Obama comes out for marriage equality

Local LGBT leaders react to president's historic announcement

Plus: A look at the final days of his yearlong evolution — and how the decision could affect him in November

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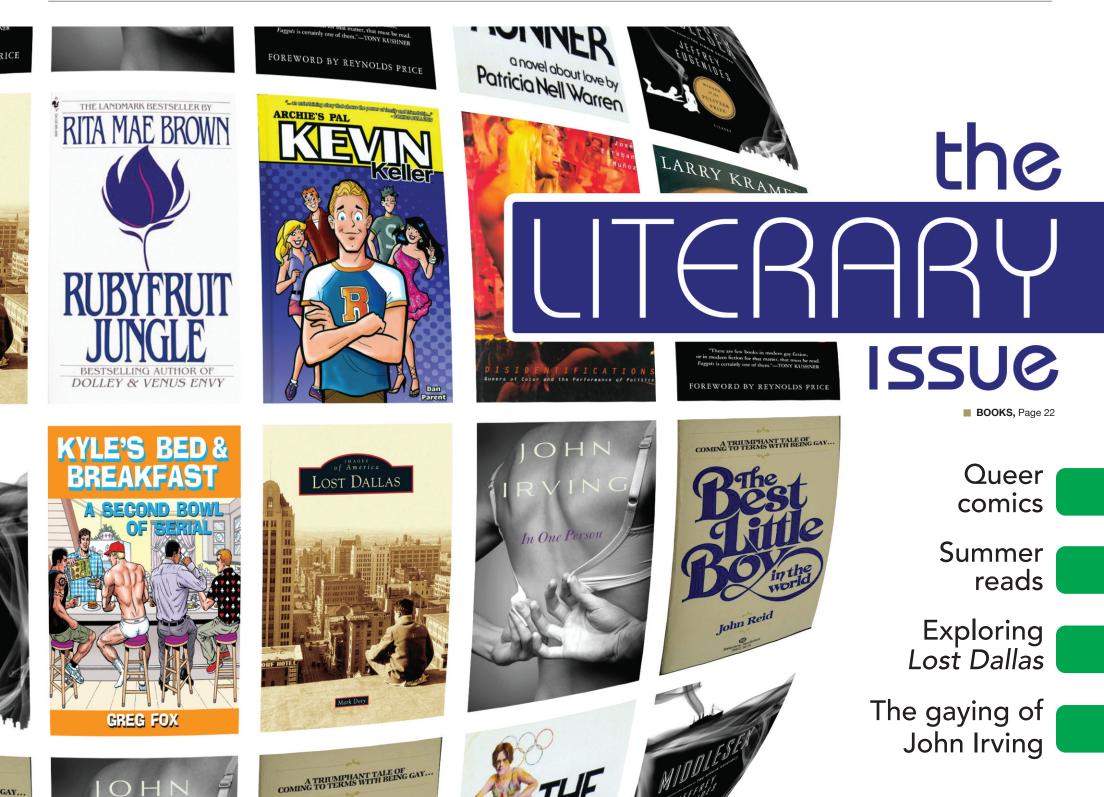
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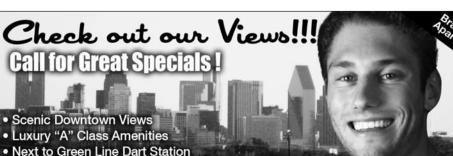
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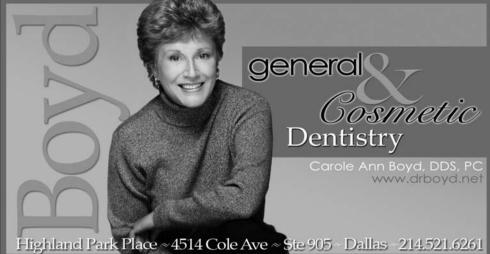
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CIRCUIT BOYS | A reveler jumps into the pool Saturday, May 5, at the Crowne Plaza in Dallas during the Purple Party, an annual fundraiser benefitting AIDS Services of Dallas. For more photos from the Purple Party, go to DallasVoice.com/category/Photos. (Chuck Dube/Dallas Voice)

Facebook group unites LGBT community in Stephenville

Brittany Williams grew up in Stephenville thinking she was the only person like herself.

The daughter of a preacher, Williams, a lesbian, said she grew up in the "very conservative, traditional town" never talking about homosexuality.

While her brother came out to her parents when he was 15, Williams said it took her until she was 21 to tell her parents the truth after they found out about her relationship.

Now 25, Williams decided to unite the Stephenville LGBT community. She started a private Facebook group in February, inviting a few friends that she knew were gay and encouraging them to invite others.

Over time, the group grew in size and attendance at socials and dinners thrived. The group now has 100 members.

"We became family overnight," she said.

The group was initially intended as a social group because the small town about 100 miles southwest of Dallas has so few options for the LGBT community, she said. But after a group of students from Tarleton State University asked for the group's help with reorganizing the college's Gay Straight Alliance, Williams said the group grew and adopted the name STRIDE - Stephenville Tarleton Recognizing Individuals in Diversity and Equality

About a month ago, some members went to Williams to ask for help with changing the school's Gay Straight Alliance, formally called TPT or Texans Promoting Tolerance. She said about 60 percent of STRIDE's members attend Tarleton.

Aside from having poor attendance and few events, Williams said the GSA's name was not welcoming enough of the LGBT students who seek refuge and acceptance by attending.

"We didn't like the word 'tolerance' because we're already tolerated," she said. "We want to be accepted, so we're working on a new name."

One of the members also wants to start an LGBT fraternity at Tarleton as well, but Williams said that may take about a year to start.

Despite the history of the Tarleton administration canceling a production of Terrance McNally's gaythemed play "Corpus Christi" two years ago, Williams said the group wants to help the college come back from that and create better relations with the LGBT community.

"We're trying to come up back underneath all of that and to make our voices heard that we're here," she said. "We know there are going to be some disagreement from the community. So, we're just preparing ourselves for whatever comes our way we're going to stick together as one big group."

Williams said that while her family now accepts her being gay and has embraced her efforts to bring the Stephenville LGBT community together. she is thrilled with the fast success of the group and the barriers it has already begun to break.

"It's just awesome that there are people here that are like us. We're all one big group and we're here to support each other," she said. "We all have the same kind of story. We come form a small town. We don't feel really accepted in this town. but now that this STRIDE group has started, it's like a comfort zone.'

One thing the group has made Williams realize is that her success can be anyone's success in a small town.

"You'd be surprised where there are LGBT individuals," she said. "If we can do it, any small town can get any kind of group started."

Anyone interested in joining the private Facebook group can email group organizers at LGBTStephenville@gmail.com.

– Anna Waugh

LifeWalk announces 10 partner agencies for 22nd annual event

AIDS Arms LifeWalk announced its 2012 partner agencies for its 22nd annual walk. Ten organizations joining AIDS Arms to raise money in support of their client programs.

The 2012 partners are: AIDS Interfaith Network, AIDS Services of Dallas, Bryan's House, Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund, Happy Nia Dance & Theater Company, Legal Hospice of Texas, Resource Center Dallas, Turtle Creek Chorale, The Women's Chorus of Dallas and Youth First Texas.

In a statement, LifeWalk organizers wrote, "Each partner provides unique services to the community of HIV positive men, women and youth ranging from temporary housing to child care to legal services, emergency financial assistance, food, dental services and cultural events that add stability, quality and depth to chronically and terminally ill individuals' lives.'

- David Taffet



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'Today is a day to remember'

Local LGBT leaders laud President Obama's historic announcement in support of marriage equality — but say it should also be a call to action

texasnews

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer waugh@dallasvoice.com

Dallas LGBT leaders and activists praised President Barack Obama's in the days that followed his historic pronouncement, many highlighting the campaign benefits and political steps that could follow.

Obama went public in a TV interview with ABC News Wednesday, May 9, saying that he at one point thought civil unions were enough but that while he was "going through an evolution on this issue," he had "always been adamant" that gays and lesbians should be treated equally.

"At a certain point I've just concluded that for me personally it is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same-sex couples should be able to get married," Obama said, making him the first president in office to take such a stance.

Dallas County District Clerk Gary Fitzsimmons said Obama "stands in stark contrast" to Bill Clinton who signed the Defense of Marriage Act. He noted that Obama is not afraid of the far right, carrying his views the day after North Carolina passed an amendment banning same-sex marriage and civil unions.

"President Obama, with a few short months before the election, has stood with this community and has demonstrated an integrity that we haven't seen in the oval office since Lyndon Johnson and the Civil Right Act of 1964," he said.

Fitzsimmons said he doesn't think Obama's decision will hurt Democrats in November, because those who care strongly about marriage equality have already made up their minds.

"It just builds this enthusiasm. He's given us red meat and that's what we want to see," he said. "We've just got to stop being afraid of the theocrats."

Omar Narvaez, president of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, called Wednesday "the biggest day in the modern day movement and the in modern day history."

"Today is a day to remember," Narvaez said. Daniel Cates, North Texas regional coordinator for GetEQUAL, who organized a rally in Oak Lawn in Wednesday to protest North Carolina and to encourage Obama to take a stand, said the event was part celebration and part demanding for more action to substantiate his support. Nearly 100 people attended the rally.

"I think those who are against us are going to use every stall tactic they have used against us. It's not going to stop us," Cates said about Amend-



KEEPING IT SIMPLE | Patti Fink, president of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, holds a homemade sign during the rally at the Legacy of Love Monument on Wednesday, May 9. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

ment One.

Cates said he was "ecstatic that [Obama] has finally finished [his] evolution," adding that the president "says he supports us and we're going to make sure that he does."

Equality Texas Executive Director Dennis Coleman echoed Cates sentiments, calling for more action in the Texas Legislature and continued support from those who promise it in an email May 10.

"I am very excited about the president making such a public announcement," Coleman told Dallas Voice. "It's a great time for us that the leader of the free world is not going to marginalize our fam-

Additional coverage

A look at the final days of Obama's year-long evolution on marriage. Page 16
Will it hurt him in November? Page 17
Watch video and view more photos from Wednesday's rally at DallasVoice.com.

ilies and that he is taking a pubic stand in support of all families including those that are LGBT."

But while some like Cates and Coleman think the announcement was long overdue, others like Fairness Fort Worth President Tom Anable said the president had to take time to truly make up his mind.

"I think it's a bold step for him to work toward our equality at the presidential level," Anable said. "I think it's a decision as president he had to make. It was due when he felt he could support it wholeheartedly and I think he's at that position."

Pioneering Dallas lesbian activist Louise Young said she "wondered if the day would ever come that a sitting president would make a statement in favor of same-sex marriage" before applauding the president for showing "a great deal of courage."

Obama reportedly had intended to endorse same-sex marriage before November but decided to announce it before schedule due to Vice President Joe Biden's comment on "Meet the Press" the Sunday before where he said he was "absolutely comfortable" with gay marriage.

Plans were then made to push the announcement and a new campaign video targeting LGBT voters surfaced Thursday, featuring Obama and Romney's comments on equality to demonstrate how Obama is moving the country forward, according to the video.

Stonewall Democrats of Texas Vice President Erin Moore said that politically Obama was defending the LGBT community from bullies.

"My more generous side says he saw the outcome of the vote and decided this issue needed leadership," Moore said. "Since his parents were interracial, he felt a connection with what happened with the vote."

Before making his announcement, the White House called Houston Mayor Annise Parker. Parker was surprised by the announcement and didn't think Obama would come out for marriage equality before the election. She tweeted her official reaction.

"Wow! I was wrong. Call from White House. The President has stepped up and stated his support for recognizing relationships...like mine!-a," Parker wrote.

Political candidates also voiced their opinions for the news.

Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Sean Hub-**TODAY**, Page 13

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localbriefs

David Chard gets Senate approval

The U.S. Senate approved President Barack Obama's nomination of Southern Methodist University's Dean of Education David Chard to the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences. The 15-member board oversees and directs the work of the Institute of Education Sciences.

As the research arm of the U.S. Department of Education, the institute collects and analyzes education research data and funds researchers nationwide who are working to improve education outcomes for all students, particularly those at risk.

Chard, who is gay, has served as dean at SMU since 2007. Chard will serve a three-year term on the board.

"I am honored to serve on the National Board for Education Sciences as a researcher, educator, and a representative of SMU," Chard said.

HRC family presentation moved

4

Fertility Specialist

DALLAS/FORT WORTH STEERING COMMITTEE The HRC Family Project workshop on Saturday, May 12, has been moved to the Warwick Melrose Hotel on Oak Lawn Avenue.

Continental breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. and the program begins at 10 a.m. Speakers will present a variety of options including surrogacy, foster care and adoption, as well as related topics like estate planning. Speakers include infertility consultant Mindy Berkson of Lotus Blossom Consulting, who will discuss surrogacy and egg donation with an insider's approach to maximizing success rates. Attorney Lauren Duffer will discuss securing a birth certificate and accomplishing co-parent adoptions in the state of Texas.

Death

Wayland Shipman was born March 23, 1930 in Vera, Texas.

Raised in Seymour, Texas, Shipman relocated to the D-FW Metroplex in 1970. A gift from God, Ship-

man was called home on May 4, 2012. Wayland was always there to lend a helping hand and would talk to anyone standing still. We will miss the smile on his face, but we will always have the memories of a true country gentleman.

Shipman is survived by his daughters, Rea Brech and Hope Osborne; five grandchildren; and three of his 10 siblings: Olaff and Orgie Shipman of Seymour, and Marie Tuck of Yokon, Okla.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 12, at McKinney Memorial Baptist Church, at 4805 Arborlawn Drive in Fort Worth.

pet of the week / BEAR

Bear was adopted by a nice man in 2006. Unfortunately, the man fell on hard times and had no choice but to surrender his pet when he moved to a homeless shelter. He begged the city shelter to be sure the dog got back to Operation Kindness so he would not be put down. Bear is almost 7 and is a lovely boy. He gets along with other dogs, as well as all people. He weighs about 40 pounds and looks like Alf from TV. He's too cute for words.

Bear and other pets are available for adoption from Operation Kindness, at 3201 Earhart Drive 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.











Mary Gonzalez

Dennis Coleman

Low turnout in May 29 primaries could amplify LGBT vote in key races

As early voting starts, Equality Texas is hoping for state's 1st out legislator since 2001, and gay Dems in D-FW will help pick a new ally in Congress

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer waugh@dallasvoice.com

This year's election cycle could give North Texas another staunch LGBT advocate in Congress, as well as the state's first lesbian representative in Austin.

With early voting beginning Monday, May 14 ahead of the May 29 primary, LGBT voters need to know what's at stake in key races, said

Dennis Coleman, executive director of Equality Texas. Along with hopes that one of the four openly gay candidates

for the Texas Legislature will be successful, there's the nail-biting race for the new Congressional District 33.

A statewide Employment Non-Discrimination Act could be passed in the next legislative session, Coleman said, calling a Texas ENDA's his organization's No. 1 priority.

"What I think this election is really going to be about it the economy," Coleman said. "One of the things we can stress in the economy is making sure people are safe in their jobs."

Mary Gonzalez is one of four openly gay candidates for Texas Legislature and the one that has emerged as most likely to be elected.

One of three Democratic candidates in El Paso's District 75, Gonzalez is vying to replace Rep. Chente Quintillia, who is vacating his seat.

Texas hasn't had an openly LGBT representative in Austin since former Rep. Glen Maxey left the Legislature in 2001.

Coleman said Equality Texas is excited about Gonzalez's chances in the primary, even more so because there's no Republican candidate she would face in November. Gonzalez is the only one

of the four out state legislative candidates who is endorsed by the national Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund.

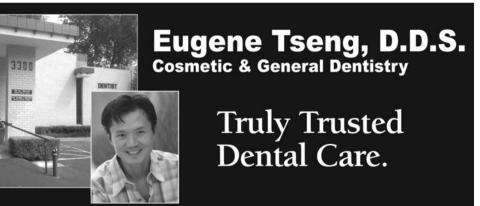
"It would put an LGBT person at the table when LGBT issues are coming up," Coleman said. "I think that her being

there is definitely going to be an asset for us."

The highly contested race for the new 33rd Congressional District spanning Tarrant and Dallas counties has brought 11 Democratic and three Republican candidates, but the seat is destined to go to a Democrat.

Many experts believe the race will come down **TURNOUT**, Page 12





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Sean Hubbard

Paul Sadler

Amid anti-gay rhetoric of GOP Senate race, 2 Dems back marriage equality

Hubbard or Sadler will face long odds in November as nominee vies to become 1st member of party to win statewide race since 1994

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

While four names will appear on the Democratic ballot for U.S. Senate, only two candidates are actively mounting a statewide campaign.

Paul Sadler, 56, is a former state representative from East Texas. Sean Hubbard, 30, of Dallas is seeking public office for the first time.

The winner of the primary will try to become the first Democrat to win a statewide race since 1994, in the race to replace retiring Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Dallas.

"The more established part of the party is pro-Sadler," Stonewall Democrats of Dallas President Omar Narvaez said. "Those of us who are nonconformist are pro-Sean."

Both are solid on LGBT issues, although Sadler's views have evolved since he first served in the House.

Former state Rep. Harryette Ehrhardt, a pioneering LGBT ally, said she's a big supporter of Sadler. Ehrhardt said when she served in the Legislature, he was always someone she relied on for advice.

"He was a great leader," she said. "In the early '90s, it wasn't popular to support hate crimes [leg-islation]."

Sadler was a co-sponsor of a gay-inclusive hate crimes bill in 1999 and 2001, when it finally passed.

But Sadler's position on other LGBT issues seems to have evolved.

In a 1998 survey conducted by Project Vote Smart, Sadler answered "No" to both, "Do you believe that the Texas government should include sexual orientation in Texas' anti-discrimination laws?" and "Do you believe that the Texas government should recognize same-sex marriages?"

But this year, according to the website On The Issues, he responded to an email questionnaire on April 20, writing, "Paul Sadler supports full civil rights and marriage equality for all Americans."

Ehrhardt said the 1998 responses may have been geared toward his more conservative constituents, but she noted that he never voted against the LGBT community. Hubbard said he's the candidate who's been consistent on LGBT issues. He calls the issue of marriage equality personal. Because his wife is Asian, he said he would have been denied the right to marry her in some states before the 1967 Loving v. Virginia decision.

"And I'm the only person who can get Democrats excited," he said.

Narvaez called Sadler a "rock-solid guy."

"He has the experience, works both sides of the aisle, but he comes across as stale," Narvaez said. "The membership likes Sean because he's very vocal on the issues."

Narvaez said that many Democrats in Texas think they have to run as moderates, even if they're not. Hubbard, he said, speaks his mind and he's a liberal Democrat.

Narvaez called him a different type of candidate who's not running a typical campaign. Stonewall was one of the first groups whose meetings he attended after he announced his candidacy in early 2011. He's visiting college campuses across the state to appeal to young voters.

"He's doing creative things with social media," Narvaez said. "If he makes it past the primary, he'll get lots of media attention."

Hubbard compared his positions to that of the Republican candidates in the race.

"Republicans talk a lot about freedom and keeping government out of our lives — except when it comes to keeping them out of our bedrooms," he said.

On May 2, Hubbard appeared with Sadler and the four Republican candidates in a forum sponsored by Houston

Public Media and University of Houston.

"With the exception of Mayor Leppert, they're running to be the senator of get-rid-of-Obama," Hubbard said. "I'm running to be the senator of Texas."

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, 66, is the frontrunner among the Republicans and has the most money. Gaining quickly in the polls is attorney Ted Cruz, 41, a tea party favorite.

Former Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert, 57, and former ESPN broadcaster Craig James, 51, round out the major GOP candidates.

Log Cabin Republicans of Dallas President Thomas Purdy said his group hasn't endorsed in the primary.

"As for me — and I say this with all sincerity — I have not decided who I will vote for in the Senate race, nor do I have a pulse on a clear favorite of the chapter's," Purdy said.

Of the four Republican candidates, Leppert probably has offended the LGBT community the most while also having the best record on gay issues.

In addition to appearing at gay Pride twice and courting the LGBT community while mayor, his chief of staff was openly gay.

Immediately after announcing his resignation as mayor to run for Senate, however, Leppert sent out an anti-gay tweet.

"We need leaders in Washington to stand on principle of marriage between one man and one woman," Leppert tweeted.

When asked during the Senate campaign about how his opinion of the LGBT community appears to have changed, Leppert said, "Jesus engaged every single group when he was here on earth, and I did too."

Since then, Leppert has had to defend his participation in Pride repeatedly. At an Eagle Forum debate in Dallas in February he said he marched because he was the mayor for all citizens of Dallas, but quickly reaffirmed his opposition to same-sex marriage.

"Talk is so cheap," Cruz said at the Eagle Forum debate. "When the mayor of a city chooses twice to march in a parade celebrating gay Pride, that's a statement. It's not a statement I believe in."

All four of the major GOP candidates have indicated that they oppose both same-sex marriage and civil unions.

Purdy said while he hasn't been surprised by the candidates' positions on LGBT issues, "I was definitely surprised and, of course, disappointed by the tone of the rhetoric and the inaccuracies presented at some of the debates."

After James declared during the Eagle Forum debate that he believes being gay is a choice, the San Antonio Express News polled the candidates on the issue. Leppert declined to respond.

James said, "I just believe based on my faith that the Lord created Adam and Eve, male and female, and my faith is where I draw from my conclusion that it's a choice."

Cruz told the newspaper, "I believe that engaging in homosexual conduct is a choice, and

I do not believe that unelected judges should force States to adopt gay marriage, against the wishes of the people."

"I am persuaded that the gay lifestyle is a choice," Dewhurst said. "As a public policy goal, I support promoting the traditional American family, which is under assault and in need of assistance."

Dennis Coleman, executive director of Equality Texas, said: "They're all running so far to the right, it's hard to see how their views on LGBT issues differ."

But Coleman added that Dewhurst didn't obstruct the anti-bullying bills that passed in the last session of the Legislature, and may be the best the LGBT community could hope for from the Republican pack of contenders.

"At the beginning of his term, the former mayor courted LGBT leaders," Coleman said. "In the campaign we see a total reversal. It's hard to trust him.

"I have to believe what you're hearing on the campaign trail isn't what's in their hearts," he added.

Purdy said his group will reach out to the GOP nominee after the primary. He said that as advocates of equality, it's Log Cabin's responsibility to try, no matter what the rhetoric has been.

"I do have hope," he said. "Hope that the nominee would mirror the behavior of other notable Republican figures."



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TURNOUT, From Page 9

to a runoff between state Rep. Marc Veasey of Fort Worth and former state Rep. Domingo Garcia of Dallas. Fort Worth Councilwoman Kathleen Hicks and former Dallas Councilman Steve Salazar are also contenders.

Veasey was elected in 2004 to represent House District 95, a majority of which is in the new Congressional District. He voted against a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage in 2005. He also voted against an amendment that would have banned gay foster-parenting and spoke out against banning university LGBT resource centers.

During his time on the Dallas City Council in the early 1990s, Garcia played an integral role in overturning the Police Department's ban on hiring gay officers. Later, as a legislator, he voted for an LGBT-inclusive hate crime bill in 2001.

Omar Narvaez, Stonewall Democrats of Dallas president, said the District 33 race and the Dallas County Commissioners Court races are vital, as well as those for Criminal District Court No. 4 judge and 162nd Judicial District Court judge, the latter of which features six Democratic candidates.

Theresa Daniel, Gloria Levario and Daniel Clayton are the Democrats vying for the Commissioners Court District 1 seat, while four Democrats are running in District 3: incumbent John Wiley Price, Micah Phillips, Bennie Brown and

Betty Culbreath.

Narvaez said electing LGBT-supportive commissioners is key to passing domestic partner benefits for county employees. He also predicts voter turnout in the primary will be low, giving LGBT voters more of a say in who will represent them.

"LGBT votes are going to be even more important because if turnout is in the low teens or anything below, each of those votes will be weighted even more heavily," he said. "So it's huge that we get out and vote and make our voices heard."

Rob Schlein, president of the gay GOP group Metroplex Republicans, predicted the U.S. Senate race will come down to a runoff between Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Ted Cruz, though Schlein has not decided who he will support.

Cruz "came down on [former Dallas Mayor Tom] Leppert pretty hard" for appearing in the gay Pride parade, and Dewhurst has been "pushing his Christian credentials" but not waving the "anti-gay flag," Schlein said.

While a runoff in the Senate race is more than likely, Schlein said voter turnout will be extremely low July 31 if Dewhurst wins the May 29 primary outright.

Low turnout would also hurt his chances of winning precinct chair for Far North Dallas' 2041 precinct race against Homer Adams, husband of Eagle Forum President Cathie Adams. Precinct chair races are at the same time of runoff elections

Municipal elections Saturday

Municipal elections are Saturday, May 12. While Stonewall Democrats of Dallas often endorses in the nonpartisan races for the Dallas Independent School District's Board of Trustees, president Omar Narvaez said that the late primary was too close to the municipal elections for the group to have enough time to focus on the races. DISD races in District 1, 3 and 9 are contested.

Only one known openly gay candidate is on the ballot in Texas on Saturday. Scott Sherman, endorsed by the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, is seeking re-election to the Pearland City Council. Along with Fort Worth's Joel Burns and Houston's Mike Laster, Sherman is one of only three known openly gay city council members in Texas. — Anna Waugh

because of redistricting, he said.

Coleman said the important thing to remember for the primary is to get out and vote and encourage others to follow suit in the key races.

"These races are very important because they will determine who will go on next and who would face a challenger," he said.

"If you want a candidate, don't sit on the sidelines," Coleman said. "You need to be voting in the primary."

For a list of early voting locations and

times, go to DalCoElections.org or TarrantCounty.com/evote.

Other key local races of LGBT interest include: • Lesbian Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez is

a control of the process cases more efficiently. Former Dallas police officer and security businessman Kirk Launius is seeking the Republican nomination.

• Democratic U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson faces a serious challenge for the first time in Dallas' Congressional District 30. State Rep. Barbara Mallory Caraway is the better known of Johnson's two challengers, but attorney Taj Clayton has been successfully raising money and secured an endorsement from The Dallas Morning News. The 10-term congresswoman has been a steadfast supporter of the LGBT community and is a sponsor of a variety of bills that would benefit the LGBT community, including the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act. Clayton has said he also supports both of those bills.





FROM PROTEST TO CELEBRATION | Wednesday's rally on Cedar Springs was originally planned as a protest in reponse to the passage of a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage in North Carolina, but became more of a celebration following Obama's announcement. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

TODAY, From Page 6

bard said he was excited for the announcement, adding that marriage "is not an issue that should be left to the states to discriminate as they please."

Marc Veasey and Domingo Garcia, both Democratic candidates for the new Congressional District 33, also commented. Veasey said he it showed "strength and courage," adding that even if it brings "political risk, he's done the right thing for the right reasons." Garcia said he was "honored the president said what many of us knew should be the law of the land."

Criticism for Obama's stance has mainly come from the conservative religious community, where leaders argue that Obama's support for same-sex marriage goes against the Bible.

The Rev. Steve Sprinkle, the first openly gay professor at Brite Divinity School said Obama's decision was "an act of personal and political courage."

Sprinkle expects a backlash from the right wing. He said that after the vote in for Amendment 2 in Texas that put marriage discrimination into the state Constitution, his tires were slashed and apartment pelted with eggs.

"Those of us who love liberty need to have the president's back," Sprinkle said.

Lesbian Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez also realized that people would see the issue as a religious one, but she added, "I honestly don't believe that God discriminates."



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healthnews

New digs prove prosperous for South Dallas HIV agency

Executive director says Abounding Prosperity's recently opened facility on MLK Boulevard serving as bridge between black, gay communities

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

After recently moving into a new office on MLK Jr. Boulevard, Abounding Prosperity Executive Director Kirk Myers has seen his agency become a bridge between the black and gay communities.

Since 2005, the organization has been based in a house across the street from AIDS Arms' Peabody Clinic. Abounding Prosperity continues to operate that building as a community center. HIV testing is still done there. Groups meet there. And Myers accompanies people with a new HIVpositive diagnosis across the street to the AIDS Arms clinic to make sure they receive medical care. "That relationship is quite positive," AIDS Arms Executive Director Raeline Nobles said. "They have immediate access for linkage to care, either for the newly diagnosed or those lost to the system."

She said that the goal between the two organizations is barrier-free delivery of service.

At Abounding Prosperity's new building just a few blocks away, testing has begun even though there hasn't been a grand opening yet.

"We're planning to do several things to bring attention to what we do," Myers said.

He said those who don't identify as gay are more likely to come to the new building than to the old location for testing and evidence-based intervention counseling. One reason may be that the Ophelia Center, a black women's program, is based here too. Another is the building's location on MLK, in the middle of the area's business district.

"Male sex workers, the previously incarcerated — all come here," Myers said.

While the group's relationship with Peabody



SETTLING IN | Executive Director Kirk Myers is shown in the lobby of his organization's new building. Abounding Prosperity is in the first year of a five-year Centers for Disease Control grant to expand testing among black, gay men ages 17 to 29. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Clinic is close, Myers said Abounding Prosperity has begun developing relationships with other South Dallas healthcare clinics that treat HIV.

He said because of the stigma of AIDS that remains in the African-American community, some of his clients won't seek treatment at Peabody.

In its testing program, Abounding Prosperity is getting an exceptionally high positive rate — 6.6 percent. And Myers believes many of the infections they're finding aren't new.



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"We're just bringing testing to the area," he said. The agency is in the first year of a five-year Centers for Disease Control grant to expand testing among targeted populations. Abounding Prosperity's target is black, gay men ages 17 to 29.

One successful new program to target that group is Let's Talk About Sex, a safer-sex party.

"We pay one person to host a party," Myers said. "He invites his friends and we come in and do an educational party."

He said it's working, getting the message into

different social networks.

Another program is Chat and Chew.

Two Chat and Chew groups have formed, one for men and one for trans women. They meet and discuss issues other than HIV. Politics is a common topic.

Evidence-based support groups aim for the target population using research showing what works specifically for black gay men. A group of 12 to 15 men participate in a seven-week series that addresses issues of spirituality, homophobia, family structure and attitudes about HIV.

Comprehensive Risk Counseling and Services is an intervention used for HIV-positive and highrisk HIV-negative men.

Myers said the group is looking at pre-exposure prophylaxis anti-retroviral therapy, known as PrEP, as a preventive measure for some of his clients. He listed a number of categories of his clients who might benefit including sero-discordant couples, sex workers or those not regularly practicing safer sex.

Dr. Cordell Adams has been a supporter of the agency since it opened. He believes the new location will help the group reach a broader audience and benefit more people.

"The area is loaded with different cultures," Adams said. "The location will open the door for communication and invitation to see what they're about."

He said that Abounding Prosperity doesn't push any one agency. "They're just there to help whoever needs help," he said.

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Dental Q & A.

By Dr. Jonathan Golab



Q. When I visit the dentist, how do I know if I have decay?

A. Unfortunately, pain is the last stage of a disease, so waiting for a tooth to "hurt" is not the best way to determine if you have decay. For many years, the standard for detecting decay in a tooth was the conventional dental x-ray, or using the "dental explorer" whereby the dentists "sticks" a sharp object in your tooth to find soft spots (decay). The drawbacks of these methods are that "sticking a tooth" can make cavities worse, transfer decay from tooth to tooth, or make the "hole" larger and even more prone to decay; traditional

dental x-rays emit more about 50% or more radiation than the digital x-rays we use, and our digital x-ray program has a component to "quantify" where and how much decay there actually is. With digital x-rays and the dental laser, we can conserve vital and important tooth structure, reducing the need for more invasive procedures.

Q. My dentist told me that I have cavities to be filled. Is there any way to fix them without being numb?

A. Yes. For moderate and smaller cavities, it is possible to get dental fillings without having to be "numbed" or use needles by utilizing "air abrasion" which is also referred to as "drill-less" dentistry. It works by using air pressure to aim "sand-like" particles at your tooth, gently spraying away decay. However, if the cavity is large, this may not be possible. But for the most part, it is a phenomenal advance in dentistry, and is a terrific technology to offer our guests.

Q. If I have a very large filling in my tooth that is cracked, decayed, or broken, is there a better way to fix my tooth other than a cap (crown)?

A. Yes. Traditional dentistry utilizes the process of crowns (caps) to fix large areas of decay, broken teeth, or large defective fillings. The disadvantage of these procedures is that they require the dentist to grind your tooth down to a tiny peg, which is very aggressive and traumatic to your tooth. It not only grinds off all the sick areas of the tooth, but it also grinds off all of the healthy area of the tooth. These can traumatize the tooth in to the too often scenario of "My tooth never hurt before, why does it hurt with a crown? Why do I now need a root canal?" Alternatives include tooth colored fillings, and/or conservative, longer lasting tooth colored "Inlays and onlays." These restorations are terrific in that they do not grind your tooth down to a peg, may actually strengthen your tooth (by the simple fact of removing less tooth structure), and fix only what is broken, leaving your healthy tooth structure intact

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nationalnews How a slow evolution came to a hurried end

More than a year after Obama said he was 'evolving,' Biden's remarks prompted president to come out for marriage sooner than he planned

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's evolution on gay marriage unfolded at a Darwinian pace, like that of the giant tortoise. For more than a year — eons in politics — he danced up to the edge of endorsing it, always stopping short, still "evolving."

Until very recently, much of the betting was on Obama taking a pass on the touchy issue until after the election. Why pick that fight now?

On Wednesday, May 9, he picked it. Obama gave a heads-up to a spiritual adviser, among others, and staked his position in a TV interview as the first president to declare himself in favor of same-sex marriage rights.

Obama doesn't have the power to make samesex marriage legal. But by taking a stand, he closed the loop with gay-rights activists who are important financiers and supporters of his re-election campaign while putting himself on a potentially perilous path with voters in states such as North Carolina. That state backed him in 2008 but voted solidly Tuesday to ban gay marriage in the state constitution. And it hosts the Democratic National Convention in September.

As told by aides, Obama concluded earlier this year that gay couples should have the legal right to marry and planned to say so before the convention. Speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss internal White House conversations, they said the White House felt compelled to accelerate its plans after Vice President Joe Biden declared his support for gay marriage on a Sunday morning talk show and said he was "absolutely comfortable" with same-sex couples being legally wed.

Then on Monday, Education Secretary Arne



BIDEN TIME | President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden are shown at the Democratic National Convention in Denver in 2008. Aides said Obama originally planned to announce his support for marriage equality before this year's convention in Charlotte, but Biden's comments on 'Meet the Press' Sunday set off a chain reaction that led to the president's historic statement Wednesday. (Associated Press)

Duncan, a longtime friend and basketball buddy of the president, stirred the pot further. Asked on a morning show whether he believed same-sex couples should legally be allowed to marry, Duncan said simply, "Yes, I do."

To outsiders, an element of orchestration seemed apparent — a softening of the ground before Obama stepped forward. After all, Biden has spoken out of turn before — as when he asserted during the 2009 swine flu outbreak that he would keep his family off airplanes and subways altogether — and the White House has some practice cleaning up after such remarks.

But aides said Biden's comment was impromptu. He taped his appearance on NBC's *Meet the Press* on Friday, May 4, and top officials said they and the president were quickly made aware that the vice president went further than Obama ever had on the issue. While officials said Obama was not angry with Biden, he decided that his vice president's remarks made it difficult to keep his own views private for much longer.

After Biden's interview was broadcast Sunday morning, May 6, gay-rights advocates swiftly proclaimed him to be the highest-ranking U.S. official to endorse gay marriage publicly and pressed the president anew to do the same.

The White House and Obama campaign struggled to manage the fallout. Biden's office released a statement insisting the vice president had not broken ranks with Obama. David Axelrod, a sen-**EVOLUTION**, Page 18



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It's the economy (and probably not same-sex marriage), stupid

Obama's support will energize some on both sides, experts say, but issue may be a wash politically, and it's unlikely to decide the 2012 election

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Public opinion about gay marriage has changed so rapidly that President Barack Obama's historic embrace of it may pose as many political risks to Republicans as to the president and his fellow Democrats.

The president's dramatic shift on the issue — a watershed moment in U.S. politics, even if many people felt it was inevitable — is the latest sign that Democratic hopes increasingly rest on younger, college-educated and largely urban voters, whose lifestyles are shaped by social mobility more than religious and community traditions. Many young adults find the notion of discriminating against gays and lesbians as incomprehensible as their parents' and grandparents' accounts of living through racial segregation.

Yet same-sex marriage remains provocative in some places, including once-reliably Republican states such as North Carolina, where Obama won a narrow but stunning victory in 2008. Only hours before his Wednesday announcement on ABC News, North Carolina voters turned out in huge numbers to approve a constitutional ban on gay marriage. The immediate reactions to Obama's statement on gay marriage weighed the political tradeoffs between embracing a social trend that's important to Democrats' liberal base, and risking potentially intense opposition from social conservatives in battleground states.

Mainstream Republicans, for the most part, moved warily. They focused their comment on the political calculations involved, not on the actual substance of letting same-sex couples marry.

Democrats, meanwhile, said Obama at last had found a cause that could begin to recapture some of the excitement of his barrier-breaking 2008 "hope and change" campaign.

"This gives the Democrats a fresh chance to mobilize young people and other base voters they need to turn out in November," said Democratic strategist Doug Hattaway, who worked for Hillary Rodham Clinton in the 2008 presidential primaries. "Many of them turned out to make history in 2008, and they will find this leadership from the president inspiring."

Hattaway noted that polls show substantial public support for same-sex marriage. "Mainstream Republicans aren't likely to make too much hay out of this," he said. "The smart ones realize that the GOP's gay-baiting threatens to alienate a whole generation of voters."

Initial reaction to Obama's announcement on ABC News suggests Hattaway is right.



VOTE AGAINST Amendment one on May 8

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CAROLINA BLUE | A campaign worker reacts as news organizations declare that a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage passed in North Carolina on Tuesday, May 8. President Barack Obama — who declared his support for marriage equailty the next day — won North Carolina in 2008, and it's considered a swing state this year. (Walt Unks/Winston-Salem Journal)

"The president's position on gay marriage has been one of cold political calculation," said Terry Holt, one of several Republican consultants who steered clear of the issue's moral and religious implications. He said Obama seeks to "win over a group of voters that he absolutely has to have to get re-elected."

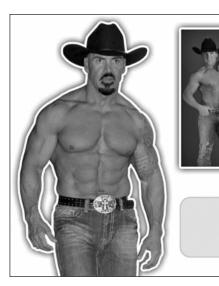
House Speaker John Boehner, arguably the nation's highest-ranking Republican, told Fox Business Network: "I have always believed that marriage was between a man and a woman. But Republicans here on Capitol Hill are focused in on the economy."

Mitt Romney, the party's presumptive nominee for president, on Wednesday restated his opposition to same-sex marriage, which he called "a very tender and sensitive topic."

That's not to say Obama's move is risk-free. It could energize social conservatives in North Carolina, Virginia, Florida and other states that Obama carried four years ago.

It's hard to say how the dynamic might play out. A minority of Americans care intensely about gun ownership rights, but the highly organized National Rifle Association has played a disproportionately powerful role in that area for years — so much so that Democrats including Obama rarely talk about gun control any more.

For now, few veteran Republican operatives seem to see a similar dynamic for gay marriage. **ECONOMY**, Next Page



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nationalnews

ECONOMY, From Previous Page

Brian Nick, a North Carolina-based GOP consultant who closely followed the state's referendum banning same-sex marriage, played down the notion that Obama's move could cost him a chance to win the state again. "I think the economy is going to be the issue that's voted on" in November, Nick said. "President Obama is clearly a liberal's liberal, and this is just another example."

But the embrace of gay marriage is likely to inspire the Democratic base as much as it might turn off persuadable centrists, Nick said. He called the issue "sort of a net wash" in North Carolina.

Some gay-rights advocates said Obama's move wasn't particularly courageous or pioneering. Former Vice President Dick Cheney and former first lady Laura Bush are among prominent Republicans who have endorsed same-sex marriage.

A new AP-GfK poll of adult Americans showed Obama with a 21 percentage point lead over Romney on the question of who is most trusted to handle "social issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage."

Starting last year, small majorities of Americans told the Gallup poll that gay marriage should be legal. Republican consultant Matt Mackowiak said Obama needs to fire up liberal potential donors and seems willing to worry about blue-collar workers in swing states later.

"Obama's decision will hurt him in Indiana, Virginia, North Carolina, rural Pennsylvania,

EVOLUTION, From Page 16

ior campaign adviser, chimed in on Twitter, saying Biden and Obama shared the view that all married couples should have the same legal rights.

White House press secretary Jay Carney's daily briefing Monday afternoon was dominated by questions about the president's position on gay marriage and whether he had become increasingly isolated on the issue within his own administration. "He, as you know, said that his views on this were evolving, and I don't have an update for you on that," an exasperated Carney said.

By Tuesday morning, Obama and his aides concluded that they couldn't contain the matter any longer. They started putting a plan in motion for Obama to embrace gay marriage in a television interview, which is how they had always planned for him to break the news. North Carolina's vote for the ban that night added urgency, for Democrats outside the White House if not inside.

Ed Rendell, a former Pennsylvania governor and Democratic chairman, voiced that urgency before the expected victory of anti-gay-marriage forces in North Carolina came to pass. He said on TV Tuesday that Obama should "man up" and make his position known.

On Wednesday, Obama called the Rev. Joel Hunter, who prays often with the president, and told him what he was doing.

Hunter, an evangelical pastor and founder of the 15,000-member Northland church in the Orlando, Fla., area, told The Associated Press they spoke for about 15 minutes. "I said I disagreed with this decision," he said. "I said, more precisely, 'This is not how I read Scripture,' and he totally northern Florida, rural Missouri, lots of places that he needs," Mackowiak said. "The map just improved for Mitt Romney."

Perhaps. But few Democrats expect Obama to try hard in Indiana and Missouri. And he can easily win re-election without North Carolina and Virginia, provided he carries Ohio or Florida and doesn't lose states such as Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania.

Jen Psaki, a former Obama aide, said Democrats might be able to turn the issue against Romney.

"In his pursuit of acceptance by conservatives," she said, "Mitt Romney's support for a federal marriage amendment would be the first time we amended the Constitution to deny Americans equal rights, which is alarming to most people."

It seems highly unlikely that the U.S. Constitution will be amended to ban or safeguard samesex marriage. Obama's comments Wednesday were more symbolic than substantive. But symbols matter when they come from the White House.

Democrats believe the president has his finger on the pulse of a fast-changing society. From a presidential election standpoint, opposition to same-sex marriage will matter only in the handful of states truly up for grabs on Nov. 6. If that opposition is sufficiently intense and organized, it could deal a surprising blow to the president.

For now, Romney, Boehner and mainstream GOP strategists seem more willing to focus on the struggling economy.

understood that. In the end, he was doing what he believed was right, what he thinks is authentic for him at this time in his life."

Hunter said the president acknowledged the decision could make it difficult for clergy to defend him in the face of criticism from Christian conservatives over a number of issues. "Those of us who love him and have invested into his life, he's very aware that this costs us something and that's something that I think weighs on him," Hunter said. "I don't abandon people because I don't agree with their decisions. But there will absolutely be blowback from his personal decision."

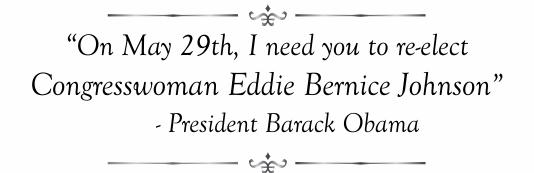
To be sure, Obama's shifting body language has been obvious for a long time, even if the words were not there. In 2010, he told liberal bloggers "it's pretty clear where the trend lines are going" on gay marriage rights. Soon after he began speaking of "evolving" away from his position in favor of civil unions but not formal marriage rights.

In June 2011, he praised the decision in New York state to legalize same-sex marriage and spoke at a news conference of a "profound recognition" in the country that gays must be treated like every other American.

But as for his own views, he was still evolving. "I'll keep on giving you the same answer until I give you a different one," he said when pressed. "All right? And that won't be today."

That night, Obama held a reception at the White House for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month. Author and sex columnist Dan Savage attended, wearing a button that said "Evolve Already."

On Wednesday, that different answer came, and one evolution was complete.



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viewpoints The snake in the Boy Scouts' tent

Removal of lesbian Cub den leader highlights impact of anti-gay policies on kids, but decision about allowing yours to join remains a personal one

The Boy Scouts may be shining a flashlight into a tent they would prefer remains dark. In April they ejected Ohio mother Jennifer Tyrrell from her position as leader of her son's Cub Scout den, simply because she is a lesbian. In doing so, however, they turned a light on the impact of their policy, and helped show that the real victims are children like Tyrrell's 7-year-old.

Tyrrell had always been out to the leaders and parents of her son's Cub Scout pack, and they had always supported her. After she became treasurer of the pack, however, and reported some financial issues to the District Council, she was soon told by the council that because she was a lesbian, she could no longer serve.

This isn't the first time the Boy Scouts of America has dismissed parents of scouts because of their sexual orientation. Last year, they expelled a mom in Potomac Falls, Va., as assistant scoutmaster for her son's troop, simply because she was a lesbian. And in 2009, two moms in Vermont were told they couldn't volunteer for their son's Cub Scout pack because they were lesbians.

Locally, in 2010, gay dad Jon Langbert was barred from continuing in a leadership post in his son's Cub Scout troop at University Park elementary. Langbert, known as the "popcorn colonel" for his fundraising efforts on behalf of the troop, says he and his son, Carter, have since left the Scouts.

Tyrrell has also withdrawn her son from Scouting because of the controversy, and started a pe-

tition on Change.org asking the Boy Scouts of America to reconsider their anti-gay policy. It had gained nearly 275,000 signatures as of this writing. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance

Against Defamation has been helping raise awareness of the situation, and drawing attention to the harm the BSA policy causes young people. GLAAD's president, Herndon Graddick, said in a statement, "Sending the message to America's youth that they or their parents are somehow less than everyone else is dangerous, inaccurate and should be changed immediately."

Contrast that with the statement from BSA spokesman Deron Smith in the LA Times:

"Scouting, and the majority of parents it serves, does not believe it is the right forum for children to become aware of the issue of sexual orientation, or engage in discussions about being gay."

The fellow parents of Tyrrell's den, however, showed how ridiculous the BSA's viewpoint is. CNN reported that parent Robert Dunn said, "When I told my son Jen was kicked out because "she is gay, he didn't know what was wrong be-



'POPCORN COLONEL' DECOMMISSIONED | Jon Langbert, who served as 'popcorn colonel' for his son's Cub Scout troop in University Park, was removed from the position in 2010 after other Scout leaders learned he was gay. Langbert said he and his son, Carter, have since left the Scouts.

cause he thought gay meant happy. He's just devastated."

Similarly, parent Don Thomas told CNN, "Never ever has sex been brought up, not in any way shape or form. In fact, I was not aware of Jen even being gay for quite some time. ... [It] wasn't an issue or concern."

All the Boy Scouts have done by removing Tyrrell is to raise the very issue of sexual orientation that they didn't want discussed - and to show the pack what bias looks like. Witness Patty Morgan, the mom of another boy in the pack, who told ABCNews.com, "I was not even aware

> they had a gay policy. ... [Tyrrell] was my friend and for me, this is personal. I hope that it ends up changing the policy for the Boy Scouts."

And David J. Sims, a member of the Board of Directors of the BSA's Ohio River Valley Council, an Eagle Scout (the BSA's highest rank), and the son and grandson of Eagle Scouts, resigned his position, April 27, saying in a letter, "Ms. Tyrrell's removal goes against my fundamental beliefs of how we should

treat our fellow human beings and is, in my opinion, wholly discriminatory.'

The media covering the story has followed GLAAD and rightly focused on the impact to Tyrrell's son. In the New York Times, K.J. Dell'Antonia wrote that Tyrell's son "liked Boy Scouts. He wants to go camping again. And he wants his mom to go with him."

CNN's LZ Granderson observed that the boy, "is being forced to be away from his friends and is too young to fully understand why. He's only 7. He wasn't brought up to dislike people because they are different."

Tyrrell herself told WTOV-TV that "Boy Scouts is about teaching kids to be better adults. We're not doing that by teaching them to hate or discriminate."

The harm of anti-gay policies on children is also reflected in a recent ad by the campaign to defeat North Carolina's Amendment One, which bans any kind of relationship recognition for same-sex couples. In the ad, a lesbian mom talks of the harm Amendment One would do to her 5year-old daughter by revoking the health insurance provided through her partner's employer, the city of Durham.

This ad, along with the coverage of Tyrrell's situation, represents a welcome reclaiming of the right-wing's argument that anti-gay policies are in the best interests of children.

Nevertheless, it remains a personal choice for lesbian and gay parents whether to keep their families away from the BSA or try to change it from the inside. Tyrrell withdrew her son; the other moms mentioned above chose to let theirs continue. Much depends on the needs of the children involved and the amount of local support.

A Dallas Voice online poll this week showed that 53 percent of respondents wouldn't allow their son to join the Boy Scouts, while 38 percent would and 9 percent were unsure.

What makes it a difficult decision is that BSA does do a world of good for many boys and young men.

Perhaps Tyrrell's expulsion will shine enough light on the snake of bias inside their tent that they will finally sweep it out and create a more welcoming experience for all.

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of Mombian (mombian.com), an award-winning blog for LGBT parents.



Dana Rudolph Mombian

News flash from NBC 5 anchor Jane McGarry: Don't drink and drive!

here but for the grace of God go I, along with a whole lot of other people. And oh yeah, come to think of it, a bunch of us have already gone there. It just didn't get widely reported — if at all — the way it did with NBC Channel 5 KXAS-TV anchor Jane McGarry, who was arrested on suspicion of DWI in the early Sunday morning hours of May 6.

McGarry unfortunately attracted the attention of a state trooper as she was traveling on the North Dallas Tollway in the area of Lemmon Avenue when she changed lanes and reportedly failed to activate her turn signal. One report I read said McGarry was traveling south and another said she was headed north, so the only thing that can safely be assumed is that she was in fact on the tollway and not headed out of a bar parking lot somewhere. The trooper recorded in his statement that she was driving a 2007 Porsche, and that upon exit from it, she talked in a loud voice, exhibited bloodshot, droopy eyes and swayed a bit.

McGarry reportedly acknowledged having consumed three glasses of wine, and you know how that goes. She probably had a dozen at least. At any rate she failed the field sobriety tests, and presumably said, "No, thank you," when they asked her to blow on a Breathalyzer. Upon her refusal, they administered a mandatory blood test that probably left her swaying even more in her high heels.

McGarry did recover enough during booking to smile pleasantly for her mug shot, and it's a good thing she did. The picture has now circulated from coast to coast and across the seas. Since her arrest I've noticed datelines in Los An-

geles, Chicago and New York. The International Business Times reported it, and to top it all off, the Christian Post weighed in on the anchor's disgrace, reporting on an online debate about whether she deserved to be immediately fired.

No doubt if McGarry hears about this column, she will likely say something to the effect of, "Good grief, even the gay newspaper is reporting it." I imagine about now the anchor is probably wishing that she had opted for a quiet evening at home rather than whatever it was she did.

The news of the award-winning anchor's arrest was first broken by the competing Channel 8 WFAA-TV station and The Dallas Morning News, which through their mutual association with the Belo Corp. cooperate on news reports. Other television stations apparently chose not to report her arrest, but by late Monday, Channel 5

David Webb

The Rare Reporter lawyer.

The FBI's "2010 Crime in the United States" report revealed there were 1.09 million people arrested on drunken driving charges that year, the latest year for which the information is available. That represented about 11 percent of the total 10.2 million arrests in the nation that year. The information was gathered from 12,222 law enforce-

reported in its newscast that McGarry had been

arrested and would remain off the air for the time

The Dallas Observer of course weighed in

with a snide comment about her "simply delight-

ful" mugshot as it is prone to do. In fact, if it had-

n't, it would have lead everyone to think the

editors were all passed out under

their desks and not doing their jobs. The most amazing part of the

whole story to me though is that Mc-

Garry's arrest has attracted so much

attention from so far away. DWI ar-

rests are more than common; they

are ubiquitous, pervasive and critical

to the financial survival of the na-

tion's criminal justice system, which

provides jobs for so many Ameri-

cans. They are money makers to be

sure, as McGarry is about to find out

as she starts writing checks to her

being while it investigates.

ment agencies representing a total national population of 240.1 million people.

Only drug abuse violations at 1.27 million and property crimes at 1.29 million surpassed the number of DUI arrests in 2010.

The truth is that if all the law enforcement officers, journalists, appointed and elected officials, and lawyers who were all legally intoxicated at the same time got arrested at once, the few sober city officials left standing would have to open the convention center to get everybody booked in and safely put away for the night.

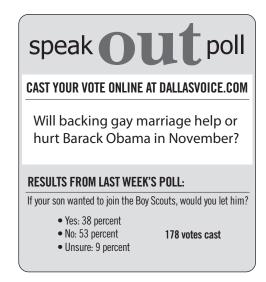
It is practically impossible for most people to go out and have several drinks and not register above the legal intoxication level, which in Texas is 0.08 blood-alcohol content. Anyone who tries to do all of the calculations involving the number of drinks consumed versus the amount of time it takes for the body to rid itself of the alcohol is going to wind up with a headache not necessarily related to a hangover. Lose count anywhere along the line, and you're screwed.

If the possibility of arrest is not enough to scare drinkers away from driving, consider that in 2010 10,228 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes nationwide, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Of those accidents, 6,627 or 65 percent of the drivers had blood alcohol levels exceeding 0.08 percent, which is the legal limit in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The best bet is just not to get behind the wheel, period, and beware of designated drivers who promise not to drink and wind up doing it anyway.

Take a cab when you go out so you don't have to make a decision later that inevitably will be the wrong one after a few drinks are consumed. If you can't afford a cab, you can't afford to go out because you sure can't afford the consequences. The next best option would be to live close enough to your favorite bar to walk to and from home.

David Webb has covered LGBT issues for the mainstream and alternative media for three decades. Contact him at davidwaynewebb@yahoo.com.



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LIFE+STYLE

books

How straight, tough-guy novelist and Oscar-winning writer John Irving became the gay reader's best friend. (Guess what? He has been all along)

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

Our best gay ally, **In one** person

ohn Irving may be the best ally the gay world has in a literary giant, but a lot of readers probably don't even realize it.

J Sure, we enjoy reading books about gay life from the usual suspects of gay authors, many of whom are pioneers who took great risks in the days before Stonewall. But Irving — the acclaimed American novelist and Academy Award-winning screenwriter (he adapted his own Cider House Rules to Oscar gold) — has, for more than 30 years, been one of our greatest allies.

His first big hit, 1978's The World According to Garp, featured a comic but humane portrayal of a male-to-female transsexual; since then, he's explored homosexuality and transgender ideas in The Hotel New Hampshire, A Son of the Circus and others, but in In One Person, his latest novel (his 13th), Irving puts the issue front-and-center, focusing on Billy Abbott, his bisexual hero and narrator. Taking us from Billy's upbringing through the AIDS crisis and beyond, Irving proves that despite his image as a tough-guy writer (he was a wrestler into his 30s), his compassion for sexual minorities is deep and heartfelt.

For our inaugural Literary Issue, and before his appearance in Dallas reading from In One Person (which was released this week) as part of the Dallas Museum of Art's Arts & Letters Live series, Irving agreed to an interview with Dallas Voice, in which he touches on the influence of gay writers on his voice, his gay son and even (possible) plans to adapt In One Person to the screen.

Dallas Voice: Billy is an unusual protagonist; he's legitimately bisexual - not merely experimenting. Does someone's sexuality, if more complex, make him/her more interesting to you as a writer? John Irving: Sexual outsiders or misfits interest me they are brave. I also fear for them; narrow-minded people shun them, or seek to harm them. Garp's mother (in The World According to Garp) has sex once - with a comatose man - and stops for life. Dr. Larch (the ether-addicted abortionist in The Cider

House Rules) also has sex only once — with a prostitute. The narrator of A Prayer for Owen Meany, who is called (behind his back) a "nonpracticing homosexual," never has sex. You have to see Billy Abbott - the main character and bisexual narrator of In One Person - in this context. Bisexual men like Billy have always been distrusted.

Billy's heroes are two transgender women. Miss Frost and Gee are the people Billy most looks up to in the novel, perhaps because they are even more distrusted and marginalized than he is. Billy is a teenager when he discovers Miss Frost used to be a man; he tells her, accusingly, "You're a transsexual!" Miss Frost speaks sharply to him: "My dear boy, please don't put a label on me-don't make me a category before you get to know me!" As Billy learns in part, from being bisexual - our genders and orientations do not define us. Yes, our sexual identities matter, but we are surely greater than our sexual identities. The sexual backwardness of this country

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fuels my writing; we are sexually repressive, sexually punitive. The persistent gay-bashing by the recent Republican presidential candidates - not only their opposition to gay marriage - is repugnant.

Great Expectations figures prominently in Billy's life; your book conjured the structure of Great Expectations to me. I'm assuming that was intentional. Yes! I love Dickens, and that novel.

Is that kind of social awareness, of consciousness-

raising, important to you? Garp, Cider House, Owen Meany and In One Person — four out of 13 novels - are political, in the sense that they make a polemical argument, or they choose a side of a social issue, or they advocate a cause. These four novels are full of human suffering. James Baldwin's Giovanni's

Room is a narrative of human suffering that is also an act of advocacy - it attempts to expand the range of our sympathy for human sexuality. I was a kid when I read Giovanni's Room; I learned a lot about advocacy in literature from Bald-

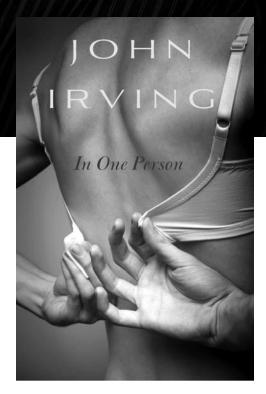
Are there any other "gay writers" (like Baldwin) whom you read or enjoy, and whose voices influenced your portrayal of LGBT characters? Edmund White. I was writing Cider House when I first read A Boy's Own Story. There's that line near the end of the fourth chapter. I went back and reread that line when I was beginning In One Person - 27 years later: "Would I become a gueer and never, never be

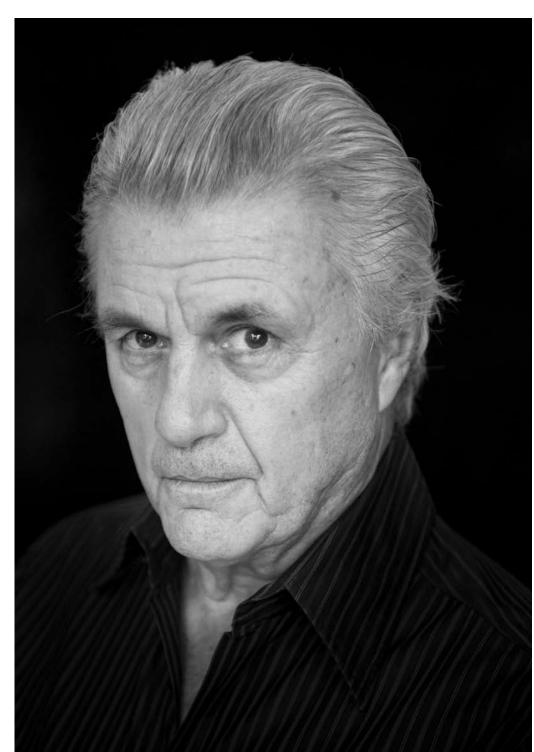
'PERSON' OF INTEREST | New England's most acclaimed chronicler of the modern American experience, John Irving's newest novel (his 13th) presents a bisexual narrator and tracks the history of the AIDS epidemic in a sweeping, thoughtful saga inspired by 'Great Expectations.'

like other people?"

In June 2009, Ed and I began writing our most recent novels - Jack Holmes and His Friend and In One Person. We emailed each other progress reports: we read each other's manuscripts. Ed's character Palmer in Jack Holmes is based on my youngest son - my gay son, Everett. Both Edmund and I have called Everett "the ideal reader" for In One Person, but I didn't write this novel because I have a gay son.

How did having a gay son inform this novel? In One Person has been in my life, fully formed, for 12 years - long before I knew Everett was gay. Billy's experiences aren't "based on" Everett's experiences or mine — Everett is no more bi than I am. But when I started writing In One Person in June 2009, I was aware of writing this story for Everett. I wanted him to ALLY, Page 24







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books

ALLY, From Page 22

read it when he was still in his teens or his early twenties. (He's 20 now; he was 19 the summer he read In One Person-his favorite of my novels.)

Everett's privacy should be respected; he's proud of who he is, and he knows how proud I am of him. He loves In One Person, and he loves me. I know what Miss Frost would say about Everett: "Don't put a label on him - don't make Everett a category before you aet to know him!"

I told Everett I was worried that some journalists will seize upon the story of my having a gay son as the only story, that they will make it a cause-and-effect tale - part of a laziness in those journalists who believe everything in fiction is autobiographical. You know what Everett said? "Think about a kid like Billy, or like Gee. That kid should read this novel. In One. Person would help that kid." I like Everett's point. If this is a novel I wrote for Everett, which it is, it is also a novel for kids like Billy and Gee - the young reader who's a bisexual boy in-progress, and the young transgender girl in-the-making.

Speaking of Ed White, your open letter to him in support of samesex marriage was, for those of us who read it, one of the most moving, plainly-worded and rational defenses of gay relationship we'd ever seen a straight person - and a famous one - put forth. If you don't mind me saying, your background makes your support of gay rights unexpected - a kind of tough-guy straight man who wrestled into his 30s. Is it a frustration that some people don't expect you to be supportive of gay rights? I did a fundraiser with Edmund in New York for the gay-rights governor of Vermont, Peter Shumlin. But I also did a fundraising event for Gov. Shumlin in Boston with my friend Stephen King; you shouldn't assume that straight

online exclusive

Read more thoughts by John Irving in the online version of this interview at DallasVoice.com.



TRANS GENRE | Roberta Muldoon, a MTF character in 'The World According to Garp' (played in a film by John Lithgow, above) was Irving's first major foray into gay issues more than 30 years ago.

JOHN IRVING

The Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm St. May 15 at 7:30 p.m. \$37 DallasMuseumOfArt.com.

hit. It also featured one of the first humane portrayals of a trans character in popular American literature. Would you write Roberta Muldoon differently today? No. Roberta is a comic, satiric character - a positive

guys can't be for gay marriage!

Garp was your first international

force but (like Garp's mother, like the Ellen Jamesians) broadly drawn. In In One Person, the transgender women (Miss Frost, Donna, voung Gee) are more real; they're serious characters, and more serious things happen to them. There is some comedy in In One Person, but, unlike Garp, is not a comic novel.

Personally, The Cider House Rules is my favorite film adaptation of your work, and its Oscars welldeserved. Describe your "Hollywood" experience. I love Lasse Hallström, my Cider House director. I've told Lasse that I don't want to write screenplays anymore, but Lasse knows I would make an exception if I could work with him again. We may be making In One Person together. I hope so. It's a difficult novel to adapt as a film; movies struggle with the passage of time.



BEST GAY BOOKS: DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

We wanted to know what various members of the Dallas gay community were reading - now and in their formative years. What books most influenced them in their youth and affected their coming out process? What holds up even today as a classic of gay lit? Or for that matter, what are they reading now, whether gay or not, and are they enjoying it? Here's what some said.

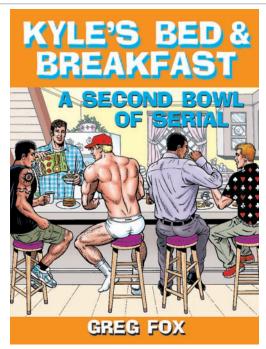
First up: Local attorney Rebecca Covell, pictured left. (Look throughout this issue and online for more lists.)

Lesbian/Woman by Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon. I read this in the mid 1970s, which I had wrapped in plain paper so I could read it anywhere. It was a different and scary time then, but the book provided an eye-popping chronicle of how far we had come. I quit whining about how closeted and hard my life was and swelled with pride and gratitude

Rubyfruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown. This was the first lesbian coming-of-age novel I'd read. It was funny, affirming and thought-pro-

voking. Goes to show we're all on that Kinsey continuum of orientation. Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides is one of the few books I've read twice (so many books, so little time). It is such an elegantly written novel of an intersexed protagonist who explores genetic vs. nurture causes of upheaval in his life.

I'M READING NOW: Rules of Civility by Amor Towles. A fabulous novel set in New York in the late 1930s, it follows a delightful protagonist, Katey Kontent, as she seeks success in the Big A. I'm delighted it was this month's selection for the Pussy Galore Book Club. Katey is self sufficient, insightful and delightful. Too bad she seems to bat for the other team.



Gays finally get their own heroes, from drama queens to teen dreams

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

ays (and their straight cousins, nerds) have kept the comic-book industry afloat for years (Dallas' own Zeus Comics is, in fact, gay-owned. From spinning around as Wonder Woman in our mothers' shawl to lusting after that water-breathing dreamsubmarine Aquaman, we've powered the superheroes and even appreciated how butch and ripped the artwork makes the ideal man appear.

But that also means we've watched powerlessly as Peter Parker tries to make a relationship work with Mary Jane, when the only "mary jane" we probably desired came around 4:20. Comic book heroes, with few exceptions, have always been

straight. Well, not anymore. Two new bound editions of

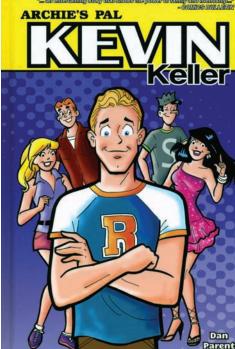
characters that came to life in the comic book pages are now available in compendia that acknowl-

edge gay folks ... albeit in vastly different ways. Greg Fox's Kyle's Bed & Breakfast: A Second Bowl of Serial, combines two things gay men are known for: Hot bodies and drama.

The first thing you admire is Fox's draftsmanship, which seductively captures the beefy, muscled, multicultural bodies of proprietor Kyle and his 20- and 30-something friends, from the closeted ballplayer Brad to gossipy Richard and tortured Latino Eduardo. Fox has a way with poses that look real and well-observed while stringing

online exclusive Read an interview with Kyle's B&B creator Greg Fox at DallasVoice.com/category/Books.





together dishy plots worthy of (actually, superior to) Melrose Place.

The strip appears regularly in Dallas Voice, but even if you've caught it there, there is still a lot more to be enjoyed in this edition, including

an entire three-page, never-beforepublished story and some of Fox's, er, less discrete figure drawings. On the other end of the spectrum, Archie's Pal Kevin Keller by

Dan Parent provides younger queer comic fans with a role model who "just so happens" to

be gay, but still resides in the homespun Archie universe.

Kevin is a handsome, smart gay kid, so of course Veronica sets him in her sights; one entire arc in this hardback edition deals with Betty egging on Veronica into making a fool of herself for not realizing Kevin's gay.

If that sounds like a plot that could have been on The Facts of Life, it is. Archiedom lives in a brightly lit world of perpetual youth where kids worry more about prom dates than date rape ---it's a giant leap away from Kyle's B&B. But that's OK. We don't require all our comic book heroes be the same, or even heroic; we just like to see our lives represented on the page by people who know that gays are as varied and interesting and silly as straights. Mission accomplished.





by Jamie Morris

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OPENING WEEKEND

LIFE+STYLE

books

FACE OF THE GAYBORHOOD Mark Doty holds a photo of a mansion that used to sit along

> Turtle Creek Boulevard; now, the plot is a vacant lot. (Arnold Wayne Jones/ Dallas Voice)

Gay Dallas historian Mark Doty explores the city's fascination with an ever-changing skyline in his book 'Lost Dallas'

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f those who cannot remember the past are doomed to repeat it, then Mark Doty should be safe. An architect by training, Doty is the historic preservation officer for the city of Dallas. For the last two years, he has turned his lectures about Dallas' oftenfickle relationship with preservation and development into the photographic history book Lost Dallas.

Broken into six geographic areas (West End, Central Business District, East Dallas, Fair Park/South Dallas, Oak Cliff and Uptown/North Dallas) and containing more than 200 photos of buildings past,

Lost is a tribute to where we've been. Doty examines why so much change has happened in the various neighborhoods, including the tremendous growth in the West End and CBD from the railroad boom in the late 1800s through the oil-rich expansion of the 1960s and '70s.

Rubble rouser

"If you look back at aerial photos from the '30s and '40s, Dallas was dense all the way from the [Trinity

River] to Deep Ellum," he says. "It was filled with two- and three-story buildings that were lost in the '70s and '80s to skyscrapers. What we have now are different districts - West End, Arts District, Main Street Corridor. If we had a quarter of those smaller commercial buildings left to knit together Downtown, it would be totally different."

Doty says the biggest surprise in his research was finding the short lifespans of some major properties. "Some older buildings just didn't last that long — after 30 years, they were bulldozed for something else," he says.

He offers as an example Ivy Hall, a Moorish-style mansion on Maple Avenue and Wolf Street, created in 1890 and leveled in 1924 to make room for the Maple Terrace apartments. But while the narrative of Lost may seem to be about Dallas' obsession with all things shiny and new, it's not all doom and gloom.

"I want people to gain a sense of not just what we have lost, but to also take the book out and see what is still here," says Doty. "As a historic office, we oversee 4,000 buildings in North Texas. There is still something here and it's spectacular - like Winnetka Heights in Oak Cliff or Fair Park. My hope is that people will [use this book as an opportunity] to look around and see what is still valuable within our neighborhoods and cities."

Doty uncovered a few gems related to Dallas' LGBT past. He points to a building on Caddo Street that served as the humble beginnings of what is now the Cathedral of Hope. An Art Deco masterpiece, The Esquire Theater, stood in the Oak Lawn "gayborhood" from the 1930s until its sad demise in 1985.

When it comes to keeping history from repeating itself, Doty says there are many ways to prevent that from happening. "Join your neighborhood association, Preservation Dallas, the Dallas Historical Society or the Dallas Museum of Art - any organization that contributes to the culture and identity of Dallas," he says. "It will ensure we all help to keep the city alive and vibrant. I love Dallas, and I want everyone to love Dallas as much as I

do. We need to appreciate its history and to see what we have lost, but also see how wonderful it is now and can be in the future."

lef Tingley

Proceeds from the sale of Lost Dallas benefit the Dallas Municipal Archives. Available at Amazon.com and at Dallas City Hall (Room 5BN). The book will be featured in an exhibition at the Dallas Center for Architecture beginning on May 16, with a lecture and book signing on May 31 at 6 p.m. For more information, visit DallasCFA.com.

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L+S books Summer reads

For the beach or in bed, a sampling of this season's queer-interest books

It doesn't take x-ray vision to read *The Superhero Book* by Gina Misiroglu. Filled with color pictures of comic book covers, this collection will lay to rest the age-old question: If Superman and Batman had a duel, would Iron Man step in and kick tail?

If you've always loved a good mystery, why not check out *From Crime Scene to Courtroom* **by Cyril H. Wecht and Dawna Kaufmann**, a real-life crime book about real-life cases that have made the news. Wecht is one of the world's foremost forensic experts, and this book delves into the Casey Anthony case, Michael Jackson's death and others. Whodunit? You

might find out here. If you're up for a good gay

mystery, *The Second You Sin* by Scott Sherman fits the bill. It features a handsome full-time hustler who sleuths on the side, a series of murders that he needs to

stop and a few roadblocks in his way to doing so. Bookmarks? Won't need one for this pageturner.

So you say you're obsessed by teeth and fashion ... but not necessarily in that order? Look for *Fangs and Stilettos* by Anthony DiFiore. You'll never again wonder why there are plunging necklines or if silk is an otherworldly fabric. For biography junkies, *Every Step You Take* is

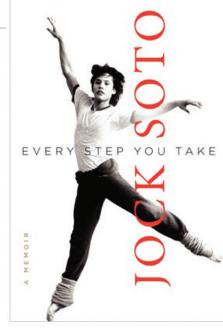
BEST GAY BOOKS IN HISTORY Phyllis Guest, activist



My huge favorite from history is **Herodotus**. The usual comment on him is he's "the father of history," but I think he's also the father of travel writing. And he must have been an absolute charmer of both men

and women — he traveled from Halicarnassus (now Bodrum, Turkey) to the Sahel, all across the Middle East, all over Greece, and finally settled on a Greek isle with a male "friend." Surely the most varied life of anyone who lived in the 5th century B.C. Also, Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness, V.S. Naipaul's A Bend in the River and Chinua Achebe's A Man of the People — like every LGBTQA person, they all grew up with a sense of otherness, and the overt and covert sexuality in their writing is undeniable.

I just finished **Paul Russell's** *The Unreal Life of Sergey Nabokov.* Very gay, lots of sex scenes. It's the sexiest, most absorbing, best written book I have read in a very long time maybe ever.



by Jock Soto, principal dancer with the New York City Ballet. He tells how a Puerto Rican-Navajo gay boy survived his childhood to become a premiere dancer. He also writes about his career, his loves and his newest adventure. If you love dance, leap for this one.

Here's another book about dance, but with a

The literary Issue

twist: *LeFreak* by Nile Rodgers. This is the story of Rodgers' life as a songwriter and producer of an awful lot of songs and dance-friendly pop hits you'll surely remember from the 1970s and '80s. Love to read dirt on the stars? You'll want this one

- stars absolutely fill it.

If you can't get enough about the furry love of your life, then look for *Dogs Make Us Human* by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson and Art Wolfe. Filled with pictures and a narrative about our four-footed best friends, this book will put the wag in any dog lover's tail. Another doggy book, *Your Dog is Your Mirror* by Kevin Behan, will help you understand Poochie in a whole new way. And *How the Dog Became the Dog* by Mark Derr looks at the evolution from predator to pampered, from ancient canine to couch potato, and how the breeds developed. It's a science geek's delight and a dog lover's dream.

Do you often think that your dog (or cat) knows more than you think he knows? Prove it by reading *Guardians of Being*, words by Eckhart Tolle, art by Patrick McDonnell. This book — part cartoon strip, part philosophy — will make you want to smile, think and hug the Furry One even harder.

With baseball season in full swing, sports fans should look for *Trading Manny* by Jim Gullo, the story of a father and son and how baseball disappointed them before rediscovering their love of the game. *Summer of '68* by Tim Wendel is the story of one baseball season and the players that made it fantastic, even as the world seemed to be falling apart around the field.

A good convo-starter is *What Do You Want to Do Before You Die?* by The Buried Life (Jonnie Penn, Dave Lingwood, Duncan Penn & Ben Nemtin), a bucket-list book filled with pictures and ideas from others who've dreamed about life's can't-misses. Happy reading!

Glam

The gay Idol's sophomore CD reminds us why we first loved Adam Lambert

tle — and it's mostly heavy.

Lambert explodes out of the gate like a cham-

pion with the title opener. The bass beat is hard and made heavier by the blazing guitar riffs, but

Lambert's voice is the star. Williams teams with

the singer creating a strong start with its addictive chorus and beats. And Lambert is keen on

Where his collab with Williams is winning

LAMBERT, Page 31

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Vhite House

GoesTo

Karla Lee Zer

here, a later track, "Kickin' In," is out of control.

proving his rocker gay side while keeping a

dance flair for his pop audiences.

GLAM MORE | Adam Lambert rocks and grows in his flawed but compelling second CD, 'Trespassing.'

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer lopez@dallasvoice.com

S music

Whether to prove himself as a major player or to shed any remaining bits of American Idolatry, Adam Lambert brought in some big guns to help in his second full-length studio release, Trespassing. Bruno Mars, Pharrell Williams and Sam Sparro are some of the familiar names that join Lambert this time around, but the album is distinctly his. The gay glam boy shows his met-

Kids and 'pawliticks:' It's dog eat dog out there Karla Lee Zemler was inspired by Hillary Clinton's announcement that she would run for the White House to create book Hillary Goes to the White House. "I'm passionate about politics," Zemler says. "And I'm passionate about kids."

How do those intersect? The Hillary in the title isn't the current secretary of state (at least not directly), but Zemler's cocker spaniel in this children's book about "pawliticks."

Zemler, a new author and dog lover, is also a Dallas psychotherapist and openly gay. As much as she enjoys children, she's mostly been meeting their grandparents who've been buying her book at events like the Texas Library Convention and last week's Dog Bowl at the Cotton Bowl.

"The book is something someone would want to share with their kids," she says. "You pick it up and it reminds you of the 10-year-old inside who believes anything is possible.

Of course, neither Hillary made it to the White House, but Zemler says that's the lesson. While Clinton's campaign for the presidency was the inspiration, the book is politically neutral. Hillary, the cocker, is called a yellow dog, but she doesn't understand the term because she's chocolate and white.

"And every vote counts," Zemler says.

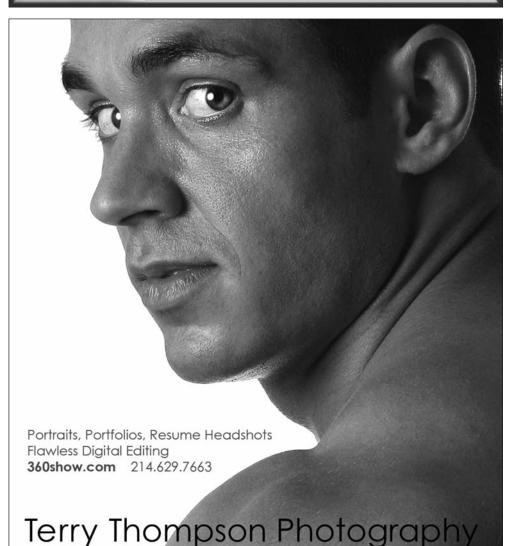
Zemler calls voting "the great equalizer." No matter who you are, each person gets one vote that counts the same as every other vote. "For kids, it's so disappointing when you get a 'no," she says. But Hillary can explain it. After getting a "no," she said it's important to teach children to step back and learn a lesson.

"Things do not always turn out the way we expect, but that's OK," she shows, with photos of the cocker barking up the wrong tree. Maybe that's the point

- David Taffet



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LAMBERT, From Page 29

The frenzied song has zero gravity and the cheerleader-y chorus dumbs down their talents big time. Tag this as "most embarrassing track" and press "skip."

Coincidentally, the same befalls the Sparro pairings. The gay singer brings his innovative

pop perspective to Lambert's team on "Shady," a strong track that has evident Sparro-esque touches without taking away from Lambert. The groove is patient but not glacially paced like their second collaboration, the ninth track, "Broken English." While the sound is massaged into a languid state, it brings the album to a shocking halt like someone pulled the plug on a treadmill; we're left bruised trying to figure out what just happened.

Perhaps it's fortuitous, then, he limited Bruno Mars to one track only — the satisfying single "Never Close Our Eyes." Even with major players in tow, Lambert keeps his identity and sound intact on the CD, though you definitely hear the brilliance of Mars' talents in small touches like the acoustic guitar against the heavy dance beat or lyrics such as *Why can't we just live life with no consequence / And always live in the now.* But the *album* is all Lambert's.

He makes us want to dance with tracks like the electronica-laden "Cuckoo," which pushes all the right buttons. In a goofy way, he perpetuates his rebel-without-a-cause image, emphasizing naughty language such as "cocks" and "fuck," but he backs it up with a well-constructed melody.

Lambert repeats that formula with the edgy dance rocker "Pop That Lock." Mixing his glam with some tortured electric beats a la Skrillex, this is the image he strives so much for and achieves.

His gift is keeping a song interesting even

BEST GAY BOOKS

Bob Hess, actor.

There was so little gay themed stuff out there when I was in my formative years, but as far as fiction goes, I read **Patricia Nell Warren's** *The Front Runner* about four times, along with the follow ups, *Harlan's Race* and *Billy's Boy*, but I also remember *Dancer from the Dance* (another one I read several times). Armistead Maupin's *Tales from the City* had a tremendous effect on me.

As far as nonfiction, a friend who knew before I did handed me a copy of *The Best Little Boy in the World* without saying a word — smart friend!

In the world of theater, I was, of course, also struck by Mart Crow-

THE FRONT FRONT RUNNER a novel about love by Patricia Nell Warren

Was, of course, also struck by Mart Crowley's *The Boys in the Band*, but I remember hearing scenes from *The Killing of Sister George* at high school speech tournaments and wondering if these girls had any clue as to the subject matter they were dealing with.

I was intrigued by the gay themes of both *Suddenly Last Summer* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (and how the film versions soft-soaped them), neither of which particularly depict being a gay man as a good thing! Come to think of it, neither *Boys in the Band* nor *Sister George* made being gay seem good! I was drawn to *all* of **Joe Orton**'s work, just because of the crazy openly gay life he led. Finally, I remember reading in French class about the relationship between **Verlaine** and **Rimbaud**, and I had to read *everything* they had written. Poems of love from one man to another...? It blew my mind.

when it reeks of cliché. The writing team behind "Better Than I Know Myself" channel their inner Diane Warren for this electro-ballad. The song is the stuff inspirational montages are made of for an episode of *Oprah's Lifeclass* or *Extreme Home Makeover*. Still, Lambert shows heart in his singing and keeps it afloat. The same goes for the stripped-down "Underneath" and the mis-

step "Outlaws of Love:" Lambert is sexy on the former, but the drama yawns from the latter which is a tragic fate to end the album's dozen tracks.

1 *

TRESPASSING

Adam Lambert

RCA Records

RE

But wait, there's more! No pop star would be complete without the special edition of their own new album — you know, instead of just putting the tracks on the regular listing. Lambert is no exception. Three extras add to the deluxe package. He scores big with "Runnin,"

which rocks in all the right areas and has some of that intensity that we hear often from fellow *AI* alum Kelly Clarkson. There is an epic quality to the track and displays a matured song construction. While other songs grabbed my attention, this song demanded immediate repeats.

Following up with "Take Back," the album forgets the buzzkilling "Outlaws." Lambert flexes big time muscle and takes home the trophy with this track and we're back on a big up. These two tracks make the special edition a worthy purchase. Glamberts will already get this version, but he expands his talents superbly here.

Having said that, he repeats the same earlier mistakes by the finishing off with the dragging "Nirvana." The song deflates all that great energy we worked so hard to enjoy. But Lambert's smart to take time between albums and it shows in *Trespassing* with major growth. This is what makes him exciting. Mistakes can be made, but he's on the right track to really be a major influence in pop music.

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LIFE+STYLE mother's day

Queen to a Queen

And when they do *drag*? Well, let's just say not all moms and dads readily embrace their kids.

Not so with Joe Hoselton, known professionally as drag diva Jenna Skyy. Hoselton's parents, who live in Arlington, could not be happier with their son's talent.

For this Mother's Day weekend, we asked Joe and his mom Carmen to come by, and for Carmen to tell us a little about what she thinks of her son's alter ego. One thing is clear: She's as proud of him as he is of her. Even a queen has his queen. — Arnold Wayne Jones

Diva Jenna Skyy spells 'mother' C-A-R-M-E-N

Dallas Voice: Who's better at makeup? Who gives whom advice? Carmen Hoselton: I don't know. He's never asked me and I don't wear a lot of makeup.

When did you first see Joe perform in drag? Several years ago at Gay Bingo at the Lakewood Theater. And what do you think of Jenna Skyy? I think she's beautiful. Absolutely. Even if she wasn't Joe, she does a

wonderful job — she just takes my breath away. But I don't like it when [Jenna] wears the pale lipstick. What's your favorite gift to get for Mother's Day? When they come to visit. That's all I want — their time.

How many children do you have? Three sons and nine grandkids (ages 11 to 19).

What are you most looking forward to about this Mother's Day? Several are coming to visit me. They aren't all where I can see 'em, but it's nice so many will be there.

ALL ABOUT HIS MOTHER | Joe Hoselton aka Jenny Skyy wears more makeup than mom Carmen, but she's the queen in his life. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Score card: A gay travel book for the sexually adventurous man

We all know it, so I'm just THEGAY gonna come RAVE out and say it: Dallas is a bottom-FOR TOPS AND BOTTOMS heavy town and I don't mean By Drew Blancs we work out our glutes more here than in ICON EMPIRE PRESS Houston For gay men who

identify as tops, there's a smorgasbord; those who are tops are practically unicorns. Or is that really the case?

The Gay Travel Guide for Tops and Bottoms by Drew Blancs is not, despite its name, a hook-up directory for sexual tourists hoping to find willing men by address or locale. Rather, it's a tongue-in-well, let's say-cheek travelogue where two men — one a bottom, one a top travel the world and recount how successful their escapades are when the word "versatile" is not in your playbook.

So what cities should, ummm, you target, most-of-Dallas? Well, you have to read the book. Or I can check my little black book and help you find what you're looking for. -AW.I

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L+S | opera

Tosca stand

To play the villainous Scarpia in FWO's 'Tosca,' happily coupled barihunk Michael Chioldi dug deep

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer

or his entire professional life, Michael Chioldi has done nothing but sing opera. Yes, he has moments while listening to Jason Mraz when he wishes, just for a second, he could

do that. But there is no need for the gay baritone to venture far from his world — it's not in his nature. "My physical voice is built for something dif-

ferent," Chioldi says. "I feel I'm doing what I'm supposed to in my life. People search for that their whole lives. I've been fortunate."

Chioldi plays the powerful Baron Scarpia in the Puccini opera *Tosca*, which opens the 2012 Fort Worth Opera Festival. The role represents a homecoming: FWO artistic director Darren Keith Woods bestowed Chioldi w

Keith Woods bestowed Chioldi with his first Scarpia there in 2005. "This is my third time back and it feels like

home and that's great to return to a place you feel loved and appreciated," he says. "It's interesting to come back to it years later as a matured singer and person. Darren said he knew way before other people that I would sing this repertoire."

"I first heard Michael when I was still a singer and he was great even just out of college," Woods says. "I followed his career [and] when I first came to FWO, he auditioned for me. Even in his early 30s there was an intensity and color in his voice that let me know he would be a great Scarpia."

SOTTO VOCE | Baritone Michael Chioldi returns to the FWO for a third time.

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That wasn't the first time someone saw greatness in Chioldi. None other than Placido Domingo commended him, a mere opera pup of 25, on his X-factor quality.

"This was the first year Placido took over the Washington National Opera and also my first big role as the barber of Seville," Chioldi recalls. "He said, 'You have something that cannot be taught. You have *cha-reez-ma*.' When I was that young, ignorance was bliss. I was just like, 'Oh thank you maestro!' but I get it now. There is more

pressure in that knowledge now than then, but I'm prepared for that now — vocally, physically and emotionally."

His emotional strength is at its highest. Chioldi recently cele-

brated his first anniversary with Scott, his partner, proudly showing off the ring Scott gave him (a David Yurman!). He gushes sweetly about the man he describes as his better half.

Going in and out of relationships, Chioldi was rarely by himself. After a major heartbreak, he dated just so as not to be alone. While performing *Madama Butterfly* last year at the WNO, his gaze locked on the handsome stage manager.

"I admit his butt caught my eye at first," Chioldi confesses, "but when I met Scott, I knew right away. We made eyes and I played it very cool just like Scarpia. But when we kissed, I knew I was in trouble. I mean, I was 40 years old and getting those butterfly feelings. He had awoken something inside me. I know now what it's like to completely trust someone."

He chalks up their compatibility to their similar upbringings. Chioldi even calls it old-fashioned but he ponders the almost religious feeling of it.

"Monogamy is built within me and it goes into a more spiritual level," he says. "With this business I'm in, I have to be a people person, but he's very grounding and calms me down. He's very reassuring."

Chioldi firmly believes in art reflecting life. But at such a happy time in his life, how does he pull off snidely villains?

"Inevitably, how you feel translates into something palpable. I remember the not so happy times and singing an aria about heartbreak is hard," he says. "But what I've learned is to use that energy and enhance my performance. The process in getting there is like therapy and I can work out some issues while playing and developing these characters."

Chioldi and Tosca director Danny Pelzig have worked to embolden Scarpia with a smoldering presence, adding sexual tension to the triangle of characters in the show. Chioldi has no problem being sexy. His hulking stature, good looks and voice merge to enhance the character's conniving ways — which all fulfilled Woods' prophecy.

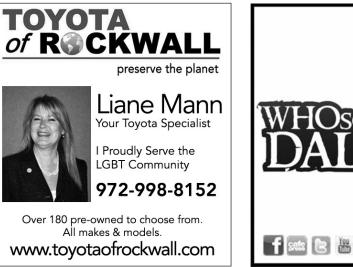
"He was and is the perfect Scarpia," Woods says. "He has an unparalleled passion in his singing, he's a great actor and a sexy man. I knew he would bring a character that would be at once malicious, hateful and crazy, but wrapped up in a sexy package."

WHAT I'M READING Harold Steward, artistic director of Fahari Arts. I'm currently reading Disidentifications: Queers of Color and the Performance of Politics by Jose Esteban Munoz and Black Male: Representations of Mas-



culinity in Contemporary American Art by Thelma Golden. I wanted to be prepared for the lecture on Munoz's book and Glenn Ligon's art exhibit at The Modern.

These books are informing my creative investigations around the subject of black male identity. I'm writing a piece called "For My Own Protection," about my quest to understand myself as a black gay man in American in light of the Brandon White story in Atlanta, the situation with my pastor and friend, conversations about the aesthetics of black gay male relationships of our generation, Trayvon Martin and hate crimes in Dallas. These two are really helping to identify and focus on some of these notions within myself.



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'Memphis' belle

Joe DiPietro is the straightest gay guy in musical theater. And he's fine with it

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



Joe DiPietro is the man behind I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, which can fairly be called the straightest musical ever written ... well, that and Memphis, another of his shows, which opens at Fair Park on Tuesday. So it might surprise fans of his

musicals to know that DiPietro is an openly gay man.

It probably won't be news to those who know him through his plays, however: His mystery The Art of Murder (currently in revival at Theatre 3) is pretty gay, as is his all-male take on La Ronde, which has the most provocative name of any play ever written: Fucking Men.

In short, anyone trying to find a common thread among his work might end up confused.

"I get that all the time, but I like that," he shrugs. "For whatever reason, I'm a writer who never likes to write the same show twice. I really like to explore. If I consider myself anything, I think I write dramas that are generally a comedy at heart."

It's not like DiPietro is in the closet, or one of those "I don't like labels" gays. Fucking Men is as queer as theater gets — and "it has played very well," he insists, at least in the few places that have dared to produce it.

"With that aggressive a title, you don't expect

it to play subscription theaters, but it's something I wanted to express," he says. "I write so many commercial things, I did Fucking Men just to have 10 guys talking about sex. I thought it'll never get performed. And then some producers said they'd produce it if I changed the title, but I said no. Women really like the show because it's about men talking about intimacy without any heterosexual barriers. La Ronde is about people trying to connect. That's the same subject matter if not style of [ILYYPNC]."

There might be a theme after all. And it's not like he hasn't tried to incorporate gay themes into his other works.

"In an out-of-town tryout for ILYYPNC, we *had* a gay couple," he says. "But I remember thinking 'this is not the world for our play even as the gay guy, I'm confused about what this is.""

That's true as well for *Memphis*. While the plot is basically Hairspray — a Southern DJ breaks the "race music" barrier putting black musicians on the air, then falls for one of the artists he discovers — there's no room for drag or gay jokes. It just wouldn't fit.

"The plot is loosely based on a DJ who used to exist, but I developed his persona and the whole thread of his life," says DiPietro. That character is among the quirkiest to lead a Broadway musical; that was always in the plan, too.

"I thought about the first people to actually play the stuff on the air, and it was dangerous

AVERAGE JOE | Gay playwright Joe DiPietro, inset, didn't put any queer content in his Tony-winning musical 'Memphis,' above - he saved it for the provocatively named 'Fucking Men.' (Photo by Paul Kolnik)

what they did, so they had to be a *little* crazy," he reasons. "You have to take whatever energy that made them different and convey it onstage. And that's what this guy is — all nerve endings. He does what he does because he can't help it. Oftentimes, the people who do stuff at first and what makes them huge risk-takers going out on a limb. The first two or three years, [rock 'n' roll] was considered a fad. Once it was hip and other

people could make money from it, the pioneers were seen as too reckless."

The concept has worked: *Memphis* recently became to 100th longest running show in Broadway history, and DiPietro has the awards to prove why —

though even he agrees *Memphis'* stunning success at the Tonys two years ago owed much to it being one of the few new musicals on Broadway its season with a totally original score.

"That's absolutely true," he says. "Stuff goes in waves. When I look at the Broadway season we came in, it was after the market crash. A lot of the new musicals being developed lost their financing. We came in very early and then all the big musicals that came in didn't live up to their hype. We weren't based on a movie, we didn't have Hugh Jackman — though I would have rewritten the role with him, *and* added a shower scene — and we had lasted the whole season." Not that DiPietro has anything against juke-

3 MOST IMPORTANT LESBIAN BOOKS

Carsen Taite, pictured right, is a Dallas-based author of lesbian fiction. Her next mystery novel, Slingshot, will be published in June (the first in a series involving a bounty hunter); Beyond Innocence (a romance centered around a death penalty appeal) follows in November. CarsenTaite.com.

J. M. Redmann's Micky Knight series (*Death by* the Riverside, Deaths of Jocasta, The Intersection of Law and Desire, Lost Daughters, Death of a Dying Man, Watermark, III Will). Michele "Micky" Knight is a hard-boiled detective who lives and works in New Orleans. Lesbian mystery lovers who were drawn to independent women detectives crafted by the likes of Sue Grafton and Sara Paretsky finally found a dyke dick worthy of their love in the unabashedly out, rough and tumble Micky. The mysteries are current, issue-driven and exciting, but it's the depth of Micky's character that keeps us coming back for more.

Beebo Brinker by Ann Bannon. Bannon broke

new ground in 1962 in this pulp fiction novel by introducing a young butch lesbian, living openly in New York City. The most remarkable thing about Beebo is that while she does suffer some tragedy, she herself (unlike many lesbian characters in books of that era) is not a tragic character. She doesn't live on the fringe of society, but in the thick of it and she bravely presents as exactly what she is: A butch woman who loves women and who will not compromise her desires in order to conform.

MEMPHIS

Fair Park Music Hall,

901 First Ave. May 15-27.

DallasSummerMusicals.org.



Beggar of Love by Lee Lynch. While I enjoy character-driven books, I think plot is equally important, but when it comes to naming the most important books, strong characters that reflect us as a community stand out in my mind. Amelia Jefferson is an anti-hero whose reckless journey through life causes us to admire and despise her by turns. We rejoice her relentless pursuit of happiness, but reject her selfish methods. Lynch doesn't pull any punches — Jefferson isn't the kind of character who gets a traditional happily ever after (which I happen to enjoy), but instead we witness how moral issues, like addiction and internalized homophobia, can shape both the development and disintegration of one of us.

I'M READING NOW: *III Will*. A great stand-alone mystery, tackling issues relating to healthcare, but also a rich addition to the Micky Knight series.

box musicals. When we talk, he's knee-deep working on his own, employing the music of the Gershwins: *Nice Work If You Can It*, starring Matthew Broderick and Kelli O'Hara. Just last week, DiPietro was again nominated for a Tony Award for his writing.

"I've been around long enough to enjoy this no matter what happens," he says of awards, though he has fond memories of his wins in 2010.

> "They did the pre-show stuff and we literally sit down and they announce David [Bryan] won for orchestrations. Then they announced best score [for which he was nominated for his lyrics] and I remember sitting and

thinking, 'Oh my God! I just won a Tony Award, too! How interesting.' I walked off stage and the stage manager said 'Wait.' And then they presented me with best book of a musical. In the first five minutes, David and I had won two Tony Awards each." They eventually went on to win best musical, too, but not even that was the icing on the cake.

"The best part about the Tonys was, my exboyfriend was in the theater that night — his boyfriend was a producer on another show we beat."

Ah, yes: Revenge. Every gay man appreciates it. Even one famous for writing *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change.*





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LIFE+STYLE

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Saturday 05.12

We are family

The HRC Family Project hosts this workshop to explore conceivable options for LGBT persons, couples and families. The workshop will touch on surrogacy, foster care adoption issues and more. Continental breakfast served.

DEETS: Warwick Melrose Hotel, 3015 Oak Lawn Ave. 9 a.m.–noon. Free. HRCFamilyProject.eventbrite.com.

Saturday 05.12

Ride like the wind

Bust out the gay pride rainbow kites for this one of a kind outdoor fest. Celebrating all things windrelated, the Trinity River Wind Festival features kite teams, hot air balloon exhibits and a performance by the Dallas Wind Symphony. But the best part is the wide open fields and sky to let your kite fly high.

DEETS: Trinity River floodway at Riverfront Boulevard and Commerce Street. Noon. Free. TrinityRiverWindFestival.com.

Tuesday 05.15

The ol' switcheroo

Stage diva Betty Buckley performs a slew of Broadway hits normally performed by the male gender in *Ah Men! The Boys of Broadway* with pianist Christian Jacob. She follows each show with a Q&A after.

DEETS: The Modern, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. Through Wed. 7:30 p.m. \$45. TheModern.org.







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calendar

FRIDAY 05.11

COMMUNITY

High Tech Happy Hour. The monthly event hosted by the LGBT employees group at Texas Instruments is open to all. Ristorante Nicola, 8111 Preston Road. 5:30 p.m. 214-379-1111.

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

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

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

Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. Fridays–Saturdays and Tuesdays– Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Thursdays at 4 p.m. YouthFirstTexas.org.

ART

214 Trans4M featuring the work of Daniel Kusner and Bryan Amann. The photography exhibit features trans and female impersonating models against Dallas landmarks playing off the conservative tones of the city. Kessler X+ Gallery, 1230 W. Davis St. Through May 20. TheKessler.org.

Visible Shell. Local out photographer and artist Erica Felicella expands her work into this performance art piece. She will be encased in a Plexiglas for 48 hours shell where she will use the sanctum to contemplate her emotional space with no interaction with the outside world. Green Space, 502 No. Clinton Road. Through Sunday. 5 p.m. EricaFelicella.com.

THEATER

Big Hairy Alligator: An Evening of Short Plays. Works by Christopher Stephen Soden and David Bernard Houck perform for two nights only. Produced and directed by Jon Christie for Dark Horse Productions. Nouveau 47 Theatre, 1121 First Ave. 8 p.m. Sunday at 9 p.m. Pay what you can. Nouveau47.com.

SATURDAY 05.12

COMMUNITY

LGBT Family Building Workshop. The HRC Family Project hosts this workshop to explore conceivable options for LGBT persons, couples and families. The workshop will touch on surrogacy, foster care adoption issues and more. Continental breakfast served. Warwick Melrose Hotel, 3015 Oak Lawn Ave. 9 a.m. Free. HRCFamilyProject.eventbrite.com.

Cedar Springs Sidewalk Sale. Merchants team up with DFW Rescue to include pet adoptions during the event. Cedar Springs Road at Throckmorton St. 10 a.m. ShopCedarSprings.com.

Choctaw Casino/Bingo trip leaves the second Saturday of every month from 709 Magnolia St., Arlington. \$7. Call 817-548-8110 for more information and to RSVP.



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

Dallas FrontRunners fun run. Runners and walkers at all levels welcome. Meet under the statue at Lee Park at 8 a.m. They convene after for breakfast in the area. FrontrunnersDallas.org.

DFW Prime Timers play bingo at private residence. Call 972-504-8866 for information.

BROADCAST

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

SUNDAY 05.13

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

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

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

DFW Prime Timers play Uno at private residence. Call 972-504-8866 for information.

MONDAY 05.14

COMMUNITY

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

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

DFW Prime Timers play bridge every week at member's residence. 1 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for more information.

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

Leadership Lambda Toastmasters meets to improve public speaking and leadership skills. Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30–8 p.m. 214-543-5860.

Mindful Monday Meditation hosted by Fit for Faith. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

CONCERT

Sheryl Crow. The Grammy winner performs a benefit show for Vogel Alcove. Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. 8 p.m. \$50–\$250. DallasCulture.org.

TUESDAY 05.15

COMMUNITY

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

JEWEL Lesbian Fiction Book Club meets on the third Tuesday. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Visit website for meeting dates if they change due to author's availability. RCDallas.org.

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY 05.16

COMMUNITY

Legacy of Success Community Mixer encourages community networking and meets every third Wednesday. Catfish Blues, 1011 S. Corinth St. 6:30 p.m. LOSF.org. **FUSE Activity Nights**. The "official FUSE hangout night" with games, food and more . 7 p.m. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 214-540-4435. DFWFuse.com.

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

DFW Prime Timers Prime Lunch at Neuhaus Cafe, 5959 Royal Lane. Noon. The group meets later to play bridge every week. 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is Steven Pace of AIDS Interfaith Network. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 05.17

COMMUNITY

GAIN Social Event. The The LGBT Aging Interest Network convenes for a special social outing at Two Corks and a Bottle, 2800 Routh St. Call Kee at 214-540-4440 for more information. RCDallas.org.

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

The Rotary Club of Dallas-Uptown meets every Thursday. All visitors are welcome. Hully and Mo's, 2800 Routh St. 11:45 –1:00 p.m. DallasUptownRotary.org

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

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

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

Visit DallasVoice.com for more community listings. Email Calendar@DallasVoice.com to include your organization's schedule and special events.

this week's solution



CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

Jordan Knight turns 42 on Thursday. The New Kids on the Block lead singer recently took to Twitter to respond to actor Kirk Cameron's recent anti-gay comments back in March. Fellow NKOTB member and older brother Jonathan Knight came out publicly last year. The two recently have been on tour with boy band contemporaries Backstreet Boys.



ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Long bottled-up energy comes out like gangbusters. Focus that into constructive work and exercise, but overdoing it is harmful. Give yourself a break. You need them more than you know.

By Jack Fertig

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Focus on the root of your anxieties and explore constructive solutions and improvements with a confidante. Sometimes things have to unravel a bit to be properly mended. You'll be OK.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

When little things that worried your mother come back to haunt you look at how her anxieties have seeded your own. Facing that can be challenging, but clarity can make you a lot stronger.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Anxiety about your career is exaggerated. Your friends paint an optimistic picture because they're your friends. Schedule time in the coming weeks for long, warm, soul-nurturing soaks.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

If too much work has you neglecting your partner, make some changes. A recent good run on the job may have ended with you hitting a brick wall. Some time off will give you a fresh start.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

You score more points for confidence than for accuracy. You will realize your mistakes even if nobody else does. When you really want to challenge others with information challenge yourself first

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Competitiveness pushes you to your limits. Quick reparations will give you credit for honesty and grace. Stewing over problems can undermine your health and credibility.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Finding others who share your bleak view offers assurance now, but they'll drag you down later. Find a creative outlet, perhaps scribing a romantic tragedy or dystopian sci-fi story.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Honesty with your partner reveals more than either of you wanted to know. Keeping your relationship together requires revising agreements. This will improve things in the long run.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Whine about your job with your friends. Take responsibility for your share and then take that back to your boss and colleagues. Well-considered, constructive observations will be appreciated.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Make an effort to be kind and thoughtful. The Golden Rule holds up, believe it or not. Some of your insights may reveal more about you than you'd intended.

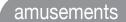
PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Find friends who will at least listen to your bleak foresights and maybe even believe them. At least get it all off your chest with someone who can sympathize and help you make a plan.

THIS WEEK

A lunar eclipse in Gemini has people blabbing about feelings, revealing too much. Be quiet, attentive and philosophical. Learn what you can.

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



JANE'S WORLD



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Circular Thinking

Solution on page 41

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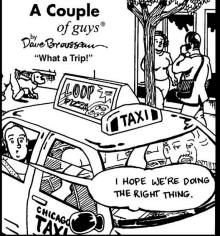
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BESIDES, I ASKED MY SERGEANT TO ALERT

THE PATROLS AROUND BILLY'S OFFICE,

DAVID'S DAY SPA AND THEIR APARTMENT

BUILDINGS

e-ma

acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com



Davergroussed

I FEEL FUNNY ABOUT COMING TO CHICAGO

FOR A LEATHER CONVENTION WHEN DAVID

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37 They may be split 42 Get in the sack 43 NG: Lisa's Friends role 44 Beauty and the Beast film frame 45 NG: Service volunteer 48 NG: Plumed bird 50 Tchaikovsky's fifth 51 Big load 52 Uninvited pool guests?



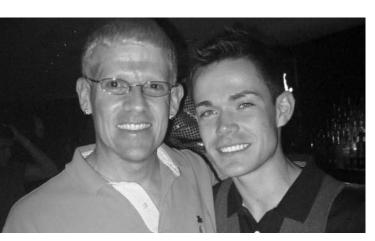




Girls' night out at Sue Ellen's.

For a good time, don't call us - read on. The Round-Up Saloon brings back its turn-a-about show Does Your Mother Know 2012 on Sunday. Start the week off the right way with Mark Alan Smith every Monday night for laughs and drag fabulosity. ... The Dallas Eagle hosts the Mr. Texas Leather Send-Off party Saturday night. Victoria Weston hosts From Buckskin to Broadway on Sunday. ... Lord Byron's Panoptikon plays out every Friday in Deep Ellum at 3025 Main St. (the old Club One spot) and he's offering a nice little gift. All you have to do is ust email Music@PanoptikonDallas.com and Byron himself will send you links to music download mixes. Um, yes, please. ... Jurni Rayne hosts Super Star Karaoke every Tuesday at J. Pepe's. ... Have you seen the new patio bar at JR.'s Bar & Grill. It's downtright major. ... Tommy Trash takes over the Lizard Lounge Saturday night. ... Krystal Summers hosts her All-Male Review every Tuesday night in Fort Worth at the Rainbow Lounge and we're jealous. ... Spend a whole day outdoors at the third annual Homegrown Music and Arts Festval in Downtown at the Main Street Garden Park. A day of Texas-bred music includes the lez-centric Girl in a Coma on the bill. ... Nosh out at the inaugural TX Food Truck Fest Friday and Saturday at Valley View Mall. With a buffet of some 30 trucks including Ssahm BBQ and Rock and Roll Tacos, the event benefits The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society as well as your stomach.

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



Donnie and Alan at Station 4.



Cel, Will and Richard at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



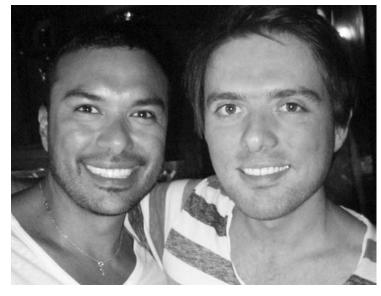
Omar and Dewayne at Drama Room.



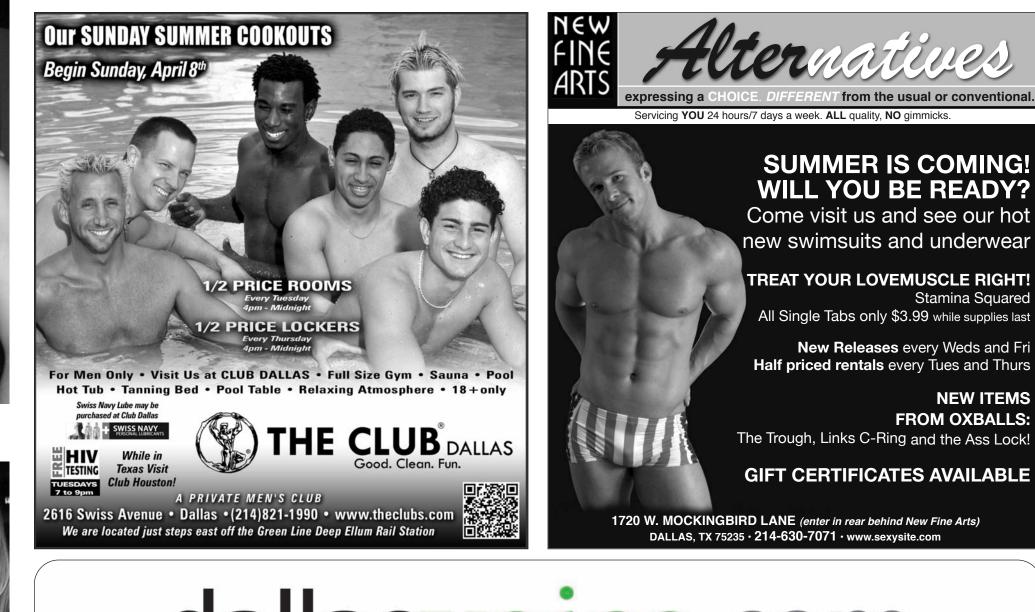
Stephanie and Sherri at 1851 Club.



Cory at the Dallas Eagle.



Greg and Brandon at the Round-Up Saloon.



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