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■ DINING, Page 48



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Stories on pages 27 and 34



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Photo by Arnold Wayne Jones.
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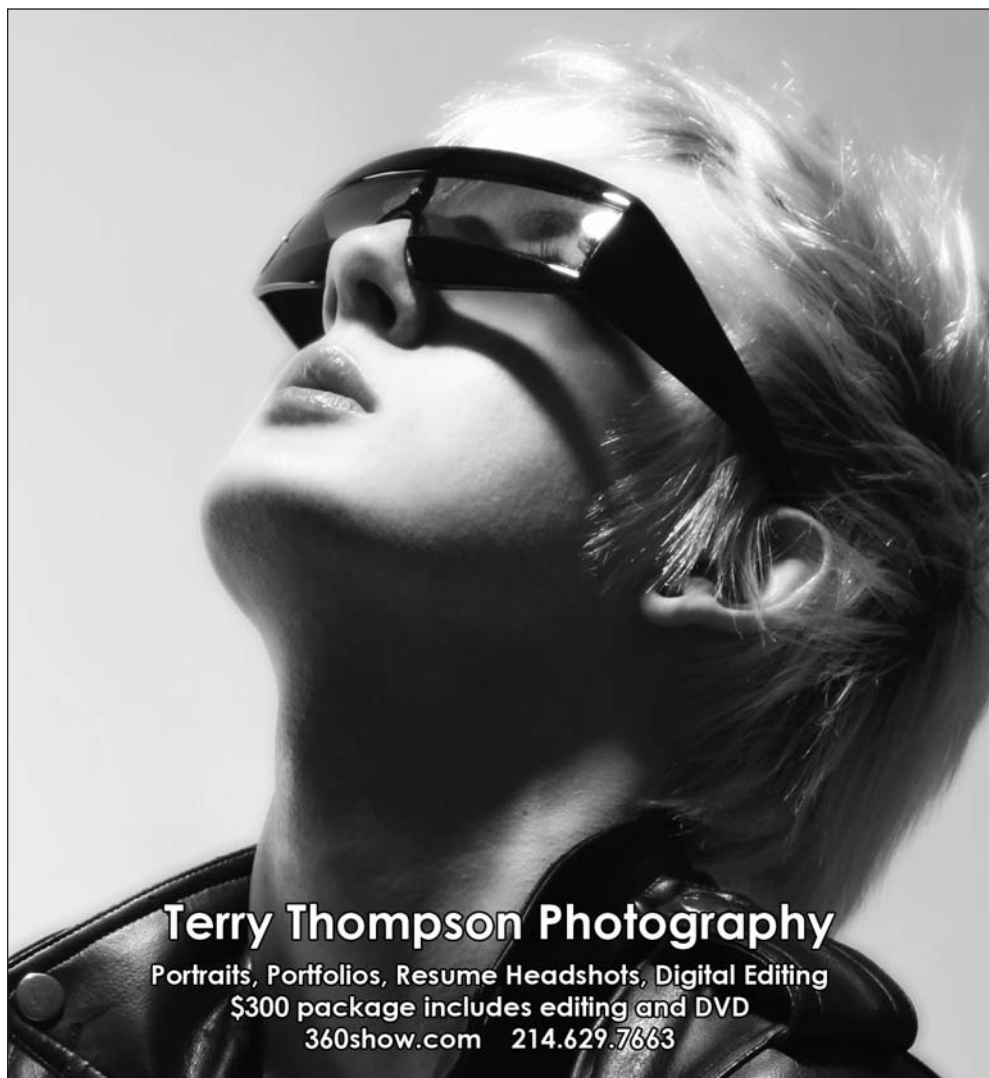
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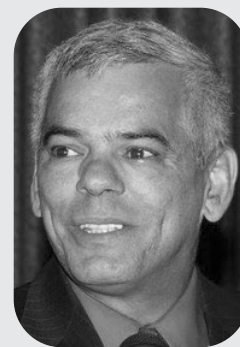
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Rick Perry and gay soldiers

Texas Gov. Rick Perry hasn't commented on the incident involving a gay soldier who was booed during the last Republican presidential debate. But one of Perry's prominent supporters in New Hampshire certainly has.

Perry backer and New Hampshire State Rep. Alfred Baldasaro, R-Londonderry, told ThinkProgress last Friday that he was "disgusted" by the gay soldier, Stephen Hill, who submitted a question to the debate via YouTube about "don't ask, don't tell."



Baldasaro went on to say that "it was great" when members of the audience booed Hill. Here's a full transcript from Scott Keyes at ThinkProgress:

KEYES: What did you make of that moment in the debate when they had the gay marine asking a question and there were a few in the audience who were booing him?

BALDASARO: I was so disgusted over that gay marine coming out, because when he came out of the closet. Bob won't say it because they're scared to get in trouble, but their brothers and sisters — brothers especially — that are there, they'll start getting away from him. They'll start ignoring him. He doesn't realize it, but when the shit hits the fan, you want your brothers covering your back, not looking at your back.

KEYES: Did you have an issue with the audience reaction?

BALDASARO: Oh no, I thought the audience, when they booed the marine, I thought it was great.

On Tuesday, Baldasaro told the Union Leader that he stands behind his comments. But Baldasaro now claims he didn't mean he was disgusted by the fact that Hill is gay, but rather by the fact that he appeared during a political event in an Army T-shirt. Baldasaro also stressed that he wasn't speaking for Perry, adding that he was "speaking for myself as an American with a First Amendment right to free speech."

Baldasaro also criticized reporters who've been covering his comments. "I wish they'd spend more time on jobs and the economy than what Al Baldasaro said," he said. "They're all looking for a story to make money for their papers."

The Union Leader notes that four of the GOP presidential candidates — Rick Santorum, Jon Huntsman, Gary Johnson and Herman Cain — have condemned the booing of the gay soldier.

Although Perry's campaign hasn't commented on the incident, the governor has previously addressed the subject of gay soldiers.

The day Perry signed Texas' constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage in 2005, the governor was asked what he would tell gay veterans returning from Iraq.

"Texans have made a decision about marriage, and if there is some other state that has a more lenient view than Texas, then maybe that's a better place for them to live," Perry responded.

— John Wright

Gay Day at the State Fair

The Texas State Fair is back, and fried food, vomit-inducing rides (not necessarily in that order) and live music make the annual event appeal to both young and the young at heart. The DART Green Line makes accessing the fair a breeze and in no time you'll be experiencing the funnies of the fair once again.

But if you're up for an event that attracts hundreds of queers to partake in shenanigans (and who isn't?), then make sure to get down to the fair this Saturday to enjoy the unofficial Gay Day at the Texas State Fair.

The plan is to meet at "Big Tex" (the giant cowboy with the flat butt) from noon to 12:30 p.m. as a community and then break off to strut the fair. To recognize your fellow LGBT brethren and to support anti-bullying campaigns and National Coming Out Day (which is Tuesday), make sure to don a purple shirt (or just wear a bunch of rainbow-themed accessories).

For more information is available on the group's Facebook page

— Draconis von Trapp

Bullying Awareness Day in FW



Oct. 12 is the one-year anniversary of openly gay Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns' legendary "It Gets Better" speech. (In case you're wondering, as of this posting, the video had 2,664,269 views on YouTube.) To mark the occasion, the Fort Worth City Council on Tuesday will proclaim Oct. 12 as Bullying Awareness Day, according to a press release from Burns' office:

On October 12, 2010, Councilman Burns used his personal time at a city council meeting to speak to citizens, parents and educators about their responsibility as adults to end bullying. His message also included a personal plea to those youth who were considering suicide to stick around for a life that will get better and a message of hope to empower youth to speak out and stand up for anyone who might be experiencing bullying.

Subsequently, the video of Councilman Burn's speech went viral and garnered international attention. To continue the conversation about bullying and the effects it has on children, and ultimately the city as a whole, the City of Fort Worth is proclaiming October 12, 2011 Bullying Awareness Day to encourage its citizens to do their part in ensuring that all children have a safe, caring and respectful place to feel safe, learn and socialize.

— John Wright

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Omni confirms DP benefits at convention center hotel

Hotel, set to open Nov. 11, will be owned by city and is expected to employ up to 800 people

JOHN WRIGHT | Senior Political Writer
wright@dallasvoice.com

A spokeswoman for Omni Hotels confirmed this week that the company will offer domestic partner benefits to its employees at Dallas' convention center hotel, slated to open next month.

It marked the first time a representative from Irving-based Omni Hotels has stated directly that the company plans to offer DP benefits at the city-owned facility.

Omni, which operates 50 luxury hotels in North America, is one of the few major lodging chains that doesn't offer DP benefits across the board. However, Omni spokeswoman Caryn Kbouti said the company opted to do so at the convention center hotel because the facility is owned by the city, which has offered DP benefits to its employees since 2004.

"We're pleased to do it, and it's in keeping with the city of Dallas' practices," Kbouti said.

Kbouti said the convention center hotel, slated to open Nov. 11, will initially employ 600-650 people, about 80 percent of whom will be full time and eligible for benefits. At "peak performance," the hotel could employ up to 800 people, she said.

■ OMNI, Page 18



ROOMS WITH VIEWS | Workers put the finishing touches on the outdoor pool deck this week at Dallas' convention center hotel, as the downtown skyline looms behind them. The hotel is scheduled to open Nov. 11. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)



STATE UNFAIR | Dondi Morse, left, and Latisha Pennington say they attended the State Fair of Texas with their seven-year-old daughter and were verbally attacked by one vendor.

Anti-gay tirade ruins family's State Fair outing

Haltom City lesbians say vendor's verbal gay-bashing left their 7-year-old daughter in tears

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

When Latisha Pennington and Dondi Morse of Haltom City took their 7-year-old daughter to the Texas State Fair last weekend, they just wanted to have a fun day seeing the animals and trying out the fair's famed array of fried treats.

But the women said this week their plans were ruined when one vendor verbally gay-bashed them in front of their daughter, leaving the little girl in tears and forcing the family to cut their outing short.

Although Pennington acknowledges that it isn't hard to look at her and know she is a lesbian, that same isn't true for her partner. And the two of them weren't doing anything that day to attract attention; they weren't holding hands and they certainly weren't kissing or engaging in any kind of public displays of affection.

"We were just there to have fun with our daughter," Pennington said, adding that PDAs "just aren't our style."

But that wasn't enough to ward off some unwanted attention from the men at the booth for the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship in America.

Pennington said she and Morse and their daughter had just left

one of the animal buildings when she heard a man call out to them. He said, she recalled, "Hey, come here, come here. I got something for you. Got a couple of questions."

The women noticed that the man was one of several at the booth that were giving away T-shirts and visors so they decided to go over and see what was being offered.

Each man in the booth was holding a sign that said, "What would you take for \$1 million?" And the man who called them over did indeed have a question for them: "Would you take \$1 million for your right eye?"

Pennington said she closed one eye, and the man asked her what she was doing. She told him she was just checking to see how well she could see out of one eye before she answered.

She said the man laughed at her answer. But his next question was no laughing matter: "Would you take \$1 million for your soul?"

That's when Morse jumped into the conversation, telling the man that if he was trying to engage them in a religious debate, they weren't interested in going further.

Pennington said the man assured them he wasn't interested in a religious debate either. But his next statement proved otherwise. That's when the encounter began to turn ugly.

Pennington said he asked them, "What do you think will happen to your soul when you die?" Then he answered his own question with, "I know what's going to happen to your soul. You're going to

■ STATE FAIR, Page 17

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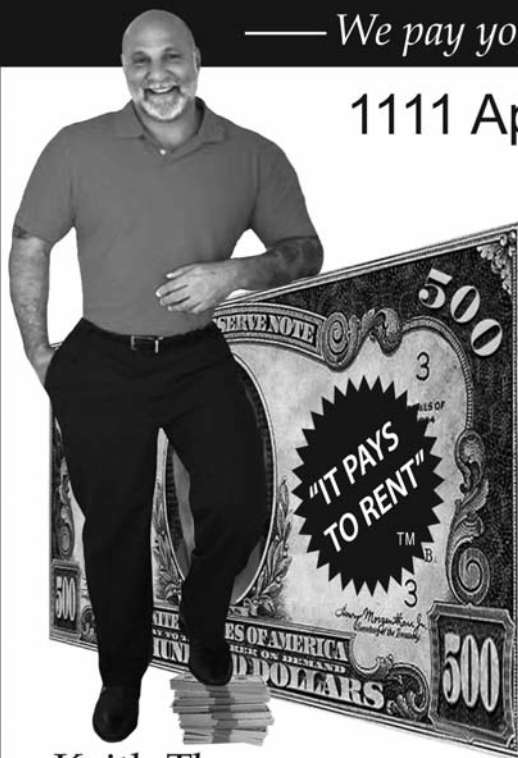
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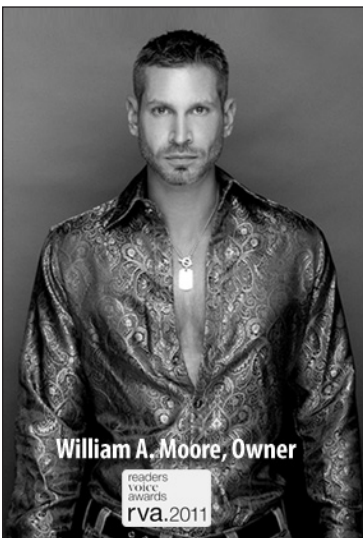
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localbriefs

CoH Mid-Cities names new pastor

The Rev. Rachel Ciupek-Reed has been named the new pastor of Cathedral of Hope Mid-Cities, a congregation of the United Church of Christ located in the Mid-Cities area between Dallas and Fort Worth.

Texan by birth, Ciupek-Reed joins CoH Mid-Cities from Southern California, where she most recently served as senior pastor of Mt. Hollywood Congregational Church UCC.

The Rev. Jo Hudson, senior pastor of Dallas-based Cathedral of Hope UCC, CoH Mid-Cities' mother church, said Ciupek-Reed's "joy, enthusiasm and deep love for all people will empower our congregation in the Mid-Cities in all areas of faith."

Ciupek-Reed's first Sunday in the pulpit at CoH Mid-Cities will be this Sunday, Oct. 9. The congregation meets at The Old Bedford School, 2400 School Lane in Bedford.

Ciupek-Reed graduated with a master of divinity degree with an emphasis in systematic theology from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley in 2007. Prior to entering the ministry, she worked in the fields of non-profit development and information technology. She also holds a bachelor of science degree in information technology from National American University in Denver.

Ciupek-Reed was born in Dallas and moved to Northern California with her family when her

parents entered the seminary there. Raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, has travelled internationally and visited 49 of the 50 U.S. States.

Ciupek-Reed said she is happy to be moving back to North Texas, where she will be closer to her father, who lives in Austin, and to her mother, siblings and nieces who all live in Indiana.

"Mostly, I have a deep desire to serve the community of the Mid-Cities Church with God-given grace and joy in the years to come," she said.

Dallas Bar offers LegalLine

Volunteer attorneys will answer legal questions at no cost from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 12, and Wednesday, Oct. 19, via LegalLine, a call-in program sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association.

LegalLine is a community service for DFW-area residents, provided the second and third Wednesdays of each month. On these designated nights, 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 should call LegalLine at 214-220-7476.

Individuals may also receive referrals to local, legal or social service agencies. LegalLine volunteer attorneys typically answer between 50 and 90 calls each night.

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New FWPD liaison officer 'ready for a new challenge'

Officer Kellie Whitehead tapped to take over as LGBT liaison, says she hopes to work more with youth

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — Fort Worth Police Department Officer Kellie Whitehead said this week that she sees her new assignment as the department's liaison to the LGBT community as an exciting next step in her 12-year career with the department.

"I was ready for a new challenge, for something different, and after talking to [former LGBT Liaison Officer Sara Straten] I was very excited about this new opportunity," Whitehead said.

Whitehead takes over as LGBT liaison from Straten, who had held the position since it was created two years ago in the wake of the Rainbow Lounge raid. The liaison officer is part of the FWPD's Public Information Office, and PIO Supervisor Sgt. Pedro Criado said that Straten had chosen to move to a new position "where she can get back to doing hands-on police work."

Criado said that Whitehead's previous assignment as a Neighborhood Police Officer had given her experience that will be invaluable in her new role as LGBT liaison.

"The Neighborhood Police Officer program is about community policing. These officers are assigned to work in a specific designated area and to build relationships with the people of that neighborhood," Criado explained.

"A patrol officer responds to specific calls and has to clear those calls and move on to the next one. The Neighborhood Police Officer is the one who is there, on call 24-7, to follow up on any problems. They are mediators, friends, problem solvers. This program frees these officers up, gives them flexible schedules, so they can work on issues long-range," Criado added.

That, Whitehead said, is basically the same mission she has now as liaison officer, only instead of working in a specific geographic neighborhood she will be working specifically with the LGBT community city-wide.

Whitehead said that she will continue the work Straten initiated as LGBT liaison, and that she also hopes to expand the position's outreach.

"I am going to continue to build the relationships that Sara started, and I hope that maybe I can work a little more with the kids in the community. I know there are kids out there who are having a really tough time, and I want to find ways to help them," Whitehead said.

She said she also hopes to be able to reach out to non-LGBT youth "who have been raised not to be accepting of people who are different from



Officer Kellie Whitehead

them" and help bridge that gap in understanding and tolerance.

Whitehead, who grew up in Mineral Wells, said that being a police officer had been her dream since she was a child. She said she studied criminal justice in college, but had to leave school to get a job before she got a degree.

She worked as a private prison for a couple of years and then moved on to a job with a security company. It was while working as a security guard in Fort Worth's hospital district that she began to meet and form relationships with FWPD officers.

She finally was able to join the FWPD in 1999.

Whitehead said she has been open with her fellow officers and her superiors about her sexual orientation since she first joined the police force, and that she has never faced any discrimination from her coworkers.

But now, in her new position as LGBT liaison, "I'll be more out than ever! But I am ready for it. I have never been ashamed of who I am."

Whitehead said that her partner and the rest of her family have been "totally supportive" of her move to the liaison position, and that she believes that kind of support is vital to her success as an officer and as community liaison.

"There's no way you can do this job without your family backing you up, and everyone in my family has been very supportive and encouraging," she said. "That's going to make it even easier for me to do the job and do it well. I just want to do everything I can to make things better for the community."

Thomas Anable, president of the LGBT community organization Fairness Fort Worth, said he is pleased with the way the police department has handled the transition from Straten to Whitehead, and that he looks forward to working with the new liaison officer.

"I think she is very professional and I think she will do a very good job," Anable said.

And Sgt. Criado agreed. "When Sara Straten took this position two years ago, she hit the ground running," he said. "And I am certain that Kellie is going to take that ball and just keep on running with it. I think she is going to be great." ■




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■ texasnews

DCCCD considering transgender policy



PROTECTING EVERYONE | A DCCCD student studies on a bench outside El Centro Community College in Downtown Dallas. El Centro is part of the Dallas County Community College District, which is considering adding protections for transgenders to its nondiscrimination policy. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

College district would become second in state to add protections

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, Dallas County Community College District board of trustees was briefed in closed-door session about adding gender identity and expression to its nondiscrimination policy.

The district already has protection based on sexual orientation.

If the board votes to approve the change, DCCCD would become only the second community college in Texas to add gender identity and expression to its nondiscrimination policies. San Jacinto College, with three campuses based in Pasadena, east of Houston, is currently the only two-year college in the state to offer those protections.

Resource Center Dallas Communications and Advocacy Manager Rafael McDonnell said he has been talking to DCCCD Trustee Diana Flores since spring about adding transgender protections, and had hope the changes would be in place for the fall semester.

But the issue was not added to the agenda at the September meeting as hoped. Flores expected it to be on the consent agenda at the October meeting. Instead the board received a briefing.

McDonnell said he didn't think the policy would have a problem passing, and that the briefing was about how to implement the change.

He said he hopes the policy would come up at next month's meeting and be in place by the start of the spring semester.

DCCCD is the largest school in Texas, with 72,000 students in seven colleges on 13 campuses. The school employs 7,200 full- and part-time faculty, staff and administrators.

The district is governed by a board of trustees who are elected for six-year terms and serve without compensation.

McDonnell said Flores, one of the seven elected trustees, has been the champion of adding transgender protections.

The University of Texas at Austin website lists 55 community colleges or community college districts in Texas. Just six of those districts have nondiscrimination policies that specifically include sexual orientation.

In addition to DCCCD and San Jacinto College, Tarrant County College, Austin Community College, Houston Community College and Lone Star College System in North Harris and Montgomery Counties north of Houston offer protection based on sexual orientation.

Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance has approached Collin County Community College in the past about adding LGBT protections to its nondiscrimination policy, but the school has not done so.

With the growing LGBT population in the suburbs north of Dallas, McDonnell thought that school would be one of the next to add protections.

■ DCCCD, Page 16



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David McCrory

Making a difference

When Dallas resident David McCrory learned of the plight of a homeless gay teen in Colorado and tried to help, he discovered he could help make things better, but it wasn't easy

DRACONIS VON TRAPP | Intern
intern@dallasvoice.com

One person can make a difference. It's been said a million times, and while some believe the old adage, some are still skeptical.

David McCrory used to be one of those skeptics.

But McCrory, a gay man who works for Dermalogica and a native New Orleanian who moved to Dallas from Los Angeles, discovered a whole new perspective after he helped a 19-year-old boy from committing suicide — from two states away.

McCrory moved to Dallas for his job and

ended up participating with the Human Rights Campaign's entry in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade this year for the first time. The parade featured British ex-rugby star Ben Cohen, who founded the Ben Cohen StandUp Foundation that focuses on battling bullying and homophobia in schools.

After working with Cohen, McCrory started paying attention to the StandUp Foundation's Facebook page, and that's where he happened upon a post about how Jamey Rodomeyer, a young gay boy, had committed suicide.

As with most celebrity Facebook updates, there are usually several hundred comments. McCrory, usually not one to bother reading those comments, decided this time to take a look at the feedback.

"I was just browsing through the comments and I noticed this post from A.J.," McCrory said. "And I guess it was the timing, having just read about Jamey, that I felt like I needed to reach out to him."

A.J. had commented about how he felt that his only option was to end his life, saying that

■ DIFFERENCE, Next Page



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■ **DIFFERENCE**, From Previous Page

he was homeless just because of his sexual orientation. He said that he didn't want to kill himself, but he didn't know what else to do.

The comment was left in the morning on Sept. 21. It only took 30 minutes for someone to respond to A.J.'s post, recommending that he call the Trevor Project. But it took another eight hours for someone to proactively do something about it.

McCrory, after reading and responding to A.J.'s comment, emailed Cohen's manager, Jill Tipping, confirming that both she and Cohen had read that post and responded to A.J. with suicide hotline numbers and contact information for different organizations that could help.

Feeling that more needed to be done, McCrory added A.J. as a friend on Facebook, started emailing him with reassuring messages and exchanging phone numbers with the young man.

After feeling out A.J.'s situation a little more, McCrory discovered that the teen had been living on a park bench for two days with no food after an altercation with his father.

"I left Colorado to go to Michigan to get in touch with my family there," A.J. explained. "That kinda went south, so I came back to live with my father and things were fine."

But the next day his father started questioning A.J.'s orientation. While A.J. had been out to his friends, he hadn't yet come out to his family and wasn't sure how they would take it. While he figured they would react negatively, he said, "I didn't expect it to go as far as it did."

After that, A.J.'s father told him to leave.

McCrory said he did contact the Trevor Project, and while they were friendly and helpful, ultimately they could do nothing for A.J. immediately.

They provided some more contact information for organizations and crisis intervention programs in A.J.'s area — and that was the end of it.

McCrory said he tried all the contacts that were given to him but had little to show for it. Most numbers led to voice mailboxes and the one immediate crisis line he contacted could only help by advising he call the police.

At this time it was starting to rain where A.J. was, and McCrory was running out of options.

Finally, using his hotel points, McCrory booked a room for A.J. at a Marriott Hotel and, after discussing A.J.'s situation with the manager, was given the room for free as well as two meal vouchers so A.J. could eat that night and the next morning.

With cab services refusing credit card numbers over the phone and the police being short staffed, McCrory's cousin used her credit card to have a driving service fetch A.J.

The next day McCrory tried to contact the LGBT community center in Colorado, but never got through to anyone. In a moment of clarity, it occurred to him that most towns had an LGBT-friendly church, and upon researching it, he found one close by A.J.'s location.

The Metropolitan Community Church's pastor, Weff Mullins, provided McCrory with more up-to-date, reliable resources for A.J. and welcomed the teen into the service that Sunday.

One reputable organization Pastor Mullins recommended was Inside/Out Youth Services, which McCrory contacted, finally talking to someone who was able to get the ball rolling on providing A.J. with housing, therapy and a job to help him get back on his feet.

It was the help the young man needed.

A.J. has been living for free at a hotel since then and said that he has a brighter outlook on his future — one that doesn't include suicide.

"I'm actually much better than I was before," he said. "I'm mostly stable now and I'm pretty good."

A.J. and McCrory have kept in contact and often talk on the phone.

"He's a good kid," McCrory said. "It's pretty amazing that we've gotten so close and we've never met. I never thought that I would be helping someone out of a crisis situation like this."

McCrory's company has since made a \$1,000 donation to Inside/Out Youth Services, which is being matched by the Gill Foundation, along with \$100 from one of McCrory's coworkers.

They worked together to get some Wal-Mart gift cards so A.J. could buy some clothes for himself.

"Plus, being gay, you know he will need some beauty products," McCrory joked.

McCrory said that his involvement in helping A.J. has opened his eyes to how influential one person can be when they simply take the initiative to care.

Working with A.J. has furthered his inspiration to start a non-profit organization through Resource Center Dallas that features a 24/7 crisis center for teenagers who need help.

"It really blew my mind that there is a missing link in that chain, like you can get counseling over the phone, but you can't get help after hours," McCrory said incredulously. "You can have a crisis as long as it's within business hours."

McCrory also said that had A.J. been underage, this whole thing could have ended up a lot worse. Due to the possible liabilities in dealing with a minor, most people don't want to deal with them — and they can't check into hotels alone. The only thing left to do would have been to call the cops and let Child Protective Services handle it, "which is kind of shocking," McCrory said.

"I thought it was kind of an amazing story that select people think there's nothing you can do," McCrory said. "But it takes one small step of doing something that, as little as it may be, it could be the one thing that changes that one life, really." ■

In the Dallas area, Promise House in Oak Cliff is a shelter for LGBT teens in crisis. They have a 24-hour crisis line that can be called at 1-866-941-8578. They are located on 224 W. Page Ave. and provide crisis intervention services along with case management, counseling, emergency and long-term shelter as well as advocacy and outreach.



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Tarrant Pride parade a rousing success, organizers say



ON MAIN STREET | The float carrying members of the Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association makes its way down Main Street in downtown Fort Worth. (Tammye Nash/Dallas Voice)

Spectators largely ignore anti-gay protestors; police arrest, ticket Kingdom Baptist members for disorderly conduct

TAMMYE NASH | Senior Editor
 nash@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — Organizers of the 30th annual Tarrant County Gay Pride celebration said this week that the events were a rousing success, despite the presence of a relatively small but loud contingent anti-gay protestors at the Oct. 1 Pride parade.

This year the parade was moved from its traditional three block route down South Jennings Street to a seven block stretch of Main Street in downtown Fort Worth. And Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association President Daune Littlefield said she was pleased by the number of spectators who turned out.

"I saw people lining both sides of the street for all seven blocks of the parade route," Littlefield said. "I know there were definitely more people there than in previous years. I'd say we had maybe three times as many people at the parade as last year. We will definitely be bringing the parade back downtown again next year."

Littlefield acknowledged that "there were a few glitches" in the parade and the street festival that followed on Main Street near the Fort Worth Convention Center. But she said, "I guess that was to be expected since this was our first year to hold

the parade downtown. Next year, it will go even more smoothly."

Although the Pride Week association had to raise more money to cover the higher costs of moving the parade downtown this year, Littlefield said organizers still came out ahead.

"Money-wise, it was a real success," she said. "We paid for everything, and we still have money left over, seed money for next year's event and money for the scholarship fund. We made a commitment to the community in moving the parade and expanding our celebration that we would create this scholarship to give back to the community. And we will follow through on that commitment no matter what," Littlefield said.

Littlefield also said that the annual Pride Picnic in Trinity Park — Tarrant County's original Pride event and long considered its most popular and most successful Pride event — also went off "without a hitch."

"We had more people there than last year. We usually have around 2,500 people at the parade and this year, I'd say we had at least 3,000," Littlefield said. "The weather was fantastic and the event was just phenomenal. There was no ruckus, no problem anywhere."

Littlefield said that she was pleased that spectators there for the parade for the most part ignored the anti-gay protestors, at least some of whom were reportedly with Kingdom Baptist Church, a small congregation out of Venus led by Pastor Joey Faust.

"I was on a float at the end of the parade, and

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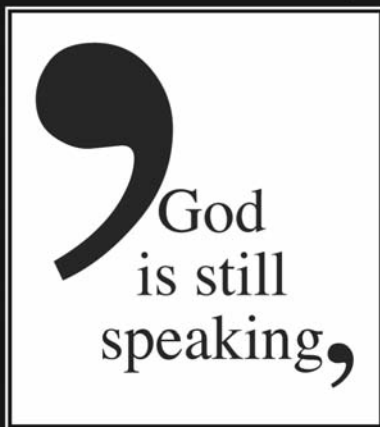
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Oak Cliff home tour features mostly gay-owned houses

OOCCCL returns funds raised at the weekend event to neighborhoods for safety and beautification projects

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Of this weekend's 14 houses on the annual Old Oak Cliff Conservation League's Fall Home Tour, eight and a half of them have gay owners.

With 14 homes on the tour, this will be the largest home tour OOCCL has staged, OOCCL President Michael Amonett said, and the largest and most profitable in the city.

"We started taking applications in the spring," Amonett said, adding that deciding which houses to include was difficult because there were so many good choices.

A committee spent months deciding which homes to include.

"We made appointments and looked at people's homes," Amonett said. "We had a grade sheet and rated them for drive-up appeal, art work, historic interest."

They also were looking for variety, spread across the area's different neighborhoods. The

committee met in June and selected the winners that were not announced until September.

"Two of the houses are in Oak Park Estates," Amonett said. "We've never had any in that area. People will see a part of Oak Cliff they've never seen."

Oak Park Estates, which lies south of Kiest Park between Hampton Road and Highway 67, is one of Oak Cliff's southernmost neighborhoods.

"One of them is very Brady Bunch," he said. That house, with its two-story arched roof,

was built in 1964 and is the newest of the homes.

The oldest, built as a convent in 1900 in the Elmwood neighborhood, has been a railroad storage depot, part of an amusement park and a gambling casino and speakeasy that was one of Bonnie and Clyde's old haunts, according to legend.

The largest house has been expanded to 7,000 square feet and faces Stevens Park Golf Course.

One house was built for the 1936 Texas Centennial as a companion piece to the Magnolia Lounge. The Bauhaus-designed East Kessler Park home was dubbed "The Electric House" because of the four and a half miles of wire laid

to power the then state-of-the-art General Electric kitchen and outdoor living areas around the pool.

At the time it was built, similar homes were selling in West Hollywood, Calif., for \$4,000. This one had a price tag of \$15,000.

Another sits adjacent to the Bishop Arts District that was renovated last year and is now a law office. Amonett wanted that house included to show that older houses can be renovated and repurposed rather than just torn down and replaced.

Good Space, the company that bought and renovated the Bishop Arts house and rented it to Remington Law, is now working on two other properties in the area.

Two bonus stops are included in the Oak Cliff tour — the newly renovated Stevens Park Golf Course and the new Twelve Hills Nature Center, a five-acre urban preserve in the 800 block of Mary Cliff Road.

"The home tour has been instrumental over the years in profiling what Oak Cliff has to offer," Steve Habgood of Hewitt & Habgood Realty Group, a lead sponsor of the event, said.

He said that the tour includes everything from small boutique cottages to mid-sized

homes to old estates.

"It's a cross-section of what Oak Cliff is all about," Habgood said. "The diversity that runs the gamut — that's one reason this tour is as popular as it is."

He said that the money raised funds a variety of projects throughout the 30 Oak Cliff homeowner associations. Last year \$22,000 funded projects such as solar lighting for alleys in the Hampton Heights neighborhood and neighborhood patrols. Other grants funded websites and neighborhood signage.

OOCCCL donated \$5,000 to the Bishop Arts Theater Center for half the cost of a new marquis on the restored building. They also contributed to replacing the roof on Turner House, a landmark in Winnetka Heights that is home to the Oak Cliff Society of Fine Arts.

And the eight and a half gay owners? Amonett explained that he thought one house is owned by a "Will & Grace couple." ■

Old Oak Cliff Tour of Homes, Oct. 8 and 9 from noon to 6 p.m. \$25 for adults over 10, \$15 for seniors available at any of the homes on the tour or under the service station canopy at 8th Street and Bishop Avenue in the Bishop Arts District. More information at OOCCL.org.

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■ texasnews

PARADE

From Page 14

as we moved down the parade route, the protestors kind of moved along with us, shouting nasty things through their bullhorn," Littlefield said. "But we would just start cheering and yelling, and the crowd would cheer and yell with us to drown them out. I was really glad to see that everybody just ignored them and didn't engage with them, for the most part."

Faust and other Kingdom Baptist members also staged protests outside Fort Worth City Hall two years ago during a meeting in which the City Council approved the addition of transgender protections to the city's nondiscrimination ordinance. Faust and his followers also confronted activists during demonstrations staged in Fort Worth by Queer LiberAction in the wake of the Rainbow Lounge raid.

And prior to the Pride parade, Faust sent an open letter, addressed to Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, to area media outlets castigating Price for participating in the parade as one of three grand marshals.

At the end of the parade, the protestors — who had started out standing on Main Street near the Weatherford Street intersection where the parade started — moved down Main Street to position themselves near the Convention Center in the

area near where the street festival was being held. Using a bullhorn, the protestors continued to harangue festival attendees, at one point calling those attending the parade "wild dogs" and "wild animals" who were "parading their perversions in the street," until Fort Worth police officers ordered them to leave.

Littlefield said she was told that three of the protestors were arrested and another 10 ticketed. But FYPD's LGBT Liaison Officer Kellie Whitehead said that only two of the protestors were "cash bonded" for disorderly conduct because they were using offensive language over the bullhorns.

Being "cash bonded," Whitehead explained, means that person arrested on a Class C misdemeanor offense has to pay a set fine, or a portion of that fine, before they are released.

She said her superiors instructed her not to release the names of those arrested, but Whitehead did say she believes those arrested were members of Kingdom Baptist.

Littlefield said she had heard complaints from several people who were upset that the protestors were allowed to stand at the edge of the street festival after the parade for so long — about an hour and a half, she estimated — and harass those attending the event before police forced them to move.

"That's something we will talk to the police about for next year," Littlefield said. ■

DCCCD

From Page 10

Other two-year schools in the area include Corsicana-based Navarro College with campuses in Waxahachie and Midlothian and Gainesville-based North Central Texas College with campuses in Flower Mound and Corinth. Neither has policies specifically protecting LGBT students, faculty and staff.

Among its student activities, Navarro College lists P.R.I.S.M. (GSA). That gay-straight alliance group formed last year. The listing links to no additional web page. With its active LGBT student group, McDonnell thought Navarro College might be among the next schools approached to add protections.

Out at Collin is an LGBT group at CCCC and under that organization's membership requirements, a nondiscrimination policy includes sexual orientation and gender identity. That is the only student group that does include such a policy, however.

Although the CCCC listing links to a page, the words gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender are not found on there. Only goals of the group, such as "Empower the misunderstood and give a voice to the under-represented" and "Bring awareness and dispel stereotypes to the larger community" are listed.

NCTC has fewer student activities than the other area colleges and lists no organized LGBT group. But most of the 13 "Official Student Organizations" listed on the Corinth and Flower Mound campuses are curriculum-related. The only social groups are Christians In Action and Latino Leadership Council.

Although a written nondiscrimination policy doesn't insure equal treatment, it does give an employee or student some recourse.

Protections in the Tarrant County College policies were added after instructor Jackie Gill was fired because of her perceived sexual orientation. She filed a lawsuit against the school on Sept. 7. Lambda Legal is representing her in the case.

Lambda Legal staff attorney Ken Upton said that the school has retained an attorney and has another month to answer the charges. He said that they will have 90 days to six months to do discovery.

"Then I suspect they'll order alternative dispute resolution," he said, meaning mediation or arbitration.

Upton said Gill's case is interesting because she was fired before TCC had sexual orientation in its nondiscrimination policy.

He said the school would have to show that they have a legitimate reason to dismiss faculty based on their sexual orientation. But if they did have a legitimate reason, why would they have added the category to their nondiscrimination policy?

"Private companies have great policies that are not enforceable in court," Upton said. But a government agency that has a nondiscrimination policy covering sexual orientation would have to show a compelling interest to fire gays and lesbians.

Despite her treatment by one faculty member, Gill "wants to teach and she loves the school," Upton said. "They have five campuses and they have a demand. They're looking for instructors." ■

STATE FAIR

From Page 6

hell for being a homosexual.”

The man then began “slinging biblical quotes at us” that supposedly condemn homosexuality. And as his harangue continued, their daughter began to cry, prompting the mothers to get her away from the booth and the man there as quickly as possible.

“We were at the booth no more than two minutes,” Pennington said, adding that the first thing to go through her mind was, “Oh, wow! Nothing like this has ever happened to us before.”

Besides just ruining their family outing with his remarks, Pennington said she questions what sort of family values the man who accosted them thought he was teaching her.

They tried to calm their daughter, Pennington said, but she continued to cry, asking Morse, “Mommy, why are you going to hell?”

The couple soon decided that they needed to leave the fair as quickly as possible to get their daughter to a safer environment where she could begin to calm down.

Pennington said they contacted state fair officials immediately to complain. On Wednesday, she said, they had heard back from State Fair Director Kelly Pound, who offered the family free tickets to return another day.

But Pennington said that while she appreciates the offer, she and Morse feel their daughter was too traumatized by the encounter to risk a return visit to the fair this year.

Pennington also said she doesn’t think just offering the family free tickets was an adequate response, and that she worries that other families could be attacked and other children traumatized by the man’s anti-gay tirades, even if they aren’t LGBT families.



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- To mentor young men who have never had positive male role models by being a spiritual father to them.

- To provide a basis of fellowship among all men everywhere: by creating a fellowship not directly associated with any specific church, but cooperating with all denominations and inspiring our members to be active in their respective churches.

- To bring about a greater measure of unity and harmony in the Body of Christ; where members are united in a common effort to spread the Good News and to be in full fellowship and submission to the true Head of the church . . . the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Pennington suggested that fair officials should remove the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship in America and their booth from the fair. Sue Gooding, a spokeswoman for fair officials, said Thursday, Oct. 6, that while the group wouldn’t be asked to leave the fair, such behavior violates fair policy and will not be tolerated.

“That’s not the way we expect our vendors to act,” Gooding said, adding that vendors are expected to stay in their booths and should not call people over.

She said that Pound had gone to the booth already to have a discussion with the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship after the incident was reported, letting them know that “We’re not going to put up with this.”

Gooding said that while “the conversation went well,” Pound may decide to have a second conversation with the group before this weekend, when some 200 people have indicated on the “Gay Day at the State Fair” Facebook group page that they will be attending the fair on Saturday, Oct. 8.

Fairgoers who would like to visit the Full Gospel Businessmen’s Association of America will find its booth outside the Pan Am Arena located behind the Cotton Bowl, on Nimitz Avenue.

WELCOME? | Big Tex welcomes visitors to the the State Fair of Texas. But one lesbian couple didn’t feel welcome last weekend.



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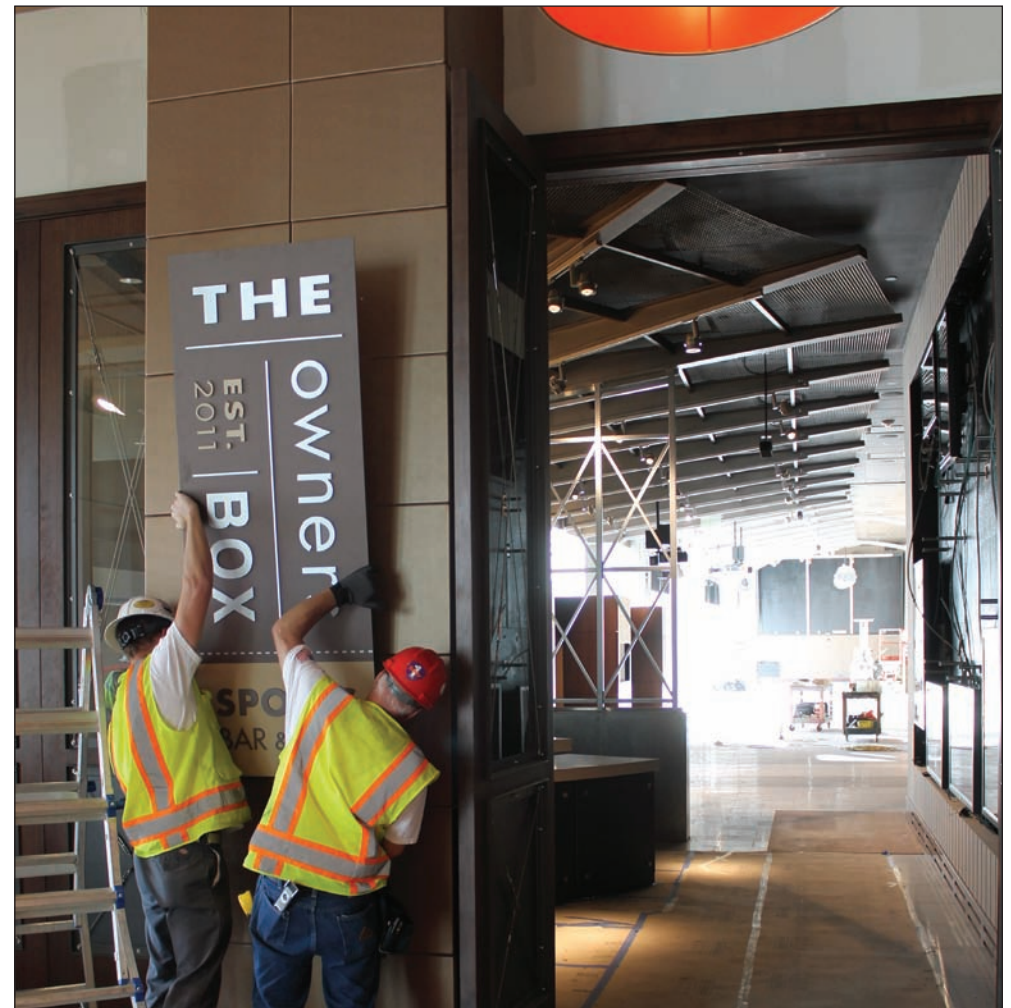
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FINISHING TOUCHES | Workers hang a sign outside the Owner's Box, a sports bar on the ground floor of the convention center hotel, on Wednesday. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

OMNI

From Page 6

The question of whether Omni Hotels would offer DP benefits at the facility was first raised in a Dallas Voice article in April 2009 — two months after the city had signed a 15-year operating agreement with the company for the \$500 million hotel.

The article appeared days before the vote on a referendum aimed at barring the city from building and owning the hotel. Mayor Tom Leppert, a major supporter of the hotel, assured the newspaper that he would convince the company to offer DP benefits, even though it had not been considered as part of the operating agreement.

The referendum was defeated, and six weeks later, both Leppert's office and the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce announced that Omni had agreed to offer DP benefits — although the company wouldn't confirm it at the time.

"Until you [Dallas Voice] raised the issue, it wasn't on people's radar," said Chris Heinbaugh, who's openly gay and was Leppert's chief of staff. "A light bulb went off. It was a significant step for the city."

It reportedly marked the first time the city has prompted a contractor to offer DP benefits. Heinbaugh, who now works for the AT&T

online exclusive

View more photos from inside the convention center hotel at DallasVoice.com/category/photos.

Performing Arts Center, declined to discuss in detail the negotiations that led to Omni's commitment to offer DP benefits. Leppert is running for U.S. Senate as a Republican and has come out against both same-sex marriage and civil unions.

A spokesman for Leppert's campaign didn't respond to a request for comment.

In addition to agreeing to offer DP benefits, Omni Hotels joined the North Texas GLBT Chamber in 2009. Tony Vedda, president and CEO of the chamber, said this week the company remains a silver level corporate member, which means an annual contribution of \$5,000 to the organization.

"I certainly assumed that they were going to stick to their word [on DP benefits]," Vedda said. "It would be devastating if we were told one thing and something else occurred."

Vedda said the chamber would also like to see Omni offer DP benefits at its publicly owned convention center hotel in Fort Worth. Fort Worth began offering domestic partner benefits to municipal employees last year. ■



JUDGING THE JUDGE | In this July 8, 2009 file photo, Judge Vaughn Walker is seen in his chambers at the Phillip Burton Federal Building in San Francisco, Calif. Lawyers for the sponsors of California's voter-approved same-sex marriage ban have filed briefs with the appeals court asking that Walker's ruling striking down Prop 8 be invalidated because he is gay. (San Francisco Chronicle, Paul Chinn/Associated Press)

Prop 8 supporters still want judge disqualified

Lawyers file brief claiming Vaughn Walker's ruling striking down gay marriage ban should be invalidated because he is gay and in a relationship with a man

LISA LEFF | Associated Press
editor@dallasvoice.com

SAN FRANCISCO — The sponsors of California's voter-approved same-sex marriage ban have asked a federal court to invalidate the ruling of the federal judge who struck it down, saying the judge should be disqualified because he did not divulge he was in a long-term relationship with another man.

Lawyers for the Proposition 8's backers filed their open brief on the issue late Monday, Oct.

3, with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. They claim that another federal judge erred when he concluded U.S. Chief Judge Vaughn Walker's relationship status was irrelevant to Walker's ability to fairly preside over the trial on the measure's constitutionality.

In their brief, they argue that Walker's impartiality can be questioned because he is "similarly situated" to the plaintiffs who sued to overturn Proposition 8, two same-sex couples in established relationships. They also said that while Walker has not indicated if he and his partner wish to marry, research presented as evidence in the trial found that two-thirds of unmarried same-sex couples would tie the knot if they could.

"Given that Judge Walker was in a long-term, same-sex relationship throughout this case (and for many years before the case commenced), he

■ PROP 8, Page 21

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Appeals court rejects 'homophobic panic' claim

Lawyers for Robert Van Hook, convicted of murdering gay man in 1985, told court psychological reports could have supported his claims of mental disease

LISA CORNWELL | Associated Press
editor@dallasvoice.com

CINCINNATI — A federal appeals court on Tuesday, Oct. 4 upheld an Ohio man's death penalty for killing a man he met in a gay bar in 1985, rejecting claims that prosecutors violated his rights by not providing psychological reports showing he may have been motivated by "homophobic panic."

A three-judge panel of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously affirmed a lower court's ruling upholding the death penalty for Robert Van Hook, 51. The panel also rejected claims of ineffective counsel.

Van Hook's attorney, Keith Yeazel, said Tuesday that he will either appeal to the full 6th Circuit or the U.S. Supreme Court after he has a chance to review the ruling.

The Supreme Court in November 2009 reversed an earlier decision by the 6th Circuit

panel that had found ineffective trial counsel, and the panel said Tuesday that it was bound by the high court's decision.

Van Hook's latest appeal argued that the psychological reports showing he may have been motivated by "homophobic panic," or rejection of his homosexual urges, rather than robbery, could have been used to support his claim of mental disease. The reports also would have been used to counter the murder element of "specific intent to cause the death of another person" and the aggravated robbery factor contributing to the death penalty, the appeal stated.

Van Hook claimed temporary insanity, but never denied strangling and then stabbing David Self to death at his Cincinnati apartment.

Prosecutors said he lured Self to the apartment with the intention of robbing him. He then mutilated Self's body with a kitchen knife, hiding the murder weapon in the corpse before fleeing to Florida, where he was arrested and confessed. ■



PROP 8

From Page 19

was, in Plaintiffs' own words, 'similarly situated to (Plaintiffs) for purposes of marriage,' the lawyers wrote. "And it is entirely possible



Chief Judge James Ware

— indeed, it is quite likely, according to Plaintiffs themselves — that Judge Walker had an interest in marrying his partner and therefore stood in precisely the same shoes as the Plaintiffs before him."

Walker's successor, Chief Judge James Ware, rejected similar arguments in late

August, after the coalition of religious conservative groups that qualified Proposition 8 for the November 2008 ballot made the first attempt in the nation to disqualify a sitting judge

based on sexual orientation.

Ware said the presumption that Walker could not be unbiased was "as warrantless as the presumption that a female judge is incapable of being impartial in a case in which women seek legal relief."

In an apparent response, the coalition's attorneys wrote that they were not suggesting that gay or lesbian judges could never preside over cases involving gay rights questions.

"We know of no reason to believe, for example, that Judge Walker would have any personal interest in the outcome of litigation over, say, the constitutionality of the military's 'don't ask, don't tell' policy," they said. "Nor would there be any issue with a gay or lesbian judge hearing this case so long as a reasonable person, knowing all of the relevant facts and circumstances, would not have reason to believe that the judge has a current personal interest in marrying."

The 9th Circuit already is reviewing whether Walker properly concluded the ban violates the rights of gay Californians and if Proposition 8's sponsors were eligible to appeal his ruling once the state's attorney general and governor declined to challenge it. A decision could come down at any time. ■

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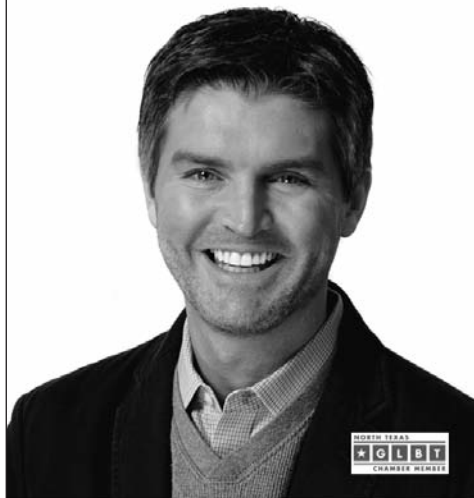
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nationalnews

Judiciary Committee considering gay nominee to federal court

Republican senator labels Fitzgerald as an activist over his involvement in case involving FBI's previous ban on gay agents

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@me.com

A fourth openly gay nominee to the federal district court bench — one who has been fairly heavily involved in both gay and non-gay legal and political issues and who spent “hundreds of hours” doing pro bono work that led to the elimination of a gay ban on FBI agents — has gone before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee.

The nominee's gay-related history prompted the only Republican in attendance on his confirmation hearing to label the nominee an “activist.”

President Obama nominated Michael W. Fitzgerald in July to sit on the U.S. District Court for Central California. The office of U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., who recommended him for the position, sent out a press release saying if he is confirmed by the Senate, “Fitzgerald would make history by becoming the first openly gay federal judge confirmed to serve in California.”

Fitzgerald, 52, was one of five nominees considered during the hearing Tuesday, Oct. 4. Boxer introduced him to the committee, noting that he had served as a federal prosecutor on the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles, “where he prosecuted international drug rings and money-laundering — including what was at that time the second largest cocaine seizure in California history.”

The American Bar Association, noted Boxer, had given Fitzgerald a rating of “well qualified” on a unanimous vote.

Acting Committee Chair Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., noted that Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., had also submitted a “blue slip” in favor of Fitzgerald's appointment.

Fitzgerald is a partner in Corbin, Fitzgerald & Athey, which bills itself as a “boutique litigation firm” specializing in white-collar crime and civil cases in his native Los Angeles.

The biographical information he sent to the committee lists his membership in four gay-related organizations: the Lesbian and Gay Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (no years of membership are identified), the Harvard-Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian Caucus (from 2006 to present), the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center Leadership Task Force (from 2007-2008) and the Stonewall Democratic Club (“late-1990s”).



Michael W. Fitzgerald

The biographical information also indicates Fitzgerald participated in the campaign to defeat California's same-sex marriage ban, Proposition 8.

He also notes that he spoke at a press conference about a settlement in the case of Buttino v. FBI, in which — in 1993 — the Federal Bureau of Investigation agreed to stop banning openly gay people from serving as FBI agents.

Fitzgerald's summary of the Buttino case, in response to the requisite Senate questionnaire, noted that Frank Buttino was an agent with the FBI who was “outed” by an anonymous source to Buttino's supervisor. The supervisor stripped Buttino of his security clearance and, therefore, his ability to serve as an agent.

“At my request,” wrote Fitzgerald, one of his earlier law firms, “Heller Ehrman decided to represent Mr. Buttino at trial on a pro bono basis. I obtained class certification and then represented Mr. Buttino and the class [of all gay and lesbian FBI employees] at trial.”

After several days of trial, noted Fitzgerald, the FBI agreed to settle the case out of court. In doing so, the FBI, he said, “renounced its prior policy of viewing homosexuality as a ‘negative factor’ in regard to security clearance,” agreed to hire an openly gay agent, and restored Buttino's pension.

Durbin asked Fitzgerald about the Buttino case. Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, described Fitzgerald as a “activist” but then quickly added that he does not “subscribe to the view that having

■ NOMINEE, Next Page



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■ **NOMINEE**, From Previous Page

been an activist in one area or another disqualifies anyone from ascending to the bench" But Lee said it was the committee's duty to make sure nominees "know the difference between advocacy and jurisprudence" and will "not engage in any kind of political activism while on the bench."

He asked how Fitzgerald's prior advocacy would affect him on the bench.

"Sir, I don't believe that it would have any influence on my service as a federal judge,"

said Fitzgerald. "I would not bring any personal or political views to bear on any of the cases that I determined as a United States district judge."

He also said he is aware of the necessity to recuse himself not only when he personally believed there might be a conflict of interest but also when a "reasonable onlooker" might think so.

Fitzgerald indicates that he did not serve in the military "because men born between March 29, 1957, and Dec. 31, 1959, were not required to register."

He earned an A.B. magna cum laude from Harvard University in 1981 and graduated from the Berkeley School of Law in 1985. He clerked for 2nd Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Irving Kaufman and worked three years in the criminal division of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles.

The Senate Judiciary Committee's ranking members, including the ranking member Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, were not present. Nor was ranking majority member Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

Republican Sen. Lee noted 85 percent of

President Obama's judicial nominees have been approved and that was "comparatively generous treatment" of nominees by the Republican side.

Acting Chairman Durbin quickly noted that Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid had needed to call for a forced vote (cloture) to try and put the nominations of 25 of those nominees on the floor.

Senators on the committee have a week to submit additional questions to the nominees in writing. The committee could vote on Fitzgerald's nomination within a few weeks. ■

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nationalnews

U.S. prisons officials OK hormone treatments for trans inmates

Memo says 'current, accepted standards of care' must be applied

LISA LEFF | Associated Press
editor@dallasvoice.com

SAN FRANCISCO — Transgender inmates who did not begin treatment prior to entering federal custody can now receive hormones, specialized mental health counseling and possibly gender reassignment surgery while they are in prison, according to new rules adopted by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons as part of a court settlement.

A May 31 memo issued to wardens at the nation's 116 federal prisons and made public by gay rights groups in announcing the settlement on Sept. 30 states, "current, accepted standards of care" will be applied to inmates who believe they are the wrong gender.

Under the bureau's previous policy, issued in 2005, only federal inmates with a pre-existing diagnosis were eligible for transgender-related care, which was limited to treatments that would maintain them "only at the level of change which existed when they were incarcerated."

The new guidelines mean prisoners who were previously disqualified from treatment because they had not received any on the outside will now be eligible to begin hormone therapy to feminize or masculinize their features and to dress and live accordingly as part of individualized treatment plans.

"The treatment plan may include elements or services that were, or were not, provided prior to incarceration, including, but not limited to: those elements of real life experience consistent with the prison environment, hormone therapy and counseling," the memo from bureau medical director Newton Kendig states.

The policy memo does not mention surgical intervention, but National Center for Lesbian Rights Legal Director Shannon Minter said the agreement would permit surgery as a treatment option if prison doctors agree it is necessary for individual inmates.

The May guidance specifically advises wardens that "treatment options will not be precluded solely due to level of services received, or lack of services, prior to incarceration."

That language, as well as the reference to accepted standards of care is significant since the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, the professional organization that issues guidelines for treating gender identity disorders, considers genital reconstruction surgery "essential and medically necessary" for some patients suffering from "gender dysphoria."

Jennifer Levi, director of the Transgender Rights Project at Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, said that because the memo does not prohibit surgery, "It leaves open the possibility

that the full range of appropriate medical care must be considered in adopting an individual treatment plan."

"There is no reason why an incarcerated person should be excluded from receiving surgery if it turned out to be medically necessary for that individual," Levi said.

Bureau spokesman Ed Ross said there are currently 48 federal inmates who have been diagnosed with gender identity disorders. Ross did not respond to attempts by The Associated Press on Friday and Monday to clarify other aspects of the policy, including confirmation that inmates could be eligible for sex reassignment surgery that would necessitate their move to a new prison. All state and federal prisons in the United States assign inmates to men's or women's prisons based on their genitalia.

The policy shift resulted from a two-and-a-half-



Jennifer Levi

year-old lawsuit seeking hormone therapy for Vanessa Adams, who began serving a 20-year sentence as Nicholas Adams and was diagnosed with gender identity disorder in 2005 by doctors at the U.S. Medical Center for Federal Prisoners in Springfield, Mo.

After she was denied treatment because of the rule requiring previous care for gender identity disorder, Adams, 41, tried to castrate herself with a razor and attempted to and ultimately succeeded in amputating her penis, according to court papers.

Prison officials agreed to put Adams on a course of hormones in August 2009 after a federal judge in Massachusetts, where Adams briefly was imprisoned and her lawsuit was filed, agreed that her lawyers could retain an independent expert to evaluate her. The same judge refused almost a year later to dismiss Adams' claim that the Bureau of Prisons' policy on transgender health care constituted cruel and unusual punishment, a decision that paved the way for the settlement.

The agreement also calls for transgender inmates to be notified of the new policies and for prison doctors to be trained to identify and treat gender identity disorders.

Levi said prison officials have typically been hostile to transgender inmates and that she anticipates more legal action to ensure the bureau's policy is put into practice.

"This should have a very significant effect on the lives of trans inmates. It means people will be receiving appropriate medical care," Levi said. ■

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FIGHTING EQUALITY | A crowd gathers for a rally in support of a state constitutional amendment recognizing marriage between a man and a woman as the only domestic legal union, on Halifax Mall behind the Legislative Building in Raleigh, N.C., on Sept. 12. LGBT activists in the state have announced a new effort to fight the amendment and existing anti-gay-marriage laws. (Ted Richardson/Associated Press)

Gay marriage rights group forms in N.C.

'We Do' will go beyond fighting anti-gay-marriage amendment to target state law already banning gay marriage

TOM BREEN | Associated Press
editor@dallasvoice.com

RALEIGH, N.C. — A gay rights group launched a campaign Monday, Oct. 3 in Asheville that seeks to go beyond opposition to a May referendum question on constitutionally barring same-sex marriage by targeting current state law that already forbids such unions.

The Campaign for Southern Equality kicked off its "We Do" effort by having three same-sex couples unsuccessfully attempt to obtain marriage licenses from the Buncombe County Reg-

ister of Deeds. Organizers and participants knew they'd be denied the licenses, since North Carolina state law already forbids same-sex couples from marrying.

The point, they say, is to draw attention to the human consequences of the law and, as with the civil rights movement, create a situation where the federal government intervenes to change state laws.

"What we're calling for is full federal equality and we're sending a very consistent message that these laws are on the books right now and they're immoral," said Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, executive director of the group, which plans to expand their efforts across North Carolina and the South in 2012.

The Asheville campaign includes plans for over a dozen couples to repeatedly apply for marriage licenses until Oct. 14, accompanied in

■ **WE DO**, Page 26



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WE DO

From Page 25

trips to the register of deeds by politicians, members of the clergy and other supporters.

"We can't go to our state legislature right now because our legislators are very hostile to LGBT rights," Beach-Ferrara said.

State courts are similarly unlikely to support their aims, she said, adding, "We don't have much recourse besides planned actions designed to resist these laws."

Beach-Ferrara said the campaign has been in the planning stages since long before the current debate over a constitutional amendment, but the debate provides a charged backdrop for the "We Do" efforts. Last month, the General Assembly voted to put a question on the May primary ballot that would prohibit same-sex marriage in the North Carolina Constitution, which would make it the last such state in the Southeast to adopt such a provision. Those on both sides of the question are preparing for a hard-fought campaign in the run-up to the vote.

Tami Fitzgerald, executive director of the North Carolina Values Coalition, supports the referendum question and called the "We Do" campaign "a strategic mistake" on the part of those who support gay marriage.

Fitzgerald thinks the effort might help secure the amendment's passage by convincing unde-

ecided voters that the possibility of same-sex marriage in North Carolina is real despite current state law prohibiting it.

"I think it makes our case why we need an amendment," she said. "When people see that, they're going to be concerned and they're

going to take it as a sign of aggression on the part of people who advocate for same-sex marriage." ■

Anti-gay group's campaign contributions questioned

Equality California accuses opponents of gay history law of hiding campaign donations

LISA LEFF | Associated Press
editor@dallasvoice.com

SAN FRANCISCO — California's largest gay rights group on Monday, Oct. 3 accused the backers of a ballot measure seeking to repeal a law requiring gay history to be taught in public schools of deliberately hiding the size and source of campaign contributions.

Two conservative groups behind the Stop SB-48 campaign "may have engaged in an unlawful scheme" to violate campaign reporting rules, Equality California Executive Director Roland Palencia said in a complaint filed with the state Fair Political Practices Commission.

Palencia's group accuses Capitol Resource Institute and Pacific Justice Institute, the organizations that have taken the lead on undoing the

first-of its kind law, of raising and spending money to qualify the repeal referendum for the June 2012 ballot without registering as campaign committees.

Under California's strict campaign finance laws, political entities that receive more than \$1,000 in contributions are required to register with the secretary of state, said Cary Davidson, an election law lawyer on the Equality California board.

"It is critical that backers of any initiative play by the rules, so it is particularly important when that initiative could have such a critical effect on the lives of Californians," Palencia told reporters

during a conference call.

Capitol Resource Institute Executive Director Karen England said her organization's work on the repeal effort does not require it to register with the secretary of state. She says a new campaign committee, Stop SB-48, has been formed to report fundraising activity, but it has not received any donations of \$5,000 or more that would trigger such a mandatory filing.

England also said that while she has been heavily involved in the campaign, it has been as a volunteer. The official Stop SB-48 campaign is leasing office space and equipment from her organization, but for a fee and not as a donation, she said.

Pacific Justice Institute Brad Dacus similarly ridiculed Equality California's complaint as "a ridiculous but desperate attempt to try to hinder our efforts to get this on the ballot."

"Our attorneys have been very, very careful to abide by all the requirements," Dacus said. "We know election law. We've been around for 14 years, and we would never risk throwing that away." ■



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HANGING ON | One of the most popular events in the IGRA Finals Rodeo is bullriding. (Tammie Nash/Dallas Voice)

Full schedule of events planned around IGRA Finals Rodeo in Fort Worth this weekend

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The “best of the best” in the world of LGBT rodeo are coming to North Texas this weekend to dress goats, decorate steers, wrestle steers and ride wild horses and bulls, according to Randy Edlin, president of the Texas Gay Rodeo Association.

A total of 90 competitors will be competing in the 25th World Gay Rodeo Finals, being held Saturday and Sunday at the Watt Arena in the Will Rogers Memorial Center in Fort Worth. They will be representing the 27 local International Gay and Lesbian Rodeo Association affiliates around North America, including two from Texas — Texas Gay Rodeo Association, which has five chapters around the state, and Red River Rodeo Association, based in Aubrey, northeast of Denton.

Edlin said that participation in the IGRA Finals Rodeo is by invitation only. Contestants earn points through the year at regional rodeos, and the top 20 in each event are invited to the World Gay Rodeo Finals.

Edlin will compete in the chute-dogging event, sometimes known as steer wrestling, and in two camp events, the wild drag race and steer decorating.

Dan Nagel, president of the Dallas chapter of TGRA, said the camp events are one of the things that distinguish gay rodeo from traditional rodeo, adding to the entertainment and fun. But the inclusion of the camp events, he said, shouldn't fool anyone into thinking gay rodeo contestants aren't as tough as the mainstream rodeo cowboys and cowgirls.

In fact, Nagel said, the caliber of participants in IGRA's 10 more traditional events are equal to those in any rodeo, and a number of members of TGRA also enter other rodeos. Another difference between the gay rodeos and mainstream rodeos is that in gay rodeos, men and women may compete in all events.

In mainstream rodeos, you usually only see women competing in barrel racing. In gay rodeos, men race the barrels, too. Chute-dogging is usually a men's event in the mainstream, but the women are out there wrestling steers, too, at the gay rodeos.

Nagel called those two events two of the most competitive on the circuit.

Gary Miller, owner of Dallas' Round-Up Saloon who is also a former TGRA president,

■ **COWBOY**, Page 29

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Events you can expect to see at the IGRA Rodeo



ROUNDING THE BARREL | Barrel racers ride a three-point cloverleaf pattern as quickly as possible. (Tammye Nash/Dallas Voice)

• **Calf Roping on Foot:** The contestant stands in the roping box and when a calf is released, attempts to throw their loop over the calf's head. Once the loop passes over the calf's head, the con-

testant must pull up the slack in the rope.

• **Steer Decorating:** This event requires a two-person team. One member stands 10 feet from the chute gate holding the end of a 25-foot rope,

which is looped around the horns of the steer that is in the chute. The other team member stands 40 feet from the chute holding a 24-inch long ribbon. When the chute gate opens, the first team must bring the steer out and across the 10-foot line. The second team member then tries to tie the ribbon on the steer's tail while the first team member tries to remove the rope from the steer's horns. When the ribbon is on the tail and the loop is off the horns, the team member who tied on the ribbon must tag the timer.

• **Mounted Break-Away Roping:** The roper is mounted on horseback with one end of his or her rope tied to the saddle horn by a piece of string. When the calf is released from the chute, the roper follows to try and rope the calf. When the loop is thrown, it must pass completely over the calf's head. As the calf pulls away from the rider and horse, the rope grows taut and will break away from the saddle horn.

• **Team Roping:** The team consists of two ropers mounted on separate horses. One roper is called the "header" and his or her responsibility is to rope the steer by the horns while the teammate, called the "heeler," must get the rope around the steer's back legs, or heels. When the header makes the catch, he or she must wind the

rope around the saddle horn, called "dallying off," turning the steer away from himself thus causing the steer's heels to fly in the air for the heeler's loop to catch. When both ropers have been successful in their tasks, they must turn their horses to face the steer and pull their ropes taut.

• **Junior Bull Riding:** A junior bull is a young bull that has not built up the bulk, or testosterone, of a full-grown bull. The rider has a "bull rope" wound around the animal just behind the front legs and then around the rider's hand; no knots are allowed. This handhold and the rider's legs, locked like scissors around the animal, are all the rider has to count on to stay on top. A rider who is able to spur, or move their legs back and forth on the animal's sides, will receive a higher score. The rider must stay on the bull for a designated length of time to receive a score at all.

• **Bareback Bronc Riding:** A specially designed "bareback riggin" with a built-in handhold is tied onto the horse. The rider climbs on the horse's back in the chute, and settles him or herself before the chute gate is opened. When the gate is opened, the rider has to start the ride with both of his or her feet extended forward over the horse's shoulders and, on the first leap out

■ **EVENTS,** Next Page



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EVENTS

From Previous Page

of the chute, must "rake" the feet backwards toward the horse's rump. If the rider misses this, they are disqualified and get no score for the ride. If the rider stays on the horse for six seconds, then pick-up riders move in to help the rider dismount safely. Contestants may elect to ride two-handed from start to finish, but will receive a lower score if they do so.

• **Goat Dressing:** This two-person event was created specially for gay rodeo. The team stands 50 feet from the point where the goat is tethered. One of the team members has a pair of jockey-style underwear pulled over their forearms. When the whistle sounds, the team runs to the goat. The team member without the underwear picks up the goat's rear hooves, grabs the underwear from around the other member's arms, and pulls it up the legs of the goat. Both team members must then race back to the start/finish line and cross the finish line to stop the time. The underwear must stay over the goat's tail bone until the timer is tagged by both members.

• **Chute Dogging:** The steer and the contestant both start in the bucking chute and face a 60-second time limit. When the chute gate opens, the contestant must bring the steer out to a 10-foot line in front of the chute, and then attempt to wrestle, or "dog" the steer to the ground. The contestant will turn the steer's head up and toward the steer's shoulder, to force the steer to fall over on its other shoulder, causing all four feet to point in the same direction as the head was turned. If the steer is contrary and falls the other way, it is termed a "dog fall" and the contestant can either attempt to turn the head the same direction or let the steer up and start over.

• **Pole Bending:** In this event, horse and rider compete for fastest time working a linear pattern through six equally spaced poles. The poles must be at least six feet in height and spaced 21 feet apart. A running start is allowed and a five-second

penalty will be assessed for knocking a pole down, and disqualification will take place if the team goes off course.

• **Wild Drag Race:** Teams are made up of one male, one female, one "drag" (either male or female), and one wild steer. The steer, with a halter and a 25-foot lead rope, is in a bucking chute at the beginning of the event. The cowgirl holds the rope and the cowboy and drag stand 40 feet from the chute. When the chute gate opens, the team tries to direct the steer toward the finish line, which is 70 feet from the chute. They must get the steer across the finish line, mount the "drag," and then ride back across the finish line. The "drag" must be mounted on the steer before the steer starts back across the finish line and must stay on the steer until all four feet of the steer have crossed back across the finish line.

• **Barrel Race:** Contestants vie for the fastest time in running a triangular, cloverleaf pattern around three barrels. The horse and rider are allowed a running start and time begins and ends upon crossing the starting line. A five-second penalty is assessed for knocking over a barrel. The pattern can be started either from the left or right, and contestants that go off the prescribed course are disqualified.

• **Flag Race:** A triangular pattern similar to that of the barrel race is used, with the substitution of a pole in place of barrel number three. The two other barrels will have a bucket that is three-fourths full of rabbit pellets placed on top of it, and a flag in one of these buckets. The rider may choose to run to the right or left and as they pass the first barrel, they pick up the flag, race past the pole, back to the second barrel, and attempt to place the flag in the second bucket. If the rider knocks over the first bucket or the pole, a five-second penalty will be assessed. If the rider does not pick up the flag or misses the second bucket, no time will be given. If the second bucket or barrel is knocked over, the rider is disqualified.

• **Bull Riding:** The same as junior bull-riding, only with bigger, meaner bulls. ■

COWBOY

From Page 27

explained that while men and women compete together in chute-dogging, the top male competitor and the top female competitor both get first place trophy buckles.

(For a profile of local IGRA competitor Charlie Colella see Page 34.)

Miller encouraged people who might be interested in participating in rodeo come to Fort Worth to see the sport's finest athletes and recommended the camp events for those just starting.

"Try goat decorating," Miller said. "You won't get hurt and you don't have to have the skills of riding a horse or roping."

Nagel agreed that some camp events are great for newcomers. But he called the wild drag race — in which teams of three, with one of the three in drag, work to get their member in drag on a steer and across the finish line in the fastest time — one of the most dangerous events on the cir-

cuit.

Miller and his partner, Alan Pierce, have been named honorary grand marshals of the rodeo. Miller joked that it was a role he was getting very used to filling. Two weeks ago, the pair were grand marshals of the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

"It's an honor for us since we've been involved since the 1980s," Miller said.

Miller was among founding members of Texas Gay Rodeo Association in 1985 and served as its first president. Pierce helped form the Houston chapter while working at Bayou Landing, a country-western bar in that city.

The couple met through their work with the rodeo and became owners of the Round-Up in 1998. They celebrated their 26th anniversary this year.

Miller said the Round-Up Saloon sponsors five participants by paying their entry fees. He said rodeo can become an expensive sport, especially for those traveling with their horses.

■ COWBOY, Page 30

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COWBOY

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"It's a big deal to trailer one in, especially from the coasts," Miller said.

He said the trip takes several days because they have to stop every few hours to exercise the horses.

Events connected with the rodeo begin at the Crowne Plaza Fort Worth South, the host hotel, on Friday, Oct. 7. The honorary grand marshals will be presented at a dance at the hotel that evening.

The finals rodeo events begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8, then again at 9 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 9.

"Peak spectator time is noon to 5 p.m.," Nagel said. "They'll run slack in the morning."

"Running slack" means that rather than have all 20 competitors take part in one event twice in one day and declare winners, some of the entries from a variety of events will run in the morning. That way people attending during the peak afternoon hours will get to see the full variety of events.

Winners won't be named until Sunday evening after each competitor in each event has been scored in that event twice.

In addition to the competitions taking place in the Watt Arena, a vendor area and an entertainment area will be set up in an adjoining building.

Edlin said each regional association has "roy-

alty" — association members who have competed throughout the year and raised money for their associations to claim the Mr., Miss and Ms. Titles — and they will be entertaining throughout the day.

Nagel said that IGRA's archives of the 35 years of gay rodeo and 25 years of international competition will be on display at the arena as well.

Dance has always been a big part of gay rodeo. Saturday night, a dance competition takes place at the host hotel.

Despite the fact that a Nevada sheriff shut down the finals in 1988 because area residents didn't want "those type of people" in town, Edlin said the rodeo is a great place to bring kids.

"Gay rodeo is very family-oriented," Edlin said. "It's not cut-throat competition."

Edlin has been involved since 1999.

"Friends took me to a gay rodeo in Calgary and I was hooked," he said. "I've been involved ever since."

Edlin said gay rodeo is so welcoming and family-oriented that a number of straight people participate in gay rodeo — including his straight son, a two-time Iraq War veteran who competes in chute-dogging and junior bull riding.

Nagel said TGRA has a number of straight members who enjoy the close friendships and fun.

"But the other side of all this is that we give money to the community," he said.

Last year, the Dallas chapter of TGRA gave \$30,000 to eight local groups including Resource

RODEO PARTIES

Friday, Oct. 7

- After registration, in the lobby of the Crowne Plaza Fort Worth South Hotel, 100 Altamesa Blvd. East, western dancing in the ballroom begins at 7 p.m.

- HomoRodeo.com hosts a party at Best Friends from 7 p.m. until 2 a.m. The group put together a calendar that will be on sale at the club. Proceeds of sales benefit contestants who participate in the gay rodeos. All 12 models will be at the club for a signing party, according to organizer Michael Castlow. He said there will be a buffet for members.

Saturday, Oct. 8

- Lone Star Dance Competition and Country Hoedown takes place in the Grand Ballroom of the Crowne Plaza at 7 p.m.

- Lipps LuRue of the United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents a candidate's show at Dallas Eagle at 7 p.m.

- HomoRodeo.com hosts a calendar signing party at Woody's Sports and Video Bar on Cedar Springs in Dallas at 8 p.m. Castlow said he would be at the Eagle with a number of the calendar models before heading over to the signing party.

Sunday, Oct. 9

- A banquet with entertainment begins at 7 p.m. at the host hotel followed by the final awards ceremony at 9 p.m.

- The World Gay Rodeo Finals closing party takes place at JR.'s Bar & Grill in Dallas.

LOCATION AND TICKET INFO

Rodeo tickets are \$15 per person, per day, with those under 12 admitted free.

The rodeo will be held at the Watt Arena in the Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3401 W. Lancaster Ave., in Fort Worth. Gates open at 8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, and at 9 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 9.

Tickets will be sold on site, and will be available Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

SPECIAL HONOREES

- Grand Marshal: David Hill of Colorado
- Honorary Grand Marshals: Gary Miller and Alan Pierce of Dallas
- Community Hero: Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns

Center Dallas and Youth First Texas. This year, he said, they're already ahead in the amount

they've collected. They'll distribute those funds in March.

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viewpoints

LGBT history and the evolution of the media

For years, mainstream press ignored the LGBT community. Thankfully, LGBT media filled the gaps

Editor's note: October is National Gay History Month, and as the month begins, Rare Reporter columnist David Webb takes a look at the role the media — both mainstream and LGBT — has played in preserving our history.

If an LGBT person went into a coma a decade or so ago and came out of it today, they likely wouldn't be able to believe their eyes when they recovered enough to survey the media landscape.

There was a time not so long ago when gay activists literally had to plead with or rant at editors and reporters at mainstream publications and television stations to get them to cover LGBT events. Even editorial staffs at alternative publications often dismissed political and cultural events in the LGBT community as unimportant to the majority of their audience.

Editors and reporters at traditional media outlets who happened to be members of the LGBT community often steered clear of gay issues to fall in line with the prevailing policies set by the publishers in the newsroom. Often, they were deep in the closet, or if not, just afraid to challenge the status quo.

I know all this to be true because as late as the early 1990s, I was engaged in legendary battles with my straight editor at an alternative publication who only wanted two or three "gay stories" per year. After the first quarter of one year I heard the editor telling another writer that I had already used up the newspaper's quota for gay stories for the whole year.

This long-standing scarcity of coverage opened the door for the launch of gay newspapers to fill the void and the thirst for information that was coming not only from LGBT people but also

straight allies, straight enemies and the non-committed in the gay rights movement.

After about two decades of working for the mainstream media and later at the alternative publication for a few years, I moved to a gay newspaper. Upon hearing about it, my former editor advised me that the job sounded "perfect" for me.

At the gay newspaper, I not only covered LGBT issues, but I also liked to scrutinize and comment on the coverage or lack thereof I observed in mainstream publications. It was, at the time, a dream job for me. I was flabbergasted to learn that no one at the newspaper had obtained a media pass from local law enforcement officials nor received official recognition at local law enforcement public relations departments.

What gay activists and enterprising journalists had come to realize was that straight people were just as interested in what our community was doing as we were. I also realized that elected and appointed public officials, civic and religious leaders, law enforcement officials and most others love media coverage, and the fact that it was a gay publication featuring them didn't much matter at all.

As a result, gay publications across the country were providing coverage that gay and straight readers couldn't find anywhere else. And those newspapers were flying out of the racks at the libraries, municipal buildings and on the street in front of the big city newspapers as fast as they disappeared from gay and lesbian nightclubs.

What it amounted to was that gay publications were enjoying a lucrative monopoly on LGBT news and, in the process, helping LGBT communities to grow strong in major urban areas.

It's amazing how long it took the powers that be at the giant media companies to figure out what was going on, but they eventually did.

I would love to say that a social awakening was responsible for the new enlightened approach to LGBT issues by the mainstream media, but alas, I fear it was more motivated by dollars and cents. Publishers began to realize that those small gay publications were raking in lots of advertising revenue from car dealers, retail stores, real estate agencies and many other businesses where the owners knew LGBT people spent money.

Today, you can hardly turn on the television or pick up a newspaper or magazine without hearing or reading about something related to LGBT news or gay and lesbian celebrities and politicians. When I fired up my laptop today, I received an e-mail from the Huffington Post directing me to a story written by Arianna Huffington announcing new features that included the debut of "HuffPost: Gay Voices," a page that will compile LGBT news stories together each day for the convenience of the readers.

With the power of the Internet and its capacity for documenting and archiving news stories, information about the LGBT community for both the present and the past will always be at our fingertips, except for those three decades between about 1970 and 2000 when the mainstream media couldn't be bothered with us because they had no idea what a force we would one day become.

For information about that period of time we are going to have to scour the coverage of gay newspapers and magazines published before the days of the Internet, read fiction and non-fiction published by LGBT writers and encourage older members of our community to share their recollections in written and oral form.

It's vitally important to the history of our culture that we not lose those stories, and it's largely thanks to our communities' own publications that we won't.

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

Public libraries: Bad news, good news

The legislature slashed state funds, but city funding cuts weren't as bad as they could have been. Best of all, there are ways you can help keep our libraries flush with LGBT content

Back in the winter, I wrote here about problems facing our libraries ("Losing our libraries," Dallas Voice, April 1). The theme of that piece was the enormous losses the Dallas Public Library system was likely to face if the 82nd Texas Legislature took an axe to public systems statewide.

Well, they did wield an axe — and we lost a lot of state funding. This adds injury to insult, since the city of Dallas has

cut library funds drastically over the last three budget cycles.

But the recently approved 2012 budget is less austere than it might have been. City Manager Mary Suhm proposed, and the mayor and city council agreed, to fund the new branch library now under construction on Ferguson Road, to maintain the current 40 hours at other libraries and to plump up the meager materials budget.

However, the approved budget also cut more



Phyllis Guest
Taking Notes

■ **LIBRARIES**, From Previous Page

than 90 salaried positions and eliminated others. As of Oct. 1, the number of hourly workers known as pages dropped sharply. Remaining staff and volunteers are taking on much of the work once done by pages: sorting and shelving books and other media, maneuvering heavy carts and duck-walking between the low racks of the children's sections.

And new books are in short supply. But that's enough whining. Let's get to the good news.

First I want to tell you about some terrific mystery novels with gay angles that are now available at the Oak Lawn Library. Some are just slightly bent, while others are way over the edge, and two or more are probably available at this very moment on Oak Lawn Library's LGBT shelves.

(Unless otherwise indicated, all are available within days through the Dallas Public Library's online catalog at Catalog.DallasLibrary.org.)

My newest discovery is John Morgan Wilson, whose main series character is a California writer named Benjamin Justice, an edgy, flawed and therefore believable guy.

The series begins with *Simple Justice* and pro-

ceeds through *Revision of Justice*. By the time the series reaches the book I just finished, *Justice at Risk*, Ben is living like the Blanche DuBois of Hollywood. Best you read the books in order to learn where he began and why he fell so far.

My other new discovery is Matt Beynon Rees, a Welshman who worked as a journalist throughout the Middle East for several years and, in 2006, became a full-time fiction writer living in Jerusalem.

The detective of his series is a Palestinian schoolteacher who cannot walk down a street without being pulled toward the most appalling crimes. The book to read is the third in this series, *The Samaritan's Secret*. The plot turns on a single gay character and the effects his sexual proclivities have on all those around him.

On the hunt for more LGBT mysteries, I did an Internet search and came up with a list of recommendations for five books that sounded good.

I ordered the two that were immediately available, whipped over, picked them up, devoured them in a single weekend and thus can recommend both: R.D. Zimmerman's *Closet* and Mark Richard Zubro's *File Under Dead*.

The Dallas system has other books by Zimmerman, all with one-word titles, and others by

Zubro, including one that is new.

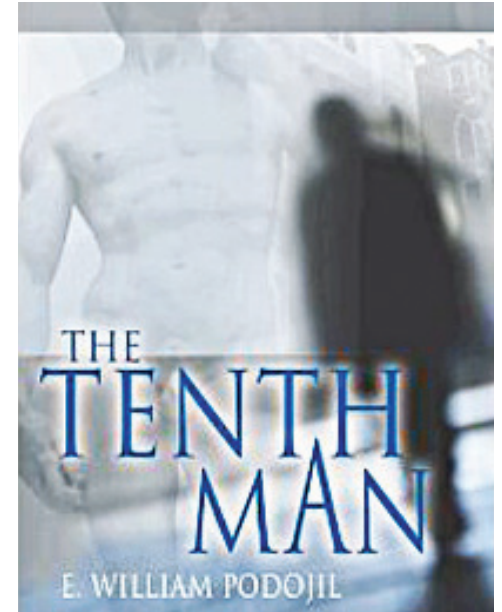
But here's the thing: The system did not have three of the recommended books, including one by Michael Nava, whom I had read years ago and had liked a lot. So I went to DallasLibrary2.org with mouse in one hand and charge card in the other, then clicked on "Support Us" and chose to "Be A Book Hero."

A recent system upgrade allows me, you and other booklovers to make purchases at the library discount. The library contacts the bookseller and the seller sends the book directly to the Central Library downtown. Central enters it into the system, then sends the book to the designated branch and contacts the "Hero" to pick the book up.

At the same time I bought Nava's *The Little Death*, I bought a book that was favorably reviewed here in the Dallas Voice: Bronson Lemer's *The Last Deployment: How a Gay, Hammer-swinging Twentysomething Survived a Year in Iraq*. I just received an email notice that the books await me. Purchase and processing had taken less than three weeks.

When I read and return them, they will likely stay at the Oak Lawn branch, which houses the system's modest LGBT-specific collection.

I'm telling you all this because Dallas Public Li-



YOU CAN HELP | Want to be a Book Hero? Consider buying a copy of E. William Podojil's 'The Tenth Man.'

brary has zero copies of books by two other gay mystery writers who are highly recommended: E. William Podojil and Greg Lilly.

If you decide to "Be A Book Hero" to yourself and others, the recommended books are Podojil's *The Tenth Man*, in which a guy's past live-ins and other lovers are done away with one at a time, and Lilly's *Fingering the Family Jewels*, in which the tale is more frightening but less suggestive than the title.

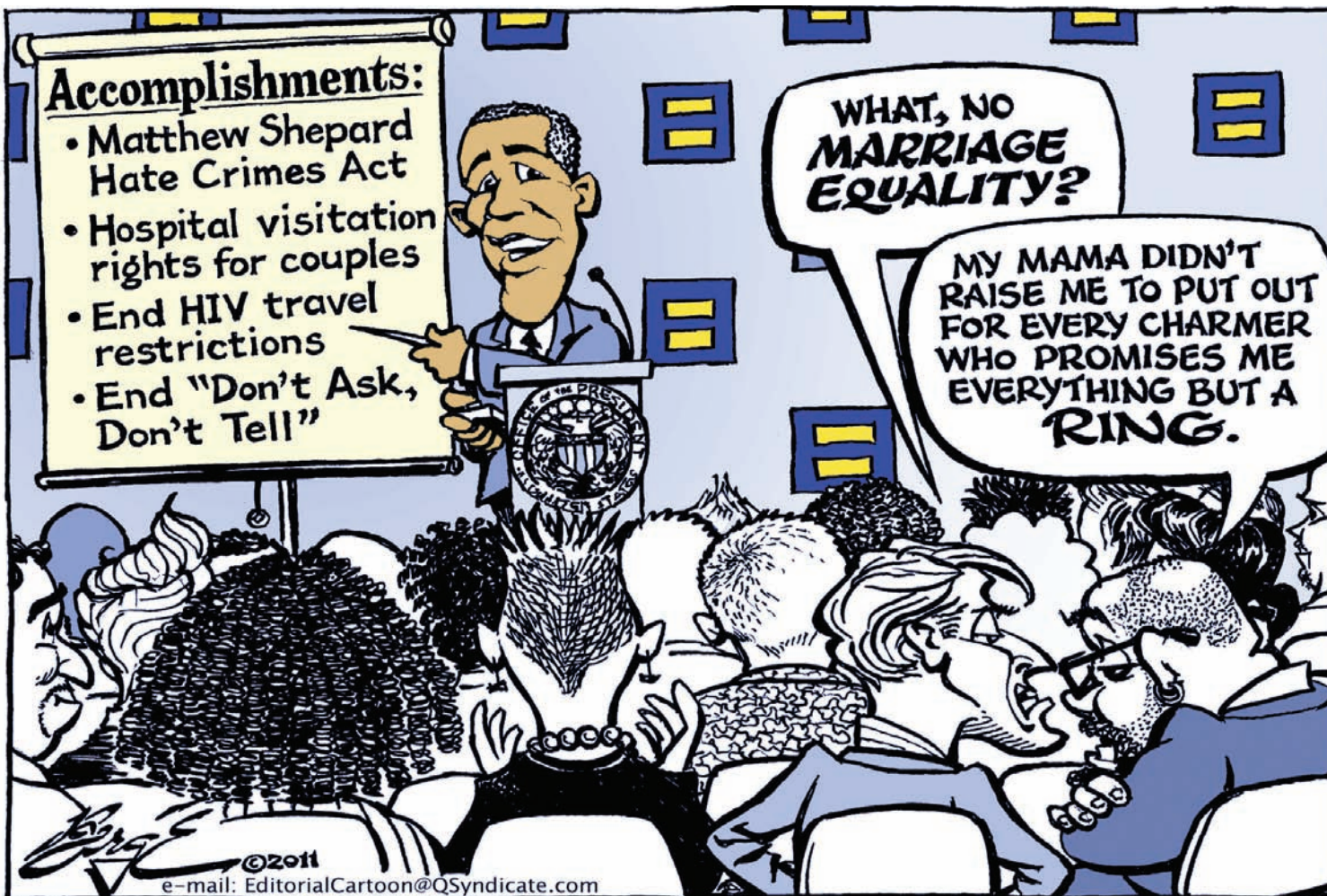
More good news: The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library just voted to spend \$1,000 to freshen the LGBT collection. The \$1,000 came from ongoing sales of library calendars and of gently used books or magazines.

So whether you buy the former, donate the latter or order a newbie through the system, you're helping our whole community.

Meanwhile, there must be mysteries starring Ls, Bs, and Ts. Yes. More soon. ■

Phyllis Guest is a longtime activist on political and LGBT issues and a member of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas.

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Should the LGBT community boycott Southwest Airlines?

- Yes: 41 percent
- No: 47 percent
- Undecided: 12 percent

213 Votes cast

LIFE+STYLE

sports

Ropin' the wind

As the International Gay Rodeo Finals return to North Texas, we examine the connection between the gay culture and the cowboy way

Like a true Texas transplant, Charlie Colella wasn't born to the rodeo, but he got there as fast as he could.

Even today, at 51, Colella's family doesn't quite understand how a boy reared in the Chicago suburbs, who holds down a day job as an office working in corporate America (19 years with Xerox, now with FedEx), now lives on a 12-acre ranch in a small town (population: 1,200) an hour north of Dallas, breeding horses and pursuing his passion for the last 21 years: Ridin' the rodeo.

In Texas, the connection between mankind and the rodeo is a familiar one. Even in urban North Texas, the Mesquite Rodeo less than 20 miles from Downtown Dallas looms as one of the most celebrated in the country. But Colella's interest developed while he was living in, of all places, Bakersfield, Calif. — hardly the cliché of Western masculinity.

He has been riding almost as long the International Gay Rodeo Association has been around. "In 1990, I was living in Los Angeles and bored with my life and met these guys from the rodeo," he explains. "I was a city boy. My folks took us camping and we rode trail horses when I was a kid, but even they said, 'Where did this come from?'"

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

THE COWBOY WAY | Charlie Colella shows the form necessary to score points at the rodeo, but his favorite event is pole bending, a combination of speed, precision and horsemanship. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Surprisingly, the idea of a gay rodeo didn't even arise in Texas. The first acknowledged event — a fundraiser to fight muscular dystrophy — took place in Reno, Nev., in 1976. In 1981, the Colorado Gay Rodeo Association had been formed, followed in 1982 by the Texas Gay Rodeo Association. By 1986, the IGRA was formed as an umbrella organization of regional groups, including ones from Canada (hence the "international" designation).

Colella started off his rodeo career big: Riding steer and bulls. That's where a human sits atop a one-ton wild animal and tries to hold on for eight seconds. Even the best cowboys end their rides being thrown on their asses. "It often was one of the biggest rushes ever!" Colella gushes. Rodeo events have resulted in him suffering a fractured pelvis, a broken foot and a herniated vertebra. He doesn't ride bulls anymore.

"There's an old saying: To be a bull rider, you fill your mouth with marbles; every time you ride a bull, you spit out a marble; once you've lost all your marbles, you're a bull rider," he laughs. "I started with that and rode bulls for a couple years, but I'm a little older and little smarter now, so I don't do the rough stuff."

Colella pursues about 11 of the 14 competitions, and he's qualified for seven events in the IGRA Finals, which take place at the Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth this weekend. (*For a complete schedule of events, see Page 27.*) The invitational event is considered the capstone of the gay rodeo season.

"Pole bending is the one I get nussed up about. I was sitting No. 1 in it [this year], but I had a bad day last time and someone pulled ahead of me," he says.

Even with his current slate of events, Colella has had his share of close calls. Just last month, he "had a little argument with a steer," as he puts it. "I'm not quite sure what happened — I

think I got horned," he says, pointing to a two-inch scar on his forehead smack dab between his eyes. "It was in Kansas City in, of all events, wild drag. My buddy does the drag and the steer got away from us. We caught it and he went around me with the rope. I ducked to keep from being penned and that's when it happened. It went through my hat, so it could have been worse."

All in the day of a cowboy's life.

Or, for that matter, a cowgirl. Gay rodeo has traditionally embraced women in a way that mainstream rodeos have not. In 1989, a woman, Linn Copeland, was appointed to serve out the unexpired term of president of the IGRA, and in 1990 she was elected to another full term. While women's and men's events are still kept separate in competitions, Colella for one doesn't see the women's branch as being any less competitive: The events are the events, and the skills are exactly the same.

"We've had some incredible bulls and some pretty incredible female bull riders. I'd like to see more women get involved — there are like two guys for every girl.

"We compete men against men, women against women, but if we blended it all together some of these women would kick your butt. I was teasing a buddy once that he 'threw like a girl,' and did I get my ass chewed out. I was being unfair — these women can throw a rope. Some of these girls'll kick your ass!"

So what keeps men — and women — like Colella coming back year after year?

As a convert to cowboydom, Colella takes it seriously as a lifestyle. Even at work, he dresses daily in a pressed Western shirt, jeans and ostrich-skin boots; he proudly sports an oversized belt buckle, one of perhaps two dozen he has won over the years for his rodeo skills. ("I've got every ribbon, every buckle I've ever won. A lot

■ ROPIN', Page 36

Calendar men

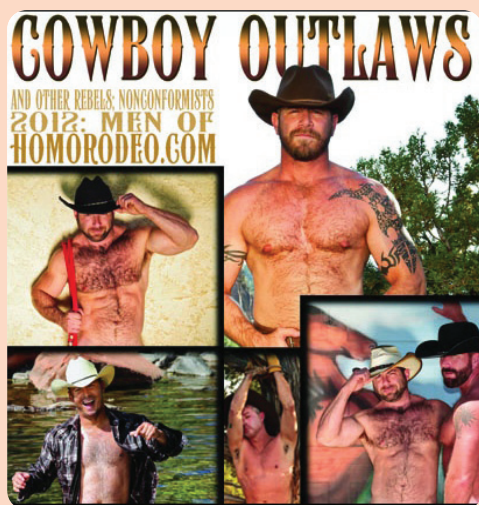
There should be plenty of beefy hot cowboys in town during the IGRA rodeo, but why not enjoy them all year long? Thanks to HomoRodeo.com, you can. Their Cowboy Outlaws calendar means you don't have to book a trip to Brokeback Mountain to find aw-shucks hotties.

HomoRodeo.com is a social networking site celebrating the queer community (mostly men) on the rural side of the fence: farmers, cowboys and just-everyday guys. Founded by Harley Deuce, the site and the calendar are in their 7th year celebrating the cowboy.

"I grew up in a rural environment," Deuce says. "HomoRodeo.com is a result of going to gay rodeos and helping the people stay in touch, promote the sport. I appreciate what the cowboy represents."

No professional models were harmed in the making of Cowboy Outlaws — all models in the calendar are members of the site. And those members are willing to bare it all. Yup, *all*. This is the gift that keeps on giving — until December, at least.

HomoRodeo.com will host meet-and-greets at both Woody's and Best Friends with this year's gentlemen, some of who are competing at IGRA. But with a limited edition in print and the appeal of the



men, Deuce says to plan your visit.

"The line can get long, especially if people are waiting to get all the guys' autographs," he says. "Get there as soon as it opens."

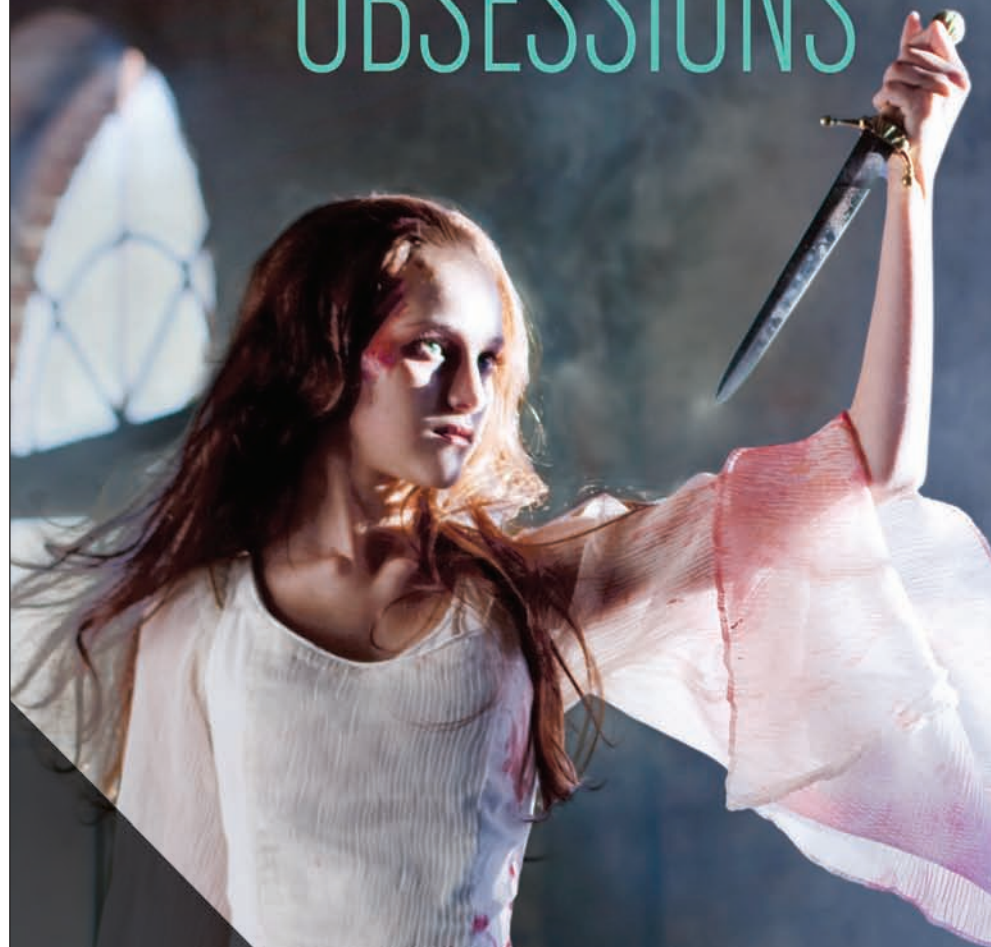
Not a problem.

— Rich Lopez

Best Friends Club, 2620 E. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth. Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. Woody's, 4011 Cedar Springs Road. Oct. 8 at 8 p.m. HomoRodeo.com.

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■ **ROPIN'**, From Page 34

of people put a lot of effort into getting that together and that means something to me," he says.) For him, as gays are fond of saying, it's a life, not a lifestyle.

"Anyone involved in the rodeo, gay or straight, says it's a way of life," he says. "I'm single, and it's difficult dating living where I live, but I decided I wasn't gonna sacrifice what I wanted for a guy. I have a great life so I'm pretty happy. This is who I am. It's *what* I am."

The rodeo also gives him a chance to show off his skills behind the scenes.

"It's a kind of a gratification of how I've trained my horses," he admits of each victory. "The oldest horse I own is 19 and she's the mother of another two, so I have bred them myself. You do well, it is a reflection of that. You're saying, 'My horse is very talented, and I did that.'"

But, Colella admits, there's more to getting involved in the gay rodeo than all of that. It's the sense of community that comes with it.

"Everyone just takes care of

RIDE' EM | Corella will compete in 7 of 14 events at the invitation-only IGRA this weekend. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

you," he says. "I think it's important that we all belong to a group, an organization, whether it's your church or the leather community or the rodeo. IGRA helped me find who I am, helped define who I am. Any club who can bring out who you are [is valuable]. I've met so many people from around the country. It's just amazing the amount of friends who offer support.

"Most of the people in the top 10 or 20 are competitive, but we all want *everybody* to do well. I wanna win, but I'm gonna root for the next guy and coach him to do just as well."

Colella is fit and healthy, but now in his 50s, the most he'll promise about what he'll be doing five years from now is say he hopes to be upright. But the rodeo grabs ahold of you in a way you can't fully control.

"There's a friend of mine in the rodeo who's over 60 and still doing all the events: He's still wrestling steer and riding horses," he says. "We joke that the day he dies, we're all gonna say, 'Thank god! Now *we* can stop,' because as long as he's doing it we can't justifying quitting. But one day, I'll do other things at home with my horses."

Like any great movie cowboy, the time'll come to ride off into the sunset.

But not this weekend. This weekend, there are ribbons and buckles and titles to be won and animals to be tamed. That's life on the rodeo. ■

QUEER CLIP: 'THE IDES OF MARCH'



Ryan Gosling has discovered a cool little niche for himself recently: He gives equal time to parading around shirtless showing off his abs on magazine covers and in digestible Hollywood pabulum (*Crazy Stupid Love*, *The Notebook*) and staring off blankly under the guise of acting in regrettable art films (*Drive*, *All Good Things*). That formula has won him praise by easily fooled critics, who appear to be the target audience for **The Ides of March**, a slow and pretentious political thriller in which Gosling gets to be the love interest and the intellectual hero, all without betraying anything bordering on genuine emotion.

Set during a presidential primary, it's little more than a middling episode of *The West Wing*, laden down with a weak performance by Evan Rachel Wood, a contrived, unconvincing political scandal involving candidate George Clooney (who also directs, woodenly) and even a self-important title. Vote "no" on this ballot measure. Please, Ryan, just strip and stop trying.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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BIG Lang theory

K.D. Lang, on her new CD, Lady Gaga and her burgeoning butchness

K.D. Lang is manning up, thanks to the likes of Lady Gaga, Katy Perry and other sexpots of pop who shoot whipped cream from their chests and ride disco sticks. The longtime gay activist, who turns 50 in November, made a rebellious decision to boost her butchness, evident in the video for "I Confess," the lead single from her disc *Sing it Loud*.

She comes to the Meyerson on Tuesday with her band the Siss Boom Bang, but before the show, she dished about the album's evolution, why being the first out country star doesn't matter and her work with *Glee*.

—Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: Why did you approach *Sing it Loud* with a fuller sound and, for the first time in 20 years, a band? Lang: It just seemed to be the right thing to do. It was just what I was feeling. I was working with Joe [Pisapia], writing songs, and it came time to record them and I just felt like the band was the right way to approach it — very live and spontaneous. We put the band together and it was beyond my wildest dreams what transpired.

"On "I Confess," you sing the lyric 'I'll be your daddy. How do you think that line would've been received had you recorded this song 20 years ago when you first came out?' Probably the same as

now. I think there's going to always be people who feel uncomfortable with it and there's always going to be people who are titillated by it. You just have to know that's going to be the case for a long time.

Would you say you're embracing your butchness more than you used to? Yeah, this music really asks for it. I also think that the aesthetic nature of today's music, with people like Lady Gaga and Katy Perry — not that it's new, it certainly isn't; I know better than that — is being very exaggerated I thought, I can exaggerate, too!

What do you make of the way the music business has shifted in the way it sells music? I think it's boring because everything is so overexposed. But it's fine; it is what it is. In terms of music, there is always going to be a place for someone who can sing and someone who can communicate with an audience.

Did you ever feel pressure to conform in your career? That would depend on what I wanted to

reap from my music. I've always been quite sure that I wanted to have a more artistic career and a career of longevity, so in that respect, no. I've made decisions that have nurtured my art rather than my public awareness or my celebrity. That's been self-determined. So no, I never felt the pressure.

If you hadn't come out, how do you imagine your life and career now? I can't imagine, because I was always out and coming out wasn't really a big deal for me. But it certainly made things easier. I can't imagine what it would be like, but at the same time it's definitely made my life easier just because it kind of stripped away the question marks in the audience's minds. It took away any pretense or question.

There was a big hoopla when Chely Wright came out as the first gay country star, because some argued that you beat her to it. What did you think about all that? I don't know who Chely Wright is, but I don't care. I mean, to a whole generation of people who know Chely Wright, they probably don't know who I am. So to them it is the first country star to come out. I don't really care who's the first, who's the last, because before me there were a lot of people that helped get me to a place to feel confident and comfortable with coming out.

Last year you lent your voice to a song on a *Glee* soundtrack. Would you ever do the show? I don't really watch *Glee*, but I know it's very popular and gay-friendly, which is great. And Jane Lynch is hilarious! If they asked me I would consider it, but I'm really happy that I could be a part of something that's supportive and promotes alternative and varying lifestyles.

BUTCHING IT UP | Lang, nearing 50, is embracing her inner ... daddy?

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VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR can cause severe and life-threatening liver and skin reactions that can, in some cases, cause death. These problems can happen at any time but occur most often during the first 18 weeks of treatment, but can occur later. People who have abnormal liver test results before starting VIRAMUNE treatment and people with hepatitis B or C also have a greater chance of getting liver problems. Your healthcare provider (HCP) will closely monitor you and test the function of your liver during the first 18 weeks of therapy. Ask your healthcare provider how to recognize symptoms of liver and skin problems. Do not take VIRAMUNE unless you have been diagnosed with HIV.

You must stop taking VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR and call your HCP immediately if you have signs or symptoms of liver or skin problems. If you stop treatment with VIRAMUNE because you had any serious liver or skin reactions, you must never take VIRAMUNE again. For some patients, damage to the liver can continue to occur after VIRAMUNE is stopped.

Any patient can experience liver problems with VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR, but women and patients who have higher CD4+ counts when they begin nevirapine treatment have a greater risk. **If you are a woman with CD4+ greater than 250 cells/mm³, or a man with CD4+ greater than 400 cells/mm³, you should not begin taking VIRAMUNE unless you and your doctor have decided that the benefit of doing so outweighs the risk. Women, including pregnant women, with CD4+ cell counts greater than 250 cells/mm³ are at the greatest risk of severe liver problems.**

Do not take VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR unless you have been diagnosed with HIV. Do not take VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR if your HCP has told you that you have moderate to severe liver disease.

VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR can cause serious side effects, including changes to your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) and changes in body fat. The most common side effect of VIRAMUNE is rash. These are not all the possible side effects of VIRAMUNE. For more information, ask your HCP.

You should not take St. John's wort or efavirenz if you take VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR. Talk to your HCP about the additional drug to drug interactions associated with VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR.

VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR do not cure HIV or AIDS, and have not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients new to nevirapine must start treatment with a lead-in dose of one 200 mg tablet of immediate-release VIRAMUNE once daily for the first 14 days of treatment. The 14-day lead-in period is important because it has been shown to reduce your chances of getting a potentially serious skin rash. If you experience a rash during the first 14 days, immediately contact your HCP and do not increase your dose to VIRAMUNE 200 mg twice daily or start VIRAMUNE XR 400 mg once daily until the rash has resolved. If your rash persists longer than 28 days, stop taking VIRAMUNE and call your HCP for an alternative regimen. If you stop taking VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR for longer than seven days, talk to your HCP because you will need to restart the 14-day lead-in dose.

Adult patients already on a regimen of VIRAMUNE 200 mg twice daily can be switched to VIRAMUNE XR 400 mg once daily without the 14-day lead-in period of VIRAMUNE.

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

Please see Medication Guide, which includes dosing information and additional important risk information, for VIRAMUNE XR, on the following pages.

VIRAMUNE® XR™
(nevirapine)
extended-release tablets

Ask your HCP if it's the right option for you. Visit www.viramunexr.com for more information.

MEDICATION GUIDE

VIRAMUNE® (VIH-rah-mune) (nevirapine) Tablets

VIRAMUNE® (VIH-rah-mune) (nevirapine) Oral Suspension

VIRAMUNE® XR™ (VIH-rah-mune) (nevirapine) Extended-Release Tablets

Read this Medication Guide before you start taking VIRAMUNE and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your doctor about your medical condition or treatment.

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

VIRAMUNE can cause serious side effects. These include severe liver and skin problems that can cause death. These problems can happen at any time during treatment, but your risk is highest during the first 18 weeks of treatment.

1. Severe liver problems: Anyone who takes VIRAMUNE may get severe liver problems. In some cases these liver problems can lead to liver failure and the need for a liver transplant, or death.

People who have a higher CD4⁺ cell count when they begin VIRAMUNE treatment have a higher risk of liver problems, especially:

- Women with CD4⁺ counts higher than 250 cells/mm³. This group has the highest risk.
- Men with CD4⁺ counts higher than 400 cells/mm³.

If you are a woman with CD4⁺ counts higher than 250 cells/mm³ or a man with CD4⁺ counts higher than 400 cells/mm³, you and your doctor will decide whether starting VIRAMUNE is right for you.

In general, women have a higher risk of liver problems compared to men. People who have abnormal liver test results before starting VIRAMUNE treatment and people with hepatitis B or C also have a greater chance of getting liver problems.

You may get a rash if you have liver problems.

Stop taking VIRAMUNE and call your doctor right away if you have any of the following symptoms of liver problems:

- dark (tea colored) urine
- yellowing of your skin or whites of your eyes
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- fever
- nausea (feeling sick to your stomach)
- feel unwell or like you have the flu
- pain or tenderness on your right side below your ribs
- tiredness
- loss of appetite

Your doctor should see you and do blood tests often to check your liver function during the first 18 weeks of treatment with VIRAMUNE. You should continue to have your liver checked regularly during your treatment with VIRAMUNE. It is important for you to keep all of your doctor appointments.

2. Severe rash and skin reactions: Skin rash is the most common side effect of VIRAMUNE. Most rashes happen in the first 6 weeks of taking VIRAMUNE. **Rashes and skin reactions may be severe, life-threatening, and in some people, may lead to death. Stop using VIRAMUNE and call your doctor right away if you get a rash with any of the following symptoms:**

- blisters
- mouth sores
- red or inflamed eyes, like “pink eye” (conjunctivitis)
- liver problems (see symptoms of liver problems above)
- swelling of your face
- fever
- feel unwell or like you have the flu
- tiredness
- muscle or joint aches

If your doctor tells you to stop treatment with VIRAMUNE because you have had any of the serious liver or skin problems described above, you should never take VIRAMUNE again.

See the section “**What are the possible side effects of VIRAMUNE?**” for more information.

What is VIRAMUNE?

VIRAMUNE is a prescription medicine used to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

VIRAMUNE is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a “non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor” (NNRTI). VIRAMUNE works by lowering the amount of HIV in your blood (“viral load”). **You must take VIRAMUNE with other anti-HIV medicines.** When you take VIRAMUNE with other anti-HIV medicines, VIRAMUNE can lower your viral load and increase the number of CD4⁺ cells (“T cells”). CD4⁺ cells are a type of immune helper cell in the blood. VIRAMUNE may not have these effects in every person.

VIRAMUNE comes in 3 different forms. This Medication Guide provides information about all 3 forms of VIRAMUNE.

- VIRAMUNE tablets
- VIRAMUNE oral suspension
- VIRAMUNE XR extended release tablets

VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets are not for use in children.

VIRAMUNE does not cure HIV or AIDS, and it is not known if it will help you live longer with HIV. People taking VIRAMUNE may still get infections common in people with HIV (opportunistic infections). It is very important that you stay under the care of your doctor.

It is not known if VIRAMUNE lowers the chance of passing HIV to other people. Effective treatment combined with safer sex practices, may reduce the chance of passing HIV to others through sexual contact. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier method to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids such as semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never re-use or share needles. Take your HIV medicines as prescribed.

Who should not take VIRAMUNE?

Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver problems. Your doctor may tell you not to take VIRAMUNE if you have certain liver problems.

VIRAMUNE is only for people diagnosed with HIV. If you have not been diagnosed as HIV positive, then do not take VIRAMUNE.

What should I tell my doctor before taking VIRAMUNE?

Before you take VIRAMUNE, tell your doctor if you:

- have or have had hepatitis (inflammation of your liver) or problems with your liver. See “**What is the most important information I should know about VIRAMUNE?**” and “**Who should not take VIRAMUNE?**”
- receive dialysis
- have skin problems, such as a rash
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if VIRAMUNE will harm your unborn baby.

Pregnancy Registry: There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of the registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your doctor about how you can take part in this registry.

- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. VIRAMUNE can pass into your breast milk and may harm your baby. It is also recommended that HIV-positive women should not breast-feed their babies. Do not breast-feed during treatment with VIRAMUNE. Talk to your doctor about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements. VIRAMUNE may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how VIRAMUNE works.

You should not take VIRAMUNE if you also take:

- St. John’s Wort. St. John’s Wort can lower the amount of VIRAMUNE in your body.
- efavirenz (Sustiva®, Atripla®). Efavirenz may cause you to have an increased chance of side effects.
- atazanavir (Reyataz®)
- lopinavir and ritonavir (Kaletra®)
- fosamprenavir calcium (Lexiva®)
- itraconazole (Sporanox®)

- ketoconazole (Nizoral®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®)
- Birth control pills. Birth control pills taken by mouth (oral contraceptives) and other hormone types of birth control may not work to prevent pregnancy. Talk with your doctor about other types of birth control that you can use to prevent pregnancy during treatment with VIRAMUNE.

Also tell your doctor if you take:

- clarithromycin (Biaxin®)
- nelfinavir mesylate (Viracept®)
- fluconazole (Diflucan®)
- rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- indinavir sulfate (Crixivan®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®)
- methadone
- saquinavir mesylate (Invirase®)

If you are not sure if you take a medicine above, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your doctor or pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How should I take VIRAMUNE?

- VIRAMUNE is always taken in combination with other anti-HIV medications.
- Take VIRAMUNE exactly as your doctor tells you to take it. Do not change your dose unless your doctor tells you to.
- You should never take more than one form of VIRAMUNE at the same time. Talk to your doctor if you have any questions.
- Do not crush or chew VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets.
- You may take VIRAMUNE with or without food.
- Do not miss a dose of VIRAMUNE, because this could make HIV harder to treat. If you miss a dose of VIRAMUNE, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose, just take the next dose at your regular time. Do not take two doses at the same time.
- If you stop taking VIRAMUNE for more than 7 days, ask your doctor how much to take before you start taking it again. You may need to begin taking the VIRAMUNE starting dose again, which is taken 1 time each day for 14 days.

Starting VIRAMUNE tablets:

1. Your doctor should start you with 1 dose each day to lower your chance of getting a serious rash. **It is important that you only take 1 dose of VIRAMUNE each day for the first 14 days.**
 - **Call your doctor right away if you get a skin rash during the first 14 days of VIRAMUNE treatment and do not increase your dose to 2 times a day.**
 - You should never take your starting dose for longer than 28 days. If after 28 days you are still receiving this starting dose because you have a rash, you and your doctor should talk about prescribing another HIV medicine for you instead of VIRAMUNE.
 - **Do not increase your dose to 2 times a day if you have a rash.**
2. Day 15, you will take 1 VIRAMUNE tablet two times a day.

Starting VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets and this is the first time you are taking any form of VIRAMUNE:

1. Your doctor should start you with 1 dose of VIRAMUNE tablets each day to lower your chance of getting a serious rash. **It is important that you only take 1 dose of VIRAMUNE each day for the first 14 days.**
 - **Call your doctor right away if you get a skin rash during the first 14 days of VIRAMUNE treatment and do not increase your dose to 2 times a day.**
 - You should never take your starting dose for longer than 28 days. If after 28 days you are still receiving this starting dose because you have a rash, you and your doctor should talk about prescribing another HIV medicine for you instead of VIRAMUNE.
 - **Do not start VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets if you have a rash.**
2. Day 15, you will take 1 VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablet each day.

Switching from VIRAMUNE tablets to VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets:

1. Take VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablet 1 time a day.

If you take VIRAMUNE Oral Suspension:

- If you or your child takes VIRAMUNE suspension (liquid), shake it gently

before each use. Use an oral dosing syringe or dosing cup to measure the right dose. The oral dosing syringe and dosing cup are not provided with VIRAMUNE Suspension. Ask your pharmacist for a syringe or cup if you do not have one.

- After drinking the medicine, fill the dosing cup with water and drink it to make sure you get all the medicine.
- If the dose is less than 1 teaspoon (5 mL), use the syringe instead of the dosing cup.

What are the possible side effects of VIRAMUNE?

VIRAMUNE may cause serious side effects, including:

- See **“What is the most important information I should know about VIRAMUNE?”**
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your doctor if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in some people who take antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from your legs, arms, and face can also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these problems are not known at this time.

The most common side effect of VIRAMUNE is rash.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of VIRAMUNE. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

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

How should I store VIRAMUNE?

- Store VIRAMUNE at 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C).
- Throw away VIRAMUNE that is no longer needed or out-of-date.

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

General information about VIRAMUNE.

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

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about VIRAMUNE. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about VIRAMUNE that is written for health professionals.

For more information, go to www.viramune.com or www.viramunexr.com or call Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc., at 1-800-542-6257, or (TTY) 1-800-459-9906.

What are the ingredients in VIRAMUNE?

Active ingredient: nevirapine

Inactive ingredients:

VIRAMUNE Tablets: microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, povidone, sodium starch glycolate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and magnesium stearate

VIRAMUNE Oral Suspension: carbomer 934P, methylparaben, propylparaben, sorbitol, sucrose, polysorbate 80, sodium hydroxide, and purified water

VIRAMUNE XR Tablets: lactose monohydrate, hypromellose, iron oxide, and magnesium stearate

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

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Who shot at JR.'s?

After months of sniping, 'A-List: Dallas' debuts and, surprisingly, entertains



STEVEN LINDSEY | Contributing Writer
stevencraiglindsey@me.com

Lies, deception, cowboys, swimming pool fights and plenty of rich bitches (male *and* female): Sounds like a certain TV show we all know and love, right? Well, these are also the same ingredients for Dallas' newest moment in the reality television spotlight. Taking the successful formula for *The A-List: New York* and creating a Dallas franchise may have been a head-scratcher for anyone who doesn't live here, but for those of us that do, we know we have our fair share of camera-ready gays eager to bring on the drama.

I used to think that reality TV should be critiqued under different criteria than scripted shows, but then I realized that if a show wants to take up an hour of my time and valuable space on my DVR, it all comes down to one simple question I pose, whether million-dollar-per-episode comedy or a low-budget reality franchise: *Am I entertained?*

For *The A-List: Dallas*, the surprising answer is "yes." Admittedly, I can barely squint my way through an episode of the *New York* version, so I had minimal expectations for Dallas. But by the time the first episode's credits rolled and scenes from the entire season played out, I found myself hooked.

That's in large part because of the casting. They've found a group of friends and frenemies with enough ready-made conflict to easily fill an entire season. Sure, much of it is exaggerated for effect, but give gays enough alcohol and stick

them in front of a camera crew and how could sparks not fly?

At the center of most of the drama is Levi Crocker, the handsome cowboy that every guy wants to rope in. In the past, he's dated Taylor Garret, a gay Christian Republican and now denies dating James Doyle, a trust-fund baby who remembers things a little differently. There's also Chase Hutchison, a real estate investor whose hair becomes its very own character; Phillip Willis, a high-end stylist with a love for gossip; and Ashley Kelly, a female photographer who just loves her gays.

The good thing about this cast is their wicked sense of humor — and it appears that they're in on the joke. I mean, who couldn't be camping up a little saying catty things like, "This is a genetic gift. Does it mean I'm superior? Maybe." Or, "I'm one of Dallas' *hottest* stylists." Or maybe they're just shallow jerks like most every other cast member of every single reality show ever created anywhere. Only time will tell, but for now, I'm willing to give them the benefit of the doubt.

Most of all, *The A-List: Dallas* is a fun watch just to see how many people you recognize and how many favorite restaurants and nightspots you can spot. If you've been to the same sushi bar and know a few of the same people, that makes you A-List by association. And that's pretty much all it takes. ■

Premieres Monday on Logo at 10 p.m.

SPOT THE HOT SPOT | Real-life gay cowboy Levi Crocker, center, is the breakout star of 'The A-List: Dallas,' which finally debuts on Logo after a summer of controversy. (Photo Mike Ruiz/Logo)



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Crossing its T

Hyundai's potent Sonata 2.0T ups the ante for an already attractive ride

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
crwauto@aol.com

All of the great marques have special models with special letters. Adding an "M" to the back of a BMW changes an accomplished touring machine into an all-out performer. Hanging "AMG" on the trunk of a Benz instills a tradition of racing and mind-bending acceleration. Put a "V" on a CTS and you've got bottled evil.

Sticking a "T" on the back of a Hyundai may not scare the world's power players, but it might light dirt clods under market-leading mid-sizers.

Mentioning the 2.0T along with the great "alphas" from Germany isn't completely whack. In the mid-'90s, a BMW M3 made way with a 286-horsepower V6 engine. The C36 AMG, Mercedes' first car formally badged with the iconic letters, ran from 0-60 mph in 6.6 seconds, topping out at 155 ... and did it all with just 268 galloping steeds.

I'm darned sure neither of those cars generated the fuel economy ratings or offered up such a cavernous interior as the Hyundai.

Let's just get to it. The Sonata's 2.0-liter turbocharged 4-cylinder engine produces 274 horsepower and 269 lb.-ft. of torque — all routed to the front wheels through a near-perfect six-speed paddle-shift automatic transmission. Unlike in the Bimmer and Benz, drivers are confronted with a fair amount of torque steer — two wheels can only be asked to do so much before throwing a regal fit. I'm old enough to remember V8-powered supercars that couldn't generate those numbers, and they sure as heck didn't achieve 22/33-MPG city/highway. Another point of in-

terest, the pint-sized Chevy Aveo achieves 25/34-MPG and makes due with a 108-HP engine. Hyundai hit the big boys in their asses.

It would be hard to imagine a more pleasing package in which to wrap this mechanical orchestration. Borrowing from the Mercedes CLS four-door coupe, Sonata is a sexy piece with a near-perfect arch running from its wavy chrome grille to its sculpted hood, curved roofline and tapered rear deck. The forms have more of a molded look than metal stamped through presses. Hun-

kered down over 18-in. alloy wheels and low-profile touring tires, the car looks like it rolled out for a futuristic sci-fi flick. Yet, it has a family-friendly look that is almost huggable.

The love continues inside. Sitting behind the wheel, you could just as easily be piloting the Genesis Coupe as a roomy five-passenger sedan. Big analog gauges, twin-cockpit dash lay-out, huge cupholders, cavernous storage bin in the console and in-dash touch screen that couldn't be easier to navigate, or use to navigate, work well. Automatic climate control will freeze your tenders; heated seats roast your cushions on cold mornings.

I'm also a fan of the multi-function leather-wrapped steering wheel, leather seats, and auto

up/down driver window. Fold-down rear seats and a roomy trunk will swallow bicycles and gear like a pack mule stomping up a mountain trail.

Everybody inside can rest assured in their safety. Potential padding comes from dual front, front side and side curtain airbags. Front active head restraints and self-retracting seatbelts keep you in your place. Enhancing the driver's ability to avoid ugly incidents in the first place are four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes, electronic stability control and brake force control to prevent skids under heavy deceleration. An incredibly rigid passenger compartment is protected by engineered crush zones front and rear.

Great driver's cars have finesse to their motions that draw you in and provide rewards for your attention. The 2.0T's steering is direct and reacts instantly off center. It is perfectly weighted for a family sedan with sporting intentions. The suspension is firm, but compliant and the brakes are up to the task of stopping a 3,400-lb. automobile. Step into the turbo and it generates smooth torque at virtually any speed. Get on it at Interstate speeds and it will put a beaming smile across your mug. It's nice that you can buy a perfectly practical car that can also put joy in the life of its driver.

To witness Hyundai upping its technological game two clicks higher, check out the Sonata Hybrid. Aero tweaks clue you in that this is the model that gets a compact-like 35/40-MPG city/hwy. A net of 206 horsepower comes from a 2.4-liter 4-cylinder engine, motor, and advanced lithium polymer batteries. Prices start under \$26,000.

Whether you choose the Sonata with a T, the one with batteries, or just the regular 4-cylinder version, you'll quickly come to the conclusion that Hyundai has out-engineered and out-styled itself into the realm of the world's best automakers. These are great cars — ones about which you will be proud to tell your friends and look forward to enjoying for many years. For added assurance, the Sonata comes with Hyundai's standard 10-year/100,000-mile powertrain warranty.

With an as-tested price of \$30,000, competitors include the Buick Regal, Honda Accord, VW Passat and Ford Fusion. ■



FITS TO A T | Good gas mileage, a turbocharged engine, sleek interior styling and a nice price make the 2.0T an enviable vehicle for a wide range of tastes. (Photos courtesy Hyundai)

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Teenage wasteland

Hormonal youth meet fatal consequences in 'West Side Story,' 'Awakening'



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

There aren't many musicals that are *about* things. Andrew Lloyd Webber, with his bombastic shows concerning felines and toy trains, may have lowered the bar, but the "serious" musical has always been an uphill battle. Even a show like *Hairspray*, which touches on racism, is more concerned with a punchy '60s-pop sound than social change.

Two musicals that break the mold are *West Side Story* and *Spring Awakening*. There's very little hope in either one. But the message of teenagers crazed by hormones, and the tragedy that results, have made them classics, even coming 50 years apart. Seldom has the reality of adolescence been more acutely wrought.

The new production of *West Side*, at the State Fair courtesy of Dallas Summer Musicals, was re-imagined by the show's original writer, Arthur Laurents, with the addition of Spanish dialogue and lyrics (from Lin-Manuel Miranda) for the Puerto Rican street gang the Sharks, as well as a timely design: Although a product of the '50s — especially evident in Leonard Bernstein's still-relevant jazz score and dialogue resplendent with *daddios* talk of hoodlums — this version could just as easily take place today. The Jets, usually so easy to mock for their balletic street fighting, are by-and-large beefier here, more threatening. They

may *plie* like Nureyev, but you sense they'd beat the living crap out of you for making fun of 'em.

This *West Side* also has something sorely lacking in almost every prior production: A Tony with true sex appeal. You believe the spark between him (Ross Lekites) and Maria (Evy Ortiz, whose soprano is astonishing) as they Romeo-and-Juliet it on the balc... er, fire escape. Young love onstage usually seems hokey; here, it feels primal.

There's power in this doomed romance, from the haunting, bloody finales of both Act 1 and 2 to the near rape of Anita (Michelle Aravena) that elevates it — not just to the realm of tragedy, but to the scope of a true American opera.

At least, that's the sensibility conveyed by this production, the best yet in DSM's 2011 season. *West Side Story* hasn't felt so fresh in ages, abounding with energy (although some of the dancers aren't in perfect step) and a new air of sexual ambiguity (especially with tomboy Jet wannabe Anybodies and some gang members that seem a little too chummy). This has never been a feel-good musical, but its dark outlook feels earned this time.

We live in a state whose governor preaches abstinence-only sex education while the teen

ON THE BOARDS

WEST SIDE STORY at Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through Oct. 23. DallasSummerMusicals.com.

SPRING AWAKENING at Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Oct. 23. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

P.R. FLEX | Disenfranchised Puerto Ricans Anita (Michelle Aravena) and Bernardo (German Santiago) burn the floor in a re-imagined revival of 'West Side Story.' (Photo courtesy Joan Marcus)



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THE BITCH OF LIVING | Sexually repressed teens give motion to their libidos with John de los Santos' choreography in WaterTower's production of 'Spring Awakening.' (Photo courtesy Mark Oristano)

pregnancy rate is among the highest in the nation. If that kind of dunderheadedness infuriates you, you're in for a frustrating two hours with *Spring Awakening*. Based on a German play written more than a century ago, this rock musical explodes with paternalistic hypocrisy, as parents and teachers scrupulously avoid their responsibilities toward children in order to preserve some mythical idea of "proper" society. Teenaged girls wanna know where babies come

from and are given a non-cock-not-bull story about storks — is it any wonder they wind up pregnant and on Jerry Springer?

From the first haunting strains of Duncan Sheik's plaintive rock score, *Spring Awakening* oozes sex. And not just pure, puppy-love romantic sex. These kids fantasize about their tutors and their classmates; they jerk off to poetry; they explore sado-masochism and fetishes and drug use. Welcome to the *real* world of teenhood, Gov. Perry.

WaterTower Theatre is mounting the first local production, and if you haven't seen it, do. The show itself is arrestingly modern, even though set generations ago, and the music and lyrics (by Steven Stater) are wonderful both for their abstract imagery and the immediacy of the emotions.

But there's also something slightly off. Maybe it's the sound, which was spotty on opening night, but it feels more like the singers themselves. Mind you, the cast — made up largely of young comparative newcomers — all sing well, but you want them to do more: You want them to get loose.

Director Terry Martin gives them the opportunity, with onstage masturbation, same-sex kissing and dark discussions of sex sure to make a few blue-hairs squirm. John de los Santos' stylized choreography gives them a lot to do, bringing a sense of motion to the internality of libidos gone mad, but they need to shout a little. It's impossible to be too loud doing *Spring Awakening* — it is a *rock* musical, after all. With songs titled the likes of "The Bitch of Living," "My Junk" and "Totally Fucked," this stage is no place to play it safe.

Among the cast, Adam Garst as the tortured Moritz is a standout, as is Kayla Carlyle as the free-spirited Ilse, but each of them embodies an aspect of adolescence that rings true. *Spring Awakening* resonates not because it feels so remote, but because it lives inside the mind of everyone who recalls first lust. ■



'EARNEST' AT THE BATHHOUSE

Leave it to that gayest of gay playwrights, Oscar Wilde, to craft the most astutely observed comedy about heterosexual marriage ever conceived. *The Importance of Being Earnest* may well be the perfect play: Tarty hilarious, tightly constructed and with characters so sharply drawn you can actually imagine the archly improbable dialogue coming from their mouths. WingSpan Theatre Co. — always reliable for queerlicious fall confection — opens the show this weekend at the Bathhouse (a delightful twist in its own right).

— A.W.J.

Bathhouse Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Through Oct. 22.
WingSpanTheatre.com.

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TIFFANY TWISTED | Derry put scallops on her menu at her new McKinney Avenue eatery Private|Social, but she has taken pains not to do another seafood restaurant (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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

It's just a few hours before her new restaurant, Private | Social, is set to open with a red carpet gala, but if the pressure is getting to Tiffany Derry, you wouldn't know it to look at her.

For one thing, she has help. Through the glass in the dining room looking into the kitchen, you can see a staff diligently and wordlessly going through the motions of a prep chef: mixing pizza dough, chopping herbs, readying eggs for a passed appetizer. But look closer, and the faces are familiar. Arnold Myint, dapper and pixieish, was a contestant on *Top Chef*; to his right, fellow finalist Kelly Liken; to his left, Kevin Sbraga, who actually *won* their season. These may be the best line cooks anyone's had since Jacques Pepin peeled potatoes for Julia Child.

But that's the kind of affection Derry generates — and a second reason why she might not look stressed out: She's used to it.

Derry's last 18 months have been remarkable. There has been no bigger breakout star from all seasons of *Top Chef* than her. She made the final five of Season 7, winning the "fan favorite" prize, then immediately returned for the first all-stars season, coming in fourth.

"I always said about the show, I don't care if I won or lost as long as I do my best by my standards. One thing I just loved about [being on *Top Chef*] was, it challenged me to do more and be better," she says.

That ended up being a good dry run for what was to come. Just as the all-stars started filming, Derry got shocking news: The owners of the restaurant in North Dallas that she'd launched, Go Fish, closed it with no notice. Dallas' biggest celebrity of the moment found herself out of a

Tiffany DOES Uptown

'Top Chef' fave Tiffany Derry brings her new concept to her favorite neighborhood

job.

That lasted all of two days.

When investors who were interested in opening a new concept realized Derry was available, she was the first person they called. For Derry, it was serendipity.

"Had it not closed, I wouldn't be here right now," she says. "The moment you get a job, you start thinking anyone can take this away from me. I needed to be in a position to make my own moves."

What made Derry popular with audiences is part of her appeal in person. She's loud and upfront about everything — there's no hint of politicking when she answers questions, and she has a strong sense of her own personality. She knows that serves her well as a chef... all she needs to do is bring that personality to the plate. And the shuttering of Go Fish offered her the chance to double down on her skill set in the kitchen.

"I was starting to get stale at certain things," Derry admits. Her background is in both seafood and Italian cuisine, and a new concept offered her the opportunity to expand her palate.

"I knew I wanted to do some global food," she says. "I do love fish — I love playing with the textures. When I see a piece of meat, my first reaction is, 'What do I do with this?'"

Derry was intimately involved in every aspect of launching Private | Social, including the locale.

"I always knew I wanted to be in Uptown," she declares. When she came into the space along McKinney Avenue, she says, she knew instantly that it was where she wanted to be. She hand-picked every piece of stem- and flatware on the tables, and even selected the "P" and "S" on the door handles — one opening into "private," the other into "social." (The menus are printed in-house, so Derry anticipates updating them at least monthly, if not weekly.)

The concept was also near-and-dear to her.

The paradoxical name indicates not only the bifurcated dining areas, but the menu as well. Want high-end event dining with a seasonal menu? Ask for "private." Prefer to meet up with some friends after work for large plates less expensive food and cocktails? Choose "social." Both menus are available in both dining areas — even at the same table. It also means that diners with differing budgets can eat at the same restaurant and enjoy different price points to fit their wallets without feeling intimidated.

Welcome to the post-financial meltdown world of dining out.

Derry quickly 'fesses that the pre-opening part of the restaurant biz is her favorite. There's potential at each corner to do something new. Everything is possible.

"I have to calm my tendency to make everything Asian," she says of her menu process on Private | Social. "There is a lot of seafood; the gnudi is Italian and my vegetarian option is a pasta, but oh, well." One item she's happy to have added is a massive "salad" invented by Arnold Myint's mother. It's labor-intensive and outside her comfort zone a little, but why not try something new? Derry is used to taking chances.

Right now, though, she has to get back to the kitchen to get ready for her opening. Then there's a trip to the salon and a night of media and guests and reality TV shows filming every moment of the most important day of her life.

But Derry doesn't break a sweat. This is what she lives for. If she can survive Tom Colicchio's judgments, she's ready to take on anything. ■

online exclusive

For red carpet photos of the opening night gala at Private|Social, visit DallasVoice.com/category/Photos.



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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

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Aim for the outfield

Gay chef Abraham Salum tests his Beard dinner and hits a home run

While the Texas Rangers are vying for the American League pennant, the World Series for one local foodie is going on right now.

Chef Abraham Salum already has a solid local reputation for his inventive cuisine, but this month, he gets called up to the bigs. As any chef knows, that means one thing: Cooking at the James Beard House in New York City.

The James Beard Foundation's mission is "to celebrate, preserve and nurture America's culinary heritage and diversity in order to elevate the appreciation of our culinary excellence." That means inviting cooks to strut their stuff at a variety of events, including the chance to prepare a meal at the JBF House. The invitation alone is an honor, and one Salum will be executing on Oct. 21.

But before the big night, Salum — chef-owner of both his eponymous Uptown eatery and neighboring Komali — tested the waters on his planned JBF dinner with a preview tasting.

The evening began at Komali, with passed hors d'oeuvres. Items on deck included seafood tostadas, Lebanese style arancini balls, caprino royale Texas goat cheese and country butter biscuits with chicken fried chicken. Next at bat: A

full four courses with wine pairings, plus dessert, served up in the Salum dining room.

The lineup was luscious: Chilled cream of corn, seared diver scallop with pickled beet carpaccio, oven roasted sea bass and braised pork jowls combined for an inventive menu with mango bread pudding as a sweet closer.

It's next to impossible to choose one favorite from this team, though the oven roasted sea bass, served over pumpkin bisque, shaved Brussels sprouts and Spanish chorizo saute topped the heavy-hitters list. The fish was sweet and flaky; a sprinkle of dukkah dust formed a delicious crust on top. The chorizo and the sprout lent the perfect amount of spice and texture to the creamy bisque.

I also fell in love with the mango bread pudding served per the chef "Mexican style," with prickly pear sauce and queso cotija ice cream. Even a bread pudding skeptic like myself would not be not ashamed to admit to devouring every morsel.

Chefs get to the Beard House, named after



BASS PRO | The sea bass was the star of the test menu Abraham Salum plans for his upcoming James Beard House dinner. (Photo courtesy Desiree Espada)

the late gay gourmand, having established a national or regional reputation marked by use of high-quality, seasonal and/or local ingredients with demonstrated excellence in a particular discipline as well as the recommendations of his or her peers. As Chef Salum's test dinner proved, the local gay chef is set to knock his JBF debut right out of the ballpark.

— Jenny Block

TASTING NOTES



Burgers and Burgundy, the DIFFA foodie fundraiser introduced two years ago, is back for its third installment on Sunday. The combination of red wine and gourmet burgers, featuring culinary creations from chefs including host **John Tesar (The Commissary)**, **Matt McCallister (Campo)**, **Tim Byres (Smoke)** and **Teicchi Sakurai (Tei An)**, descends on One Arts Plaza from 4 to 7 p.m., Oct. 9. (If you don't like wine, Grey Goose vodka cocktails will be poured.) Tickets are \$75, and available at all participating restaurants or online at DIFFADallas.org.

Sprinkles Cupcakes has a history of leveraging the sale of their indulgent treats into charitable benefits, and the next one is near and dear to many queer hearts. From Nov. 1–6, 100 percent of proceeds from the sale of dark chocolate cakes adorned with a lavender dot, above, will go to The Family Place to combat teen bullying. Show youth "it gets better" while scarfing down a moist Sprinkles cupcake. It doesn't get better than that.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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- **9:00 p.m. – Finish Line Celebration**

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Saturday 10.08

Pretty in pink

Edna Jean Robinson steps out of the box and into the pink. She hosts Pinktober 2011 for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Between fundraising and premiering two new songs, Edna Jean should make the event a fabulous one.

DEETS: Hard Rock Cafe, 2211 N. Houston St. 8 p.m. \$10. HardRock.com

Saturday 10.08

Keep it hush-hush

Uptown Players regional premiere of *The Temperamentals* closes out the season on a high note. If you were “temperamental” in the '50s, that was code for gay. Jon Marans play touches on the alternative vocabulary used by gay men to communicate in a more conservative time.

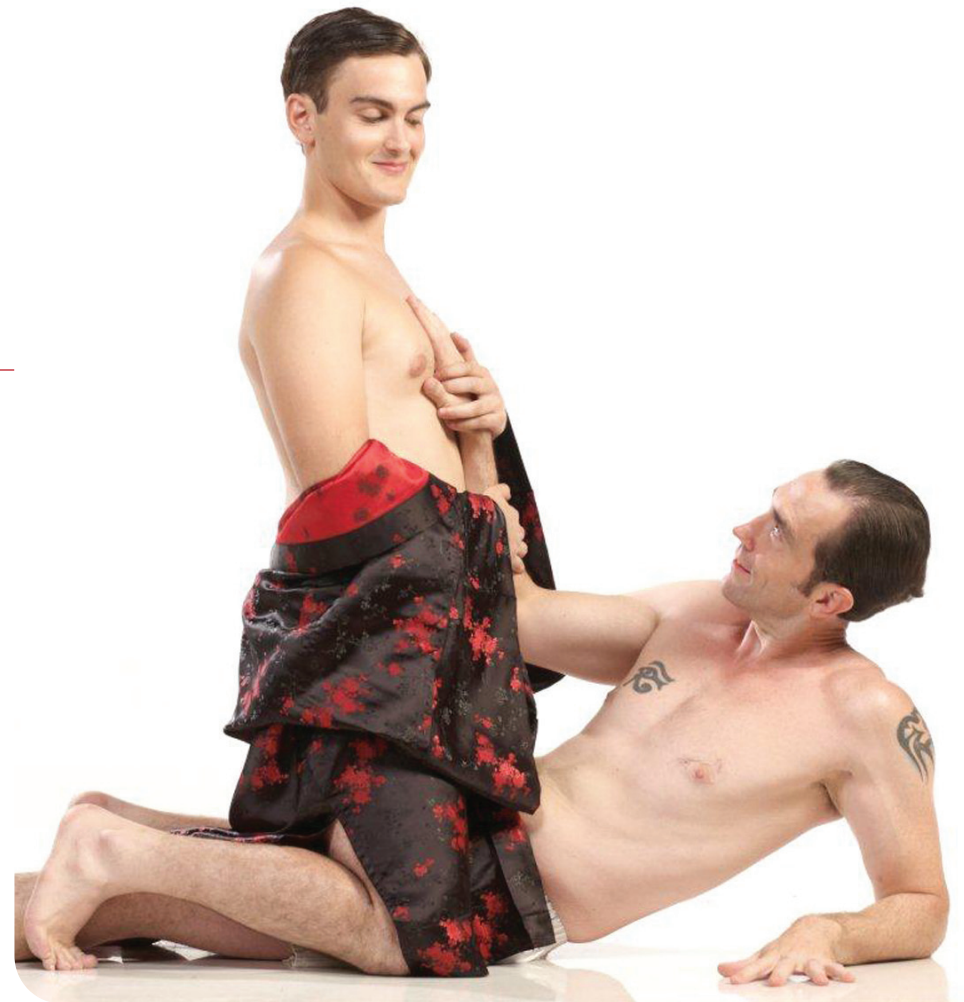
DEETS: Kalita Humphreys Theater 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. 8 p.m. Through Oct. 23. \$25–\$35. UptownPlayers.org.

Sunday 10.09

Dog day late afternoon

Support Animal Angels this weekend as the sanctuary for homeless animals celebrates 20 years. The event includes drinks, appetizers and prizes. This sweet dog will thank you.

DEETS: Sambuca 360, 7200 Bishop Road, Plano. 6 p.m. \$25. AnimalAngelsTexas.org.



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Saturday, Oct. 29 The Street Party

3900 block of Cedar Springs from 7p to 2a including music, beer, food, and the outrageous costume parade, plus special entertainment on the backlot stage. Admission to the street party is free. All ages welcome at the street party, but beer sales limited to 21+ only. The event area will be fenced. In accordance with state law, no personal liquor may be taken into the permitted area. Coolers are not permitted, and bags may be screened. Please be kind to our neighbors! Cruisin' the Crossroads suspended for this special event. No passes. 21+ only in the clubs.

Monday, Oct. 31 The Costume Contests

Costume contests at all 4 clubs at 11p; winners go to midnight finals at S4 to compete for cash and prize packages from our sponsors, including one pair of coach domestic tickets on American Airlines, a luxury Suite at the Palomar Hotel, the use of a brand new Fiat car from Holt Fiat, Boost Teeth whitening from Floss Dental, plus cash and much more!



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FRIDAY 10.07

COMMUNITY

DFW Bi Net meeting. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7:30 p.m. 214-521-5342 ext. 1761.

Dallas Fresh Leather meets every first Friday, Dallas Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. NLA-Dallas.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.

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

BROADCAST

The 10% with Richard Curtin streams every Friday at 3 p.m. on RationalBroadcasting.com.

Pink Noise. The Dallas Voice radio show with John Wright and Rich Lopez. Streams weekly at 4 p.m. on RationalBroadcasting.com.

THEATER

Camp Death. Another comedy melodrama by Pocket Sandwich Theatre. 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane, Ste. 119. Through Nov. 12. \$10–\$18. Pocket-Sandwich.com.

Daddy's Dyin' (Who's Got the Will?). The Del Shores comedy opens at McKinney Repertory Theatre. McKinney Performing Arts Center, 111 Tennessee St. Through Sunday. \$21.50. McKinneyRep.org.

The Tempest. DTC takes on Shakespeare in this fantastical production. Wyly Theatre, 2401 Flora St. Through Sunday. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

West Side Story. Ticket covers admission to State Fair of Texas. Music Hall at Fair Park, 909 First Ave. Through Oct. 23. \$20–\$90. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

SATURDAY 10.08

COMMUNITY

Dallas FrontRunners fun run. Runners and walkers at all levels welcome. Meet at the recreation house at Sunset Bay at White Rock Lake Park. 8 a.m.

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

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

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

Fuse: Core Group for gay men ages 18 to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 2–5 p.m.

HORROR HOMAGE | Pocket Sandwich recalls '70s horror and 'Scooby-Doo' in their newest popcorn-tossing melodrama 'Camp Death.'



214-540-4435. DFWFuse.com.

BROADCAST

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

SUNDAY 10.09

COMMUNITY

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

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

Breath of Life Interfaith Mindfulness Fellowship. LGBT-friendly "meditation and more" event. allas Meditation Center, 727 S. Floyd Road. 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., 6 p.m. Dallas1Church.org.

Dignity Dallas Roman Catholic liturgy service at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. 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.

FAIR

Arlington Psychic Fair. Psychics, aura photographer, massage therapists, wellness coach and more. Held the second Sunday of each month at La Quinta Inn, Highway 360 and I-30 (next to Six Flags). Noon–6 p.m. \$7 (\$2 off with can of food donated to AIDS Outreach Food Pantry). 817-727-7882.

MONDAY 10.10

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.

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

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

279-3112.

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

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

CABARET

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

TUESDAY 10.11

COMMUNITY

QLive! Open Mike Night for comedy. Percussions Lounge, 426 S. Jennings Ave. 10 p.m. QCCinema.com.

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

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

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

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. AOC.org.

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. CathedralOfHope.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.

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

WEDNESDAY 10.12

COMMUNITY

Cathedral Business Network second Wednesday meeting. Location to be determined. 11:30 a.m.

Contact Anity Haddy at Cathedral of Hope for more information. 214-351-1901. CathedralOfHope.com.

American Veterans for Equal Rights North Texas Chapter. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan. 7 p.m. Lone Star Veterans Chapter. BLGT veterans group meets in Fort Worth. 7:30 p.m. Info at LSVCPres@aol.com.

DFW Prime Timers play bridge every Wednesday at member's residence. 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 to attend.

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.

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

El Sol, an AIDS Outreach Center support group meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m. AOC.org.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guests are John Cramer and Theresa Bates-McLemore from AT&T's LEAGUE. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 10.13

COMMUNITY

Dallas Gay and Lesbian Bar Association monthly luncheon meeting. Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Ave. Noon. 214-540-4460.

PFLAG Dallas. Northaven United Methodist Church, 12101 Preston Road. 7 p.m. 972-77PFLAG.

The Group. Support group for black men who are HIV-positive. Every second and fourth Thursday of the month. Call 214-455-7316 for more information.

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. CathedralOfHope.com.

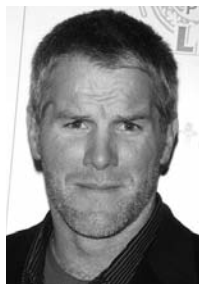
Brokeback Dallas. Support group for gay men married to straight women. St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, 6526 Inwood Road. 7:30 p.m.

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Brett Favre turns 42 on Monday. The former NFL quarterback has an outstanding record that includes three consecutive MVP titles and a Super Bowl ring. We kind of forgot all that during his sexting scandal with *Gameday* host Jenn Sterger. Images of Favre's private parts leaked to the media, but he's always denied sending such picture messages. Major fumble.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Sex and money are likely to come up. The argument would be over money; sex could be the resolution. Either way, stay focused on what's important and where your partner ranks.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Keep your attention on your goals and don't worry about the attention. Opportunities for love, or a rocking facsimile, are coming up. If you got love, get rocking.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Boundary issues with co-workers need discussion. Financial opportunities approach, but they'll need hard work and sacrifice. Don't screw it up by arguing with someone who wants to help.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Friends who challenge you can be the best friends around but pay close attention. Are they for you or against you? Be attentive. Even enemies' harsh criticisms can prove helpful.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Showing off your intellect could end up showing your limits. Be open to teachers who can help you toward clearer thinking. An open mind makes you a better partner.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Hiding feelings of loss and dread makes them worse. Sharing them with your partner increases emotional intimacy. This experience and your strong empathy will soon prove helpful.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Not getting the attention you want makes you especially cranky. Avoid angry and inappropriate outbursts. Your inspirations need work, but your creative juices are high. Show what you can do.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

You might meet that someone special by the end of the week. There's no predicting true love, but exciting conversations can open doors to meeting amazing new people. Don't be shy.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Fanciful notions take a dark turn, either delicious or morbid. Stay with it and see where they are coming from. Focus on work. Your colleagues deserve input on new ideas before you take initiative.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

You're shining at work, although that makes you feel precarious, as a "king of the hill" needing to defend yourself. Acknowledging the effort and support of others will help you feel less lonely.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Taking yourself too seriously is sure to lead to arguments. If you're really so smart, prove it by taking a class in something entirely new, or read a book that will challenge your mind.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Take conversations to new depths. Someone you're sweet on may be ready to get more intimate. Raise the subject, but be careful and read the signals carefully to know how.

THIS WEEK

The sun conjoins Saturn in Libra, clarifying the limits of relationships. Such reality checks can be unpleasant, but romance can't last without work and realism. Work on it!

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

JANE'S WORLD



*Vol. 10: Jane was abducted by aliens and a Beta version of herself was left on Earth to fill in. Everyone loved Beta.

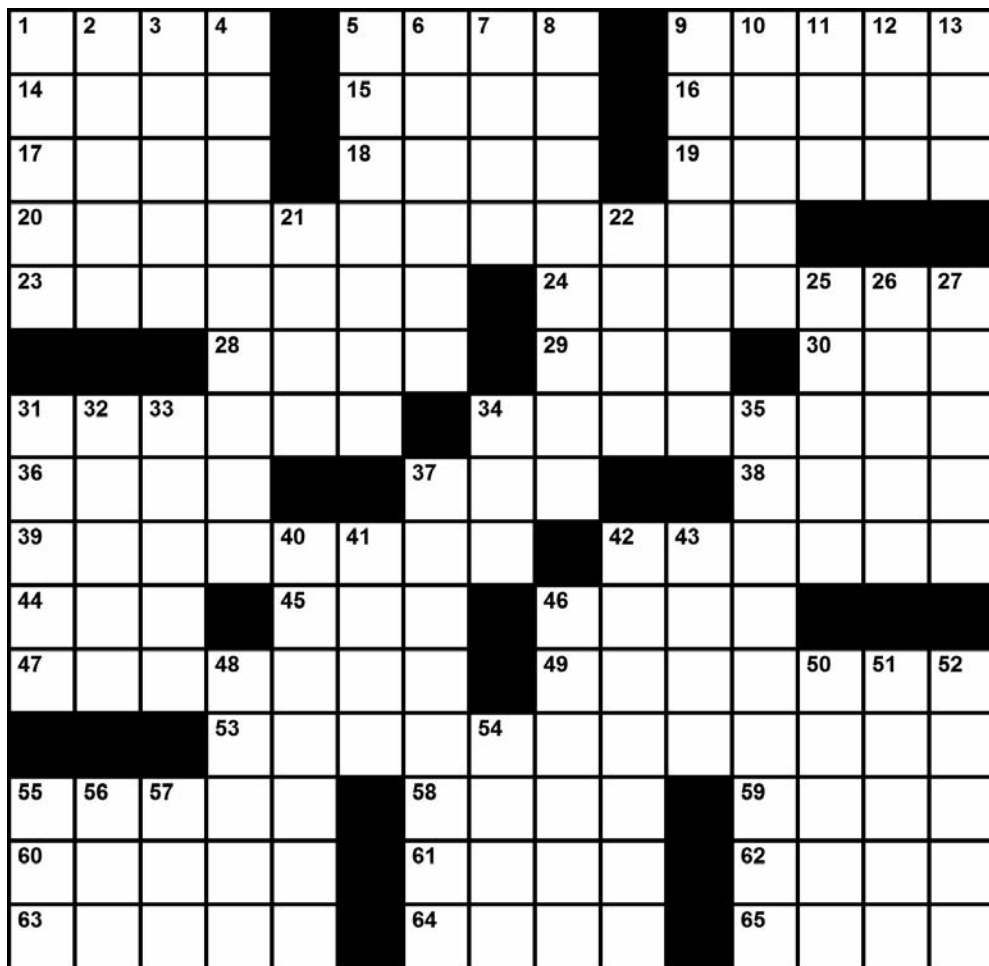
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Gay TV

Solution on page 55

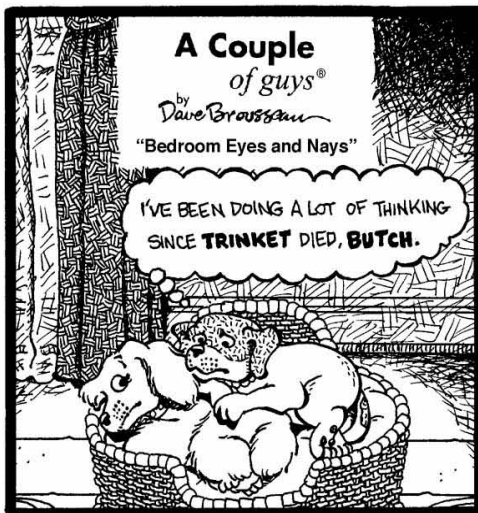
Across

- 1 It gets a gel hard
- 5 Suffix with Smurf
- 9 Jack on the card table
- 14 Major or minor, to Jerry Herman
- 15 Lo follower
- 16 Desi's daughter
- 17 Got on one's knees and asked for it
- 18 Fruit cover
- 19 Out-and-out
- 20 Series with an out gay guy named Max
- 23 With the waterworks on
- 24 Margaret Mead interviewees
- 28 Trick
- 29 New Deal org.
- 30 Colette, to herself
- 31 Smile self-consciously
- 34 MTV show with a gay lacrosse player
- 36 Tale opening
- 37 Before, in verse
- 38 Jabba the ___ of Star Wars
- 39 Program set in Toronto with a transgender character
- 42 Is noisy in bed
- 44 Art, these days

- 45 Log Cabin member, for short
- 46 Carbon compound
- 47 Mississippi riverboat
- 49 Word-for-word
- 53 Comedy in which Lily has two dads
- 55 Kind of bear
- 58 Mapplethorpe's Man in Polyester ___
- 59 May be seen now
- 60 Taper off
- 61 Triangle ratio
- 62 Give for a while
- 63 Still in the closet, perhaps
- 64 Estimating words
- 65 ___-highs (drag queen's hosiery)

Down

- 1 Theater opening for Greeks?
- 2 Word on a map of Israel
- 3 Highly skilled
- 4 Ingredient for a Susan Feniger dish, perhaps
- 5 Hans Christian Andersen's naked marcher
- 6 Itty-bitty
- 7 Was active in B&D
- 8 One no longer subject to DADT
- 9 Jack of The Odd Couple
- 10 Crackers or bananas
- 11 Dramatic division
- 12 Go head to head
- 13 Always, to Byron
- 21 Jodie Foster's alma mater
- 22 Church section
- 25 Illicit love affair
- 26 Streisand's Prince of Tides costar
- 27 Separates, as flour
- 31 Parts of floats
- 32 Not potent
- 33 Janis Joplin's "Me and Bobby ___"
- 34 More than bi-
- 35 Well-integrated Harvey?
- 37 Oral pleasure with a foamy head
- 40 With thick plates
- 41 Rank Billie Jean, e.g.
- 42 Brandy sipper's glass
- 43 Bene beginning
- 46 Bad weather culprit
- 48 Place for a G-string
- 50 Out of bed
- 51 Dress with a flared bottom
- 52 Paul of Hollywood Squares
- 54 Screw royally
- 55 Butter portion
- 56 Tie for Madame Butterfly
- 57 On the ___





Kenny, Justin and Ashley at Reflections Lounge.



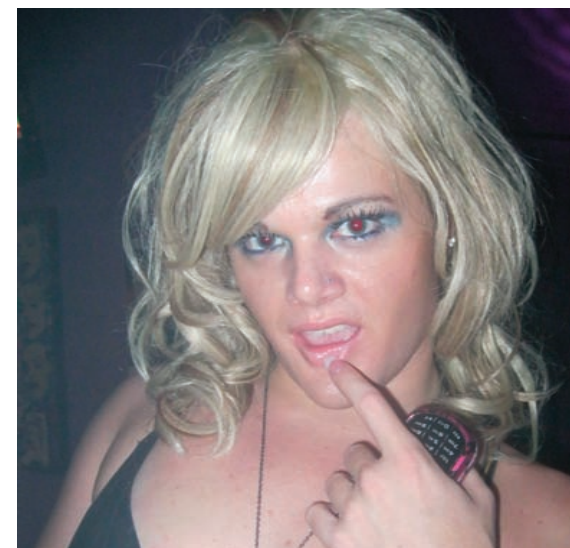
Travis, Michael and Ernie at the Round-Up Saloon.

This is a big weekend as the annual **Texas/OU** game hits the **Cotton Bowl** on Saturday. Load up on corn dogs and eye candy as all the frat boys and college daddies descend into Dallas The **IGRA World Gay Rodeo Finals** goes down the entire weekend at **Watt Arena** inside the **Will Rogers Memorial Center** in Fort Worth. After all the calves are roped and bulls are tamed, **JR.'s Bar & Grill** hosts the **IGRA Wrap-Up Party** on Sunday We don't often see **DJ Paul Kraft** spinning at the **Dallas Eagle**, but he takes over the sounds Friday and Saturday. Or if you're just in the mood for a movie, head to the club for **Tuesday night Flicks** Every first Friday, **MC Lilith Grey** hosts **The Art of Drag** with the **Mustache Envy Drag Kings** at Sue Ellen's. **The Bright** performs before the kings take the stage. **Mi Diva Loca** headlines Saturday night and **Anchor Rose** plays Sunday So you think you can dance? Try your talents at **Whitney Paige's Ultimate Dance Contest** Wednesdays at the **Rainbow Lounge**. We hear that the club has recently taken over the Dallas club **Cherries**. Talk about expansion Catch the Texas/OU game at the **Round-Up Saloon** on their giant screens Saturday Meet the men of **Cowboy Outlaws**, the 2012 calendar by **Ho-moRodeo.com**. The hunky brokebackers appear Friday at **Best Friends Club** in Fort Worth and then in Dallas at **Woody's**. ■

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



Janda and Lacy at Station 4.



Nikkii at the Drama Room.



Jesse, Augie and Moses at Havana.



Curbie and Ken at TMC: The Mining Company.



Mia at 1851 Club.



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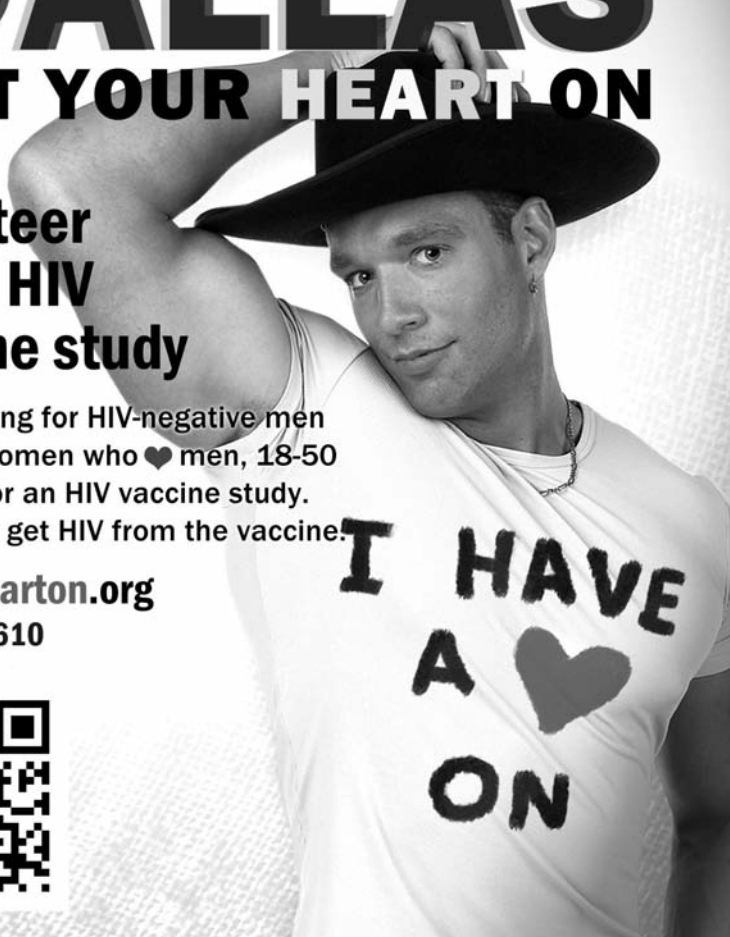



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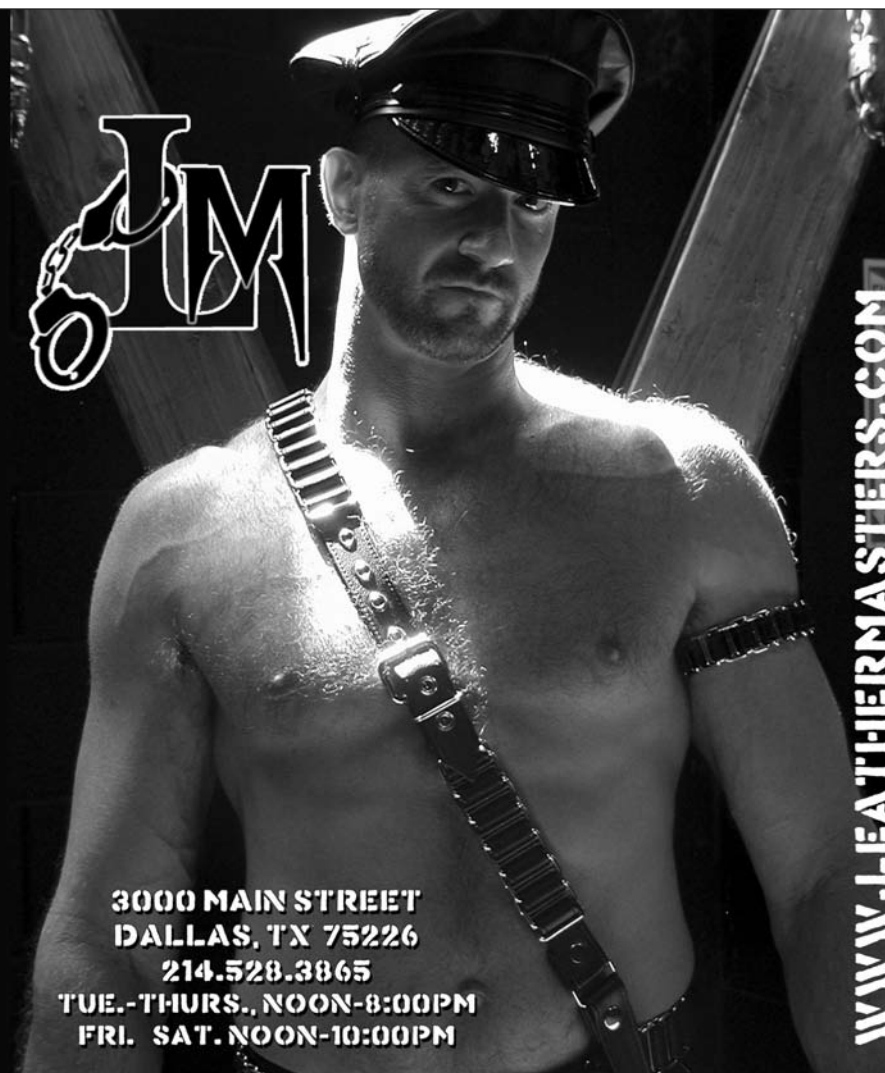
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