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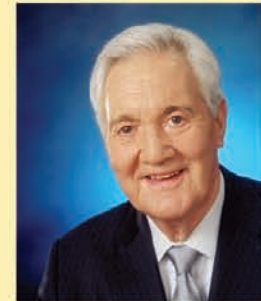


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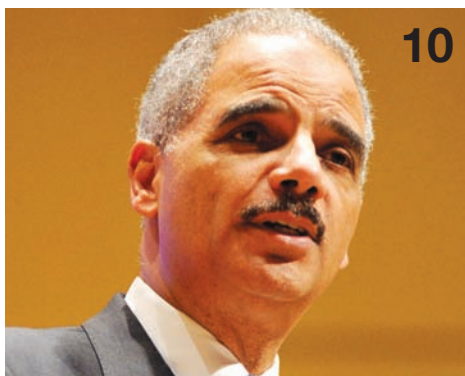
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Man faces DWI charge after police say he passed out at wheel, drug firefighter who woke him

Dallas police arrested a man early Tuesday morning, March 13, after he allegedly dragged a firefighter with his vehicle after a scuffle near the Cedar Springs strip in Oak Lawn.

Aaron Scott Jenkins, 27, was arrested shortly after wrestling with 35-year-old Jesse Munoz, who was returning from a call with Dallas Fire-Rescue when he stopped behind a 2006 silver Mazda four-door car in the 3000 block of Douglas Avenue around 2:15 a.m., according to a Dallas police report. **Aaron Jenkins**



When the light turned green, Munoz noticed the man driving the car in front of him was unconscious.

He tried to wake up the man before opening the driver's side door, placing the vehicle in neutral and putting the parking brake on.

The man then woke up and told Munoz not to call police for help, but Munoz stated that he was going to call police, the report states. The man closed the door and began to wrestle with Munoz before putting his car in drive — and starting to drive off while still wrestling with Munoz.

Munoz told police he was dragged for a few seconds before the man released him, scraping his arm on the man's car. He declined medical treatment.

Police were dispatched at 2:30 a.m. and arrested Jenkins shortly after, a spokeswoman with the Dallas Police Department said. While the police report lists the offense as an aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, Jenkins was arrested for driving while intoxicated because Munoz's injuries were only minor, she said.

Jenkins has since been released from the Dallas County Jail, according to jail records.

— Anna Waugh

For 1st time ever, gay immigrant allowed to stay in Texas based on same-sex marriage

A Houston immigration judge has allowed a gay Costa Rican immigrant to stay in the U.S. based on his same-sex marriage to an American — which LGBT advocates say is a first in Texas.

The Houston Chronicle reports that Judge Richard Walton on Thursday, March 8, closed a deportation case against David Gonzalez, an accountant who's been fighting to stay in Texas with his husband, U.S. citizen Mario Ramirez, since last year.

Gonzalez and Ramirez, who've been together for more than six years and live near the Houston suburb of Humble, were married in California in 2008 — during the brief window when same-sex marriage was legal there. But Gonzalez has overstayed his tourist



David Gonzalez and Mario Ramirez (via Stop the Deportations: The DOMA Project)

visa, and because of the federal Defense of Marriage Act, he cannot apply for a Green Card based on the couple's marriage.

Steve Ralls, a spokesman for Immigration Equality, notes that the outcome is consistent with other recent cases involving same-sex couples across the country — including high-profile ones in California and New Jersey.

Last August, the Obama administration announced it would focus on high-priority immigration cases involving public safety concerns — a move which benefited same-sex couples where one partner is facing deportation. From the Chronicle:

Gonzalez said he left Costa Rica in Spring 2000 on a tourist visa to escape an abusive ex-lover. More than six years ago, he met Mario Ramirez, a U.S. citi-

zen, whom he calls his "soulmate."

The couple married in Los Angeles in 2008, during the brief period that same-sex marriage was legal in California. They moved to Texas, bought a home near Humble and started talking about adopting children.

The closure of Gonzalez's case means that the government is no longer seeking to deport him, but he still has no legal right to work in the United States.

"It is definitely good news that the administration is beginning to drop deportation proceedings, but now the individuals who are spared from deportation need to be able to receive that legal recognition that is so important as they continue to build a life here with their U.S. citizen partners," Ralls said.

— John Wright

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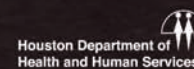
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2 gay men beaten with baseball bats in hate crime

Police seek suspects in NE Dallas attack that left victims unconscious

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Two black gay men are recovering from a hate crime after they were attacked with baseball bats in an area of northeast Dallas where a hate crime has never been reported.

The two men, 20 and 27, were walking near the corner of Audelia Road and Forest Lane around 2 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13, when a dark four-door vehicle with 24-inch rims, which Dallas police believe could be a Buick, approached them. An estimated five black men in their 20s yelled “fags and sissy” at the two men before three exited, two with baseball bats, and began to beat them, according to police reports.

The 27-year-old was hit at least four times in the head with a baseball bat before losing consciousness, the report states.

The 20-year-old tried to fight back and was caught in the passenger’s side of the vehicle. He was dragged an unknown distance before he could escape. He was in and out of consciousness, the report states.

When the two regained consciousness they transported themselves to Medical City Hospital, which is about 4 miles from the location they were attacked.

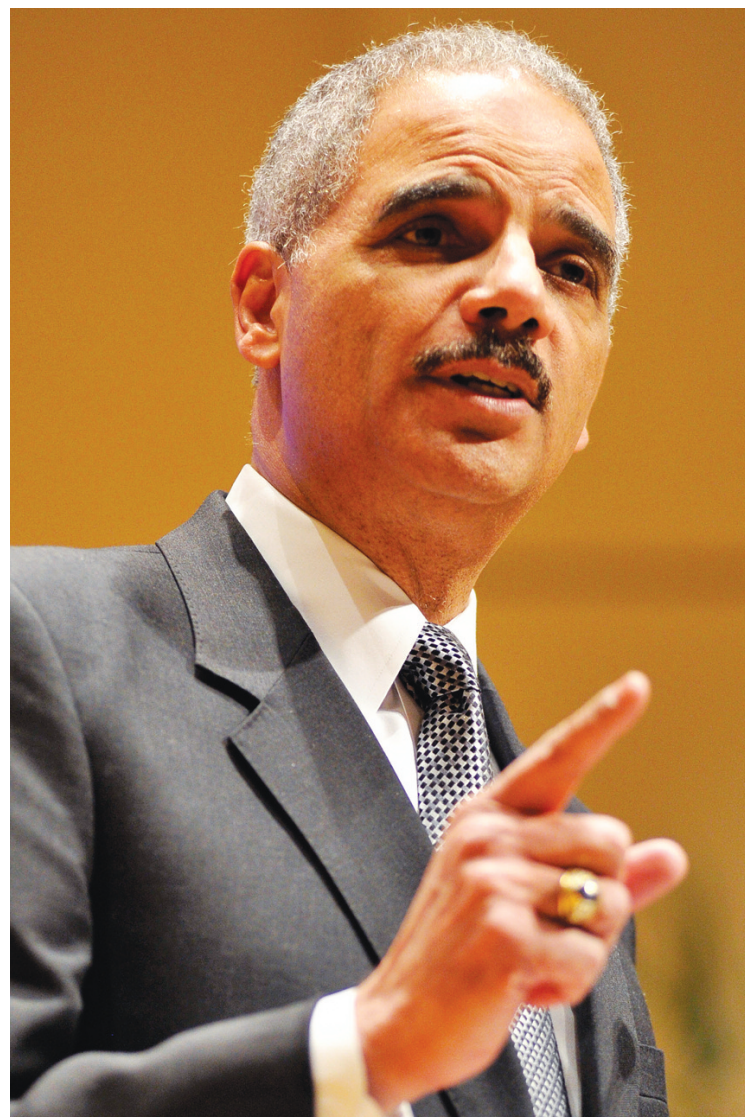
The 27-year-old had bruising and swelling on his head, bruising on his stomach, a black eye and scrapes on a knee, according to reports. The younger man sustained a 2-inch cut on the side of his head, a 1-inch cut on his nose, bruising and swelling to both eyes and cheekbones, chipped upper teeth, scrapes on a toe and finger, and 2-inch scrapes on his shoulder and stomach.

Medical City Hospital spokeswoman Chris Hawes said the two men had been released as of Thursday morning.

Sr. Cpl. Laura Martin, LGBT liaison officer for the Dallas Police Department, said the victims didn’t know the attackers and gave officers vague descriptions, only noticing the dark four-door vehicle and that they appeared to be in their 20s.

The lack of a better description makes police reliant on witnesses who saw the attack or know the attackers.

■ **HATE CRIME**, Page 22



BIG-NAME SPEAKERS | U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett will deliver the keynote addresses during the White House LGBT Conference on Safe Schools and Communities at the University of Texas at Arlington on Tuesday, March 20.

White House anti-bullying conference comes to UTA

Historic gathering focused on safe schools for gay youth will feature top administration officials and is one of eight on LGBT topics nationwide

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

ARLINGTON — Hundreds of LGBT youth, advocates, educators and politicians from Texas and national organizations will join Obama administration officials for panel discussions and

workshops at the White House LGBT Conference on Safe Schools and Communities at the University of Texas at Arlington on Tuesday, March 20.

The conference is the third in a series of eight LGBT conferences hosted by the White House and the U.S. Department of Justice. The conferences were announced in February and are expected to run through June.

The first conference Feb. 16 in Philadelphia focused on LGBT health, and the second in Detroit on March 9 focused on LGBT housing and homelessness.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and White

■ **CONFERENCE**, Page 19

Register or watch online

The White House LGBT Conference on Safe Schools and Communities runs from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, in the E.H. Hereford University Center at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Registration for the event is available at <http://go.usa.gov/U7Y>.

A live stream of the first three hours, as well as the closing remarks, can be watched at www.whitehouse.gov/live.

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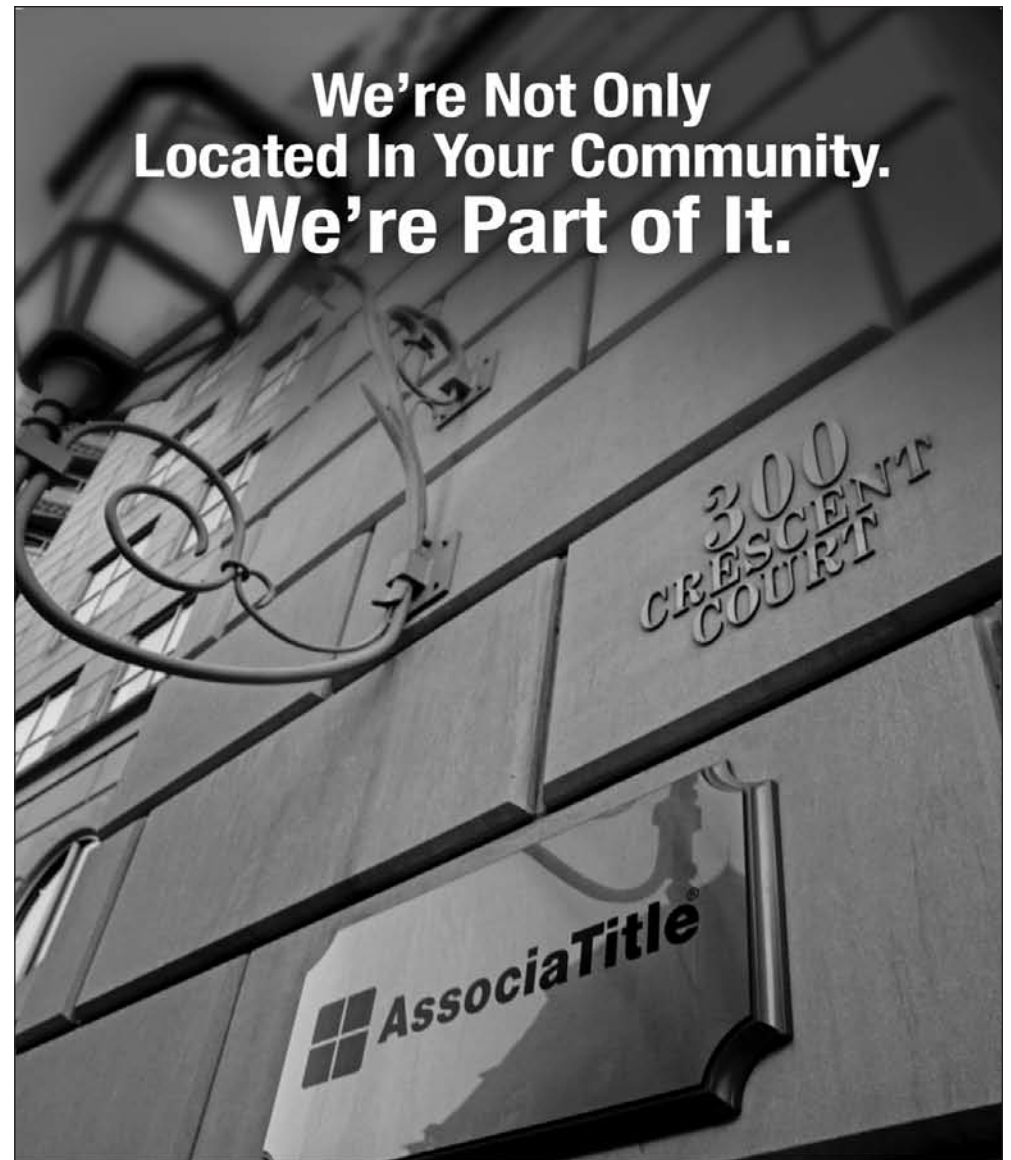


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localbriefs

Razzle Dazzle Dallas releases 2012 schedule, announces beneficiaries

Razzle Dazzle Dallas — the gay Pride Month celebration and fundraiser on Cedar Springs — today announced its 2012 beneficiaries and preliminary event schedule.

According to a press release, Razzle Dazzle Dallas runs June 6-9 and will include a Wine/Dog Walk on Wednesday, a Pub Crawl on Thursday, the 7th annual MetroBall on Friday, and a street party on Saturday night.

Singer Taylor Dayne, who appeared at Black Tie Dinner last year, will return to Dallas to headline MetroBall, which benefits the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund.

Also this year, Saturday at Razzle Dazzle Dallas will include LifeWalk Waterpalooza, in addition to the sidewalk sale, street fair and antique car show.

On Saturday night, according to the release, Cedar Springs will become “a big crazy dance club with LIVE ‘80s music and DJs on the Main Performance Stage!”

Razzle Dazzle Dallas, which distributed more than \$60,500 in 2011, this year will benefit Resource Center Dallas, AIDS Interfaith Network, Turtle Creek Chorale, Legacy Counseling Center, Legal Hospice of Texas, AIDS Arms, GLBT Leadership Education & Advocacy Program (LEAP), Uptown Players and the Cedar Springs Road

Beautification Fund.

Razzle Dazzle is also planning three events in April: a bus trip to the WinStar Casino, a Rising Star Show featuring D Alexander at the Rose Room, and a Razzle Dazzle-sponsored installment of GayBingo.

For more info, visit Razzledazzledallas.org.

Fashion Cited benefit for Legal Hospice of Texas set for March 22

Fashion Cited, benefiting Legal Hospice of Texas, takes place at the Frontiers of Flight Museum on Lemmon Avenue at 6:30 on Thursday, March 22. The fashion show begins at 7:15 p.m.

More than a dozen designers including local couturier Emmanuel Tobias will be represented, with about 150 looks showcased.

Designer Francisco Flores will direct the show and participate.

Flores said LHT played an important role in his personal life.

“It was through Legal Hospice that my partner was able to get his life back, and in turn I was able to get my life back,” Flores said. “I truly believe that it is because of Legal Hospice he is alive today.”

LHT is a non-profit law firm that provides legal services to low income who are terminally ill or HIV positive. Purchase tickets online at LegalHospice.org.

pet of the week / ROGER

Roger is a 2-year-old Beagle mix that has a great time wrestling with other dogs. He walks well on a leash, likes to meet everyone that passes by him, and is good with other dogs. We always advise to bring your dogs from home for an introduction. Roger would love to go home to an active and fun person or family. An apartment dwelling would not be ideal for a beagle due to their infamous howl when unfamiliar signs or sounds occur.

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



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OUT AND IN | The openly LGBT candidates for Texas Legislature in 2012 are, clockwise from top left, Ann Johnson, Carlos Vasquez, Ray Hill and Mary Gonzalez.

4 openly gay candidates seek Texas House seats

Lone Star State now one of only 18 that lacks an openly LGBT legislator, which history suggests is needed to pass relationship recognition

DANIEL WILLIAMS | Contributing Writer
editor@DallasVoice.com

Since 2003, when Austin Democrat Glen Maxey left the Texas House, no out LGBT person has served in the Texas Legislature.

The Lone Star State is now one of only 18 states that lacks an openly LGBT state legislator, according to the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, the Washington, D.C.-based PAC that backs out candidates nationwide.

But at least four LGBT candidates for Texas House will be seeking to change that this year.

Victory Fund spokesman Dennis Dison said the group has not yet endorsed any of the candidates, and the filing period for May 29 primaries just ended last week. But Dison said he believes electing openly LGBT candidates to public office is a crucial part of passing pro-equality legislation.

"No state legislature has instituted [same-sex] partnership rights without having out LGBT officials in the legislature," Dison said. "We have seen in cases where there is just a sole legislator, that it can have a huge impact in terms of our community and changing people's minds about who we are."

Ray Hill

At 71, Ray Hill is the patriarch of Houston LGBT activism. After coming out in high school (while playing quarterback on the football team) Hill went on to be involved in nearly every major event in Houston's queer history, from serving as president of the Houston GLBT Political Caucus to organizing the community after the hate-crime murder of Paul Broussard in 1991. Hill boasts that Mayor Annise Parker, then a Rice University student, used to keep his number with her whenever she'd go out to the lesbian bars in Houston, which were periodically raided by police.

"If you got picked up [by the police] in a bar, I was the only one who showed up in courts when

■ CANDIDATES, Page 14

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■ **CANDIDATES**, From Page 13

people got arrested, and I knew what to do and how to keep you out of trouble," Hill said.

Hill faces incumbent Rep. Garnet Coleman in the Democratic Primary. Coleman, who's served as state representative for nearly 20 years, has received the endorsement of the Houston GLBT Political Caucus every time he's run.

Last legislative session, he introduced a bill to repeal the Texas constitutional amendment that prohibits the state from recognizing same-sex marriage. Coleman was one of only 25 members who unequivocally opposed the amendment when it passed the House in 2005.

Hill said it was the Broussard case that drew him into the race. Last year one of Broussard's killers, John Buice, was recommended for parole by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Hill advocated for parole, while Coleman wrote a letter to the board asking them to overturn their decision and keep Buice behind bars.

After the board rejected parole for Buice, Hill announced his entrance into the race.

"One of the things that Garnet Coleman and I disagree on is the benefits of revenge in criminal justice," said Hill, who feels Coleman overstepped his role as state representative by interfering in the case. "Revenge doesn't accomplish anything."

Mary Gonzalez

If Hill represents the grand old tradition of Texas LGBT activists, Mary Gonzalez is the symbol of its newest generation. Born and raised in Clint, outside of El Paso, the graduate student is a veteran of the Capitol, having worked for state Reps. Paul Moreno and Richard Raymond.

Gonzalez is co-chair of the Board of Directors for allgo, a statewide organization for queer people of color. At 28, she is the youngest of the out candidates running for the Texas House, but has quickly established herself as the frontrunner in the Democratic Primary in El Paso's District 75, a contest to replace Democratic Rep. Chente Quintillia, who isn't seeking re-election.

Gonzalez has out fundraised her two primary opponents, Hector Enriquez and Tony Roman, four to one, and has a nearly \$20,000 war chest to support her campaign.

"I have strong backing and people who are excited about this race," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said she is proud to be an out queer woman, but that in her race the need for basic necessities takes precedence. "When people don't have running water, street lights, roads, or basic infrastructure, the last thing that people are going to talk about is domestic partnerships," said Gonzalez. "In a part of my district, San Elizario, 49 percent of the people are living below the federal poverty level."

At the same time, she said it's important that people know she is running as an out candidate.

"I always liked the idea of people knowing there's someone out here in El Paso who is out and fighting for these issues," she said.

Ann Johnson

Johnson, 37, is the only Democratic candidate running in Houston's House District 134.

She will face Republican incumbent Sarah Davis, who is also running unopposed in her primary, in November. As a freshman in the current Legislature, Davis has a spotty record on LGBT issues. She voted for some anti-bullying legislation but also supported efforts to defund campus LGBT resource centers at Texas universities.

Johnson doesn't believe that running as an out candidate will influence the voters of District 134 one way or the other.

"That's who I am," Johnson said. "I don't think it will affect the race. This district is a thoughtful district. I know that when they look at the issues and when they look at my history they know that when it comes time to stand up in Austin and fight for issues that are important to them, issues like public education and health, I will stand up for them."

Johnson is the daughter of former State Rep. Jake Johnson. She is a former prosecutor who, as a lawyer in private practice, specializes in child

advocacy cases, including representing victims of bullying and harassment in public schools. Johnson proudly includes her partner, Sonya, in her public bio.

Carlos Vasquez

Vasquez, 44, currently serves as a school board member for the Fort Worth ISD. He faces incumbent Lon Burnam in the Democratic Primary in Cowtown's District 90.

Burnam hasn't had a primary opponent since he was first elected in 1996. Like Rep. Coleman, Burnam is one of only 25 Texas House members who unequivocally opposed the 2005 Texas constitutional amendment prohibiting marriage equality. Burnam has also co-authored anti-bullying legislation for the past two legislative sessions.

Vasquez said he feels Burnam has not done enough in Austin, particularly on education.

"My opponent is a good man and means well," Vasquez said. "However, the record shows that under both a Texas Democratic House of Representatives and now under a Republican-controlled House, he has been equally ineffective. His good intentions are not getting it done in Austin; we need progress, not posturing."

A fifth openly gay candidate who'd announced plans to run for Texas House, George Clayton of Richardson, instead filed for re-election to his seat on the State Board of Education. ■

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Stonewall sets forums, screenings for primary

LGBT Democratic group to host debates featuring candidates for new congressional district, County Commissioners Court at Sue Ellen's

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

With Texas' primaries finally set for May 29, Stonewall Democrats of Dallas has scheduled endorsement screenings and announced it will host candidate forums in two races.

Stonewall's endorsement screenings will be April 13 and 14 at Resource Center Dallas.

On March 27, candidates for the new 33rd U.S. Congressional District, which covers parts of Tarrant and Dallas counties, will be in the Vixen Lounge at Sue Ellen's.

On April 3, candidates for Dallas County Commissioners Court District 1 will be at Sue Ellen's for Stonewall's second forum.

"We want a very fair format with a moderator unaffiliated with Stonewall," Stonewall President Omar Narvaez said.

He said both the LGBT group's general membership and attendees will be allowed to submit questions. The half hour before and after the forums will be for meet-and-greets.

Stonewall's political affairs chair Tracy Clinton said the forums will allow the group's members to "dig a little deeper into the candidates."

The newly drawn District 33 winds across a long, narrow swath of two counties, and 11 candidates have filed for the race. The organization is waiting to hear back from candidates to see how many will attend.

"We're looking for some partnerships for the District 33 forum," Clinton said.

The district begins in the southeast Fort Worth neighborhood that includes the Rainbow Lounge, cuts through parts of Arlington and Irving and ends in Dallas in North Oak Cliff.

Narvaez said two Irving precincts that have among the most female same-sex couples in Texas are in the district.



Omar Narvaez

Candidates for that seat from Dallas include State Rep. Domingo Garcia and former City Councilman Steve Salazar. Fort Worth is well represented with City Councilwoman Kathleen Hicks and State Rep. Marc Veasey.

Among the other candidates are a doctor, an attorney and several community activists and organizers from both counties, Narvaez said.

Garcia will speak at the monthly Stonewall meeting on March 20 and is the only one of the candidates confirmed for the forum at press time.

Three candidates are vying for the Democratic nomination for Commissioners Court.

"The new district is about one-third African-American, one-third Anglo and one-third Latino," Narvaez said.

He said the three candidates are well-known within their communities.

"We don't have a poor choice," he said.

Narvaez said other races are also competitive and include well-known challengers. For example, in the District 30 congressional race, Barbara Mallory Caraway is one of two candidates challenging U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Texas. But Narvaez said, "We're probably not doing other forums because of time and endorsements."

Once the organization decides on its candidates, members will work for the group's slate.

Clinton called the delayed date for the primary frustrating and a disruption of the election cycle. With 11 candidates, he said, District 33 is among races likely to have runoffs, which will be held July 31. ■

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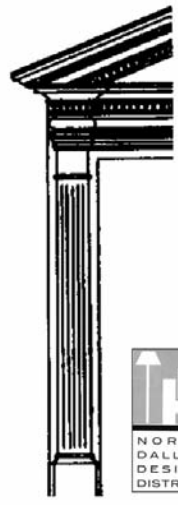
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- April 30: Last day to register to vote in primaries
- March 9: Filing period for candidates closed
- May 12: Municipal and school board elections
- May 14-25: Early voting for Texas primary
- May 29: Texas primary election day
- June 8-9: Democratic state convention in Houston. Republican state convention in Fort Worth
- July 24-27: Early voting for the primary runoff
- July 31: Primary runoff election day



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NO LEFT TURNS | Crews install crosswalk signs on Cedar Springs at Reagan Street earlier this year. Scott Whittall, executive director of the Cedar Springs Merchants Association, said the intersection won't get a traffic signal, but left turns onto Cedar Springs likely will be prohibited. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

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As Cedar Springs traffic plan moves ahead, parking looms

Merchants say long-term plan includes parking structure; street unlikely to be narrowed as part of ongoing safety improvements

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Working with the Cedar Springs Merchants Association, the city of Dallas has begun traffic and pedestrian safety upgrades on Cedar Springs Road between Oak Lawn and Douglas avenues.

While these improvements are welcome, both city officials and business owners agree that solving the area's parking woes will also be critical to maintaining the strip's vitality.

"Parking needs to be looked at, with more than just parking on the street," said Peer Chacko, assistant director of development services for the city.

Chacko said in most parts of the city, property owners are required to provide enough parking for their tenants. In some places, like Knox Street and Downtown, property owners collaborate to solve parking problems.

"That's the direction they [Cedar Springs Road property owners] need to go," he said.

Merchants Association Executive Director Scott Whittall agreed.

"We're developing long-term plans to develop

a parking structure," Whittall said.

Whittall said a parking garage is needed to attract businesses, as well as patrons who want a safe place to park. Several options and locations are being considered, but Whittall said he wasn't prepared to discuss them in more detail this week.

Last year, Whittall sold his Cedar Springs coffee shop, Buli, because he was unable to expand into the vacant space next door due to parking requirements.

And much of the crime in the area involves Cedar Springs patrons who are victimized late at night as they walk to and from cars parked blocks away.

The traffic safety improvements, which began in January, come in response to four collisions involving pedestrians within a few months late last year.

Since then, the city has installed flashing, eye-level warning signs at multiple crosswalks.

The crosswalk lights were supposed to flash nonstop for only the first 30 days — but Whittall said they continue to do so because the city is working on obtaining parts.

Although the signs and lights have been installed, the devices to regulate the lights haven't. Whittall said either sensors or buttons will be installed. The sensors would make the lights flash as soon as someone steps into a crosswalk. The buttons would activate the lights when pushed. Whittall said he believes the latter system will be used.

Meanwhile, studies have been conducted to de-



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PARKING PROBLEM PERCOLATES | Whittall, shown behind the counter at Buli Cafe, sold the business last year because he was unable to expand it due to parking requirements.

termine whether traffic signals are needed at Knight Street and Reagan Street.

"The traffic light at Reagan is not going to happen," Whittall said.

However, Reagan Street will become right-turn-only onto Cedar Springs Road from either direction.

The traffic signal at Knight Street is already funded and will be added by July. The city is looking at the configuration. Because Knight Street jogs at Cedar Springs, it will probably be a three-way light with only right turns allowed onto Cedar Springs.

Traffic buttons in front of Kroger have not been effective in preventing left turns. The city considered a small median, but that could be a problem during events such as the gay Pride parade.

Whittall said at the last meeting between merchants and the city, they discussed removable plastic traffic stakes.

Pedestrian traffic on that end of the strip is only expected to increase. Three of the pedestrian collisions — including a fatal one — occurred there.

Eric Pederson of the Crosland Group said his company plans to break ground on ilume 2 in late spring.

That property is northeast of Cedar Springs and Knight, diagonally across from the first ilume. Once the new development opens, residents will be crossing Douglas Avenue to Kroger. Traffic travels on that street faster than on Cedar Springs, making it potentially more dangerous to pedestrians.

A final consideration of the traffic plan — narrowing Cedar Springs to one lane of traffic in each direction — is not likely to happen.

Chacko said there were mixed feelings among merchants about narrowing the street.

"There are ways to improve the pedestrian environment," he said, without removing lanes of traffic.

"Our sense is to slow traffic rather than reduce capacity," he said.

Whittall noted that when the Cedar Springs bridge over the Dallas North Tollway was closed for a year, traffic diverted to Lemmon Avenue and has not rebounded, resulting in a loss of business.

And a traffic study showed that motorists are already slowing in the area, traveling an average of 33 mph on Cedar Springs from Knight Street to Oak Lawn Avenue. ■

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New GLSEN chapter aims to make N. Texas schools safer

Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network of Greater Dallas to help implement anti-bullying policies, bring GSAs to more campuses

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

James Tate has been working for 14 months to re-establish a North Texas chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network. Last month GLSEN Greater Dallas was chartered by the national office in New York.

While all GLSEN chapters work within the national organization's mission, each chapter has a different list of projects that support, educate or train youth, teachers or administrators within local schools.

"We built a steering committee," he said, "and assessed the needs in this city."

Tate said he hopes to work with school districts throughout North Texas to implement anti-bullying policies, as well as help students create GSAs in schools that still don't have those student organizations.

Tate returned to Dallas to finish his master's degree in social domestic policy at UT Dallas after spending a semester in Washington, D.C. where he worked as an intern at the GLSEN public policy office.

When he got back to Dallas, he found that the former GLSEN chapter had folded so he began recruiting to build a board and reapply for certification with the national office.

"Katie Patrick is treasurer and the only person affiliated with the previous chapter," he said. "She brings all the history and is a wealth of knowledge."

Another board member is Pam Hancock, who is working on a doctorate at UT Arlington. As a youth, she was involved with a California chapter.

Tate said GLSEN isn't in competition with area Gay Straight Alliances or groups like Youth First Texas. Rather he sees his group as supplementing



INTERNSHIP HITS HOME | James Tate worked as an intern at the GLSEN public policy office in Washington, D.C. Since returning to Dallas to finish his master's degree at UT Dallas, he's worked for 14 months to re-establish a Greater Dallas chapter of the national organization.

and supporting those groups.

"We do training in schools with intervention specialists," he said. "And we're a local chapter of a national organization that has amazing resources."

Tate said he wants to see GSAs flourish in North Texas schools.

Only 11 of Dallas Independent School District's 39 high schools have GSAs, he said, and he would like to see that number increase. Outside the city, the need is even greater.

Local college students, he said, could be very helpful in mentoring students in area high schools starting new GSAs.

The revitalized chapter took a new name.

"It was very important to me to rename the chapter GLSEN Greater Dallas because we're serving the Metroplex," he said.

Fairness Fort Worth President Tom Anable said his city's anti-bullying campaign will roll out in October with the help of the new GLSEN chapter.

"They're going to implement a train-the-trainer program," he said. "The city has made a commitment to have James come in and implement procedures."

Anable said GLSEN provides safe schools kits for the district's 38 middle and high schools.

"Fort Worth ISD was very receptive," he said. "It's nice to have GLSEN represented here."

Andy Marra, GLSEN's national public relations

manager, said, "We're really excited to have a presence in Dallas again."

Marra said Houston's chapter is recently revitalized as well.

She said it was important in a state where nine out of 10 students reported hearing homophobic slurs in school and a third of students in that study said they heard faculty and staff making those slurs as well.

"Our train-the-trainer program is extremely popular," Marra said.

She said GLSEN's national staff is excited to have Tate and his board helping to make sure all North Texas LGBT students have a safe learning environment. ■

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■ **CONFERENCE**, From Page 10

House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett will give the keynote addresses at next week's conference in Arlington. Their remarks will be followed by panel discussions and workshops in the afternoon on topics including bullying prevention and intervention, violence against LGBT youth of color and transgender people, family acceptance, and federal legal protection for LGBT students.

Robert Pittman, an openly gay man who was appointed U.S. attorney for the Western District of Texas by President Barack Obama, is among the panel participants. And Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns, who's become a celebrity thanks to his 2010 "It Gets Better" speech, will speak before introducing Jarrett. Judy Shepard, mother of the late Matthew Shepard and co-founder of the Matthew Shepard Foundation, will give closing remarks.

Attendance is expected to be about 400 and will include representatives from high school and college Gay-Straight Alliances, superintendents and deans of colleges of education from Dallas and Tarrant counties, and elected officials, Thomas Anable said.

Anable, chair of the local steering committee for the White House conference and president of Fairness Fort Worth, said his conversations with U.S. Department of Justice officials in Dallas last fall at the Out & Equal convention led to the talk

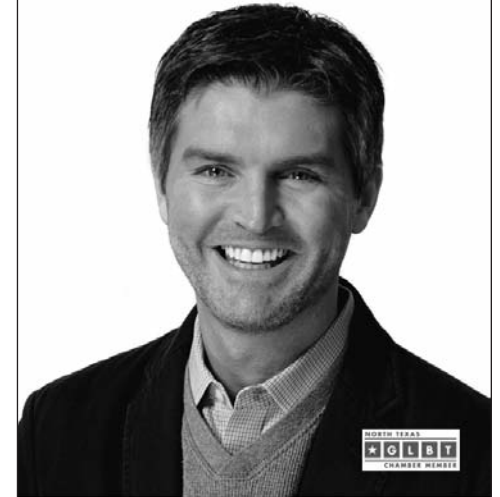
■ **CONFERENCE**, Page 20



STAR-STUDED LINEUP | Fort Worth Councilman Joel Burns, a national celebrity for his "It Gets Better" speech, will speak before introducing White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett.

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■ texasnews



FOCUSED ON FAIRNESS | Thomas Anable, president of Fairness Fort Worth, said he was involved in bringing the conference to North Texas and selecting the topic.

■ **CONFERENCE**, From Page 19

of more conversations by topic on LGBT issues. The idea was then mullied over by the administration, and Anable received a call saying the White House wanted to break down the topics by city.

Being an integral part of the local planning, Anable said he was able to pick the topic for the Texas conference, so he chose school safety based on the progress the state has made recently in protecting students from bullying. And with LGBT students making up 5 percent of school populations but four times more likely to commit suicide, he said he “wanted to continue that focus” on school safety.

The Texas Legislature passed an anti-bullying bill last May, outlining the definition of bullying as anything verbal, written or electronically communicated that threatens a students’ safety or interferes with their education. Each school district must create a plan to prevent, report, investigate and stop bullying, and students found to be harassing other students may be transferred to different classrooms or campuses.

Anable said Fairness Fort Worth, Resource Center Dallas and Councilman Burns have been working with Fort Worth and Dallas school districts to create bullying prevention and reaction plans.

The recent Anoka-Hennepin school district settlement in Minnesota — under which federal authorities will monitor the district for five years as it implements measures to protect LGBT students — is seen as a national model, and is expected to be a focus of the UTA conference.

“This is the most comprehensive, detailed program that has ever been in a consent decree regarding LGBT students,” Anable said about the agreement. “My suspicion is that the attorney general is going to talk about that consent decree and probably lay that down as the standard they’re going to hold all districts to. ... And if he does, that’ll be truly groundbreaking.”

Although the definition of bullying in the Texas

Education Code doesn’t explicitly protect LGBT students with the language, it still protects every student, said Dennis Coleman, executive director of Equality Texas.

Coleman said Texas legislators “put children first” when they passed the legislation last year. He said he’s grateful that Texas was able to pass anti-bullying legislation without federal intervention. He also said the selection of Texas as one of the eight states for a conference showed the national support for the Lone Star State.

“I think it just sends a signal to everyone that Texas does matter to the White House, especially on LGBT issues,” Coleman said. “I think the White House doing these summits around the country, and Texas being one of those, says a lot about where they are and who they’re listening to.”

With state and federal officials and educators in one place discussing LGBT issues, Coleman said he hopes students voice their concerns, calling it “the best way to have your voice heard.”

One of those voices will be Alohi Valdez, president of UTA’s GSA. An openly gay junior, Valdez said she often faced bullying in middle school for being overweight. In college, she came out and began to dress more masculine with neckties. She said people drive by her as she walks on campus and shout gay slurs and ask if she is a man or a woman.

Last year, her apartment was targeted. She and her three roommates came home to find that someone had spray-painted gay slurs on the side of her apartment near campus. While the event worried her roommates enough to move out, she did not.

“I didn’t want to be bullied out of my apartment out of fear,” she said. “I just hope it [the conference] brings awareness. It’s a really serious issue.”

The conference is also hosted by UTA’s department of criminology and criminal justice and College of Education and Health Professions.

Alex del Carmen, chair of the department, said he was pleased UTA was selected after a civil rights conference at UTA last November focused



FIGHTING ANTI-GAY HATE | Judy Shepard, mother of hate crime victim Matthew Shepard, will deliver the closing remarks.

on hate crimes.

"I think UTA is a prime place to host the conference because academic universities and academic settings are ideal places for an equal exchange of ideas and of thoughts," he said. "When academics, along with the practitioners and the elected officials, get together and coordinate their efforts to work for the betterment of society, it's a good day for us all."

Zak Murphy, a junior at UTA, served as the vice president of the campus GSA last year.

While he said he's been "minorly bullied in the past," he's never been targeted at UTA because of the effort of the students, faculty and staff to respect equality, he said.

Murphy said he values the conferences and appreciates the fact UTA was selected as a location. But he added that he wants the issue of bullying to stay with those who attend and those in other states who cannot, so that the pain some students face is never forgotten.

"I hope people don't let this issue diminish," Murphy said. "I hope that by doing things like this, the issue is brought back into the prime spotlight, and hopefully legislation and other initiatives can be done to help further the cause."

Anable, a UTA alumnus, said although he was closeted as a teenager, he found out after he left high school that his three older brothers would go around and make sure no one picked on him — a luxury many LGBT youth don't have.

Now, Anable wants to give students an opportunity to talk about the issues he couldn't growing up in conservative Texas.

"I'm just so excited that we can have these conversations, we can educate each other, and that's what I hope and expect this event will do, is just open the dialogue, continue it at a higher level," Anable said. "There will be a lot of influential decision makers and politicians and schools that will come to this high-profile event, and they're going to hear the LGBT word, they're going to hear the issues. And once you hear it, you can't ignore it." ■

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■ HATE CRIME, From Page 10

"We're really depending on the public to come forward. Maybe someone saw something, and we're hopeful that we'll have a good witness, but right now really all we have is the victims and the vague description," Martin said.

Venton Jones, a spokesman for the National Black Gay Men's Advocacy Coalition, wrote in an email to Dallas Voice that a report from the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs found violent crimes against LGBT people rose 13 percent in 2010 and that people of color and transgender women were more likely to be targeted. The report also found that people in those groups were least likely to report violence.

"In times of economic uncertainty, disenfranchised and marginalized populations like gay and bisexual men of color are frequently targeted for hate speech and violence," Jones wrote.

Derrick Spillman, executive director of DFW Pride Movement, said he doesn't think black gay men are targeted any more than other members of the LGBT community.

"Being a black gay man in the African-American community I don't think is any less challenging than in any other community," he said. "Just being different is something that makes people a target."

Spillman said the incident struck a fearful cord throughout the gay community. He said safety

and prevention efforts by police and the community need to be taken.

"This is something that is very unfortunate," Spillman said. "It not only placed the young men that this happened to in a fear for their life, but a lot of gay men or African-American gay men in general, who tend to stand out a little bit more, it makes us all begin to think about, 'When will it be our day? Will this ever happen to us?'"

The Forest-Audelia area has been identified by Dallas police as one of 27 crime hotspots citywide, and it ranked third for violent crimes in 2011 with 176 offenses.

However, Martin said this is the first hate crime reported in the area.

"We haven't had anything in that area before, not a hate crime," she said.

In light of a hate crime occurring in an area that many in the gay community might not see as a targeted area, Martin said for people to stay aware of their surroundings using general safety precautions such as walking in groups late at night.

"Basically, be extra vigilant," she said. "Be aware that it happened. All we can do is ask people to beware that there was someone over there that targeted two people for their perceived sexual orientation."

The police reports classify the crimes as aggravated assaults, a second-degree felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

However, the crimes could be prosecuted as



Sr. Cpl. Laura Martin

first-degree felonies because under Texas' hate crime statute, an offense is enhanced to the next highest category if found to be a hate crime. A first-degree felony is punishable by up to life in prison.

In May 2011, two men, both 28, were robbed after four Hispanic men jumped them on Throckmorton Street near Congress Avenue on their way to the Cedar Springs strip. One was struck with a

baseball bat while a gay slur was yelled at him, breaking his jaw. Dallas police didn't initially classify it as a hate crime, doing so three days later.

Hate crimes are classified by the FBI as being motivated "in whole or in part" by sexual-orientation bias, a primary indicator of which is "oral comments" made by attackers during an offense.

Police immediately identified Tuesday's incident as a hate crime, though Martin declined to "discuss the sexual orientation of the victims to respect their privacy." She noted that hate crimes can be based on actual or perceived sexual orientation. The Crimes Against Persons Unit is investigating the incident, and the FBI's civil rights division will follow up in case more help is needed, she said.

According to the FBI's 2010 hate crime statistics for Texas, there were 34 incidents based on sexual orientation, 75 against race, 19 for religion, 28 for ethnicity and one for disability. Dallas and Fort Worth were tied for second-most crimes based on sexual orientation, which accounted for five of Dallas's 11 hate crimes and five of Fort Worth's 14.

Houston ranked first in hate crimes based on sexual orientation, according to FBI data, with six out of its 13 total complaints relating to sexual orientation. Other cities that had a complaint for sexual orientation had one or two, with the only number higher coming from Austin with three.

Anyone with information about the incident should contact Dallas police Detective Chris Anderson at 214-671-3616. ■

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■ spirituality

'We are here for you'

One-time nun trainee Kathy Bowser preaches message of inclusion as she aims to attract more young people, weekenders and continue to grow predominantly LGBT church at Cedar Creek Lake

DAVID WEBB | Contributing Writer
editor@dallasvoice.com

CEDAR CREEK LAKE — Celebration on the Lake Church Pastor Kathy Bowser might seem demure and unimposing, but it quickly becomes clear from her conversation that she thinks big.

"If I could stand on top of the church and shout it out I would say, 'We are here for you,'" said Bowser during an interview in the pastor's office on a recent Saturday afternoon. "This is a flagship building for the community, and it's so much more than just a building. We're here, and when you need us, we're going to be here for you whether you come across the threshold or not."

Maybe that's part of the reason why four decades ago, Bowser realized she wasn't cut out for the life of a nun and left the Philadelphia convent of the Sisters and Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary order, where she'd spent about eight years preparing for her final vows. After all, except for in the 1960s television sitcom *The Flying Nun* starring Sally Field, who ever heard of a nun standing on a church?

Bowser left the service of the Catholic Church following the Vatican II Council when Pope John XXIII called a meeting to implement change. Her order's decision to follow only required changes and not others being recommended by the church council gravely disappointed Bowser.

"I was terribly disappointed in that because I thought the changes were necessary and wonderful," Bowser said of the changes, which included the abandonment of habits in exchange for modern wear. "There was a lot of upheaval in religious orders. I and many others left as a result of that."

Much more change was in store for Bowser, but at the time she only knew that she was abandoning her planned life as a nun. Having been trained as an educator, Bowser returned to her native Miami and went to work as a teacher in an inner-city school.

After about six years of teaching, Bowser decided she was "dazzled by the real world" and wanted to explore other avenues of employment. She tried to sell life insurance for a while, but after exhausting contacts with family and friends realized she "wasn't that great of a sales person."

From there she went to the March of Dimes and later on to the American Heart Association, where she excelled in management.

"I had some terrific, wonderful jobs," said Bowser, who also made some big changes in her personal life along the way.

When Bowser first left the convent, she dated men. In fact, she was engaged to marry a man when, at 30, she met a gay woman who interested her.

"I went out with her to a couple of gay bars," Bowser said. "I asked questions of the women I met, and then I fell in love with her and came out."

She remained with her first partner for seven years. Later, she met her current partner, Fluffy, with whom she's enjoyed a 26-year relationship.

About 20 years ago Bowser and her partner bought a lake house and began spending every weekend at Cedar Creek Lake. Later, they wanted to begin attending church on Sundays, but didn't find one on the lake at that time where they felt comfortable.

In 2003 they and a couple of other founding members of the church convinced Carole West, pastor of Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth, to start a satellite church on Cedar Creek Lake. They began meeting in a strip shopping center, and West, who also owned property on the lake, served as pastor until 2005.

At that point both the Fort Worth and the Cedar Creek Lake churches were growing, and the obligation became too much for West, who had on occasion called on Bowser to substitute preach. The lake church called Bowser to be its pastor in 2005.

By 2009, the lake church had grown enough and raised enough money to construct its own impressive building that includes a large, colorful stained glass window depicting a boat on a lake. The church that started out with just 10 members now has about 90.

Glen Robinson, chairman of the church's Board of Directors, attributes much of the success in growing the church membership and financing the construction of the building to Bowser.

"Kathy has been a wonderful leader of the congregation in every sense of the word," Robinson said. "She has guided us through every step of the way."

A church member, Gail DeCuire, volunteered as the contractor for the job, helping make the project possible. The church's community room, where potluck dinners are held every month, is named after DeCuire. Many other church members also helped make the construction possible in a variety of ways, including helping finish out the interior.

"The community came together to make this possible, and we're still not finished," Bowser said.

Bowser noted the church's work continues and its board has established strategic goals that include attracting more young gay and lesbian people to the church and attracting more weekenders to services. Most of the members now are full-time residents of the many little cities around the lake.

Another goal is finishing the outside of the



WORK IN PROGRESS | Pastor Kathy Bowser stands in front of the sign at Celebration on the Lake Church, which was founded in 2003 and met in a strip center until constructing its own building in 2009. Now, the church wants to finish landscaping and build a parking lot. (David Webb/Dallas Voice)

church with landscaping and the construction of a parking lot.

Finally, the church board wants to get congregational members involved more in ministry, Bowser said. The church already contributes financially to the Henderson County Food Bank, the AIDS Pantry, the Humane Society, Friends of the Animals, the Women's Shelter, the Cedar Creek Library, students in the Kemp Independent School District, Community Food Pantry, Family Resource Center, East Texas Meals on Wheels, Gun Barrel City Meals on Wheels, Toys for Tots and Habitat for Humanity, but service work is also needed by those organizations, Bowser said.

Bowser is now retired from her career as an administrator for the March of Dimes and American

Heart Association. She's studying at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth.

Bowser said the most important message she wants to send out is that all people, regardless of whom they are and what their religious backgrounds are, will be welcomed at Celebration on the Lake Church. It is an interfaith church, and the congregation has in the past included people from all faiths including, Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Buddhist, Mormon, Christian Scientist and Unitarian faiths.

"You don't have to have a particular set of beliefs to belong here," Bowser said. "We embrace all folks."

Services are Sundays at 10 a.m. Call 903-451-2302 or visit www.cotlchurch.org



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■ healthnews

Joe's Run eyes records in 15th year

Fundraiser for Samaritan House — agency serving homeless people with HIV in Fort Worth — aims for highs in participation, proceeds

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — Rick Isaminger has been running for 30 years, completing four marathons and 20 half marathons. But for the last five years, Isaminger has been running to help his clients with HIV.

Isaminger, who serves as the support services manager at Samaritan House, also served on the planning committee for the nonprofit's 15th annual Joe's Run, which takes place March 24.

The run helps raise awareness of Samaritan House's services for homeless, HIV-positive clients. It also raises money for the programs Samaritan House offers those who stay at its two locations, in downtown Fort Worth and at the Villages at Samaritan House.

"I've been running on and off for 30 years, and



GOING THE DISTANCE | Joe's Run now includes a 10K in addition to a 5K to attract more serious runners. Participants numbered about 2,500 in 2011, but organizers hope to eclipse that mark this year.

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it's really a nice run for Fort Worth," Isaminger said. "Fort Worth can be pretty hilly, and this is relatively flat — and it's for a really good cause."

Samaritan House President and CEO Steve Dutton was the mastermind behind the event. After leaving the Board of Directors in 1996 to serve as CEO, he thought of the race as a way for people to learn about Samaritan House that would be affordable for the community and also serve as a small fundraiser.

"AIDS has always had a lot of baggage with it, and inviting people to come to Samaritan House to learn about what we do might not be that attractive to people," he said. "[Joe's Run] kind of provided a less confrontational way, just an opportunity, for people to come learn about us."

Partnering with Joe T. Garcia's as a sponsor, the race, then named the Race to Joe's, began and ended at the restaurant in north Fort Worth.

But after 10 years, Samaritan House moved to the south side of downtown Fort Worth. The race now begins and ends near Samaritan House at the Magnolia Green Park at 1100 Lipscomb St.

Attendance has spiked over the last few years at 2,500, and Dutton said the nonprofit has set a goal of breaking the record for participation this year.

"We're moving the bar out," he said. "We expect a record turnout. It all depends on the weather."

The run is also expected to bring in a record amount, he said, with proceeds nearing \$80,000, though the original idea of the race was never to bring in much money.

"It was never conceived as a big fundraiser. It was just really a friend-raiser," Dutton said. "It's a friend-raiser to a great extent, and it's continued to succeed."

Isaminger has witnessed the continued growth of the run with the addition of the 10K as an option to the 5K to attract more serious runners, as well as a new 1-mile walk this year to interest more families and parents with young kids.

Despite all the change and growth of the event, one thing has stayed the same: the parrot mascot. Chosen because it was associated with Joe T. Garcia's, the mascot remained despite the event moving and partnering with various restaurants near the Magnolia Green Park.

"We kept the name because it happened that we chose the logo, our pet, a parrot, and we named him Joe," he said. "For all these years the parrot has always been there in some form or fashion."

Death

Louis Paul Mora, born Feb. 22, 1964, passed away Feb. 29, 2012, in Dallas.

Louis lived and worked in the Oak Lawn area for many, many years. He worked at Hunky's, as well as other restaurants in the gay community.

Louis lost his long, hard-fought battle with ad-



diction alongside his brother Michael Mora. Our friend, you will forever be missed and loved by all the people you touched with your kindness and selflessness. Through this terrible tragedy there remains the knowledge that you will endure no more pain or suffering on this earth. Enjoy walking with our heavenly Father as you continue to watch over all of us. As we all aspire to be a true, good-natured individual like yourself. A private service was held in Albuquerque, N.M.

On your mark ...

Registration for Joe's Run is \$25 for adults through March 22 and \$30 the day of the run, March 24, or \$15 per person for the family walk. Registration is available online at JoesRunFW.com until midnight March 22 and in person the morning of the race.

While living in New York, Isaminger worked at Gay Men's Health Crisis, one of the first AIDS organizations, until he was laid off. He then decided to relocate to the area and began work at Samaritan House where he was able to do the same kind of work, he said.

But he enjoys his work more now because of the fewer clients he serves that he can give more attention to.

"The care and the level of care is much better because you really get to know your client," he said.

Isaminger managed about 4,000 clients in New York. He said about 60 homeless, HIV-positive people live at Samaritan House. Others who are HIV-positive or have disabilities live with their families in the 66 apartments at the Villages at Samaritan House, so now he helps manage the progress of about 400 people.

"It's so big and being at Samaritan House it's so much better because I think everybody gets so invested in the residents because we see them all day and I think the care here is tons better and the whole environment because you really know everybody," he said. "It really works as a team."

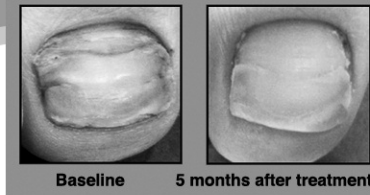
Originally from North Dallas, Isaminger lived in New York City for 25 years before returning to North Texas to work at Samaritan House five years ago. As an avid runner, he enjoyed participating in races in the Big Apple and has enjoyed watching Joe's Run blossom from a small gathering to "one of the largest races in Fort Worth."

"When I first moved down here, for me the races were, they're not small, but compared to what New York is they're small," he said.

But with Joe's Run reaching the 2,500 attendance mark, Isaminger said the atmosphere matches the crowded races in New York.

"I like all the people and it reminds me of the races that would be in Central Park because that's about the number of people that always popped over for a race," he said, adding that the real draw for him is the opportunity to show the community how Samaritan House helps people. "I like it because it is for a good cause."

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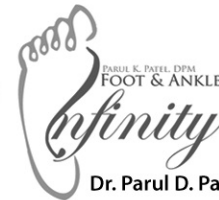
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viewpoints

Don't frack with the LGBT community!

Openly gay Oak Cliff resident was among 1st to warn Dallas residents about risks of hydraulic fracturing; now it's time for *you* to get involved

Let's say all you know about a member of the LGBT community is that he (a) is an artist who creates needlepoint designs, (b) lives in an Oak Cliff gayborhood, and (c) calls his partner his spouse. What would you imagine he does in his "spare" time? Paint landscapes, perhaps. Breed schnauzers, maybe. Run marathons, possibly.

You'd be wrong — at least when it comes to Raymond Crawford. What he does is work tirelessly to preserve Dallas' air and water. He was one of the first Dallastites to call attention to gas drilling's dangers, creating the site DallasDrilling.Wordpress.com.

Let me back up. The elemental danger Crawford and others perceive is posed by hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as "hydro-fracking" or simply "fracking."

Fracking is a process by which deep holes are drilled in the rock beneath our soil and are opened by high-pressure injections of chemically enhanced water plus sand. The pressure pushes this fracking fluid through the rock's fissures so it can reach and release natural gas. The gas is pushed into pipelines and on to companies that sell energy for industrial and household use here and abroad.

And this is controversial because? Well, for several reasons.

First, ordinary residents were unaware that in 2008 the city signed leases with two companies, XTO Energy and Trinity East, both of which want to frack in Dallas. XTO paid \$14.7 million and Trinity East \$19 million, for a total of \$33.7 million. Apparently city officials spent the money, but on what? The city budget presented a few months later slashed funding for libraries and other "public goods" and eliminated all funding for HIV/AIDS outreach, education and prevention.

Second, fracking is controversial because — while much of the fluid injected into the holes is water — fracking fluid may also contain any number of chemicals ... almost 1,000, according to FracDallas.org. Among them are benzene, ethylbenzene formaldehyde, hydrochloric acid and diesel fuel. That's why Schlumberger, a major provider of equipment and services in the industry, recommends treating the fracking fluid as hazardous waste. That's also why Crawford and so many others are concerned that the industry claims the composition of fracking fluid is a "trade secret."

Third, according to FracDallas.org, "Each frac-

ture requires 1.5 million to 9 million gallons of fresh water ... only about 20-60 percent of the contaminated water injected to fracture a well is recovered." Water deemed "flowback" or "produced" is never again safe to drink. It is so contaminated it is taken to injection well sites for permanent storage deep in the earth.

As in Cleburne, about which more later.

Fourth, opponents of gas drilling believe it can contaminate drinking water over a large area. In the documentary *Gasland*, a Dimrock, Penn. family's kitchen faucet spouts fire. In Rock Spring, Colo., a rancher is hospitalized after drinking water from his own tap. In Pavillion, Wyo., residents complain that the water tastes terrible and smells of fuel. Perhaps the chemicals can migrate upward through rock; certainly pipelines can crack; definitely videos show unreported spills in North Texas and nationwide.

Fifth, opponents worry about earthquakes caused by gas drilling. Industry representatives admitted to the Dallas Gas Drilling Task Force that recent Cleburne earthquakes likely resulted from its injection wells. The earth also shook in nearby Waxahachie, Grand Prairie, Fort Worth and at DFW International Airport.

All this is before most North Texas drilling sites have been exploited. In states with many drilling sites, including Ohio and Pennsylvania, recent quakes have made national headlines.

Back now to our city's aforementioned task force. It comprised three "citizen representatives," three "subject-matter experts," three "industry representatives," Chair Lois Finkelman, and Parks Board President Joan Walne. You can check out its proceedings at DallasGasDrillingTaskForce.com.

After several months, the task force has issued recommendations that will — with City Council approval — govern the operations of XTO, Trinity East, and other private and/or corporate leaseholders.

The task force may have been surprised when, at its final meeting on Feb. 28, a group organized as Dallas Residents at Risk arrived at the City Hall meeting room with a full-color map dotted with scores of lease sites. Again, you can refer to Crawford's site, DallasDrilling.Wordpress.com for more.

Even before the new map appeared, Dallas Area Residents for Responsible Drilling, Mountain Creek Neighborhood Alliance, Texas Oil & Gas Accountability Project, Texas Campaign for the Environment, Downwinders at Risk, the Sierra Club — Raymond and his fellow environmentalists — were unhappy with the recommendations to which the task force seemed ready to agree.

At a minimum, they want the following five



Raymond Crawford

requirements added to the task force's recommended standards: 1) 3,000-foot setback from homes, businesses, churches and the like; 2) full disclosure of all chemicals, so first responders are never endangered; 3) no exporting of Dallas water to operations outside the city; 4) company offsets for emissions from gas drilling operations; and 5) an industry-funded oversight office to respond to problems as they arise.

I would add five further requirements: 6) No drilling in floodplains; 7) no drilling on city-owned parklands; 8) translation of all leases into standard, straightforward English; 9) free copies of all leases made available to the public on request; and 10) evening meetings in each City Council district before drilling is approved.

Again, decisions on gas fracking operations in Dallas are now in the hands of the City Council and Mayor Mike Rawlings. Crawford and his colleagues are working hard to assure our safety.

The least you and I can do is fax, email, snail mail and visit every councilmember with our concerns. Let's call on the mayor, too.

Because LGBTs deserve clean air and water as much as everyone else. And when our community unites in action, we get results.

One last thing: Check your homeowner's insurance policy for earthquake damage coverage. You won't find it. It costs extra.

Phyllis Guest is a longtime activist on political and LGBT issues and is a member of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. Send comments to editor@dallasvoice.com.



Phyllis Guest
Taking Notes

Opponents of same-sex marriage are hung up on the 'sex' part

Just as with contraception, foes fear any sex beyond procreation, and even gays base relationships on rigid, heteronormative model

As battles in several states heat up over same-sex marriage this year, opponents are stepping up their rhetoric. It's not surprising.

The idea of marriage for most people involves the idea of consummating that marriage and that means S-E-X.

The idea of sex between two people of the same sex gives some people hives, and thus the fear of same-sex marriage. But here's the deal: The problem is much deeper.

I think a lot of our opponents are afraid of us. They are scared not of our homosexuality, but our sexuality in general.

Just like fundamentalist religions, their strict interpretation of scripture inevitably leads to a crisis of faith or a complete dumbing down of the eloquence of the ancient writings in the Bible and other holy books.

These sexual fundamentalists see sex as strictly a means of procreation. Anything beyond that is

"dirty" and "perverted."

This is the attitude that makes the message against contraception resonate in some arenas. When politicians like Rick Santorum can actually find support for limiting availability of contraception, what they are really doing is giving voice to the fear that sex can be something other than breeding.

For sexual fundamentalists, if sex beyond conception is pleasurable, then it is wrong. They are locked in the same mentality that people like me rebelled against in the 1960s and 1970s.

Although there was a lot wrong-headed about the Age of Aquarius mentality, there was some of it that was spot on. The fact that human sexuality is not a binary system and that there is a whole spectrum of sexual attraction and sexuality beyond the heteronormative model is a fact.

For sexual fundamentalists, that is a threat. Their world is ruled by simplistic order and bumper sticker wisdom. Critical thinking is not allowed. In their world the fact that LGBT people can find happiness and sexual fulfillment outside

their rigid model threatens their belief system.

Accepting same-sex marriage sends them into a panic because it triggers a crisis of faith. If there are more kinds of sexuality than just the heterosexual procreation version, they might have to examine their own sexuality more closely. Heaven forbid!

Just listen to people like Maggie Gallagher of the National Organization for Marriage and you can hear the fear. She consistently lies about LGBT people and what we do to support her cause and more deeply her belief system.

It is little wonder that the right wing has attached religious freedom to the issue. For sexual fundamentalists it is a tenant of their faith. It might as well be the 11th commandment, "Thou shalt not have sex except to foster children. And under no circumstances should't thou enjoy sex, least ye suffer crushing guilt."

On the flip side, so many LGBT people want to pattern their relationships and personal sexuality on the rigid heteronormative model. They want to assimilate into the whole binary system



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

“
We must begin to talk as adults, honestly and openly about sex in all its aspects if we expect to see any real change. We need to acknowledge that the spectrum of sexuality is indeed a rainbow, not just black and white.
”

and look just the same as everyone else. Relationships that fall outside the straight analog model are as much anathema to these people as gays are to sexual fundamentalists.

For us to actually achieve real freedom, it's going to take a concerted effort to combat the belief that there is only one model for relationships. It's going to take people becoming comfortable with their own sexuality, gay or straight. It's going to take moving the conversation from allowing same-sex people to marry to providing legal rights for all people and their relationships. It's going to be messy and difficult and it won't be easy.

Finding a path to freedom rarely is.

We must begin to talk as adults, honestly and openly about sex in all its aspects if we expect to see any real change. We need to acknowledge that the spectrum of sexuality is indeed a rainbow, not just black and white. ■

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and board member of the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at DungeonDiary.blogspot.com.

TO SEND A LETTER | We welcome letters from readers. Shorter letters and those addressing a single issue are more likely to be printed. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity, but we attempt to maintain the writer's substance and tone. Include your home address and a daytime telephone number for verification. Send letters to the senior editor by e-mail (editor@dallasvoice.com).



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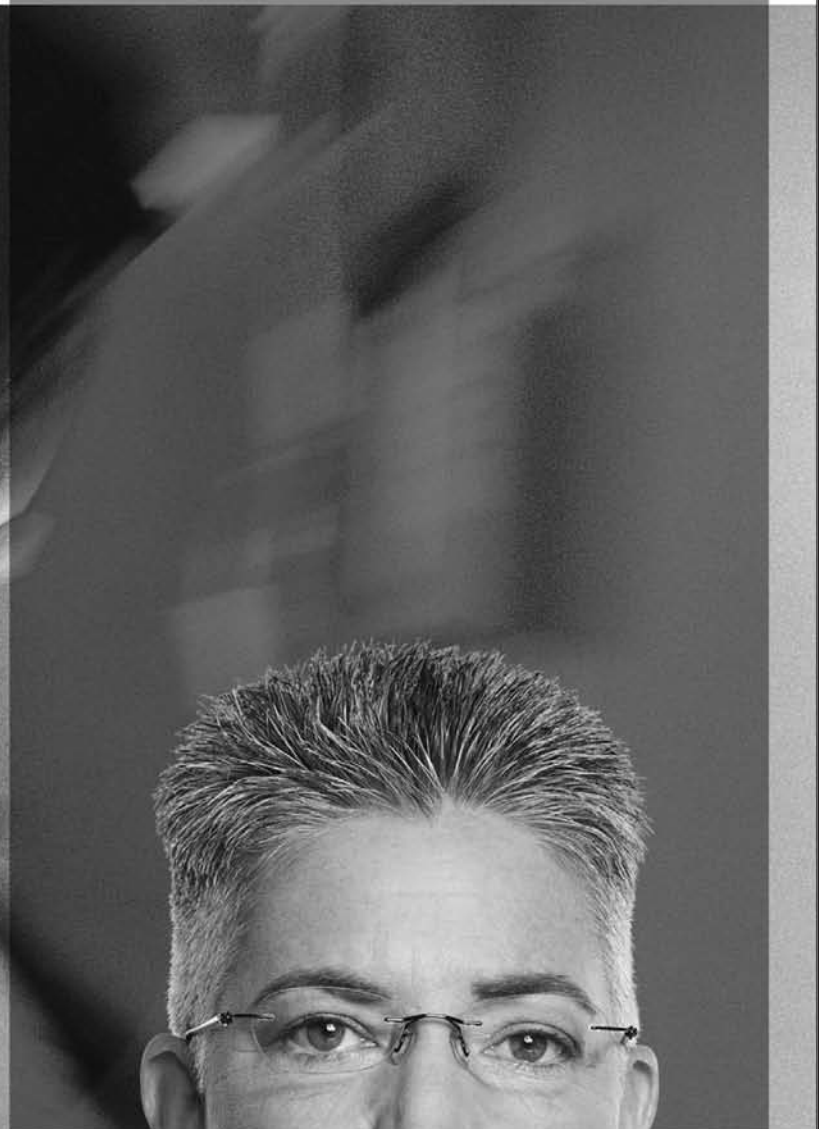
Who will win the Republican presidential nomination?

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

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

- Yes: 29 percent
 - No: 56 percent
 - Unsure: 15 percent
- 143 Votes cast**

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MY GAY
A DALLAS VOICE



TEXAS
PHOTO CONTEST

Click-click-boom!

How photographer Shannon Kern won the My Gay Texas photo contest with a casual snapshot of her best friend



SHOT FROM THE HEART
Shannon Kern shows off her winning photo. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

In more than one way, Shannon Kern feels like an interloper. She did not get involved in gay rights as an ally (though she now identifies as “pansexual”) until June 28, 2009 — the night of the raid on the Rainbow Lounge. And she’s not a professional photographer, though she has “dabbled” in photography for 15 years. Yet there she found herself: The winner of the Dallas Voice’s My Gay Texas photo contest. Here, then, the story behind the photo.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Dallas Voice: Tell us about the photo — where was it taken, who is it of...? Kern: It was taken at the Stonewall Rebellion 41st anniversary march and rally at Founders Plaza on June 27, 2010. The [men in it] are my best friend, Freddie Fieder, who designed the shirt, his younger brother Eddie, who is wearing it. Freddie’s the reason why I became a hardcore [gay rights] activist and an ally — well, him and the Rainbow Lounge raid.

What kind of camera did you use? Just an [inexpensive] Nikon. I’m saving up for a better camera.

How long have you and Freddie been friends? About 11 or 12 years. We met right after high school, working at a Red Lobster in Lewisville, and became soul mates.

How did you hear about the contest? From Elizabeth Pax, one of my fellow activists. I’m a community organizer for GetEQUAL Texas and the founder of Soldiers Always Fighting for Equality [SAFE]. I take photos and videos of all of our marches and rallies.

Did she know you were a photographer — is that why she suggested you enter? I don’t even consider myself a photographer, though I have been taking pictures a good 15 years. But my sister Stephanie, who also entered quite a few pictures, is a photojournalist, so I learned a lot of tricks from her.

Was she jealous you won? No, she was excited for me! We’re very supportive of each other.

Your charity is GetEQUAL Texas, which you also work with. How long have you been affiliated with them? Since early last year.

What do you do when you’re not shooting or marching? I’m a graduate student at the University of Texas at Arlington. I’m graduating in December with a master of arts in political sociology. It’s so fun! I’m working on my thesis right now.

How do your photography, activism and studies complement each other? I think it’s *extremely* important to our movement that we document *everything* we do — to provide proof of our progress to future generations and the efforts we have made for trying to obtain full federal equality, which is the goal.

I’m taking [a class called] campaigns and elections — it’s my last class. I’ve waited three years to take it and am learning so much about the different facets of voting and the strategies and methodologies of campaigning.

I feel there’s such extreme polarization between the right and the left and this phenomenon were observing. What we’re participating in is *our* fight, and we are at the forefront of a socio-political war. It’s not just gay rights, but women’s rights, minority rights, immigrant rights. We really need to participate in democracy. Our voices really do matter and we’ve got to use them. Don’t take your right to vote for granted.

Yes, well voting certainly helped you win the contest! True.

ABOUT THE VOTING

For this year’s awards, we looked to the community to define My Gay Texas in photography. The nominees included a diverse spectrum, from artsy to poignant to political — all representing life in Texas from an LGBT perspective.

This year, 929 voters selected Shannon Kern’s photo as the top image, but we consider all of our submissions as winners. Thanks to all the photographers who took the time to submit their work and open it up to public vote!

With the photo contest and the nine categories of favorites, we received more than 10,000 electronic votes. Dallas peeps like to eat out, as the Dine category received the most votes in a particular section. The Round-Up Saloon took the most votes of any one place, for top Dallas club.

With some new winners and familiar names, we now present your choices for the 2012 Readers Voice Awards.

— Rich Lopez



EDITORIAL

Editor: Arnold Wayne Jones

Writers: Gregory Sullivan Isaacs, Steven Lindsey, Rich Lopez, Mark Lowry, Jose Ralat-Maldonado, Jef Tingley

Ballot Tallying: Jesse Arnold

DESIGN

Art Director: Michael F. Stephens

Graphic Artist: Kevin Thomas

Photography: Arnold Wayne Jones, Rich Lopez

Cover Photo: Shannon Kern

ADVERTISING

Sales: Leo Cusimano, Gary Karwacki, Chad Mantooth, Jim Villaflores

Promotions: Terry Thompson



On the move!

Voting for his favorites won Mike Zavala two free tickets on American



Dallas Voice: Tell us a bit about yourself. Zavala: Well, I'm originally from Omaha, Neb., so that's one of my destination choices. This year I enter my "golden years," so I want to take a memorable trip. I spend most of my time biking, going to the gym and doing hair and makeup. Yes, that's right, makeup. It's the creative side of me.

How exciting to win a pair of tickets to travel. Have you decided on your plans? I've narrowed the choices of travel to San Diego, Palm Springs, Miami ... and who would not love to go to Omaha!

Describe your ideal travel companion. Hmmm. I think it would definitely have to be someone who is fun while also being adventurous and daring. Someone who loves to shop and who doesn't like to sleep!

UP, UP AND AWAY? | Mike Zavala, left, receives his certificate for two tickets on American Airlines from Dallas Voice promotions manager Terry Thompson.

You could wear a person out. What prompted you to vote this year? I entered the contest literally to voice my opinion. I thought it would be fun, too. And look what it got me!

That's the best part. Did you have a favorite category? I didn't have a favorite as far as category goes, but I was glad to see the Best DJ category.

Oh yeah? How come? For me, that would be DJ Dann. Remember him from Mickey's? Not only is his heart into music, but he also has the biggest heart, period.

Any final words before heading off into the sunset? Just a big thanks to the Dallas Voice! I look forward to winning another contest. Hugs and kisses to all!

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nightlife



HUNKS AT THE ROUND-UP | Jordan Small, left, and Cole Montgomery make a visit to the Round-Up Saloon fun from behind the bar and the karaoke stage. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

SEXIEST BARTENDER

Jordan Small, The Round-Up Saloon
3912 Cedar Springs Road
Daily 8 p.m.-2 a.m.
214-522-9611
RoundUpSaloon.com

BEST KARAOKE HOST

Cole Montgomery, The Round-Up Saloon
3912 Cedar Springs Road
Daily 8 p.m.-2 a.m.
214-522-9611
RoundUpSaloon.com

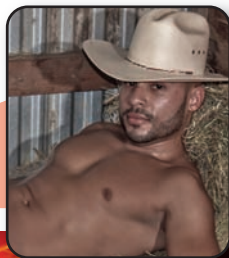
Cole Montgomery and Jordan Small are two sides of the Round-Up Saloon coin. Montgomery's endearing, affable demeanor is the stuff real cowboys are made of — even those who work in gay bars. That personality, along with some major vocal talent, is what drives the Whitney-wannabes to Cowboy Karaoke on Sunday nights. While Montgomery is big on charm, Small is all about the flirt. You'd swear his eyes *actually* sparkle, and a crooked grin has sent men (and some women) swooning in their tracks when he pours his signature drink (which he calls the "Hot Nasty"). He says he's more cheesy than sexy. Then again, sexy guys always say that kind of stuff.

— Rich Lopez

my gay texas photo contest » finalist



eric dickson » cowboys and outlaws



readers voice awards
2012



FOREVER YOUNG | Station 4's dancefloor is a magnet for young gay men ... and those who love them. (Photo courtesy Stephen A. Masker)

Not everyone can be a twink, a sometimes derogatory, but generally appreciative sobriquet used to describe young, fit, usually follicly disadvantaged gay men who are as valued as a 14-point buck. It's not a matter of race (black, Asian, even Eskimo twinks? You betcha!) or muscles (skinny or muscular both qualify); nor is there a specific age limit (smooth-skinned fellas in the early 30s can even pull it off). It's vibe, too ... and one that Station 4's prodigiously populated dancefloor seems to attract like a magnet. One advantage to being a twink? You almost *never* buy a drink. Ah, memories.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Station4Dallas.com

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214-522-9611
RoundUpSaloon.com

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[Facebook.com/RainbowLounge](https://www.facebook.com/RainbowLounge)

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SueEllensDallas.com

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JRsdallas.com

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214-526-6365
TinRoom.net

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RSVPVacations.com

Even though the ads for RSVP Vacations show a bevy of buff sexy men, decoratively oiled frolicking around pools, these cruises are not *just* for muscle boys and twinks — all ages and body types are welcome. "Sex sells," admits RSVP president Jeff Gundvaldson, "so that is why our ads look like they do. However, our clientele looks the same as the general gay population."

RSVP cruises are 100 percent gay (or gay-friendly, with tag-along friends and family). All are welcome — from those who like a non-stop party to those who appreciate a more sedate experience. There are high-tech dancefloors, but also mainstage shows, intimate piano bars and cabarets; costume parties usually punctuate the experience. You can eat in the main dining room or one of many other possibilities, such as smaller specialized restaurants or the ever-present and overloaded buffets. (Most of the ships that RSVP uses are from the Holland American line, well known for the high level of luxury that they offer.)

In fact, being on an RSVP cruise is much like visiting a concentrated version of a typical big city gayborhood on a Friday night: a variety of bars, restaurants and shops all within a few blocks. Only on the water. It's nice to wear a Speedo and not feel out-of-place.

—Gregory Sullivan Isaacs

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Some sources say London is the most visited city in the world, so it follows that its welcoming reputation would translate to LGBT visitors. While SoHo is still the center of gay life in Olde London Towne, with G-A-Y the hottest club (three floors of frenzied dancing!), nearby Camden and Hampstead are also fun; Vauxhall is the place for after-hours entertainment. (When they say that you can “party ‘til Tuesday,” then assume you started on Friday.) Many clubs are specialized (from bears to twinks), and guesthouses like the gay-owned Philbeach Hotel are in the eye of the action.

As a huge metropolitan city, there are tons of sights and attractions, from bar crawling to world-class museums to all the pomp and circumstance attendant to the changing of the guard. Now *that's* something we totally get in international travel — who doesn't want to go to a city where you might actually meet a *real* queen?

— Gregory Sullivan Isaacs



GAY BLOKES | London is a very gay-friendly city — and the locals even speak English (probably better than you).

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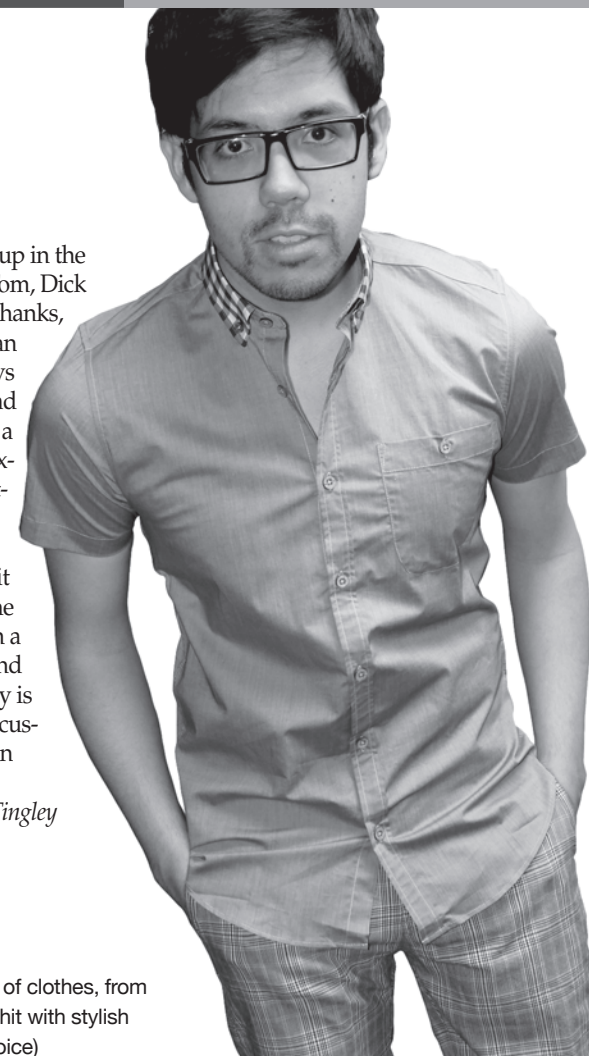
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— Jef Tingley



ON THE TOWN | Union Jack's vast array of clothes, from Ted Baker to Andrew Christian, makes it a hit with stylish club-goers. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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— José Ralat-Maldonado



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—Jef Tingley



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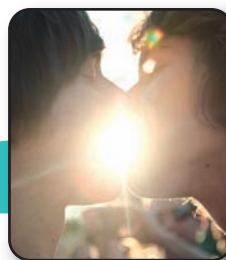
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If you've graduated from motivational posters of kittens "hanging in there" to something a little (OK, a lot) more sophisticated, chances are you've heard of Craighead-Green Gallery. But even if you're new to the world of high art, you'll groove to the art here. Owned by partners Kenneth Craighead and Steve Green, the 20-year-old business is consistently recognized as one of the finest art galleries in the region, representing more than 40 artists in a variety of media ranging from contemporary paintings to sculpture. And lest anyone be intimidated by the art-buying process, they're happy to provide expert guidance for collectors of all levels. Simply tell them what type of art you like and they'll match you up with your dream works. It's like a dating service, only what you take home will definitely be with you for a lifetime.

—Steven Lindsey



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Elliott Hundley, *eyes that run like leaping fire*, (detail) 2011. Wood, sound board, inkjet print on Kitakata paper, string, pins, paper, photographs, plastic, wire, found embroidery 98 1/2 x 240 5/8 x 11 3/8 inches, 5 panels. Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger Collection. © Elliott Hundley. Photo by Joshua White, courtesy Regen Projects, Los Angeles, and Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York. Elliott Hundley: *The Bacchae* was organized by the Wexner Center for the Arts at The Ohio State University and made possible by a significant contribution from Battelle. Generous support for this exhibition is also provided by The Broad Art Foundation and Lonti Ebers, New York. Local support generously provided by Nancy A. Nasher & David J. Haemisegger and Marion & Nash Flores.

DOUBLE TROUBLE | Abraham Salum's two neighboring Uptown restaurants — his recent Komali and the eponymous Salum — won him ultimate chef honors. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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There are chefs who toil away in the kitchen and never come out to see their guests. There are chefs who are *never* in the kitchen because they are always cooking on TV or for magazines. Then there is Abraham Salum. Even with two restaurants (albeit neighbors) — Komali and his seven year old eponymous eatery — Salum strikes a marvelous balance of crafting dishes his way and allowing his staff the freedom to embellish. And he's social enough that it's a rare meal when he doesn't emerge to check on how his diners are enjoying his dishes. Attention to detail and personal warmth conspired to handily earn him the title ultimate chef, and for his Salum restaurant to tie (with Stephan Pyles, no less) for ultimate dining experience. Bon appetit!

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN | What could express the idea of brunch better than a breakfast waffle topped by a lunch-friendly chicken breast? Maybe a bloody Mary bar. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Let's face it: In the gay world, brunch is a social function as much as a way to fuel your body. So when you have a place like Jonathon's in Oak Cliff — with its buzzy Sunday mornings clogged with a diverse crowd of sophisticates — you're gonna attract a particular clientele. Add a self-service bloody Mary bar like the one here ... well, now you're approaching Nirvana. Sandwiched between Spiral Diner and Campo, Jonathon's has some culinary competition from its neighbors, but it matches them with fanciful a menu that offers clever twists on country kitchen classics, especially the chicken and waffles. Fried chicken, syrup, vodka and tomato juice? No wonder it won.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

**editor's choice**readers voice awards
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Transgender "travesty shows" abound the Dallas-Fort Worth. But many are held in restaurants in industrial or less developed areas, or tucked away in ethnic enclaves. Not so, Los Altos de Jalisco. The Mexican restaurant sits adjacent to a McDonald's and around the corner from soccer-mom shopping and dining central, where Target, Kohl's and Applebee's dominate the landscape. Sunday nights, Los Altos welcomes Gaby Duarte and friends for late-night Spanish-language drag performances, punctuated by bawdy humor. The audience at these shows is made up of mustachioed, working-class men in cowboy hats and boots who stuff dollar bills into the cleavage of the ladies between Paulina Rubio hits and swigs of Mexican beer. Everyone noshes on platters of tacos with beef barbacoa, pastor and fajita, garnished with fresh cilantro and onions. Try getting that image out of your head ... or finding it anywhere on the Strip.

— Jose Ralat-Maldonado

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NUM, NUM NAMMI | The food truck craze is nowhere more apparent than in the line behind the Nammi truck, which serves luscious banh mi Vietnamese sandwiches.



BEST FOOD TRUCK

Nammi Cruisin' Vietnamese Fusion

Visit site for truck schedule.
NammiTruck.com

New Yorkers may have stumbled across the banh mi taco only last month, but Dallas has been enjoying them for coming up on a year, thanks to the Nammi food truck. Officially called Nammi Cruisin' Vietnamese Fusion, mobile grub peddler, owners Teena Nguyen and Gary Torres serve an alternative to the Korean taco craze that swept the nation a couple years back and is only now subsiding. The classic bahn mi, 12 hulking inches of delight, is itself a product of fusion, available with a choice of meat or tofu — go for the lemongrass beef or the grilled pork — paté, fresh cilantro, pickled cucumber, carrots and daikon as well as slices of cucumber and jalapeño between a baguette slathered with a mayonnaise. But it's the Vietnamese taco that distinguishes Nammi from the rest of the pack. The corn tortillas, packed with sautéed red cabbage and the traditional banh mi elements, add a sweetness that stands up against the fire of the chilies and salsa, not to mention allowing for a greater manageability on the go.

— Jose Ralat-Maldonado

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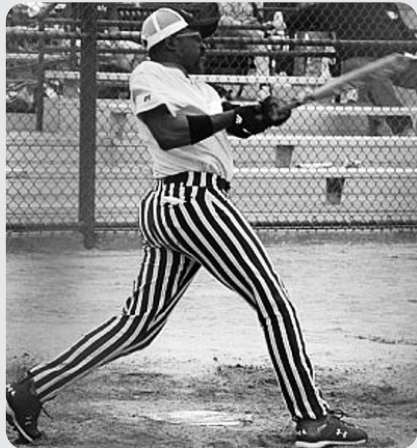
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APPRECIATION: READERS VOICE BEST ATHLETE GREG SMITH (1971-2011)

To have known Greg Smith is to have experienced joy in its purest form. No matter where he went or what he did, Smith always had a smile on his face and an infectious generosity of spirit. As an athlete, Smith — who was voted best local gay athlete in this year's vote — was extremely competitive (he always played to win), but knew that in the end it was only a game. He exemplified good sportsmanship by never resorting to negativity in his pursuit of the goal. As his drag alter-ego, SheGotta Mustache, Smith became known for a razor wit and the ability to ad-lib as well as, if not better than, professional comedians.

Whether he was in a softball uniform or a dress and high heels, Smith's goal was to always motivate people through humor and positivity. His athletic endeavors in the gay community began in 1993 when he joined the Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association; he was inducted into the PSSA Hall of Fame in 2004. In 2007, he was honored with three separate awards, receiving Player of the Year—B Division for the Woody's team; Coach of the Year—C Division for the Evolution team; and the PEGI award for Outstanding Service to PSSA. Over 18 years, he participated in 16 Softball World Series.

In addition to softball, Smith's imagination was captured by sports as diverse as baseball, bowling and volleyball, which he played for 10 years with the Dallas Independent Volleyball Association; last year, he received one of his final awards, the Rauhman Browning Award for Outstanding Service to DIVA.

As SheGotta, Smith helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for various charities and organizations, including his beloved PSSA and DIVA. Little could stop him from getting onstage to entertain for a good cause. One month after his second leg surgery — just seven weeks before he passed away — SheGotta was back in full makeup and wig performing, at a benefit for breast cancer.

His husband of nearly five years, Russ Rhoades, shared many epigrams that Smith lived his life by, including one that applied to his entire life: "We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do" (Mother Teresa); and one that seemed to guide his sportsmanship: "The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination" (Tommy Lasorda).

"Even at the end, his body gave out before his spirit did," Rhoades says. "He was and will continue to be an inspiration to many of his beloved friends and family."

Somewhere he is surely thrilled to receive this final tribute, quite possibly doing the splits in celebration.

— Steven Lindsey

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— Rich Lopez

IF I HAD A HAMMER | Make Ready Group owner Steven McFarland *does* have a hammer — and knows how to use it. (Arnold Wayne Jones/ Dallas Voice)

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THE BRONZING AGE | Tan Bar's Terry Ehrle and Leslie Lopez can turn you from pale to pretty — with no UV rays.

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— Steven Lindsey

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Eric Pratt was an accounting major in college, but after receiving a bottle of wine for taking care of a friend's hamster and two cats, he realized he could turn pet-sitting into a business. Eleven years later, Taddy's the one of the largest pet-sitting companies in Dallas, with six full-time and seven part-time employees. Their clients include about 70 dogs and 20 cats, not to mention birds, turtles, hermit crabs and poison dart frogs (which aren't really poisonous). Of the reason he counts for his success is that fact that it is him, the owner, who visits with each new clients and gets to know the animal, and then introduces them to their sitter. "I have great empathy for all animals, especially dogs and cats," says Pratt. "I've always had a dog growing up[, and] my whole life. They have a calming effect. The reaction that pets have with humans, they become part of your family. Most of my clients call them their baby."

— Mark Lowry



DOG'S BEST FRIEND | Eric Pratt, owner of Taddy's Pet Services, gives his magic touch to Hank, the 12-year-old border collie mix of fellow Readers Voice winner Eric Peay. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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BEST LOCAL ARTIST

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 DanielPadilla.com

Padilla made it to Dallas the long way from McAllen, Texas. Venturing into the arts community of Houston with his brother, Padilla took the plunge and played the New York art scene and then finally returned to Texas, landing in Dallas. With vibrant works that run from abstracts to figurative and portraiture, the gay artist doesn't shy away from letting his art speak to the community with past exhibits including "Experimenting with Bears," a semi-erotic collection of hirsute subject (*not* the animal); a DIFFA jean jacket collection; and a recent selection of works in "Love is in the Air," inspired by the art of burlesque and the recent Jean Paul Gaultier exhibit at the Dallas Museum of Art. His Oak Cliff gallery on Davis is almost easy to miss, but when you walk in, the walls become a colored explosion like when Dorothy opened her sepia door into the land of Oz.

— Rich Lopez

BEST LOCAL MEDIA PERSONALITY

Ron Corning
 News 8 Daybreak

BEST LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

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COLOR EXPLOSION | Walking into Daniel Padilla's Oak Cliff gallery is akin to Dorothy stepping into Oz. (Rich Lopez/Dallas Voice)

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SCRUM-TIOUS | Members of the Dallas Diablos know how to take a shot — on the field and in the bar. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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BEST LOCAL LGBT SPORTS TEAM

Dallas Diablos Rugby Football Club
DallasDiablos.org

Dallas has a vibrant gay sports scene, with large organizations serving softball, volleyball, tennis, bowling, even golf and swimming. So how did the lil ol' Dallas Diablos, the sole gay rugby team in the area, figure as a reader favorite? It's probably the same scrappy attitude that has made rugby a growing sport worldwide, from the heroics of United 93's gay rugby star Mark Bingham 10 years ago to the forceful inclusionary message of English heartthrob Ben Cohen to the Diablos' own successful HellFest tournament each fall. Then, again, just look at the team: Hunky, scarred, tough but handsome men who know how to take a shot — both on the field and in the bar. Ruggedness is sexy.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

BEST LOCAL LGBT SPORTS ORGANIZATION

Pegasus Slowpitch Softball League

BEST LOCAL LGBT ATHLETE

Greg Smith
See appreciation on Page 45

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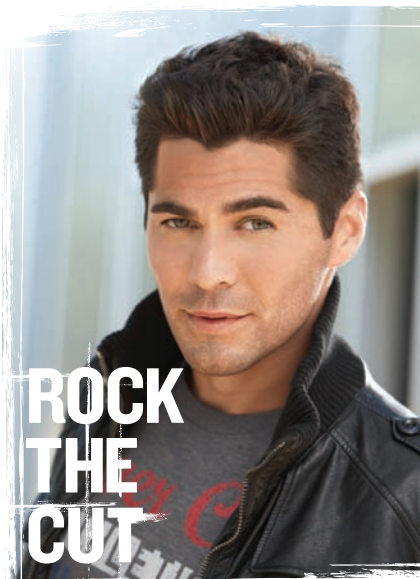
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SUCH A PERFECT BLENDSHIP | Anything goes when best friends M. Denise Lee and Gary Lynn Floyd take to the stage, whether together or separately. (Photo courtesy Terry Walker)



BEST LOCAL ACTOR (MALE)

Gary Lynn Floyd

Roles in 2011 productions include *Next to Normal*.

BEST LOCAL ACTOR (FEMALE)

M. Denise Lee

Roles in 2011 productions include *The Sunshine Boys*, *The Wiz*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Rockin' Christmas Party*.

As if it's not enough that M. Denise Lee and Gary Lynn Floyd are tremendously talented in themselves, both as actors and musicians — they also happen to be best friends. That smacks of conspiracy. Both got their starts in Dallas clubs — Floyd's lilting voice and lovely piano-playing contrasting with Lee's diva-in-the-balcony ability to belt out anything from jazz to Broadway — but in the last 10 years have made their marks as actors, in musicals and dramatic roles. 2011 was a triumph for Floyd, who starred in best musical winner *Next to Normal*; Lee returned to local acting in several roles, notably *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Best of all, you don't need to wait very long to see them — they're often performing cabaret around town ... usually together. That's what best friends do.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

BEST LOCAL PRODUCTION (PLAY)

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BEST LOCAL PRODUCTION (MUSICAL)

***Next to Normal* (Uptown Players)**

Performed June 10–July 3, 2011, at the Kalita Humphreys Theater
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UptownPlayers.org

BEST LOCAL THEATER DIRECTOR

(TIE)

Joel Ferrell

2011 included directing *Dividing the Estate*, *Cabaret* and *A Christmas Carol*.

Michael Serrecchia

2011 included directing *Next to Normal*, *How to Succeed...*, *Cheaters*, *Duets* and *It's Only Life*.

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BACK ON TOP | Cassie Nova shows her respect for colleague Jenna Skyy, last year's favorite drag performer ... but it's all part of her campy good humor. (Rich Lopez/Dallas Voice)

What's left to be said about Cassie Nova that hasn't already been whispered by her castmates behind her back at the Rose Room? This veteran dragster lights up the stage with her smack-talking country-girl-gone-city attitude, but take her away from the spotlight and she's every bit the local celebrity, as young fans crowd around her for a photo op cheering how much they "loooooove her." Nova may roll her eyes in joking sarcasm, but her camera smile is deeper than she lets on: This is what she was *born* to do. Nova was "just shocked" to lose best diva to fellow goddess Jenna Skyy for the last two years, but you can see she accepted this year's award with the grace and dignity of a true queen. And by that, we mean a *drag* queen.

—Rich Lopez

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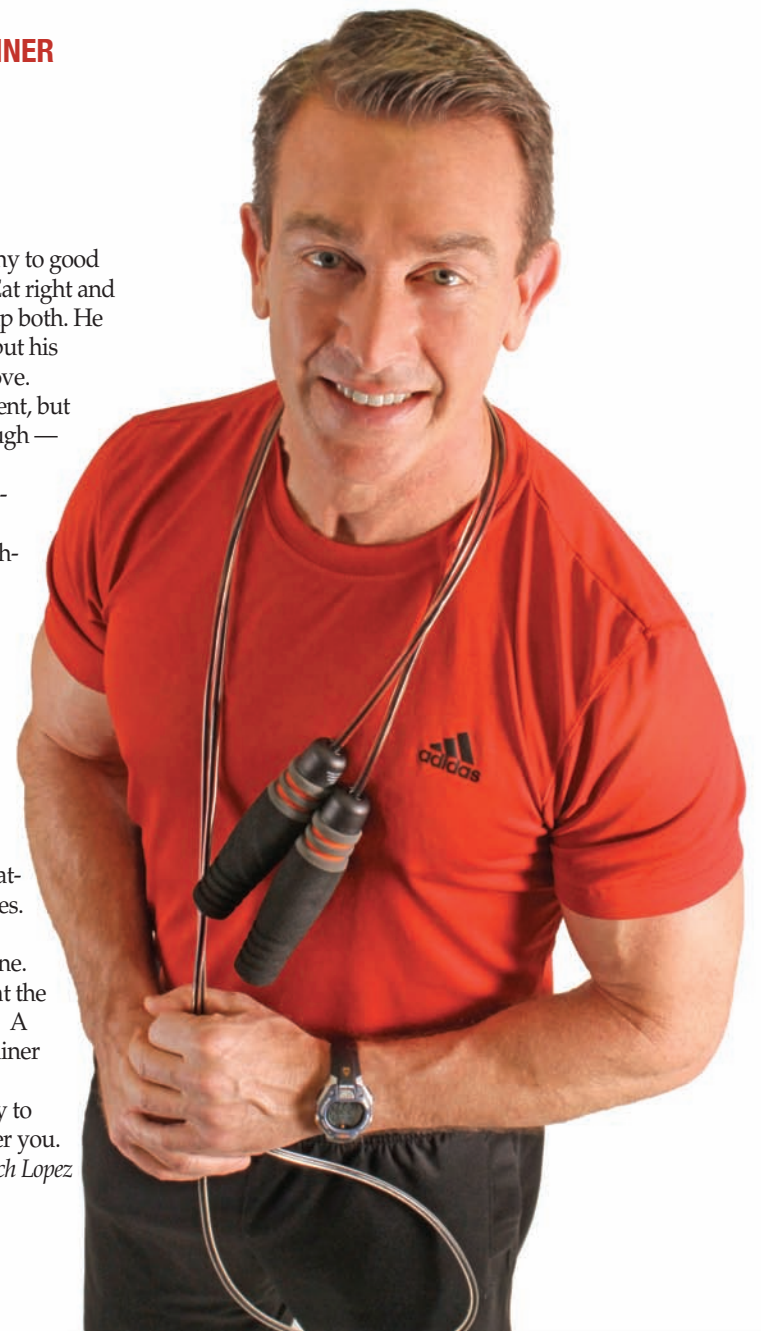
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John Gordon's philosophy to good health is fairly simple: Eat right and work out ... and keep up both. He calls it "intelligent fitness," but his clients would call it tough love.

"It depends on that moment, but yeah, they'd say that I'm tough — but realistic," he admits.

Gordon's no-nonsense approach has morphed clients from ages 19 to 73 into healthier, stronger bodies. But what singled him out was his effort to create a rapport with his clients. Once he's earned their trust, the work begins both in and out of the gym. He'll pack the weights on or push for that extra cardio mile, but he also instills a new way of thinking when it comes to eating and making smart choices. He determinedly walks the walk — just at a higher incline. Gordon is *that* trainer, "I'm at the gym five to six days a week. A trainer should look like a trainer and inspire the client."

In short, he's the ideal guy to have around to get to a better you.
— Rich Lopez



PRACTICING WHAT HE PREACHES | Personal trainer John Gordon works out up to six days a week even when he's not with clients. Yeah, he's *that* guy. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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— Steven Lindsey

TOOTH OR CONSEQUENCES | Floss' Clark Steffens makes getting an exam less of a chore, especially with its commitment to give back to the community through LifeWalk, DIFFA and other charities. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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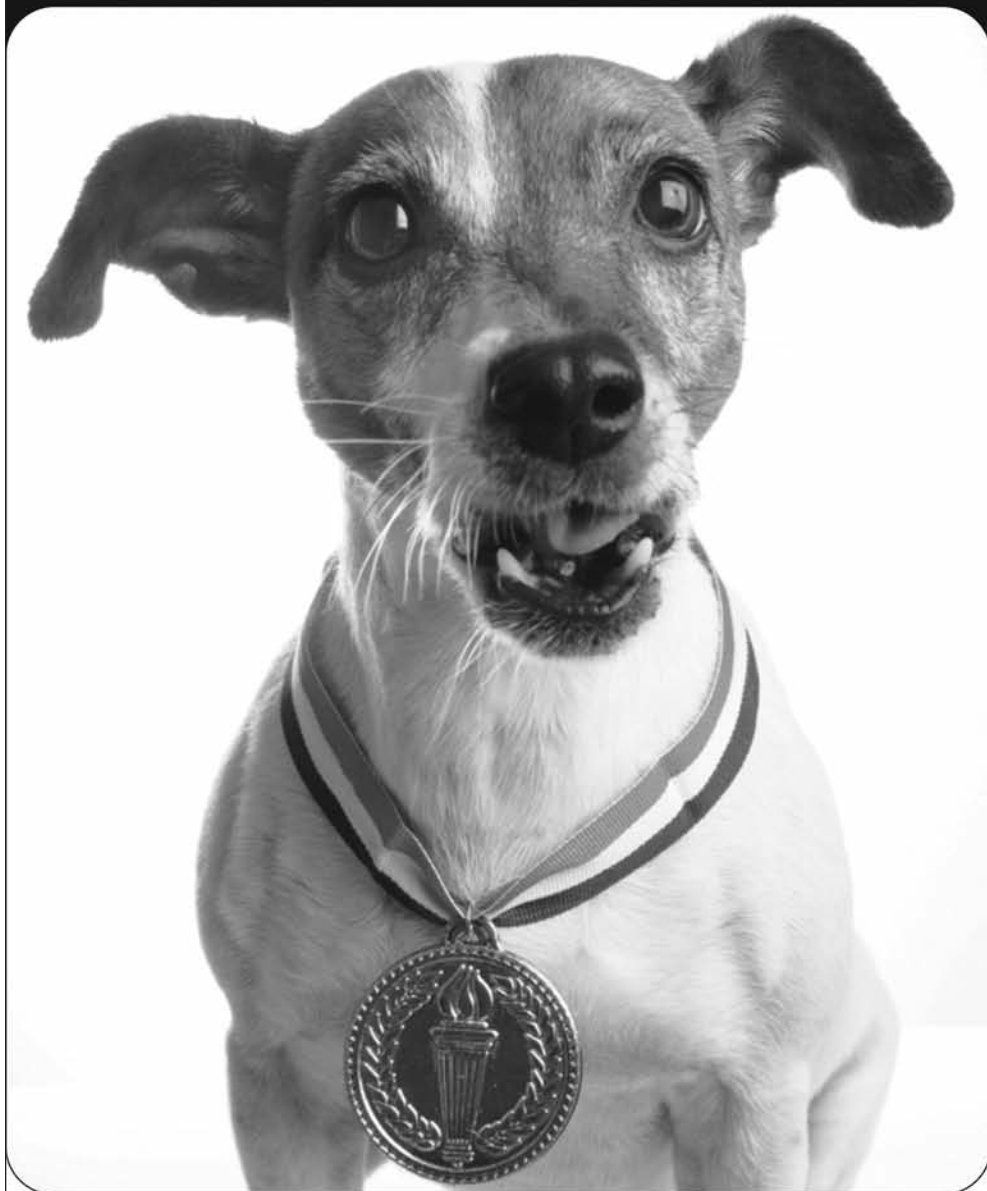
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BLINK OF AN EYE | The crew of a remote lighthouse (Robert Orth, Andrew Bidlack, Daniel Sumegi) get supernatural in the opera debut of Kevin Moriarty, opposite. (Photo courtesy Karen Almond)

To 'The Lighthouse'

DTC's Kevin Moriarty ventures out of his comfort zone by directing an opera

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

Anyone who wants to direct for the theater has control issues. After all, that's what the job is, right? Deciding how all the pieces fit together. Telling the actors, designers, crew what to do. Running the ship.

That *is* true of theater. But in opera, the job of the stage director is an entirely different thing.

That's the lesson Kevin Moriarty learned once he agreed to direct a one-act chamber

piece, *The Lighthouse*, at the behest of the Dallas Opera. (It plays for only three performances this weekend at the Wyly Theatre.)

"They asked me if I would be interested and I said sure," he says. He studied music in school and welcomed the opportunity to explore a new layer of his craft. Only he didn't know what he was getting himself into.

As artistic director of the Dallas Theater Center, Moriarty is already one of the busiest men in the North Texas arts community, from planning out his season to directing shows at DTC to nurturing students at Booker T. Washington High School. But tackling opera involved an entirely new learning curve.

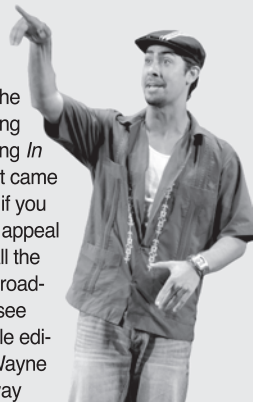
For one thing, Moriarty is usually involved in casting, but "the number of people who can sing these roles is very limited. But Jonathan [Pell of the Dallas Opera] worked really hard to put together opera singers who can act."

The director's job is usually to establish the pace of a show; at the initial read-through with a cast, Moriarty usually maps out his vision. But at an opera read-through, it's the conductor who's in charge. He's at the hands of the composer and the music director.

That's a big change for someone who, in recent seasons, has done a mash-up version of two Shakespeare plays for his *Henry IV*, retooled *The Who's Tommy* as a furious fever-

'IN THE HEIGHTS:' THE GAY LECTURE

With many theater openings lately, be sure to check out DallasVoice.com for the latest reviews, including the Tony Award winning *In the Heights* which just came to the Winspear. And if you want to learn the gay appeal of that show — and all the others at the Lexus Broadway Series — come see Dallas Voice Life+Style editor and critic Arnold Wayne Jones' LGBT Broadway lecture in Harmon Hall inside the Winspear at 7 p.m. on March 20. (The series always takes place the second Tuesday of the run.)



dream and put the audience on moving seats for *The Wiz*. And that's not *The Lighthouse*.

"It is a psychological, actor-y piece," Moriarty explains. "I've never directed an opera but I like opera and I'm familiar with the genre. But they are not like musicals. *The Lighthouse* is more like doing a Pinter play — there are long pauses with orchestral music that slow the action. And Pinter is not something I would usually direct. Vagueness and stillness are not attributes people would ascribe to me."

Indeed, as a modernist opera, *The Lighthouse* has less in common with classic opera like *The Marriage of Figaro* and is more like Pinter's *Betrayal* with music.

But those limitations have also challenged Moriarty to stretch himself — and given him the opportunity to work with conductor Nicole Paiement (only the second woman ever to conduct for the Dallas Opera).

Still, there's a lot of work for Moriarty to do. *The Lighthouse*, by the gay modernist British composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, is a psychological opera (inspired by a true story) about what may have happened to three crewmen of a lighthouse on a remote crag of the Outer Hebrides. Moriarty himself eschews answering the mystery of what actually happened (madness? ghosts?) — the opera itself remains opaque.



"It keeps reminding me of literature," Moriarty says. "It's forcing me to go really deep into the piece. It's almost like writing a paper."

A few years ago, when he directed *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the opening of the Wyly Theatre, Moriarty added a hip-hop attitude and rock music

to convey the spirit of the work, but the changes did not go to its nature. Here, he's taken a more respectful approach. "It's humbling to me," he says.

So given the demands of directing his first opera, is it something Moriarty would like to keep doing? He pauses.

"Ask me again in a few weeks," he says. ■

THE LIGHTHOUSE

Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St.
March 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m.,
March 18 at 2 p.m. DallasOpera.org

Sarah Vowell's march through history

Although she probably hates hearing it, and would probably disagree anyway, we can't help but think of Sarah Vowell, pictured, as the straight, female version of David Sedaris. Both are essayists who gained fame on NPR's *This American Life* and are as recognized for their distinctive voices as for their prose style. But while Sedaris is an out-and-out humorist, drawing from his own life, Vowell has a historian's curiosity, turning out non-fiction stories tied to themes that strike her fancy. And while she often finds humor, the subject matter often isn't funny.

"I just write about what I'm interested in and that story dictates the tone," she says over the phone in that nasal rasp that's so endearing. "My book about the Massachusetts Bay Colony is probably one of your breezier books about Puritans. The assassination book was pretty jovial — not because murder is funny, but because it was about the historic sites [of these assassinations]. You can't be too dignified when you are talking about tourism. But even *Take the Cannoli* had an 8,000-word essay on the Cherokee removal and genocide. I never shy away from information."

She's packed a lot of information into her latest, *Unfamiliar Fishes*, where she delves into the strangely foreign culture of our most remote state.

"Hawaii really had a lot to offer as a story," Vowell explains. "It was such an appealing look at cause and effect — how this small boatload of New England missionaries arrive in 1820 and overthrow monarchy" 80 years later. Indeed, the point during the Spanish-American War where Hawaii becomes officially a U.S. territory "was the moment we became a world power, an empire." She'll talk about the book Monday at the First Presbyterian Church, as part of the Dallas Museum of Art/KERA speakers series.

Still, when she meets peoples with great connections to the past, Vowell has a real awakening about her interests. "Someone once asked me, 'Why are you so obsessed with American history? It has only lasted 400 years,'" she says.

— A.W.J.

Sarah Vowell in Conversation with Kryz Boyd, First Presbyterian Church or Dallas, 408 Park Ave.
March 20 at 7:30 p.m. \$15-\$37. 214-922-1818. DallasMuseumofArt.org.



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 - Dallas Diablo's Hospitality Suite
 - LGBT Chamber of Commerce Events
 - Lambda Legal's Men's Event at Saks Fifth Ave. Galleria
 - Lambda Legal's White Party Gala and after Party to benefit Legacy Counseling Center
 - 2011 Red Party Pre Party & Red Party
 - Dallas Voice Cocktail Party at Wisby Smith Gallery
 - Ben Cohen's Stand Up Against Bullying during Pride week
- ... and we continue to add events



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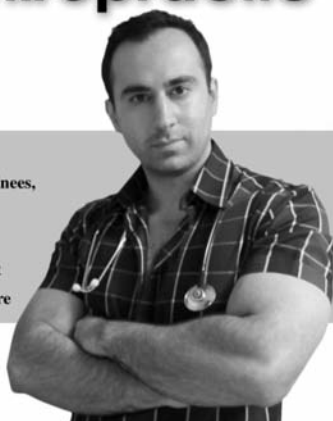
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BEAR

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Dallas Eagle's Bear of the Year winner Brian Brown paws his way into TBRU

The Dallas Eagle's Bear of the Month contest is a bragging-rights contest culminating in the Bear of the Year title. The contest isn't a prerequisite to another title, like Mr. Texas Leather, nor does it uphold a platform — it's all meant in good fun. But with Texas Bear Round-Up 17 this weekend, we thought we'd take winner Brian Brown, 37, to task as the bearer of the title and see how he will represent the bears of Dallas — or at least use the title to his advantage.

— Rich Lopez

TEXAS BEAR ROUND-UP

Through March 18. Host hotel: Crowne Plaza Market Center, 7050 Stemmons Freeway. TBRU.org

also a chance to check out other hot guys. So I entered and had an amazing time!

What do you think gave you your winning edge? After the contest was over, I heard that it was my genuine nature that won it for me, and the fact that I can laugh at myself. I was just up there having fun. But I actually thought the winner was gonna be someone else!

Yeah, 'cause you won. How will you be representin' for bears in 2012? I jokingly say my platform is hot men and cheap beer for all! "Bear" can be very nebulous for many. I want it to mean inclusiveness, mas-

Dallas Voice: Belated congratulations! What was it like being named Bear of the Year? Brown: We paraded in front of everyone, answered the "drag queen" questions and then the panel voted. I was totally surprised when they announced my name as the winner!

What made you enter the contest? I showed up and wondered why there were so many guys in the bar on a Thursday. Bear nights are not usually packed. When I heard there was money being given away, I entered. I am not a shy person at all and I do enjoy these contests. They seem like an ego boost, but

FEED THE BEAR | Brian Brown preps for the onslaught of bears headed for the Spring Break-themed Texas Bear Round-Up 17: Bears Gone Wild. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

culinity and Pride. I have been on my soapbox for many years about body hair being a beautiful thing. I am glad to see the scruffy look back and body hair showing up in ads now.

Tell us about Brian Brown outside the bear world. I moved here in 1998 after graduating Texas Tech with my B.B.A in management information systems. I worked for KPMG and got my first feel for IT consulting and traveling. I loved seeing other cities and gay bars around the U.S.; now I have my own business, Time Attendance Professional, and love making money for myself! I sing in the Turtle Creek Chorale and I love camping at Rainbow Ranch.

When did you first realize you were a bear? After college, I got introduced to the bear world through attending parties and events. After realizing how accepting the community was, it was easy to call myself one. Dallas seems to be a little slower to develop its bear community. We have different hang-outs but if you go to the mainstream areas, not too many eyes fall upon you. This city comes across as a hairless and skinny-obsessed scene.

How are you involved in Dallas' bear community? I enjoy going to TBRU and meeting guys from all walks of life. The Dallas Bears have always been amazing at putting that together and [it] always has a very inclusive vibe. The BearDance is something newer to me, but I have gone to a few events and really have had a great time.

What do you want people to know about you? I'm fun! I firmly believe in creating your own reality and positive attitudes. These are the cornerstones of my own beliefs, and I think of myself as a motivational speaker to get this message out there. I came from an evangelical Baptist environment. I was so imprisoned with that life and having to deal with being gay, but here I am now.

Have you ever waxed anything off? I did wax my back in college even though my boyfriend told me not to, but I thought back hair wasn't pretty. Oh my God! It hurt like nobody's business. The back of the neck was the worst because it felt like they were pulling my brain stem out.

How will being BOTY affect your Scruff profile? Are you gonna work it? I am a natural flirt and that is a constant. I do want to work on my physique and become more of a musclebear! As someone that is more now in the public eye, I think a degree of safety and dignity needs to happen so I'm not just a tramp.

Who's your dream bear? Bradley Cooper is dreamy gorgeous. He is my husband.

Waitaminit? Bradley Cooper — the jocky, pretty boy actor — is your dream bear? I know! I'm attracted to big musclebears and the hairier the better, but every ounce of him is just perfect.

That could cost you your title.

HIFI SEAN AT BIG D BEARDANCE



Sean Dickson, better known as DJ HiFi Sean, headlines at the Big D BearDance, which comes to Station 4 on Friday, with DJ Rob from 8 to 10 p.m., and Sean on hand till 4 a.m. Read an interview with the spinner on DallasVoice.com.

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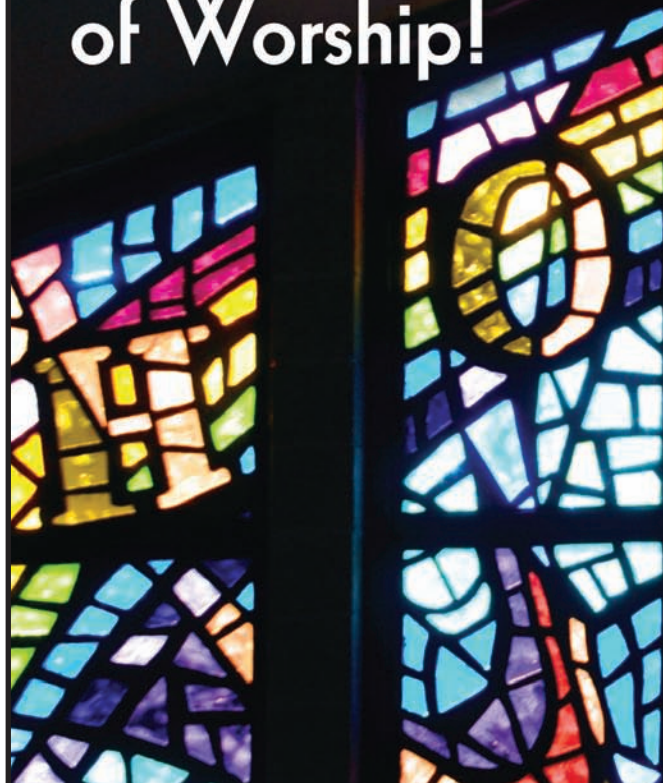


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Friday 03.16

Divas do Dallas

Uptown Players knows how to make time fly while having fun. Their annual campfest fundraiser *Broadway Our Way* celebrates 10 years under its belt. Doing their own fun twist on Broadway showtunes, local actors and singers deliver the laughs as well as a whole lotta talent.

DEETS: Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. 8 p.m. Through March 25. \$40-\$45. UptownPlayers.org.

Friday 03.16

Bears, queens and Perez, oh my!

Gossip blogger Perez Hilton comes to town for a special appearance. Coinciding with TBRU's Big D BearDance, Hilton will bring his sass and wit to Station 4's upstairs Granite Bar. But we wonder if he'll get his groove on the dancefloor with the beef and scruff downstairs before moving to the drag queen action in the Rose Room.

DEETS: Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 10 p.m. Staton4Dallas.com.

Friday 03.23


Epic showtunes

Broadway fans may drool to the fact that the likes of Lea Salonga, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Stephanie J. Block and more stage luminaries are headlining *Do You Hear the People Sing* with showtunes from *Miss Saigon*, *Les Miserables* and more.

DEETS: AAC, 2500 Victory Ave. \$35-\$85. 8 p.m. AmericanAirlinesCenter.com.



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FRIDAY 03.16

COMMUNITY

All-Con 2012. The three-day comic book/anime festival makes its stop in Dallas. Crowne Plaza North Dallas, 14315 Midway Road, Addison. Through Sunday. \$40. All-Con.net.

Guide to the Modern Bear book signing with authors Travis Smith and Chris Bale in the Texas Bear Round Up vendor market. Crowne Plaza Dallas Market Center, 7050 Stemmons Freeway. Through Sunday. TBRU.org.

Dallas Blooms. The famous flower festival returns for its 28th anniversary with more than 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.

Triangle Networking Tarrant, for gay-owned and gay-friendly businesses. Dos Gringos, 1510 University Ave., Fort Worth. 6 p.m. \$5. 817-496-3479.

Oak Lawn Group for Gays Lambda meets. St Thomas Episcopal Church, 6525 Inwood Road. 6:30 p.m. Call 214-868-7350 for more information.

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

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

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

Order of St. Francis and St. Clare every first and third Sunday. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 12:30 p.m.

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

Legacy of Success Foundation Community Mixer. This mixer is intended for community networking and is held every third Wednesday. Catfish Blues, 1011 S. Corinth St. LOSF.org.

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.

SATURDAY 03.17

COMMUNITY

GayBingo: Who Done It? with host Jenna Skyy, Patti Le Plae Safe and local comic Jerry Calumn. The Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m. \$25. RCDallas.org/Gay-Bingo.

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

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. FrontrunnersDallas.org.

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

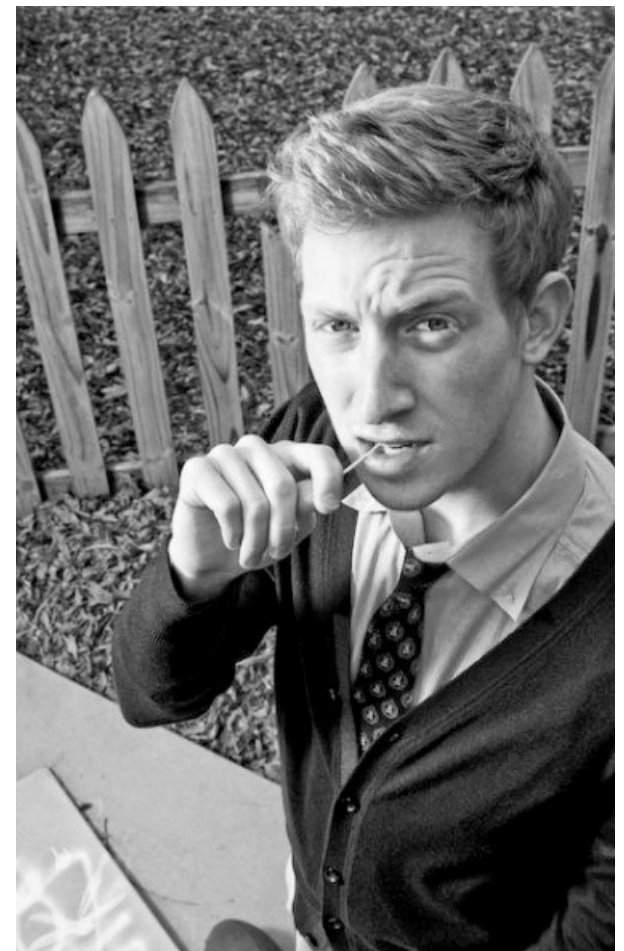
BROADCAST

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

SUNDAY 03.18

COMMUNITY

The Set, a group of the Legacy of Success Foundation that serves as a safe environment for mature-minded SGL African-American men. The Jefferson Clubhouse, 1001 Ross Ave. 6 p.m.



ROTH CHILD | Staunch LGBT ally and hip-hop artist Asher Roth performs a free gig Thursday at the Palladium Ballroom.



PAW PRINTS | Travis Smith, left, and Chris Bale sign copies of their 'Guide for the Modern Bear' this weekend at Texas Bear Round-Up.

MONDAY 03.19

COMMUNITY

Ending Mass Incarceration community meeting. With representatives from Friends of Justice, Mothers against Teen Violence, Friendship West Baptist Church and ACLU of Texas. Friendship West Baptist Church, 2020 W. Wheatland Road. 6:30 p.m. Call 713-942-8146 for more information.

United Black Ellument's Hot Topics. A weekly discussion group for black gay and bi men ages 18-29. U-BE in Deep Ellum, 3116 Commerce St., Ste. C. 7 p.m. UBEDallas.org.

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

TUESDAY 03.20

COMMUNITY

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

JEWEL Lesbian Fiction Book Club meets. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Visit website for meeting dates and author availability. RCDallas.org.

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

WEDNESDAY 03.21

COMMUNITY

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

Prime Timers Prime Lunch at Afrah's Mediterranean Restaurant, 314 E Main St., Richardson. Noon. The group convenes later for bridge at a member's residence. 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for more information or to attend.

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

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 03.22

COMMUNITY

Fashion Cited style event benefiting Legal Hospice of Texas. Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. 6:30 p.m. \$50. LegalHospice.org.

Cabaret Extravagana with Linda Petty, Rusty Johnson and Victoria Weston. The event benefits the Cedar Springs Security fund. Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road (inside Station 4). 6 p.m. \$40. ShopCedarSprings.com.

You've Earned a Say discussion hosted by AARP is presented by the LGBT Aging Interest Network (GAIN). Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 6:30 p.m. RCDallas.org.

CONCERT

Asher Roth, Nina Sky, Burning Hotels. Billboard magazine and Chevy present this free concert of rising music artists. Gay rumors have long circulated around hip-hop artist Asher Roth but does identify as an ally. Palladium Ballroom, 1135 S. Lamar. 8 p.m. Free. ShowClix.com.

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A	F	R			G	E	I	S	E	L		A	U	S				
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J	E	R	K	S		S	T	A	R		M	E	S	S	Y			

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Rosie O'Donnell turns 50 on Wednesday. The lesbian comedian and talk show host recently invited actor Kirk Cameron to discuss his recent comments on gay rights on *The Rosie Show* on the Oprah Winfrey Network. She agreed to meet Cameron for dinner seeing as that may be a "better way to start rather than on TV," she said in a video posted online.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Worries over money are not as important as they seem. The first ideas that come into your head are wrong, but if you figure out why, you can come up with something outrageously right.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Arguments with your partner are more about your own worries, fears and doubts. Remember you two are on the same side. Your top priority is to take care of your health.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

You're looking too good for your own good. An old fling may show up for an encore, but it's just that. This is no time to start a new relationship or take for granted the one you have going.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Your ruler Mercury has you acting like Gracie Allen (she's on YouTube). If you can capture her charm, keep your head on straight and keep a sense of humor, you'll be ahead of the game.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Spring starts with all eyes on you. You surprise everyone. Planning is important, even though plans go awry. Think ahead with contingencies, and be ready to improvise. Be alert, but relax.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

The craziest ideas confronting you are the ones to entertain. The state of the world proves a lot of bright people have been wrong about important matters, so let go of old ideas.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Share your kinkiest fantasies with someone who can help them come true, unless it involves cheating on your partner. One of you is too sensitive, so handle issues respectfully.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Like it or not, Venus is shining the red light on you. Much fun? Perhaps. Just be very careful not to get into a relationship you'll regret, or to lose one you value.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Treat mixed messages with good humor. That doesn't mean you should make fun of them. You're probably as much at fault. Listen to your partner. The less you like it, the more you'll benefit.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Guessing that your boss doesn't know what he or she is doing, you could well be right, but pointing that out won't help you at all. Stick to your own work the best you can.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

The best way to avoid stupid arguments is to avoid people. Especially keep relatives at a safe distance. Your hyperactive brain needs some calming. Hide out and meditate.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Fess up and make it right your recent mistakes. With Mercury retrograding, everyone's screwing up a bit these days. Being forthright and responsible will get you points.

THIS WEEK

The sun moving into Aries passes Mercury, retrograding into Pisces, and then goes on to conjoin Uranus. Egotistical ideas and smug certainty will be punctured. Let it go and laugh.

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

JANE'S WORLD



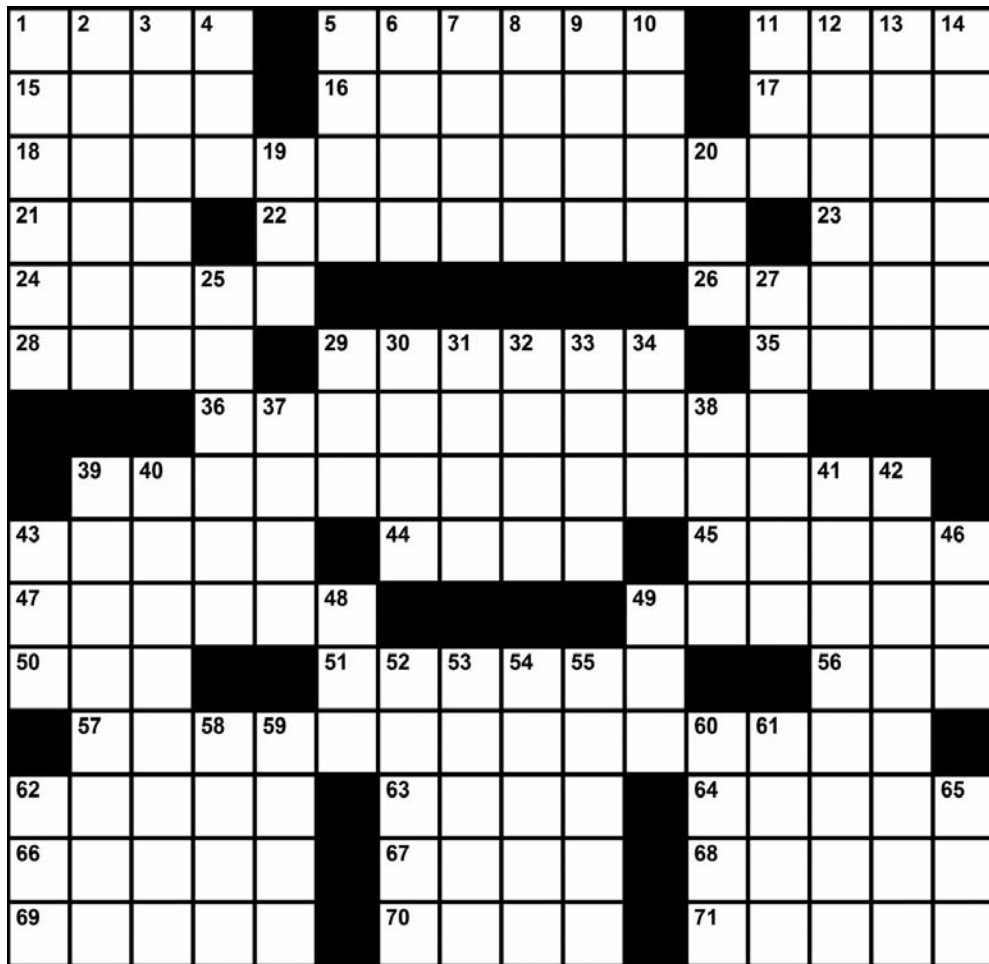
bitter girl
dames and doze



email: joan@joanhilty.net

www.joanhilty.net

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Puccini for Crossword Fans

Solution on page 63

Across

- 1 One way to have one's meat
- 5 Group of discussion groups
- 11 Self-description from one's knees?
- 15 Molecule part
- 16 Fixed up
- 17 Wang in fashion
- 18 Question from "Puccini for Beginners"
- 21 Musket attachment?
- 22 The Windy City, to Judy Chicago
- 23 Org. for bears
- 24 Hose woes
- 26 Homophone for hairy ones
- 28 Jodie Foster's "Little Man ____"
- 29 In-flight
- 35 In case
- 36 Choice piece of meat
- 39 Start of the answer to the question
- 43 Everest is on its border
- 44 Barrie buccaneer
- 45 It arouses you in bed
- 47 Hammer type
- 49 Susie Bright, to erotica
- 50 Cont. of Chad
- 51 Theodore of kids books
- 56 "Out" in "The Sound of Music"
- 57 End of the answer to the question

- 62 O'Neal of "The Bad News Bears"
- 63 Airline to the land of the cut
- 64 Towels off
- 66 Pump handle
- 67 Actor Auberjonois
- 68 Ready for anything
- 69 Stimulates oneself, with "off"
- 70 Have top billing
- 71 Like Oscar of "The Odd Couple"

Down

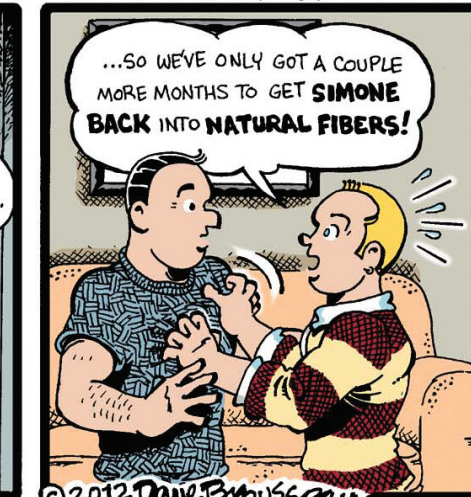
- 1 Most like hard-core porn
- 2 She sprang from the head of Zeus
- 3 Greet with loud laughter
- 4 Mouth-to-mouth pro
- 5 Bear up there
- 6 Fashion line?
- 7 Slight advantage
- 8 We, to "Fifty Million Frenchmen"
- 9 Irish pop singer
- 10 It's hard and woody
- 11 College wall climber
- 12 "____ the Ides of March"
- 13 Uses a rubber
- 14 Most happy about orientation?
- 19 Powers that be
- 20 Neighbor of Kan.
- 25 Hit the ceiling
- 27 Acid neutralizer
- 29 Utterance at a gay rodeo
- 30 Roadside stops
- 31 Regard as
- 32 R.E.M.'s "It's the End of the World ____ Know It"
- 33 "Aren't ____ lucky one!"
- 34 Classic auto
- 37 Homeland of the Singing Nun (abbr.)
- 38 Learning inst.
- 39 Not any other
- 40 Lily Tomlin's Ernestine, for one
- 41 Writer Barney, and others
- 42 Suit bottom
- 43 Eavesdropping org.
- 46 Woolf's "____ Dalloway"
- 48 A porn star may have a big one
- 49 Fairy's cousin
- 52 Big-mouthed pitchers
- 53 Place to stop when cruising
- 54 Her name is Alexander
- 55 Conger hunter
- 58 "Gag me with a spoon!"
- 59 Med. care grps.
- 60 Grocers who sell this have balls
- 61 First name in mystery writing
- 62 Atlantic City attraction, with "the"
- 65 Place for porking?



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Ben, Twillia and Craig at Best Friends Club.



Chanel and Josh at TMC: The Mining Company.



Denise and Roberto at the Grapevine Bar.

Between **Texas Bear Round Up 17** and **St. Patrick's Day**, there is lots to keep you entertained The bears invade **Station 4** for the **Big D Bear-Dance** on Friday. Guest DJs **Hi Fi Sean** and **DJ Rob** headline the night while **Perez Hilton** makes a special appearance at the club in the **Granite Bar**. ... **The United Court of the Lone Star Empire** hosts the **Mardi Gras Madness Pageant** Saturday at the **Brick**. ... **The DFW Sisters** rock the clover action hosting **Kiss Me, I'm Bear-ish** Saturday at **TMC: The Mining Company** with **DJ C-Rail** on the turntables. ... **Voice of Pride** winners **Mi Diva Loca** gets their green on with their **St. Paddy's Day Concert** Saturday night at **Alexandre's**. ... **The Round-Up Saloon** will hold the **Mr. TBRU** competition Saturday night. **ManCandy** returns Sunday with a night of retro hits and videos. ... **Woody's** hosts **Under the Big Top, Pegasus Softball's Uniform Night Carnival** on Sunday. ... **CHIX** will rock the stage Friday night at **Sue Ellen's** followed by **Anton Shaw and the Reason** on Saturday. **Hunter Valentine** wraps up a slew of **South by Southwest** shows and brings their **Beer, Brisket and Babes Tour** Sunday to Sue's. **Bad Habits** opens the show. ... **Club Dallas** opens its door with the **Welcome Dallas Bears** event Friday afternoon. Choose your shade of green for the club's **St. Patrick's Day Celebration** on Saturday. ... The **Dallas Eagle** hosts the **Bear Glow Party** Friday night and the **Mr. TBRU Victory Party** goes down Saturday. **DJs Blaine and Perry** close the run down with Sunday's **TBRU Classic T-Dance**. ■

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



Jackie and Kim at 1851 Club.



Kelly Nolting and Tre Wilcox at the Dress Yellow Preview Party.



Victoria and Christian at BJ's NXS!



Ladies night out at Sue Ellen's.



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TSENG, EUGENE, D.D.S. — 3300 Douglas, Ste. A; 214-855-0789.

TURTLE CREEK PAIN MANAGEMENT — 3131 Turtle Creek Blvd.; 214-526-1133; turtlecreekpain.com.

***UPTOWN PHYSICIANS GROUP** — 2929 Carlisle St., #260; 214-303-1033, uptownphysiciansgroup.com.

UPTOWN PSYCHOTHERAPY — 4144 N. Central Expwy., #520; 214-824-2009; uptownpsychotherapy.com.

UPTOWN VISION — 2504 Cedar Springs; 214-953-EYES; uptownvisiondallas.com.

VASQUEZ CLINIC — 2929 Welborn; 214-528-1083; vasquezclinic.com.

■ insurance

***A-AFFORDABLE INSURANCE** — 4003 Lemmon Ave.; 214-522-1702.

***ALLSTATE** — (Alex Long); 2700 N. O'Connor, Suite 125, Irving; 972-570-7000; alexlonginsuranceagency.com.

ALLSTATE — (Karen Sandellin); 2717 Wind River; 940-381-5363.

***BILL PRIEST INSURANCE** — 1402 Corinth St.; 214-860-5700.

IRVIN INSURANCE SERVICES — (Farmers); 14651 Dallas Pkwy., # 110; 972-367-6200.

NEW YORK LIFE — (Brian Walker); 12201 Merit, Ste. 1000; 214-629-8558.

■ insurance

STEVEN GRAVES INSURANCE AGENCY — 2919 Welborn, Suite 100 214-599-0808; stevengravesinsurance.com.

■ private clubs

***CLUB BABYLON** — 11311 Harry Hines; 972-247-0073; clubbabylondallas.com.

***CLUB DALLAS** — 2616 Swiss; 214-821-1990; the-clubs.com.

***MIDTOWNE SPA** — 2509 Pacific; 214-821-8989; midtowne.com.

■ real estate

BARKER, CHAD — (Virginia Cook); 469-826-2375.

BUYADALLASHOME.COM — 214-500-0007.

BOB MCCRANIE & TEXAS PRIDE REALTY — 1614 S. Broadway, #108; 972-754-0582; texaspriderealty.com.

HENRY, JOSEPH — (Keller Williams); 214-520-4122; texalistingagent@aol.com.

HEWITT & HABGOOD — (Dave Perry Miller); 2828 Routh, #100; 214-752-7070; hewitthabgood.com.

HICKMAN & WEBER GROUP — (Dave Perry Miller) 5500 Preston Rd, Suite 290, 214-300-8439, hickmanweber.com.

KB HOMES — 3546 Melinda Hills Drive; 214-920-9090.

M STREET LOFTS — 5800 McCommas Blvd.; 214-708-5363; 3brec.com.

MARTIN, KEN — (David Griffin); 214-293-5218.

NALL, STEVE — (Virginia Cook); 972-248-5429; texashomeguy.com.

NESSAL DEVELOPMENT — 6603 E. Lovers Ln., 888-836-8234; nesselin.com.

ORAM, MARK — (Keller Williams); 214-850-1674; gayrealestateagent.com

PARKER, BRIAN — (Ebby's Urban Alliance); 214-443-4909; wcondosdallas.com.

PARKSIDE CONDOS — 4777 Cedar Springs; 214-377-2233; parksidecedarsprings.com.

REMAX URBAN — 214-991-1181; remaxurban.com.

REPUBLIC TITTLE — 3131 Turtle Creek; 214-528-8916.

SAGE POINT APARTMENTS — 9900 Adleta Blvd.; 214-343-6684; sagepointtx.com.

THE GREENS OF KESSLER PARK — 1342 Winding Brook Circle; 214-943-1183; thegreensofesslerpark.com.

UPDIKE, JEFF — (ReMax Urban); 214-943-9400; jeffupdike.com.

VIEWPOINT MORTGAGE — (Armando Ramirez); 214-263-5507.

VIRGINIA COOK REALTORS — 2626 Cole; 214-292-0000; virginiacook.com.

WATERMARK — wattermarkreg.com.; (Joe DuPre); 214-559-5690; (George Durstine); 214-559-6090; (Danny Allen Scott); 972-588-8304

WATERSON, RON — (Prime Lending); 3500 Oak Lawn Ave.; 214-926-9583; primelending.com.

WYNN REALTY — (Craig Patton); 18636 Vista Del Sol Dr.; 469-449-9917; wynnrealty.com.

■ restaurants

***ALFREDO'S PIZZA** — 4043 Trinity Mills, #108; 972-307-1678.

***ALL GOOD CAFE** — 2934 Main St.; 214-742-5362.

***ANGELA'S CAFE** — 7929 Inwood, #121; 214-904-8122.

***AXIOM SUSHI** — 4123 Cedar Springs @ ilume 214-443-3840, finsushidallas.com

***BIC'S RESTAURANT** — 2245 Midway Rd., Carrollton; 972-233-5819.

***BLACK-EYED BEAR** — 3857 Cedar Springs; 214-521-4580.

***BULL CAFE** — 3908 Cedar Springs Rd.; 214-528-5410; bullicafe.com.

***BURGER ISLAND** — 525 Arapaho, Richardson; 972-235-8960.

***BUZZBREWS KITCHEN** — 4334 Lemmon Ave.; 214-521-4334; 4154 Fitchugh; 214-826-7100; buzzbrews.com.

***CAFÉ BRAZIL** — 3847 Cedar Springs; 214-461-8762.

***COSMIC CUP** — 2912 Oak Lawn Ave.; 214-521-6157.

CREMONA KITCHEN — 2704 Worthington.; 214-871-115. www.cremonabistro.com

***DEEP SUSHI** — 2624 Elm St.; 214-651-1177.

***DICKEY'S BARBECUE** — 2525 Wycliff Ave.; 214-780-0999; dickleys.com.

DUNKIN DONUTS — 13535 Preston Rd.; 972-239-1700; dunkindonuts.com.

***EINSTEIN BROTHERS BAGELS** — 3827 Lemmon Ave., Dallas, 214-526-5221; 3050 University, Ft. Worth, 817-923-3444.

GOOD EATS GRILL — 3888 Oak Lawn #101, 214-522-3287, goodeatmgrill.com..

***GOOD LUCK DRIVE IN** — 900 W. Rosedale, Ft. Worth; 817-332-5507.

***GOODCENTS DELI FRESH SUBS** — 2817 Howell St., @220; 214-758-0870; mrgoodcents.com.

***THE GREAT AMERICAN HERO** — 4001 Lemmon Ave.; 214-521-2070.

***HUNKY'S** — 4000 Cedar Springs and 321 N. Bishop St.; 214-522-1212; hunkys.com.

***IT'S A GRIND** — 2901 Indiana, 75226; 214-954-7109.

***LA CABANA** — 1417 W. Davis; 214-941-9292.

***LONE STAR BBQ** — 6320 Beach St, Haltom City; 817-428-7887.

***LOVER'S EGGROLL** — 3510 McKinney, #D; 214-443-1888.

■ restaurants

***LUCKY'S CAFÉ** — 3531 Oak Law; 214-522-3500.

***MAMA'S DAUGHTERS' DINER** — 2014 Irving Blvd.; 214-742-8646; mamasdaughtersdiner.com.

***MAIN STREET CAFÉ** — 2023 S. Cooper, Arlington; 817-801-9099.

***MARIO SABINO'S** — 5404 Lemmon Ave.; 214-599-9744; mariosrestaurantsdallas.com.

***MCDONALD'S** — 4439 Lemmon Ave.; 214-522-0697.

MONICA ACA Y ALLA — 2914 Main St.; 214-748-7140.

LOLITA'S — 4218 Lemmon; 214-564-0115.

***OJEDA'S** — 4617 Maple; 214-528-8383.

***ORIGINAL MARKET DINER** — 4434 Harry Hines Blvd.; 214-521-0992.

PANDA'S — 3917 Cedar Springs; 214-528-3818.

***PIZZA INN** — 5460 Lemmon Ave.; 214-526-2560.

***POLLO FIESTA** — 4535 Maple Ave., 214-443-9078; 903 S. Hampton, 214-942-6645.

***PURPLE ONION DINER** — 1838 Irving Blvd. at Turtle Creek; 214-747-0101.

***SAL'S PIZZA** — 2525 Wycliff; 214-522-1828.

***SPIRAL DINER AND BAKERY** — 1101 N. Beckley, 214-948-4747.

***STARBUCK COFFEE** — 3330 Oak Lawn, 214-219-0369; 4101 Lemmon Ave, 214-522-3531.

***STRATOS GREEK TAVERNA** — 2907 W. Northwest Hwy.; 214-352-3321; clubstratos.com.

TEXAS LAND AND CATTLE — 3130 Lemmon Ave.; 214-526-4664; www.tlxc.com.

TILLMAN'S ROADHOUSE — 324 W. 7th St.; 214-942-0988; tillmansroadhouse.com.

***TOMMY'S HAMBURGERS** — 5228 Camp Bowie, Ft. Worth; 817-569-1111.

***WINGSTOP** — 4411 Lemmon Ave.; 214-219-9464.

ZEN SUSHI — 308 W. 7th St.; 75208; 214-946-9699; zensushidallas.com.

■ services

ALLEN, RON, CPA, P.C. — 2909 Cole Ave., #300; 214-954-0042.

ALTA MERE TINTING — 4302 Lemmon Ave.; 214-521-7477; altameredallas.com.

ARIA CREMATION SERVICE — 214-340-8008; cremation.com.

***B-TAN** — 4113 Lemmon Ave.; 214-219-1833.

CRAIN & CRAIG PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS — 214-366-2300; crain-craig.com.

CHRISTOVER SANDLIN HOMES AND REMODELING — 817-727-3718; sandlinrh.com.

***ENERGY FITNESS** — 2901 Cityplace West Blvd.; 214-219-1900.

FLOWER BOUTIQUE — 4123 Cedar Springs Rd.; Suite 1428; 214-987-2766; flowerboutique.net

H&R BLOCK — (Skip Stark); 5617 Lemmon Ave.; 214-522-0179; hrblock.com.

***HOLLYWOOD STYLE NAILS** — 3523 Oak Lawn; 214-526-7133.

HOPE COTTAGE — (Adoption); 4209 McKinney Ave.; 214-526-8921; hopecottage.org.

***IRON PRESS EYES** — 3818 Cedar Springs; 214-443-9936.

***JESSICA HAIR SALON** — 4420 Lemmon; 214-521-9244.

***LA BELLE SALON** — 4030 Cedar Springs; 214-520-3801.

***MR. G'S BEVERAGE** — 1453 Coit, Plano; 972-867-2821.

THE NAIL SPA DALLAS — 4020 Cedar Springs Rd.; 214-526-6245; thenailsypadallas.com.

NAILIOUS NAILS, MASSAGE AND MORE — 3410 Oak Lawn; 214-559-3997; nailious.com.

***PALM BEACH TAN** — 2817 Howell, #190; 214-871-2786; palmbeachtan.com.

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organizationdirectory

■ hotline

AIDS HOTLINE — 214-559-AIDS; Sponsored by Resource Center of Dallas.

■ aids services

***AIDS ARMS INC.** — 219 Sunset, #116-A, Dallas 75208, 214-521-5191; 1907 Peabody Ave., Dallas 75215, 214-421-7848; aidsarms.org.

AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK — 501 N. Stemmons, #200, Dallas 75207; 214-943-4444 (Programs), 214-941-7696 (Administration); aidsinterfaithnetwork.org.

AIDS OUTREACH CENTER — 400 North Beach Street; Fort Worth, 76111; www.aoc.org; 817-335-1994.

AIDS PREVENTION PROJECT — 400 S. Zang, Dallas 75208; 214-645-7300, 214-645-7301.

***AIDS RESOURCE CENTER** — 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5124; resourcecenter-dallas.org.

***AIDS SERVICES OF DALLAS** — P.O. Box 4338, Dallas 75208; 214-941-0523; aidsdallas.org.

AIDS SERVICES OF NORTH TEXAS — 4210 Mesa, Denton 76207, 940-381-1501; 2540 Ave. K, Ste 500, Plano 75074, 972-424-1480; 3506 Texas, Greenville 75401, 903-450-4018; 102 S. First, Rockwall 75087, 800-974-2437; aidsntx.org.

EXHALE SERVICES — 417 S. Locust, #101, Denton 76201; 940-484-2516.

GREG DOLLGEMER MEMORIAL AIDS FUND, INC. — P.O. Box 29091, Dallas 75229; 972-423-9093; gdmal.org.

***LEGACY COUNSELING CENTER & LEGACY FOUNDERS COTTAGE** — 4054 McKinney, #102, Dallas 75204; 214-520-6308; legacycounseling.com.

***LEGAL HOSPICE OF TEXAS** — 3626 N. Hall, #820, Dallas 75219; 214-521-6622; dlh.org.

***NELSON-TEBEDO HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER** — 4012 Cedar Springs, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-528-2336; rcdallas.org/ntrhc.html.

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS HIV PLANNING COUNCIL — 1101 S. Main, #2500; Fort Worth 76104; 817-321-4743 (Office), 817-321-4741 (Fax); notexaids.com.

POSITIVE VOICES COALITION — 8099 Pennsylvania Ave., Ft. Worth; 817-321-4742; notexaids.com.

PROJECT ESPERANZA — 5415 Maple, #422, Dallas 75235; 214-630-0114.

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE AIDS FUND — P.O. Box 190409, Dallas 75219; 214-394-9064; tccaidsfund.org.

WHITE ROCK FRIENDS MINISTRY — 9353 Garland Rd., Dallas 75218; 214-324-1193; whiterockchurch.org.

■ education

ALLIES — 3116 Fondren Dr., Dallas 75205; 214-768-4796; smu.edu/womenscenter/allies.

***DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY** — 1515 Young, Dallas 75201; 214-670-1400; dallaslibrary.org.

GAY AND LESBIAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTON — 940-565-2456; andrew.wexler@gmail.com; orgs.unt.edu/glad.

GLSEN - DALLAS — 2505 Wedgela Dr. #235, Dallas, 817-999-0199; glsen.org/dallas, dallas@chapters.glsen.org.

HOMAGE — P.O. Box 830688, #12, Richardson 75083; 214-415-8495; mail@homageoutd.org.

HOMAGE AT UTA — 817-272-3986; tmarshall@uta.edu.

OUT @ COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE — 214-991-7851; out.ccccd.edu.

SPECTRUM — 3140 Dyer, Dallas 75275; 214-768-4792; people.smu.edu/spectrum.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS ALLY PROGRAM — 940-565-2000; ally@unt.edu; unt.edu/ally/index.htm.

■ media

***DALLAS VOICE** — 4145 Travis, 3rd Floor, Dallas 75204; 214-754-8710; dallasvoice.com.

DALLAS VOICE YELLOW PAGES — 4145 Travis, 3rd Floor, Dallas 75204; 214-754-8710; gayyellow.com.

GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION — 800-GAY-MEDIA; glaad@glaad.org; GLAAD.org.

LAMBDA WEEKLY — GLBT talk-radio show. KNON 89.3FM; Lambda Weekly, KNON FM, P.O. Box 71909, Dallas 75371; lambdaweekly@aol.com; geocities.com/lambdaweekly.

PRIDE RADIO — 14001 N. Dallas Parkway, #300, Dallas 75240; 214-866-8000; prideradiodfw.com/main.html.

■ music

FRONTIER DRUM & BUGLE CORPS — 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., #18, Dallas 75219; 972-437-6974; frontiercorps.org.

OAK LAWN SYMPHONIC BAND — P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-621-8998; oaklawnband.org.

NEW TEXAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — P.O. Box 190137, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x101); ntsa.org.

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE — P.O. Box 190137, 75219, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x 101); turtlecreek.org.

WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS — 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., #210, Dallas 75219; 214-520-7828; twcdoffice@twcd.org; twcd.org.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF DALLAS COUNTY — P.O. Box 541712; DALLAS 75354-1719; lpdallas.org.

■ political

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF DALLAS — P.O. Box 191033, Dallas 75219; 214-346-2115; robschlein@aol.com; dallas.logcabin.org.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DALLAS — P.O. Box 192305, Dallas 75219; 214-887-4990; jesse.garcia@stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org; stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DENTON COUNTY — P.O. Box 703392, Dallas 75370; 972-890-3834; info@stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org; stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org.

TARRANT COUNTY STONEWALL DEMOCRATS — P.O. Box 185363, Fort Worth 76181; 817-913-8743; info@tarrantcountystonewalldemocrats.org; tarrantcountystonewalldemocrats.org.

■ professional

ALLIANCE OF DESIGN PROFESSIONALS — 214-526-2085.

BUSINESS NETWORK OF COLLIN COUNTY — 972-702-0058; businessnetworkcc.org.

CATHEDRAL BUSINESS NETWORK — 214-351-1901 (x304); cbn.info@cathedralofhope.com; cathedralofhope.com/cbn.

DALLAS PRIDE RESOURCE GROUP — bruce.shelton@bankofamerica.com.

DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN BAR ASSN. — 214-540-4460; adamsede@aol.com; dgiba.org.

DALLAS LAMBDA MEDICAL NETWORK — Contact Paul Jentz; 214-820-6930; paul.jentz@baylorhealth.edu.

DELOITTE GLOBE — dallasglobe@deloitte.com.

GLEAN — glean@aqa.com; amrglean.com.

GLEE — 972-605-1212; edsu.eds.com/glee/index.html.

GLOBE — P.O. Box 50961, Dallas 75250; 972-308-7233; marie.garza@irs.gov; fedglobe.org.

IBM EAGLE — haywardm@us.ibm.com.

LAMBDA PRIDE TOASTMASTERS — 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75219; lambdapride@freetoasthost.us; lambdapride.freetoasthost.us.

LEADERSHIP LAMBDA TOASTMASTERS — info@leadershiplambdapridefreetoasthost.com; leadershiplambdapridefreetoasthost.com.

LBGT LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS — www.lgbtlawtx.com; 800-204-2222 x 1420.

NORTH TEXAS GLBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE — 3818 Cedar Springs Rd., Suite 101-429, Dallas, 75219, 214-821-GLBT.

OUT & EQUAL DFW — www.outandequal.org/dallas-fort-worth, DFW@outandequal.org.

PRIDE DFW METROPLEX — roger.brownlow@jpmorgan.com.

RAYTHEON GLBTA — Roland Zuniga, 972-344-5245; rz@raytheon.com.

TI PRIDE NETWORK — 12500 TI Blvd., MS 8683, Dallas, 75243, 214-480-2800; ttipridentnetwork-officers@list.ti.com.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS NETWORK — P.O. Box 190692, Dallas 75219; 972-949-4355; info@womensbusinessnetwork.org; womensbusinessnetwork.org.

■ services

BLACK TIE DINNER, INC. — 3878 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 100-B #321, Dallas 75219; 972-733-9200; blacktie.com.

BOYS4TOYS — 4327 Vandelia, Dallas 75219; 214-522-5200; b4t@swbell.net; boys4toys.org.

COLLIN COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE — P.O. Box 860030 Plano, TX 75086-0030; 214-521-5342 (x1715); info@ccgla.org; ccgla.org.

DALLAS SOUTHERN PRIDE — 3100 Main, #208, Dallas 75226; 214-734-8007; dallas-southernpride.com.

DALLAS/FORT WORTH FEDERAL CLUB — P.O. Box 191153, Dallas 75219; 214-428-3332; dfwfederalclub.org.

DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE — P.O. Box 190712, Dallas 75219; 214-528-4233; info@dgla.com; dgla.com.

DALLAS GENDER SOCIETY — 214-540-4475.

DALLAS TAVERN GUILD — 214-571-1073; michaeldoughman@sbjglobal.net; dallastavernguild.org.

***JOHN THOMAS GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER** — 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-528-9254; Phil Johnson Historical Archives and Library; 214-540-4451.

GAY AND LESBIAN FUND FOR DALLAS — 3818 Cedar Springs Rd. 101, #371, Dallas 75219; 214-421-8177; volunteers@gjfd.org.

GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD — 214-528-0022; rcdallas.org/glicc.html.

HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE OF NORTH TEXAS — 214-855-0520; info@hrionline.org; hrionline.org.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND, SOUTHWEST REGION — 3500 Oak Lawn, #500, Dallas 75219; 214-219-8585; lambdalegal.org.

LEGACY OF SUCCESS FOUNDATION, INC. — P.O. Box 700072, Dallas 75370; heritagecelebrationdfw.org.

NAMES PROJECT DALLAS — P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-520-SEWS (Phone), 214-553-8129 (Fax); dallasnameproject@hotmail.com; aidsquiltDallas.org.

NATIONAL COMING OUT PROJECT-DALLAS — P.O. Box 190726, Dallas 75219. 214-261-5610; comeout.org.

■ services

TARRANT COUNTY GAY PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION — P.O. Box 3459, Fort Worth 76113; info@tcgpwa.org; tcgpwa.org.

TALK OF THE TOWN TOASTMASTERS CLUB — 214-404-2118; dgershner@aol.com.

TRIANGLE FOUNDATION — P.O. Box 306, Frisco 75034; 972-200-9411 (Phone), 501-643-0327 (Fax); collinequality.org.

■ social

BATTALION MOTORCYCLE CORPS — P.O. Box 190603, Dallas 75219; commander@battalionmc.com; battalionmc.com.

BITCHNBRUNCH — bitchnbrunch.org; bitchnbrunch@yahoo.com.

CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB — P.O. Box 225463, Dallas 75222; 214-446-0606; information@classicchassis.com; classicchassis.com.

COUPLES METRO DALLAS — P.O. Box 192116, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1764); couplesmetroDallas.org.

DAMN — DAMNmen.org; P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1739); oaklwnvguy@hotmail.com.

DALLAS BEARS — P.O. Box 191223, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x2943); dallasbears.org.

DFW BIG MEN'S CLUB — P.O. Box 227262, Dallas 75222; 972-AM-I-BIG; dfwbmc@hotmail.com; chubnet.net/dfwbmc.

DISCIPLINE CORPS — P.O. Box 190838, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1731); webmaster@discipline-corps.com; discipline-corps.com.

FIREDANCERS — mikeykeith@cs.com; firedancers.org.

FLYING "W" OF DALLAS — P.O. Box 815485, Dallas 75381; 972-514-0511.

FOR MEN ONLY DALLAS (FMO) — http://socialnetwork.meetup.com/1102/

FRISCOPE RIDE — P.O. Box 1533, Frisco 75034; 469-324-4123; friscope.com.

FUSE — 214-540-4435; adam@getyourfuseon.com; getyourfuseon.com.

GAY AND LESBIAN RESIDENTS OF OAK CLIFF — galroc.org.

GAY & LESBIAN SINGLES — 214-328-6749.

GAY MEN'S BOOK CLUB — 214-418-3354; gaymensbookclub@sbjglobal.net

GAY OUTDOOR CLUB — 469-387-2530; mrailey@gmail.com; gayoutdoorclub.org.

GAYMSTERS BRIDGE CLUB — P.O. Box 190856, Dallas 75219; 214-946-6464; gaymasters@yahoo.com; gaymasters.org.

GROUP SOCIAL LATINO — 2701 Reagan; 214-540-4446.

IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON — P.O. Box 365, Fort Worth 76101; 817-897-8612; webmaster@ic-fwa.org; ic-fwa.org.

JEWEL — 214-540-GIRL; jewel@rcdallas.org; rcdallas.org.

KHUSH TEXAS — http://groups.yahoo.com/group/khush.texas.

LATE BLOOMERS — La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon; 903-887-7371.

LEATHER KNIGHTS — P.O. Box 190111, Dallas 75219; 214-559-3625; leatherknights.org.

LONG YANG CLUB — 214-521-5342 (x428); lyc_dfw_tx@hotm.com; longyangclub.org/dallas.

LVL/PWA CAMPOUT — Rick; campout@lvlpwa.com; lvlpwa.com.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER — P.O. Box 190611, Dallas 75219; 214-521-4765; groups.yahoo.com/group/mactdallas.

NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION-DALLAS — P.O. Box 190432, Dallas 75219; info@nla-dallas.org; nla-dallas.org.

NORTH TEXAS RADICAL FAERIES — groups.yahoo.com/group/ntradfae.

OAK LAWN COUPLES — 3100 Main, #208, Dallas 75226; 214-734-8007; oaklawn couples.com.

ONCE IN A BLUE MOON — 10675 East Northwest Hwy., #2600B, Dallas 75238; 972-264-3381; xschepps@sbjglobal.net; once-in-a-blue-moon.org.

ORANGE CLUB — groups.yahoo.com/group/orange-club.

OUT TAKES DALLAS — 3818 Cedar Springs #101-405 Dallas 75219; 972-988-6333 (Phone), 866-753-9431 (Fax); outtakesdallas.org.

POZ DALLAS — pozdallas@gmail.com; pozdallas.org.

PRIME TIMERS OF DALLAS-FORT WORTH — PO Box 191101, Dallas 75219; 972-504-8866; information@primetimers-dfw.org; primetimers-dfw.org.

RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB — P.O. Box 226811, Dallas 75222; 214-941-8114; info@rainbowgardenclub.com; rainbowgardenclub.com.

SAVVY SINGLES NEWS DFW — http://singles.meetup.com/2049/

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS DALLAS/FORT WORTH — groups.yahoo.com/group/sindallasfortworth; dalmu@slyahoo.com.

TEXAS TWISTERS — P.O. Box 192315, Dallas 75219; info@textwisters.org; textwisters.org.

UNITED COURT OF THE LONE STAR EMPIRE — PO Box 190865, Dallas 75219; dallascourt.org.

WOMEN'S THEATER GROUP — 972-907-8804; bridalblooms@comcast.net; thewomenstheatergroup.com.

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION — dallasfamily.org.

PROJECT TAG (TYLER AREA GAYS) — 5701 Old Bullard Rd. #96; Tyler 75703; 903-372-7753; tylerarea gays.com

■ spirituality

AGAPE MCC — 4615 E. California Pkwy., (SE Loop 820), Fort Worth 76119; 817-535-5002; agapemcc.com.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH — 4230 Buckingham Rd., Garland 75042; 972-276-0023; alc1@aolmail.net; ascensiontexas.org.

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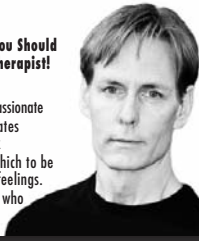
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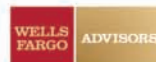
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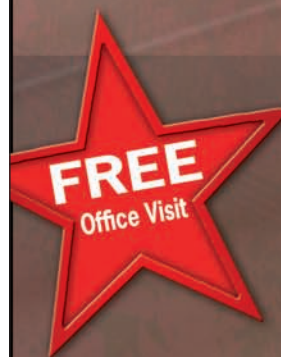
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