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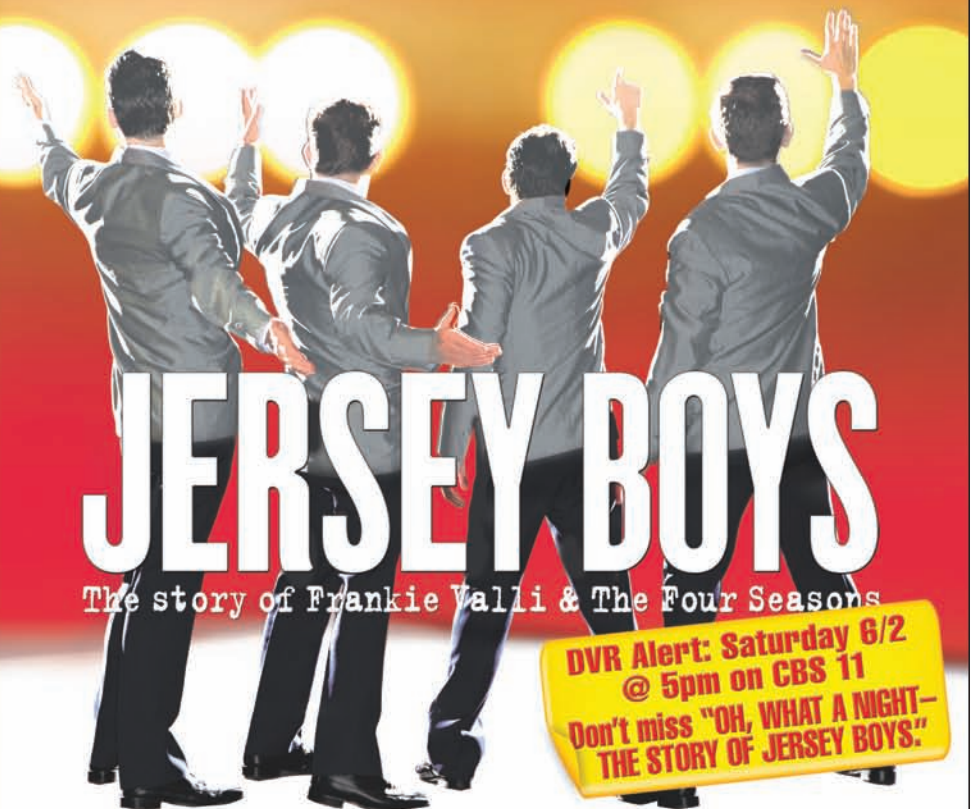
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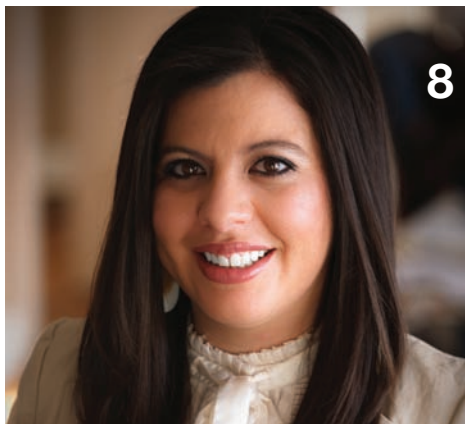
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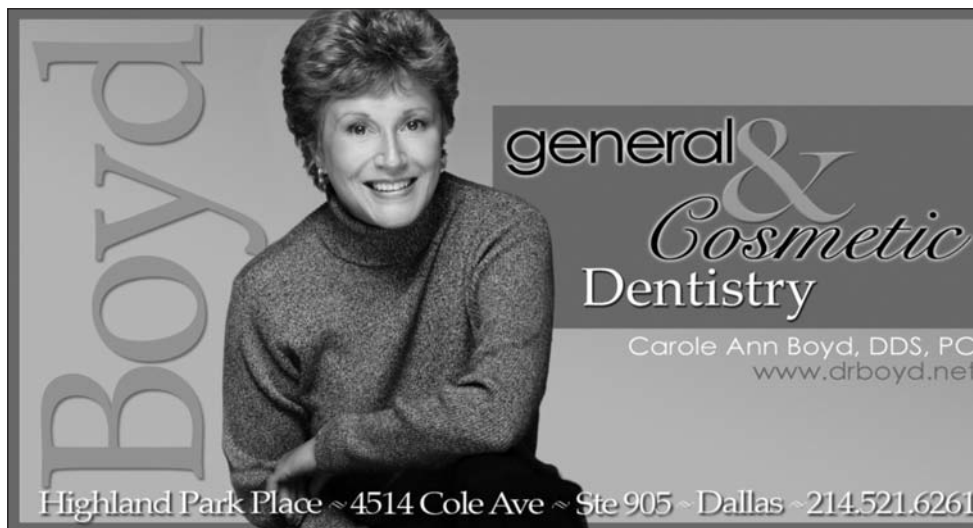
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Mom says Plano teen was attacked after defending lesbian friends

The mother of a Plano teen is upset about how police are handling the assault of her son on Sunday, May 27.

Her son, 18, was exiting the Plano Sports Authority, at 601 Seabrook Drive, when two men approached him and his two female friends, who were holding hands. The men made derogatory comments to the lesbian couple, prompting her son to step in.

The men then kicked and beat the teen, taking out a gun and hitting him with it before running off. The mother said her son went to the hospital and needed several stitches for cuts on his face. The son did not want to be identified and declined to comment.

His mother, however, was adamant about talking about the incident because it happened in the middle of the afternoon. She said Plano police initially told her not to file a report and she could not reach a detective until Tuesday.

"This is a violent hate crime because it happened because two girls were holding hands," she said. "The fact that it's not out there and nobody's saying anything is driving me completely insane. And that Plano just wants it to go away."

As for son standing up for his friends, she said her sister is a lesbian and she raised her son to respect others.

"My son's always stood up for all of his friends because he knows, like we do, that people have a right

to be who they are," she said.

David Tilley, a spokesman for the Plano Police Department, said the basic report mentions that a male and two female teens were in the 600 block of Seabrook Drive when two black males approached them. The men then attacked the male teen, kicking him and beating him with a gun before fleeing on foot.

He said the incident happened around 2 p.m. and police responded to the hospital, later returning to the scene to investigate. But the report does not mention what sparked the attack or any words that were exchanged between the teens and the men, Tilley said. He said it is up to investigators to determine whether it was a hate crime based on the investigation.

Detective Jerry Minton said investigators had learned that comments were made to the teen's female friends and that he was beaten up after he stood up for them. But Minton said he didn't know what the comments were.

The mother, whose name is being withheld to avoid identifying her son, said the comments started because the lesbian couple was showing affection. The mother said police told her they didn't want her to go public because it could compromise their investigation. But Tilley said police don't have a specific description of the men involved.

"They don't want people to know that a kid was assaulted in the middle of the afternoon in Plano in broad daylight, beaten with a gun, no one did anything about it and he was protecting his lesbian friends. They don't want that out there," she said. "I



RITE OF SPRING | About 100 youth ages 14 to 22 attended the Spring Formal at Youth First Texas on Saturday, May 26. Dinner was provided by Le Cordon Bleu Institute of Culinary Arts. DJ Matt Purvis kicked off the dance shortly after the doors opened at 7 p.m. and kept it going until midnight.

want it out there. Somebody has to know who these kids or guys are."

— Anna Waugh

American flag burned at home of gay Okla. lawmaker featured in DV

Oklahoma state Sen. Al McAffrey and his partner David Stinson woke up Saturday, May 26, to find that the American flag atop a flagpole in their front yard was on fire. Other than the burned flag and some scorched grass, no other damage was done.

"Early this morning sometime someone came to our house and set our American Flag on fire on the pole," Stinson wrote on his Facebook page. "You can

see the black in the grass. Set the grass on fire a bit. Could have been a lot wors[e]."

In an email to Instant Tea over the weekend, McAffrey said he didn't want to turn the incident into "some big hate crime media fiasco." Instead, he and Stinson were condemning it as sacrilege on Memorial Day weekend. According to the Daily Oklahoman, McAffrey flies the flag daily and replaced the burned flag on Saturday afternoon. The flag was set on fire while it was on top of the pole.

McAffrey did note that the incident happened a day after he was featured on the cover of Dallas Voice, but he isn't blaming us for the incident. It could have simply been a random act of vandalism.

— David Taffet

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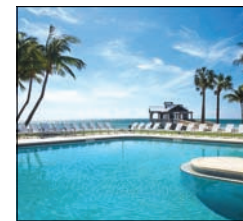
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Texas to get 1st lesbian state legislator

As Democrat Mary Gonzalez makes history in El Paso, gay Republican George Clayton of Richardson loses seat on State Board of Education

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

El Paso voters made history this week when they elected Democrat Mary Gonzalez to represent them in House District 75.

Gonzalez, a Latina lesbian who faced two chal-

lengers to replace retiring Rep. Chente Quintillia, won with 52 percent of the vote to avoid a runoff.

With no Republican in the race, Gonzalez will head to Austin in January and become the second openly LGBT legislator in Texas' history.

The first was state Rep. Glen Maxey, D-Austin, who served from 1991 until in 2003. Gonzalez, 28, will be the first openly LGBT female to serve in the Legislature.

Gonzalez told Dallas Voice she's honored that El Paso supported her so she can make a difference for her district.

"I feel excited to be part of making history, but I also think it's important that we talk about issues



during this race, and I didn't make it only about my identity but made it about education and about water and about roads," she said.

Gonzalez is working on her Ph.D. at the University of Texas at Austin and was scheduled to

finish it this year but may finish next year with the timing of the election. She currently teaches social justice at Southwestern University in Georgetown.

But her focus is clear. She said she wants to focus on infrastructure and education with hundreds of unincorporated areas that don't have roads, electricity or running water in her district, major issues she's ready to tackle when she takes office.

Gonzalez was the only candidate in the primary endorsed by Equality Texas' Texas Equity PAC.

"Mary's victory will bring a much-needed voice to the Texas Legislature," Equality Texas Executive

■ TEXAS, Page 12

NY comptroller, LGBT groups vow to keep up Exxon fight

Irving-based oil giant's shareholders again vote down job protections

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Local and national LGBT activists, along with New York state Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, vowed this week that their fight to get ExxonMobil to add LGBT employees to its nondiscrimination policy isn't over.

At a shareholder's meeting held in Dallas on May 30, the proposal was voted down by a margin of 20.6 percent to 79.4 percent.

DiNapoli called the vote "shameful."

Over the past several years, DiNapoli has negotiated policy changes successfully with 27 other corporations, including Dollar General, Equifax and Houston-based Dresser-Rand.

"ExxonMobil is clearly acting in a discriminatory way when it offers different benefits to its employees based only on the company's interpretation of legal marriage," DiNapoli wrote in an email to Dallas Voice after the vote. "It should do the right thing and implement a clear policy prohibiting discrimination. From the shareholders' standpoint, there's risk to the value of our investment until it does. I remain firmly committed to advocating for this resolution until ExxonMobil provides equality for all of its employees."

New York State Common Retirement Fund In-



NOT A BANNER DAY FOR EQUALITY | Protesters from GetEQUAL stretch a banner along Flora Street outside the Meyerson Symphony Center on Wednesday, May 30, during the ExxonMobil shareholders meeting, where the company again voted down LGBT employment protections. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

vestment Officer George Wong said his office will work with DiNapoli's to decide their next step, but DiNapoli made it clear that he believes ExxonMobil is violating New York state law.

"ExxonMobil's refusal to substantially implement a written equal employment opportunity policy allows the company to continue to deny domestic partner benefits to its employees in the United States and is in conflict with anti-discrimination and marriage equality statutes in New York State," he wrote.

Outside the meeting, dozens of protesters lined

Flora Street in front of the Meyerson on Wednesday. About 50 people with organizations including Code Pink, United Steel Workers and Occupy Dallas joined GetEQUAL Texas protesters to shout for equality and ending discrimination, while a handful of protesters parodied the CEOs that make the choices and profit from ExxonMobil.

Daniel Cates, North Texas regional coordinator for GetEQUAL, who helped organized the protest, said before the vote that the company is "clinging to antiquated business practices."

"It's a matter of really learning that this is good

for business," Cates said.

Dallas activist Cd Kirven carried a banner for GetEQUAL Texas.

"I am representing the families of people who work for Exxon," she said. "The ones who are afraid to come out and speak for themselves. And I'll continue coming until the policy changes or the law changes, which Exxon will be required to follow."

Rafael McDonnell of Resource Center Dallas, which has also been pushing the Irving-based cor-

■ EXXON, Page 11

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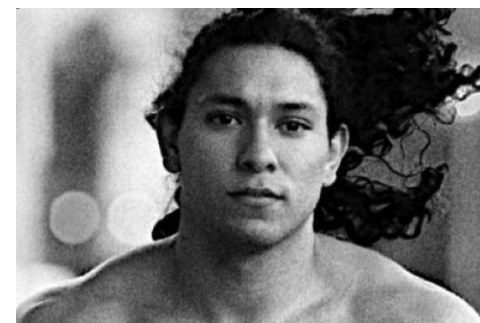
J.C. Penney, Adair Lion to receive Allly Awards from Equality Texas

Equality Texas named its first Ally Award winners to recognize individuals, businesses and civic leaders that have advanced equality for all Texans during the past year.

Rapper-singer-producer Adair Lion and Miss West Texas Kaylee Anne Keith are the individuals of the year. Lion rapped that "being gay is okay" on a new CD to be released on June 25. Keith, Lion's fiancée, was crowned on the platform of "bullying awareness and prevention." She has brought her message of bullying awareness to schools across the state.

J.C. Penney was named business of the year. Despite the threat of a boycott after hiring Ellen DeGeneres as its spokesperson, CEO Ron Johnson said, "We stand squarely behind Ellen as our spokesperson and that's a great thing, because she shares the same values that we do in our company."

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden were named civic leaders of the year after they made history by publicly supporting marriage equality.



Adair Lion

first transgender woman named to that board.

Anderson serves as the senior minister at the Living Faith Covenant Church in Dallas. She also serves as the lead minister to TransSaints Ministries of the Southern Region of The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries.

She works with Richland College to provide services to potential and current students seeking to further their education on a college level and volunteers with Resource Center Dallas, AIDS Arms, United Black Ellument and UT Southwestern on transgender issues.

"Carmarion has a positive history of advocacy for the Trans community locally and nationally. Her spiritual leadership and commitment to excellence are those qualities that set her apart from so many others and have earned her a seat on this board," DFW Pride Movement Board President Venton Jones said.

Transgender minister named to board of DFW Pride Movement

Carmarion D. Anderson was named to the board of the DFW Pride Movement. She is the

pet of the week / BARNEY

Barney is a handsome black-and-tan retriever-border collie mix. He's 1 year old and full grown at 40 pounds. Barney is super-friendly, with a happy disposition and winning personality. He seems to be good with other dogs and never meets a stranger.

Barney and many other dogs, puppies, cats and kittens are available for adoption from Dallas Animal Services, 1818 N. Westmoreland at I-30, just minutes west of Downtown Dallas. The shelter is open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Sundays 12 noon-5 p.m. The regular adoption cost is \$85 for dogs and \$55 for cats, but discounts are offered for older animals and those in the shelter longer than 45 days, and to senior citizens and those who adopt two animals at the same time. In addition, throughout the month of June, all adoptions are just \$30 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All dogs are tested for heartworms, and cats have been tested for FeLV. For more information, visit www.DallasAnimalServices.org, or call 214-671-0249.



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OCCUPYING THE ARTS DISTRICT | LGBT activists were joined by protesters from groups including Code Pink, United Steel Workers, the Sierra Club and Occupy Dallas. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

■ **EXXON**, From Page 8

poration to add LGBT protections, said Wednesday's vote was "disappointing" but not "the end of the issue for us."

"We're going to continue to reach out and engage them," McDonnell said. "I think the White House needs to go back and revisit this executive order."

An executive order could require federal contractors to include sexual orientation and gender identity in their nondiscrimination policies. ExxonMobil has received more than \$1 billion in federal contracts over the past decade.

In response to Wednesday's vote, the national employment nondiscrimination group Freedom to Work announced it would redouble its efforts to persuade the president to issue an executive order.

Freedom to Work founder and President Tico Almeida called ExxonMobil's practices "Near-detherthal."

"It's time for White House staff to follow through on this promise and join the campaign to persuade ExxonMobil to adopt official policies protecting our freedom to work without discrimination," Almeida said in a statement.

The Human Rights Campaign issued a statement noting that as of 2012, 86 percent of Fortune 500 companies include sexual orientation in their EEO policies, while 50 percent include gender identity.

"The shareholder resolution to add sexual orientation and gender identity to ExxonMobil's EEO policy was a non-binding referendum and the company still has the chance to do the right thing," HRC President Joe Solmonese said. "The company has resisted offering basic employment protections for their LGBT workers for years and it's time they treat all of their employees like the valuable assets they are."

In its nondiscrimination policies, ExxonMobil

only includes those categories that are mandated by law. That includes sexual orientation and gender identity in countries that require those categories to be enumerated.

"ExxonMobil favors a blanket approach to its global policies on discrimination and harassment, in saying that it promotes a workplace free of all forms of harassment and unlawful discrimination," the company wrote in an explanation of why it recommended a "no" vote on the resolution.

However, in the U.S. discrimination based on sexual orientation is not unlawful.

ExxonMobil currently has a rating of minus-25 on the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index. Had the resolution passed and the board voted to add sexual orientation and gender identity to its policy, the company's rating would rise to 5.

The resolution to amend the policy has been introduced each year since Mobil and Exxon merged in 1999. The highest level of support came in 2008 at nearly 40 percent.

Mobil was one of the first companies in the world to include sexual orientation in its nondiscrimination policy and offer benefits to the same-sex partners of gay employees. But ExxonMobil rescinded those policies after the merger.

ExxonMobil has called the measure unnecessary. It says the company is a "meritocracy" for its 82,000 workers worldwide, and that it already prohibits all forms of discrimination.

For the first time ExxonMobil appealed to the Securities and Exchange Commission this year to have the shareholder resolution thrown out.

The company based its claim on a nondiscrimination statement in its Corporate Careers publication.

The SEC refused to allow ExxonMobil to throw out the resolution, saying the publication doesn't have the weight of a corporate nondiscrimination policy. ■

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■ TEXAS, From Page 8

Director Dennis Coleman said in a statement. "Every state legislature that has made progress on equality legislation has done so with the help and support of openly LGBT lawmakers. We look forward to working with Mary in El Paso and in Austin."

Texas is one of 18 states that lack an LGBT legislator. Having one is vital to passing relationship recognition, according to the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, which also backed Gonzalez.

"This is a big victory for Mary, for El Paso and for Texas," said Chuck Wolfe, president and CEO of the Victory Fund. "The people of El Paso will be represented by a talented and committed fighter who knows how to get things done in Austin. And LGBT Texans will be represented by an authentic voice in the Capitol, standing up and speaking out for fairness and freedom for all."

As some in the Texas LGBT community celebrated the historic victory by Gonzalez, others were lamenting the defeat of openly gay Republican State Board of Education member George Clayton, who lost his District 12 seat, missing a runoff by less than 1 percent, or 603 votes.

Clayton, believed to be the state's first gay GOP officeholder, was outed in a whisper campaign last year after being elected in 2010, when he knocked off incumbent Geraldine "Tincy" Miller, who had served on the board for more than 20 years unopposed.

Miller and Gail Spurlock, who ran on an ultra-conservative tea party platform and doesn't have a college degree, made the runoff.

Clayton didn't immediately respond to a request for comment this week.

Rob Schlein, president of gay GOP group Metroplex Republicans of Dallas, said Clayton's loss was the biggest surprise of the primary. With four candidates in the race, Schlein anticipated a runoff but thought Clayton would be in it.

Schlein said Miller was the top vote-getter because she spent so much more on her campaign for her old seat, adding that Clayton has said his sexuality didn't come up on the campaign trail after he was outed.

"Even by George's own admission, the gay issue has never come up," Schlein said, adding that he had hoped Democrats would help Clayton win. "If there was any time a gay Democrat could've voted for a Republican, it would've been for George. Turnout was so low anyway that had the gay community really organized itself to vote Republican once for George Clayton, he could've at least gotten into a runoff."

A U.S. Senate runoff between Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and former solicitor Ted Cruz was expected, Schlein said. Dewhurst had more than a 10 percent lead on Cruz with 45 percent of the vote statewide, something Schlein said could help him in the runoff July 31.

The runoff for Senate could boost what is expected to be another low turnout in July, helping Schlein in his run for precinct chair in precinct 2041 in Far North Dallas.

He is running against longtime chair Homer Adams, husband of Cathie Adams, president of the anti-gay Texas Eagle Forum.



Mary Gonzalez

"July 31 is going to be tough. It's going to be about who gets the voters back out," Schlein said.

"But I suspect that with all the advertising that's going to go on, that at the end of day, Dewhurst has the advantage."

Schlein said Tuesday's results demonstrate that moderate Republicans are winning, with Cruz's tea party endorsement and Dewhurst's silence on gay issues — and especially same-sex marriage — during the primary.

"I think he knows that that issue [gay marriage] has been settled," Schlein said. "It's not the issue of the day. The issue of the day is the economy."

The other major runoff July 31 will be on the Democratic side, in Congressional District 33, where state Rep. Marc Veasey and former state Rep. Domingo Garcia will try to maintain strongholds in their respective counties while picking up more votes in the other's.

Garcia took Dallas County with 44 percent, with Veasey coming in second with 17 percent. In Tarrant County, Veasey captured 49 percent of the vote compared to Garcia's 14 percent. However, Veasey captured 37 percent overall to Garcia's 25 percent.

"For my part, I intend to continue talking to voters about my record of success as a legislator and my ideas for solving the issues that voters really care about," Veasey said in a statement.

Garcia said he campaigned a few months less than Veasey so was grateful for the runoff. He told Dallas Voice he was proud of the Dallas Stonewall Democrats endorsement and would focus on increasing his LGBT support among Tarrant County voters.

"We're still analyzing the results, but we're definitely going to continue our outreach programs and continue to get my strong civil rights record on LGBT issues and proven results to them in Tarrant County over the next 60 days," he said.

Omar Narvaez, president of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, said he was thrilled that Garcia, the group's endorsed candidate, made the runoff. Narvaez said Garcia's proven record of fighting the Dallas Police Department's ban on hiring gay officers as a city councilman — and his support in the state House for a hate crimes bill — is still remembered.

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OUTED FROM OFFICE | State Board of Education member George Clayton, right, shown with his partner of 34 years and campaign manager Jim Southworth, finished out of a runoff by less than one percentage point in his bid for re-election in District 12, which covers all of Collin County and parts of northern Dallas County. Clayton, the state's first openly gay GOP officeholder, was outed as gay last year in a whisper campaign led by a conservative group in Collin County. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

"We still believe Domingo Garcia is the right candidate for District 33 and will serve the LGBT community extremely well," Narvaez said. "Whatever needs that we have, he's already proven his relationship with us over the years."

Felipe Gutierrez, president of Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats, said he personally expected Garcia to do better. Gutierrez said Veasey had a strong showing and will most likely carry Tarrant County in the runoff because a third of his House district is in the congressional district.

One surprising result in Tarrant County was the close race in House District 90 between openly gay Fort Worth ISD board member Carlos Vasquez and state Rep. Lon Burnam. The result was 48 to 52 percent for Burnam, a difference of 158 votes. The absentee ballots, 318 for Burnam to Vasquez's 94, were the deciding factor in the race.

Gutierrez said he and others were surprised Vasquez came so close against an incumbent and strong LGBT supporter. Vasquez sought the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund endorsement but didn't receive it. However, the large Hispanic population in the district helped Vasquez along with the absentee votes, Gutierrez said.

"That district has a large Hispanic population and we all know that we Hispanics are growing in numbers and I think that helped Vasquez as well," he said. "To be fair to Lon, I think they [Hispanics] already have good representation."

Meanwhile, candidates in two races for Dallas County Commissioners Court avoided runoffs, as

Theresa Daniel in District 1 and John Wiley Price in District 3 captured more than 50 percent of the vote.

Narvaez said he's grateful Price won because he is a strong LGBT advocate and was pleased Daniel won her primary because she would be a strong ally as well.

On the Republican side, the contested race for county commissioner for District 1 became heated recently with Larry Miller, who won the primary, attacking Cecile Fernandez for her support of the county adding domestic partner benefits for employees.

Fernandez had gained support from the local chapter of Log Cabin Republicans. President Thomas Purdy wrote in an email that he and others attended her watch party and were "saddened" by the result, while others were angry.

"It was incredibly upsetting to see such a promising, qualified candidate such as Cecile lose an election simply because her opponent lacked the ability to build himself up and focused his efforts on tearing her down instead," Purdy wrote.

Purdy mentioned the "gay-baiting mailer" and Miller's other mailers that targeted Fernandez as "anti-family" because she is divorced.

"This race was politics at its worst, not public service at its best," Purdy wrote. "But I have to remind myself that change can be slow and the party has to keep supporting people like Cecile, those who run for the right reasons and do it the right way." ■

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City of Dallas to mark LGBT Pride Month

From Staff Reports

Pam Gerber, a member of District 1 Councilwoman Delia Jasso's LGBT Task Force, announced Wednesday, May 30, that the city of Dallas will host an unprecedented series of events in June to mark LGBT Pride Month. The series is titled "Honor, Educate & Celebrate: Pride Wednesdays in June with the City of Dallas."

According to a city flier provided by Gerber, the events begin Wednesday, June 6, with a "June Pride Kick-off" in the flag room at City Hall. Other events will be "City Services with the LGBT Community," a conversation with representatives from city service departments, at the Oak Lawn Library on June 13; "LGBT in the Public Eye," a conversation with out elected officials, at the United Black Ellument Cultural Center on June 20; and "Lift Every Voice," a conversation about LGBT contributions to the city, at City Hall on June 27.

A reception in the flag room at City Hall last year marked the first time the city has hosted an event in honor of LGBT Pride Month.

In an email announcing this year's events, Gerber recounts how she first asked City Council candidates at a forum last spring whether they would support the idea of raising the Pride flag at City Hall.

Gerber said all 15 candidates in attendance said



Pam Gerber

yes, but "some wanted to implement more than just a gesture — they expressed interest in building an educational process so that Dallas residents would understand the 'why' behind Pride month, using education to break down the barriers of one of the last bas-

tions of accepted bigotry in our country."

"Well it's now a year later, and thanks to the leadership of Councilmember Delia Jasso and her LGBT Task Force, the idea discussed during that election cycle has become a reality, and this June we will have a series of events to 'Honor, Educate and Celebrate' LGBT Pride month," Gerber wrote.

"Thank you for all that you have done over the years to make this historic series of events possible. Clearly, we have a lot to be proud of in Dallas."

PICTURE WORTH A THOUSAND DOLLARS



Dallas Voice promotions manager Terry Thompson, left, presents a check for \$1,000 to Shannon Kern. Kern was the winner of this year's My Gay Texas photo contest, and her chosen beneficiary was GetEQUAL Texas.



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Razzle Dazzle reboot returns

Organizers of Dallas' June gay Pride festival are shooting for increases in attendance, fundraising during 2nd installment since decade-long hiatus

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Organizers of Razzle Dazzle Dallas are hoping to double attendance and increase donations to beneficiaries compared to last year.

Dallas' June gay Pride celebration and fundraiser returned last year after a decade hiatus. The five-day event brought in \$60,000 for area

nonprofits.

This year, Razzle Dazzle Dallas will be a four-day festival running from June 6-9 on the Cedar Springs strip.

"We learned how to market and get word out," Cedar Springs Merchants Association Executive Director Scott Whittall said. "It took more than a year to get it going again."

Whittall said the group that stages Razzle Dazzle, which includes merchants, bar owners, nonprofit organizations and community volunteers, has learned to focus more on fundraising and marketing.

"We learned from the old parties," Whittall said. "It's a charity event. They got away from that. We're making sure everything is funded so



ROOM TO GROW | Organizers estimate between 15,000 and 20,000 attended the Razzle Dazzle Dallas Main Event on Saturday night last year. They hope that will double this year. (Chuck Dube/Dallas Voice)

every penny goes to charity."

After two decades of parties, the old Razzle Dazzle fizzled when expensive acts were brought to Cedar Springs to entertain, but revenue failed to cover expenses. Current organizers said all expenses this year are covered despite losing a major sponsor of last year's event.

One of the new fundraisers this year is a raffle for two travel packages.

The first package is to Vancouver Pride in August. The winner will receive airline tickets for two, hotel accommodations and admission to

Pride parties and events.

The second drawing is for a trip to Hawaii, which includes guesthouse accommodations at a private house with an ocean-front pool on the Big Island. Airfare is covered by an allowance of \$1,000.

Although Cedar Springs was fenced and entrance to the Main Event on Saturday night last year was controlled through gates, Whittall said organizers didn't get an accurate headcount. He estimated between 15,000 and 20,000 attended,

■ RAZZLE, Next Page

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GETTING THINGS CRANKED UP | Last year's Antique Car Show, which had been rescheduled from earlier in the spring due to bad weather, was so popular that it's become a permanent part of the main Saturday at Razzle Dazzle Dallas. This year, the Spectrum Motorcycle Show will be added. (Chuck Dube/Dallas Voice)

■ **RAZZLE**, From Previous Page

but he hopes to double that this year.

While admission to the street fair remains free, he said donation boxes will be at every entrance. And volunteers will be better trained to encourage attendees to donate to the beneficiaries.

"It's a free party for June Pride," he said, "But please give back. This is a fundraiser."

Committee member Jimmy Bartlett said the theme of Razzle Dazzle is "Back to the '80s." A retro band called the M-80s will perform on the main stage near the Round-Up Saloon on Saturday night.

On Thursday morning, the group will perform at the Melrose Hotel and Channel 8 will do a live remote during its early morning news show.

Bartlett said a community stage between JR's Bar & Grill and Skivvies sponsored by Caven Enterprises will feature Uptown Players and The Turtle Creek Chorale, among others. Patti LePlae Safe will host.

"This is the first year we're closing the street during the day," Bartlett said.

Among the new street activities will be a kid's jump house, a water slide and an 82-foot challenge game, Bartlett said.

But it will all be well within RDD's budget, thanks to steering committee member Chris Bengston.

"My job is to keep them from spending money," Bengston said.

She said money is tighter this year because one of last year's big sponsors cut back. But she said that a number of new sponsors have stepped in, including Red Bull and Stoli.

Bengston also works with the beneficiaries, and she said that they have stepped in by providing volunteers, selling raffle tickets and doing administrative work.

The four-day event begins June 6 with the Razzle Dazzle Days Cedar Springs Wine Walk and

Razzle Dazzle rundown

Wednesday, June 6

- 6 p.m.–9 p.m.
Razzle Dazzle Days Cedar Springs Wine Walk & Dog Walk

Thursday, June 7

- 9 p.m.–midnight
Jagermeister Oak Lawn Pub Crawl
Pickup bus at Cedar Springs Road and Throckmorton

Friday, June 8

- 7 p.m.–midnight
MetroBall at Station 4 featuring a concert by Taylor Dayne
\$25 in advance. \$30 at the door

Saturday, June 9

- 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Cedar Springs Merchants Sidewalk Sale
Classic Car Show
Spectrum Motorcycle Show
LifeWalk Waterpalooza

- 7 p.m.–midnight
Razzle Dazzle Dallas — The Main Event

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Loss of partner to AIDS spurred Razzle Dazzle chair to get involved

John Cooper-Lara also serves as president of Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund, which hosts MetroBall at S4 on June 8

M. M. ADJARIAN | Contributing Writer

John Cooper-Lara loves Oak Lawn. And that love shows in everything he does for the community.

This year, Cooper-Lara is again chairing Razzle Dazzle Dallas, a position he's held since the event returned from its nine-year hiatus in 2011.

The Arizona native first came to Oak Lawn in 1988 when J.C. Penney, the company he worked

for in Tucson, moved its corporate offices to North Texas. When Cooper-Lara relocated, he was working as a visual designer. By the time he left J.C. Penney in 1994, he was doing special events publicity.

A year later, Cooper-Lara lost his partner to AIDS. Personal tragedy spurred him and several of his friends who had suffered similar losses to form the Greg Dollgener AIDS Memorial Fund, a group dedicated to helping others in the LGBT community impacted by the disease. Cooper-Lara now serves as president of GDAMF, which holds its largest fundraiser, MetroBall, on Friday night, June 8, during Razzle Dazzle Dallas.

"It was intended to be a tribute to Greg [Dollgener's] teaching us how to be compassionate and supportive of the community and to carry on



DOUBLE DUTY | John Cooper-Lara, who serves as both chair of Razzle Dazzle and president of the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund, said in addition to the loss of his partner, he's motivated by a desire to help LGBT youth. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

the memory by doing things to help people [in need]," he said of the fund.

An important outgrowth of the GDAMF was the MetroBall, a Pride event intended to serve as a fundraiser for the organization. It made its formal debut in 2005 but existed more informally before then as a kind of backyard community party.

While these projects were taking shape, Cooper-Lara moved back to Tucson in 1998. His decision was motivated by a desire to be close to his parents, both of whom also work with HIV/AIDS organizations.

"Then I met somebody and ended up getting married," he said. "We journeyed to Washington state and came back to Dallas from Washington in 2006."

By the time Cooper-Lara had returned, the community party he had helped start had become the MetroBall, which was then in its second year. While its main goal was to raise money for the GDAMF and its activities, the MetroBall also aimed to foster awareness among teens and 20-somethings about HIV/AIDS.

■ **LOSS**, Next Page

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coverstory

■ LOSS, From Previous Page

"It's a lot harder to engage a younger generation into the conversation about AIDS, especially where prevention and care are concerned," Cooper-Lara says. "And so one of the ideas [behind MetroBall] was to create something that would attract a younger audience."

In 2007, he was elected GDAMF president. Cooper-Lara immediately became part of the emerging conversation among community volunteers, members of the Cedar Springs Merchants Association and those working within HIV/AIDS service organizations about reviving Razzle Dazzle.

"The old Razzle Dazzle, [which started in 1979 and ended in 2002], was a one-night event," he says. "But we felt it was important to create a festival that was responsive to the diversity of the community. That's why we have events that go from Wednesday, June 6, to Saturday, June 9—it's to give everybody a chance to participate."

The LGBT community had evolved considerably since the first Razzle Dazzle. Not only had it grown stronger and more self-aware, but it was also beginning to lay even more vocal claim to marriage and parenting rights for its members.

"We wanted to make Razzle Dazzle family-friendly," Cooper-Lara explains. "[The gay community is made up of] a diverse group of people now who have adopted children, surrogate chil-

dren and children from prior marriages."

The GDAMF president and his fellow activists also wanted to create an event that would put Oak Lawn—and Dallas—in the national spotlight.

"When it comes to June Pride events, Razzle Dazzle is one of the first ones in the country on the [Pride] schedule. We want for people from all over the country to come to Dallas and join the celebration," he says.

If attendance numbers are any indicator of the kind of success Cooper-Lara is looking for, he may see his wish fulfilled sooner rather than later. An estimated 15,000 people took part in festivities in 2011. But this year, the Razzle Dazzle steering committee expects that number to climb to more than 25,000.

Part of what drives Cooper-Lara to keep striving on behalf of the gay community is the memory of the partner and friends he lost to AIDS, as well as the work his parents have done in Tucson to help people and families suffering from HIV/AIDS. But another part is the need he feels to give back to a community that helped him define—and honor—who he was.

"[When I came out], I met some seniors in the gay community," he said. "They told me I had a history and that I was somebody. My job is to bring the next generation [forward]. They need to know that they're not alone and that there's a place for them because they'll be the ones to carry on the battles long after I quit doing this." ■

■ RAZZLE, From Page 16

the Cedar Springs Merchants Association has hired.

The Thursday evening pub crawl travels to four clubs off of Cedar Springs Road on the Jagermeister Party Buses beginning at 8 p.m. Each of the clubs features shows and entertainment. Board the buses at any of the clubs or at Throckmorton Street at Cedar Springs Road.

Participating clubs include BJ's NXS and Zippers on Fitzhugh Avenue, Kaliente on Maple Avenue and The Brick on Wycliff Avenue.

MetroBall on June 8 is the major annual fundraiser for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund, which provides emergency financial assistance to persons living with AIDS.

Taylor Dayne will be the featured entertainer at MetroBall. Raffles, auctions and dancing take place at Station 4 from 7 p.m. to midnight.

On Saturday, June 9, Cedar Springs Road will be closed all day for the Razzle Dazzle Day Festival.

Last year the Antique Car Show was supposed to be held earlier in the spring, but bad weather forced it to be rescheduled. When it was held during the street festival, the reaction was so positive that it's become a permanent part of Razzle Dazzle Dallas, and this year the Spectrum Motorcycle Show will be added.

Motorcycles will be on display on the patio at TMC and on the surrounding street.

At the Cedar Springs Art Fair, a number of artists who had very successful days asked to return, and a number of them will be part of a new

Razzle Dazzle beneficiaries

Razzle Dazzle Dallas:

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GLBT Leap
Legacy Counseling/Founders Cottage
Legal Hospice of Texas
Resource Center Dallas
Turtle Creek Chorale
Uptown Players

MetroBall:

The Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund

Mini Art Show.

And WaterPalooza, a fundraiser for AIDS Arms LifeWalk usually held later in the summer, will take place during the street festival.

The Razzle Dazzle main event street party will be from 7 p.m. to midnight.

All-access passports are on sale for \$100. The ticket includes admission to all events and entry to all VIP areas.

For the Wednesday wine walk, passport holders receive a wine glass and a \$200 merchant coupon book. Passport holders also may attend a VIP reception at the Melrose Hotel on Friday night, which includes complimentary food and liquor. On Saturday night, the passport includes free valet parking at ilume. ■

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viewpoints

Voter turnout hits perfect storm

Combination of factors led to only 5% participation in Dallas County Democratic Primary, but there's no good excuse for not going to polls

What if they gave an election and nobody came? On Tuesday, May 29, the state of Texas did give an election. Almost everybody stayed home.

Here are some specifics garnered from the Dallas County Democratic Party office on Wednesday, May 30.

Of the 1,127,643 Dallas County residents registered to vote, a mere 58,328 persons voted in the Democratic primary.

That was a miniscule 5.17 percent of the persons who could have voted. The 5.17 percent included those who voted by mail-in ballot and those who voted early.

More in the county voted early than is usual, but with voting totals so low, early voting made no difference.

By comparison, in 2008, when President Barack Obama was elected, the turnout in Dallas County was 26.57 percent.

That is still pathetic, but not as heartbreaking to those of us who always vote from some combination of hope and habit.

Here's another comparison. In 2010, just 5.03 percent of the registered voters in Dallas County turned out for the Democrats, just 8.6 percent for the Republicans. Ours has always been a low-voting state, but in 2010, Texas was dead last in voter turnout.

Why did and do eligible persons register and then skip the voting process?

You know the standard excuses. "If I sign up to vote, I'll get called for jury duty." "I don't have time to study the candidates or the issues." "My vote won't count anyway because (I'm a Blue Dog in a red state; I believe the system is rigged; I don't want people to see me at the polls)," etc.

Those are lame excuses, not worthy of any person who claims the other rights of citizenship, such as that most desirable of items, an American passport.

This year, though, some excuses are not so lame. Unless you follow state and national politics rather closely, you should get a pass for being confused.

First, there was the redistricting mess. As you no doubt know, our increase in population gave Texas the right to send four more persons to the U.S. House of Representatives. But before any other decisions could be made, current legislators in Austin and/or judges in San Antonio and/or others had to carve out four new congressional districts.



(AP file photo)

The possibility of sending four more persons devoted to "conservative" causes apparently caused the overwhelmingly Republican state government to lose all sense of proportion. They re-carved portions of our state quite dramatically.

That did not go unnoticed by Texas Democrats or federal officials. Thus redistricting became so tedious a process that it delayed the Texas primaries to this week.

Voter ID piled the mess higher and deeper. Republicans have long sought to make an issue of voter fraud, although the cases of ineligible persons seeking to vote are so few they are risible. Still, many Latinos, older African-Americans and poor rural Texans lack any of the photo IDs the Republicans wanted.

Voter ID is tied up in the courts and did not apply to this week's election.

But it was discussed so often in the media that the concept no doubt frightened some people away from the polls.

Then there was the recent issuance of new voter ID cards with new precinct numbers. Many did not/do not know that the first of the four digits refers to the voter's County Commissioners Court District. (Each Texas county has four commissioners plus a county judge.)

For example, my old precinct was 1214, so I was in CCD 1 — district of the retiring Maurine Dickey.

My new precinct is 2034, so I am now in CCD 2 — and Mike Cantrell, the court's only Republican, represents me.

The renumbering of other precincts may be more problematic. South of Lovers Lane and west of Inwood, the precincts are heavily African-American.

Their former 3XXX precinct numbers put them in the CCD of John Wylie Price. Their new 4XXX precinct numbers mean that the court's only Latina, Dr. Elba Garcia, represents them.

Adding another layer to the confusion was the reassignment of polling places. Some voters went to their customary location only to discover they were supposed to be somewhere else. In my area, for example, the Longfellow Career Academy on Boaz Street in Inwood Road had long hosted both Democratic and Republican voters. Democrats are few and so were moved. This is no one's "fault," but Republicans still get to vote at Longfellow.

Did you vote in your party's primary? If you are a Democrat, keep in mind what is at stake in the runoff.

Sheriff Lupe Valdez, the incumbent who is a member of our community and always stands with us, garnered just 7,000 more votes than the Republican she will face in November.

In the race for 162nd District Judge, Phyllis Lister Brown leads Maricela Moore by about the same number of votes. Moore won the endorsement of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas.

Those who live in new U.S. House District 33 will choose between Marc Veasey and Domingo Garcia. Garcia won the endorsement of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas.

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



Phyllis Guest
Taking Notes

Controversial BDSM-themed bestseller is 'Fifty Shades' of meh

Wildly popular novel featuring dominant-submissive relationship should come with a warning: Please don't try this at home

Fifty Shades of Grey has caused quite a stir among mainstream critics who don't quite know what to do with the kinkier aspects of the bestselling book.

In fact, the kink seems to be the only thing that anyone talks about, and it isn't surprising that, as a well-known gay leatherman, I've been asked repeatedly to give my take on it — and specifically about how realistic the BDSM in it is.

So I dug in and downloaded the e-book version to see what all the stir was about.

First, let me say, most literary depictions of kinky sex are either so tame as to be boring or so wildly improbable that they are laughable. The notable exceptions are books by authors who have real-life experience with some aspects of BDSM and can speak from experience.

For the uninitiated, BDSM is bondage, discipline, sado-masochism — or, alternately, the DS stands for Dominance and Submission and the SM can indicate Slave and Master. Just think

kinky and you get the idea.

This book, the first of a trilogy, falls into a new category: authors who learned about BDSM from the Internet — and, as everyone knows, everything must be true on the Internet.

The book, in fact, first appeared as fan fiction with different character names and a few details changed. It was serialized on the web and it reads like it. While characters with names like Christian Grey and Anastasia Rose Steele might work in an online fantasy, in book form they seem more appropriate to soft-core porn or third-rate soap operas.

And that is pretty much where the book falls, a cross between poorly written erotica with soap opera dialogue — bad soap opera dialogue. And then there are the pages and pages of email transcripts that make up a good portion of the story. For a person who demands a non-disclosure agreement before even kissing, Mr. Grey is pretty cavalier about strewing details of his trysts all over the Internet in email form. I mean, OMG!

But my point is not to review the literary merits of this book — it has few — but to comment

on the viability and reality of the kink it contains.

As far as the dominance and submission elements, I am guessing it's about half right. I say guessing because this work is very much heterosexual and since my experience in BDSM is in the realm of gay leather, I can only judge from what

I know of my straight friends and their relationships.

The dominant male, submissive female scenario might be abhorrent to some people, but I know quite a few who really enjoy those roles. However, I question the idea that a virginal 22-year-old girl, fresh out of college, would jump into a serious DS relationship, especially one that began with not one, but two written contracts!

And that brings me to the contract. Billionaire Christian Grey presents Anastasia with a several-page dominant/submissive contract right from the start. First, in my experience contracts like this are usually master-slave documents, and second, they are not legally binding. More importantly, this one spells out so many do's and don'ts that I am surprised they could engage in any BDSM play at all!



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left



email: editorialcartoon@g syndicate.com

This is part of what I guess is that heterosexual obsession with rules. It seems that some straight people are only really happy when they have a rule book to go by. Spontaneity rarely plays a part, but that is a different issue.

I can assure you that though some people do have these kinds of contracts, the vast majority of leathermen prefer verbal negotiations and honor their word without need of a missive.

Moreover, the idea of someone who has never experienced sex, let alone any kind of kink being attractive to an experienced BDSM player seems laughable. The thrill of introducing someone new to the scene is indeed fun, but if they have no experience at all in any kind of sex, that thrill would soon fade, but then again I am not a heterosexual male, so I am only guessing.

Then there is the SM play in the book. Paragraph 15, line 3 of the contract states that the dominant shall not leave any permanent marks on the submissive. Then the author goes on to describe what she calls a "flogger." It has suede tails each terminating with a bead. I can tell you that though suede is soft, it can abrade the skin and with the addition of those little beads, it would be difficult not to leave cuts, scrapes and/or at least nasty bruises.

He also proceeds to flog her across her belly, a very unsafe activity and one that no experienced player would ever do with someone new, like Anastasia. Again, this shows all the hallmarks of Internet BDSM and has little resemblance to reality.

I could go on, but it would bore you and me. This book has a lot of rabid fans, and I suspect quite a few people will use it as a Bible for BDSM relationships, but I also suspect they will soon have a "crisis of faith" once they actually try any of the activities in it.

If you want a pure fiction pot boiler, this might work for you, but if you want to know what BDSM is really about, stick to non-fiction. ■

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

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- 142 votes cast

Dynamic duo

Partners and rugby teammates Jim Ming and Steve Eames work it on and off the pitch

With the Bingham Cup tourney in Manchester, England, this weekend, we decided to ask about the workout habits of rugby players. In the case of Dallas Diablos Jim Ming and Steve Eames, a boyfriend makes for a perfect rugby teammate. While Eames was initially reluctant to share his sport with Ming, they now find their on-field romance to be an added benefit, complete with synch'd training schedules, carpooling convenience and even a little intimidation factor when facing the competition. After all, it's one thing to tackle a fella's teammate ... but just try to take out his honey!

— Jef Tingley

Names and ages: Jim Ming, 41; Steve Eames, 43.

Occupations: Ming: Human resources in the pharmaceutical industry; Eames: Instructional designer.

Length of relationship: Three years and counting.

Sports & Activities: Dallas Diablos Rugby Football Club; weight training.

Exercise regimen: Both: During rugby season, we run two miles, three days per week with weight training as time and health allows. Off rugby season, it's weights with emphasis on legs and core, assorted cardio (mostly running) and swimming. Rest and recovery is important, too.

What's the best thing about being on a team with your partner? Eames: Originally I didn't want Jim to join the team. I have been playing for eight years, and when we met, it was "my thing." I discovered that it is really nice having your partner go through everything that a sport involves with you. It is also nice to have someone do half the driving to practice and games.

Ming: We actually play right next to each other on the pitch, so it can be fun to help each other compete against the other side.

Upcoming fitness goals: Ming: I'm on the cusp of breaking a nine-minute mile, which is fast for a big guy like me.

Eames: To finally be a perfect size 6! Just kidding. I'm trying to get down to a goal weight, and I am finding that the older you get, the harder it is to get there. I'm getting there, but slowly.

Most memorable athletic accomplishment: Ming: It would have to be running in my first 5K, which was the LiveStrong 5K in Austin in 2009. My sister and I both ran in memory of our father, who we lost to cancer not long before. Steve was right by my side, as were several other Diablos. Before I started rugby and training for the 5K, I could hardly run half a mile. Running for our dad was a huge motivator for me, and completing the 5K was incredibly emotional. And, I finished ahead of Steve ...

Eames: I'm getting to compete in my fifth Bingham Cup this year. That is the gay World Cup of rugby, which is played every other year between the predominately gay rugby teams from around the world in honor of Mark Bingham, one of the heroes of United Flight 93.

Least favorite exercise or piece of gym equipment? Ming: That would have to be anything to do with basketball. I'm tall so people always assume I love to play it, and I just don't. I don't even like watching it.

Ways you stay fit or workout together? Ming: Although running is necessary, neither of us particularly likes to run. So we normally run together, which keeps us accountable and allows some friendly competition. I think I enjoy weights more than Steve does, so many times we'll split off and I'll do that part myself.

How do you motivate yourself to workout? Eames: I don't always, but being part of a team is the best motivator. If you can't do it for yourself, do it for your teammates.

Words of advice for people trying to work fitness into their life? Eames: Don't wait to do it, just do it. Get off the couch and start moving. Don't wait for New Year's, or your birthday, or summer. If you want to play a sport, [cough] rugby! [cough], don't try get in shape on your own. Start playing the sport and it will get you in shape. Every sport has different needs, so let it mold you.

How does your partner motivate you to workout? Ming: Steve works hard on fitness, and I admire that about him. It's hard for me to be lazy when he's huffing and puffing at the gym.

Eames: I have to lift him in the air in rugby, so making sure he is safe is of primary importance.

Favorite spot in North Texas to exercise outdoors? Ming: We live in Grapevine and the trails along the lake there are fantastic.

Favorite healthy/low-cal snack or meal? Ming: I've been trying to avoid processed foods. We're growing our own tomatoes, cilantro and basil this year. In the warmer months, I enjoy salads full of avocado, grilled chicken, tomatoes with a nice balsamic dressing. With a side of chilled tomato soup or gazpacho, that's a great summer meal.

If you could become an Olympian in any sport, what would it be and why? Ming: I've always loved the Winter Olympics. I'd have to pick bobsled or luge as my dream sports. Bobsled especially involves great teamwork, and I love the speed aspect with the element of danger involved.

Which celebrity physique would you like to have, and why? Eames: Joe Manganiello from *True Blood*. Why? Have you seen him? Because I would look like a comic book superhero. I've always been a big comic geek. Unfortunately, I have nowhere near the discipline that would require.

Favorite song or play list for workout? Eames: For cardio, "All Day" by Girl Talk, and for weights, anything from *Glee*. Very gay.



THE DIABLOS MADE THEM DO IT | Partners Jim Ming, left, and Steve Eames play rough ... as members of the Dallas Diablos Rugby team, that is. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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It's good to be an evil queen

Snow who? Charlize Theron chews hearts and scenery in the feminist epic 'Snow White and the Huntsman'



THE QUEEN IN HER LABYRINTH | Charlize Theron plays an image-obsessed witch with a great wardrobe in the grim Grimm retelling of the Snow White fable.

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

Oh, the tragedy of being Kristen Stewart. She's upstaged by sparkly undead in the *Twilight* movies, sparklier starlets on TMZ and now the sparkliest one of all, an evil queen with supernatural powers in **Snow White and the Huntsman**. No wonder she hasn't smiled in five years — she's always surrounded by superior beings. Well, and Tara Reid.

That might make Stewart the perfect actress to play the title heroine in this grim adaptation of the Grimm tale, a character so passive in its original conception, she's most famous for being

saved by men obsessed with her beauty.

Only here, that comes with a twist. What sets this *Snow* job apart is how the filmmakers have feminized the action and the metaphors with a modern sensibility; the evil queen Ravenna (Charlize Theron) is not merely vain, but as body-obsessed as a *Cosmo* reader, and probably a man-hating lesbian. Snow (Stewart) is an English-speaking Joan of Arc, rallying her troops for righteousness.

There are several missteps in this slightly overlong adventure, an uneasy amalgam of

Q CINEMA: 'KISS ME'

A woman who thinks she's straight falls in love with an out lesbian and has a decision to make. Sound familiar? I've seen more lesbian movies with this plot than all other gay-themed movies combined. But Rarely has the confused woman been as unsympathetic as Mia in **Kiss Me**, playing at Q Cinema in Fort Worth. Her younger brother Oskar, who's too pretty to be straight, says, "Mia doesn't like not getting what Mia wants." I say, "Mia could give me bitch lessons!"

Visiting her divorced father and his new fiancée, Hurricane Mia manages to disrupt six lives, including her own, in just a couple of days. She brings along her own fiancé, Tim, with whom she's lived for seven years, but before you can say "Mia Mia Mia" in your best Brady Bunch voice, Mia's sharing a long, passionate kiss with Frida, her stepsister-to-be.

Director/co-writer Alexandra Therese-Keining includes lots of lingering scenes of the two 30-ish women together, looking into each other's eyes or lying in post-coital bliss; plus long arguments about Mia's hesitation to give up her marriage plans, while Frida refuses to be her bit on the side. That's nice for the voyeurs, but does little by way of interesting plot.

Still, *Kiss Me* is beautifully photographed and well-acted all around. Even the writing isn't bad, just overly familiar. But Mia's selfishness may be too much for even the hardest-core romantic, and things fall apart in the last five minutes with a confusing climax and a finale that gives viewers the ending they want without actually resolving any issues.

— Steve Warren

Plays June 3 at 4 p.m. at the Rose Marine Theater, Fort Worth.



Harry Potter, *Twilight* (the queens powers are positively vampiric), *Robin Hood* and *Lord of the Rings*, but none are unsurmountable. And like the latter two films, the first-time director, Rupert Sanders, treats the material with the epic solemnity of fact-based myths like *Gladiator*: We are meant to be invested in the Christian mythos (she dies, comes back to life and brings peace to the realm by defeating a practitioner of dark arts).

The plot updates are nothing new; *Snow White: A Tale of Terror*, an HBO movie from 15 years ago, similarly turned the famous dwarfs from singing bachelors to filthy miners and imbued a Medieval verisimilitude on the action. For the most part, Sanders does the same (at least until Snow reached the Wonkafied fairyland), as the woodland creatures are magical without being cutesy (they never coo or strand ribbons in her hair). And the script has reversed the roles of the Huntsman (Chris Hemsworth) and the de facto Prince Charming.

Stewart, that buck-toothed sourpuss who makes watching the *Twilight* films a chore, does credible work here, if you can get beyond the fact she's not really a natural bombshell who has become the fairest of them all. But that might tie in to the feminist slant: Her beauty is inside. Meh.

Ravenna is not a far cry from Theron's role as Aileen Wuornos in *Monster*; she plays the queen as a tortured serial killer deeply struck by mad-

ness only here, the monstrosity reaches megalomaniacal levels. How much you enjoy her performance may depend on your tolerance for watching a creditable actress of talent and beauty do things like eat the hearts out of dead birds while shrieking uncontrollably at everyone around her. (It's what I imagine working for Donald Trump is like.) But they've clearly added a layer by making her conversations with her mirror marks of true insanity.

Even for a fantasy, there are a few too many hard-to-believe moments, including a middle-aged albino beating the shit out of Thor ... er, the Huntsman, in a one-on-one fight, and Snow being, apparently, a troll whisperer who can calm marauding giants with but a look. And why did the queen keep Snow around all these years anyway?

The producers are clearly trying to fill the void left by the end of *Harry Potter* with a villain as unrepentant as Voldemort. There's even a scene where Ravenna writhes on the floor like a basilisk (and the CGI fairies are as pale, bony and sexless as Daniel Radcliffe).

But the visual effects are seamlessly integrated into the storytelling. Normal-sized actors (Ian McShane, Bob Hoskins, Toby Jones) are dwarfized better than *Hobbits*, and the creatures (especially that troll) effectively rendered. And you even get to see Hemsworth with his shirt off in one scene. That's a special effect worth seeing over and over.



QUEER CLIP: 'HYSTERIA'

Back in the Golden Age of Hollywood, there were biopics about Industrial Revolution heroes like Edison and medical pioneers like Pasteur and Ehrlich, but the old studios missed the story about the confluence of medicine and technology: The invention of the vibrator to treat "hysteria" (a



word derived from the Greek for "uterus"), a catchall diagnosis in the sexually repressive Victorian Era for women who were crabby from lack of a good pounding. (Think of it as the 19th century's version of PMS.)

In the new comedy of mores *Hysteria*, young, idealist physician Mortimer Granville (Hugh Dancy, finally showing a nimble openness on screen) is recruited by an overworked "ladies' doctor" (Jonathan Pryce) to — and they never say this — masturbate his patients into passivity. This doesn't sit well with the older doctor's liberated elder daughter (Maggie Gyllenhaal), though it seems fine to his younger phrenology-educated girl (Felicity Jones), who hopes to marry Mortimer. You *know* that's not how things are going to turn out.

Remarkably, a comedy about the creation of the electric dildo isn't an original idea; Sarah Ruhl's play *In the Next Room* (recently staged by Kitchen Dog Theater) traipsed the same ground, with a more farcical mentality. But both work as pieces of feminism wrapped up in a corset: Women need to control their own bodies. (I imagine Rick Santorum passing out within watching the first 10 minutes of this movie; that's nice.)

The tone of *Hysteria*, though, is slightly at odds with its message; it's a jaunty romance at heart. This makes it feel less "serious" than, say, how James Ivory or David Lean might have handled the same material. But with Dancy, Gyllenhaal's fresh-scrubbed suffragette and especially the languorously witty Rupert-*Everett* as Mortimer's gay best friend (and the actual inventor of the "personal massager") in top form ... well, best to just lay back and enjoy the inevitable.

— A.W.J.

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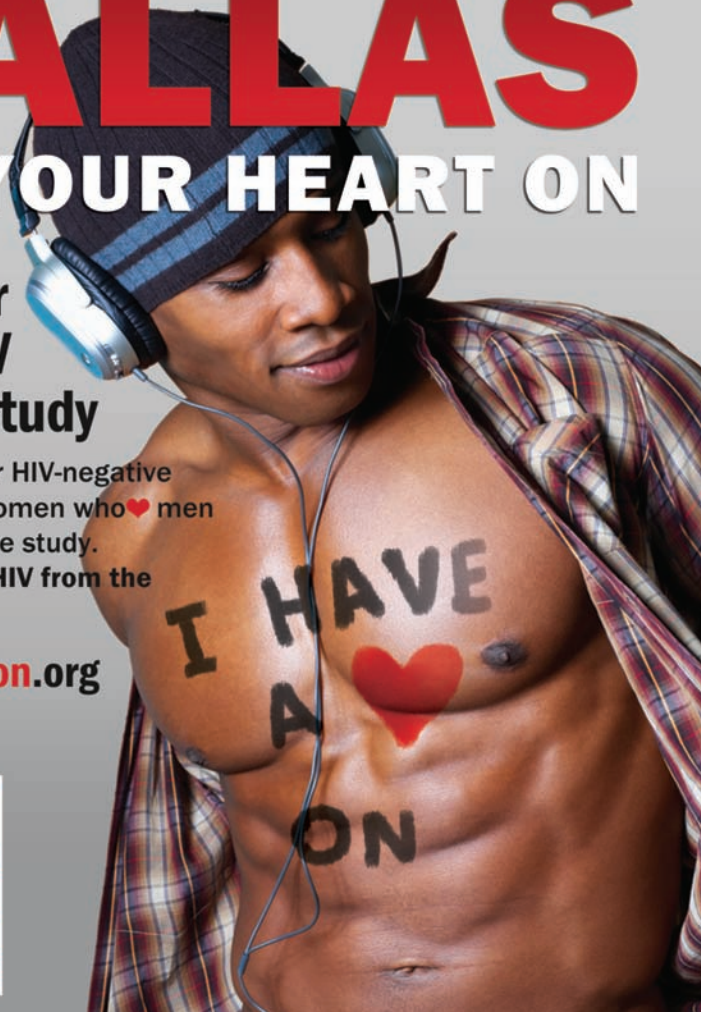
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L+S books

To the manners born

Tom Malin, aka advice expert Tammy Manners, puts the Q in 'etiquette' book

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com



DEAR TAMMY | In her roundabout way, drag queen — er, advice columnist — Tammy Manners culls her wisdom and wit into suggestions for a better life.

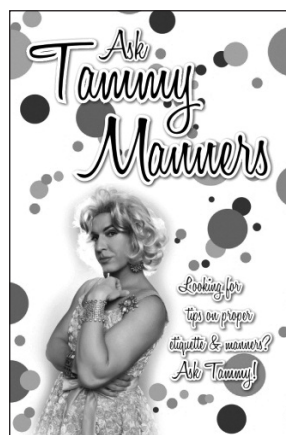
Maybe your grandmother wrote in to Dear Abby for some sage advice about life's little obstacles. Or big ones even. She probably got some common-sensical suggestions with clichés like "Wake up and smell the coffee!" or "There are other fish in the sea."

Well, the days of ladylike advice are over — or at least, they've taken a sharp turn — at least as Tammy Manners sees it. Tammy is well on her way to becoming this generation's go-to gal for pearls of wisdom.

At least, that's the plan with the new book *Ask Tammy Manners*.

From YouTube to Facebook and her own website, Manners — the alter ego of Dallas writer Tom Malin — takes on all life's issues from turning a hot, straight neighbor into a gay conquest to naming your new pet snake. She'll slightly derail to include stories about her own background but brings it full circle to tie up her advice to help the distraught. Some might call it a tangent, Manners calls it necessary.

Before leaving for Maui, Malin sat down with us (with Miss Manners doing the talking) and revealed the path that has led her to this calling, her quest for fame and even offered some self-help words to you, her gentle readers.



Dallas Voice: What's different about you from the usual Dear Abby kind of advice column? Tammy Manners: Well, I've read a lot of those other columns and you know, it's good advice, but no one can find the humor. It's a lot of fun to have my own. I can use my life experiences to help people with theirs.

How did you get into the advice-giving business? It all began down in Puerto Vallarta. I fell in love with a driver from Ohio. Limo or taxi, I don't remember. That led me to writing out my thoughts when a friend said I should put it out there. And so I started a blog.

Wow. That's a genesis. Yes! My writing wasn't too smooth in the beginning but I made it more autobiographical and questions started to come in.

Speaking of autobiographical, where were you born? I was switched up in the hospital but born to a lesbian mother here in Dallas.

Where did you go to school? I went to North Mesquite High School but was asked to leave the district. It was so boring I probably should have been in advanced placement. I would go to Town East Mall across the highway and shoplift. But I graduated from Woodrow Wilson. I had a full-paid scholarship to SMU, but I wanted to party so I went to the University of North Texas.

Who was the first person to ask you for advice? Tom Malin! But my dad wrote in with a question. That was nice.

Your advice isn't brief. In fact, it's pretty long in both written and video form. Is that intentional? Well, I make the reader work a little bit for it. My written responses always come in at 1,100 words. You never know how I'm going to answer. I've imparted my own experiences and interesting excursions into my re-

sponses, but it's with a purpose. I've even deferred to Edgar Allan Poe or Homer's *Iliad* for help.

Ask Tammy Manners is on YouTube and now has the book coming out. To what do you owe this drive to get your name out there? I'm a horrible actress and not even a good singer. But I had lunch with [film director] Joel Schumacher ... and he just told me, "Write your own material. You are a star." And that's been playing in the back of my mind for a while.

And I always remember a former teacher of mine telling me, "Don't let the insensitivity of others block your success." Nobody was saying "it gets better" when I was a kid, so I was lucky to find humor to cope against bullying and rise to who I am now. I'd love to run a regular column and I foresee an acting venture. Tammy Manners is right for the screen, big or small!

Wait, didn't you just say you were a horrible actress? What?

Nothing. So what general piece of advice do you have for people just learning about you? I get to touch people everyday through my network. But with my life, I know that people can turn theirs around at any point. Successful people listen to their surroundings and then make decisions based on fact. We all start there. All the higher power does is create and that's all I know to do. I just can tap into it.

What do you think it is about Tammy Manners that resonates with your readers and YouTube viewers? I think people like that it's a little wild and that I can find the humor in being able to survive.

Oh, hey, I got an itch on my backside — any advice on that? Email me.

Tammy talks! Some advice from a meddling Dallas diva

Dear Tammy: I have a son who I suspect may be gay. My daughter has pictures in her bedroom all over her wall of Zac Efron, Josh Hutcherson, Taylor Lautner, Nick Jonas, Channing Tatum and Chad Murray. My son Preston? Same thing and Abercrombie and Fitch shopping bags tacked on the ceiling over his bed. I am worried sick and wonder if he is gay, and if so, how do I turn him straight?

Dear friend: You have too much time on your hands. You are obviously a Republican housewife who has never worked a day in her life. I think you should get a part-time job so you can have educated conversations with your husband about matters that are important to American women today.

Dear Tammy: I just can't shake this depression. What should I do?

Dear friend: I too am prone to bouts of the blues — not to be confused with the *Moody Blues*, which I do like and I look good in white satin on a cool night in Spain. ... Have you tried Calgon? It will take you away.

Dear Tammy: Is it proper to invite male members of the society, straight or otherwise, to a baby shower?

Dear friend: The purpose (not to be confused with a porpoise, which is a very social animal) of a "baby shower" is to send out a list of wanted gifts to shower the expectant mother with for the upcoming arrival of the new child. Do you live in a trailer park? Are you white trash? Why can't you afford your own gifts? Get a job.

— Excerpted from *Ask Tammy Manners*

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Of mice and menopause

Kitchen Dog's world premiere 'Ruth' puts people before politics; WTT's 'Boeing' takes off

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

It's remarkable how quickly the power shifts — and how desperate and spiteful people can be to hold onto it. A generation ago, Okies, fleeing the Dust Bowl of the Plains during the Great Depression, flooded into California for work on the thriving plantations in such numbers, the Golden State actually passed a law banning any fellow Americans from other states to immigrate if they were poor. Some Hispanics, meanwhile, lived well as wealthy landowners and powerful politicians.

But the anti-immigration sentiment has since flip-flopped. Now, Oklahoma has a law banning undocumented (read: Latino) residents and penalizing Oklahomans who help them. Thus, the descendants of those who were treated as inferiors unironically turned the tables, holding others in the same contempt they had been.

The parallel lives of these two generations, with an overlay of biblical revisionism, is at the heart of Vicki Caroline Cheatwood's **Ruth**, receiving its world premiere as the centerpiece of Kitchen Dog Theater's New Works Festival. In Act 1, set in 1939 Cali, Ruth (Liza Marie Gonzalez) is a newlywed widowed on her wedding night, who joins forces with her mother-in-law Naomi (Gail Cronauer) in defiance of her rich but disapproving Hispanic family. Naomi, herself recently widowed, is being kicked out of her

home, owned by Ruth's parents, and compelled to return to her native Oklahoma.

In Act 2, set in OKC in 2007, Naomi (a different one) is homeless, living in a shelter with her daughter-in-law Ruth (again, a different one), an illegal who can't get work because of the Oklahoma law. That rankles Boaz (Clay Yokum), a cannery owner who feels a Christian obligation to help his fellow man. How can people turn a blind eye to the suffering of others?

Ruth is a challenging but accessible play, where the humanity supersedes ideology, but that's also where it's most divisive. Cheatwood leaves it to the audience to fill in many of the connections, like the neural pathways in a child's brain. In that way, its subtext is a stinging indictment of right-wing hatemongering (not just in immigration, but in women's issues) that uses Christian charity against the very jingoists who employ religion as a cudgel; and yet, there's little in the text that marks it as polemical. *Ruth* is a Yellow Dog Democrat play masquerading as a biblical parallel. (As in revisionist academic analyses of the Old Testament, the play hints at a less-than-motherly relationship between Naomi and Ruth — and, for that matter, that Boaz might be gay — but not much comes of it.)

Death permeates *Ruth* in the same way it does much of Steinbeck's work; the similarities especially to *The Grapes of Wrath*, but also *Of Mice and Men* and *Cannery Row* are unmistakable. (The theme hits even closer to home knowing that Cheatwood's hus-



OK CALIF | In 1939, Ruth (Liza Marie Gonzalez) is widowed when her husband Malachi (Andrews C. Cope) dies on their wedding night.

band died just weeks ago while the play was still being written.) And as written, *Ruth* is slightly better than the production (Cronauer in particular often rushes through her lines, and some

■ MICE, Page 33

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Midday at the oasis

Nick & Sam's chef adds some culinary creativity to cool summer pool club

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

Dallas is the largest landlocked city in America not on a major waterway, and you never feel it more than during our summers. Sure, we avoid the devastating humidity of Houston, but we also miss out on the temperate predictability of SoCal — we don't all have infinity pools in our backyards, so keeping cool depends on a rotation of weekend get-aways, redneck public wave pools, generous neighbors with an in-ground ... or just indoor activities paired with tanning beds.

Revive seeks a middle ground in the quest for outdoorsy elegance, and it comes pretty close.

Located on the edge of Uptown, atop the swanky weekend-only nightclub Glass, it combines a South Beachy look (a dozen cabanas encircle the small wading pool) with dance music pumped by a DJ (groove and chill beats alternate with the rhythms of alcohol consumption) and a hint of Dallas fabulousness. But, as with Vegas, there's a downside: The sweltering Texas heat. Within weeks of opening, owners had added misting fans to make the deck tolerable ... and it's not even the hub of summer here yet.

How to reconcile the desire to tan and show off those new trunks with the sensibility of staying inside? The appeal is in the food.

With a menu conceived by Nick & Sam's Estrada, Revive elevates what could be mere pub grub to near gourmet levels. Sure, there are some routine, even uninspired, standards on the menu: edamame (\$8), bland ceviche rolls (\$10), the obligatory shrimp cocktail (at \$5, though, not a bad deal). But the limited menu has some gems as well.

The secret ingredient that unifies and completes several dishes is the creamy ponzu sauce, served in a shot-glass to dress sandwiches (and good for dipping fries) and as a plate garnish on the fried wontons (\$10). The wontons themselves are flavorful, crispy pockets of dough that are neither gummy nor delicate, nestling balls of seasoned pork inside.

A clever creation is the lobster "burger" (at \$16, the priciest item on the menu). Pounded flat like a scallopini crab cake, it draws salty-smoky notes from the crisp strips of bacon while fresh arugula rounds it out — and, again, there's the ponzu. It's there, too, for the half-pound burger (well-cooked and satisfying), accompanied by the so-called "damn good fries" — seasoned, crunchy curls of potato. You can get a mini version of the burger on the trio of sliders (\$14), which also comes with pygmy iterations of



I FEEL LIKE CHICKEN TONIGHT | The juicy, twice-fried glass chicken at Revive, accented by creamy ponzu, rear, has the ideal sweetness. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

pulled pork (juicy) and ahi tuna (slightly dry).

Other than the lobster, the stars of the menu are the Greek flatbread (\$11) and the fried chicken (\$14). The flatbreads are distinguished by a cracker-like crust: Firm enough to withstand the thick layer of pungent artichokes, black olives and Feta, but not so that it shatters on first bite. The chicken, fried deeply but not greasy, is sweetened by a honey glaze and dusting of diced pears. If they could call it finger-lickin' without triggering a lawsuit, they should.

Of course, the drinks are probably as much a draw as the atmosphere and food are. Alcohol filled Popsicles don't come in flavors so much as colors: purple, neon green, red and blue; some contain vodka, some rum, but all pack the kick of a mule deer. Strong drinks aren't the problem; complex ones are. Unlike the citrusy ponzu, the drinks tend toward over-sweet; the mojito lacks the bite of lime and the banana-strawberry slushie so fruity, it could be Carmen Miranda at a party with Rock Hudson.

The cocojito, though, balances coconut and Cruzan rum for a refreshing island taste. It — along with the sausagefest of man-tans cruising the pool on a recent visit — also serves as a good reminder for what's *really* important about summer: The need to work on my beach body before I go back.

Revive, 1899 McKinney Ave. Open Thursdays–Sundays. Dallas Gay Happy Hour with DJ Paul Kraft takes place at Revive on June 1, 5–8 p.m.

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L+S profile

Lotus blossoms

Partners Timmy Patterson and TJ Mundell wanted a day spa as eco-friendly as they are. So they invented Green Lotus

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

As a massage therapist, Timmy Patterson was always looking for the perfect place to work. He finally found it when he opened his own spa.

Patterson always had private clients whom he would visit, but he was looking for some place he could do more than perform Swedish, deep tissue and Shiatsu on a folding table in someone's living room.

There were many places where the people were nice or the facilities high-end, but Patterson had something else in mind. He just didn't know what.

Then, about a year ago, Patterson and his partner TJ Mundell, also a massage therapist, were hiking among the redwoods of California, outside San Francisco when they were struck by the majesty of nature.

"I just started crying," Mundell says. "We said, 'We need to be completely eco-friendly.'"

Now, spas are not the first businesses you think of as being all about the environment — they are probably near oil drillers on the scale of conservation of resources. After all, day spas are about creating a lush *indoor* environment for their clients — who believes that's possible if there's a sign reading "We've reused the towels used to dry your face all week long"?

But that's not what Green Lotus is about. What it *is* about is leaving as small a carbon footprint as possible while pampering its customers. At first, they didn't even know where to start. "We really hadn't thought it through, we just ran with it," says Patterson.

The perseverance has paid off, and now Green Lotus — located in the Knox-Henderson Village facing North Central Expressway — strikes the perfect balance between green-conscious practices and indulgent luxury.

The traditional spa services — massages, facials, etc. — are supplemented by unique procedures like chakra balance and a warm hot-oil treatment and Reiki. All of this takes place in a serene, soothing environment where textures, sounds and moods are just as vital to the experience as a good rubdown.

"It's about creating a healing space," says Mundell, lead therapist and chief operating officer.



ECO- AND GAY-FRIENDLY | TJ Mundell and Timmy Patterson founded Green Lotus with the promise to leave the smallest possible carbon footprint possible.

Integrating those features with eco-friendly business practices has been the challenge. And it hasn't been easy.

"We tried to get a recycling bin from the city [and it was very hard]," says Patterson, the founder and CEO. But they ended up thinking about nearly everything they did. "We carry organic products, but what spa doesn't?"

They needed to do more. "More" included floor-to-ceiling revamping of the way things are usually done.

First, they *do* use fresh towels and sheets for every client. But the fibers in their linens are bamboo, a tough and ecologically sustainable textile. Next, they employ low-energy lighting that also has health benefits.

"We use salt lamps," Mundell explains. "They release negative ions, which counteract the positive ions from fluorescent lamps. Salt is nature's natural ionizer."

They power their electrical needs as much off the grid as possible, too. A wind turbine provides as much as 90 percent of Green Lotus' energy needs; on especially windy days, the meter will actually go backward as they return energy to the grid — the utility pays *them*.

Customers with electric cars can recharge their batteries inside while their automobiles recharge outside — Green Lotus has a dedicated Blink charging station for clients who are as green as the spa.

It's been a labor of love with as much sweat equity as anything else invested in the spa. Patterson personally installed the turbine, and built the lobby's couch from reclaimed wood. It

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weighs more than 600 lbs. And for every service rendered, the company plants a tree. Since their soft opening in mid-April, Patterson and Mundell have planted more than 100 trees.

"This is really the next level of green," Patterson says.

Just how committed are they here? Green Lotus promotes a virtually paperless environment: Clients fill out questionnaires on iPads, choose services from a screen and receive receipts via email. But what about their business cards? They've got that covered, too: The cards are made of recycled paper, and have seeds imbedded in them. So, when you're done



STONED TO LIFE | The Himalayan salt stones used at Green Lotus provide the body with access to 80 minerals; the salt lamps release healthy ions into the treatment room as well.

with the card, just drop it in some potting soil and a plant with spring out.

"Every little bit helps," says Mundell. ■

■ **MICE**, From Page 28

staging needs sharpening). But Cronauer's breakdown, and the relevance of its message, mark this play as a treasure.

Less of a treasure, at least in my book, is Marc Camoletti's 1960s sex farce **Boeing-Boeing**. It was written in 1965, and the current production at WaterTower Theatre (complete with most of a cast that performed it last year at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth) is set in 1968. You couldn't set it much later; it was written at the height of the Swinging '60s, when a sexually active stewardesses ("I'm Rhonda, fly me") and free love were timely and contemporary.

But everything else about the play has dated faster than campaign posters. Introduce a smartphone app, HIV or even the Equal Rights Amendment into the mix, and the jokes just don't make sense. When a play is so fragile that its very modernness works against it, you have a problem.

Of course, most farces — from Moliere to Mel Brooks — rely both on the currency of their wit and the universality of physical comedy. If you can master the latter, perhaps people won't linger on the former.

That's pretty much true with WaterTower's production, which benefits from the buttoned-down clowning of Andy Baldwin as Robert, a milquetoast functionary caught up in his friend Bernard's (Ashley Wood) sexual juggling act. Bernard is engaged to three flight attendants — a German, an Italian and an American — all of whom come and go without knowledge of the other, meaning Bernard gets laid more than shag carpeting at a remnants sale. Of course, that situation implodes when all the ladies show up at the same time.

Door-slaming comedies like this depend on



FLYING HIGH | Andy Baldwin, right, turns the broad comedy of 'Boeing-Boeing' into a slap-happy hootenanny.

timing (good here) but also the willing suspension of disbelief that I for one can never give myself over to entirely: Why does it take 10 minutes for a woman to grab her purse out of the other room? Why does no one hear the shouting from one room away? Why do the men always call each other "old chap"? (That's an especially frustrating one.) And *Boeing* air-traffic in stereotypes to such a degree, we'd never accept them

in another context (the German, Gretchen, eats only German food? The American has a Southern accent and likes molasses on everything? Yuk.)

But if you *can* put these things out of your mind — as well as several accents that come and go faster than Travolta accusers — *Boeing* is a lot of fun. Baldwin's

weak-chinned antics can squeeze laughs out of a corpse, especially when he's pretending to be gay; Wood and Lulu Ward (as a saucy French maid — stereotype!) also ham it up with infectious delight. I may not be a convert to Camoletti's arch style of broad comedy, but I'm a Baldwin believer. ■

ON THE BOARDS

RUTH at **The MAC**, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through June 23. KitchenDogTheater.org.
BOEING-BOEING at **Addison Theatre Centre**, 15650 Addison Road. Through June 17. WaterTowerTheatre.org.



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How I learned to
love the paddle



RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

SPANK YOU | Hardy Haberman gets some practice in on the author before putting his skills on display at Butt Buster on Saturday at the Dallas Eagle. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Pain isn't something I endure well — my threshold for it is quite low. Yes, I'm a pussy, but I'm cool with it. I opt not to engage in voluntarily painful experiences beyond weekly editorial meetings or family functions. But the power of the paddle was calling my name. Or perhaps it was yelling it.

This weekend, local activist and leatherman Hardy Haberman will lend his paddling skills to the fundraiser Butt Buster at the Dallas Eagle. The event will raise money for the International

Leather Sir Bootblack organization and the Women's History Project. And yet, no women will be harmed in the making of this fundraiser.

The idea piqued my interest, if only to figure out why someone would put himself on display to get his ass chapped publicly. What is the appeal? Does it hold more pleasure for the spanker than the spankee? (As part of the event, Olivier Pratt will generously be offering up his cheeks for the greater good.)

Google "bdsm + paddling" and it takes you

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nowhere and everywhere. The result count is high but *bor-r-r-ring*. You'd think as creative as fetishists can be in their sex lives, their websites would match. Nope. I wanted pictures to go with all that text. So instead, Haberman showed me up close how to get started on my paddling adventures.

"I'd start with your hand so you can gauge what you're doing," he advises. "And don't use a cane. Those are painful. I like a leather paddle because it gives a little, but a ping pong paddle works just fine."

The thought of a cane never entered my headspace. Which begs the question: How does an uninitiated get into that mental state? What is the thrill of getting your butt busted?

"For some, it's a humiliation thing that goes back to childhood punishment," Haberman explains. "Others see it as erotic. It delivers an intense sensation. For me, I include the aspect of them over my knee because that makes it erotic and intimate."

I think I just got *veklemt*. Haberman describes how pain and pleasure originate from the same part of the brain. No wonder my third-grade principal Mr. Strobel had that look on his face as I laughed during my first encounter with corporal punishment.

Pratt is the mastermind (and the behind) behind the event who clearly has butt cheek prowess. But his heart is in the preservation of leather history, particularly women's. I had no idea there was the Leather Archives and Museum located in Chicago, but males tend to dominate the historic timeline. The Women's History Project wants to change that.

"I put it together in conjunction with Women's International Leather Fest to raise money for the Project at the museum as well as for the International Leather SIR/boy travel fund," Pratt says. "Both nonprofits work with in the leather community to educate and preserve our culture and lifestyle."

Being that a good swat requires proper technique, I wondered if there was any working out to be involved for both ends of the paddle. It would really chap my hide if I had to do squats to beef up the butt or arm curls for proper strength behind the swing. A man after my own heart, he nods no. But he does put this out there.

"Well, it is nice if the sub is lighter so they don't ruin yer legs," he laughs.

Part of me is worried that if I were to be on the receiving end of a paddle, I'd pretty much cry. Like I said, low threshold. Haberman counseled me on safe words and sexual freedom, but really, I'm just worried if it's gonna leave a mark.

"There's a good ouch and a bad ouch. My real thrill is the power exchange and bringing that energy into something," he says. "The thing that works for the spankee is the fear. The adrenaline gets going, it puts you on edge. You build up to it. Screaming is good. Some people cry and they mean to, others even laugh."

That I can relate to. But wait, how did I end up on the receiving end?

"You didn't think you were gonna spank me, did you?" he asks.

Ummm, no? Sir? ■



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We say 'Hello, kid' to Mexican-born 'Baby Blue' **Mario Orozco**

MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com

Name and age: Mario Orozco, 23

Occupation: Server

Spotted: Lolita's Mexican Cuisine on Lemmon.

Born in Chihuahua, Mexico, handsome and fair-skinned Mario moved to the states at age 7, and has been off and running ever since. Known as "Baby Blue" to his friends, this gregarious Virgo is a huge Hello Kitty fan, holding a special place in his heart for the cute creation.

Mario is an avid networker, enjoying time both face to face with his friends and also on Facebook where he has cultivated many friends and followers. He loves roller coasters, camping, hiking, swimming and working out. Mario also enjoys dancing and spending quality time with his friends on the town. Future plans include a Mario calendar.

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Garbage in, genius out

After 7 years, Shirley Manson and Garbage are back, and better than ever



RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Upon hearing **Not Your Kind of People**, the long-awaited fifth album from Garbage, my inclination was to recreate Meg Ryan's orgasm scene in *When Harry Met Sally*. Finally! Garbage returns to deliver the goods in abundance on their first disc in seven years. They didn't miss a beat, smashing together a tremendous package.

Yes, it evokes that kind of response.

Seven years is a long hiatus, but Garbage still rocks hard recalling the band's earlier work, yet balanced with an embrace of accessible pop. Like Green Day, they can cut an attractive hook against an abrasive landscape.

The album explodes with urgency in opener "Automatic Systematic Habit." Vaulting from 0-to-60, "Habit" quickly reminds us why Garbage is worth loving. Already powerful with its pounding beats and heavy guitars, Shirley Manson brings her vocal touch to complete the picture. I couldn't decide whether to dance or bang my head.

The delicate opening on the second track, "Big Bright World," is more akin to restraining a growling dog. The band unleashes an onslaught that takes you back to Garbage's rawness of their self-titled 1995 debut. They display the same early energy but with wiser perspectives pushing them forward. In these first tracks, including "Blood for Poppies," Garbage doesn't draw you in, they push you into their abyss of sound, swirling with the force of a nuclear bomb.

As a singer, Manson is no diva. While steadfast, you don't expect a broad range from her. But she doesn't coddle you with her voice — either she's seducing you on the tempered title track or bullying you on songs like "Control." And like the passive school kid with a crush on said bully, you let her get away with it.

"I Hate Love" is reckless from its dark title to

its uptempo beat. Manson's voice gets swallowed in the layers of noise around it, but with this monstrous sound, it's fine to relegate her to the background this time. The same begins to happen in the satisfying "Battle in Me." She starts to disappear amid the loudness and high-pitched guitars, but producer Butch Vig (Green Day, Foo Fighters) delivers a clean sound.

These second-half tracks level the album out, but don't mistake that for letting up. The energy remains at maximum levels. Where Garbage loudly announced their return in opening tracks, they find a balance in the second half.

Sandwiched between those two heavies is "Sugar," recalling their stalker love ballad, "#1 Crush." The song aches for a misconstrued sort of love that relies on tragic foundations when she sings *Please reconsider / I*

don't need much on my plate / Just give me sugar. Manson simmers with pain and longing under a sultry prowess.

The final cut, "Beloved Freak," is an ironic shocker, a lovely ending to such a hard album. This softer side works with the spirit of the album though times sounds ready-made for a new It Gets Better campaign.

Four extra tracks fill the special edition, starting with "The One" and "What Girls are Made Of." Both play like disappointing B-sides. "Bright Tonight" echoes the delicacy of "Freak." The guitars pluck with elegance and the languid mood relays a truth playing like a Best Coast tune in low-fi glory. "Show Me" swells into a hell of a closing tune that successfully wraps the extras, but overall they feel like an afterthought.

Not Your Kind of People is less a comeback than a reminder. Garbage came on the scene with a specific energy that was theirs alone, then wandered on subsequent discs. Now, they've found their way back — a little older, a little wiser and a whole lot better.



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CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
crwauto@aol.com

Legend has it the offspring of a Kia manager gave a class of vehicles that are not quite crossovers, but too big to be station wagons, the term "toaster." Scion's xB was the first, but the Kia Soul objectifies the idea of a big rounded box that has the cavernous space of an auditorium, handling of a sedan and the economy of a compact. Kia's funky car bears its toaster soul.

When it debuted in 2009, the Soul was an appliance of uncommon style for the Korean brand. While the rest of Kia's vehicles were as boring as your mother's bloomers, the Soul was fun ... and economical. The car looks something like a four-door Smart. From the front, it looks like a bulldog. A side view absorbs a cross between a Jeep and high-heel pump. The rear is pure sculpture. Designers gave the car a facelift for 2012 to finesse the front fascia and interior without losing any of the car's cachet.

Sliding inside to the high-top seating turns up more funk. There's nothing wrong with the base interior's cloth seats and rubber steering wheel, but fashionistas will choose two-tone leather or houndstooth upholstery — preferably heated in front. The pod of a starship contains radio and climate controls in the center dash while large cupholders keep everybody hydrated. Satellite radio, USB iPod input and CD player provide entertainment. Bluetooth keeps hands on the wheel while negotiating the big deal (or just calling your lovey for dinner). Push button starting and automatic climate control are optional, but there's no need for either.

Proving there's a little geek under the cool duds, a new ECO mode features innovative Idle

Stop and Go Technology that shuts down the engine at stoplights and automatically re-starts upon lifting your foot from brake to throttle. Hybrids had this function for years, but it is a relatively new idea for regular gasoline-burning cars. It's already big in Europe, so you can expect more cars to have the technology here. Checking the ECO box also grants low rolling resistance tires, upgraded battery, dual illuminated vanity mirrors, power outside mirrors and tweeter speakers (not sure how the last three save gas).

This starting and stopping really pays off. The standard 138hp 1.6-liter four-cylinder engine with ECO mode won't burn much bread, but it achieves 27/35-MPG city/hwy., most excellent for a small crossoverish car. Sporty Soulsters can step up to the 164hp 2.0-liter that achieves 26/34-MPG. It does a better job of scorching break-

fast, but the base engine seemed plenty peppy. No matter which setting you choose, Hyundai will throw in electronic stability control, hill start assist, four-wheel anti-lock brakes and traction control to direct your spirit in the right direction.

Let's face it, some of us like toasters. My favorite is a vintage chrome Sunbeam with automatic retract. Others prefer a four-space bagelatorium that does everything but butter your undersides. The Kia Soul is more like the Sunbeam — plenty of style and features to get you by, but little you don't need.

Including Kia's standard 10-year/100,000-mile powertrain warranty, the Soul is a pretty good deal with a base price of \$14,000 or \$17,545 as tested. It's certainly hard to complain about the quality of the toast. ■

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Taylor made

Under a serious demeanor, Dayne maintains a sense of humor about herself

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

Taylor Dayne projects a cool demeanor that makes you take her seriously, not someone to be joked with (unless your Tig Notaro) or engaged in idle chatter.

Or so it seems. As the headliner at in this year's MetroBall, the singer is grateful for her appeal to the LGBT community with every beat of her heart.

"My love relationship with the community has been going on for 25 years now and you don't know how thankful I am for that," she Dayne. "We both have gone through quite a bit of growth and expanded ourselves, and so it's wonderful to have this opportunity and benefit people as well."

MetroBall — a fundraiser for the Greg Doll-gener Memorial AIDS Fund — marks Dayne's second opportunity in less than a year to entertain the Dallas gays. In November, she joined a star-studded roster appearing at Black Tie Dinner. But whether it's a few months or a decade ago, time just exists for Dayne.

"It doesn't feel like 25 years," she says. "It all feels kind of timeless. Yeah, I see photos here and there from when it all began, but it's just all part of this career."

Dayne debuted her signature song "Tell It to My Heart" in 1987, followed by her double-platinum debut album, which yielded four Top 10 singles. Along with dance-pop contemporaries Paula Abdul and Pebbles, Dayne embodied the evolution of pop music from the disco decade. With a powerful voice over dance beats, she had that much in common with the late Donna Summer; indeed, Summer's recent passing struck a melancholic nerve in Dayne.

"She was very inspirational to me as an artist," she admits. "The late '70s was a very impactful time for me in those junior high school years. The material this woman put out was just so amazing."

Disco took a double hit with the passing of Summer and Bee Gee Robin Gibb. Dayne pondered on the effect and influence both had on her music as well.

"Barry [Gibb] is so profound as an artist. I wouldn't say they were influential on my music, but they did have their impact."

Earlier this year, people saw Dayne as they had not seen her before: in the kitchen. As one of eight celebs, she put her cooking skills (or lack thereof, she jokes) to the test for charity on the Food Network's *Rachael vs. Guy: Celebrity Cook-Off*. She joined Rachael Ray's team, cooking

alongside singer Aaron Carter, Olympian Summer Sanders and actor Lou Diamond Phillips, who won overall. Although she got off to a rocky start, she gained traction and ultimately was satisfied with her kitchen performance — she almost made it to the end, losing to Team Fieri's Joey Fatone.

"My matzoh ball soup would beat his fried rice any day!" she smirks. "Just not that day. I was uneasy with my decision to do it, but when I say I can't do something, then I want to prove them wrong. I felt like I was an underdog in the competition. They would call me sandbagger, but I was hyper-focused to come out on top. I was in killer mode."

Dayne has an equally Zen view of an infamous "Taylor Dayne" skit by lesbian comedian Tig Notaro. In it, Notaro muses on the comedic effects of running into the singer way too often to be mere coincidence. It's on its way to becoming legend; the 14-minute (and growing) routine made its way to a recent episode of NPR's *This American Life*. Amused by it, Dayne joined in on the fun by serenading Notaro with "I'll Always Love You."

(Clearly you had to be there.)

"She's so amazing and I love that piece. You have to listen to it," she says. "There's a lot of love there. Tig and Taylor!"

Which shows that as serious as Dayne comes off, she does have a sense of humor about herself. She says any celebrity has to.

"You have to have some level of security with yourself," she says. "You're always redefining and reinventing yourself in this business and some better than others. I just have to know how to improve on this and expand my own person."

METROBALL

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SHE'S A BALLER | Taylor Dayne will pump up the dancefloor at MetroBall during Razzle Dazzle, but finds the chance to perform at the AIDS benefit a privilege.

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Friday 06.01

Leather and lace

Women of leather head to Dallas for the Women's International Leatherfest 2012 (or lovingly acronymed WILF) this weekend for a series of panel discussions, parties and a healthy dose of leather culture. This year's keynote speaker is Slave Jody wherein we hope she is given permission to speak.

DEETS: Sterling Hotel, 1055 Regal Row. Through Sunday. \$35-\$50. WomensInternationalLeatherfest.net.

Saturday 06.02

A night of Pound-ing

Funny lady Paula Poundstone brings her comedic recounts of life as a single mom, NPR contributor and more for this one night only show. She had such a good run the last time she stopped in the parts, that she was kind enough to give Dallas another chance to partake in the punchlines. Saturday night's all right for laughing.

DEETS: Lakewood Theater, 1825 Abrams Parkway. 8 p.m. \$30-\$105. PaulainDallas.com.

Thursday 06.07

Sail away, sail away

Queer friendly and eclectically spiritual, Yacht's Shangri-La Tour stops in Dallas bringing a night of experimental pop and all around coolness.

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on cedar springs

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FRIDAY 06.01

COMMUNITY

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

Oak Lawn Group for Gays meets weekly. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 6525 Inwood Road. 7 p.m. For more information, call 214-868-7350.

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

The Equestrians art exhibit and artists reception. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Ste. 107. 6 p.m. Through July 7. ilumeGallerie.com.

Peter Max. Wisby Smith Fine Art, 500 Crescent Court, Ste. 146. Through June 3. Wisby-Smith.com.

Social featuring the work of Sergio Garcia. Kirk Hopper Fine Art, 3008 Commerce St. Through June 9. KirkHopperFineArt.com.

FILM

Raid of the Rainbow Lounge. The documentary screens as part of the QCinema Film Festival. Rose Marine Theater, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. 8 p.m. \$10. AreYouCurious.org.

THEATER

2 Couples 2. Two young couples head out for vacation but end up all in the same cabin with no privacy. Accusations of infidelity ensue in this Spanish telenovela-esque comedy written by Alejandro de la Costa. Stone Cottage Theater, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. 8 p.m. Through June 23. \$18–\$22. MBSProductions.net.

Boeing-Boeing. A farce centering on one man in Paris who craftily juggles his affairs with three flight attendants who are all his fiancées, but with a new, faster jet enters the picture, his scheduling gets thrown a curve. WaterTower Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. Through June 17. \$20–\$50. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

SATURDAY 06.02

COMMUNITY

SPCA of Texas Pet Grief Counseling monthly program helps those who have lost an animal cope with their loss. Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center, 2400 Lone Star Drive. 1 p.m. 214-651-9611.

Dallas Gay Roleplayers Club. Gamers meet to play and discuss role-playing games. Half Price Books Community Room, 5803 E. Northwest Highway. 3–6 p.m. 214-360-0833 ext. 222.

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

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

Legacy social group of adults 50 or older from Cathedral of Hope. Monthly potluck or outing. Call 972-387-3345 for more information.

ART

Home-Less-Bound. The exhibit features the work of out artist R. Mateo Diego, Willie Baronet and Cristella Medrano. McKinney Avenue Contemporary, 3120 McKinney Ave. 5:30 p.m. Through June 7. The-Mac.org.

BROADCAST

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

SUNDAY 06.03

COMMUNITY

Interweave meets for lunch. Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2875 E. Parker Road, Plano. Noon. 972-248-9343.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dignity Dallas sponsors Roman Catholic liturgy. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. 214-521-5342 ext. 1732. DignityDallas.org.

MONDAY 06.04

COMMUNITY

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

TUESDAY 06.05

COMMUNITY

Classic Chassis Car Club. Ojeda's 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. 214-446-0606.

National Leather Association-Dallas meets. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. NLA-Dallas.org.



SIGNS OF THE TIMES | Local filmmaker Robert L. Camina screens his documentary 'Raid of the Rainbow Lounge' on Friday as part of this year's QCinema Film Festival.

Q's Day Potluck. Casual LGBT weekly gathering. 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.

Miracle Workers (formerly Peace Builder Leadership Team) meets in Fellowship Hall. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY 06.06

COMMUNITY

Razzle Dazzle Days Cedar Springs Wine and Dog Walk. Razzle Dazzle kicks off with this pet-friendly event on the Strip at Cedar Springs Road and Throckmorton St. 6 p.m. RazzleDazzleDallas.org.

Outstanding Beautiful Brothers (O.B.B.), new support group for enhancing the quality of life for young black MSM's (men who have sex with men) living with HIV. O.B.B. provides a safe and confidential space to offer support, empowerment and education. Meetings every first and third Wednesday. Call 214-702-6511 for information and location. 7 p.m.

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

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

DFW Prime Timers 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 Rodger Streitmatter author of *Outlaw Marriages: The Hidden Histories of Fifteen Extraordinary Same-Sex Couples*. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 06.07

COMMUNITY

Oak Lawn Pub Crawl. Take the Razzle Dazzle shuttle and visit area bars for special events and parties throughout the evening. The shuttle runs continuously through Cedar Springs for easy entrance. 9 p.m. RazzleDazzleDallas.org.

PFLAG Fort Worth (Parents, Friends and Family of Lesbians and Gays) meets first Thursdays of each month. First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. 7 p.m. 817-428-2329. PFLAGFortWorth.org.

First Thursday Gallery Walk where all showrooms and galleries along Dragon Street in the Design District will remain open until 8 p.m. each month.

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.

this week's solution

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Sam Harris turns 51 on Monday. Winning *Star Search* in 1983 propelled his career first as a singer and then an actor and Broadway star starring in productions of *The Producers* and *The First Wives Club*. He married his partner of 14 years in 2008 months after adopting their son Cooper. In 2010, Harris recorded "My Reclamation," an anthem for marriage equality.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

A new relationship may be in the offing, or an old one is just off. Keeping your home together requires hard work (the easy part) and diplomacy (not so easy). Focus your criticisms on yourself.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

A new exercise program does you a world of good, but start out easy. Take advantage of changes at work. Your insights to team dynamics secures your position, but don't share them.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

A binge with your friends gets expensive and leads to arguments. Think hard about whose company you value and why. Political action is good. Criticizing your comrades, not so much.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

You're good with the boss. Don't kiss up. Tips from experts make your work more effective and less stressful. Some adventurous fun with your family can also turn things around for you.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Temptation to argue comes out of your anxieties. Give yourself and everyone else a break by focusing on your own problems and unburden yourself with a therapist or a good stand-in.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Be a fierce advocate for the queer community or your own part of that. Do not to overplay your hand. Speak up for universal rights and equality over privilege and to make your case.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Your partner or other connections can help you find a new job, so move quickly. You may be a bit selfish in appraising your relationship, but if you're not good for each other move on.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Focus on foresight and good behavior. Rash actions and outspokenness undermine your work and get you into trouble with your boss or clients. Approach problems as a healer, not as a critic.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

You're itching for a fight, but easily land in a bad one. To fix economic problems be a healer, not a warrior. You get more flies with honey instead of vinegar without compromising your principles.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

Now is the time to reexamine your priorities and goals. Domestic comforts and lessons are a basis for growing in new directions, not a cozy nest to hide in.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

You mix up flirtation with argument. Instead of trying to pick someone up you might rather pick a fight. Feistiness has its charm, if you get the right balance.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

You are cute, charming and wonderful, but it draws unwanted attention. Just be yourself without the effort. If your usual diversions just annoy you, try out some new amusements.

THIS WEEK

Venus retrograding across the sun in Gemini triggers bold flirtations that will probably go awry. Keep a sense of humor. As Mercury enters Cancer protective moods can shade your thinking. Ask older relatives for family recipes or share some new ones.

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

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

335

WHERE WE LEFT OFF LAST TIME...

RICHARD... PLEASE! PUT DOWN THE GUN!

YOU... YOU'RE OVERREACTING!

OVERREACTING?! TO THE FACT THAT YOU PAID KRISTIAN \$25,000 TO SEDUCE ME AND BREAK MY HEART?!

OH, NO, PRICE... I AM FINALLY TAKING CONTROL OF THIS SITUATION... THE ONLY WAY I CAN!

NO... NO!!! THIS ISN'T HOW I PLANNED IT! I SIMPLY WANTED TO... TO... GET SOME RETRIBUTION! NOT DRIVE YOU OVER THE EDGE!

PLEASE... I DON'T WANT TO DIE!!!

OH, PRICE... YOU'RE CERTAINLY MORE OF A DRAMA QUEEN THAN I'D THOUGHT.

INDEED.

WHAT'S GOING ON, PRICE, IS... YOU'VE BEEN DUPED.

... KRISTIAN HAS A HEART. IMMEDIATELY AFTER OUR FIRST KISS...

LOOKS PRETTY REAL FOR A WATER PISTOL, DOESN'T IT?

I TOLD YOU IT WOULD WORK.

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

ONE THING YOU DIDN'T ANTICIPATE IN YOUR REVENGE PLOT WAS...

... HE BROKE DOWN AND CONFESSED YOUR WHOLE DIABOLICAL PLAN.

I AM SORRY, RICHARD. I ONLY AGREED TO PRICE'S PLAN BECAUSE I NEED MONEY... TO SEND TO MY FRIENDS IN J-FLAG...

I WILL GO TELL PRICE I COULD NOT GO THROUGH WITH IT.

ARE YOU SAYING... YOUR ENTIRE RELATIONSHIP THESE PAST FEW MONTHS... WAS ALL AN ACT DESIGNED TO INFURIATE ME?!

NO, NO, SWEETIE... IT WAS AN ACT DESIGNED TO GET YOUR MONEY.

WAIT.

... A JAMAICAN GAY RIGHTS GROUP DESPERATELY IN NEED OF FUNDING.

I KNOW A WAY YOU CAN STILL GET YOUR MONEY... AND TEACH PRICE A LESSON HE'LL NEVER FORGET.

INFURIATING YOU WAS JUST A FUN FRINGE BENEFIT...

Website - www.kylecomics.com

E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

bitter girl

NOODLE AND THREAT

TONIGHT'S PASTA SPECIALS START WITH A MALTAGLIATI. THAT MEANS "BADLY FORMED"...

I HAVE ISSUES.

I HAVE ISSUES.

... A SPICY FARFALLONI, WHICH MEANS "BIG BUTTERFLIES" ...

I'M SO NERVOUS! ARE YOU NERVOUS? I'M NERVOUS!

WE ALSO HAVE A LOVELY ANELLI, WHICH MEANS "RINGS" ...

LET'S GET MARRIED RIGHT NOW!

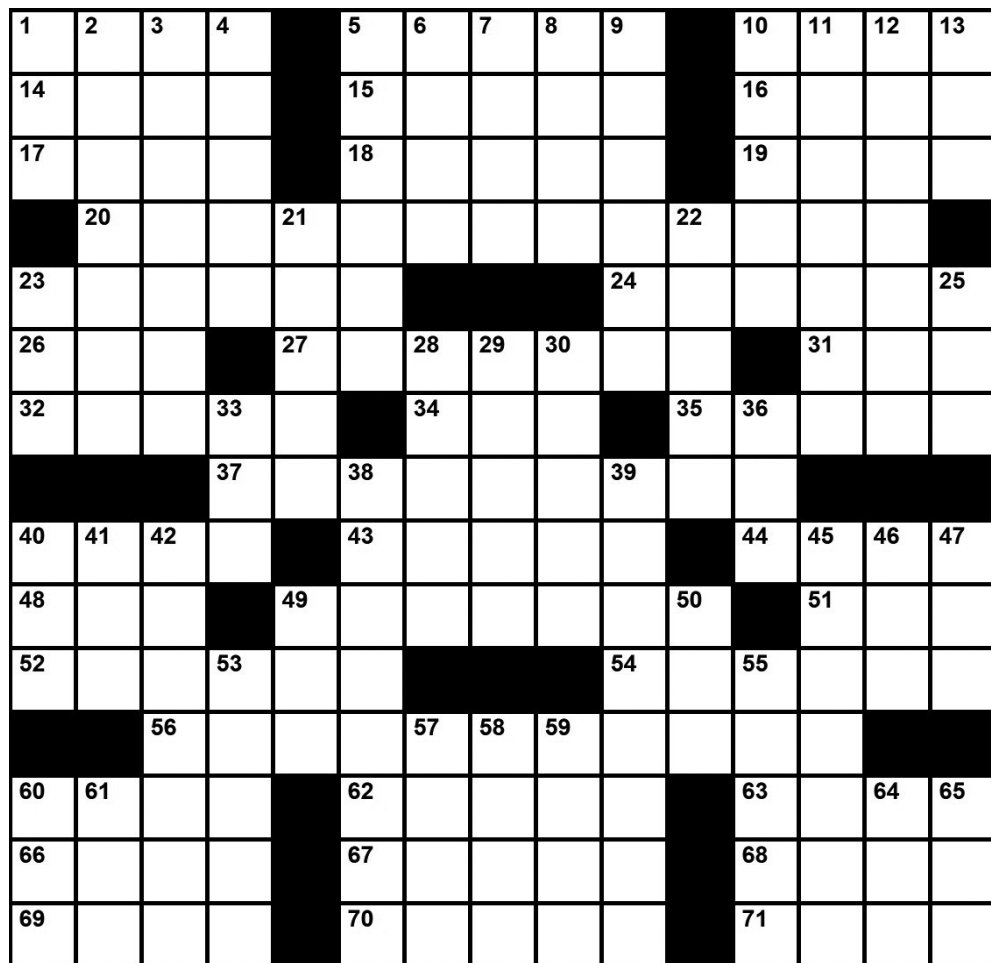
ANY QUESTIONS?

WHY AM I DATING?

www.joanhilty.net

email: joan@joanhilty.net

JOAN HILTY ©2012



End of Summer

Solution on page 45

Across

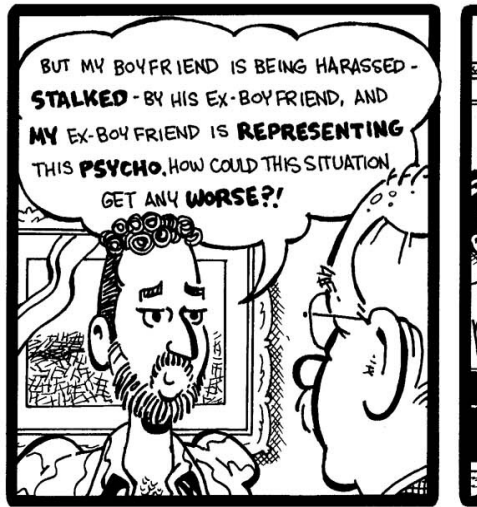
- 1 Barrie buccaneer
- 5 Crawled out of bed
- 10 Rainbow shape
- 14 Short term employee
- 15 Nuts
- 16 Rupert Everett's Ready to ____
- 17 Platform at an HRC gala
- 18 Part of "NIMBY"
- 19 Alpo alternative
- 20 Summer ____ (Donna's typical answer?)
- 23 Grated spice
- 24 Zambia neighbor
- 26 Threesome for Da Vinci
- 27 On a city-by-city basis
- 31 Head movement
- 32 Beginning to come?
- 34 Overseas mil. address
- 35 Gives a pink slip to
- 37 Summer ____ (headline about Donna vamping?)
- 40 Bride and bride's vehicle
- 43 Gladiator area
- 44 Good buddy on a radio
- 48 Olympics chant word
- 49 Reputedly well-endowed Ari
- 51 Genetic info carrier
- 52 What you would say for Mapplethorpe

Down

- 1 Possible result of love with no glove
- 2 Word before and after "for" in a Shakespeare play title
- 3 One that puts out
- 4 Coarse salt variety
- 5 Shade tree from China
- 6 "You want the light off?"
- 7 Jodie Foster's Little Man ____
- 8 United, to Colette
- 9 Prison friend?
- 10 Causing wonder
- 11 Whys and wherefores
- 12 Robert Goulet musical
- 13 Fourbaggers, for short
- 21 Elizabeth Perkins' role in Weeds
- 22 "The joke's ____!"
- 23 Unknown degree
- 25 TV spots
- 28 Frank behind the scenes
- 29 Recesses for Rev. Perry
- 30 Meat that may be tender
- 33 The Name of the Rose writer
- 36 Merchandise ID
- 38 Hall & Oates song about a fellator?
- 39 Groomed to personal specs
- 40 The Messenger director Besson
- 41 "Sort of" suffix
- 42 Copland, for example
- 45 Pears' favorite fruit?
- 46 Rocker Brian
- 47 Went lickety-split
- 49 The Buckeyes coll.
- 50 Meaningless amount
- 53 Fit out
- 55 Coal haulers
- 57 Top Four matchup
- 58 Icy pellets
- 59 Songwriter Porter
- 60 "____ the season to be jolly"
- 61 Queen of the hill
- 64 Writer Castillo
- 65 Made a hole



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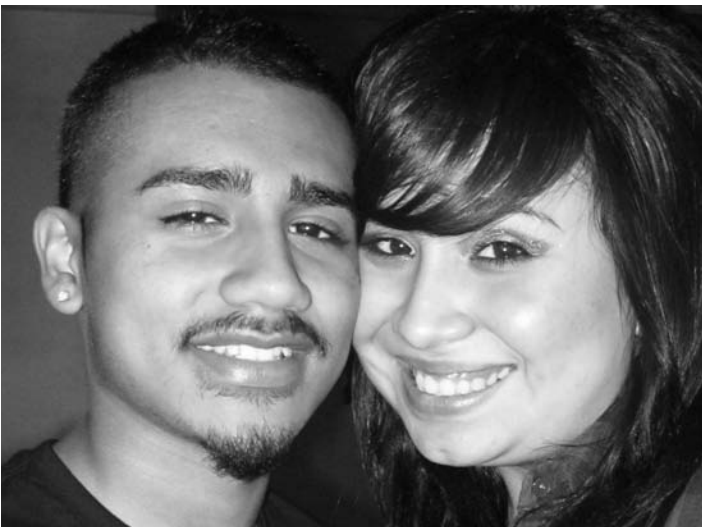
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This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE



Jamie and Rachel at Best Friends Club.



John and Kelly at Havana.



Nicole and Rachel at Sue Ellen's



Dancers at BJ's NXS!

Lots to get you ready for next week's **Razzle Dazzle**. You can start with **Mi Diva Loca's** show at **Woody's** back patio on Friday night. Then **Gary Floyd** does his sexy thing on Saturday night. ... **The Lizard Lounge** hosts the official prep for the **Meltdown Music Fest** with **Morgan Page** on Friday night. Dress the part for Saturday's **Invasion of the Naughty School Girls** and get in for free. ... Speaking of, **Meltdown** will take up the majority of your Saturday at the **QuikTrip Park at Grand Prairie** with a slew of bands performing from the afternoon to the wee hours of the late night. **Passion Pit**, **Shiny Toy Guns** and **Pretty Lights** are just a few of the bands on the roster. ... The **Dallas Bears** host the **John "Spanke" Studer Memorial Teddy Bear Auction** Sunday at the **Round-Up Saloon**. They re-branded the event to continue Studer's legacy with proceeds benefiting **AIDS Services of Dallas**. ... The drag kings work it out at Friday night's **Mustache Envy** show at **Sue Ellen's**. The **Tres Medlock Band** closes out the weekend playing Sunday night. ... The **Dallas Eagle** has pretty much overstuffed their weekend and there is no complaining here. It starts with the **live workout demonstrations of Pump**. Bet you never seen your trainer like that before. The **Welcome Home Party for Mr. Texas Leather Gabe Sims** happens after. Then the **Hanky Code Party** goes down the same time the **Rush! Toga Party** by the **Dallas Bears** and the **Leather Knights** gets going. But wait — there's more! The **United Court Show Angels and Demons** on Saturday benefits **Youth First Texas**. After, the **Butt Buster** spanking event starts while **DJ Blaine** provides the tunes. Man, we're tired already. ... **Razzle Dazzle Days** starts Wednesday with the **Cedar Springs Wine and Dog Walk** followed by the **Oak Lawn Pub Crawl** Thursday night. ■

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES



Matt, Jason, Sterling and Chris at the Tin Room.



Paul, Brandon and Ty at Joe's/The Brick.



Sassy and Cam at Station 4.

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2 Couples 2

Directed by **Mark-Brian Sonna**



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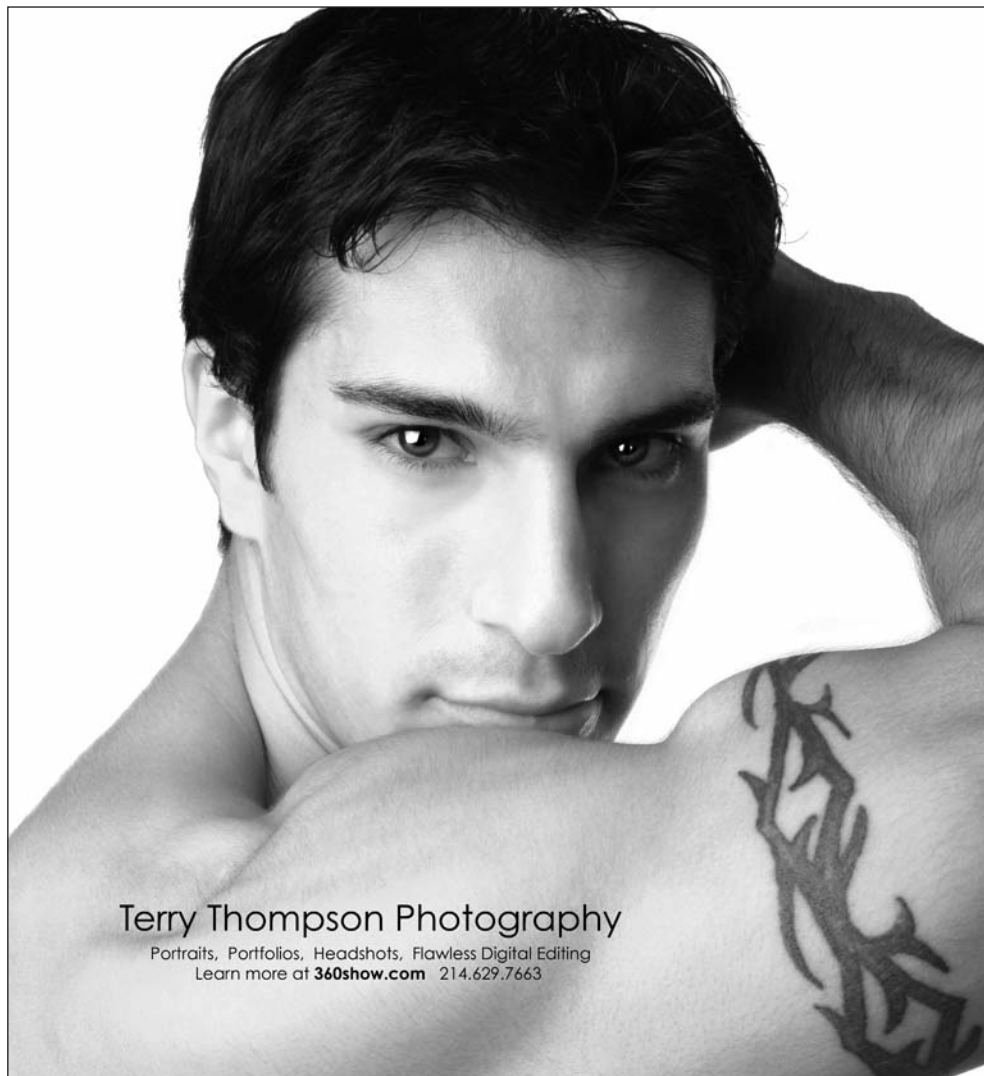
At the **Stone Cottage Theatre**, 15650 Addison Rd, Addison, TX 75001

Thursdays thru Saturdays 8pm. Produced by **MBS Productions**

Buy tickets at: www.mbsproductions.net or call 214-477-4942. Tickets \$18 to \$22.

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