNCHES

BRIDESMAIDS NO MORE | Landers and Olivas found two really is better than one, as their duo Spare Parts won the Voice of Pride group competition. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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controversy in the community, members of which comment publicly (and harshly) about the results online. Landers hopes she and Olivas rise above that, even though both have been on the receiving end of mean barbs.

"Sometimes the hype and money gets in the way of what it's really about," she says. "I think that negative energy going around could be harnessed and focused for the better rather than knocking down contestants. Voice of Pride is a great springboard for Pride."

For the team, the title is also a privilege, reflected well by last year's solo winner Mel Arizpe, who also won with her partner in the group category.

"I am honored to be an advocate," Olivas says. "Mel was a great advocate; she's out

A decade of remembrance

What a difference a decade makes. In September of 2001, days after the loss of lives on 9/11 scarred America. the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade had a first: Instead of a grand marshal riding in the parade, a horse-drawn carriage remained empty, save for a sign reading "Dedicated to the victims lost in the tragedy of Sept. 11.

Dallas Tavern Guild's Michael Doughman remembers that moment as clearly as if it were yesterday, but for him, the carriage was a symbol beyond its intentions. Or at least, it became one.

"It was a sobering but very powerful moment when that carriage went by," he recalls. "I've often thought about it and when I reflect that it's been 10 years, I give thought to the progress that we've made as a country.'

That progress transcends into the LGBT community, as hot-button issues like "don't ask, don't tell" and same-sex marriages have developed in positive ways since 9/11 - whether directly or not. The empty carriage symbolized not only the loss of that fateful day, but also those lost in other battles.

I saw that empty carriage and thought all the people that I had lost to AIDS, to cancer," Doughman says. "I think it also represented a loss and absence in general. It was significant of more loss in other arenas, whether it was illness, or hate crimes or something else."

Doughman say there are plans for a 9/11 acknowledgement at the beginning of this year's parade. While details have not been finalized, he doesn't want what happened then to disappear into history books. As time passes, he says, it serves as much more than just a memory.

"We're aware that even 10 years later, commemorating helps us to keep vigilant," he says, "for our rights, for everyone and for this country.'

- Rich Lopez

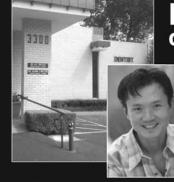


there, she's doing benefits. The way it should be done."

The victory means that next year, they are frontrunners in group and solos... well, not necessarily. "I plan to [compete]," Olivas says, but Landers doesn't know yet. "It wouldn't be because I didn't win; I'm just not sure right now," she savs.

Until that decision, Spare Parts will perform at Pride and then work to pull a band in and continue to book gigs around DFW and make their own name for themselves.

"Angie and I have every intention of performing for fundraisers and we've been approached by some venues already," Olivas says. "I feel like we have the talent to do that. And maybe even get discovered."



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Good Christian belle

Gay ally Kristin Chenoweth talks about her new country music CD (she adores Dolly!), queers ... and the right way to be a Christian

Kristin Chenoweth doesn't get miffed very easily. But when she does, watch out. Last year, after Newsweek published a commentary on the inability of gay actors to play straight roles, she wrote an extensive letter to the magazine, calling the article "horrendously homophobic."

L+S

music

But Chenoweth's allegiance to the gay community goes back to growing up in Oklahoma - a place she returned to for her latest album, Some Lessons Learned, the first of four where the

opera-trainer singer fully embraces her country roots. We had lots to talk about when we caught up with Chenoweth, on a dinner break from shooting her upcoming series, Good Christian Belles. She discussed her history of dating gay men, her

opinion on Michele Bachmann's support of gay conversion clinics ... and being a little bit wicked.

– Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: Your character's name on Good Christian Belles is Cockburn - Carlene Cockburn. Chenoweth: I can't wait for my family to hear that one. Are you kidding? I was like, "Wait a minute ... !" But I just think the most important thing for me as an actress, because of the lines that come out of my mouth, is to just have to speak them and keep going, because they're so funny and her name is so funny and the whole thing is just so great. I love it.

Does your character have anything in common with April Rhodes, who you play on Glee? Probably not on paper, but they're both pretty outlandish people. Carlene, though, is the antithesis of April.

You grew up in Oklahoma, so country music is your roots. How is your new album a reflection of that? It's so funny, because I get asked, "Why a country album now?" But that's how it all began for me. Of course, why would anyone know that? It's not something I've been talking about a lot, but it's the music I grew up listening to. One of my biggest influences is Dolly Parton, and when you look at the history of songs in musical theater and in country, they're both usually great storytellers.

- I know just how lucky I am to do this kind of music. Getting to go to Nashville and sing this music that feels like home to me was a real gift, and one that I don't take lightly.
- The song "What Would Dolly Do?" reminds me a lot of Dolly herself. I co-wrote that. [Producer] Bob Ezrin asked, "Who's had the biggest influence on you country music-wise?" I said, "Dolly, without question." And he said, "How would she approach it? Let's think: What would Dolly do?" I said, "Bob, why aren't we writing that song?'
- There's something about her that I feel very attuned to. There's only one Dolly. I'm not comparing myself, but I'm just saying her spirit and the way she looks at life is pretty similar to me. And the cover I did of hers ["Change"] is actually a very emotional thing and it reminded me - of course, how could I ever forget? what an amazing songwriter she is. You know, I didn't do a lot of covers. I did two covers, one of Carrie [Un-



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO KRISTIN | The performer has conquered stage, recording, TV ... and uniting gay rights with her faith.

derwood] and one of Dolly's, and I just love both of them. I love their music, I love their spirit - everything they stand for.

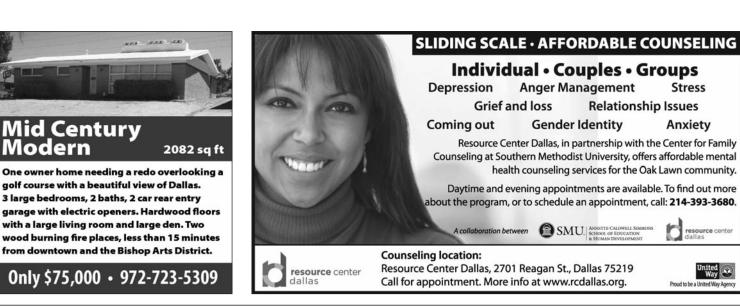
- It makes total sense, because, to me, both you and Dolly epitomize happiness. Oh my god, thank you. That's the biggest compliment you could give me.
- So, being so happy... what pisses you off? Oh, gosh! I don't really get mad that often. But I'm not going to lie: When I do, there's a quiet that comes over me that is a little like whoa, and that happens when I don't feel other people are prepared or doing their job or pulling their weight. I come from a family where my dad came from nothing and worked hard to get where he is, and he said, "Work hard, play hard, Kris," and I guess that's kind of been my motto in life. So when I see people squandering opportunities or having a sense of entitlement, that really makes me crazy. Because I don't understand it. It's not a world I get.
- One thing that does make you upset is homophobic people. I don't like that, you're right.
- Your letter in response to that Newsweek column said it all. Why was it important to address your feelings on that issue? To be honest, I wasn't prepared for what was going to happen. I was on Broadway doing Promises, Promises, and I read the article and I actually thought it was pretty irresponsible. I'm not even talking about whether a person agrees with being gay or not, I'm talking about artistry and gay

actors trying to play straight. It just made me mad, because I thought, "Well, I've played a prostitute, does that mean I am one? No." I just thought it was a little bit of a bully-



ing thing, and I honestly prayed about it — no kidding, I prayed about it.

- And by the way, I'm a big fan of the magazine, which is why I was so bummed. But I think that they felt bad and hopefully there's been some discussion about it and some learning, because that's what we're here to do on this Earth, to learn our purpose. Well, one of my purposes in this life — since I'm a believer and a Christian — is to help people realize that not every Christian thinks that being gay is a sin.
- To reinforce your point, you made out with your *Promises, Promises* co-star Sean Hayes at the Tonys last year. It might've been a little jibe. It might've been a little one! Ha!
- What was it like to make out with a gay man? Was that your first time? Well, let's face it, my high school boyfriend is gay, so I don't think it's my first time making out with gay men! I bet a lot of women don't even know they've done it! And Sean Hayes is just a darn good kisser, what can I say?
- Wait, so you dated a gay man in high school? Yeah, and I'm like, "Well, that's why we were such a great couple!" He didn't pleasure me in any way but he helped me pick out my prom dress!
- Was he one of the first gay people you knew in Oklahoma? Yeah. I want to tell you something I know about myself: When I was in the second or third grade, I first heard the word "dyke," and it was in reference to a girl in our school who was very, very tomboyish. I didn't really understand what the word was, but I knew I didn't like the way it was said. And for some reason I've always been drawn to the person that was alone, and I don't mean to make me sound like I'm Mother Teresa, because I'm not. But I've always been drawn to people who felt left out or different, and maybe it's because, I too, felt different and unique. People would not think this of me, because there's this perception of me that, "Oh, life's been perfect and things have come so easily."
- But let's face it: My speaking voice is very interesting. Yes, I was a cheerleader but I also wanted to do all the plays, I was in renaissance choir, and, I too, felt a little bit like an outsider. I was always drawn to people who felt that way, too. And sure, some of them were gay and I never did understand — I guess the word is fear.
- God made us all equal. He made me short, he made someone gay, he made someone tall — whatever it is, it's not a sin; it's how we're made. And that's the way I feel about it. It flies in the face of a lot of what Christians believe, but as I'm finding out there's a lot of Christian people who think the same as me. So that's my deal, and I think we should not be careful of the unknown but rather accepting and loving of it.
- As someone who's Christian and supports the gay community, how do you feel about the prayaway-the-gay program that Michele Bachmann supports? [Long pause] You know what, you can have your opinion. One of the great things about being in this country is we get to freely say what we believe. I just don't happen to agree with that. Though I like the "pray" part!







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Hot, his star Ben Cohen has become a hero to gays for his message of inclusion to sports fans the world over

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

Ben Cohen is a bit nervous about coming to Dallas Pride as its special parade guest, but not for the reason you may think. Growing up in the cool climes of the north of England, "the closest I have gotten to Dallas is the TV program," he laughs. So the thought of being in the famous Texas heat frightens him a bit. "I'm gonna melt!" he exclaims from his home in Britain.

Heat is about the only thing that could frighten Cohen. As the second all-time best rugby union scorer, he's a master of the organized mayhem of the sport of rugby. And he's been famous for years as perhaps the planet's most prominent straight athlete to put gay issues on his public agenda.

A lot of gay men first came to know Cohen when he released a series of beefcake calendars, showing his bulky, rugby-honed physique. Before long, he was the toast of the gay ether, screen-grabs of his hirsute chest and devilish grin being exchanged faster than juicy gossip. That's about the same time Cohen found out what a huge gay following he had.

"We has this website and found out we had 37,000 people who were fans, but they were all men!" he says. "I've been with my wife since we were 16. We have

very good gay friends and my cousin is lesbian, so I am very comfortable with my sexuality. I was getting a lot of emails saying how people in the gay community feel so isolated while trying to find themselves, this downward spiral where they have no one to turn to for help."

He began talking publicly about his support for gay people, which only increased his fan base. It hit a saturation point earlier this year when Cohen announced his retirement from rugby so he could pursue his activism.

Cohen's StandUp Foundation, which he heralds as "the world's first foundation dedicated to raising awareness of ... bullying," is unique in being led by a straight man yet targeting the gay community, and for having as a secondary goal the eradication of homophobia in sports.

"I'm really trying to create a movement," he says in a thick Northampton accent.

Cohen traces his passionate feelings on the subject to 2000, when his father was





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murdered while trying to break up a brawl in a nightclub. Cohen concentrated on his then-young rugby career, "to get my aggression out on the pitch." It made him acutely aware of bullying and how those who "are perceived as different, whether gay or with red hair or overweight," are victimized, he says.

While homophobia in sports is a focus for Cohen, he's a vocal defender of rugby as an inclusive, gay-friendly sport.

"I know Gareth Thomas [the rugby star who came out in 2009], and he is a world-class player. His problem was accepting himself. He did the best thing all around when he came out and he'll tell you that. He's at the top of his game now. It shows rugby is an accepting sport everyone I know was accepting and supportive of Gareth. I've never witnessed any homophobia in the sport, though I'm sure there is some."

He's also proud of the Bingham Cup, named after gay American rugby star Mark Bingham, who died in 9/11 as a hero of United Flight 93.

"I've done a massive amount of work in bringing the Bingham Cup to Manchester next year," he says. "It's an honor and a lovely way to show their love and respect [for a gay rugby player]. His legacy lives on." Cohen also crows for how gay and gay-friendly rugby clubs have raised the quality of play overall, as well their role in increasing awareness of the sport in the U.S. He feels an obligation to give back.

"I'm in a privileged position in that I am a successful sportsman and have a big gay following. I know I can make a difference in people's lives," he says.

"At the end of the day, we're not about gay rights," he says, but about the rights of people not to be victimized for whatever reason.

And if he has to endure 95 degree temperatures to do that? Well, that's just the cost of doing the right thing.

Cohen hosts a StandUp fundraiser Sept. 16 featuring cocktails, appetizers and live music by Gary Floyd; email event@dallasstandup.com for invitation. On Sept. 17, Cohen will attend a Dallas Diablos match and practice, starting at 11:30 a.m.

My way or the highway: Gay etiquette book trades on stereotypes and typos

The Gay Man's Guide to Timeless Manners and Proper Etiquette, by Corey Rosenberg. (2011, Chelsea Station Editions) \$15. 120 pp.

Oscar Wilde, as usual, said it best: "A gentleman is one who never hurts anyone's feelings *unintentionally*."

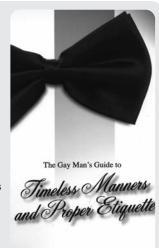
Corey Rosenberg's current-day homage to homosexual decorum, *The Gay Man's Guide to Timeless Manners and Proper Etiquette*, deftly seizes upon Wilde's Victorian-era kernel of truth and expands it into a post-modern banquet of American gay, fast-food sensibilities.

More pamphlet, unfortunately, than book, Rosenberg's opus would have benefited greatly from decent editing: Wise amelioration would certainly have gone a long way toward persuading Rosenberg's readers to trust his voice. When he refers to himself in the preface as, "the consummate host," the reader is absolutely ready to follow him down the path of how to do the right and proper thing; sadly, when he goes on to own up nobly to some "shear [sic] and vile behavior," the reader is caught flat-footed by poor editing.

Unacceptable typos aside — even in a book professing to divulge proper gay etiquette — Chapter 1's title alone, "The truth about 'pleases' & thank you's" is too littered with grammatical heresies for any person (say nothing of whether they're gay) interested in learning proper behavior to take cues from this puffery of *sheer* syntax laziness; that said, Rosenberg is spot-on regarding why one should *never* forget to say "please" or "thank you."

How this common-sense wisdom applies to gay men exclusively is not elucidated upon, except the dismissive assertion that, "attitudes of entitlement are a commonality in the gay community." Bullfeathers! This reviewer, as a card-carrying member of the club himself, has a very difficult time accepting the cliché of all gay men being self-centered prima donnas.

The book is a puzzling parade of mixed-message brevity. Chapter 3's full 110 words, entitled "The Gym," rather preciously proclaim, "Please remember that the only person you are meant to compete with at the gym is yourself;" yet, Chapter 13's subject, "Being Attired Properly and Appropriately," states, "A respectable gay man never wears a skimpy Speedo unless his stomach is tight, his skin is a few shades darker than a wintry shade of pale and he is under the age of 50." Which is it: Are gay men only complete with themselves when they're young



Corey Rosenberg

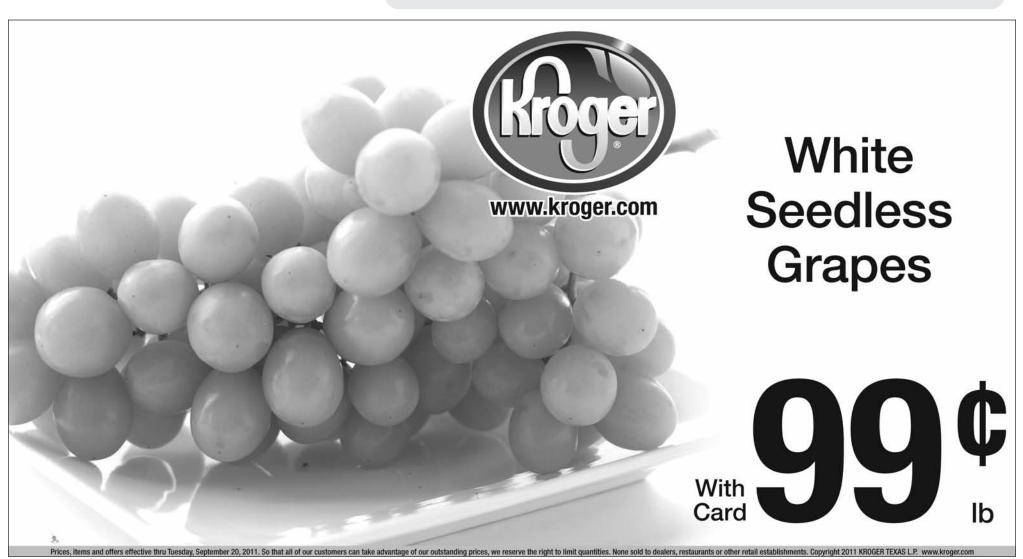
and physically attractive to others; or are they only complete with themselves once they're too old to pass for under-50?

At worst, Rosenberg's guide to gay propriety is an innocuous piece of fluff, like bellybutton lint illuminated by a reflected disco ball's ray upon your trick's glistening, shirtless torso.

Rosenberg does offer useful visuals on how to loop a genteel bow tie knot, even if he doesn't tackle acknowledging the difference between modern life and yesteryear: As he attests in Chapter 18, "Social climbing is a sleazy act of using people to quickly achieve higher rank or status within the community. A proper young man knows the difference between innocent social networking and skipping lines and climbing ladders."

Here's to all "proper" young men, then — past, present and future.

- Howard Lewis Russell



Batwoman begins

DC Comics' lesbian superhero gets her own imprint, a pantheon of new supervillains ... and maybe a girlfriend.

Following a hugely successful, starring storyline in DC Comics' Detective Comics title, the openly lesbian Batwoman begins her own titular, monthly series starting Sept. 14.

Part of DC Comics' reboot and re-launch of its entire line of titles - with 52 all-new No. 1 issues, including Stormwatch featuring superpowered gay couple Apollo & The Midnighter -Batwoman follows the adventures of Kate Kane, a flame-haired, former U.S. Military Academv cadet discharged under "don't ask, don't tell."

First introduced in 2006's 52 miniseries as the ex-lover of lesbian policewoman Renee Montoya (a character from the excellent, GLAAD-nominated Gotham Central series), Batwoman went on to star in DC's Detective Comics between 2009-2010 - written by Greg Rucka and superbly illustrated by J.H. Williams III - which saw her go up against a Lewis Carrollquoting, Tim Burton-worthy Goth nemesis, Alice, while revealing Kane's origin story. This critically acclaimed arc was later collected in the Batwoman: Elegy trade-press graphic novel.

November 2010 saw a prelude to Batwoman's solo series with a "Zero Issue," co-written by new series team J.H. Williams - also returning as an artist - and H. Haden Blackman, blending illustration styles within an inventive, sophisticated narrative approach.

Here, Williams discusses the new and past series, how the DC line's reboot affects Batwoman (the series was originally slated to kick off in 2010 but was held up to be part of the event), and whether a girlfriend is in Kate's future.

— Lawrence Ferber



GIRL ON GIRL | DC revamps its comic world with an all-new updating of its lesbian Batwoman character.

Dallas Voice: What's the biggest difference between this new Bat-

woman series and her initial Detective Comics run? J.H. Williams: The type of story we're leading off with. Her last stint was boiled down to her origin and the basic superhero versus ultimate nemesis sort of thing. We wanted to expand on that because she needs a pantheon of villains, so we set out to do that in ways that are fun. We do it in the art a lot, mixing styles, and we brought that into the writing, too. The lead story deviates in that way - even though it's very much a continuation of what came before and what's motivating her now, the foe she faces is a very different one [from last time]. The first arc is a very much supernatural horror story and what that's like for a costumed or uniformed vigilante who doesn't have superpowers per se. It's pretty intriguing, but it's just one piece of a bigger picture we are going to expand upon over the first three arcs.

- What's the name of this first arc's villain? The Weeping Woman, and she's based on Mexican folklore, which goes into a lot of cultural stuff. Everything developed for the new villains is based on urban legends. It's key, making them have a logical point of origin, so we're not just throwing random characters in, and hopefully have them be strong enough to hold their own outside the story we're telling.
- Can you elaborate on the story arcs that follow? The first one dovetails into a James Bond-ian espionage plot, then to an epic fantasy kind of plot. Even though those are very different from one another, we have figured out how to make them be a bigger whole and form one giant story. Instead of trying to pigeonhole the kind of series we're doing to one thing

I want to pursue how far we can take things and how we can work in unison when all is said and done. When people go back and read "Elegy" and see what's upcoming they'll see the sense of diversity in the types of stories can be told.

- What will Kate's love life be like? We saw her hook up at a nightclub in the Zero Issue. She's openly dating, but fun-dating. With the start of the new series we show that she wants to take a turn for something different, a normalcy, because her life as Batwoman is an extreme one. Superheroes today can never make their personal relationships work. But we're going to build toward a solid relationship with somebody. She wants that person to come home to.
- You've included many queer characters in your previous work including Promethea, written by the very pro-gay Alan Moore, and 1994's Deathwish, which featured a transgendered protagonist. Did you base any element of Kate on a real woman or lesbian you have met or known? Not really. Her sense of realism comes from the fact we want to humanize this character as much as we can. The key to any character is no matter where they come from, sexual orientation, whatever, they need to be relatable as human beings
- What did you think of the mainstream media hubbub about Batwoman being a lesbian when the news first hit in 2006? The way DC announced the character way back when put people on their heels a little bit. There wasn't any solid plan behind the character yet, so some took it as a publicity stunt - and it wasn't at all. As people started to see there was potential for this character as a deep-rooted one you can believe in,

some of that hubbub went away. She's a legitimate character people can find things to relate with. We're not being exploitative with her being a lesbian. We're treating it as with any other character regardless of what their sexual orientation is - that's a small part of who they are as a person. It's not all about her being a lesbian and I think that's made her a bit of a beacon for people to get behind the character instead of it being a publicity grab or something that doesn't sit as a three-dimensional person.

- What sort of feedback have you personally received from the lesbian community since Elegy? Any anecdotes to share? I remember one moment doing a signing in New York City. One of the girls standing in line when she came up to get her book signed said, 'Thank you for drawing a real lesbian and not a stereotypical one.' And then she said, 'like me!' and waved her hand across her forearm. That was fantastic. It gave me a sense that we're definitely doing things the way they should be done
- The relaunch of DC Comics' entire line in the wake of its 'Flashpoint' event sees a lot of characters reconceived, rebooted, and many stories and series go back to one. How will this affect Batwoman and her past? We have to acknowledge the new, post-'Flashpoint' continuity, but we worked on this series for such a long time and so far headway into the story we didn't have the luxury of going back and disregarding what came before - and I didn't want to. So although she exists in the new DC status quo, those previous events still happened, which is good. The Batwoman character is so new, anyway, it would be a real disservice to disregard her roots this early on.



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LIFE+STYLE





Friday 09.16

Bears do a switcheroo

BearDance steps out with a new Dallas Pride event. In the first Switch Party, the bears take over Sue Ellen's for a night to dance the night away with Bearhaus DJ Blaine Soileau at the helm. The ladies will head to TMC: The Mining Company to let the bears play while they raise money for AIDS Arms. Sounds good all around.

DEETS: Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. 9 p.m. \$15. BearDance.org.

Friday 09.16

Coco puff

Since Dallas was so good to her last time, Coco Peru thought she'd come this way again for her End of Summer Tour. Plus, it totally enhances all of your Pride festivities. Who doesn't want a legendary drag queen/actress as part of the funfilled weekend? We do for sure.

DEETS: The Rose Room (inside Station 4), 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. \$30. CocoPeruTour.com.

Saturday 09.17

Cruising the amusement park

Is it un-PC to say "scream like a girl?" Because you will as the Mr. Freeze ride drops you faster than your last Grindr hookup. The DV presents Gay Day at Six Flags for Pride weekend.

DEETS: Six Flags Over Texas, 2201 Road To Six Flags. Park opens at 10 a.m. \$25 pre-order. \$57 door. AltURL.com/ogddb







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'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.

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

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

THEATER

Gypsy. The musical opens Lyric Stage's 19th season featuring a 39-piece orchestra. Irving Art Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Through Sunday. \$25-\$50. LyricStage.org.

The Tempest. DTC presents the Shakespeare drama. Wyly Theatre, 2401 Flora St. Through Oct. 9. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

SATURDAY 09.17 COMMUNITY

Eye Take Pride Glitz and Glamour hosted by

LezBeProud, benefiting Servicemembers United, Freedom To Marry, and Operation Kindness. Live music, dancing, raffles, drinks and appetizers are all part of the mixer. 1430 Dragon St. 7 p.m. \$25.

Wigstock GayBingo. With special guest host Daniel Lewis, reality contestant from Shear Genius. The Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m. \$25. RCDallas.org.

DFW Prime Timers Prime Brunch and day trip to Ripley's Believe It or Not in Grand Prairie. The day can be done altogether or separately. The Mecca, 10422 Harry Hines Blvd. 11 a.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

BROADCAST

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

SUNDAY 09.18 COMMUNITY

The Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and Festival in Lee Park. This year's special guests include Grand Marshals Chris Bengston, Gary Miller and Alan Pierce, Honorory Grand Marshal Fort Worth Councilman Joel Burns and VIP guest rubgy star Ben Cohen. Festival opens at 11 a.m. \$5 admission. The parade starts at 2 p.m. DallasPrideParade.com.

The House of Glamour is an event for African-American women to dialogue. Brooklyn's Jazz Cafe, 1701 S. Lamar St. 3 p.m. LOSF.org.



The Set, a group of the Legacy of Success Foundation that serves as a safe environment for mature-minded SGL African-American men to create a community meets every third Sunday. South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. 6 p.m. (cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m.).

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

Whosoever Dallas Sunday services. 807 Fletcher St. 10:45 a.m. WhosoeverDallas.org.

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 09.19 COMMUNITY

Mindful Monday Meditation hosted by Fit for Faith. In IPC Classroom A. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

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

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

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.

The Women's Chorus of Dallas holds rehearsals. Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. 7-10 p.m. 214-520-7828.

TUESDAY 09.20

COMMUNITY

QLive! Open Mike Night for comedy. Percussions Lounge, 426 S. Jennings Ave.10 p.m. QCinema.com.



Q's Day Potluck. Friendly casual LGBT gathering every Tuesday. 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.

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

Miracle Workers (meets in Fellowship Hall. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. CathedalOfHope.com.

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

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.

BROADCAST

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

WEDNESDAY 09.21

COMMUNITY

Bible study series. What Does the Bible Really Say About Homosexuality is a three-part Bible study series presented by B.A.S.I.C., a Bible study group comprised of gay Christians. Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, 9200 Inwood Road. 7:30 p.m. BasicDallas.org.

DFW Prime Timers Prime Lunch at Potbelly Sandwich Shop, 5921 Forest Lane. Noon. Call 972-504-8866 to attend.

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

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

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

DFW Prime Timers play bridge at member's residence. 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for information.

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

El Sol, an AIDS Outreach Center support group meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m. AOC.org.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is Dave Guy-Gainer speaking about the Sept. 20 end of "don't ask, don't tell." 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 09.22

Healing and Hope support group. This group reaches out to all who have lost a loved one and is open to include the gay community for support in their losses. Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bill Bucher at 214-205-2317 or email BillB4665@att.net.

The Rotary Club of Dallas-Uptown meets every Thursday and all visitors are welcome. The organization of business and professional leaders provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Hully and Mo's, 2800 Routh St. 11:45 a.m. DallasUptownRotary.org.

Who Will Be There For You: A Call to Action seminar presented by Lee Taft for GAIN. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 6:30 p.m. RCDallas.org.

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

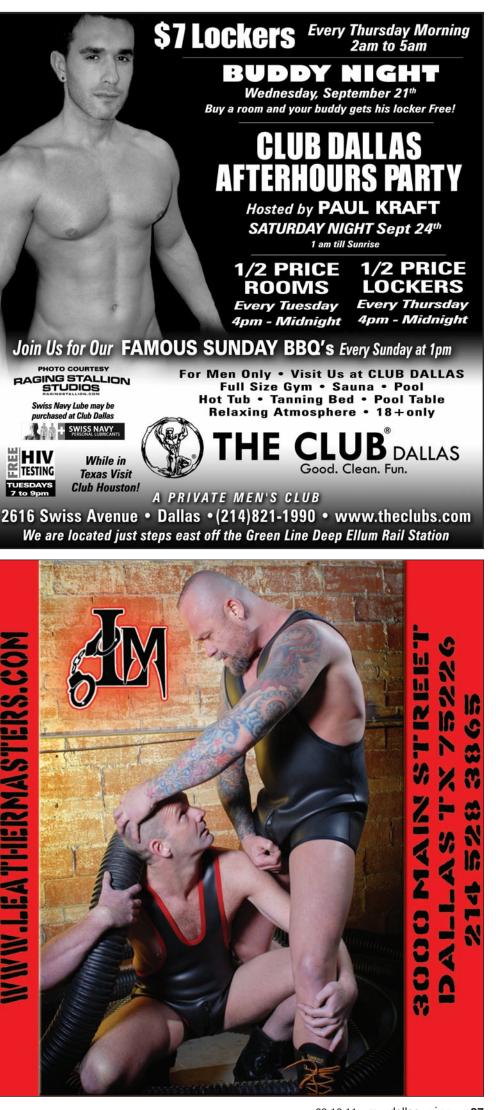
Brokeback Dallas. Support group for gay men married to straight women. St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, 6526 Inwood Road. 7:30 p.m.

Standing on the Promises is the Alcoholics Anonymous group that meets at Cathedral of Hope. 5910 Cedar Springs Road, Room 107. 6:30 p.m.

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

this week's solution

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY By Jack Fertig

Twiggy turns 62 on Monday. Known mostly for her mod, androgynous look of the '60s, the style icon was one of fashion's first supermodels. She returned to fashion somewhat as a judge on *America's Next Top Model*, but left in 2007. Also a singer, she is working on a new album of ballad covers due in November.



Self-consciousness leads you to fashion disasters. Play with a new look where nobody except a trusted friend can to see it, just so you can be satisfied that it is indeed wrong for you.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Domestic victories make you cocky. Better to offer an olive branch and build reconciliation. Don't dread the cake with all those candles. Focus on accomplishments and goals.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Count on your friends to help you get ahead. Keep your eyes open to colleagues who might double-cross you. Don't worry: A rude surprise can prove a blessing in disguise.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Teamwork gets anything accomplished, so be attentive to those who can make or break your efforts. They're inclined to support you, but they want credit and generally deserve it.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Focus on your career and getting ahead. You can focus on your goals with little interference. The boss is about to take notice and is likely to be very supportive. Just let your work speak for itself.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Connect with older, well-educated people. You can learn a lot and get a clearer idea of your direction in life. You can't help but say the wrong thing to your partner, but you'll be fine.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Even sweet, affable chatter can get annoying. Staying between the extremes is your biggest challenge. Lean to the quiet side. Letting them wonder will arouse more interest in you.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

You want to have fun, but work demands time and energy. Getting boisterous upsets things and exposes resentments. It doesn't matter if they're jealous. Focus your energies productively.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Be as productive as possible while your discipline and drive are especially sharp. Worries about the future are distractions. Just stay the course; keep putting one foot in front of the other.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

The coming social season puts you in greater demand. Fix up your home now to be ready for company then. Friends' one-up-manship will throw you off your game. Ignore it.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Social opportunities abound. You're happier at home with your dearest and nearest, and some of your favorite recipes, but get out and develop connections. They'll serve you well.

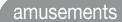
LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Your state of mind changes more than your finances, but you can relax. Your energy is cranking up and leads you into interesting adventures. Look for new ideas, not arguments!

THIS WEEK

Mars entering Leo inflates energy and egos, and trine to Uranus in Aries, will lead to unexpected results. Stubborn assertion will lead to wacky disasters. Be bold, but adaptive and humble for best results.

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



JANE'S WORLD



A FEW DAYS LATER, STATESIDE, JILL MEETS CHELLE FOR COFFEE ...



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Is Plutonium Far From Uranus?

Solution on page 97

Across 1 It's for Colette 5 Make an emotional discharge 9 Bone separator in the back 13 Italian wine region 14 Soprano Gluck 15 Initial stake 16 Hetero 19 Sticker on a rose 20 Voyeur's confession 21 Country lodging 22 Do over 24 Erection, in slang 26 Rough stuff underground 27 Larry Kramer, to Yale 30 Get on your knees 31 Made amends (for) 33 Misses the mark 34 Homophobic example of 16-Across 36 Govt. agent 38 Will & Grace or Ellen 39 Pinker, to meat-eaters 41 Chemist's condiment

42 High arcing shot 45 It protects one of your balls 47 Activity before shooting off your gun 49 Use 46-Down 50 Unmixed, to a mixologist 53 Singer Reagon 54 A 16-Across like 34-Across, to a nuclear physicist? 57 Composer Edouard 58 Historic Stonewall event 59 "Damn it!" 60 Julia Morgan wings 61 Avoids family cooking, with "out" 62 Added stipulations

Down

1 Street in San Francisco 2 Cherry Grove, Fire Island author Newton 3 Worked hard 4 Queen topper 5 Tomlin or Cho 6 Of grades 1-12 7 They're trained to use paddles 8 Melonlike fruit 9 Women's patriotic org. 10 Tops, to bottoms? 11 More testicular? 12 Where bitches hang out 17 "Jailhouse Rock" singer? 18 Creature in a Star Wars sequel 23 Walks with weariness 25 Latish lunch hour 28 Remove, as a nametag 29 Orchestral conductor Zubin 31 Synthetic fiber brand 32 Company that recorded "Over the Rainbow" 34 "So Long, ____" (The Sound of Music) 35 Jeremy Irons flick of 1997 36 React like a nervous Nelly 37 Like Harvey Milk to 1-Down 40 It keeps a fruit from being exposed 42 Prick up one's ears 43 Being cheated at phone sex? 44 Bar companions 46 It can cut leaves of grass 48 Starbuck's order 51 Opera queen's delight 52 Brisk pace 55 Canon camera 56 Heteros, on PlanetOut?





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DON'T ALWAYS GET ALONG.



Come Meet and Greet Director, **DJ** and Drag Diva, **Chi Chi LaRue**, will be in the Big D at

The World Famous

does DALLAS with

and the drama room Cruise Lounge Friday, Sept. 16 and Saturday, Sept. 17 Drama Room • 10 pm - 12 am Tin Room • 12 am - 2 am



Chi Chi Larue, www.FabScout.com and www.Channel1Releasing.com

Chi Chi will also RIDE WITH PRIDE on the Tin Room float at the Dallas Pride Parade!



scene





Bill and Jay at the Round-Up Saloon.



Holster at the Rainbow Lounge.

Juan and Carlos at the Brick.

So much Pride stuff going on, we can't waste any time Who remembers that club before Buddies II took over its last spot? In the mid-'90s there was The Wave with top 40 dance hits on the speakers, hunky dancers on the pedestals (Hi, Lex!) and the best pool in town. Wave regular and scenester Trish Hedge hosts The Wave Reunion Friday at the Brick with DJ Mickey. On Saturday, Dance Under the Rainbow with DJs Tony Moran, Tristan Jaxx and G-Licious. The Spectrum Dallas Pride Tea Dance with DJs Phil B and Adam Metts rounds out the weekend and benefits AIDS Services of Dallas Coco Peru's End of Summer Tour hits the Rose Room on Friday. Nice to see her back in town. Wigstock GayBingo takes over on Saturday Sue Ellen's takes part in the inaugural Switch Party heading back to their old spot at TMC: The Mining Company. Anton Shaw performs for the nostlagic Friday night. She plays with her band The Reason back on Sue's regular stage for a **post-Pride party** with **Rich 'n' Rare** That means the boys take over Sue's for BearDance with DJ Blaine Soileau. The ursine event benefits AIDS Arms The Lez Be Proud cast hosts Eye Take Pride Glitz and Glamour Saturday night. The Pride celebration includes dancing, live music and benefits Servicemembers United and Freedom to Marry. The location is so cool, it's space is only known as 1430 Dragon St., but we won't tell you where it is Club 3025 hosts DJ Roland Belmares and Oren Nizri Saturday We also hear a **parade** is happening on Sunday. Hmmm.

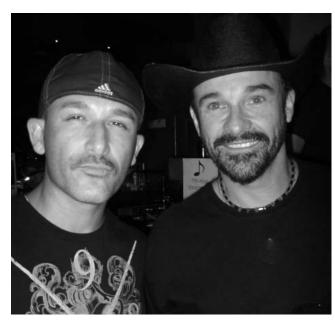
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES. FOR MORE PHOTOS, VISIT DALLASVOICE.COM.



Liz, Robert and Jessica at Station 4.



Lee and Nat at Sue Ellen's.



Moises and Cowboy Billy at the Rose Room inside Station 4.



Ryan and Hunter at the Dallas Eagle.

businessdirectory

attorneys

COVELL, REBECCA — 3710 Rawlins, Ste 950; 214-443-0300;

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- attorneymccall.com. McCOLL AND McCOLLOCH, PLCC — 1601 Elm St., Ste. 2000;
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- 214-855-7888. PETTIT, JACK N. — 3626 N. Hall, #519; 214-521-4567;
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- WOMACK, JENNY—15455 N. Dallas Pkwy, Ste 440; 214.744.4440; wilsonlakelaw.com.
- auto
- BOB MOORE SUBARU OF HURST— 240 NE Loop 820, Hurst; 817-255-6200; bobmoore.com. DON HERRING MITSUBISHI— 2901 W. Airport, Irving; 972-785-3001; donhernig.com. FIAT OF MCKINNEY— 800 N. Central Expy., McKinney;

972-562-0000; fiatmeckinney.com. JOHN EAGLE HONDA — 5311 Lemmon Ave.; 800-539-1844; eaglehonda.com.

- PARK PLACE MERCEDES-MIDCITIES 3737 Airport Frwy; Bedford; 817-359-4746. PARK PLACE MERCEDES — (Nedd Ross); 4023 Oak Lawn;
- 866-429-7658 . VAN HYUNDAI — 1301 S. Hwy I-35 East; Carrollton; 1-888-80HYUNDAI: vanhvundaionline.com.
- clubs

*ALEXANDRE'S — 4026 Cedar Springs Rd; 214-559-0720. *1851 ARLINGTON — 1851 W. Division, Ariington; 817-801-9303. *BEST FRIENDS — 2620 E. Lancaster, FL Worth; 817-534-2280. BJ'S NXS — 3215 N. Fitzhugh; 214-526-9510; bjsnxs.com. *THE BRICK/IOE'S — 2525 Wycliff Ave; 51e. 120; 214-521-3154; brickdallas.com. CHANGES — 2637 E. Lancaster; 817-413-2332.

CHERRIES — 2506 Knight St; 214-520-8251. *CLUB KALIENTE — 4350 Maple Ave; 214-520-6676; kaliente.cc. *CLUB REFLECTION — 604 S. Jennings; 817-870-8867. *CROSSROADS LOUNGE — 515 S. Jennings, Ft. Worth;

817-332-0071. *DALLAS EAGLE — 5740 Maple Ave., 214-357-4375; dallaseagle.com. *DRAMA ROOM — 3581 (cdar Spring; 75219; 214-557-1094 *EXKLUSIVE — 4207 Maple Ave.; 214-432-2826. *HAVANA — 4006 (cdar Spring; 214-526-9494. *HIDDEN DOOR — 5025 Bowser; 214-526-0620. *J.R.S. — 3923 (cdar Spring; 214-528-1004, caven.com. *KLUB WET — 4100 Maple Ave; 214-529-3005. *PEKERS — 2615 0ak Lawn; 214-559-3005. *PUB PEGASUS — 3326 N. Fitzhugh; 214-559-4663. *RAINBOW LOUNGE — 651 S. Jennings, Ft. Worth, 817-870-2466.

*ROUND-UP SALOON — 3912 Cedar Springs; 214-522-9611; roundupsaloon.com.
*STATION 4 — 3911 Cedar Springs; 214-526-7171; caven.com.
*SUE ELLENS — 3014 Throckmorton; 214-559-0707, caven.com

- *THE MINING COMPANY 3903 Cedar Springs; 214.521.4205. *TIN ROOM — 2514 Hudnall; 214-526-6365; tinroom.net. WOODY'S SPORTS AND VIDEO BAR — 4011 Cedar Springs; 214-520-6629.
- *ZIPPERS 3333 N. Fitzhugh; 214-526-9519.

- ADULT NEW RELEASES 9109 John Carpenter Fwy; 214-905-0500; dallasadultvideostore.com. *ALTERNATIVES OF NEW FINE ARTS — 1720 W. Mockingbird Ln; 214-630-7071.
- *MOCKINGBIRD VIDE0 708 W. Mockingbird Ln.; 214-631-3003.
 *NEW FINE ARTS WEST 1966 W. Northwest Hwy; 972-869-1097.
- *ODYSSEY ADULT VIDEO 2600 Forest at Denton Dr., 972-484-4999; 950 W. Mockingbird Ln., 214-634-3077. *PARIS ADULT BOOKS & VIDEO WAREHOUSE —

dallasvoice.com 🔳 09.16.11

1118 Harry Hines; 972-263-0774.

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entertainment, adult

*THE VIDEO STORE — 3015 Arapaho at Galaxie; Garland 75044; 972-495-1460. 214-528-6500; robwiley.com.

- *ZONE D'EROTICA 2600 Forest, Dallas. 972-241-7055, zonederotica.com. entertainment, general
- *ARLINGTON MUSEUM OF ART 201 W. Main St., Arlington;
- 817-275-4600; arlingtonmuseum.org. **ARTES DE LA ROSS** — 1440 N. Main St; Ft. Worth; 76164; 817-624-8333.
- BASS HALL 330 E. 4th St.; Ft. Worth; 817-212-4280. CASA MANANA — 3101 W. Lancaster Ave.; Fort Worth;
- 817-321-5030; casamanana.org.
 CITY PERFORMANCE HALL 2700 Flora St; 75201; 214-880-0202; dallasperformaingarts.org.
- DALLAS ARBORETUM 8525 Garland Rd.; 214-515-6500; dallasarboretum.org. *DALLAS MUSEUM OF ART — 1717 N. Harwood; 214-922-1204.
- *DALLAS MUSEUM UF ART 1717 N. Harwood; 214-922-120 DALLAS SUMMER MUSICALS — 5959 Royal Ln., #542; 214-421-5678; dallassummermusicals.org.
- DALLAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2301 Flora St.; 75201;

 214-871-4038; dallassymphony.com.

 DALLAS OPFRA 214-443-1000; dallasopera.org.
- DALLAS OPEKA 214-443-1000; dailasopera.org, DALLAS THEATER CENTER — 2400 Flora St..; 214-252-3927; dailastheatercenter.org.
- 214-252-3927; Galiastheatercenter.org. DIAMOND JACKS CASINO RESORT— 711 Diamond Jacks Blvd.,
- Bossier City, LA; 866-5JAXMAX, diamondjads.com. FT. WORTH OPERA — 31-877-FW0PERA; fwopera.org. *IWWOOD THEATRE — 5458 W. Lovers In; 214-325-6040. *LAKEWOOD THEATRE — 825 Abrams Rd; 214-827-LAKE. *MAGNOLIT HEATRE — 3699 McKinang Awa: 214-520-026
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- LAMBDA WEEKLY GLBT talk-radio show. KNON 89.3FM: Lambda Weekly, KNON FM, P.O. Box 71909, Dallas 75371
- lambdaweekly@aol.com; geocities.com/lambdaweekly PRIDE RADIO - 14001 N. Dallas Parkway, #300, Dallas 75240; 214-866-8000; prideradiodfw.com/main.htm

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- FRONTIER DRUM & BUGLE CORPS 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. #18, Dallas 75219; 972-437-6974; frontiercorps.org. OAK LAWN SYMPHONIC BAND - P.O. Box 190869.
- , Dallas 75219; 214-621-8998; oaklawnband.org. NEW TEXAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - P.O. Box 190137. Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x101); ntso.org.
- TURTLE CREEK CHORALE P.O. Box 190137, 75219, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x 101); turtlecreek.org.
- WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., #210, Dallas 75219; 214-520-7828; twcdoffice@twcd.org; twcd.org.

- **LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF DALLAS COUNTY** PO Box 541712 DALLAS 75354-1719; lpdallas.or LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF DALLAS -P.O. Box 191033, Dallas 75219; 214-346-2115; robschlein@aol.com; dallas.logcabin.org.
- STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DALLAS P.O. Box 192305, Dallas 75219; 214-887-4990 jesse.garcia@stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org;

political

- stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org. STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DENTON COUNTY -
- P.O. Box 703392, Dallas 75370; 972-890-3834; info@stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org; stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org. TARRANT COUNTY STONEWALL DEMOCRATS -
- P.O. Box 185363, Fort Worth 76181; 817-913-8743; info@tarrantcountystonewalldemocrats.org; tarrantcountystonewalldemocrats.org.

professional

- ALLIANCE OF DESIGN PROFESSIONALS 214-526-2085 BUSINESS NETWORK OF COLLIN COUNTY - 972-702-0058; businessnetworkcc.org CATHEDRAL BUSINESS NETWORK - 214-351-1901 (x304);
- cbn.info@cathedralofhope.com; cathedralofhope.com/cbn DALLAS PRIDE RESOURCE GROUP bruce.shelton@bankofamerica.com.
- DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN BAR ASSN. 214-540-4460; adamseidel@aol.com; dglba.org.
- DALLAS LAMBDA MEDICAL NETWORK Contact Paul Jentz: 214-820-6930; paul.jentz@baylorhealth.edu
- DELOITTE GLOBE dallasqlobe@deloitte.com. GLEAM — gleam@aa.com; amrgleam.com. GLEE - 972-605-1212; edsu.eds.com/alee/index.html. GLOBE - P.O. Box 50961, Dallas 75250; 972-308-7233;
- marie.garza@irs.gov; fedglobe.org IBM EAGLE - haywardm@us.ibm.com LAMBDA PRIDE TOASTMASTERS — 5910 Cedar Springs.
- Dallas 75219; lambdapride@freetoasthost.us; lambdapride.freetoasthost.us.
- LEADERSHIP LAMBDA TOASTMASTERS info@leadershiplambda.freetoasthost.com; leadershiplambda.freetoasthost.com.
- LGBT LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS www.lgbtlawtx.com, 800-204-2222 x 1420
- NORTH TEXAS GLBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE -3818 Cedar Springs Rd., Suite 101-429, Dallas, 75219, 214-821-GLBT.
- OUT & EQUAL DFW ---- www.outandequal.org/dallas-fort-worth,
- DFW@outandequal.org. PRIDE DFW METROPLEX — roger.brownlow@ipmorgan.com RAYTHEON GLBTA — Roland Zuniga, 972-344-5245, rz@raytheon.com.
- TI PRIDE NETWORK -12500 TI Blvd., MS 8683, Dallas, 75243. 214-480-2800, tipridenetwork-officers@list.ti.o
- WOMEN'S BUSINESS NETWORK PO Box 190692 Dallas 75219; 972-949-4355; info@wom work.org; womensbusinessnetwork.org.

services

- BLACK TIE DINNER, INC. 3878 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 100-B #321, Dallas 75219; 972-733-9200; blacktie.org. BOYS4TOYS — 4327 Vandelia, Dallas 75219; 214-522-5200; b4t@swbell.net; boys4toys.org.
- COLLIN COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE P.O. Box 860030 Plano, TX 75086-0030; 214-521-5342
- (x1715); info@ccgla.org; ccgla.org. DALLAS SOUTHERN PRIDE — 3100 Main, #208, Dallas 75226;
- 214-734-8007: dallassouthernpride.com DALLAS/FORT WORTH FEDERAL CLUB - P.O. Box 191153, Dallas 75219: 214-428-3332: dfwfederalclub.org
- DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE P.O. Box 190712, Dallas 75219, 214-528-4233; info@dgla.com; dgla.com.
- DALLAS GENDER SOCIETY 214-540-4475. DALLAS TAVERN GUILD - 214-571-1073: michaeldoughman@sbcglobal.net; dallastavernguild.org.
- *JOHN THOMAS GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-528-9254; Phil Johnson Historical Archives and Library; 214-540-4451.
- GAY AND LESBIAN FUND FOR DALLAS 3818 Cedar Springs Rd. 101, #371, Dallas 75219; 214-421-8177; volunteers@glfd.org.
- GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD 214-528-0022: rcdallas.org/glcc.html. HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE OF NORTH TEXAS -
- 214-855-0520; info@hrionline.org; hrionline.org
- LAMBDA LEGA DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND, SOUTHWEST REGION 3500 Oak Lawn, #500, Dallas 75219; 214-219-8585; lambdalegal.org. LEGACY OF SUCCESS FOUNDATION, INC. PO. Box 700072, Duble 2720 be intersective time of the one of the one
- Dallas 75370; heritagecelebrationdfw.org. NAMES PROJECT DALLAS - P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-520-SEWS (Phone) 214-553-8129 (Fax): dallasnam sproject@hotmailcom; aidsquiltdallas.org

services

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spirituality

bethany.presbychurch.org.

cathedralofhope.com

AGAPE MCC — 4615 E. California Pkwy., (SE Loop 820), Fort

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — 4523 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75235; 214-528-4084; bethanypresby@sbcglobal.net;

*CATHEDRAL OF HOPE — 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75235;

CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT - 2040 N. Denton Dr., Carrollton 75006:

908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth 76104; 817-335-3222; celebration@celebrationtex.com;

CELEBRATION ON THE LAKE — Hwy. 198; Maybank TX, 75147;

Dallas. 75208; 214-233-4605; www.churchinthecliff.org.

2875 E. Parker Rd., Plano 75074; 972-424-8989; uuplano.org

CHURCH IN THE CLIFF — Kessler Theatre 1230 W. Davis St.,

*COMMUNITY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH —

CONGREGATION BETH EL BINAH - 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH — 2800 Routh at Howell, Dallas 75201; 214-520-9090; info@crossroadscommunity-

DIGNITY DALLAS — P.O. Box 1901333, 5910 Cedar Springs Rd,

Dallas 75219: 214-521-5342 (x1732): dignitydallas.org

EAST DALLAS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - P.O. Box 710329, Dallas

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE -

FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH CHURCH — 901 Bonnie Brae, Fort Worth 76111; 817-921-5683;

dallas.org; firstcommunity-ucc-dallas.org.

*FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF DALLAS — 4015 Normandy Ave., Dallas 75205; 214-528-3990;

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH OF DALLAS — 5427 Phillips Ave.

FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF DALLAS - 9120 Ferguson Rd.

FRIENDS CHURCH — 3131 North Stemmons #F, Dallas 75247;

THE GATHERING PLACE — 5415 Maple Ave., #202-A, Dallas;

411 South Westmoreland Dallas 75211: 214-333-9779

4105 Junius at Haskell, Dallas 75246; 214-824-2533 (Phone), 214-824-2279 (Fax); gumc@graceumcdallas.org; graceumc-

214-819-9411; thegatheringplacechurch.or

GREENLAND HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH —

5835 Penrose ave., Dallas 75206; 214-826-2020;

HARVEST MCC — 3916 E, McKinnev Street, #B, Denton 76208:

HORIZON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH — 1641 W. Hebron Pkwy, Carrollton 75010; 972-492-4940; horizon@horizonuu.org; horizonuu.org.

INTERFAITH MINDFUL MINISTRIES - P.O. Box 863961,

Plano 75086; chising@intermindful.com

JUBILEE APOSTLIC CHRISTIAN CENTER, INT'L -

IFSBIAN & GAY UNITARIANS - 214-691-4300

8513 Bruton Rd., Dallas 75217; 214-724-5658; jubileetx@yahoo.com; jubileetx.net.

*LIBERTY CHURCH — 4150 North Central Expwy, Dallas 75204 (Physical); PO. Box 180967, Dallas 75218 (Mailing); 214-770-3184; libertychurchdallas.org.

LIVING FAITH COVENANT CHURCH — 2527 W. Colorado Blvd.,

LIFE CENTER, THE - 2835 Galleria Drive, Arlington, TX 76011;

817-633-3766; dfwlifecenter.org. LUTHERANS CONCERNED — 6411 LBJ Fwy; 214-855-4998;

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GREATER DALLAS

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH — 11001 Midway Rd., Dallas 75229; 214-352-4841;

mail@midwayhills.org; midwayhills.org.

MORE LIGHT PRESBYTERIANS - P.O. Box 190869

Dallas 75219, 214-521-5342 (x1770); mlp.org

NEW HOPE FELLOWSHIP - 1440 Regal Row, Ste. 320;

Dallas 75235; 214-905-8082; nhfcdallas.org

1840 Hutton Dr.,#100, Carrollton, TX 75006; 972-243-0761 (Phone), 972-243-6024 (Fax). mccgd.org.

Dallas 75211 (Share Building with Promise MCC);

214-372-0466; livingfaithdfw.org.

lcnorthtexas@lcna.org; lcna.org.

940-320-6150 (Phone), 940-484-6159 (Fax); harvest@har vestmcc.org; harvestmcc.org.

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GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH -

Dallas 75228: 214-823-2117: office@firstcommunity-uc

Dallas, TX 75223; 214-828-1314; faithcommunitydallas.org.

folochurch.ora.

dallasuu.org.

214-637-2424.

dallas.org.

greenlandhills.org.

INTEGRITY - 214-521-5342 (x1742).

intermindful.com/about.htm.

75371 (Mailing); 629 North Peak, Dallas 75246 (Physical); 214-824-8185; info@edcc.org; edcc.org.

6525 Inwood Rd., Dallas 75209; 214-352-0410 (Phone), 214-352-3103 (Fax); doubtertom@aol.com; thedoubter.org.

191188, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1784) diane@bethelbinah.org; bethelbinah.org.

church.us; crossroadscommunitychurch.us.

214-351-1901 (Local): 800-501-HOPE (Toll free):

972-245-6520; info@colight.org; colight.org.

*CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH ----

celebration-community-church.com

903-451-2302; cotlchurch.org.

Worth 76119; 817-535-5002; agapemcc.com ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH — 4230 Buckingham Rd., Garland 75042; 972-276-0023; alc1@airmail.net; ascensiontexas.org. spirituality

NORTHAVEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH -

11211 Preston Rd., Dallas 75230; 214-363-2479; numc@northaven.org; northaven.org.

PATHWAYS CHURCH - UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST -

525 South Nolen Dr., #300, Southlake 76092; 817-251-5555 (Phone), 817-251-5554 (Fax);

*PROMISE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH —

promisemcc@peoplepc.com; promisemcc.org.

RAINBOW COVENANT FELLOWSHIP — Gay fellowship fo Charismatics and Pentecostals; 214-559-3380.

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ST. FRANCIS ANGLICAN CHURCH - 3617 Abrams Rd., Dalla:

ST. STEPHEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — 2520 Oates Dr.,

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST KINSHIP - 972-416-1358;

*TRINITY MCC — 1846 West Division, #305, Arlington 76103

UNITY CHURCH OF CHRISTIANITY - 3425 Greenville Ave.,

*WHITE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH — 9353 Garland Rd.,

Dallas 75218: 214-320-0043: admin@whiterockch

Dallas 75206; 214-826-5683; dallasunity.org.

WHOSOEVER DALLAS — 807 Fletcher Street, Dallas ; www.whosoeverdallas.org.

CEDAR SPRINGS FUN BUNCH — 10920 Composite Dr.,

DALLAS DIABLOS — PO Box 190862, Dallas 75219;

DALLAS DEBUTANTES — 214-366-2585; dallasrugby.com.

DALLAS FRONTRUNNERS — dallasfrontrunners@yahoo.com;

DALLAS INDEPENDENT VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION (DIVA) -

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Dallas_Pride_Cheer

Looking for participants for a new lesbian cycling group; groups.yahoo.com/group/dfwwomenscycling.

FRIDAY NIGHT OUT BOWLING - 2101 N. Central Expwy.,

(LAMBDA) — 10920 Composite Dr., Dallas 75220; 214-358-1382; lutonian58@yahoo.com.

Dallas 75204: Joe or David at 214-232-6252

LADIES & MEN BOWLERS OF DALLAS ASSOCIATION

Dallas 75220: 214-358-1382.

214-540-4505: dallasdiablos.org

214-521-5342 (x1704): divadallas.

DIFFERENT STROKES GOLF ASSOCIATION —

info@dsgadallas.org; dsgadallas.org.

METROPIEX RAINBOW BOWLING LEAGUE -

214-632-8512; ntxwsa.net.

lssc@olssc.org; olssc.org.

Dallas, 75219; oltadallas.org.

RAINBOW FLYERS PILOTS ASSOCIATION -

rfpa@rfpatexas.com; rfpatexas.com

rainbow_rollers_league@yahoo.com; myspace.com/rainbowrollers.

info@teamdallasusa.com: teamdallasusa.

P.O. Box 168592, Irving 75016; 214-770-5373; info@texasbullsffc.com; texasbullsffc.com.

TEXAS BULLS FLAG FOOTBALL CLUB -

Tues. at 7:30 pm; AMF Irving Lanes, 3450 Willow Creek Drive; 972-790-8201.

NORTH TEXAS WOMEN'S SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION -

OAK LAWN BOWLING ASSOCIATION — 10920 Composite Dr.,

OAK LAWN SKI AND SCUBA CLUB - 214-521-5342 (x1769);

OAK LAWN SOCCER CLUB - P.O. Box 190995, Dallas 75219;

P.O. Box 191075; Dallas 75219; 972-879-7900; dallaspssa.org.

P.O. Box 190990, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1740);

RAINBOW ROLLERS BOWLING LEAGUE - 817-540-0303;

SPECTRUM MOTORCYCLE CLUB - 214-289-1179: spectrum-mrc.com

TEAM DALLAS - P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-540-4501;

P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; teamdallasaquatics.com

214-941-3566; oaklawnsoccerclub.org.

OAK LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION - P.O. Box 191234.

PEGASUS SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION -

Dallas 75220: 214-358-1382: oaklawnbowling.com

DALLAS PRIDE COED CHEERLEADING -

DFW LESBIAN CYCLING GROUP -

dallasfrontrunners.org

region5@sdakinship.org; sdakinship.org.

West Kiest, Dallas 75203; 214-337-2429 uuc@oakcliffuu.com; oakcliffuu.com.

817-265-5454; trinitymcc.org.

whiterockchurch.org.

sports

Mesquite 75150; 972-279-3112; gbgm-umc.org/ststepher

Rd., 101-536, Dallas, 75219, 469-222-3400

373-8770; stmaryocca@aol.com; netministries.org/see/churches.exe/ch03022.

75214; 927-900-7298 (Phone), 206-339-8127 (Fax); angelfire.com/tx5/holycross.

ST. MYCHAL JUDGE LIBERAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

*SANCTUARY OF LOVE - 3917 North Hall, #B;

214-520-9055: sanctuarvoflove.org.

469-449-0134; mychaljudge.com

2527 West Colorado Blvd., Dallas 75211; 214-623-8400;

RAINBOW MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL — 3818 Cedar Springs

CHURCH - 780 Abrams Rd., #103-224. Dallas 75231: 214-

info@pathwaysuu.org; pathwaysuu.org.

OAK LAWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 3014 Oak Lawr

A LAWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — 3014 Uak Lawn Avenue, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5197 (Phone), 214-521-5050 (Fax); journeys@olumc.org; oaklawn@olumc.org.

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codependents.org

TEXAS GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, DALLAS CHAPTER —

TEXAS GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, STATE ORG. ----

TNL LADIES BOWLING --- Wed. 6:30 pm; 214-927-6194;

*YMCA — 7301 Gaston Ave., Dallas 75214; 214-328-3849.

AL-ANON LAMBDA GROUP — 6162 East Mockingbird Ln., #209.

Dallas 75214; 214-363-0461; info@dallasal-anon.org; dallasal-anon.org.

2438 Butler, #106, Dallas 75235; 214-267-0222 or 214-887-6699; dallasal-anon.org.

CODEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS — 214-766-8939 (Dallas), 817-834-2119 (Fort Worth); outreach@coda.org;

CROSSDRESSERS, LNT — Intmembership@vahoo.com.

CRYSTAL METH ANONYMOUS/UNWIRED DALLAS -

DFW BI NET — dfwbinet.com: facebook.com/dfwbinet.

G.E.A.R. (Gender Education, Advocacy & Resources) -

GAY MARRIED MEN - 6525 Inwood at Mockingbird, Ln;

GLBT CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — 5910 Cedar Springs,

LAMBDA GROUP OF NICOTINE ANONYMOUS

Maria Jairaj at 469-328-1980; marial 33@gmail.com

972-558-1600; dennisf@swbell.net; home.swbell.net/dennisf/gamma/dallasgamma.htm

2438 Butler, Dallas 75235; 214-629-7806; nicadfw.orq.

Gilda's Club North Texas, 2710 Oak Lawn, 214-219-8877.

LESBIAN ISSUES SUPPORT AND PERSONAL GROWTH GROUP

IMMIGRATION EQUALITY — 2501 Oak Lawn Dr., #850, Dallas 75219; 214-855-0520; immigrationequalitydfw.org.

METROPLEX CROSS-DRESSERS - P.O. Box 141924, Irving

MILITARY EQUALITY ALLIANCE — North Texas chapter;

P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-540-4480;

militaryequality.org.

OVER THE RAINBOW - 214-358-0517.

Arlington 76011; 817-275-3311.

75014; 214-367-8500; mailbox@metrocd.com; metrocd.com.

PFLAG-DALLAS - P.O. Box 190193, Dallas 75219: 972-77-PFLAG

(Phone), 972-701-9331 (Fax); info@pflagdallas.org.

PFLAG-FORT WORTH - 817-428-2329; pflagfortworth.org.

POSITIVE LIVING SUPPORT GROUP - 401 W. Sanford.

PRESBYTERIAN PARENTS OF GAYS AND LESBIANS -

RAINBOW ROLLER SKATING - Dylan, 817-763-0241.

SEX & LOVE ADDICTS ANONYMOUS — (Oak Lawn Mens Group) 6525 Inwood @ Mockingbird Ln.; 214-476-3404 or 214-673-8092.

SLUTS (SOUTHERN LADIES UNDER TREMENDOUS STRESS) -

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LGBT FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM - P.O. Box 190869.

Dallas 75219; 214-540-4455; rcdallas.org.

MAN TALK — 801 West Cannon, Fort Worth 76104; Trevor Gates, LCSW at 817-335-1994 (x217).

— Group meetings held on Saturdays at 2 pm; Maria Jairaj at 469-328-1980; marial33@gmail.com.

FAMILY PRIDE COALITION - 817-881-3949.

214-528-0144: GEAR@rcdallas.org

Dallas 75219; 214-351-1901

2701 Regan St.; 75219; 214-349-9999; crystalmeth.org.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS LAMBDA GROUP

P.O. Box 191168, Dallas 75219; 817-540-2075; tgra.org

TEXAS GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, FORT WORTH CHAPTER -

P.O. Box 100155. Fort Worth 76185; 214-346-2107; tg

P.O. Box 192097, Dallas 75219; 214-346-2107; tgra.org.

- Dallas 75219, 214-261-5610; comeout.or TARRANT COUNTY GAY PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION -
- PO Box 3459 Fort Worth 7611 info@tcgpwa.org; tcgpwa.org.
- TALK OF THE TOWN TOASTMASTERS CLUB -214-404-2118; dgershner@aol.com.
- TRIANGLE FOUNDATION P.O. Box 306, Frisco 75034; 972-200-9411 (Phone), 501-643-0327 (Fax); collinequality.org.

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BATTALION MOTORCYCLE CORPS - P.O. Box 190603, Dallas 75219; commander@battalionmc.com; battalior BITCHNBRUNCH — bitchnbrunch.org; bitchnbrunch@yahoogroups.org.

- CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB P.O. Box 225463, Dallas 75222; 214-446-0606; information@classicchassis.com; classicchassis.com
- COUPLES METRO DALLAS P.O. Box 192116, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1764): counlesmetrodallas co
- DAMN DAMNmen.org: P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1739); oaklwnguy@hotmail.com DALLAS REARS - PO Roy 191223 Dallas 75219
- 214-521-5342 (x2943); dallasbears.org. DFW BIG MEN'S CLUB - P.O. Box 227262, Dallas 75222; 972-
- AM-I-BIG9; dfwbmc@hotmail.com; chubnet.net/df DISCIPLINE CORPS - P.O. Box 190838, Dallas 75219;
- 214-521-5342 (x1731); webmaster@disciplinecorps.com; disciplinecorps.com. FIREDANCERS — mikeykeith@cs.com; firedancers.org.
- FLYING "W" OF DALLAS P.O. Box 815485, Dallas 75381; 972-514-0511.
- FOR MEN ONLY DALLAS (FMO) http://socialnetwork.meetup.com/1102/ FRISCOPRIDE - P.O. Box 1533, Frisco 75034; 469-324-4123;
- friscopride.com FUSE — 214-540-4435: adam@getvourfuseon.com
- ourfuseon.com GAY AND LESBIAN RESIDENTS OF OAK CLIFF --- galroc.org GAV & I FSRIAN SINGLES - 214-328-6749 GAY MEN'S BOOK CLUB - 214-418-3354:
- gaymensbookclub@sbcglobal.net GAY OUTDOOR CLUB - 469-387-2530; mrailey@gmail.com; gayoutdoorclub.org.
- GAYMSTERS BRIDGE CLUB P.O. Box 190856, Dallas 75219 214-946-6464; gaymsters@yahoo.com; gaymsters.org.
- GROUP SOCIAL LATINO 2701 Reagan; 214-540-4446. IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARI INGTON -P.O. Box 365, Fort Worth 76101; 817-897-8612;
- webmaster@ic-fwa.org; ic-fwa.org. JEWEL — 214-540-GIRL; jewel@rcdallas.org; rcdallas.org. KHUSH TEXAS — http://groups.yahoo.com/group/khushtexas.
- LATE BLOOMERS La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon; 903-887-7371. LEATHER KNIGHTS — P.O. Box 190111, Dallas 75219; 214-559-3625; leatherknights.org.
- LONG YANG CLUB 214-521-5342 (x428); lyc_dfw_tx@hotmail.com; longyangclub.org/dallas. LVL/PWA CAMPOUT — Rick; campout@lvlpwa.com; lvlpwa.com.
- MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER P.O. Box 190611, Dallas 75219; 214-521-4765; groups.yahoo.com/group.mactdallas

Dallas 75219; info@nla-dallas.org; nla-dallas.org.

NORTH TEXAS RADICAL FAERIES -

(Fax); outtakesdallas.org.

dfw.org; primetimers-dfw.org.

http://singles.meetup.com/2049/

SAVVY SINGLES NEWS DFW -

dalmusl@yahoo.com.

groups.yahoo.com/group/ntradfae.

OAK LAWN COUPLES — oaklawncouples.com

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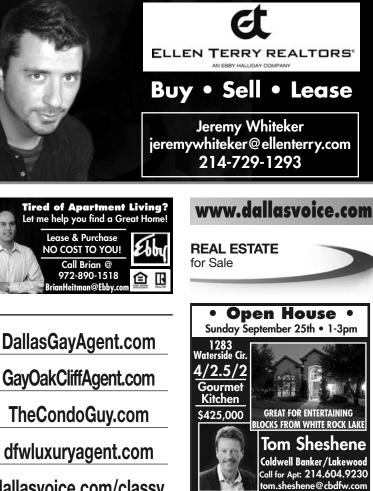
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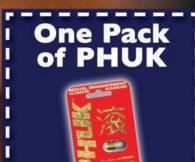
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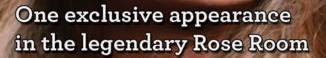
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