

Gay Planned Parenthood exec speaks out

Group's N. Texas CEO responds to Susan G. Komen flap

Ken Lambrecht wants Nancy Brinker to rejoin his board

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and welcome to it

French fashion designer Jean Paul Gaultier talks one-on-one about his Dallas exhibition, celebrities and the most beautiful clothing a gay man can wear (hint: it's *not* couture)

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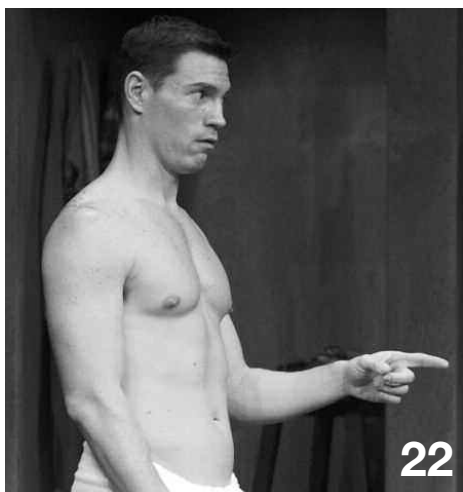
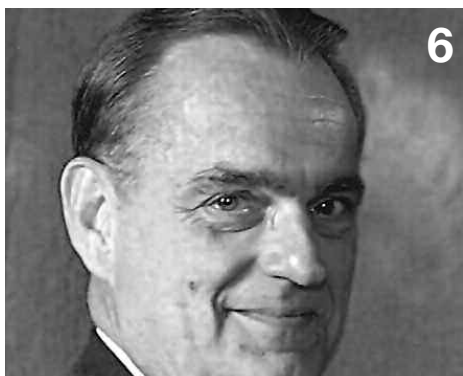
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STEPPING UP TO THE PODIUM | LGBT advocates who attended Wednesday's council meeting gather in the Flag Room afterward. They are, from left, Daniel Cates, Patti Fink, Dennis Coleman, Cece Cox, Omar Narvaez and Rafael McDonnell. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

LGBT advocates take their fight to have mayor sign marriage pledge to the Dallas City Council

It's becoming clear that Dallas' LGBT community doesn't plan to let Mayor Mike Rawlings off the hook over his refusal to sign a pledge in support of same-sex marriage.

Five LGBT advocates spoke during public comments at the start of the regular City Council meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 8, calling on Rawlings to sign the pledge — and asking the City Council to formally back pro-equality state and federal legislation.

"I'm here to ask Mayor Rawlings to do something, and I'm here to ask you as council people to support him in signing the pledge for marriage equality," said Cece Cox, executive director and CEO of Resource Center Dallas, the first of the speakers. "This is a matter of standing for justice. Pure and simple, that's what it's about."

Cox noted that Rawlings has argued that marriage equality doesn't fall within the mayor's duties. "When one stands up for justice, it requires courage," Cox said. "It requires going outside the regular rules and the regular lines, and that's what I'm here to ask for today."

Patti Fink, president of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, spoke next and called for the City Council to pass a resolution in support of a statewide ban on employment discrimination against LGBT people. Fink noted that the city's employment nondiscrimination ordinance, which includes sexual orientation, will turn 10 years old in May. However, she said no one has ever been prosecuted under the ordinance, which she called "toothless."

"Employment nondiscrimination is something we desperately need in this state," Fink said.

Dennis Coleman, executive director of Equality Texas, also called on the council to support pro-equality legislation. Coleman pointed to poll results showing that 64 percent of Texans support civil unions, 46 percent support marriage equality and 75 percent support employment nondiscrimination

for LGBT people.

"Mayor Rawlings, in your recent meeting with the LGBT community, you said signing the pledge was not really doing anything, and you wanted to support the LGBT community in some concrete way," Coleman said, adding that the city of Fort Worth recently empowered its lobbyist to advocate for marriage equality and employment nondiscrimination.

"I ask you and the City Council to go one step further, not only to empower your lobbyist to advocate for ENDA and marriage equality, but also to ask other cities to join you in this fight for equality," Coleman said, adding that equality is "good for business."

Daniel Cates, regional coordinator for GetEQUAL Texas, said he takes Rawlings at his word when the mayor says he personally supports marriage equality.

"I believe you when you say that you believe in equality, but we are here to remind you today that when civil rights are concerned, there is no such thing as a neutral position," Cates said. "To quote Archbishop Desmond Tutu, 'When you remain neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.' Mayor Rawlings, when good men like you remain silent, the sexists, homophobes and racists of the world win."

Rawlings didn't respond to the five LGBT advocates who spoke, other than quietly noting that they represented all geographic areas of the city. Councilwoman Delia Jasso was the only member of the council who addressed the speakers, thanking them for missing work to attend the meeting.

"You have an advocate here," Jasso said. "All of you, the entire GLBT community, gives back to the city tenfold, not only with your sales dollars, but with your advocacy, your volunteerism, your support for all of the things good that are happening in the city, so I just wanted to reinforce to you that I'm here as an advocate."

Rafael McDonnell, a spokesman for Resource Center Dallas, said Councilman Scott Griggs is the one who initially invited LGBT advocates to address the council concerning the marriage pledge, following a rally in front of City Hall on Jan. 27.

— John Wright

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PAYING RESPECTS | The Rev. Stephen Sprinkle, center, who delivered the eulogy at the funeral of Dave Guy-Gainer on Feb. 7, also spoke at the impromptu candlelight memorial at the Legacy of Love monument on Cedar Springs Road on Feb. 4. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Community mourns 'Chief' Guy-Gainer

Gay 23-year Air Force vet became North Texas' pre-eminent advocate for the repeal of 'don't ask, don't tell'

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

American flags lined the walk in front of Cathedral of Hope for the funeral of Dave Guy-Gainer on Tuesday, Feb. 7.

The 63-year-old gay Air Force veteran who served for 23 years and spent a decade working tirelessly for the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" died unexpectedly Feb. 2.

At a hastily called memorial at the Legacy of Love monument on Cedar Springs Road on Saturday, Feb. 4, Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink said, "I don't know why Dave died, but I do know why he lived."

Rafael McDonnell, communications and advocacy manager for Resource Center Dallas, said the day Guy-Gainer died was the saddest of his life.

And Stonewall Democrats of Dallas President Omar Narvaez recalled that on the day DADT repeal took effect last year, Guy-Gainer told him, "The fight's not over."

Among the continuing fights Guy-Gainer envisioned was acceptance by and service from the military's Chaplain Corps. Toward that end, Guy-Gainer helped create the Forum on the Military Chaplaincy. In October, he brought a group together from around the country for a meeting at the Interfaith Peace Chapel in Dallas to formalize plans for the forum.

And while gays, lesbians and bisexuals can now serve openly, Guy-Gainer continued to fight for the rights of transgender men and women to serve.



Dave Guy-Gainer

"It's very sad for us," said Dennis Coleman, executive director of Equality Texas, where Guy-Gainer was a board member. "He was dedicated to state work as well as federal work."

Guy-Gainer worked locally as well. In 2010, he ran as an openly gay candidate for City Council in Forest Hill, a small town south of Fort Worth in Tarrant County. Although he made it to the runoff, he lost to the 12-year incumbent by a few dozen votes.

In remarks at the funeral, gay retired Army Col. Paul Dodd said Guy-Gainer, who became the pre-eminent advocate for DADT repeal in North Texas, worked just as hard to end the problem of bullying. He alluded to Guy-Gainer's death-by-suicide indirectly.

■ **GAINER**, Page 11

Lawsuit accuses St. Luke pastor of homosexual harassment

Minister at iconic black Methodist church in Dallas steps down amid allegations he coerced young men

DAVID WEBB | Contributing Writer
davidwaynewebb@hotmail.com

A lawsuit filed against St. Luke Community United Methodist Church in Dallas and its former senior pastor, the Rev. Tyrone D. Gordon, portrays the pastoral office of the predominantly African-

American church in Southeast Dallas as a hotbed of homosexual harassment.

St. Luke, with 5,000 members, is one of the largest African-American churches in the North Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, which is also named as a defendant in the lawsuit. St. Luke isn't one of the six gay-affirming Methodist churches in the Dallas area, but its congregation includes some LGBT members.

The Rev. Zan Holmes, who preceded Gordon's appointment in 2002 as senior pastor at St. Luke, is a respected civil rights leader. The church is known



The Rev. Tyrone D. Gordon

as a center for community activism, and it has attracted prominent members such as Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price and former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, a U.S. trade representative ap-

pointed by President Barack Obama.

Thus far, church leaders at St. Luke and the North Texas Conference have remained silent about the lawsuit, as has Gordon, who announced his resignation as senior pastor from St. Luke in January to take effect on Wednesday, Feb. 15. On that date Holmes, who has also kept silent, will return as interim minister.

W. Earl Bledsoe, the bishop of the North Texas Conference, released a statement at the time of the resignation noting Gordon gave up his credentials

■ **PASTOR**, Page 10

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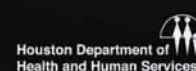


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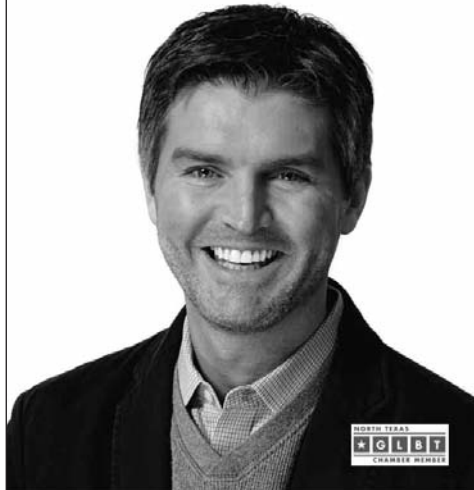
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localbriefs

Valentine's Day actions planned

For Valentine's Day, GetEQUAL Texas has several events planned.

The first event is designed to keep the pressure on Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings to sign a pledge in support of same-sex marriage.

"We are mounting a Valentines for the Mayor campaign to get as many handwritten Valentine's notes to the mayor as possible, for personal delivery on Valentine's Day," said GetEQUAL Regional Coordinator for North Texas Daniel Cates. "We don't need anything complicated (though sparkles and glitter are always welcome!) — just a note telling Mayor Rawlings why it's important to you that he stand up for LGBT families in Dallas."

The Valentines can be dropped off at Resource Center Dallas or mailed to RCD c/o GetEQUAL, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas, TX 75219.

On Tuesday, Cates said he will pick up the Valentines and deliver them to City Hall.

"He told me personally that he would read all of those handwritten notes," Cates said. "So we'd like to send him some more!"

Then, at 10 a.m. Tuesday, GetEQUAL will head to the Dallas County Records Building where couples will apply for marriage licenses.

"Bring a sign, share your story, bring friends and witnesses, apply for a marriage license (bring \$71 to do so, though you may be turned down, meaning you will get to keep your

money). Wear wedding attire or white," Cates wrote. "Join us in demonstrating that all families deserve safety and security under the law."

Then GetEQUAL moves to Fort Worth. At 2 p.m., couples will go to the Tarrant County Courthouse, 100 W. Weatherford St., Fort Worth to request marriage licenses there.

Fire closes Oak Lawn offices

A fire in an office at 3626 N. Hall St., on the corner of Welborn, has closed the building for at least another week. Legal Hospice of Texas Executive Director Roger Wedell said the fire began on the ninth floor above his office.

The agency has relocated temporarily to the building next door at 3303 Lee Parkway #210, and Wedell said they will be able to receive clients beginning Monday, Feb. 13.

He said clients with appointments should call to confirm before coming to the new office next week.

Other offices affected in the building include Stonewall Behavioral Health, which specializes in counseling services for the LGBT community. Dr. Ron Blaha and Don Blaylock also have offices in the building and clients and patients should call if they have appointments.

"There was no damage to our office," Wedell said. "No injuries. It's a cleaning issue."

—Compiled by David Taffet

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IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED | John McClelland lost races for Dallas City Council and Texas House before winning a seat on the local water board. Now he's running for Denton County Democratic Party chair.

Openly gay candidate runs for chair of Denton County Democratic Party

John McClelland serves on water board, founded chapters of Drinking Liberally and Stonewall Democrats

DANIEL VILLARREAL | Contributing Writer
editor@dallasvoice.com

DENTON — When he got elected to the district board of the Denton County Fresh Water Supply in March 2010, John McClelland says he became the first openly gay elected official in the county's history.

This year he's running for chair of the county's Democratic Party with the hopes of finally turning Denton — and possibly the whole Lone Star State — blue.

And it all started with a drink.

When President George W. Bush got re-elected in 2004, McClelland consoled himself with the thought that things in the U.S. couldn't really get much worse. Then in 2005, they did.

The state's voters passed Proposition 2, an amendment banning both same-sex marriage and civil unions in the Texas Constitution.

McClelland had identified as a Republican during his college days, but gradually came to feel like he couldn't be gay in the GOP.

He spent time making phone calls, marching on the Capitol and organizing voters against Prop 2.

But in the end it still passed with 76 percent of the vote. And by the time it was all over, all McClelland wanted was a drink.

He'd read about Drinking Liberally, a group of New York progressives dedicated to discussing politics over drinks, so

he decided to start his own Addison chapter. He placed an ad on Craigslist and seven people showed up, mostly wondering why he'd even bothered organizing a progressive meeting in such a conservative state.

"Most of the people just wanted a place to sit down, talk and air their grievances, kinda like



■ CANDIDATE, Page 12



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■ **texasnews**

■ **PASTOR**

From Page 6

during the investigation of complaints lodged against him by St. Luke church members.

The Rev. Eric Folkerth, pastor of the gay-affirmative Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas, said in a telephone interview this week that his reaction to the news of the lawsuit was one of "deep sadness and sorrow." Folkerth said he hopes the controversy will be viewed as a "sexual abuse of authority," rather than in terms of the sexual orientation involved.

"I am hoping, praying and trusting that hopefully all of this will be dealt with appropriately in the church and in the legal system," Folkerth said.

The Rev. Cameron Jerrod Greer, 26, who is a graduate student at SMU's Perkins School of Theology and a pastor ministering at Cockrell Hill United Methodist Church, alleges in the lawsuit, filed on Feb. 3 in 101st District Court in Dallas, that Gordon, 53, sexually harassed him and several other young male members of the church for at least seven years.

In the petition filed by Dallas attorney and St. Luke church member Marilynn Mayse, Greer alleges that in 2003 and 2004, beginning when Greer was 18, Gordon rubbed his penis up against Greer's buttocks on more than one occasion in front of four other young men who appeared to regard the activity as "normal behavior."

In another instance, Greer alleges he observed

a young man wiping sweat off of Gordon's body as the pastor stood in his underwear with his pants lowered. Greer, who worked as an audio-visual technician at St. Luke, alleges in the lawsuit that he observed numerous instances of inappropriate behavior by Gordon involving young men.



The Rev. Cameron Greer

The incidents often occurred in Gordon's church office and sometimes between two Sunday services, according to the lawsuit.

Greer also alleges that Gordon invited him to his home in August 2004 when the pastor's wife was out of town to discuss the young man's plans to become a Methodist minister. Gordon allegedly prepared one of Greer's favorite meals, spaghetti, and invited the young man to watch a movie with him. While sitting on the sofa Gordon allegedly moved closer to Greer but was interrupted by the arrival of one of Gordon's two daughters.

In two other alleged incidents in 2009 and 2010, Greer claims in the lawsuit that, while he was serving as a pastor at First United Methodist Church in Seagoville, he visited Gordon at St. Luke, where Gordon insisted on hugging him and rubbed his penis against him. Greer adds in the

petition that he asked Gordon to be a guest preacher at the Seagoville church, and Gordon implied that Greer would have to do "something" for him in return.

The lawsuit alleges that St. Luke church leaders had been informed about complaints of sexual misconduct and sexual harassment made by church employees and members against Gordon as early as 2006, but they took no action. It also claims that church leaders failed to protect Greer and other young men from Gordon's alleged harassment.

In the lawsuit, Greer explains his delay in lodging complaints against Gordon as part of a process that was required to address the "issues" and to begin a "quest toward healing."

The lawsuit, which accuses church officials of breach of duties, claims Greer has suffered "severe emotional distress, mental pain and suffering, and adverse physical consequences, physical pain and suffering." It seeks unspecified punitive damages.

The lawsuit describes Gordon as a "predator" who used his spiritual authority to "coerce certain young male members and employees" into "sexual acts and relationships for his own personal sexual gratification."

Gordon, who was born in Los Angeles, received a bachelor's degree from Bishop College in Dallas, and he did his graduate work at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif. He came to St. Luke as senior pastor after serving as senior pastor of St. Mark United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kan. ■

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■ GAINER

From Page 6

Dodd said that on Sept. 20, 2011, the day DADT repeal went into effect, Guy-Gainer wrote, "After a celebratory, euphoric high, this old airman crash landed tonight with reports of another youth who took his own life. We simply aren't getting to the youth who are suffering."

The Rev. Stephen Sprinkle, who was a close friend of Guy-Gainer's and delivered the eulogy, talked about the suicide more directly. He said he felt anguished over how to deal with it in the funeral service.

"Everyone was hurting from it," Sprinkle said. "Frustration, anger, guilt — that's what I had to address."

He said he decided to talk about Guy-Gainer's suicide so that those mourning his loss wouldn't treat it as a scandal but as a tragedy. And he said he needed to dismiss fundamentalist beliefs of eternal damnation for those who take their own lives.

"One of our tall trees fell, and we all feel it," Sprinkle began his eulogy. "I begin with sighs too deep for words."

He spoke about the biblical concept of lamentation.

"Lamentation is something the community needs to know how to do," he said. "Suicide is a single act with plural effects that arose from problems and pain."



CELEBRATING REPEAL | Gay and lesbian veterans, including Dave Guy-Gainer, far right, identified themselves at a celebration at the Resource Center Dallas on Sept. 20, 2011, the day the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" went into effect. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

But he said he'd simply miss Guy-Gainer's "sweet, awkward goofiness" and praised him as a "relentless advocate for human rights" who fought "bullying and anti-LGBTQ religious bigotry."

Guy-Gainer joined the Air Force at the age of 18 and served for 23 years. His work for the repeal of DADT and his LGBT activism began after another gay vet insisted he march in uniform in Austin's

Pride parade in 2001.

He became vice president of American Veterans for Equal Rights and served on the board of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network for about five years.

Gainer grew up in Charleston, W. Va., in what he called a "very, very fundamentalist family."

In a 2009 profile published by Dallas Voice, he said growing up he knew he was gay, but that he

was raised to be a minister.

"I figured, I'll join the military, that'll fix me," he said. "I'll get married like all the GIs did, and that'll fix me. But you know what? It didn't fix me."

Guy-Gainer's daughter, Brie, said that wasn't his only reason to join the military.

"Dad has a true passion for the rights and duties of people who choose to live in a free country," she wrote to Dallas Voice in 2009.

Guy-Gainer received five Meritorious Service medals and the Bronze Star and retired in 1990 as a chief master sergeant, a rank achieved by the top 1 percent of enlisted men and women.

He met his husband David Guy in 2000. They married in San Francisco in 2004 and had a commitment ceremony in Texas followed by a party at the military base in San Antonio where he worked at the time.

His work to end DADT earned him an invitation to the White House signing ceremony for the repeal legislation in December 2010. In September 2011, at a party celebrating the repeal going into effect, he donated boxes of papers relating to his work to the Phil Johnson Historic Archives and Research Library at Resource Center.

After the funeral service at Cathedral of Hope, Guy-Gainer was buried at the DFW National Cemetery in Dallas with full military honors.

Guy asked that donations be made to Forum on the Military Chaplaincy, in care of Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas, Texas 75235. ■

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From Page 9

Festus [the made-up holiday celebrated on TV's *Seinfeld*], just without the pole and the wrestling match," he said.

But as the meet-ups continued, McClelland felt he couldn't just sit around without doing something to make the world a better place. So in 2007, he decided to run against Ron Natinsky for the Dallas City Council District 12 seat.

Natinsky got 4,452 votes. McClelland got 979.

Undeterred, he decided to run against Republican incumbent Myra Crownover in the 2008 race for Texas House District 64.

Crownover received 40,758 votes and McClelland only received 28,195. But considering that Crownover had raised \$216,471 for her campaign and McClelland had only raised \$28,134, McClelland considered it a worthwhile achievement.

"Being an openly gay, Democrat in a red district in Denton County, that's pretty good."

Though he admits that having Barack Obama at the top of the ticket certainly helped, McClelland feels that voters didn't care that he was a Democrat or gay; they just wanted new leadership and knew that McClelland was qualified.

Though he kept hanging out with the Drinking Liberally crowd, after Obama got elected in 2008, their national outlook became more optimistic. Instead of complaining about Bush all the time, they complained about the Republicans controlling the state Legislature.

Likewise, McClelland himself had changed. Not only had he run two local races, he had also founded the Stonewall Democrats of Denton County, the national gay political organization's fifth chapter in North Texas.

"It's important for LGBT people to have that sort of thing, to be around one another and educate the people that you're dealing with in the grand scheme of the big tent," McClelland says. "There are a lot of people who don't even know what Stonewall means. A lot of people think it refers to Stonewall Jackson, the war general, instead of Stonewall bar."

He continued acting as his Stonewall chapter's president after he got elected to the district board of the Denton County Fresh Water Supply in March 2010. But after three years in the office, he has stepped down and refocused his efforts on becoming Denton County Democratic Party chair.

Typically, a county Democratic Party chair supports Democratic campaigns by working closely with candidates, conducting primary elections and helping precinct chairs get out the vote.

But McClelland thinks that the Denton County Democratic Party can do a lot more to help make this happen. As chair, he would train precinct chairs on how to use voter databases to contact voters and host events, fundraise through local donors who normally give to the Democratic National Committee but not to their local party ("the money doesn't trickle down," he says) and prepare future candidates and party organizers through a county program called "Project Farm Team."

Right now he has 2,000 hangers sitting on his floor just waiting to grace the doors of potential voters.

"I want to get Democrats elected, that's the main reason I'm doing this, that's the goal," McClelland said. "Without Denton or Collin county, it's gonna be a pretty tough spot getting a Democrat elected, like a governor or a U.S. Senator. Getting Denton County to turn blue is one of the keys to getting the entire state to turn blue." ■

Deaths



Wade Petrik, 52, aka "Dixie Normous" of Dallas died peacefully at his home on Newton Avenue in Oak Lawn on Feb. 3, 2012.

Petrik was born Sept. 8, 1959 in Burlington, N.J., to Marianne and Bill Petrik. He grew up in Wichita Falls, Texas.

He loved his co-workers at Kroger on Cedar Springs, where Wade was a floor supervisor and an impromptu entertainer.

Blessed with an extraordinary sense of humor, Petrik always had an audience. Some may even remember his debuts at "The Does Your Mother Know Show." He also worked the back door at the Round-Up Saloon, so if you tried to sneak in, he probably busted you.

Petrik is survived by his best friend, Rudy Leal; sisters, Dr. Trish Dodd, and Jessie Klein and her daughters; and a long list of wonderful friends in the gay community, who were truly family.

Services will be from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Wade loved his furry friends, especially his beloved companion, Randy, so please make donations to your local animal rescue group.

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Gay Planned Parenthood exec reacts to Komen controversy

N. Texas CEO Ken Lambrecht says he hopes to convince Nancy Brinker to rejoin group's advisory council

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Ken Lambrecht said he often has to come out twice — first when he tells people he's gay, and next when he tells them he's the president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of North Texas.

But Lambrecht said having a gay man head a predominantly women's healthcare organization is a good match.

"It's an organization that's all about equality and access for disenfranchised individuals to quality healthcare," he said. "So for me, it was a natural fit."

His only comments about the recent Susan G. Komen controversy are gracious.

"Nancy Brinker [the founder of Susan G.

Komen for the Cure] was on the North Texas Planned Parenthood Advisory Council," he said, adding that he wants to meet with her soon to see if he can get her back on his board. "We have a lot of bipartisan support for our mission here in North Texas. We have a great number of Republican and Democratic supporters who understand that women's healthcare and social issues should not be politicized."

His only other reference to the controversy was to thank the many donors who poured money into Planned Parenthood over the last two weeks. But he clearly understands why his organization is controversial.

"I believe there will always be a perception of controversy around Planned Parenthood because we talk about issues that we were told societally not to talk about," he said.

"Don't talk about sex," he said. "Don't talk about politics. Don't talk about religion. And don't talk about money. And all I do all day is

■ PARENTHOOD, Next Page



PLANNED PARENTS | Ken Lambrecht, left, and his partner, Ken Stein, along with their daughter Samantha moved to Dallas last year when Lambrecht became president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of North Texas. (Photo courtesy of Ken Lambrecht)



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talk openly about the science of sex, talk about political influences against sexual health or sexual identity, speak about religious attacks on individual sexual expression and sexual identity, and then we ask people for money. So there will always be a perception of controversy around Planned Parenthood because we talk about everything we were told not to."

And that's been true since the organization was founded in New York 95 years ago by Margaret Sanger, a public health nurse whose mother died in childbirth. Sanger coined the term birth control and opened the first clinic that eventually led to a Supreme Court case that legalized contraception.

Planned Parenthood has provided healthcare in Dallas since 1935 and in Fort Worth since 1938 and its beginnings here were no less controversial.

Lambrecht said that among the Dallas founders was Catherine Ripley. Her family manufactured Ripley Shirts in Oak Cliff since 1920.

Ripley would send empty shirt boxes to New York, and Sanger would return them filled with condoms and diaphragms. The 1873 Comstock Act made it a federal crime to send any "obscene, lewd, and/or lascivious" materials through the mail, including contraceptive devices and information on abortion.

Lambrecht describes Planned Parenthood as a "sexual health provider and a gynecology office for women without insurance."

He said that 97 percent of the services provided are preventive in nature and noted, "We provide more adoptions than abortions."

Abortion, he said, is actually done by a different legal entity. That was something Texas required in 2005 under legislation that bars the state from funding any agency that performs abortions. So he assures anyone making donations to Planned Parenthood that the money can't be used for abortions.

Surgical services such as vasectomies and abortions are provided by Planned Parenthood Surgical Health Services. And abortions are performed at only two centers in North Texas, while medical services are provided at 21 clinics in 13 counties across the region.

A donation to Planned Parenthood is going directly to health services such as gynecological exams, HIV testing, birth control, pap smears and mammography.

Mammography is not done in the office, but

by referral often in a mobile mammography unit that comes to the office. However, the money Komen gives to Planned Parenthood is used to pay for those breast exams through a voucher. Over the last three years, PPNT paid for 1,700 screenings that found 10 cancers. "That's 10 lives saved," he said, adding this was a direct result of the partnership between his organization and Komen.

Lambrecht said most gynecologists don't have their own mammography equipment — mostly because of the cost — and refer out the screenings.

Throughout the U.S., Planned Parenthood sees 3 million patients a year. Last year, 87,000 of those were in North Texas.

Lambrecht believes that nationally Planned Parenthood will continue to receive widespread support because one in five women has received services from the organization at some time in their lives.

He said a bigger story than the Komen controversy is the Catholic bishops fighting the Obama administration over the birth control mandate in healthcare reform.

"All women, regardless of their employer, should have access to birth control," he said. "The vast majority of Americans recognize that birth control access is preventive health care and planning is essential. We encourage the White House to stand with women and keep birth control without a co-pay for women."

He said most women spend 35 years trying to avoid a pregnancy and five years trying to get pregnant.

He said that everyone is welcomed at Planned Parenthood without any judgment — and that includes transgender men and women who need any sort of gynecological services. He pointed to the staff as an indication of the organization's diversity. Of the 80 regional CEOs, he said eight are gay or lesbian, and his staff of 200 includes transgender as well as gay and lesbian employees.

"We're the most pro-family, pro-LGBT, pro-diversity organization," he said.

Lambrecht and his partner, Ken Stein, have been together 11 years and have a 10-year-old daughter, Samantha. Before moving to Dallas last year, they lived in Austin in what Lambrecht called a very suburban community.

When Lambrecht took the job in Dallas, they moved to Oak Lawn. One day when he and his daughter were walking to Eatzi's, she asked him, "Daddy, why is everyone in Dallas gay?" ■



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nationalnews

Experts: Prop 8 ruling may dodge high court

9th Circuit panel crafts its decision striking down California amendment narrowly, avoids question of whether other states can ban marriage

LISA LEFF | Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Conservative critics like to point out that the federal appeals court that just declared California's same-sex marriage ban to be unconstitutional has its decisions overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court more often than other judicial circuits, a record that could prove predictive if the high court agrees to review the gay marriage case on appeal.

Yet legal experts seemed to think the panel of the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit of Appeals that struck down the voter-approved ban on Tuesday, Feb. 7 purposefully served up its 2-1 opinion in a narrow way and seasoned it with established holdings so the Supreme Court would be less tempted to bite.

The appeals court not only limited the scope of its decision to California, even though the 9th Circuit also has jurisdiction in eight other Western states, but relied on the Supreme Court's own 1996 decision overturning a Colorado measure that outlawed discrimination protections for gay people to argue that the voter-approved Proposition 8 violated the civil rights of gay and lesbian Californians.

That approach makes it much less likely the high court would find it necessary to step in, as it might have if the 9th Circuit panel had concluded that any state laws or amendments limiting marriage to a man and a woman run afoul of the U.S. Constitution's promise of equal treatment, several analysts said.

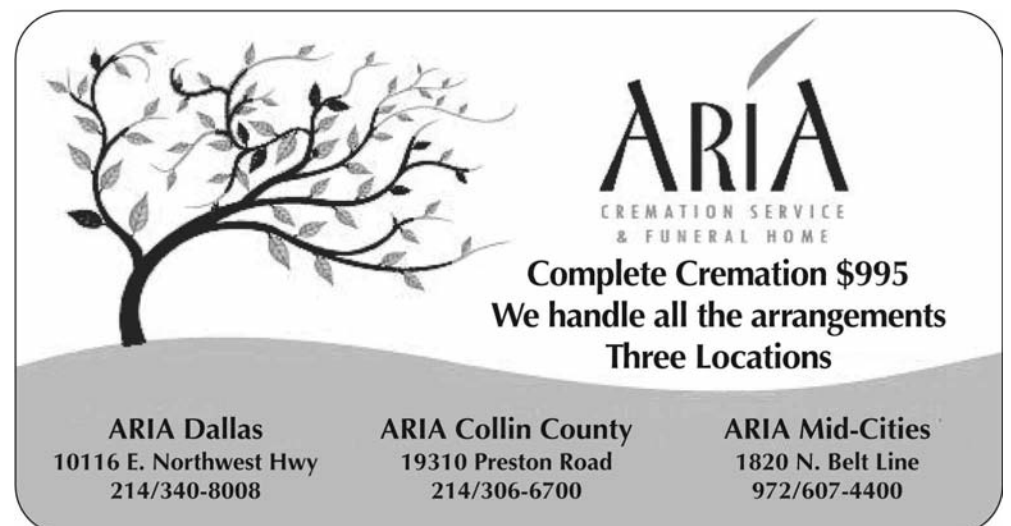
"There is no reason to believe four justices on the Supreme Court, which is what it takes to grant (an appeal) petition, are champing at the bit to take this issue on," University of Michigan law school professor Steve Sanders said. "The liberals on the court are going to recognize this was a sensible, sound decision that doesn't get ahead of the national debate ... and I don't think the decision would be so objectionable to the court's conservatives that they would see a reason to reach out and smack the 9th Circuit."

Lawyers for the coalition of religious conservative groups that qualified Proposition 8 for the November 2008 ballot and campaigned for its passage said they have not decided whether to ask a bigger 9th Circuit to rehear the case or to take an appeal directly to the Supreme Court. However, they said they were optimistic that if the high court accepts an appeal, Tuesday's ruling would be reversed.

"The 9th Circuit's decision is completely out of step with every other federal appellate and Supreme Court decision in American history on the subject of marriage, but it really doesn't come as a surprise, given the history of the 9th Circuit, which is often overturned," Andy Pugno, the coalition's general counsel, said in a fundraising letter to Proposition 8's supporters. "Ever since the beginning of this case, we've known that the battle to preserve traditional marriage will ultimately be won or lost not here, but rather in the U.S. Supreme Court."

Regardless of their next steps, gay and lesbian couples were unlikely to be able to get married in California anytime soon. The 9th Circuit panel's ruling will not take effect until after the deadline passes in two weeks for Proposition 8's backers to appeal to a larger panel, and the earliest the Supreme Court could consider whether to take

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DAY OF DECISION | Supporters of marriage equality react outside the courthouse after a federal appeals court declared California's ban on same-sex marriage unconstitutional on Tuesday, Feb. 7 in San Francisco. (AP Photo/San Francisco Chronicle, Lea Suzuki)

■ **PROP 8**, From Previous Page

the case would be in the fall.

Judge Stephen Reinhardt, who was named to the 9th Circuit by President Jimmy Carter and has a reputation as the court's liberal lion, wrote Tuesday's 80-page majority ruling with concurrence from Judge Michael Daly Hawkins, an early appointee of President Bill Clinton. Judge Randy Smith, who was the last 9th Circuit judge nominated by President George W. Bush, dissented.

In tailoring the decision to apply only to California, Reinhardt cited two factors that distinguish Proposition 8 from the one-man, one-woman marriage laws and constitutional amendments in the other 9th Circuit states and that he said demonstrate that it "serves no purpose, and has no effect, other than to lessen the status and humanity of gays and lesbians."

The first is that California since 2005 has granted same-sex couples all the rights and benefits of marriage if they register as domestic partners. The second is that five months before Proposition 8 was enacted as a state constitutional amendment, the California Supreme Court's Court had legalized same-sex marriage by striking down a pair of laws that had limited marriage to a man and a woman. California is the only state, therefore, where gays have won the right to marry and had it stripped away.

The amendment's "singular" work of denying gay Californians the designation of marriage while leaving in place domestic partnerships proves that Proposition 8 deprives same-sex relationships of society's dignity and respect, Reinhardt wrote.

"A rose by any other name may smell as sweet, but to the couple desiring to enter into a committed lifelong relationship, a marriage by the name

of 'registered domestic partnership' does not," he said. "We are excited to see someone ask, 'Will you marry me?', whether on bended knee in a restaurant or in text splashed across a stadium Jumbotron. Certainly, it would not have the same effect to see, 'Will you enter into a registered domestic partnership with me?'"

The opinion goes on to draw parallels between California's same-sex marriage ban and the Colorado opinion the Supreme Court struck down on a 6-3 vote after concluding that it was based on moral disapproval of gays. Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote the majority opinion in that case, known as *Romer v. Evans*, and if the court agrees to take up Proposition 8, the similarities could hit the "sweet spot" that might persuade him to side with four other justices in upholding the 9th Circuit, said Douglas NeJaime, an associate professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles.

"Everyone is looking to Justice Kennedy, assuming that Justice Kennedy would not issue a sweepingly bad decision for gay rights, and yet people don't know if he is ready to go so far as to say nationwide same-sex couples can get married," NeJaime said. "I think the opinion evidences a real savviness about the posture of this case and its position in the trajectory of a national movement for marriage for same sex couples."

Smith, the lone dissenting judge, disagreed that Proposition 8 necessarily served no purpose other than to treat gays and lesbians as second-class citizens. He pointed out that its backers claimed it could serve to promote responsible child-rearing among opposite-sex couples, and said courts were obligated to uphold laws in the face of civil rights challenges unless they were "clearly wrong, a display of arbitrary power (or) not an exercise of judgment."

"There is good reason for this restraint," Smith said. ■

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viewpoints

With friends like Mike, who needs enemies?

As Rawlings continues to dig in his heels on marriage pledge, Prop 8 ruling serves as reminder of the impact one mayor can have

With all the jubilation this week surrounding the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision to strike down Proposition 8, I couldn't help but take a look back at how far things have progressed in California.

Given recent events in Dallas, my thoughts tend to settle on a moment four years before Prop 8 made its way to the ballot. I think of the moment the marriage battle in California began to make national headlines.

It was 2004 when a mayor, realizing that tens of thousands of his citizens were officially discriminated against under California law, ordered the San Francisco County Clerk's Office to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

While Mayor Gavin Newsom had no means to directly influence the law and while these marriages were eventually annulled by the state, his bold action created the environment necessary for real dialogue about equality.

What's more, it taught our community the difference between elected leaders saying they support us and showing us their support.

Perhaps that is why Dallas' Mike Rawlings' refusal to join the mayors of almost every major U.S. city in signing a pledge in support of marriage equality, despite claiming to personally support it, continues to go over like a fart in a space suit.

If Rawlings were a Rick "Frothy Mix" Santorum or of similar ilk, his not signing the pledge would come as no surprise and we would have long since moved on.

But, this is a man who is supposed to be our friend. This is a man who campaigned hard for the Dallas LGBT vote. This is a man who has hosted a Pride reception at City Hall and tossed beads like an overgrown flower girl at last year's Pride parade. For a man who claims to be so focused on making Dallas a "world class city," signing the pledge just seems like a no-brainer.

Even more puzzling has been the way Rawlings has continued to defend his position — at first explaining that civil rights were a "partisan issue" that didn't matter to the "lion's share" of Dallas citizens, until that backfired magnificently, and now claiming that maintaining a position of neutrality has transformed him into some kind of weird ambassador for the queer community to the conservative religious communities of Dallas.

Apparently no one ever told Mayor Rawlings that when it comes to issues of civil rights, there is no such thing as a neutral position. To quote the Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "If you remain neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the



NOT GOING AWAY | LGBT protesters gathered outside Dallas City Hall on Jan. 27 to call on Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings to sign a pledge in support of same-sex marriage. This week LGBT advocates went inside City Hall, with five people speaking during public comments at the council's regular meeting. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

side of the oppressor."

This is where our true frustration is coming from. Mayor Rawlings claims to understand



Daniel Cates
Contributing Columnist

marriage as a civil rights issue. He claims to understand that our community is discriminated against in thousands of state and federal laws, creating economic, educational, familial and health hardships for thousands of people in his city.

Yet he chooses a position that serves only to validate those who would strip us of our humanity. Perhaps he could have gotten away with this a few years ago, but in today's world the majority of Americans now support equality and the LGBT community is no longer satisfied with neutrality, compromises or indefinite waiting. We are seeing evidence of this at every level of government, from City Hall to the White House where President Barack Obama stands to lose a

significant percentage of the LGBT vote amid his prolonged "evolution" on marriage equality.

We understand that there is still much work to be done before full recognition of our equality becomes a reality. We know it will take time, resources and leadership to get us there. We don't need our mayor to be as controversial as Gavin Newsom, but there is a way he can take a simple and powerful stand starting today.

It won't cost the taxpayers a single penny. It won't disrupt the business of the city for even a moment. It won't even force people to change what they believe. It will, however, send a message to our state Legislature and to Congress that the people who live and work in Dallas, Texas, deserve equal treatment under the law.

It will tell 17,440 children in the state of Texas that their mommies and daddies are the same as the mommies and daddies of their peers. It will tell more than 14,000 individuals in our city who live in committed loving relationships that they will grow old with their partners in a city that respects them and values their contributions.

All our mayor has to do is pick up a pen and sign the pledge.

Daniel Cates is North Texas regional coordinator for GetEQUAL.

Take a lesson from CNN's Roland Martin and watch what you tweet

It's about time for the highfliers of the world to start giving things a little more thought before they open their mouths and let everyone know about the ugliness festering in their minds — it could jeopardize their livelihood. The latest big voice to stick his tongue in the fire is CNN contributor Roland Martin, a one-time Dallasite who unfortunately tweeted what was on his mind while watching soccer star David Beckham's Super Bowl underwear commercial. Martin tweeted that if a "dude" at a Super Bowl party gets "hyped" about the underwear ad someone should "smack the ish out of him."

The inference in that statement is pretty clear. If a guy reveals he likes guys by showing appreciation for the nearly naked, muscular Beckham featured in the ad, then someone should punish him — with violence.

It's unclear why Martin's mind would react in such a fashion to the commercial, but it should come as no surprise to the commentator or any other high-profile person that perceived anti-gay remarks will result in an immediate, unpleasant reaction from GLAAD. And that's exactly what has happened in the case of Martin, whom the media monitoring organization has accused of habitual verbal gay-bashing.

Earlier the same day, Martin, a Houston native

who has worked at radio stations and newspapers in North Texas, reportedly posted on his Facebook page that someone featured at the game in a "head-to-toe pink suit" needed a "visit from teamwhipdatass." Everything considered, it clearly was not one of Martin's better days image-wise.



David Webb
The Rare Reporter

For his part, Martin immediately began trying to explain away his statements as harmless and not at all what the people from GLAAD perceived it to be upon hearing they wanted CNN to fire him. He claimed it was intended as a "crack"

against soccer fans and not intended to be homophobic at all.

After that failed to convince anyone that he didn't really say what everyone knows full well he did say, Martin decided the following day to apologize, saying he could "certainly understand how someone could come to a different conclusion than the one" he meant.

And that apparently turned out to be the case with CNN, which announced Martin's suspension on Wednesday, Feb. 8 saying "Roland Martin's tweets were regrettable and offensive" and, "Roland will not be appearing on our air for the time being."

In his defense, although it failed to spare him, Martin noted that he had spoken out on national television in the past against bullying by urging parents and schools to take an "active role in ending this epidemic that afflicts kids nationwide, gay or not." GLAAD accepted Martin's apology as a "start," but it suggested that the commentator should take the extra step of meeting with the organization's leaders and using his big voice in the future to speak out against homophobic violence as reparation for his offensive and potentially harmful remarks.

That wasn't a bad idea at all because violence can be incited in impressionable people — especially the young — who view powerful people's hateful words as justification for violence. Hate crime researchers have long warned that politicians, clergy people and celebrities carry a great responsibility in terms of how their rhetoric might influence others.

In Martin's case it seems odd that someone who is an African-American TV news personality and

familiar with the issues of discrimination and bias-related violence would wind up being chided for perceived anti-gay rhetoric, but that is reflective of the insidiousness of bias. Nasty thoughts sometimes lurk in nice people's minds, surfacing only during extraordinary moments.

Often, the expression of those thoughts probably is as big of a surprise to the deliverer as it is to the audience, and the result can be harrowing. That in itself is a good reason for everyone to realize that bias against law-abiding groups is harmful to society, no matter whether it is race, religion, sex, age or whatever, and a constant vigilance to fight against it in one's own head should be undertaken if it resides there.

That's likely a bigger problem for people who harbor anti-gay bias because of the LGBT community's relative youth in terms of a legitimate society of people. Anti-gay bias was considered not only acceptable, but preferable for too long for some people to change their thoughts on the subject swiftly.

In regard to gay rights, some people changed their minds long before the laws changed, but for other people the process has been delayed long after the repeal of the sodomy law and the passage of other affirmative measures. Those people continue to struggle to balance their thoughts with their speech. Usually, people accustomed to speaking in public can keep their inappropriate thoughts in check when they are talking or writing, but social media forums such as Twitter and Facebook are presenting new hazards in communication. The immediacy of the communication and its worldwide reach can create big headaches for people, as Martin has learned.

Every purposeless, derogatory statement issued about another person or group has the potential of reaching and offending someone.

Because of that, it might be a good idea for everyone to take a lesson from Martin's disastrous faux pas and watch carefully what they post on social media. Once it is out there, it's spreading furiously and it's not so easy to explain away. ■

David Webb is a veteran journalist who has covered LGBT issues for three decades. E-mail him at davidwaynewebb@hotmail.com.



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- 191 Votes cast

His 'World' and welcome to it

French fashion designer Jean Paul Gaultier talks one-on-one about his Dallas exhibition, celebrities and the most beautiful clothing a gay man can wear (hint: it's *not* couture)

RICHARD BURNETT | Contributing Writer
lifestyle@dallasvoice.com

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CELEBRITY MYTH MAKER | Need an idea how influential Gaultier is? Leading up to the Super Bowl halftime show this week, the image most associated with Madonna was the cone-bra bustier Gaultier designed.

Jean Paul Gaultier loves a fabulous rack. While he was in Montreal, he let slip that one artifact scheduled for display in *The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier: From the Sidewalk to the Catwalk* — about to wrap up its run at the Dallas Museum of Art — was his 1960 teddy bear, Nana. The piece is complete with the cone bra Gaultier crafted when he was just 8 years old.

"You see, I designed the cone bra 30 years before I made one for Madonna," Gaultier laughs.

The iconic body corset he created for Miss Ciccone's 1990 Blond Ambition Tour is also included in this multimedia exhibition, the first international showing devoted to the celebrated French couturier and, featuring 140 ensembles from 40 years of his couture and prêt-à-porter collections. Gaultier gave the curators exclusive access to his label's archives in putting together the exhibition. Still, the fabulous gay designer, in a rare one-on-one interview, goes out of his way to emphasize that this is *not* a retrospective.

"It is more a contemporary installation," Gaultier says. "When the director of the Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal, Nathalie Bondil, asked me to participate on this project, I did not want to have a retrospective that would be like a funeral, a chronological presentation. I worked closely two years with the team and curator, Thierry-Maxime Loriot, on the selection of the pieces, on developing the themes that have obsessed me — corsets, skin, cultures, genders, Parisiennes, etc. — since I started in the fashion world. It is my story [told] through my clothes."

This is not your ordinary fashion show ... nor ordinary museum piece. As extraordinarily well-constructed as Gaultier's clothing, it boasts dazzling layouts, colors, lighting and projections that animate the faces of mannequins that make them seem to come alive.

Gaultier has always prided himself on being avant-garde and over-the-top, from the designs themselves to the models who show them off.

"The fashion world can be very formatted when it comes to casting choices and the way models should look," he explains. "I don't follow trends. From my very first shows, I did street castings, [using] friends and anybody I thought was interesting. I sell my clothes to real people, not only models. Women are very powerful now, and they can [take responsibility for] what they wear. It is like when Madonna decides to wear a corset; it is like a political statement because she decides to do so. It then becomes a symbol of power and femininity. We dress first for ourselves."

Gaultier has also been inspired by and worked with many other celebrities from Pedro Almodóvar to Leslie Cheung. What, in his estimation, is

the common denominator of great stars?

"All the stars I have worked with are very different," Gaultier says. "I guess the thing that successful stars have in common is that they work very hard. There is no secret to success, even if you are not a pop singer. Madonna still fascinates me. She has been of great help for this exhibition and the [accompanying] book, loaning pieces from her Blond Ambition Tour and Confessions Tour."

Another adored Gaultier muse is plus-size pop singer Beth Ditto, of the band The Gossip. Ditto once notoriously complained to London's *NME* magazine, "If there's anyone to blame for size zero, it's not women. Blame gay men who work in the fashion industry and want these women as dolls. Men don't know what it feels like to be a woman and be expected to look a particular way."

"I think everybody is beautiful and has a different kind of beauty," says Gaultier. "It is always a question of perception and of presentation. Beth Ditto is fascinating by the way she moves and assumes her body. She represents freedom. She comes from a small town in the U.S., is voluptuous and openly gay. She is very sexy. I have used a lot of plus-size models in my show. They are part of the society, so why not of the fashion world?"

While Gaultier believes women are dressing more for themselves these days rather than for men, he says straight men are also becoming much more style-savvy.

"I think *all* men should show more their sensitive side, to show more their bodies and shapes," he explains. "It is not a question of gay or straight. Both can have good and bad taste! I think straight men are getting



better with their style. [But] gay men are [still] more aware of what suits them best in some cases, because they have this sensitivity."

As for his own wardrobe, Gaultier insists he owns nothing that approaches the kind of clothes he designs.

"I am *not* extravagant; I like to dress others," he explains. "I am more conventional now, but in my personal archives I have a lot [of extravagant outfits], like when I hosted the MTV Europe Awards in 1995 and did 16 costume changes during the show, from a see-through gown with platform boots to a leopard-print Speedo with matching thigh-high boots and maxi fake fur coat. Actually, you can see excerpts of it in the exhibition."

Gaultier — whose atelier has lost many employees to AIDS over the last quarter century — says somberly, "Condoms are the most beautiful clothes to wear. AIDS affected a lot my entourage, close friends, co-workers and my partner, who died from it in 1990. I started being involved with AmFar in 1992 when I did a benefit fashion show in LA to fight against

this terrible disease. People need to be educated about safer sex. Because even if you can take medications and [can] control it, you still cannot cure it. So awareness is very important."

"The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier", at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St., through Sunday. DallasMuseumofArt.org.



COWBOY CHIC | The entrance to the DMA exhibit, autographed for Dallas by JPG himself. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Maxwell Anderson, the DMA's new director

Although the words exact didn't escape his lips during his meeting with the press, **Maxwell Anderson**, who ascended to the job as new director of the Dallas Museum of Art early last month, doesn't seem to think a show like the Gaultier exhibit is the direction an institution like the DMA should head in.

Museums shouldn't be "entertainment centers that have an attached research center," he said. "Creativity is more important than counting bodies through the door. As much as I love to see crowds, that is a for-profit goal, *not* a museum goal."

Such a statement might read as fightin'-words in the consumerist heaven of Big D. But Anderson — who until last year ran the respected Indianapolis Museum of Art and has career history that includes the Metropolitan Museum of Art in his native New York City (although he has ties to Texas: His wife's family lives in Houston) — projects something else: Not contempt for success, not a prissy elitism, but a desire to turn the DMA into a premiere national institution.

The timing is fortuitous. Anderson admires the Arts District and the DMA's role as one of its anchors. "The Arts District was [a step] in building this necklace of [art venues]," he said.

And he's focused on spending his first 100 days (he's got about 60 left) meeting with community leaders (and the press) to develop priorities. But he's not the kind who seems to want to cater to the lowest common denominator ... nor turn the museum into an acquisition machine. (Running a premiere museum "is not acquisitions alone — it's a paradigm shift," he said.) He has already declared "green, ethical, educational" goals as chief among his interests for the DMA. And that includes taking advantage of the DMA's already sizeable collection that is not on display.

That's another one of his first-100-day goals. And it's a good one. Most of Anderson's goals seem to be. Though we still would like to see shows like Gaultier come back. Just a thought.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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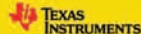
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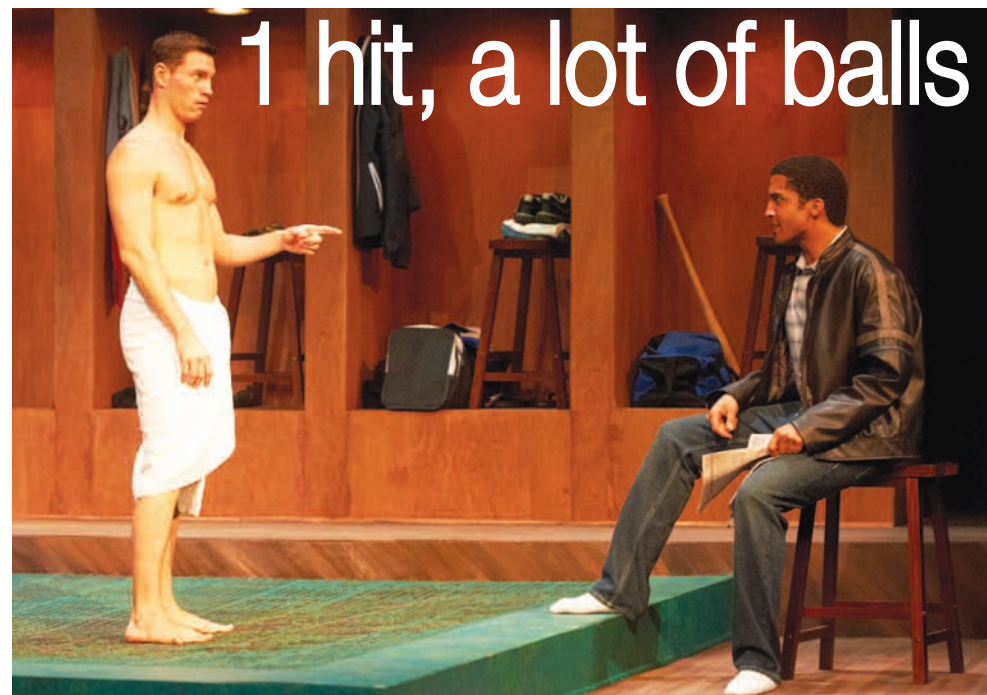


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L+S stage



1 hit, a lot of balls

Though not a perfect game, 'Take Me Out' scores in the bottom of the 9th

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

It doesn't happen often, but sometimes a first act can fool you.

Act 1 of Richard Greenberg's play **Take Me Out**, is, quite simply, not very good. The exposition is lazy, the central conflict (intentionally kept close to the vest) twee, the dialogue on the stilted side. Aside from the much-hyped locker-room nudity — and this is not a comment on the actors' bodies — there's not much "there" there.

Then comes Act 2, and *Take Me Out* opens like a lily with the breaking dawn.

In Uptown Players' current production, the second is nearly twice as long as the first, but it crackles with energy. Greenberg's "floating narrator" device almost works, and the non-linear storytelling begins to make sense. And there's more nudity. Nothin' wrong with that.

Take Me Out is a buzz-worthy play, flesh aside: Set in 2002, it's the story of Darren Lemming (Lloyd Harvey), a Major League Baseball player — the best in the pros (suggestively modeled on Derek Jeter back when there were rumors of his sexual orientation) — who at the height of his skills comes out. Putatively, the play deals with the fallout from that announcement, but really, it doesn't. Almost all the characters are inside the clubhouse; we get only a faint sense of the public reaction (which, we all know, would be a shit-storm). Instead, being gay is used as a catalyst for the interpersonal dynamics within the dugout.

The societal element is a missed opportunity — Darren would be mobbed with talk-show requests; we're owed at least one sit-down with

Oprah — and the gay idea could be almost anything (he could have come out as atheist or Muslim or Communist, it hardly matters). But eventually, you get caught up in the story, especially the conflict between Darren and Shane Muggitt (Andrews Cope), an illiterate redneck brought up from the minors, and his financial advisor "Mars" (Art Kedzierski), a flamboyant gay man intoxicated by his newfound love of baseball.

Darren himself is a difficult character to parse; he's arrogant though we are constantly reminded universally loved; that seems unlikely, especially for Mets fans. He's, in turn, incredibly savvy and unbelievably naïve, smart then a dolt. Harvey eventually settles into a rhythm, though there are moments that waver.

There aren't any with Kedzierski, who's hilarious and touching, and really, the emotional touchstone for the audience. He's the first person onstage who seems specific, not just a metaphor for some principle or a utility character serving a dramaturgical function.

Kedzierski's enthusiasm infects the play, carrying over to scenes he's not even in. Cope's take on Muggitt as more imbecile than bigot is a canny, almost daring one (as *Tropic Thunder* cautioned, "ya never go full retard"). Kevin Moore, as the principal narrator, adds depth to a sketchy character.

Andy Redmon's set, suggestive of a baseball diamond, makes a great nod to an outdoor game set entirely in the confines of a locker room, and Michael Serrecchia's direction makes the most of the weaker parts of Greenberg's script.

Not every game has to be won on a home run, as long as you get a few hits and run the bases. Way to hustle, guys. Now hit the showers. ■

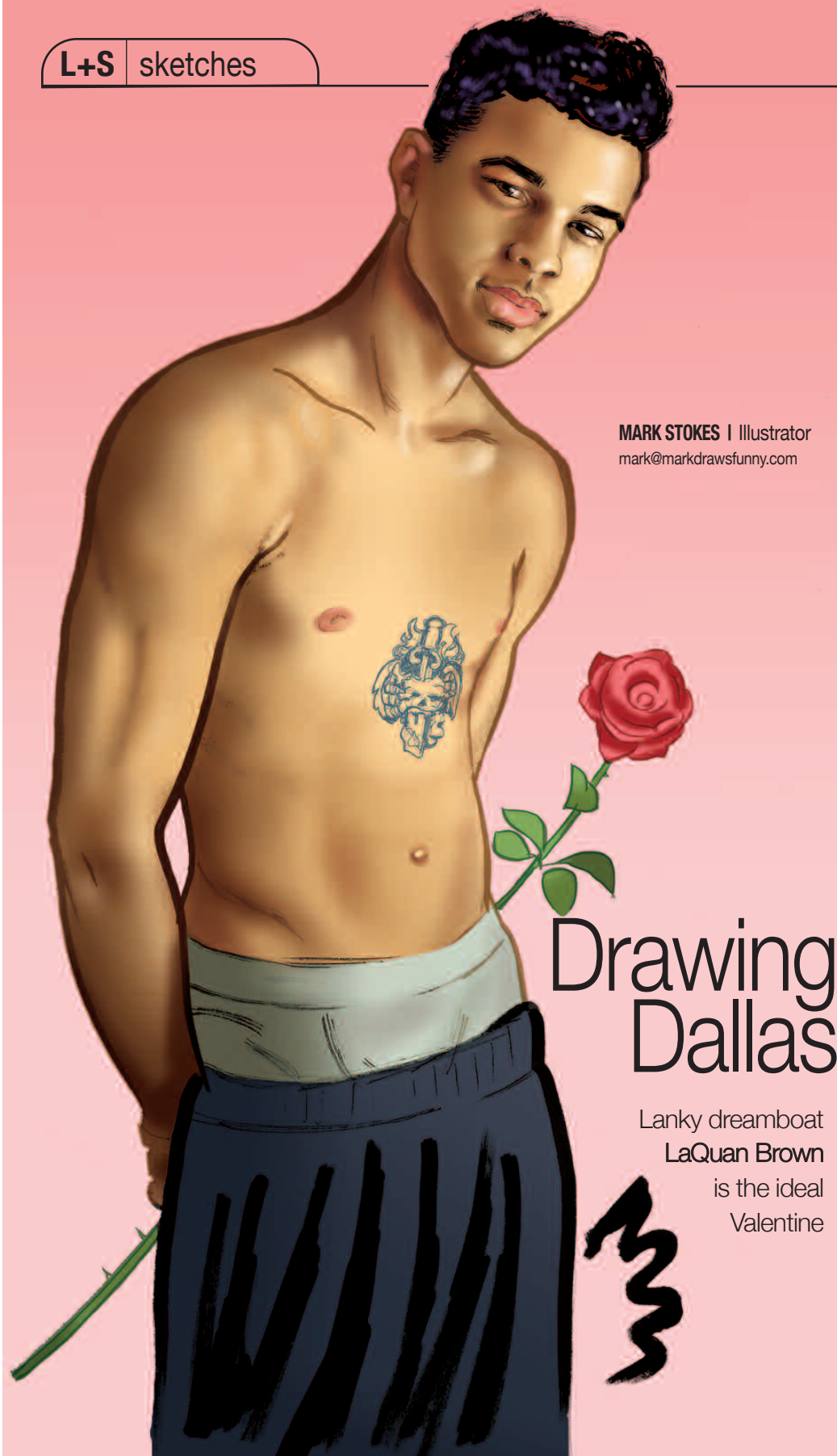
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DESIGNATED HOTTIES | The shower scenes are steamy, but the interpersonal dynamics between ballplayers (Kevin Moore and Lloyd Harvey) run the bases in 'Take Me Out.' (Photo by Mike Morgan)



MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com

Drawing Dallas

Lanky dreamboat
LaQuan Brown
is the ideal
Valentine



Name and age: LaQuan Brown, 18

Occupation: Student

Spotted at: Target Cityplace

At 6-feet-5, slender, romantic dreamboat LaQuan catches eyes everywhere he goes. A creamy blend of two cultures — his mother is of Dutch descent, his father is African-American — LaQuan certainly stands out in any crowd. His exotic and handsome look recently captured the attention of a modeling scout for Krave magazine, a fashion, lifestyle and entertainment publication for men of color; he was recently selected to model for an upcoming issue.

This intelligent and contemplative Scorpio was born in Oak Cliff and raised throughout Dallas. He enjoys outdoor sports of all kinds, including (predictably) basketball, but also running and taking contemplative walks. He's also talented at freestyling, and can rap about any subject on the spur of the moment.

LaQuan's career goal is to obtain a doctorate in psychology, and eventually become a therapist/counselor for at-risk teens.



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Midnight in the garden of gay and EVOO

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

Like Charleston, S.C., its neighbor to the north, Savannah, Ga., is a coastal community steeped in history and tradition — a characteristic that extends naturally to its culinary scene. “Low-country cuisine” is a discrete genre of Southern cooking, marked by its Afro-Caribbean influences (okra gumbo, hoppin’ john, and red beans and rice are staples) and predominance of seafood, especially shrimp and crab.

But it's not just low-country food that distin-

guishes Savannah's food scene — or the city as a whole, for that matter. It's a place that oozes gentility with a welcoming attitude that supersedes its Old-South atmosphere. Whether going there for historic walks down its charming streets or to focus on a fattening but oh-so-worth-it foodie tour, Savannah is a great gay destination.

Without waving its rainbow flags too boldly, Savannah still celebrates its gay-friendly faves (hag chef Paula Deen is a local; composer and native Johnny Mercer has his name slapped on countless roads and landmarks) and even its queer scandals — *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, gay author John Berendt's phenomenally popular 1994 yarn about how an antique dealer Jim Williams shot his lover, remains the



FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD | The chicken and waffles at River on the Rocks are just one Southern take on the buttery low-country food that marks a culinary tour of Savannah. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

unofficial history of the city, and is proudly on display throughout the city even still.

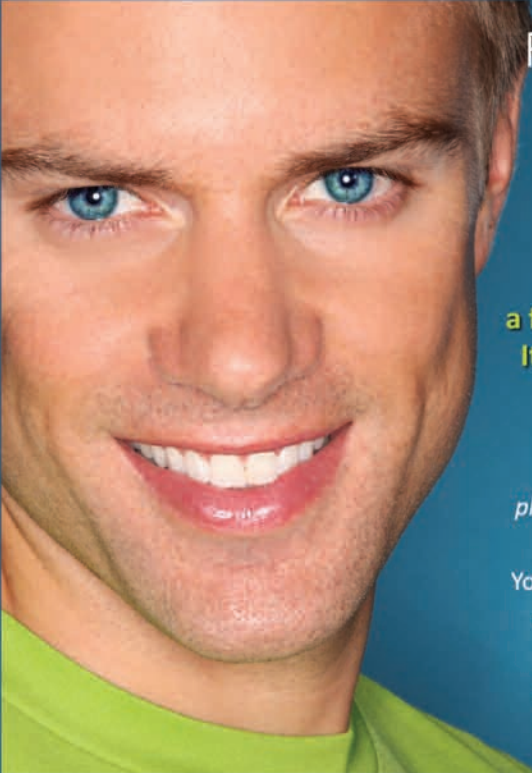
Such longevity is not altogether a surprise. People speak of the city's most famous residents, past and current, as if they are personal friends who might pop around the corner at any moment.

They very well may. Even the dead ones. Sa-

vannah has a mystical quality to it. Elders proudly tout its reputation among paranormalists as the most haunted city in the U.S. Even non-believers may sense an aura of the supernatural. About two dozen squares dots the downtown district, imbuing the city with the shadowy, Victorian mood of a Bronte novel. Scattered among the squares are houses with long-stand-

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Ad placement deadline for Classy • Body is **February 14th**.

ing ghost stories attached, and cemeteries that glow under a full moon with spooky drama.

Want to know just how much? Take a walking tour of the city's graveyards and haunted squares, courtesy Savannah-Tours.us. This dusk-to-darkness stroll depends, of course, on your guide; we had a good one, who took us by the convincingly creepy 432 Abercorn on Calhoun Square.

The gay scene is undeniable here; even the tour guides mention it. But it's not just the historic touches, but the current. Yes, The Lady Chablis became America's most famous drag queen (sorry, Ru!) after the publication of *Midnight*, and she still performs regularly at Club One, the premiere dance club in the city. The gay club Chuck's Bar abuts the river.

Savannah's Riverfront is another draw of the city. A cobblestone thoroughfare fully 30 feet below street-level, it's a touristy but fun way to spend an afternoon. Docked sailing ships are available for walk-throughs, and you can take a slow riverboat ride up and down the waterway.

On land, shops sell everything from knickknacks and T-shirts to pulled taffy and other confections, including the best damn pralines you'll ever have. Indeed, the Savannah Candy Kitchen is about as close as you can come to feeling like Charlie Bucket let loose in Willy Wonka's factory.

Which raises a point: For all the charming history and attractions, Savannah's food beckons. Along River Street, Rocks on the River provides a distinctly Southern take on soul-food classics like chicken and waffles drizzled in a fruit demi-glace, or a sea scallop on spoeztz courtesy chef Jonathan Massey, amid a rustic atmosphere and exceptional service.

Rocks on the River is inside the Bohemian Hotel, a funky-assed property with moody lighting, intriguing décor and plush

WALKING HISTORY | Savannah's rich past includes an architectural tradition unequaled in most of the U.S., from lovely gardens and beautiful ironwork to ivy-draped mansions and Spanish-moss looming over the monument dotting the two-dozen squares that made up the city's grid. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

rooms. The resto is at ground-level; go to the top floor for Rocks on the Roof, a buzzy, gay-friendly bar that serves a kicky brunch.

Low-country cooking is plentiful, but not the exclusive option in this savvy city of savory sophisticates. We happily ventured over to Gallery Espresso, Savannah's oldest coffeehouse and another bit of bohemian in this staid Southern 'burg.

Moon River Brewing Co. is the local micro-brewery not to miss, with a selection of in-house suds available along with its bar menu. Their Hefeweizen (a citrusy, Belgian-style wheat beer) and chocolatey porter are must-tastes for avid beer drinkers. (Like much of Savannah, the building itself is almost as much a destination as what's inside it. Ask nicely, and you might get a tour of the attic here, with lovely bones, like exposed latticework and beautiful masonry.)

You can sample an authentic afternoon tea at Davenport House, including a participatory recreation of any antebellum interaction with actors in period costume.

Head outside the city to tour the Savannah Bee Company and sample some locally produced honeys (the whipped winter white is heavenly on scones). Keep driving for an even better excursion: a kayak trip out on Tybee Island.

You'll be hungry when you get back, so that's a perfect opportunity to sample more low-country cooking. Of course, this

■ SAVANNAH, Page 26



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L+S travel

■ SAVANNAH, From Page 25

is Paula Deen territory, but don't be fooled: All the locals will tell you, the *better* food is at Mrs. Wilkes' Dining Room. No reservations are accepted so arrive early — the lunch line snakes around the block quickly. Seating (and service) is family style, so expect to dine with strangers. But you won't have to fight over the food — there's simply too much of it to consume, including the best banana pudding and mac & cheese you'll likely taste anywhere. (The motto here: "If the colonel made chicken this good, he'd be a General." No truer words spoken.)

Don't be put off that the Mansion on Forsyth Park used to be a funeral home; it's just another otherworldly aspect of Savannah that you have to accept. Anyway, you'd be lucky to lie in repose here. Part of the Kessler Collection of boutique properties (it also includes the vastly different Bohemian), the Mansion offers an enchanting spa experience in its basement (please don't call it the embalming room) and spectacular rooms with cushy beds, beautiful décor and spacious claw-foot tubs.

The art here is not to be missed. Mr. Kessler, whom you're likely to meet walking through one of his hotels, or even around the city, is a furious art collector who proudly displays his eclectic tastes in every room. There's even a gallery attached that's worth a gander.

Some of the art here isn't on the walls; it's on the plate. 700 Drayton, the hotel's elegant new restaurant in an old-school setting, offers, once again, Southern specialties presented with culinary flair. Chef Michael Semancik tweaks the standbys, like blackened shrimp and grits abed

microgreens, stunning fried green tomatoes and a blueberry crème brûlée than will lead you *back* to eating crème brûlée again.

But the restaurant isn't the only way to eat here — though the other way requires some work. Chef Darin Sehnert leads the 700 Cooking School, a three-hour experience in learning to make your own low-country food, from red-eye gravy to blackeyed pea salad and rosemary biscuits. You do a lot of the work, but Sehnert guides you with exceptionally useful advice from knife techniques to seasoning. Plus you get to eat what you cook at the end. It's a fabulous way to spend an evening, and a great conclusion to a culinary adventure in Georgia. ■



DIY DELIGHTS | Chef Darin Sehnert, who runs the cooking school at the Mansion on Forsyth Park, escorts you through the techniques needed to turn out your own Southern cooking. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



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For Valentine's Day, a resonant tale of 'Loving' and marriage

The very title of the Supreme Court decision in *Loving v. Virginia* is almost too perfect not to respect the irony of what it represented.

In 1958, Richard Loving married a half-black, half-Native American named Mildred in D.C., then returned to their home in rural Virginia. A month later, sheriff's deputies entered their bedroom as they slept, arresting them for violating the state's anti-miscegenation law, which forbid mixing of the races. They were jailed, convicted and eventually banished from the state in a manner more akin to ancient Rome than modern-day America.

Virginia was hardly unique — as Barack Obama's parents could probably tell you, 21 states banned mixed-race marriages in 1958. It would take nine years, following protracted legal wrangling, before the Lovings could live openly and legally as Virginians.

It is impossible to watch *The Loving Story* — which debuts on HBO, again ironically, on Valentine's Day — and not consider it (especially in light of the events this week) as it relates to Proposition 8 and the rights of gays to wed. Indeed, the statement by one of the lawyers representing the Lovings that "marriage is a fundamental right of man" — spoken more than 40 years ago — resonates sharply for any gay person who has felt a lesser person because of the bigotry and antiquated thinking of considering a fellow man as being "other" ... whether by race or sexual orientation.

There's surprisingly little directorial commentary in this documentary, which is made up substantially of real-time newsreel and other footage of the Lovings at home and on TV, and their lawyers strategizing. Little comment is needed, especially when the offensive language of the courts speaks volumes: The races were meant to stay on separate continents, the Virginia county judge opined, cuz that's how God wanted it.

Two things especially stand out in *The Loving Story*. The first is the couple at the center of it: A man and a woman of modest means and humble background who simply and truly were in love and wanted to live as man and wife and couldn't understand what they were doing wrong. The second is that the arguments made — back then and now, on both sides — apply equally to same-sex marriage issues. We've come a long way, but damn, we still have so far to go.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Four stars. Aired Feb. 14 at 8 p.m. on HBO.

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Competing for your confection

Not all gourmet cupcakes are created equal

HOWARD LEWIS RUSSELL | Contributing Writer
hewisrussell@aol.com

With the fanfare surrounding the arrival of Sprinkles in Dallas five years ago — and its concomitant gangbusters success — a proliferation of me-too cupcake markets inevitably followed.

So which is best? At nearly four bucks a cupcake (about \$1 per bite) we decided on a side-by-side comparison of three flavors (vanilla, chocolate, lemon) was warranted. We chose three area competitors: Sprinkles, Gigi's Cupcakes and The Cupcakery. Each was devoured with a glass of milk.

Let's just say that all \$4 cupcakes are *not* created equal.

First, the good news: All three cupcake purveyors were impeccably clean, their staffs professionally (even gregariously!) friendly. Were I going in for a surgical procedure rather than a cupcake, they'd each receive four stars. Indeed, just entering through the doors of these aromatically sparkling stores would send Willy Wonka himself into a swoon.

Sprinkles' currently offers 24 weekly varieties, although cleverly, not all of them are available every day of the week. Dark chocolate and vanilla are staples, but lemon is only available Mondays, Thursdays and Sundays; *ginger* lemon takes over the Wednesday citrus spot, while orange fulfills Tuesday's vitamin C-craving patrons and lemon coconut pinch hits on Friday (poor, busy Saturday gets left out completely).

The Cupcakery, with five locations including one across from the Crescent, offers 30 styles, including (as do all these confectionaries) seasonal and limited-edition flavors; it will also prepare sugar-free and vegan incarnations. (The Cupcakery's most distinctive feature is its signature lounge and champagne bar "for sharing your favorite cupcakes on fine porcelain plates with silver forks . . . with that perfect glass of red wine or aged port.")

Of the three, Gigi's probably appeals most to children *and* an adult's inner child. Each of Gigi's cakes is topped with something kid-friendly swirled in among the frosting. Its version of vanilla, called "Wedding Cake," has buttercream frosting sprinkled with white nonpareils; the "Midnight Magic" chocolate is showered with cocoa chips; the "Lemon Dream Supreme" beacons with sparkly yellow sugar crystals and candied lemon slice. Gigi's also has a loyalty program, offering one free cupcake for every dozen purchased.

That's all good, but none scored a home run, though two came close. Sprinkles and Gigi's chocolate and vanilla cupcakes both received four stars out of a possible four from our two-man panel, while their lemon varieties garnered three stars each. Sprinkles' lemon was a trifle skimpy on citrus flavor (although the frosting had a tart punch), while Gigi's lemon faltered with a curd filling that tasted slightly canned (though the lemon jelly-wedge atop was a whimsically delightful flourish).

The Cupcakery's *highest* score on any of its three cakes was a disappointing two, bestowed on its chocolate, despite a distinctly weird undertaste (one of us described it as raw, Swiss Miss cocoa; the other felt it tasted bizarrely metallic). The Cupcakery's one-star vanilla came with an inexplicable pink frosting that tasted, oddly, of nothing but the *color* pink, while the cake itself had no discernable vanilla flavoring to speak of. Its lemon cupcake was . . . well, the best said is that it was at least unmistakably *yellow* (neon/saffron yellow) with watery frosting.

In a world competing to sell cake at \$1 per bite, one's bite-of-cake experience had better darn well be every bit as delicious, or more so, even, than sex itself.



LET 'EM EAT CUPCAKE | From top, Gigi's, The Cupcakery and Sprinkles' vanilla cakes vary in their potency of flavor. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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Romancing the tune



Serenading a lover always works
for out singer Nancy Beaudette

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Nancy Beaudette is ahead of her time. Literally. Feb. 14 isn't until next week, but Beaudette and her girlfriend have already celebrated Valentine's Day: A gift exchange, a relaxed morning in the hot tub and a long walk on a gorgeous Massachusetts day.

"Oh and we had a wonderful Chinese dinner," she adds.

That's what happens when a working musician hits the road — you celebrate the Hallmark moments when you can. For Beaudette, right now there is no calendar other than her tour. She'll be playing throughout the month, including a stopover in Fort Worth on Saturday. She's fine with it. At 50, with a healthy discography under her belt dating back 30 years to 1982, Beaudette is finally doing the "musician thing."

"This is the first time I'm doing music without having a full-time job," she says. "I'm embarking on a lifelong dream of songwriting and performing."

Romance isn't lost in Beaudette's brand of folk. Like any singer, she'll croon about love, but she also sings her fair share of heartbreak songs. She's quick to point out that love is not all fuzzies and wuzzies. There are layers of complex issues that she deals with through her music, including a split from her wife of 22 years and from her church. She covers both on the title track of her last album, *Honestly*.

"The song is the language of divorce, but it was really about my emotional connection between my church and me," she says. "It was devastating."

Having the benefit of legalized marriage in her native Canada, Beaudette and her wife were excommunicated by the Catholic Church after they exchanged vows. An active member and choir director for 25 years, the blow had devastating effects; she cites it as the reason her marriage failed, but she found therapy in music.

"I journal a lot and music has been helpful," she says. "Those pages are a great place to get to my raw emotions." (Ironically, her church still performs all of her music.)

ACOUSTIC DIVA | Beaudette blends her Celtic and folks sounds with some spirituality and compassion.

Despite such drama, Beaudette hardly has a bitter tone. She's ebullient and optimistic and clearly enlivened by her new relationship and perhaps by her nebulous future with music. Her smile is practically evident through the phone line.

"I left my town, fell in love, got a performance visa and now I'm living with Chris in Massachusetts," she says. "The U.S. market is so much larger and much more competitive, but it's been very positive and my trips to Nashville have been very inspiring."

The last time Beaudette came to Texas was for a conference in Waco in the mid-'90s. This time, she anticipates a proper introduction to the Lone Star State. As with any non-Texan, she's banking on an epic experience.

"I think everyone says this, but I hear everything is bigger in Texas," she quips. "I'm looking forward to seeing it. I've met some really delightful women from Houston who will be hosting a house concert when I'm there. And the Open Door people have been so kind. The glimpse I've seen so far is pretty welcoming."

She'll also perform at Agape MCC's Sunday morning service. Despite being hurt by a religious institution, she's determined to use it as a bolster to her spiritual and musical side. Besides, it goes hand-in-hand with her Charter for Compassion work, a movement with the mission to "restore compassion to the center of morality and religion."

"I'm not the first gay person to be hurt by a church," she says. "We are spiritual and looking for ways to express it. I get to talk about the charter I'm involved with. The movement is growing all around."

Pursuing her dream and spreading her message, Beaudette should have a fulfilling tour, but with all that, she still wants to be with her lady and serenade her with a song — that is if Chris doesn't beat her to it.

"She's a singer-songwriter too so we have lots in common. She'll sing to me," she says. "I serenade her all the time. It always does the trick." ■

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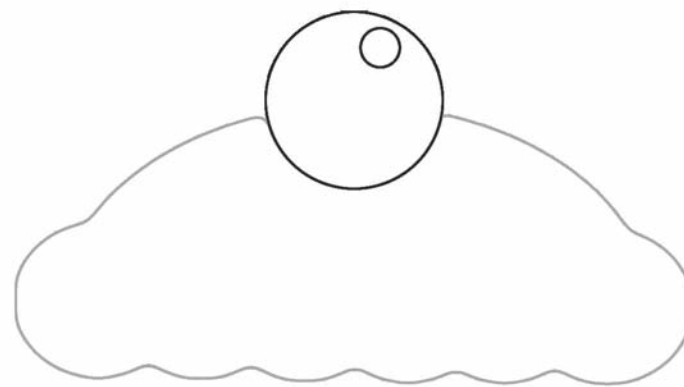
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Friday 02.10

Your life will suck without her

Kelly Clarkson kinda got a raw deal at last week's Super Bowl. The Burleson native killed the crowd singing the national anthem, but everyone keeps talking about halftime. We can make it up to her as she headlines her night in town. Matt Nathanson opens.

DEETS: Verizon Theatre, 1001 Performance Place, Grand Prairie. 7:30 p.m. \$25-\$50. Ticketmaster.com.

Tuesday 02.14

Your funny Valentine

If chocolates and flowers aren't your kinda thing, maybe a good laugh is. Spice up Valentine's Day with comedy. Paul Varghese was named the Funniest Comic in Dallas and headlines this Valentine's show taking the pressure out of romantic expectations, and going for a laugh. But candy and champagne are included just to seal the deal.

DEETS: Backdoor Comedy, 8250 N. Central Expressway (in the Doubletree Hotel). 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. \$28. BackDoorComedy.com.

Tuesday 02.14

They're here, they cheer

From the movie screen to the stage, cheerleading rivals learn there's more to life than human pyramids and herkies in *Bring It On: The Musical*. But awesome choreography and high school drama add to the fun.

DEETS: Music Hall at Fair Park, 909 First Ave. 8 p.m. \$15-\$80. Ticketmaster.com.



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FRIDAY 02.10

COMMUNITY

High Tech Happy Hour is hosted by the LGBT employees group of Texas Instruments is open to all. Asador Restaurant 2222 Stemmons Freeway. 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Lambda Pride Toastmasters Club meets for developing speaking, listening and leadership skills in a fun and supportive environment. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m.

Business Network Collin County luncheon. Fox Sports Grille 5741 Legacy Drive. 11:30 a.m. \$20. Meetup.com/BNCC-Plano.

Congregation Beth El Binah Shabbat service. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7:30 p.m. BethElBinah.org.

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

THEATER

The Game of Love and Chance. Mixed identities twist this French comedy about a single girl and her dad who pushes her to marriage. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. Through Feb. 18. \$18–\$26. MB-SProductions.net.

Teatro Dallas International Festival and theater workshop. Featuring plays from Costa Rica, Colombia and Japan, the fest also features Texan actress Adelina Anthony in her comic stand-up show *La Angry Xicana?* which addresses queer prejudices. South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. Through Sunday. \$15–\$20. TeatroDallas.org.

Monty Python's Spamalot. The Tony award-winning musical is a comic take on the tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St. 8 p.m. Through Sunday. \$33–\$82. BassHall.com.

SATURDAY 02.11

COMMUNITY

Once in a Blue Moon, is a monthly women's only



LATINA LAUGHS | Performer Adelina Anthony takes on queer prejudice in her comic show 'La Angry Xicana?' Sunday at Teatro Dallas' International Festival which starts Friday.

dance. DanceMasters Ballroom, 10675 East Northwest Highway, Suite 2600B. 7 p.m.-midnight. \$10. 972-479-0774.

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

Legacy social group of adults 50 and up from Cathedral of Hope. 972-387-3345.

Fuse: Core Group for gay men ages 18 to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 2–5 p.m. 214-540-4435. DFWFuse.com.

ART

For the Love of Kettle. Annual art show and fundraiser for the gallery includes original works by local artists. All pieces are priced at \$50 which draws a crowd at the door prior to opening. Kettle Art, 2714 Elm St. 7 p.m. KettleArt.com.

Love is in the Air. Artist Daniel Padilla showcases works inspired by Jean Paul Gaultier and burlesque. Guest artists include Randy Gonzales and Pamela

Rubin and a performance by burlesque dancer Kyla. Padilla Gallery, 829 W. Davis St. 7 p.m.

BROADCAST

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

SUNDAY 02.05

COMMUNITY

Unemployment Support Group meets weekly explores employment search and unemployment concerns and led by a professional career advisor. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 2:30 p.m. CareerAssistanceMinistry@gmail.com

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.

Whosoever Dallas Sunday services. 807 Fletcher St. 10:45 a.m. WhosoeverDallas.org.

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

MONDAY 02.13

COMMUNITY

Living the Questions is a course seeking relevance for Christianity in people's lives and in this age. Northaven UMC, 11211 Preston Road. 8:30 p.m.

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

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

TUESDAY 02.14

COMMUNITY

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

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

Q's Day Potluck. Casual LGBT gathering every

Tuesday evening. The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth. 7 p.m. 817-446-3395.

Sista to Sista support group. Meets every first, second and third Tuesday. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 11:30 a.m. AOC.org.

WEDNESDAY 02.15

COMMUNITY

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

FUSE Activity Nights. The official FUSE hangout night with games, food and more weekly. 7 p.m. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 214-540-4435. DFWFuse.com.

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

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is Dallas Voice senior editor John Wright. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 02.16

COMMUNITY

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

F.A.C.E., support group for those impacted by HIV/AIDS. 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.

THEATER

Tristan and Isolde. The Dallas Opera stages the Wagner production as a concert. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Feb. 25. \$25–\$275. ATPAC.org.

this week's solution

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Robbie Williams turns 38 on Monday. The singer started in the Brit boy band Take That, but found major success as a solo singer across Europe. He reunited with Take That in 2010 and with their top selling number one album *Progress*, Williams and company were deemed the greatest musical comeback in the United Kingdom by *Music Week* magazine in 2011.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Economic uncertainty brings opportunities for those with vision and intuition. Yours are especially sharp right now. A spontaneous tryst brings recriminations or insights. Focus on insights.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Meditation and spiritual discipline are more important in the next 14 years. Unusual clarity shows you how to proceed. Talking about your craziest dreams leads you to practical application.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

There's nothing wrong with ambition, but trying too hard is only a sure route to disaster. Don't be scared of guidance and limits – or the people who suggest them.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

This should be your lucky year, but luck serves the well-prepared. Take time out to think carefully of what work is necessary to nurture the projects that may bring you fortune.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

That dazzling wit and logic are leaving you, but don't fret. Just be ready to shift gears to whimsy and sensitivity. Your sympathetic support proves helpful. Often it's best just to be a good listener.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Your gifts of erotic seduction are evident. Put them to good use and draw in who you desire. Trying to be more clever will undermine your efforts, personally and professionally. Just be yourself.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

If you share your darkest fantasy with one person, you're probably sharing it with a few more. Don't talk – do. Confidantes can't always be trusted, but partners in crime usually can.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Worries that you don't measure up exacerbate relationship problems. Relax. Have confidence in yourself. Your brain and mouth got you into this fix. Let your ears and you heart find the way out.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Fights at home get fierce. Make a deep change and sacrifice something for your relationship work. Some time out can help, but don't use that as an excuse to avoid the problems.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

At work, you can only be responsible for yourself. If your own brainstorms and innovations are a part of work problems, own up and learn from mistakes made, especially your own.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Pushing to get ahead ruffles the feathers of your superiors. Make sure the rung you want to step up to isn't already occupied. Put down the horn and let your best work speak for itself.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Confusion won't go away soon, but it can become clearer. Logic and facts don't make sense. Open yourself up to mystery, myth, magic and music. Look at life as art, not science.

THIS WEEK

The planet of dreams and mystery, Neptune, fresh into his own sign Pisces, will take a year or two to get used to. Logic's no help here; trust your intuitions and open up to the magic.

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

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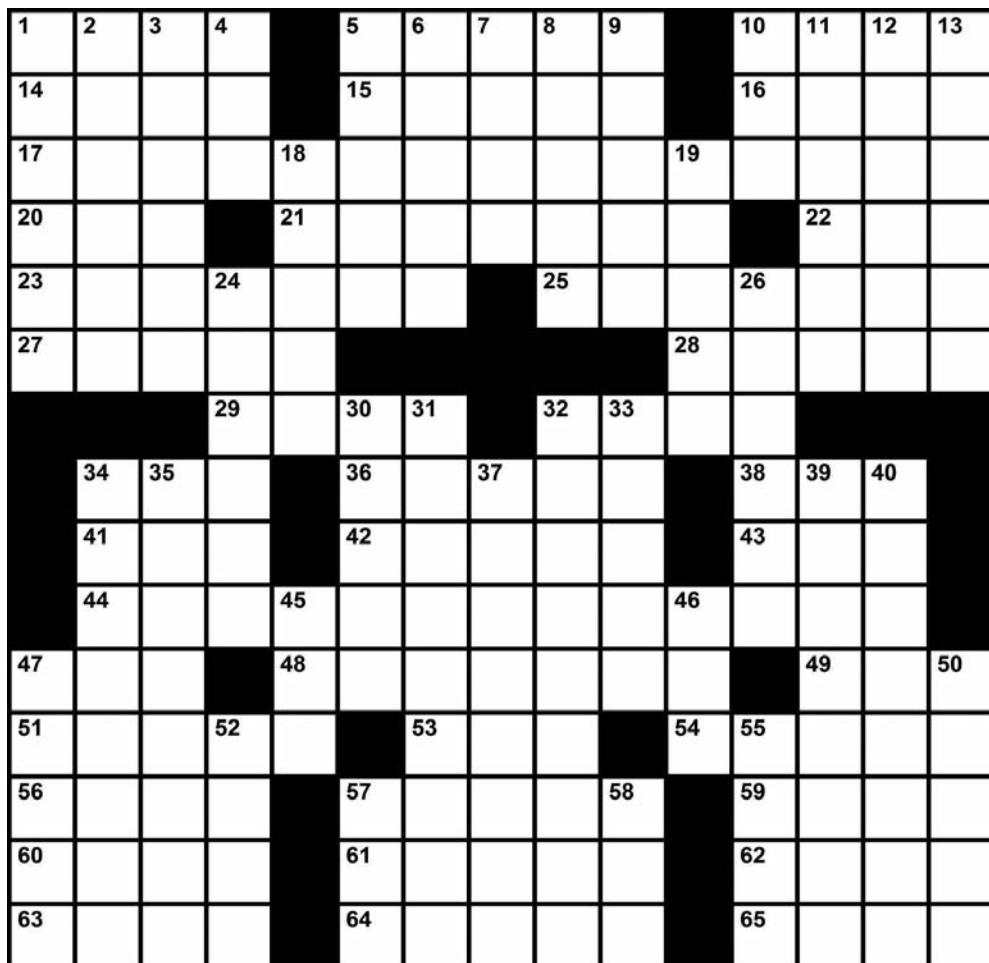
bitter girl



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Hairy Potter

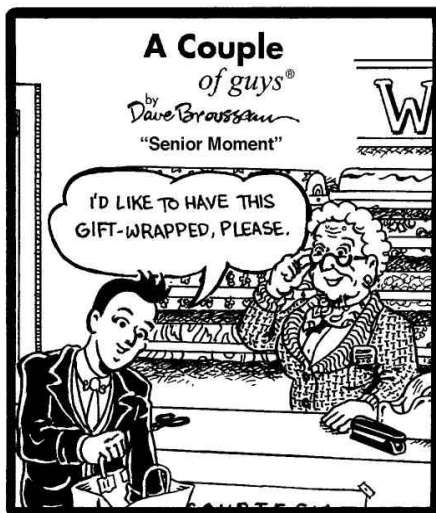
Solution on page 33

Across

- 1 Ingrid's "Casablanca" role
- 5 Eva Gabor's "Green ____"
- 10 Balls
- 14 What an adjective modifies
- 15 Lorna of literature
- 16 From the top
- 17 Actor interviewed in "Heat" about "manscaping"
- 20 Hairy member of the Addams family
- 21 The guy you're seeing?
- 22 The Crimson Tide's st.
- 23 Soft leather
- 25 Author whose poems inspired "Cats"
- 27 "God loves everybody," to Jane Spahr
- 28 Puts stitches in
- 29 Straight, in a bar
- 32 'N Sync member Lance
- 34 Glide on snow
- 36 Cutting light
- 38 It kept 65-Across from shooting off missiles
- 41 Long of "If These Walls Could Talk 2"
- 42 Emcee's opening
- 43 McKellen of "The Da Vince Code"

Down

- 44 Beat poet
 - 47 One under Sgt. Matlovich
 - 48 Far out, when cruising
 - 49 "Ben Hur" novelist Wallace
 - 51 To date, but not to go out with
 - 53 Eligible for Soc. Sec.
 - 54 River of Gay Paree
 - 56 Restaurateur Toots
 - 57 Stuff in a closet
 - 59 Cold shoulder
 - 60 Track tipper
 - 61 Actress MacDowell
 - 62 "The African Queen" author
 - 63 French I verb
 - 64 Kind of question
 - 65 Cold War rival of the USA
-
- Down**
- 1 Bring to trial
 - 2 Cannot bear
 - 3 South Beach souvenir
 - 4 Darth, as a boy
 - 5 Ike's opponent
 - 6 Woes of toes
 - 7 Yellow-brick way
 - 8 Come as far as
 - 9 Groups that make a sound like lovemaking?
 - 10 Queer in Quebec
 - 11 Disgruntled fan's cry
 - 12 Kitchen coating
 - 13 Enjoys a good hard workout
 - 18 Be a ham in "Hamlet"?
 - 19 Yorkshire city
 - 24 Domestic
 - 26 Bitch role of '50s television
 - 30 Garment with a flared bottom
 - 31 Reddish-orange fruit
 - 32 Composer Leonard
 - 33 Hit the decks
 - 34 Album item
 - 35 With 37-Down, movie in which 17-Across plays 43-Across
 - 37 Fellows may receive them
 - 39 See 35-Down
 - 40 Wide-eyed ones
 - 45 D.C. summer hrs.
 - 46 U. degrees
 - 47 "Oh! Calcutta!" group of actors?
 - 50 Painter Max
 - 52 Collectible illustrator
 - 55 Hairy twin
 - 57 One-night-stand partner, crudely
 - 58 Keanu in "The Matrix"



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Brittany and Justin at Rainbow Lounge.



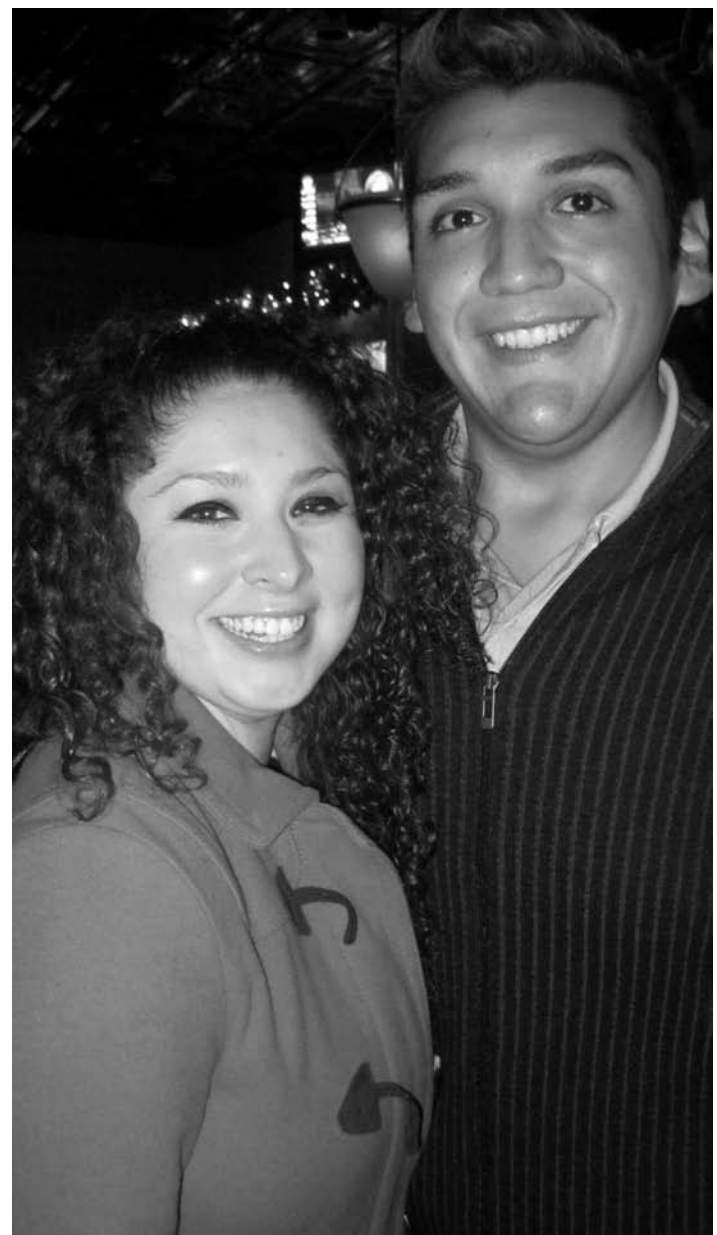
Girls' night out at Sue Ellen's.

We won't guarantee you'll find a potential **Valentine**, but you'll have fun trying at these spots The **C.C. Cross Band** will rock the ladies up into a lather on Friday. Did you see our feature on **The Jackie Hall Experience** recently? Now get experienced with her soulful singing on Saturday night. That afternoon, the club hosts the special event, **Girl Meets Goddess**, celebrating Texas women in independent film with music by **Suzanne Kimbrell**, **Heather Knox** and the **Mojo Dolls**. It's gonna be a sweet day at Sue's **The Brick** goes big in one night with the **Miss Razzle Dazzle Dallas Benefit Show** on Saturday starring **Miss Weezie Davis**. **Dick Carter's Flame Party** follows up with DJ **Charlie Phresh** and a **Hot Boy Valentine's Date Auction** If you want a man more than boy, just head over to the **Dallas Eagle**. Put down your bid for a mature kind of sweetheart at the **Leather Knights** fundraiser **Buy Daddy's Box**. And yes, we're imagining what's in the box. DJ **Paul Kraft** spins the night after the daddy love has calmed down. **The Bear of the Month Contest** goes down every Thursday Spend a romantic night buying out **Dixie's Tupperware Party** at **McDavid Studio** in **Fort Worth** on Tuesday Knock some boots when the **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** presents the **King and Queen of the Rodeo** at the **Round-Up Saloon** on Sunday Now go and enjoy. ■

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



Jay and Dee at Station 4.



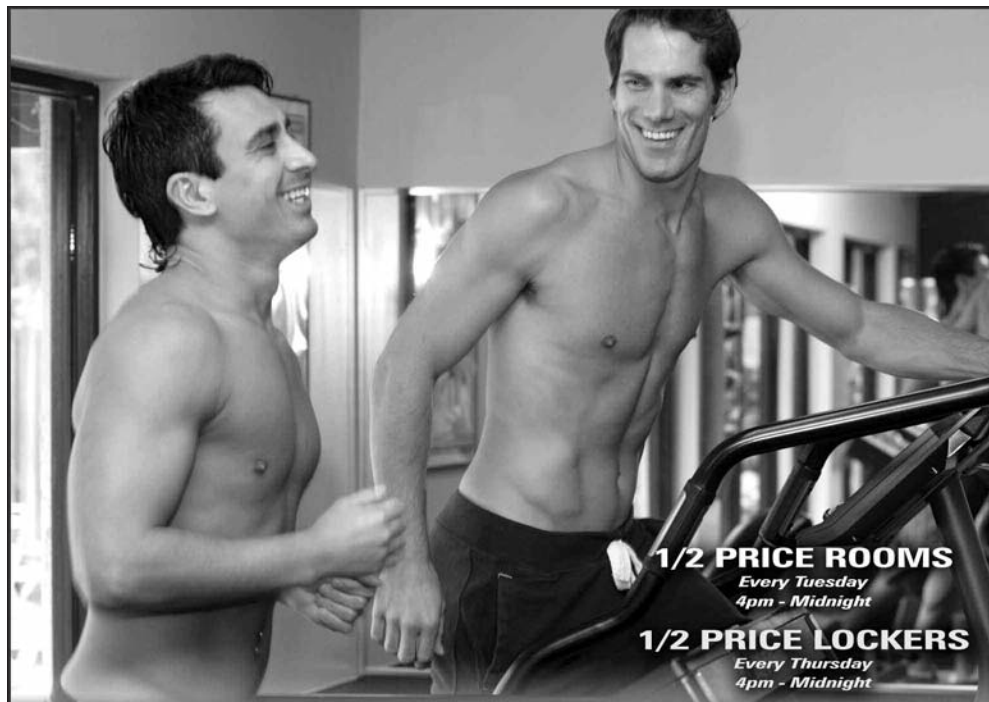
Rosalinda and Randy at Alexandre's.



Diana and Joey at TMC: The Mining Company.



Eric and John at Pub Pegasus.



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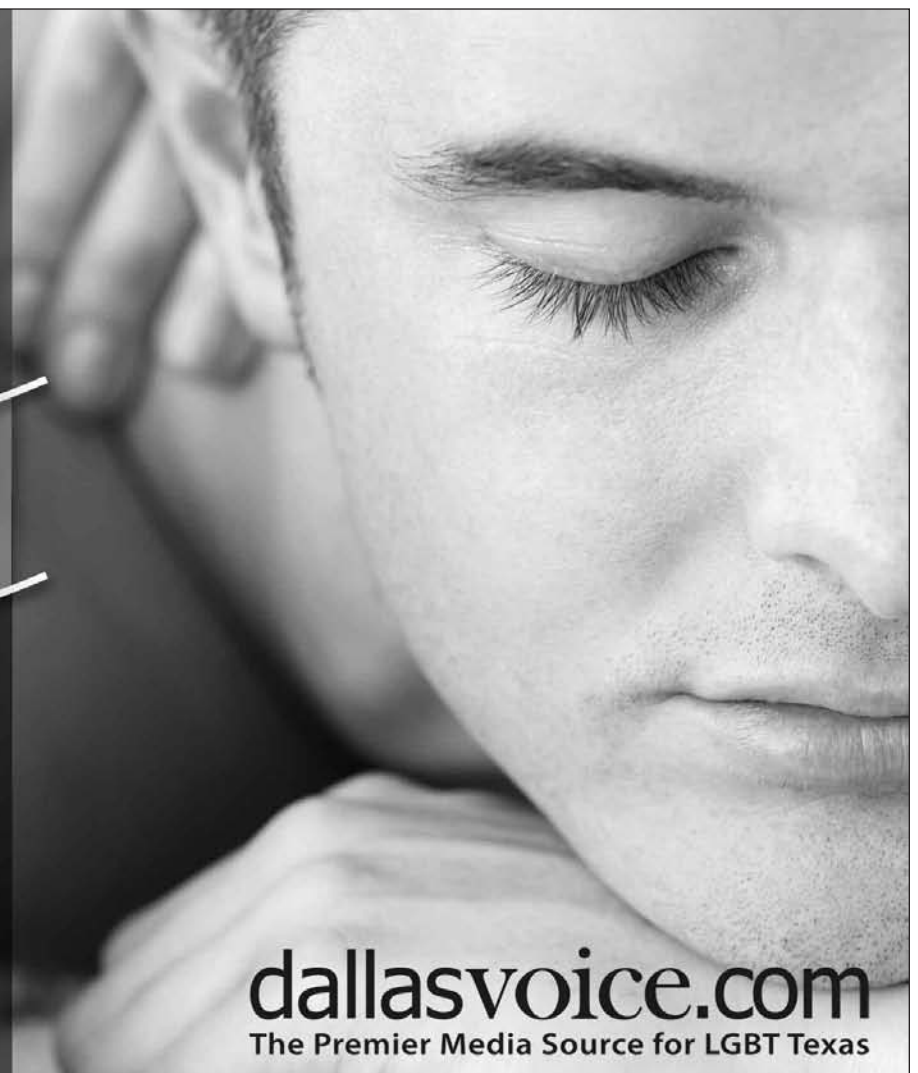
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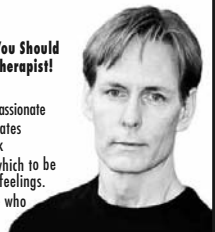
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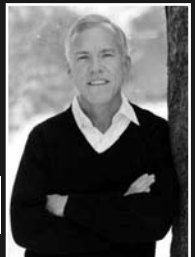
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