

Documentary about gay bar raid debuts

'Raid of the Rainbow Lounge' was three years in the making

Dallas filmmaker Robert L. Camina started filming on Day One

■ SCREEN, Page 20



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Photo by David Taffet.
Design by Michael Stephens.

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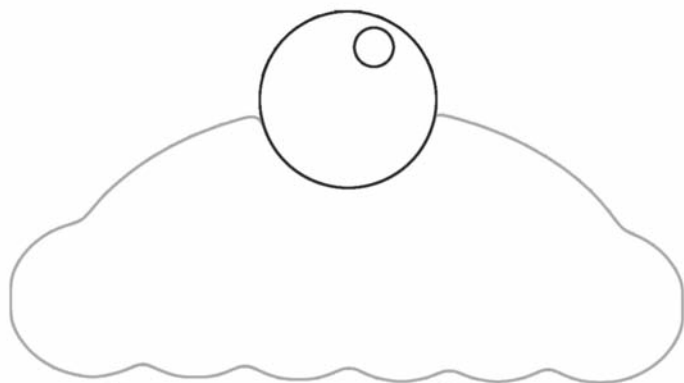
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NEW LEADER | Trey Jacobs, left, is the new artistic director of the Turtle Creek Chorale.

Interim no more: Jacobs in at TCC

It's official: Trey Jacobs is in as the new, permanent artistic director at the Turtle Creek Chorale.

Following the TCC's Madonna to Madonna concert March 4, where Dallas' gay men's chorus sang songs from liturgical hymns like "Ave Maria" to medleys of Midge's pop hits, managing director David Fisher, pictured right, announced that their "new" artistic director would be the guy who has led the group since last summer, pictured left.

It was both a surprise and not. The surprise came because, in an interview with the Voice last October, Jacobs claimed he did not intend to apply for it, as he had recently moved to the same town as his partner after a commuter relationship for years.

I was never totally convinced, even though Jacobs was a rush replacement last year when former A.D. Jonathan Palant's contract was not renewed at the close of the season. And it was not a surprise when you looked at the Facebook posts in recent days of TCC members, who seemed devoted to Jacobs' leadership. When Fisher took the stage, I saw it coming.

The reaction from the crowd was enthusiastic, probably owing in no small part to the excellent concert that has just been performed. There was an energy to the chorale that had been missing in some prior concerts, and the membership roster seemed especially healthy. (The subject matter — the role of women and their strength throughout history — was particularly poignant in light of recent political debates concerning women's health.) Jacobs' selection was a popular choice and the singers, too. One member of the search committee told me after they looked at 16 candidates, but "we all love Trey," so he was offered the job.

Another clue it would be Jacobs: A note in the program that the 2012-13 season would be announced soon. That's the job of an artistic director.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

things, "far too often, there is a gap between policy and practice."

"Additionally, I encourage the district to do more to reach out to LGBT couples who have children," Cox writes. "According to the 2010 U.S. Census, there are roughly 6,700 LGB couples in Dallas County, and around one in four of them are raising children. The superintendent should lead district efforts to reach out to these LGBT families so that they are welcomed and included in DISD schools."

As an exclamation point, Cox mentions this week's settlement between the U.S. Department of Justice and Minnesota's Anoka-Hennepin school district, suggesting that DISD is legally obligated to enforce the anti-bullying policy and support LGBT students.

"According to the most recent data from the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, nearly nine out of ten LGBT students experienced harassment at school in the previous year, and two-thirds of the students said they felt unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation," Cox writes. "Three in ten students stayed home from school because they did not feel safe. The district must provide support for its LGBT students to keep them in school and discourage them from dropping out. Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions."

— John Wright

Keller teen asks mayor to sign same-sex marriage pledge

Sixteen-year-old Isaiah Smith wants Keller Mayor Pat McGrail to join the mayors of Houston, Austin, San Antonio and several smaller cities in Texas by signing Freedom to Marry's pledge in support of same-sex marriage.

Smith spoke at Keller City Hall on Tuesday, March 6, at the regularly scheduled council meeting. Smith is a junior at Keller High School, but he said he wasn't acting on behalf of his school's Gay Straight Alliance. He said he thinks his mayor should do the right thing. McGrail would become the first North Texas mayor to sign, if he listens to his young constituent. The mayor reportedly didn't comment on Smith's proposal at the meeting.

Smith has also been collecting signatures on a petition calling for the council to pass an ordinance outlawing discrimination in restaurants in the city. He will present the petition to the City Council later this month.

— David Taffet

RCD calls on DISD to pick new leader versed in LGBT issues

Resource Center Dallas is calling on DISD trustees to keep LGBT issues squarely in mind as they select a new superintendent. In a letter sent to all nine school board members Wednesday, March 7, RCD Executive Director and CEO Cece Cox notes that the district recently adopted fully LGBT-inclusive anti-bullying and non-discrimination policies. But Cox adds that while the district may be ahead of most in Texas when it comes to these

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Projectmates



Kuchling Award recipient Reed Hunsdorfer dies

Raised money to keep HIV/AIDS orgs open during 'the dark days'

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
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Former Resource Center Dallas employee Reed Hunsdorfer, 62, was killed in a car accident in East Texas on March 3.

The accident occurred on U.S. 79, about 7 miles southwest of Henderson. A driver rear-ended an SUV and then swerved into oncoming traffic, hitting the car Hunsdorfer was driving. He died at the scene. The police report said he was not wearing a seat belt. No other serious injuries were reported.

The Texas Department of Public Safety officer who filed the accident report hadn't re-

turned a call by press time to confirm whether alcohol was involved or if charges would be brought against the 18-year-old driver who hit Hunsdorfer. However, the case is still open.



Reed Hunsdorfer

Hunsdorfer became development manager at the AIDS Resource Center soon after the organization moved into the former MCC Church building on Reagan Street in 1990, according to Craig Hess. He worked there until about 1994.

"That was during the dark days," said Don Maison, president and CEO of AIDS Services Dallas.

He said that at that time, before Ryan White and HOPWA funding, an AIDS agency didn't know from day to day if it could keep the doors open or how to pay the light bill. At the Resource Center, while Executive Director John Thomas expanded programs and hired employees to serve the growing needs of the community, he relied on Hunsdorfer to raise that money to pay the bills.

William Waybourn, a founder of the Resource Center, said that at the time employees were hired from among the volunteers. He said Hunsdorfer was hired to manage the events that funded the operation — drag shows, can- teens, the Court, the theater group.

"He'd coordinate and make sure everything was as agreed," Waybourn said. "He was a super-sweet guy."

■ HUNSDORFER, Page 9



OUT FRONT | Houston Mayor Annise Parker speaks at a Freedom to Marry Day rally at City Hall on Feb. 14. (Johnny Hanson/Houston Chronicle)

Annise under fire on marriage

Pastor makes headlines with call for lesbian Houston mayor to resign over her support for pledge Dallas' Mike Rawlings has refused to sign

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

HOUSTON — Although a pastor has made it his mission to have out lesbian Mayor Annise Parker step down from her position because of her support for same-sex marriage, Parker is done commenting on the pastor's remarks and is moving on with her mission for the city.

Senior Pastor Steve Riggle of Grace Community Church emailed Parker a letter Feb. 24 that stated his disdain for her signing and promoting the Mayors for Freedom to Marry pledge, writing that she "should do the honorable thing and step down" if she cannot uphold the Texas Constitutional amendment that defined marriage between a man and a woman approved in 2005 with 76 percent of votes, 72 percent from Harris County.

Riggle made headlines again this week after



Pastor Steve Riggle

reading his entire letter during a church service Sunday, March 4, after reading 25 Bible versions of the Genesis verse that states a man will eventually leave his parents and join his wife "in one flesh."

A representative from Parker's office told Dallas Voice this week she is no longer commenting

on the pastor's attacks and will focus on improving Houston's economy and meeting the needs of the citizens. Parker is one of the five chairs of the Mayors for the Freedom to Marry, a group established at the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C., in January.

Parker has said it's her duty "to uphold the state Constitution and the U.S. Constitution. I swore an oath to that. I take that oath very seriously, but I have my First Amendment rights to free speech. We all have the right to do that and I'm sorry that they [Riggle and his supporters] don't understand the Constitution. I'm going to continue to follow my oath of office, lead the city well but speak out on issues that I care about."

Riggle was unavailable for an interview this week.

"I respectfully request that you not use your office or title to press your personal views and lifestyle on this subject that we, the people, have so clearly spoken," Riggle said during his sermon, reading from the letter. "Additionally, as our mayor, I would request that you be true to the vow you took to uphold the constitution of the

■ PARKER, Page 12

A full-page advertisement for 2(X)IST underwear. A muscular man with short brown hair and a light beard is the central figure. He is shirtless and wearing black briefs with a white waistband that features the '2(X)IST TOUCH' logo. He is standing in a modern interior, leaning against a window frame with his right hand on the ledge and his left hand on his hip. The window looks out onto a city skyline at dusk or dawn. The overall lighting is dramatic, highlighting the man's physique.

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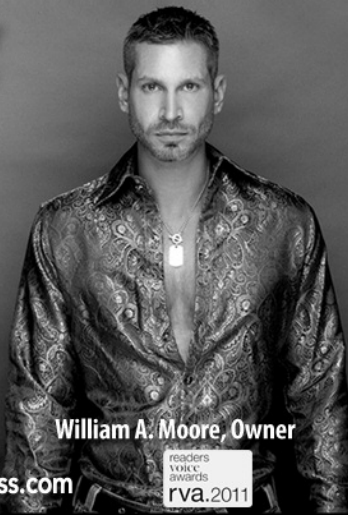


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localbriefs

Youth First Texas reorganizes board, adds bilingual counselor

Youth First Texas reorganized its board of directors, naming Chris-James Cognaetta as the sole board chairman.

"We are actively recruiting new board members and, as always, volunteers," Cognaetta said.

YFT added a bilingual counselor to its counseling program to serve the growing number of His-



Chris-James Cognaetta

panic youth accessing services at the center. Bilingual coming out and parents groups will start later this spring.

Although the annual Gayla Prom may be delayed until fall, YFT is

hosting a St. Patrick's Day party and a Spring Formal.

Over the next year or two, there may be some major expansion as the organization is in talks with potential chapters in Denton, Tarrant County and San Antonio.

"We're partnering with the Safe Schools Initiatives, and offering SAT and GED camps this summer for youth who are college bound or need to get their GED," Cognaetta said.

For more info on YFT, go to YouthFirstTexas.org.

Reverchon Park cleanup moved to March 17 due to weather

The Reverchon Park cleanup scheduled for Saturday, March 10, has been postponed to March 17 due to expected rain.

Projects include planting flower beds, removing fallen tree limbs, clearing out trash and revitalizing the baseball complex and sand volleyball court.

Registration and orientation will begin at 9:30 a.m. Coffee and pastries will be provided.

The Reverchon Roundup takes place from 10 a.m. to noon. Then a free picnic lunch will be served to volunteers.

Volunteers should wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and shoes. If available, bring gloves, rakes and small hand tools.

Parking is available in the garage and surface lots at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital adjacent to Reverchon Park.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Volunteer Services at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRHC) at reverchon.roundup@tsrh.org or call 214-559-7825.

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RECOGNIZED | Hunsdorfer accepts the Kuchling Award at Black Tie in 1992. (Dallas Voice file photo)

HUNSDORFER

From Page 6

He said that whenever anyone asked Hunsdorfer to do anything, he never questioned a motive and only asked how fast it needed to be done.

"He was so good at what he did," Waybourn said. "He was unassuming and an incredible volunteer."

Maison said Hunsdorfer was always upbeat.

"His mood was contagious," Maison said. "He lit up a room."

Hunsdorfer was an early board member of Razzle Dazzle Dallas along with Maison.

"He turned his house in Pleasant Grove into a workshop for decorations," Maison said.

He recalled working with Hunsdorfer installing electricity and repairing the roof at the old auto pound on Inwood Road to prepare for one of the early Razzle parties that were often held in odd locations and featured massive decorations.

"I thought I was going to die of heat stroke," Maison said. "He was a hard-working son of a bitch."

For his hard work and tireless fundraising efforts, Black Tie Dinner honored Hunsdorfer with a Kuchling Award in 1992.

At the time of his death, Hunsdorfer lived in

Shake Rag, an unincorporated community in East Texas southwest of Henderson. He and his partner of 15 years, Gary Simmons, moved there in 2005 and bought Cold Creek Farm, where they raised goats and made cheese, soap and lotions from the milk.

He was also assistant manager at Tractor Supply Co. in Henderson.

After moving to East Texas in 2005, Hunsdorfer served as executive director of AIDS Services Tyler for a year and a half, according to Mark Morrison, who stayed with Hunsdorfer and Simmons for six months when he needed a place to live.

"Reed insisted I stay with them," Morrison said. "He was terribly generous."

Former Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Deb Elder said: "Reed was a true leader with his compassion and loving spirit. He will be greatly missed."

Hunsdorfer was raised on Staten Island in New York City and graduated from the University of Denver.

The funeral was on Thursday, March 8, in Henderson. In addition to Simmons, he is survived by his sister, Carol Royce of Norwalk, Conn.; brother and sister-in-law, Lloyd and Joyce Hunsdorfer of Staten Island, N.Y.; five nieces and nephews; and 11 great-nieces and nephews. ■

Death

Carol J. Wells, 81, died March 5, 2012. Wells was well known in the community for her tireless fundraising efforts for the Oak Lawn Library Friends and was a recipient of the A.C. Greene award.



For more than 30 years, she clothed many of Dallas' children first when she owned Happiness Is in the Quadrangle and years later from her second store, Silhouettes, in Snider Plaza. Wells was most at home when she was running the show. Early in her life, she owned Le Pigalle, the Alley Door and Act IV. She premiered some of the world's finest musicians such as Lightning Hopkins in one of Dallas' first coffee

houses in the 1960s, The Glad Hand.

She was a founding member of the Bet Tsion Synagogue in Richardson, Texas. She is survived by her daughters, Sherry W. Hines, Robin L. Richards; beloved grandchildren David Michael Koye and Sarah Wallace Dodson; adored great grandchildren, Chloe, Hannah, Abby, Lily and Max. She is also survived by the Rehder family, Jerry Price, many loving friends and her trusted companion Lulu. Visitation was on Thursday, March 8, from 6-8 p.m. at Restland Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 9, at 3:30 p.m. in Restland Memorial Chapel. Following the services on Friday, a reception will be held at the Oak Lawn Library on Cedar Springs. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the Oak Lawn Library Friends at 4100 Cedar Springs, Dallas, Texas 75219. ■

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healthnews



BACK ON THE JOB | Bret Camp stands outside the Resource Center on Tuesday, March 6. Camp left his 16-year post in May because of cancer. He returned March 1 with a new job title. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

Beating the odds

Longtime employee Bret Camp returns to work at Resource Center Dallas less than a year after being diagnosed with an aggressive form of lymphoma

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
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Bret Camp knows about survival. In less than a year, he's battled lymphoma after doctors finally identified what was making him so ill, and returned to the job he adored but had to leave for health reasons.

Camp suffers from neck pain that resulted in him needing surgery in 1999 and again in May 2011.

After his surgery last year, Camp got sick, leading doctors to believe a complication had occurred and brought on an infection.

Numerous tests were done, but nothing was discovered. Within weeks Camp was "incredibly ill," with fevers and sweats, losing 25 pounds in 30 days. But still no answers surfaced.

In August, he met with an oncologist who diagnosed him with B-cell lymphoma within days of running tests, and Camp began a 24-week chemotherapy regimen. His primary cancerous lymph nodes were right under his surgical incision, he said.

"When I started it, I was pretty sick and really didn't know if I was going to pull through," he said.

Battling the "very classic" effects of chemo like nausea and the "chemo brain" forgetfulness, Camp said he kept a positive attitude about beating the cancer.

"It's all about attitude and keeping a positive attitude, looking to the future, having something

to look forward to," he said.

A flood of support for Camp came from the community, a cancer support group, family, and most importantly his partner, Steve.

"I don't know if I could have done it without him. He was my rock through most of it, through all of it," Camp said. "He was a great caretaker."

As he read up on his cancer, Camp almost halted his research due the horrible stories. However, he remained positive and stayed focused on the fact that B-cell is "one of the more aggressive lymphomas, but it's also one of the most successful treatment rates," he said.

Still, Camp was worried his HIV would cause problems with his recovery. But after 10 months without HIV labs, his T cells were higher and his viral load was still undetectable.

And while lymphoma is an "opportunistic" disease for people who are HIV-positive, much like heart and liver disease and various infections, Camp said his HIV didn't ultimately hinder his recovery.

"It may have been the root cause, but I don't think it complicated things," he said. "It's a blessing and it shows the resilience of the human body."

Although Camp started to feel like himself again after the chemo treatments ended mid-December, the decision to return to work wasn't until mid-February.

"As soon as I started feeling good, I started getting bored," he said. "I had stayed in touch with Resource Center, and my heart was always with

the agency and the extended family that I've got here."

Camp started working for the center in 1995 as clinic coordinator, eventually serving as associate executive director until he left in May.

When he was healthy enough to return to work, the center created the health services director position for Camp "to get me back in the loop." He started back at RCD on March 1.

"I've stepped back in and it's fitting like a comfortable pair of shoes," Camp said.

His new role involves working with the clinics, the HIV and STD programs, and some of the center's strategic and special programs, such as educating clients on the new healthcare reform changes and how they affect them, he said.

But most of all, Camp is excited about the people he'll get to work with in his new role.

"The Resource Center's mission is about people, and that's what I like about my job," Camp said.

Cece Cox, executive director and CEO of Resource Center Dallas, said she's grateful for Camp's return to the center and the benefits that having him on staff will continue to bring to the community.

"He has a vast knowledge of many things related to HIV, medications, changes in healthcare and medications, and laws and regulations that impact our work," Cox said. "He's got a deep network and history of relationships that are important to this agency and that means ultimately to



FRESH PERSPECTIVE | Camp, shown in his office, said his new role as health services director includes educating clients on healthcare reform changes and how they affect them. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

our clients."

Zachary S. Thompson, director of Dallas County Health and Human Services, said he was glad to see Camp return.

"His commitment and compassion to serving all communities impacted by HIV and AIDS is reinvigorating," Thompson said.

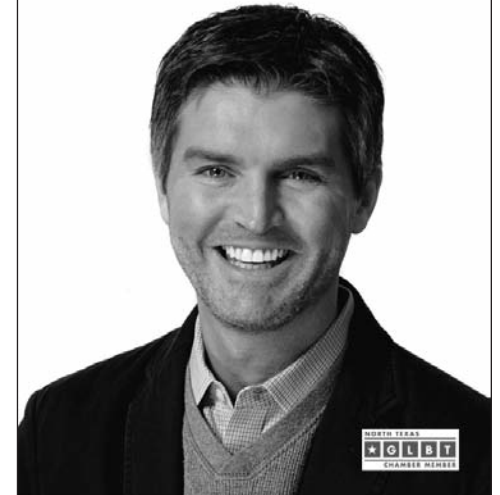
Camp's return to a healthy life and a work

schedule have taught him to shrug off simple annoyances in a daily routine and to cherish the little things that brought him joy before his cancer diagnosis.

"In many ways, I think everyone needs a life-threatening experience because it gives you perspective," Camp said. "You know what a real problem is." ■

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From Page 6

state of Texas and stand for traditional marriage since we, as the citizens of Texas, have expressed by amending our constitution that marriage will be defined as between one man and one woman."

Riggle then made comments denying that he's "anti-gay" or a "gay hater," and responded to statements from Parker and media outlets for the rest of his time at the pulpit.

Parker issued another, final statement after Riggle's sermon, writing: "Houston is a city supportive of equal rights and tolerant of opposing opinions — a city where individuals may disagree with one another without being personal. I am standing with 160 mayors, including other Texas mayors, who have taken the same public position. My focus remains on creating jobs and building a safer city."

To date, 178 mayors from 32 states and the District of Columbia have signed the pledge, six of them from Texas, including Parker.

The other five Texas mayors who's signed the pledge — Lee Leffingwell of Austin, Bruce Smiley-Kaliff of Castle Hills, Joe Jaworski of Galveston, Lucy Johnson of Kyle and A. David Marne of Shavano Park — released a statement Tuesday, March 6, calling it "outlandish and simply wrong that some would call for her [Parker's] resignation because of her leadership."

"Across Texas, there is a belief that all Texans deserve lives free from discrimination — equality under the law. Mayor Parker is upholding her duty to the citizens of Houston to provide a community that treats all her citizens with dignity and respect. She has joined the growing chorus of her colleagues who are speaking out publicly about this. Like us, she is doing it while still maintaining focus on the priorities of her office."

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings' refusal to sign the marriage pledge has led to a huge backlash from the LGBT community in North Texas.

Freedom to Marry founder Evan Wolfson wrote in an email to Dallas Voice this week that Parker signed the pledge "to speak out for fairness is a fulfillment of her promise to fight for all families and build a better business climate in Houston."

"As mayor of one of America's great cities, and a mother, Mayor Parker knows that marriage strengthens families, and stronger families benefit everyone," Wolfson wrote. "Government should not be putting barriers in the path of those seeking to care for their loved ones, and it's terrific that Houston has a mayor willing to speak her mind and stand up for liberty and justice for all."

Noel Freeman, president of the Houston GLBT Political Caucus, said Parker has a right to express a personal opinion, comparing her signing the pledge to Gov. Rick Perry holding an anti-LGBT prayer conference in Houston last year.

"Unless Mayor Parker has somehow forced the



NOT ALONE | Parker, shown at the Feb. 14 rally, is one of 178 mayors from 32 states and the District of Columbia who've signed the pledge, including six from Texas. (Johnny Hanson/Houston Chronicle)

Harris County Clerk to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, she has done nothing to violate the Texas Constitution," Freeman wrote in an email to Dallas Voice.

Denis Dison, a spokesman for the Washington, D.C.-based Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, which backs openly LGBT candidates nationwide, said Riggle's church opposed her election to office be-

cause she's a lesbian.

"At every turn they have opposed her administration and her leading the city and so it comes as no surprise that they're going to look for any opportunity to again try to make her mayoralty more difficult," he said. "That's just politics." ■

Watch the March 4 Grace Community Church sermon at <http://grace.tv/pastoral-response>.

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Fostering with PRIDE

Program at Jonathan's Place in Garland among many in Texas preparing singles, couples to be foster parents — regardless of sexual orientation

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

GARLAND — As a product of the foster care system, Rusty Johnson — perhaps best known in the LGBT community for his saxophone playing at local clubs — is passionate about finding great foster parents.

One of the parents Johnson found is Joe Good. Through Jonathan's Place, an emergency shelter for children who've been removed from their homes, the openly gay Good became a foster father for the first time in February.

In the first two weeks he had 3-year-old Christopher, Good missed work, rearranged his house to make it safer, learned to take very quick showers while the boy was sleeping, nursed Christopher through a cold, and listened to a lot of crying and screaming.

"My house is a circus," he said. "But I'm really getting into Scooby Doo."

Good has also experienced the anguish of turning Christopher over to a social worker for a supervised visit with his biological parents.

"When he left, I called my mom and cried for an hour," Good said.

And he fretted through a parental court hearing. Interviewed as he waited anxiously at home for the results of the hearing, Good said if Christopher is returned to his birth parents, he'll be devastated. Although he hopes to eventually adopt the boy, Good vowed to always be part of Christopher's life.

Despite the emotional ups and downs, Good said becoming a foster parent is a wonderful experience.

The frequent hugs Christopher gives Good indicate how comfortable the boy is in his new home. And Good, who's single, said his family has welcomed the boy. They've gone to church and shopped together.

■ FOSTERING, Page 14



GOOD IS GREAT | Openly gay foster father Joe Good bonded with 3-year-old Christopher immediately and is enjoying his new role as a single dad. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

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coverstory

■ FOSTERING, From Page 13

Good knows Christopher could be taken from him at any time and placed back with his parents. So he said he's teaching the toddler to be self-sufficient.

"God only knows what he could go back to, where he might have to protect himself or take care of himself at a very young age," Good said.

Ricki Casterline, director of programs for Jonathan's Place, said Good is doing a great job. Casterline loves the structure he's put into Christopher's life. She said structure is something missing from the lives of most of the children she sees.

And Casterline would like more LGBT singles and couples to become foster parents through her agency or another one that welcomes LGBT parents. Fostering can be a challenge, and after just a few weeks as a foster parent, Good had some advice.

"Have a great support system," he said.

Among the members of Good's support system is Judy Erickson, his friend, neighbor and doctor. Erickson has also fostered as a single parent, and she said as many as 40 percent of foster parents nationally and a third of adoptive parents are single. Before about 1970, only married couples could foster in the U.S.

Marissa Gonzalez, a representative from the state Division of Child Protective Services, said it's unclear how many LGBT foster parents there are in Texas.

"We don't track gay, straight, single, married," Gonzalez said.

In 2005, right-wing Texas legislators attempted to ban gay foster parenting, but the proposal died amid concerns about increased costs to the state, as well as opposition from Equality Texas and other pro-LGBT groups.

Gonzalez said agencies like Jonathan's Place and CPS are looking for a wide variety of homes, and people with diverse backgrounds. The goal is to have many options to find a great fit for every child.

"The process is intensive," she said. "The first thing we're looking for is people who have the desire and willingness."

She said the process to become a foster parent is designed to weed out those who might not be the best fit for the program. As prospective foster parents train, either the agency or the prospective foster parents might decide it's not a good fit.

"It can be hard to have a child in your home and then let them go later on," Gonzalez said. "If that's going to be hard on you, think of adoption."

That happened to Erickson. The 2-year-old she fostered was returned to family members. She plans to foster again but is taking a break first as she recovers emotionally from the loss.

Gonzalez said some people feel they have a calling to take care of children temporarily until they can go on to a better life.

Johnson said the first step to becoming a foster parent is to attend an orientation, which he conducts for Jonathan's Place. He said orientation is a time for those who might be interested to get questions answered.

Johnson said orientation can help people decide whether they should pursue fostering or adop-



FIRSTHAND KNOWLEDGE | Rusty Johnson, himself a product of the foster care system, now conducts orientation for prospective parents at Jonathan's Place. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

tion. Fostering to adopt, the path Good chose, is a third alternative.

After orientation, prospective foster parents must attend a series of classes on a variety of topics including CPR and first aid, medication administration, behavior intervention techniques, and policies and procedures. The program is incidentally called PRIDE — Parents Resource Information Development Education.

Every foster parent must also do 40 hours of supervised observation at Jonathan's Place — interacting with children at the campus in Garland.

At Jonathan's Place, one of the programs is long-term residential treatment for 10- to 17-year-old girls suffering from low self-esteem, poor coping skills, eating disorders and depression. All are behind in school. Some are questioning their sexual orientation. Many have already unsuccessfully navigated the foster system.

Casterline said most of the girls she's seen in the residential program have been sexually abused and some have drug problems.

At his last orientation, Johnson asked the girls to talk to prospective foster parents. He said they jumped at the chance.

They talked about their bad experiences — parents buying clothes for their biological children and not for them, taking the family out to dinner while leaving them home, going on vacation and not taking them along.

Johnson said those experiences mirror his own. He was in third grade when he first entered the foster system and lived in five foster homes, in addition to 10 to 15 temporary or group homes, through high school.

Johnson described the first foster family he lived with as having "just stepped off the Mayflower."

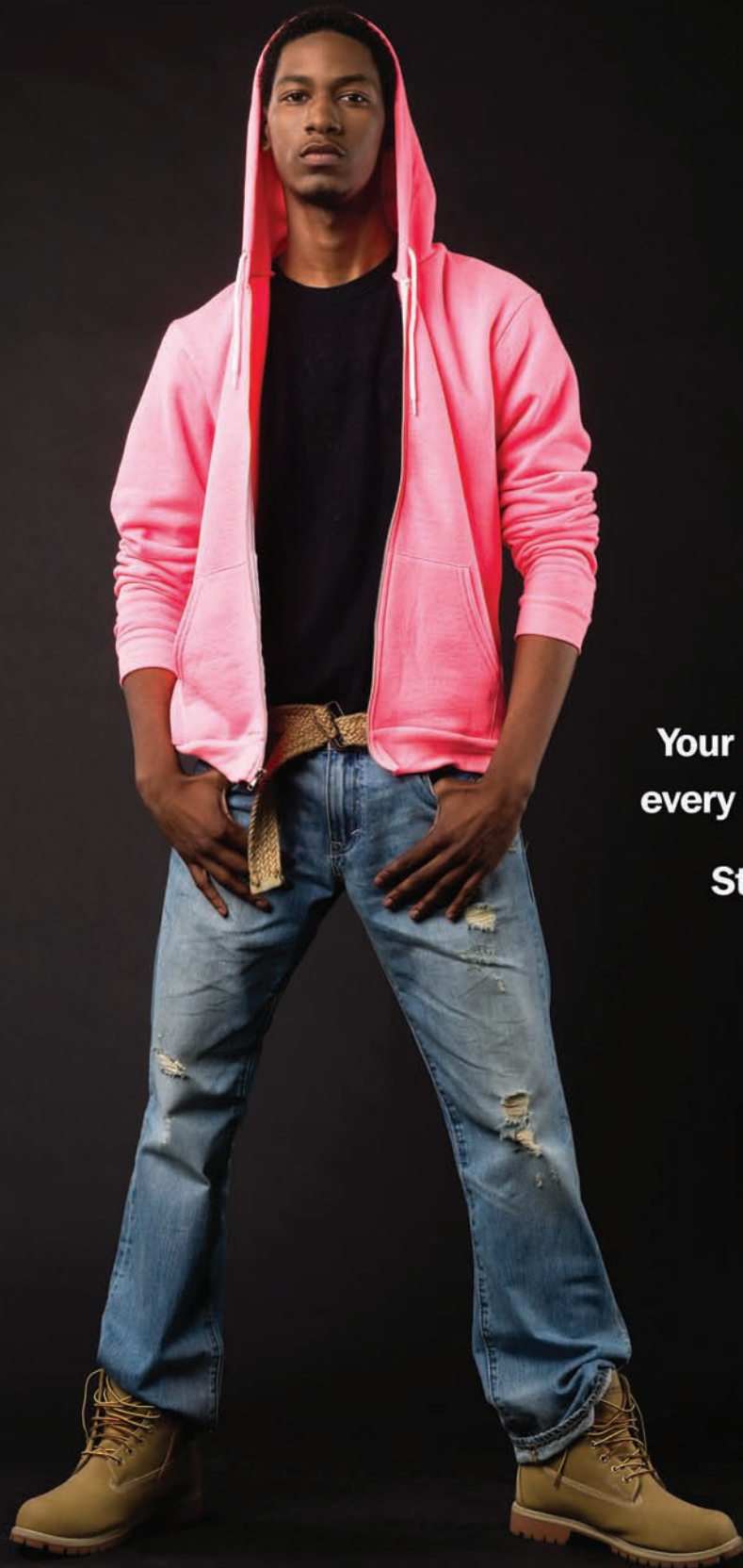
He said another foster family went on vacation and placed him in a temporary respite facility, which left him feeling like a dog put in a kennel.

Because gays and lesbians have often been marginalized, he believes that as foster parents, they're more likely to pour love on children and never marginalize them.

Casterline agreed. She also said all new parents have trepidation, but Jonathan's Place walks them through the process. She said she encourages

■ FOSTERING, Page 16

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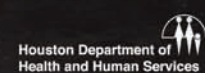


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FOSTERING, From Page 14

prospective foster parents to ask questions.

"The more the better," she said.

That helps them with their parenting skills and helps her get to know the new parents better. She said she tries to place children in the home she thinks is the best fit.

"If I call you, I seriously think you're a good match," she said.

Johnson said that in all his years in the foster system, no one spent that time trying to place him with the right family. He said no one matches children to parents better than Casterline.

While some people wait longer for a placement, Jonathan's Place rushed to finish the paperwork on Good's home study so Casterline could place Christopher with him.

Good said Jonathan's Place did a good job preparing him for the experience but Casterline said no one can ever be completely prepared. She said the best parents don't have some preconceived expectations of what foster parenting should be.

"These kids have problems," she said.

The best parents are extremely flexible. Children are usually placed in foster homes with just hours notice.

Good said there are some things he did to prepare for an eventual placement. He had already explored daycare in his area and had babysitters lined up and cleared by the agency. He spoke to people at work and switched to an earlier shift when Christopher arrived.

"I prepared everyone for the unexpected," he said.

Prospective foster parents can choose several factors — age range, sex, number of children. Good wanted a boy because he didn't trust himself to teach a girl things she needed to know as she got older. He asked for a child up to age 7. And he didn't think he could handle a family group, so he asked for just one.

Erickson asked for a girl and also wanted a younger child, but wasn't ready for a newborn. As many children as she's seen in her practice, she had no experience bottle-feeding a baby.

Casterline said the biggest needs are foster parents for family groups so siblings won't be split up, and for older children.

Johnson said of all the foster parents with



HELP WANTED | Ricki Casterline, director of programs for Jonathan's Place, said the biggest needs are parents for family groups and for older children. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

whom he lived, the person he thinks of as his mom was single. And the religious couple that were his first parents still keep in touch and come to some of his concerts.

He called the interaction between foster parents and children "a weird psychological game." He said the children may be happy to be someplace safe, but they never asked to be there. Often they're scared.

They might ask themselves, "Is this the family I'm going to be with for the rest of my life?" he said. "What if I don't like them?"

Half a million children live in foster care in the U.S., according to a 2007 study by the Urban Institute.

Gay and lesbian parents are raising more than 3 percent of foster children in the U.S. LGBT fostering saves the U.S. as much as \$130 million, and without LGBT parents as many as 14,000 children would be homeless, the study showed.

Good said he thinks more members of the LGBT community should become foster parents.

"I would recommend going through a place like Jonathan's Place where they're a little more rigorous," he said.

Each day has presented him with new challenges, but he said the intensive training and licensing process left him well prepared to welcome Christopher into his life. ■



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A tale of two openly gay sheriffs

Paul Babeu and Lupe Valdez took far different paths to list of LGBT elected officials; Ariz. lawman's case reminiscent of Mike Dupree in Dallas

It might be sort of an odd time to be bringing this up, but who knew until just recently we had two openly LGBT sheriffs in the country?

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund includes Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu's name and picture on its website as an openly gay elected official, along with lesbian Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez and some 500 other LGBT officials. As it happens, Babeu and Valdez are the only LGBT officials to hold the position of sheriff, as far as we now know, but there's a whole slew of every other type of elected official identified.

Babeu apparently flew under the public's radar until last month when his ex-lover, a Mexican national, alleged the sheriff threatened to get him deported if he talked publicly about their relationship. The Arizona sheriff acknowledged his sexual orientation while denying Jose Orozco's claims.

In his public statement revealing his former romantic relationship with Orozco, Babeu vowed he would continue his bid for the 4th Congressional District on the Republican ticket. He did, however, resign as co-chair of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney's Arizona campaign.

As if all that wasn't bad enough, photos of Babeu with his hand inside Orozco's shirt and one of the sheriff in his bikini underwear showed up online. Then Babeu's sister, Lucy Babeu, told a Phoenix TV news reporter her brother had dated a student when he was the headmaster of a Massachusetts boarding school.

In addition to the allegations of sexual impropriety involving a male student, the news station, KNXV-TV, reported that the boarding school disciplined male students by making them remove their clothes to wear only sheets in a bizarre practice known as "sheeting."

In response, Babeu's campaign issued a statement saying his sister was basically crazy, and a former male student of the boarding school denied ever having been sexually involved with the sheriff. The statement also denied any responsibility on Babeu's part in determining disciplinary methods.

Now, Orozco has lawyered up and filed a notice of his intention to sue the Pinal County Sheriff's Office for \$1 million.

Babeu has claimed Orozco's story has no merit in part because he understood the Mexican national was living legally in the U.S.



Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu (Associated Press)

It's hard to know what to make of all this, because the quasi-military environment of law enforcement agencies tends to be so closed to outsiders that everyone generally knows everybody else's business. It seems implausible that Babeu could have hidden his sexual orientation from fellow law enforcement officials or that they would have accepted it without complaint.

In one of the media reports, Babeu noted that political enemies in the past had attempted to make an issue of his sexual orientation and the mainstream media had generally ignored it. Babeu, who was elected in 2008 and named Sheriff of the Year by the National Sheriff's Association last year, is now president of the Arizona Sheriffs' Association.

Some might say if he had been open about his sexual orientation, Babeu's enemies might have had less inclination to go after him. But that certainly didn't prove to be the case with Dallas County Constable Mike Dupree, whose fondness for Latino lovers apparently led to all kinds

of trouble and his resignation to avoid jail in 2007 in connection with official misconduct charges. (For the record, Dupree continues to insist he was the victim of a conspiracy involving elected officials and disgruntled constable deputies, and that his name will one day be cleared.)

In contrast, the Babeu story appears to involve only a former lover. The whole Babeu story sort of smells like a relationship gone sour where one party feels used, abused and left behind.

That's not to say Babeu didn't exercise bad judgment. It's not such a good idea for an elected official to allow pictures taken of him with his hand inside of a young man's shirt, nor to appear in a photo in bikini underwear — no matter how good looking he might think he is.

I'm relatively sure there's nothing out there like that to embarrass Dallas County's Sheriff Valdez.

I was at a party one night a few years ago that she attended, and when a camera came out she quickly put her beer down on a table. ■

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



David Webb
The Rare Reporter

Did Texas Democrats throw the LGBT community under the bus?

State party leaders twice vote down proposal to put marriage equality on primary ballot, leaving many gay members feeling betrayed

The Texas Democratic Party has an image problem with many of its LGBT constituents. For the second time in four months, the State Democratic Executive Committee voted not to include a marriage equality referendum on the 2012 Democratic primary ballot.

This issue first came to light in November when a group of progressive SDEC members, both gay and straight, organized an effort to get the SDEC to include referenda on the primary ballot. Proponents argued that a marriage equality referendum would boost voter turnout, especially among young people and other Democratic "base" voters, in a presidential election year when President Barack Obama faces no opposition in the primary.

Resolutions to include referenda on marriage equality, abolishing the death penalty, legalizing marijuana, the DREAM Act and affordable college tuition were drafted by SDEC members and presented to the SDEC Resolutions Committee for consideration at last November's meeting.

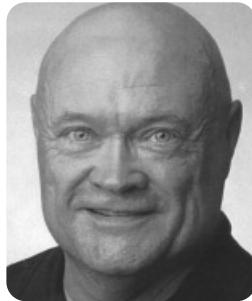
The committee voted in favor of including affordable college tuition, the DREAM Act and legalized casino gambling on the ballot, but voted down the resolutions on marriage equality, the death penalty and legalizing marijuana.

The proposed marriage equality referendum was worded as follows: "Same-sex couples should be granted equal access to civil marriage and all its benefits and all federal and state laws denying such access should be repealed."

Since there were sufficient votes within the committee to present a minority report before the entire SDEC, the three resolutions were brought up again in general session. During debate, opponents argued that including such referenda on the ballot would give Republicans fodder for attacking Democrats, negatively impact Democratic candidates on the ballot, and set back progress on LGBT rights if the marriage equality measure ended up failing at the ballot box.

All three resolutions were defeated on the floor of the SDEC general session. The marriage equality resolution, which was defeated by a vote of 33-21, garnered more votes than the other two resolutions.

Fast forward to Feb. 11. Garry Brown, an SDEC member from Austin, decided to bring back the marriage equality resolution for reconsideration in the general session. State Party Chairman Boyd Richie ruled Brown's motion out of order "because this was already voted on at the last SDEC meeting and was defeated." Brown appealed Chairman Richie's ruling, but that appeal lost by a vote of 16-40.



Daniel Graney
Contributing Columnist

By rejecting the marriage equality referendum, the SDEC acted contrary to its own party platform and resolutions. The 2010 Texas Democratic Party platform explicitly calls for the "repeal of discriminatory laws and policies against members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community." Moreover, delegates to the 2010 State Democratic Convention in Corpus Christi voted overwhelmingly in favor of a resolution calling for the repeal of the anti-gay federal Defense of Marriage Act.

The SDEC clearly stands on the wrong side of history on this issue. Both national and state polling data show increasing support for civil marriage for same-gender couples among all demographic groups, with a clear majority of younger voters supporting civil marriage. Wash-

ington state and Maryland recently became the seventh and eighth states to legalize same-sex marriage. More than 150 mayors from cities all across the country (including the mayors of Austin, Houston and San Antonio) have signed a pledge in support of marriage equality. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals declared California's Proposition 8 unconstitutional, and the issue of marriage equality may very well come before the U.S. Supreme Court in the next year or two.

Many LGBT Democrats feel a sense of betrayal by their own party. In contrast to the Republican Party, which openly promotes homophobia and bigotry, the Democratic Party has been viewed as the home of those devoted to securing fair and equal treatment for all people, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. In 2000, delegates to the Texas Democratic Convention voted to recognize the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus as the official LGBT caucus of the State Democratic Party by giving them two seats on the SDEC. Yet, many party officials and candidates cannot bring themselves to embrace full equality for LGBT people. It was particularly disheartening to see a majority of SDEC members from Dallas and Houston vote against the marriage equality resolution. These same people attend LGBT events in those cities and have privately voiced their support for same-sex marriage.

SDEC members are good and honorable people who contribute their time and money to the party. However, if the party does not stand for something as important as marriage equality, then fear rules and the party is diminished as a result. We would do well to remember the words of Bayard Rustin, the openly gay African-American man who fought for civil rights alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (and whose 100th birthday we commemorate this year): "To be afraid is to act as if the truth were not true." ■

Dan Graney lives in San Antonio and is president of the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus.



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Will the gays finally win a public vote on marriage equality in 2012?

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Anatomy of a RAID

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Filmmaker Robert L. Camina's 3-year mission to document the historic raid in Fort Worth finally hits the screen

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

Like many gay North Texans, Robert L. Camina can still vividly recall the weekend of June 28, 2009 — the night the TABC and Fort Worth police raided the Rainbow Lounge. Unlike most others, however, Camina had something they didn't: A video camera. And a desire to use it.

On Sunday morning, as the rumblings of an apparent raid on Cowtown's newest gay bar — on the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall Raid, no less — began filtering toward him through text messages and social media, Camina knew there was a story there ... one he wanted to document.

"I was really trying to wrap my head around everything," he recalls. "We don't know what the facts were, but I thought, 'We need to get this on video.'"

Camina grabbed his equipment and dashed down to Lee Park in Dallas, where he has planned to be anyway in support of the Million Gay March planned that afternoon.

"I knew the momentum would begin there," he says. "I made the decision right away to make a short film about the raid."

That "short film" never materialized. Instead, as the rumors and recriminations flew, as Fort Worth's gay community came together surprisingly quickly to voice its outrage and as facts slowly emerged, Camina realized there was something here much bigger than he could boil down into a 20-minute documentary.

Now, nearly three years later, *Raid of the Rainbow Lounge* — a full 100 minutes long — gets its world premiere March 15 at the Palace AMC Theatre in Sundance Square.

"I've worked on [this film] in some capacity almost every single day since then. I am ready to birth the baby!" says Camina with a laugh.

It's been an exhausting, occasionally frustrating experience. But also entirely worth all the effort.

It's rare for a filmmaker to be involved in the subject of a documentary so immersively since the very beginning, and for that, Camina is grateful he "had the ability to drop everything" and dive right in. "Frequently, I would drive every day over [to Fort Worth]. We didn't know what was happening. It wasn't a retrospective — I was in the center of the storm. I felt like a journalist."

Even so, the process was complicated. "Facts were very fresh in people's minds then, but people were scared to talk to the press, to investigators, to the police," he says. Ultimately, he conducted dozens of interviews (including a 45-minute one-on-one with Fort Worth Police Chief Jeff Halstead) and compiled more than 50 hours of footage from which to piece together the events of the night of the raid, up until the City Council's vote on gender identity protection under the city's anti-discrimination policy.

Camina would spend hours poring over every police report, interview, memo and sworn statement taken of the TABC officers,



RAID OF THE RAINBOW...

Palace AMC 9, 220 Third St., Fort Worth. March 15. Doors open at 7 p.m. Screening at 7:30 p.m. followed by Q&A. \$20. RaidoftheRainbowLounge.com

mapping out every reason they claimed to be there, and how the events went down.

One can only imagine living with the film every day, as just a single viewing churns the muddied waters of the past.

Raid of the Rainbow Lounge will force locals to relive some of the anger and confusion of those contentious months, as well as the personalities. (It gives you reason to dislike Chief Halstead all over again.)

But Camina says he has tried to keep his personal views out of the film, relying instead on invoking the facts as conveyed by the witnesses and participants.

"I tried to be as objective as possible," Camina says. "They were in a crowded, dark, smoky bar; emotions were heightened so people would see different things," he says of his investigative

DOCUMENTARY UNCHAINED | Robert Camina has spent nearly every day for almost three years working on his documentary, which premieres in Fort Worth this week. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

process. "Once I had interviewed everybody, I cross-referenced my interviews with their sworn statements. If there was speculation I didn't include it or prefaced it with [that caveat]."

Still, even he couldn't help but draw some conclusions about the truthfulness — or lack thereof — of the officers.

"Some of the statements they made were really outrageous. When Chief Halstead made the comment that he was happy with how his officers behaved, that just fanned the activist. That's

■ RAID, Page 23

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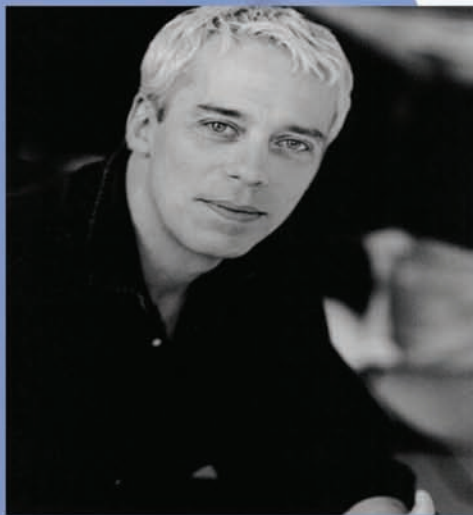
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Get 'Carter'

From Dillon, Texas, to the canals of Mars, Taylor Kitsch lives up to his name in campy 'John Carter'

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

If you've seen the TV ads for **John Carter**, you've heard the line that it's "from the studio that brought you *Pirates of the Caribbean*." That's faint praise at best, but what you won't hear is, "from the studio that brought you *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*." Wise choice: If you have to compare your product to a bit of artistic detritus, at least have the sense to pick a successful movie.

Such pleas to entertainment loyalty send up flags to me. We get very little idea of the film's plot, merely that the century-old Edgar Rice Burroughs *Barsoom* series, including *John Carter of Mars*, inspired countless sci-fi filmmakers.

True. And Conan the Barbarian was the first superhero. How *did* that movie do?

But the fact is, it really *does* kinda enhance your enjoyment to know "this was first." Realizing George Lucas was inspired by the Martian "Jeddak" in naming his "Jedi," or that the dearth of water on the dry planet formed the kernel of Frank Herbert's *Dune* ... well, such foreknowl-

edge makes you appreciate the primogenitor of it all. It's like listening to old blues recordings of songs Elvis later made famous.

It also helps by putting you in a forgiving mood when the film becomes convoluted (too much timeline hopping) or begins to feel derivative. Best not to use *that* word, anyway — it's a

pastiche, combining conventions of sci-fi (the Martians really *are* green), the Western (still a fairly new genre when Burroughs wrote his little bit of pulp), sand-and-sandal epics with a hint of Disneyfication (an adorable Martian dog).

The plot is a marvel of convolution: A Confederate soldier (Taylor Kitsch, who has moved up from troubled high schooler in *Friday Night Lights* to masculine but unthreatening action himbo) is magically transported to Mars, where his greater bone density, musculature and differences in gravity allow him to leap tall buildings in a single bound (yeah, *that* hero, too). He becomes embroiled in a war between red-skinned humanoids but lives among green, four-armed

JOHN CARTER

Taylor Kitsch, Lynn Collins,
Dominic West, Mark Strong.
Rated PG-13. 130 mins.
Now playing in wide release.



A HIMBO OF MARS | A Confederate soldier (Taylor Kitsch) finds himself a superhero on Mars rescuing a princess (Lynn Collins) in Disney's pastiche of Western and Medieval sci-fi 'John Carter.'

barbarians until a princess (Lynn Collins) and a superbeing (Mark Strong) ... blah blah blah. It becomes occasionally tiresome, admittedly.

But *John Carter* is more about its impressionistic mythology and old-school storytelling energy than actual story. This is fantasy the way our

grandfathers would have experienced it — crazy, sometimes campy, full of meaningless action and fighting. If you can see yourself as a kid, wrapping a towel around your neck like a cape and jumping around the backyard swatting at enemies, well then *John Carter* has done its job. ■

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QUEER CLIP: 'Crazy Horse'

At some level, you have to admire Frederick Wiseman. For 45 years — averaging about one film a year — he's maintained a consistent style as a documentarian, basically only changing his subject matter. He's the Woody Allen of non-fiction filmmaking.

His approach is simple: Take a subject — the police, for instance, or Central Park or an insane asylum — and dedicate two hours to a mostly narration-free chronicle of what that "means" ... as if such meaning can be boiled down into two hours. The results have been good (*Law & Order* and *Central Park*) and in one instance stupendous (*The Titicut Follies*) but the process is old-fashioned and long ago ceased being groundbreaking. He's never been nominated for an Oscar, and I can't say that's a great omission.

Thanks to Errol Morris, Michael Moore and cable channels clamoring for cheap programming, documentaries have flourished for two decades. *Pip-pip* to Wiseman for maintaining a perceived journalistic objectivity, where he never introduces himself (a la Moore or Morgan Spurlock) into the narrative: His subjects *do*, and he records. That's the arrangement. But forgive me a smirk for questioning the efficacy of such an approach, if it even exists. With every splice of film, he's making a choice — why not just acknowledge it and streamline the storytelling?

I have nothing against Wiseman's approach, per se; but in a documentary like *Crazy Horse* — about a Paris burlesque house renowned for its exotic nude shows — a little context wouldn't hurt. Sure, we can figure things out eventually, but Wiseman has long stopped serving his subjects, and now serves only his filmmaking idiosyncrasies. (Ten subtitled minutes of Frenchmen arguing about the economics of a strip tease don't scream "cinematic.")

What is cinematic are the Cirque du Soleil-esque



dance sequences: Erotic, dreamy, startlingly theatrical. It's visual dynamite which Wiseman does treat with a luscious attention to the flesh. Excerpt them, and divorce them from the idea of being part of a documentary that purports to explain some Greater Meaning, and you have a pretty good peep show.

Wiseman is 81 now; I suppose it's unreasonable to expect him to change. But *Crazy Horse* doesn't really capture anything missing from my life, and what else is a good documentary for?

— A.W.J.

Now playing at the Angelika Mockingbird Station

RAID

From Page 20

when I knew, this ain't gonna be a short film. But the rumors took on a life of their own in the days following the raid, and a lot of those linger." For instance, it was repeatedly suggested that the police targeted a gay club on the Stonewall anniversary specifically to send a message to the LGBT community. "I don't think that myself," Camina says.

On the other hand, he is equally suspicious of the party line that the officers responded with force only after being sexually molested by multiple patrons of the club. That seemed ridiculous, Camina says.

"Multiple officers claimed [they] were reaching for them in sexual manners and humping them from behind. I think we all know that drunk person — gay or straight — who *might* reach for an officer, but to say *multiple* people are doing, even after others are being arrested or thrown to the ground? I find it hard to believe. Anyway, no one testified they saw it, only that they *heard* it from another officer that it happened. There was a lot of hearsay on both sides."

A coup in the finalizing of the film came only last fall, when Camina secured Emmy-nominated actress and recent out lesbian Meredith Baxter to narrate the film.

"Very early on, when I realized I started

thinking about narrators, I knew I wanted a woman who was very confident but comforting and who sounded very trustworthy.

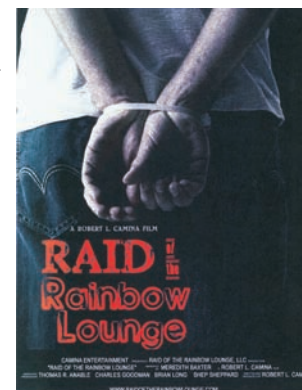
[Baxter] came to mind and I set my focus on her," Camina says. When Baxter showed up in Dallas for several media events last fall, he wrangled and introduction and pitched it to her. To his delight, Baxter agreed.

"Anytime you have a trained actor come in and breathe life into the words, the [narration] comes to life," Camina says. (Baxter will participate in the post-screening Q&A with Camina.)

This will be the first public screening of the film, but, Camina certainly intends, hardly the last.

He's already had some inquiries from film festivals, and says he would like to screen it in Atlanta, which had a similar raid less than two weeks after the Rainbow Lounge but handled it differently.

"I really think it's a powerful message that could inspire other communities to get involved and make change," Camina says. "I'd like to take on the world." ■



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Myth and a contrived song catalogue win out in 'Million Dollar Quartet'

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

The myth of the "million dollar quartet," like most of the mythology surrounding the early days of rock 'n' roll, revolves around the Sun — that is, Sun Records. That's the Podunk recording studio in Memphis, owned by pioneering executive Sam Phillips, that launched the careers of most of the greats of rockabilly and early rock 'n' roll: Elvis, Orbison, Jerry Lee, Charlie Rich, Carl Perkins, the Man in Black.

The story is this: Four budding hall of famers — really just one phenom (Elvis), one successful newcomer (Johnny Cash), one already-has-been (Perkins) and a not-anyone-yet (Lewis) — gathered one afternoon in December 1956 for a jam session.

They recorded about four dozen tracks, only 17 of which have ever been released. The legend was cemented with a photo of the foursome (Elvis, inexplicably, seated at the piano) that purported to capture history in the making.

The problem with the session, as is the problem with most myths, is that the reality is far less interesting than rumor. **Million Dollar Quartet** seeks to dramatize those "historic" events, but does so in such a contrived and inaccurate way, you can easily see it for what it is: Just another run-of-the-mill jukebox musical piggybacking on a famous event.

Carl, Elvis, Jerry Lee and Johnny were all good Baptist Southern boys; many of the tracks they actually recorded that day were spirituals, or bluegrass classics. I think it's fair to say *no one* of the songs performed in *Million Dollar Quartet* were actually recorded by the "million dollar quartet" — some hadn't even been written yet ("Wild Child," "Great Balls of Fire"). So, if

you're expecting a dramatization of actual events, you won't find it here.

That's not a terrible thing — artistic license has its place. But creator and co-author Floyd Mutrux resorts instantly to clichés and historic inaccuracies. It's artistic demagoguery: Giving an audience what you think they want. For instance, Cash's vocals show up nowhere on the real session; Cash here (Derek Keeling) gets to perform "Folsom Prison Blues" and "I Walk the Line" ... if only. And he's already dressed in

black (even though in the historic photo, he's plainly not), as if the audience will only accept that image in their head.

These flubs continue to derail the show, as does its insis-

tence on reminding us what talents all these men were. (Half the numbers are interrupted by Sam Phillips, addressing the audience and encouraging them to applause as if he's the MC at an especially dull pageant.) The insertion of a plot about Sam re-signing Cash, and Jerry Lee's repeated assertions that he's gonna be a star (clearly, based on his piano playing and Martin Kaye's energetic performance, anyone could see that) become tiresome.

Cody Slaughter's rubber-boned impersonation of The King energizes some scenes, and the music will surely appeal to fans of the genre, but as theater *Million Dollar Quartet* is a misfire — not on the order of the unwatchable *Ring of Fire*, but a disappointing production that squanders the chance to capture the truth of a moment of history and not just serve as a functionary reason to cobble together rock songs, a low-rent *Jersey Boys* for rockabilly addicts.

ELVIS HAS ENTERED THE BUILDING | The rubber-boned moves of Elvis (Cody Slaughter) are among the few accuracies in the jukebox musical 'Million Dollar Quartet.'

Hittin' the 'Heights'

Lin-Manuel Miranda, B'way's reigning rappin' Latino, brings infectious energy to 'In the Heights'

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

When Lin-Manuel Miranda was just a teenager at Wesleyan University, he spent a furious few weeks composing the music for a show about his favorite neighborhood in New York City, Washington Heights, for a school theater fest. It wasn't unusual for savvy New York theater nerds to undertake such a daunting experience — after all, who but a few parents and fellow drama majors were ever gonna see it? Oh, he probably fantasized about seeing his name up in lights on Broadway one day, but that was, at most, an afterthought.

But something unexpected happened that changed the course of his life. He couldn't get any musicians to play his music live at the performance — they were all too busy. So he compromised: He got musicians together to pre-record the tracks for the singers. And to pay for *that* recording, he recorded the songs as well to sell in the lobby as a cast recording.

What college production has a *cast* recording?

The answer is, *In the Heights*, which won the 2008 Tony Award for best musical, as well as Miranda the best score Tony and a nomination for best actor. He was 28 at the time.

Miranda's rise-to-success story could almost stop there, so thrilling is it. But in the four short years since *In the Heights* opened, Miranda has gone on to write the music for another musical — *Bring It On*, which just recently played Fair Park — and adapt Spanish dialogue and lyrics to a revival of *West Side Story* (at the personal request of Arthur Laurents and Stephen Sondheim). If anyone deserved to act like the golden child, it's him.

But Miranda, now 32 ("a little younger than hip-hop itself," he jokes), is as friendly and pleasant as can be. Mischievously handsome, with big brown eyes and an effusive energy that never seems manic, he's almost as gobsmacked by his incredible luck as his fans.

Not all of his success is totally unexpected. From an early age, Miranda was a prodigious talent, composing his first song (there is evidence of it on his Fisher-Price tape recorder) at age 4. He attended an arts magnet school in Manhattan, and began freestyle rapping as a teenager (an influence apparent in his scores for *Heights* and *Bring It On*). He'd composed jingles for political campaigns almost before he could vote.

But he's still the Puerto Rican kid from Upper Manhattan who hit the big time merely writing about what he saw and knew.

"When I was in the show, I moved to 61st Street and I was miserable," he says during a stopover at the Nasher Sculpture Center earlier this week. He still lives five blocks from where he grew up.

Like just about everyone in musical theater, Miranda — who is straight — owes a lot to the gay men he has worked with over the years. His eyes balloon with incredulity when he talks about working with Laurents and



KARMA AND MIRANDA | By age 30, Lin-Manuel Miranda, who recently spoke at the Nasher Salon Series, had already worked with his heroes of musical theater, including Stephen Sondheim. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Sondheim.

"There's no way to describe it other than to call it a fever dream," he gushes. "These are heroes of mine. Arthur calls me to vet the Spanish. I sat next to him during some of the auditions. Steve was so generous with me about changing the lyrics, which was like working with a gigantic jigsaw puzzle."

He signed on to do *Bring It On* for one reason, he says: For the chance to work with gay book writer Jeff Whitty (*Avenue Q*).

"When I heard about the idea for a musical about a cheerleading movie, I did what most people do: I just laughed. But Jeff had such a strong story — he really lives up to his name — and I wanted to see what [director/choreographer] Andy [Blankenbuehler] would bring to it."

And although he was thrilled to win the Tony, just the process was a daze, getting to meet heroes and walk the red carpet with folks far more famous than he. In fact, his favorite Tony experience happened last year, when he wasn't even nominated.

"I was in the basement of the Beacon Theatre, writing Neil Patrick Harris' rap," he explains. Harris, who hosted the Tony Awards, called Miranda out of the blue and asked him to write freestyle about the ceremony as it happened. "We were there working on everything as it happened, trying to come up with a rhyme for Larroquette," Miranda laughs. "Then the fearless Neil Patrick Harris came to us, went through it once and performed it live at the end of the show. It was pretty tremendous." ■

IN THE HEIGHTS

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Images (detail): Luigi Lucioni, Paul Cadmus, 1928, oil on canvas, Brooklyn Museum, Dick S. Ramsay Fund, 2007.28

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Hello Dolly

Designer Allen Jancik mixes passions for decorating and charity in one fell swoop at Dolly Johnson Antique Show

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

For 11 years, you could see Allen Jancik's hand in a number of homes and even some restaurants or bars. As the founder of AJ Environments, he has brought his interior design and collector talents to diverse clients, both residential and commercial. Come Christmas-time, his firm even delivers the holiday magic with an array of decorations, both vintage and modern.

It's fulfilling work for a man whose first job, at age 15, was assisting an interior designer. But working a booth at this weekend's 49th Annual Dolly Johnson Antique and Art Show, he anticipates a far exceeding sense of accomplishment.

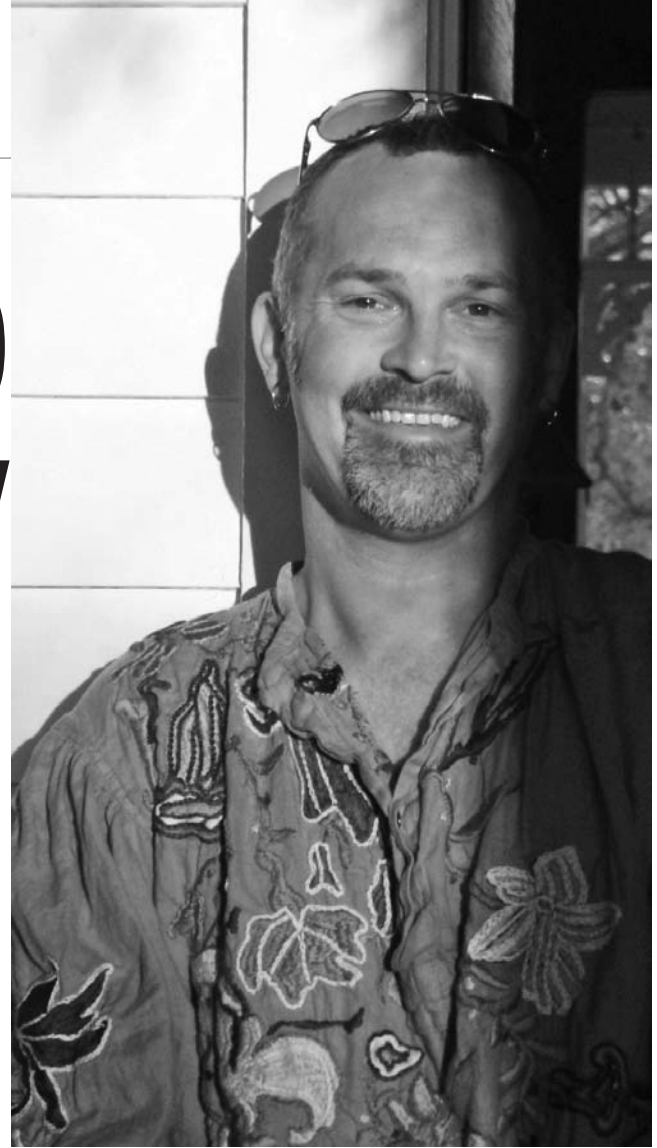
"I was asked to volunteer my services and raise merchandise to enhance the look of the entire show," Jancik says. "But the merchandise for this particular booth is all donated and runs from accessories to furniture to vintage antiques and more. We wanted to bring in the best to obtain a high amount of proceeds."

Jancik will not only stock the benefit booth that supports the Tarrant Area Food Bank, a non-profit that provides services to 13 counties, he will also man it. For him, it's an opportunity to do his part when normally, his busy schedule doesn't allow for it.

"I travel a great deal of the time and work keeps me busy as well," he says, "It's hard to find time to do hands-on work. I'll just end up donating [money]."

There's nothing wrong with a financial contribution, but the cards played out in his favor and for a weekend, he could be surrounded in antiques and art, while lending a tangible hand.

"Fortunately, I've never missed a meal, gone



DESIGN WITH PURPOSE | Allen Jancik will man a food bank booth at the Dolly Johnson Show in Fort Worth this weekend.

hungry or wondered where my next meal is coming from," he says. "Other people do worry about those things. Here, I'm able to commit and do something this small while *doing* what I do. That's what's been most compelling in being able to help."

Jancik hopes the community will come out and venture to the benefit booth. He knows how high-end art and antique shows appeal to the LGBT folks — especially men. He even met his own partner of six years while antiquing. He laughs about it being a natural thing.

"Maybe that's what the gay gene is," he jokes. "Beautiful objects speak to us differently perhaps. I know for me, my appreciation for nice things developed from the people who affected my upbringing like my mother and grandmothers. I think design and taste have always been important to the community."

Jancik's professional side kicks in as he offers two pieces of major advice for would-be shoppers.

"What I love about this show is that it runs the gamut and someone can spend \$6,000 or \$60 and find something great," he says. "But people need to come in with a list or a mission to avoid getting overwhelmed which is easy to do. Oh, and please know what your space can hold. Some things look different amid a 50-foot ceiling or even an endless sky. Just understand it's *not* your 11-foot ceiling at home."

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The Maine event

Tiny Ogunquit, Maine, offers a low-key alternative to the hubbub of P'town

You have to wonder why New Englanders choose to live much of the year in the cold, ice and darkness. One hypothesis: They live for the summer. There's nothing quite like that window between spring and fall when the area's weather is perfect.

That small stretch of Cape Cod called Provincetown, Mass., is synonymous with gay paradise worldwide but it's certainly not the only gay destination in the region. Drive four hours north and you'll find the crown jewel of LGBT Maine, Ogunquit.

The town's year-round population is fewer than 2,000, but in the summer and early fall this quaint, charming beach community comes alive, catering to gay travelers. Ogunquit differs from other resort towns in Maine in that most of the restaurants, galleries, hotels and dance clubs are gay-owned and -operated.

Whether you live in nearby Portland or Boston, or are vacationing, every sunny day in Ogunquit starts the same: Lather on the sunscreen, sink into your sexiest Speedo and strut down to the beach. Just a half-mile down the strand you'll go from the family area to the "family" area. Cruisy older gents, sexy volleyball-playing college studs and ladies frolicking in the waves define Ogunquit Beach.

Bear in mind, this is New England and the weather can go from sunny and gorgeous to rainy and miserable in a moment. If you do have to make a quick exit from the beach, don't fret — there are countless ways to occupy yourself.

If you're a sucker for art, incredible galleries, including The Barn Gallery and Art & Soul Gallery (both located on Shore Road), feature the work of local artists. In Ogunquit, most of the shops, museums, hotels and restaurants are located within walking distance to the beach. This is a blessing — parking can be a nightmare and if you time your entrance or escape out of town at the wrong time, it could take the better part of an hour to get back to the highway.

A cloudy day is also the perfect time to check out John Lane's Ogunquit Playhouse. Located just a few miles outside of the center of the action heading back toward the highway, this is a



HIT THE SHORE | New England summers on Ogunquit Beach make the hard winters worth the wait. (Photo courtesy Ogunquit CVB)

terrific venue at which to enjoy popular shows like *Avenue Q*, *The Music Man* or *Chicago*.

Ogunquit may be a small town, but most of the local businesses thrive on tourist dollars, so there's no shortage of dining options for foodies looking for everything from a quick bite to an extravagant romantic meal. Angelina's is a delightful restaurant and wine bar if you're looking for something *tres romantique*, while Cape Neddick Lobster Pound is ideal for experiencing local cuisine.

Keep in mind: Ogunquit isn't the big city; ordering a mojito may get you stares from the bar staff. But if anything can redeem a lackluster cocktail, it's a night out on the town. Ogunquit's clubs are incredibly fun and can get packed. Start your evening at Front Porch, a piano bar filled with locals, Bostonians and visitors from points beyond. Even if you aren't a singer, the mood is infectious, the waiters ... adorable and the drinks are potent.

Head across the street to either prolong your buzz or dance the night away. MaineStreet, the staple of gay and lesbian Ogunquit, features dance music, drag shows, pool playing and sexy bartenders. There's also a spacious porch if you want to have an audible conversation with some friends.

Nearby Oxygen is "that gay bar" that's been in business for years but constantly changes ownership. Plan to end your night here, whether you're still in the mood to dance or want to grab a drunken bite at the rooftop café.

Maine isn't just lobster and lighthouses. If you're looking for New England charm without the redundancy of P'town or the size of Boston, Ogunquit is a refreshing option with smaller crowds and lower prices.

— Jon Fairbanks

For more information, visit GayTravel.com.

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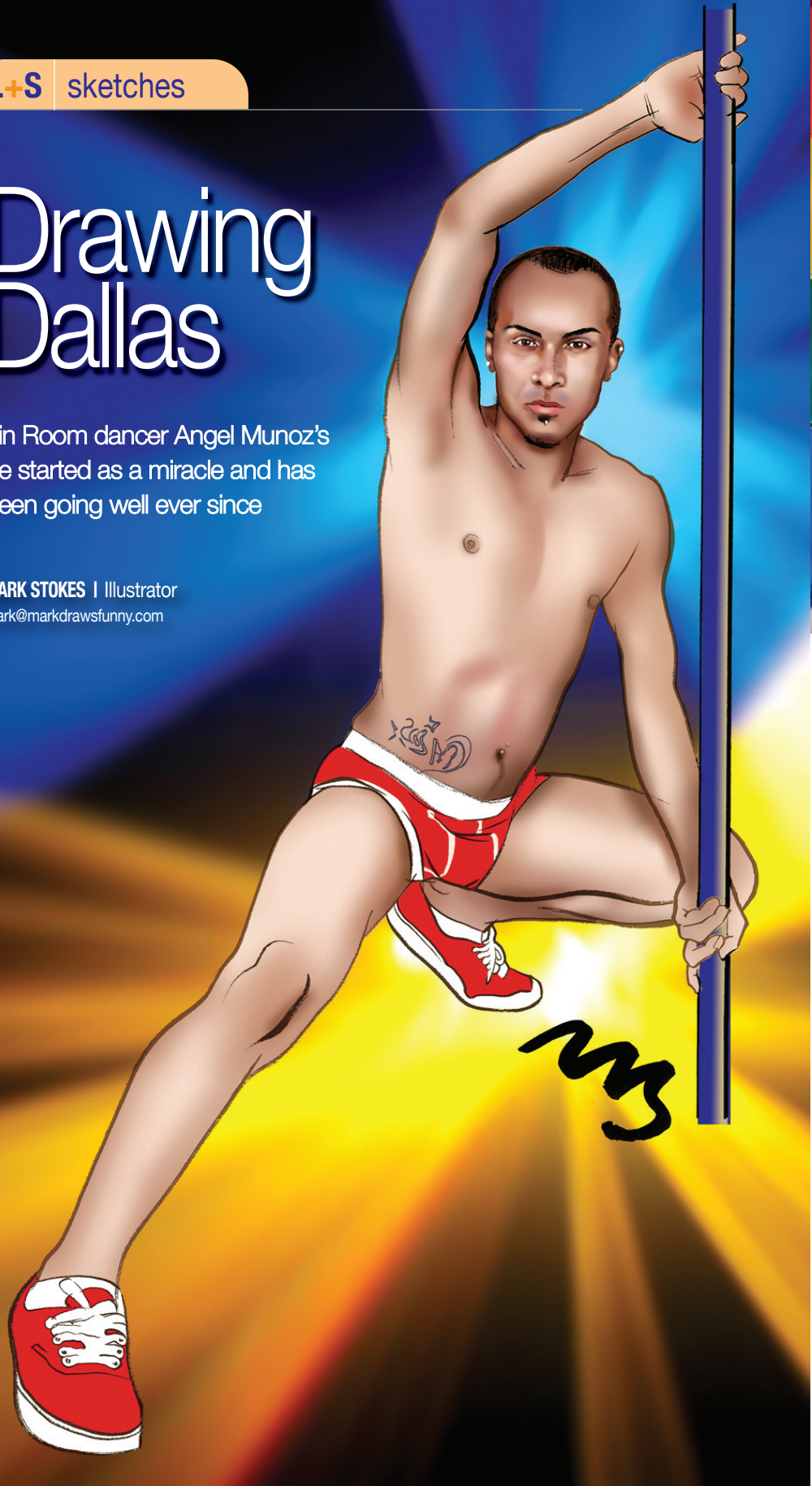
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L+S sketches

Drawing Dallas

Tin Room dancer Angel Munoz's life started as a miracle and has been going well ever since

MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com



Name and age: Angel Munoz, 19

Occupation: Dancer

Spotted at: The Tin Room

Handsome and talkative Angel Munoz recently left South Texas in search of more opportunity and ended up relocating to Dallas. Born in El Paso to a Puerto Rican/Mexican father and an Arab mother, he's the oldest of two brothers and one sister.

Miracle baby: Angel is appropriately named: This exceptional Capricorn's mother died during his childbirth for two minutes; fortunately, the doctors were able to bring her back to life. Angel came out to his family at 15, a real surprise to his many *enamoradas*. This low-key, gregarious young man leaves many fans in El Paso, where he was popular and renowned for his dancing skills.

When he is not making patrons sweat at the Tin Room, Angel enjoys softball and hanging out with friends. An animal lover, his family owns 10 dogs, but his Chihuahua, Cheekie, is his baby. Future plans include employment in the medical field.

Comic trifecta



A Jewish Okie, a gay Mexican and a trans woman walk into a club. Laugh

GREGORY SULLIVAN ISAACS | Contributing Writer
gregoryisaacs@theaterjones.com

What do a straight Jewish girl from Oklahoma, a gay Mexican and a Dallas-area transgender woman have in common? All are comics who will be appearing at Stand-Up and Proud, a gay-themed show at the Addison Improv on Wednesday.

It's no big deal with Shawn Pelofsky, the sassy Jewish one, who claims she is "gayer than the gayest man in the room." That's saying something for the frequent headliner on Atlantis Cruises.

Thai Rivera, who loves to do "fag jokes in redneck clubs" and live to tell about it, adds a south-of-the-border flair. Trans comic Dina Martinez started out life as a Southern Baptist boy but now is a "plus size girl, comic and radio host, whose mother forgets about her all the time."

Martinez will MC, while Pelofsky and Rivera will each do complete sets of their wildly successful acts.

Both comics' styles are about delivering outrageous riffs on the sexual mores of contemporary life, gay or otherwise, in a rapid fire staccato with many references to "Dick" ... although they never really made clear *who* that is. Maybe a mutual friend.

"Why not?" says Pelofsky. "Any conversation with any of my gay friends turns to sex, no matter how far from that subject I start. When I ask about their sick grandmother, I get a blasé 'OK,' followed by a drooling description of a buff new number at the gym."

Rivera has a different take. "I do gay humor, but I also get to draw on my experience of being another minority, which is a Mexican," says Rivera. "I really don't fit in that world because I don't speak Spanish, so I know what it is like to be an outsider. That's why I like to work redneck bars, it doesn't feel like an act — just a long funny suicide note."

Both enjoy exposing straight audiences to gay humor and realizing that people are not as closed-minded as they used to be. Queer comedy has become an underpinning of contemporary humor and all kinds of audiences respond positively. "It gives them something to think about on the way home," says Rivera.

Appearing in redneck clubs hasn't helped Rivera's romantic life, however. "I have problems in bars because it is usually very old white men that approach me. They always say I remind them of someone they met years ago." Every time this happens, "I think, 'Could be

worse. At least they have a fond memory ... but we're not going to make another one.'"

Pelofsky, on the other hand, is still searching for a replacement for the "half-black, green-beret 6-foot-4 former cop who was a fireman" that she dated a while back. "It was wonderful, but of course, it only lasted about ten minutes. Maybe an hour."

She's still trying, and her wish-list sounds like it mirrors many gay men's fantasies. "There is no current boyfriend, but I do have some candidates on speed dial. Mainly Latinos. However, they say everything is bigger in Texas, if you get my drift, so I will keep some room on my speed dial for local applicants."

As the wisecracks fly from the stage, there will be a lot of love radiating from the audience. All three comics have legions of fans — and not just the gay boys.

"We do great with lesbians," says Pelofsky. "All three of us have jokes for everybody because they are about the universal experiences of being on the outside of society. We embrace the LGBT community, every letter of it, in its entirety. Put me in a room, any room, and I can make them laugh."

Maybe their friend Dick will even show up. ■

STAND UP AND PROUD

The Improv, 4980 Belt Line Road
Ste. 250, Addison, March 14 at
8 p.m. \$17. Improv.com

RIOT CONTROL | Straight girl Shawn Pelofsky and gay Mexican Thai Rivera, pictured, join Dallas trans comic Dina Martinez for an evening of gay-themed humor Wednesday at the Addison Improv.

TUESDAY NIGHT



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SUNDAY	6:00PM - 10:00PM

SHOWS

MONDAY

KARAOKE at 9:00PM
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SOPHISTICATED MONDAYS at 11:30PM
Hosted by Shemar Collins Dupree

WEDNESDAY

BEST CHEST CONTEST at 11:00PM
Hosted by Olivia Oasis

THURSDAY

STRIP-OFF CONTEST at 11:00PM
Hosted by Olivia Oasis

SUNDAY

THE UNTOUCHABLES Show at 11:30PM
Hosted by Loretta Davenport

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Friday 03.09

Better hunks and gardens

Whoever put together the celebrity guest panel of the Great Big Texas Home Show surely knows their gay market. This year's expo of garden ideas and home makeover inspirations is also a major stud fest. HGTV's Chip Wade, pictured, Bryan Baeumier and William Moss bring their expertise and beef to the worktable this weekend.

DEETS: Cowboys Stadium, 925 N. Collins St., Arlington. Through Sunday. \$15. GreatBigTexasHomeShow.com

Saturday 03.10

What's that Sound?

There is lots to see at the four-day music fest 35 Denton. From local bands to marquee names, the smaller-than-SXSW event grows into a hellu impressive collective of music. Queer artist Atlas Sound brings his eclectic indie rock to the fest on Saturday adding at least a small bit of gay flair to this year's roster, which also includes Jesus and the Mary Chain and Best Coast.

DEETS: Main Stage 2, Hickory and Industrial streets, Denton. 5 p.m. \$35-\$75. 35Denton.com.

Thursday 03.15

Bring on the bears

The Texas Bear Round Up is upon us again and this one's looking bigger than ever with five sold out hotels at pre-registration. In its 17th year, TBRU features the vendor market, Mr. TBRU contest, pool parties and the Big D BearDance.

DEETS: Crowne Plaza (host hotel), 7050 Stemmons Freeway. Through March 18. TBRU.org.



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FRIDAY 03.09

COMMUNITY

Dallas Blooms. The famous flower festival returns for its 28th anniversary. With 500,000 spring blooms including tulips, pansies and violas, the festival has grown into a Dallas tradition. Dallas Arboretum, 8525 Garland Road. Through April 8 \$15. DallasArboretum.org.

Count and western dance lessons. Line dancing and partner instruction. Promise Worship & Community Center, 2527 W. Colorado Blvd. Through April 27. 7 p.m. \$5 suggested donation.

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.

Business Network Collin County luncheon. Fox Sports Grille 5741 Legacy Drive. 11:30 a.m. \$20. 469-335-0606.

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

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

Oak Lawn Group for Gays Lambda (formerly CODA) meets on Fridays at the St Thomas Episcopal Church, 6525 Inwood Road. 6:30 p.m. Call 214-868-7350 for more information.

FUSE drop-in weekdays for gay and bi guys up to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. Tuesdays-Fridays at 2 p.m. DFWFuse.com.

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

THEATER

Out of the Loop Fringe Festival. WaterTower Theatre celebrates 11 years with this week of theater, dance, performance art and more. Addison Theatre Center, 15650, Addison Road. Through Sunday. \$10-\$15 for individual tickets; \$55-\$65 for festival passes. WaterTowerTheatre.org/OutOfLoop.

Rent. The rock opera comes to Fort Worth for a one-week engagement. Casa Manana, 3101 West Lancaster Ave. Fort Worth. Through Sunday. \$37-\$62. CasaManana.org.

SATURDAY 03.10

COMMUNITY

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



NO BILLS PAID | The rock opera 'Rent' closes its run at Casa Manana this weekend.

Once in a Blue Moon, women's 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 under the statue at Lee Park at 8 a.m. They convene after for breakfast in the area. FronrunnersDallas.org.

Dallas Gay Roleplayers Club. Gamers meet to play and discuss role-playing games from sci-fi to fantasy. Half Price Books Community Room, 5803 E. Northwest Highway. 3 p.m. 214-360-0833 ext. 222.

Cathedral Couples potluck dinner and social. For location, call 972-252-7124.

Legacy social group of adults 50 or older from Cathedral of Hope. Monthly potluck or outing. 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.

BROADCAST

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

SUNDAY 03.11

COMMUNITY

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

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

First Community Church of Dallas worship services. The church is open and affirming. FCC of Dallas, 9120 Ferguson Road. 11 a.m. FCCDFW.org.

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

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

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

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

MONDAY 03.12

COMMUNITY

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

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

Self esteem support group meets. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 1:30 p.m. AOC.org.

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

The Women's Chorus of Dallas holds rehearsals. Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. 7-10 p.m. 214-520-7828.

TUESDAY 03.13

COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY 03.14

COMMUNITY

Cathedral Business Network second Wednesday meeting. Location to be determined. 11:30 a.m. Contact Anity Haddy at Cathedral of Hope for more information. 214-351-1901. CathedralOfHope.com.

American Veterans for Equal Rights for LGBT veterans. North Texas Chapter meets at Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan. 7 p.m. Lone Star Veterans Chapter meets in Fort Worth. 7:30 p.m. For more information, email LSVCpres@aol.com.

FUSE Activity Nights. The "official hangout" night for the youth group. 7 p.m. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 214-540-4435. DFWFuse.com.

El Sol, meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. AOC.org.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is out musician Sonia. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 03.15

COMMUNITY

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

Youth First Texas Gender Identity Group meets. This support group is for youth dealing with issues related to gender identity and gender expression. The group is also open to youth who are curious about what gender identity is or what their transgender friends are dealing with. Youth First Texas, 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 7:30 p.m. YouthFirstTexas.org.

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

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

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

this week's solution

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Mitt Romney turns 65 on Monday. The politician just won six of ten states on Super Tuesday. However, he still struggles to break away from the pack to snag the Presidential nomination on the Republican ticket. Romney has been so inconsistent on gay rights, the HRC released "Mitt 'n Match" on its website showcasing Romney's flip-flop tendencies on LGBT issues.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

No relationship is perfect and it's too easy to find fault. Being or finding a partner is all about trying to be a better person. When discussing problems be gentle on yourself and your darling.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Take a critical look at your habits and make revisions. Be helpful to others, but get your own work done first. Reconsider your long-range goals. A radical shift offers lucrative opportunities

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

If you can act free of resentment, fear and anger the big risks will pay off for you. If those three problems are in the way, challenge yourself to understand why and to let go.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Your brain is going on strike so rely on your heart. Connect with people you love, and yourself. An adult is someone who takes responsibility and has stopped blaming his or her parents.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

You can't un-say what's been said. Apologies do wonders for your relationships, personal and social. You don't need to beat yourself up. We all have room for improvement.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Being super sexy is a distraction. Redirect your irresistibility to making important career connections. Taking on hard work and challenge is your strong suit. Work in modesty and you'll go far.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Erotic explorations have less than thrilling results but offer the benefit of experience. The next few weeks are for rethinking your relationships, but beware of making hasty changes.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Easy answers to spiritual questions shouldn't be trusted. It's too easy to fall into dogmas. Keep digging to see where and how those feelings got so deeply entrenched.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Be mature enough to keep principals above interpersonal tiffs and your own bruised ego and feelings. Being nice might be work, but it will pay off.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Beating the boss in a battle could cost you the war. With a little self-effacing modesty and a lot of hard work you could win him or her over and gain a powerful ally.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

It feels like you can barely keep up with the treadmill, but you got the power. Still, what to do with it? Your best clue: Ask your 9-year-old self what you really want to be when you grow up.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Bureaucratic snafus get expensive. A bad case of foot-in-mouth is headed your way. Not only is quiet mediation a safe retreat, but it should offer profound, even transformative insights.

THIS WEEK

Pluto in Capricorn, Mars in Virgo and Venus conjoining Jupiter in Taurus are all making a "grand trine," offering everyone vast creative power and the ability to make deep changes. Or you could wallow in your comfort zone and indulge in wild hedonistic pleasures. With careful planning you could do both.

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

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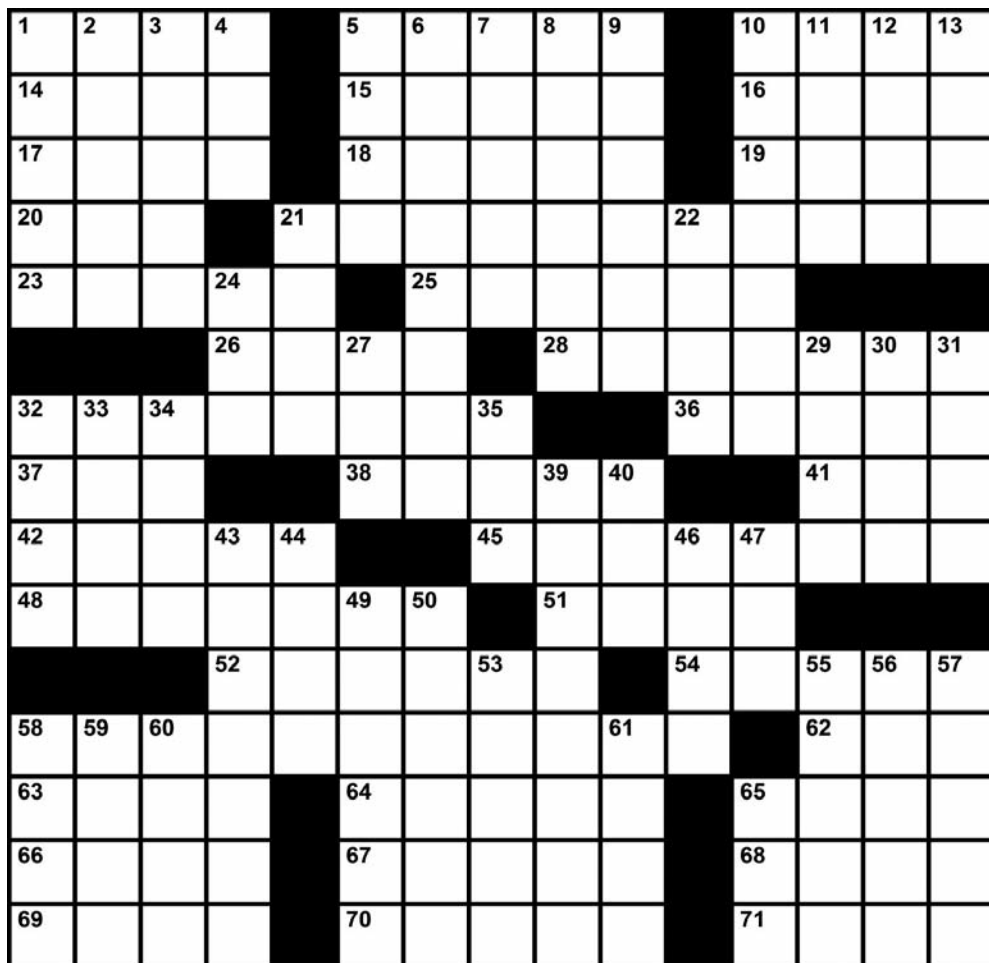
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HILTY 2012



Rachel Has Two Daddies

Solution on page 33

Across

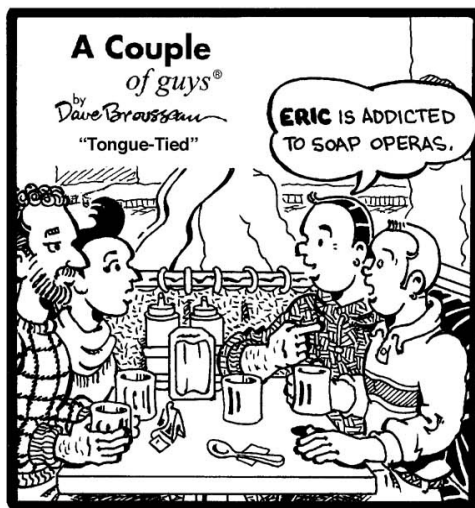
- 1 With 32-Across, portrayal of one of Rachel's dads
- 5 Take down a peg
- 10 Bone of the leg
- 14 Trucker's rod
- 15 Runway walker
- 16 Go in only partway, at the beach
- 17 "It's ___ a while"
- 18 Big name in Chinese history
- 19 Mail carriers at Hogwarts
- 20 Suntan spoiler
- 21 With 45-Across, portrayal of one of Rachel's dads
- 23 Cruising, maybe
- 25 Cozy corners
- 26 Pull a boa behind you?
- 28 Least taxing
- 32 See 1-Across
- 36 Beginning to come?
- 37 Piglet's pal
- 38 Taters
- 41 Kind of will
- 42 Seminal computer
- 45 See 21-Across
- 48 Classified rectangles
- 51 Part played by Nabors

52 Unexpected pleasures

- 54 Tickle a funny bone
- 58 Duet sung by Rachel's two daddies
- 62 Current events in Corinth?
- 63 Poet Gidlow
- 64 Stay home for supper
- 65 State, in St. Lô
- 66 Actor Mapa
- 67 "I Got a Name" singer Jim
- 68 It was gauche, for Debussy
- 69 "The Bridge" poet Crane
- 70 Patton's vehicles
- 71 Rachel's TV show

Down

- 1 "Star Wars" villain with a big tongue
- 2 Bring to bear
- 3 They bother bitches
- 4 Low boggy land
- 5 Pt. of USA
- 6 Sex with the top on bottom?
- 7 Ike's opponent
- 8 Medium meeting
- 9 Inventor Otis
- 10 Kurtz of "More Tales of the City"
- 11 Overhead predator
- 12 "Spamalot" writer Eric
- 13 Monster's loch
- 21 Streisand, for short
- 22 New Ager John
- 24 TV announcer Hall
- 27 Gore and Green
- 29 Canal traveled by New York ferries
- 30 Bear market order
- 31 Work the land
- 32 What the fruits did in the orchard
- 33 Sometime Capote associate Chaplin
- 34 Tender ender?
- 35 Elton John's mother
- 39 Crankcase rod, or slang for your rod
- 40 Porking place?
- 43 What drawers do
- 44 Serious attention
- 46 Encourage the cast
- 47 Line of Todd Oldham dresses?
- 49 Do a private eye's job
- 50 1943 Bogart film
- 53 Range of the Rockies
- 55 "___ we meet again"
- 56 Like a metrosexual
- 57 Makeup maker Lauder
- 58 Positive reply
- 59 Stew in Sitges
- 60 Friendly opening
- 61 Wallet wad
- 65 Piece of work



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This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE



David, Jordan and Christian at JR's Bar & Grill.



Heather and Brittany at Sue Ellen's.



Jake and Ray at Station 4.

There's one thing to know this weekend. It's **Daylight Savings Time** so turn those clocks back Sunday. OK, we've done our job. ... **Fetish Friday** goes "fuzzy" in its theme this week at the **Dallas Eagle**. The **DFW Sisters** host the **Best Little Bathhouse in Texas** on Saturday. Go for the glam at Sunday night's cabaret show **From Buckskin to Broadway** featuring the fabulous **Victoria Westin**. Furry men beware at **To Shave or Not To Shave** on Wednesday benefiting the **Dallas Diablos**, but not those who fall prey to the razor. The club jumps the gun afterward with the **TBRU Early Party**. **Wanda's Bear Review Contest** puts **Texas Bear Round Up 17** in full swing at the club on Thursday. ... The ladies still get to have their fun. **Shut Down Town** returns to the **Vixen Lounge** stage at **Sue Ellen's** on Friday. **The Dallas Diamonds Football Team** shows you how to party at **#Saturday Swag**. The night is packed with the **Reverse Drag Show**, live music by **Malory McAdams** and **Lonnie Panda Shields** along with prizes and raffles. It's fight night on Sunday with eight groups vying for tops at the **Battle of the Bands**. ... Don't gutterball it when the **Brick** hosts **Drag'n in the New Year** on Saturday benefiting the **30 Years of the Dallas Invitational Columbus Day Bowling Tournament**. ... **Cherries** keeps the party going through the week with **Eric Austyn's Twisted Tuesdays** and **Whitney Paige's Wicked Wednesdays**. **QLive!** now hosts **Tasty Thursdays** with **It Only Makes Me Laugh** open mike comedy with **Kyle Trentham** and **Todd Camp**. ... Until next time, folks. ■

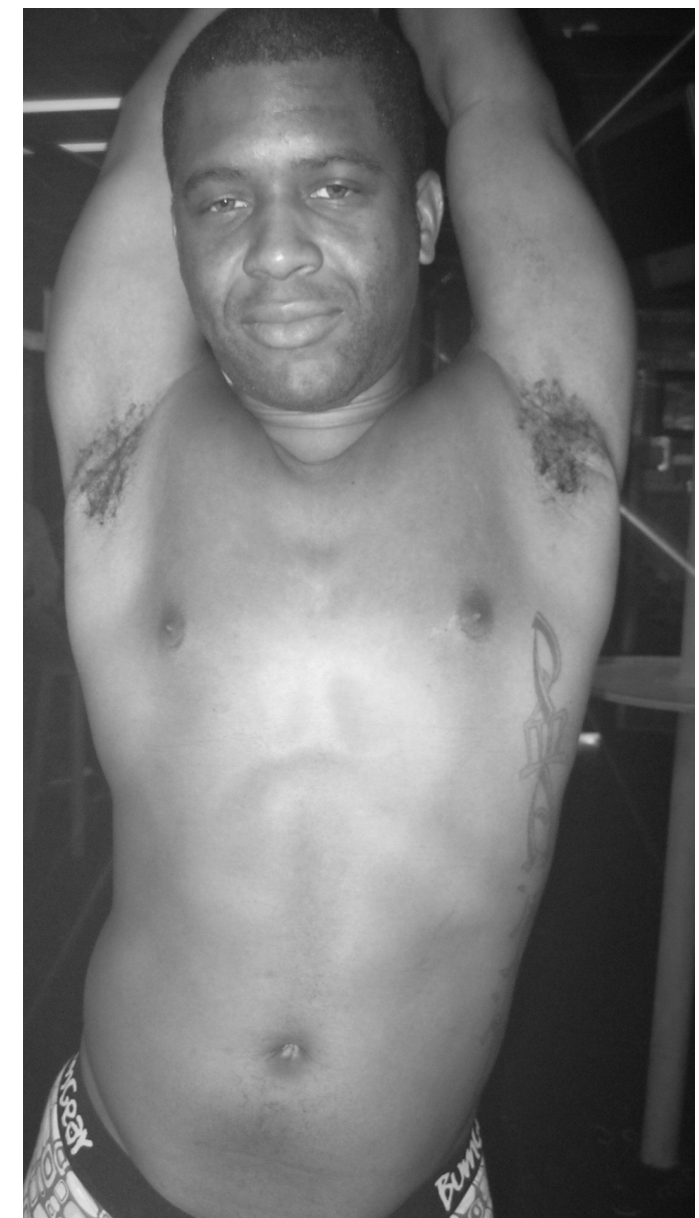
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES. FOR MORE PHOTOS, VISIT DALLASVOICE.COM.



Jennifer and Sean at the Rainbow Lounge.



Joe at BJ's NXS!



Jock at the Tin Room.



Angelica, Rosa and Bella at TMC: The Mining Company.

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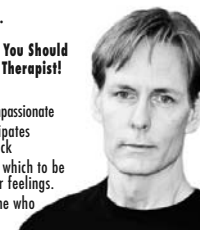
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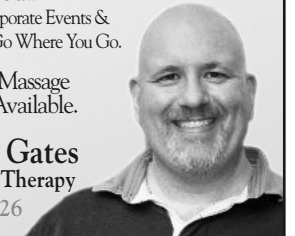
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