

Dallas VideoFest gets its gay on

25th festival features many queer-interest films
Documentary about gay ally and Texas icon Ann Richards opens show

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Established 1984 | Volume 29 | Issue 19

FREE | Friday, September 21, 2012



Coming OUT of the SHADOWS

Obama's new DREAMer policy offers a lifeline to undocumented LGBT immigrants — who can't get married — but applicants like Lucy from Oak Cliff say they won't give up until they have permanent status

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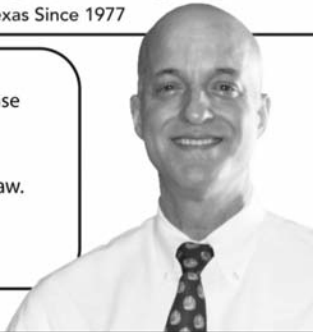
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STAYING AFLOAT | City council members ride in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade on Sunday, Sept. 16. For more photos from Pride, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos.

A few thoughts on Pride

Every year or two, I get a few emails challenging whether we even need Pride festivals anymore. Sure, there's a commercial aspect that will keep them happening as long as money can be made. But every year, I decide that yes, definitely: Pride is important.

Of course, the attack on it has always been that the mainstream media concentrate on the outrageous stuff — that the only scenes you see on the TV news are the leather daddies, the drag queens and the twinks. And here's the dirty secret we don't want our hetero friends to know: Most gay guys are just as embarrassed by the half-naked meth-heads as they are. Drunks becoming super-sexualized and losing inhibitions and behaving inappropriately in public is a scourge.

I'm not just talking about gay guys at Pride; I'm talking about straight guys on St. Patrick's Day and straight girls at Mardi Gras. Gays hardly have a monopoly on bad behavior. The difference is, no one says Girls Gone Wild 4 represents all womanhood, and it doesn't. And not all gay folks are exhibitionists.

But this is the thing: So what if some people embarrass us? The whole point of Pride is: Be yourself, and embrace your differences. Let's face it, there are a lot of nice bodies on some of those guys and gals — why not show it off if you're proud of that?

You know what I am proud of?

I'm proud of the parents who walk side by side with their gay children and let others in the crowd (the gay ones who didn't have that support and the straight folks who are concerned about what it means if they accept something they don't understand) know that love is never wrong.

I'm proud of the churches that march in solidarity, showing religious folks that hate is not a value, and that if you believe in God, you have to believe in unconditional love and the right of all men to be spiritual and sexual as they choose, without being condemned by closed-minded bigots.

I'm proud of corporations, who are primarily concerned with profits, demonstrating how money is one thing, but people are more important, and respecting your employees and your customers is never bad business.

I'm proud of those who march in favor of marriage equality.

I'm proud of the drag queens, who could teach a lot of straight folks about what it means to be a strong man — those girls looked fabulous in

makeup and heels in the rain.

I'm proud of politicians who know that gays vote, and there's never a downside to relating to your constituents as people.

I'm proud of the straight people who got the chance to experience warmth and affection from us, and realize we are all just people.

I'm proud of the thousands of folks who stood out in the rain for four hours or more, because they didn't care they were getting wet — they just cared they were having fun and cheering on.

And I'm proud of half-naked twinks. They did entertain us.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Dancer stabbed at Station 4

A female dancer at Station 4 was stabbed by her ex-girlfriend following an argument inside the gay nightclub early Monday, Sept. 17.

The woman, 23-year-old Melissa Yung of Bedford, was working as a dancer at the club at 3911 Cedar Springs Road when her ex-girlfriend approached her shortly before 2 a.m., Sr. Cpl. Sherri Jeffrey, a spokeswoman for DPD, told Instant Tea.

The two began fighting and the ex-girlfriend cut Yung with an unknown object, causing serious bodily injury, according to a Dallas police report. She sustained a major cut on the left side of her neck, as well as cuts on her chest and abdomen, the report states. The suspect was wearing all black and fled the club in an unknown direction, according to the report. The dancer was treated on scene and told police she was going to go to a hospital in North Richland Hills and refused transport by Dallas Fire-Rescue. A friend took her to the hospital. The ex-girlfriend had not been identified, as police were still trying to interview Yung for more information. It's unclear what started the fight and what object the woman used to stab Yung.

Rick Espallat, media director for Caven Enterprises Inc., said contract-labor dancers are regularly hired for the club. He said staff responded immediately and police were called, but the ex-girlfriend fled and could not be located.

"We regret that there was an injury inside the club; we work hard to provide a safe environment for our guests," he said. "This appears to be a relationship assault, not a random crime, and we appreciate the prompt response of the S4 staff and City of Dallas emergency services. We're confident that this will be thoroughly investigated and resolved in the courts."

— Anna Waugh

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Coming out of the shadows

Obama's new DREAMer policy offers a lifeline to undocumented LGBT immigrants — who can't get married — but applicants like Lucy from Oak Cliff say they won't give up until they have permanent status

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Although she was only 6, Lucy vividly remembers the trip to Dallas, which took more than a week.

Lucy, her sister and her mother headed north from Mexico City across the desert to a point between Nuevo Laredo and Juarez.

She remembers her mother, who was unable to swim, being afraid to ply the river, but a man guided them. Lucy floated the Rio Grande on an inner tube.

Once in the U.S., they continued through the desert to a road where her uncle picked them up and drove them to Dallas.

Now 21, Lucy graduated from Townview high school and now attends Mountain View College.

Lucy, who asked that her surname be withheld, proudly wears a T-shirt that reads, "Queer, undocumented, unafraid and unashamed."

The same year Lucy arrived in Oak Cliff with her mother, Alejandro left his home in Monterrey with his parents. Alejandro spoke to Dallas Voice on the condition that his identity be protected.

He said that it isn't a coincidence he and Lucy arrived in Dallas the same year. An economic downturn in Mexico in the late '90s made it difficult to find work.

His family headed to Dallas by bus to visit relatives. When he crossed the border into Texas, his passport was stamped.

His family remained in Dallas and Alejandro, who was 14 at the time, enrolled in school. After high school, he graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington. He teaches language at a Mid-Cities private school.

What Lucy and Alejandro have in common is they're both undocumented, both gay and both qualify for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, a memo issued by Homeland Security in June that can lead to Employment Authorization Documents.

President Barack Obama announced the new interpretation of a policy that undocumented immigrants under 31 years old as of June 15, 2012, who came to the U.S. when they were 16 or younger, can apply for a two-year deferred action and receive documents allowing them to work and get other papers like drivers licenses.



CLIFF DWELLER | Oak Cliff is the only place 21-year-old Lucy has ever called home, although she does recall coming from Mexico at 6. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

"The overall feeling is, 'We can come out of the shadows now,'" said Arcelia Hurtado, deputy director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights in San Francisco.

Lucy submitted her application on Aug. 16, the day after the program began. Alejandro is still weighing his options.

Lucy said gathering the documents was daunting, but she is a pack-rat and kept report cards, medical records and other documents needed to prove residence.

"My mom said, 'You don't have any ID, so keep everything that has your name on it to prove who you are,'" Lucy said.

Alejandro said retaining those types of documents is part of "immigrant culture."

"We're always waiting for amnesty, so keep everything to prove who you are," he said.

The process requires the applicant to prove physically being in the U.S. on June 15, 2012, and living permanently in the U.S. for the previous five consecutive years after entering either without in-

spection, as Lucy did, or with immigration status expiring, as Alejandro did.

Both Alejandro and Lucy can prove they were in the U.S. on June 15.

"I had a Greyhound ticket from that day," Lucy said.

Alejandro had a written statement notarized.

Applicants must also be enrolled in school, graduated high school, obtained a GED certificate or have an honorable military discharge. They must not be convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor or three or more misdemeanors or be a threat to national security.

A week after she applied, Lucy received confirmation that her application had been received. Earlier this week she had her "biometrics appointment."

The biometrics appointment is to take fingerprints and begin an FBI investigation. Those who pass should be issued their EAD work permit and two years of deferred action. The first ones were issued last week. Those who do not pass may be

referred to Immigration and Customs Enforcement for deportation.

And that's why Alejandro is waiting and weighing his options.

"If they find fraud," he said, "we'll be referred to ICE and be deported."

He worries about his employment history being used against him.

"If someone has employment records with a fake social security number, is the person committing fraud?" he wondered.

But NCLR's Hurtado said the application doesn't require that type of information.

"There's some recognition that may or may not have been happening," she said.

Alejandro said he was waiting to see how other cases are handled. If those issues are resolved, he may apply later. And, he said, his situation is a little difference from Lucy's.

Alejandro is in a bi-national relationship. He said he's waiting to see if one of the cases challenging the Defense of Marriage Act will be heard by

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

Eligibility

- Under 31 as of June 15, 2012
- Entered U.S. younger than 16
- Continuously resided in U.S. since June 15, 2007 (brief absences for humanitarian reasons allowed)
- Entered U.S. without inspection or immigration status expired before June 15, 2012
- Physically in the U.S. on June 15, 2012
- Currently in school, graduated high school, obtained a GED or honorably discharged from military or Coast Guard
- Have no felony convictions, a significant misdemeanor or more than three misdemeanors
- Are not a threat to national security

Age

- Must have been under 31 on June 15, 2012
- Must be at least 15 at time of application
- Exception: May be under 15 if applicant is in removal proceedings, have a final order of removal or voluntary order of removal

Documents

- Form I-821D: Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
- Form I-765: Application for Employment Authorization Document
- Form I-765: WS-EAD Economic need supplement form

- Documents that prove applicant meets age, entry, continuous presence and educational or military requirements
- \$465 fee

Legal status

- Deferred action does not grant legal status
- During deferred action, applicant is considered lawfully in the U.S.

Risk

- If deferred action is not granted, removal proceedings may begin against the applicant
- If deferred action is granted, the status is discretionary and may be revoked in the future

Financial aid

Beginning Sept. 21, apply for financial aid to cover the \$465 application fee online at LibertyHill.org/LGBTDreamersFund

Legal help

- Immigration Equality
212-714-2904
ImmigrationEquality.org
- National Center for Lesbian Rights
415-392-6257
NCLRights.org

Source: Immigration Equality

the Supreme Court this session.

He said if DOMA is declared unconstitutional, he and his partner would marry in a state where it's legal, and he could obtain a green card the way most undocumented heterosexuals do.

There's no deadline to apply under DACA. And Alejandro said he's secure in his job and doesn't want to be a test case.

But because so many heterosexuals receive documentation through marriage, DACA disproportionately helps young gay and lesbian immigrants.

Immigration Equality spokesman Steve Ralls said his organization's estimate is that tens of thousands of LGBT youth are eligible.

"For many LGBT youth, there's a concern about coming forward and identifying themselves to the government," Ralls said, "especially if they come from a country where being out wouldn't lead to a good outcome."

He called that a roadblock to some from taking advantage of the program.

But he said that the Department of Homeland Security has done a good job of streamlining the process, and he gave special praise to Secretary Janet Napolitano.

Ralls said many of the people calling his organization for assistance are wondering how their families would be affected.

"Parents won't be targeted," he said.

Ralls said the biggest fear he's heard is about what would happen if Obama is not re-elected and the program is cancelled.

"There's concern because Romney had not said

what he would do on immigration broadly or on this policy specifically," Ralls said.

Hurtado said it would be hard for a new administration to go back on a promise made once documents are issued.

Cost is another barrier to applying. The application fee is \$465.

"It's a lot for people who haven't had work authorization," Ralls said.

NCLR spearheaded a drive to raise funds to assist those unable to pay. Hurtado said they already have \$75,000 and the goal is \$100,000 — which would help at least 200 LGBT youth.

In the first month the policy was in effect, about 72,000 people applied for two-year permits. Ralls said if Obama is re-elected, he expects to see another surge in applications.

But someone opposing the policy may eventually be elected.

Ralls said he hopes to see "meaningful immigration reform" over the next few years that would include passage of the Dream Act. That legislation would go beyond DACA and provide a path to citizenship for people like Lucy and Alejandro who are only eligible for documentation for two years.

Hurtado called DACA the first step toward comprehensive immigration reform.

"These Dreamers will have to continue to be active over the next two years," Hurtado said. "There will be a lot of debate."

Lucy said she won't stop until she has permanent status. After all, Oak Cliff's the only place she's ever called home. ■



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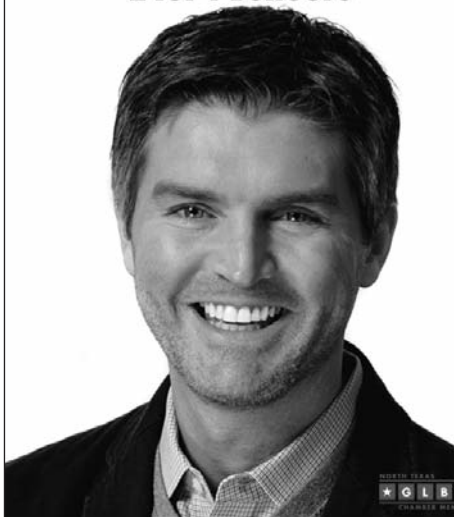
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localbriefs

7th annual LGBT Job Expo set for Wednesday afternoon at SMU

Resource Center Dallas and the Out & Equal DFW Regional Affiliate will host the 2012 LGBT Job Expo from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 26. This year's event — the seventh annual Expo — will be at the Hughes-Trigg Students Center of Southern Methodist University, 3140 Dyer St. Free parking for EXPO attendees will be available along Bishop Boulevard. The event is hosted by the Office of Diversity at SMU's Cox School of Business.

LGBT jobseekers will be able to meet with dozens of employers from a variety of fields. Whether people are looking for a better job, re-entering the workforce or just starting their career, the LGBT Job Expo provides an opportunity to meet with employers looking to hire.

"Everybody knows the economy continues to be challenging, which makes it critically important that businesses hire the best possible candidates regardless of the employees' sexual orientation or gender identity. Even if an employer is not hiring immediately, they have the opportunity to collect jobseekers' resumes for future hiring," said RCD's Johnny Humphrey, organizer of the LGBT Job Expo.

Dallas Voice is the official media sponsor of the 2012 LGBT Job Expo. For more information on the Job Expo, go to www.rcdallas.org, or call 214-528-0144.

WEDDING

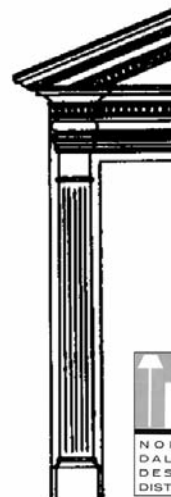


HERNANDEZ-SANCHEZ | Abraham Hernandez and Dante Sanchez will marry on Saturday, Sept. 29, at Avanti Fountain Place in Dallas. The couple met four years ago within their Cedar Springs neighborhood and were legally married a year ago in Vermont. They will honeymoon in Australia and hope to eventually grow their family through adoption.

pet of the week / AMBER

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RIDING HIGH | Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez appears on horseback in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade on Sunday, Sept. 16. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

Sheriff fears complacency among Dallas Democrats as she vies for 3rd term

Lesbian incumbent Lupe Valdez struggles to raise money for race against Republican Kirk Launius, who expresses support for LGBTs

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez says her re-election to a third term could come down to the money she can raise to reach voters — many of whom, she says, don't even know she's on the ballot.

"Nobody knows I'm running," Valdez told Dallas Voice this week. "I don't know if the word hasn't got out or they just assume that I'm going to be sheriff, but it's dangerous when people do not know you're on the ticket."

Valdez said campaign funds were low before

the primary but since then she's been "picking up a little in the fundraising." Yard signs were just going out this week, so many people haven't seen advertising or mailers that she's up for re-election.

Valdez, Dallas County's first female, first Hispanic and first lesbian sheriff, started the shift in turning Dallas County blue in 2004. Although her first campaign was difficult because few people knew her, she said her 2008 campaign boomed with financial support because of her record in the sheriff's office. But she worries now that voters have assumed the county will stay blue and donate less and less.

"It's difficult right now. I would hate to think it's because Dallas is turning more Democratic that a lot of the folks that give money are placing a lot of their money outside of the county," she said.

"They're concerned about the Senate race and they're concerned about the presidential race. I hope it's not the fact that everybody thinks we've

2012 ELECTIONS

■ SHERIFF, Page 13

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■ texasnews



Rain can't dampen g

29th Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade draws 25,000, including 12 Dallas city council members, despite steady downpour

JOHN WRIGHT | Senior Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

A steady rain may not have dampened spirits during Dallas' gay Pride parade on Sunday — but it did significantly reduce attendance at the event,

according to police estimates.

DISD Detective Sgt. Jeremy Liebke, who served as co-security liaison for the Dallas Pride parade and festival, said an estimated 25,000 people attended the Pride parade, down from an average of 35,000.

Liebke said paid admission for the ensuing Pride Festival in Lee Park was 5,800—roughly the same as last year but well below the 8,000 organizers had hoped for in 2012.

Michael Doughman, executive director of the Dallas Tavern Guild, which puts on the parade and festival, said despite the rain, he doesn't be-

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HOLDING COURT | The United Court of the Lone Star Empire's float was one of 100 entries in the 29th annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)



gay Pride

lieve revelers left disappointed.

"I think the rain was a frustration for people, but everybody seemed to be in a good mood," he said. "I don't think it really dampened the spirit of anybody who was there. ... All in all, when you allow for the scenario when it's going to rain, I still consider it a success."

Doughman said the rain forced cancellation of live bands at the festival because electrical equipment couldn't be plugged in on the uncovered stage.

And although final receipts haven't been tal-

■ **PRIDE**, Next Page

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TROUBLE AT THE INN | Police respond to an unconscious person in front of the Melrose Hotel during the parade. The woman was taken away in an ambulance after being injured in a fight. The Melrose general manager may close off the lawn in future years due to problems during Pride. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

■ PRIDE, From Previous Page

lied, beer sales at the festival likely were down due to cooler temperatures.

But he said reduced revenue from the event won't affect the amount given to beneficiaries — which is set beforehand — and it shouldn't have much of an impact on the Tavern Guild's budget.

"We were in very good shape going in," Doughman said. "We were at a record level financially going in, so I'm not really expecting us to be much off of where we were last year."

Twelve of the 15 Dallas city councilmembers, including Mayor Mike Rawlings, attended the parade. The only council member who said they would attend the parade but did not show up was Dwaine Caraway.

"I'll have to check with him and find out," Caraway's assistant, Sloan Anderson, said Monday when asked why Caraway had not been there. "Maybe something else was on his calendar, but it wasn't when I put that on there ... and I didn't speak with him to find out if that was going to change or not."

Anderson said she would call back with more information but never did so.

Other appointed and elected officials who appeared in the parade included Dallas police Chief David Brown, Sheriff Lupe Valdez, Dallas school board member Adam Medrano, state Reps. Roberto Alonzo and Rafael Anchia, and Dallas County State District Judge Carl Ginsberg.

Liebe said there were two arrests at Pride — one for public intoxication and one for possession of marijuana.

"For an event with somewhere around 30,000 people, two arrests is insignificant," he said. "I would say from a security and police standpoint, it went really well."

Liebe said one female parade spectator left in

an ambulance after being knocked unconscious in a fight in front of the Melrose Hotel. The woman is believed to be OK, he said, and there were no arrests because it was mutual combat and no one wanted to press charges.

The lawn of the Melrose has become a trouble spot on the parade route over the years.

Because of the rain, the Melrose lawn suffered even more damage than usual this year and was reduced to a mud pit. As a result, Doughman said parade organizers have agreed to move announcers and a small stage — normally set up on the lawn — across the street in front of Walgreen's next year.

Larry McAfee, general manager of the Melrose Hotel, said he's considering closing off the lawn to the public during the parade.

In addition to damage to the grass — which will have to be reseeded again this year — parade spectators urinate in the bushes and leave a large amount of trash, McAfee said.

"Every year it gets worse and worse, and I don't see any other alternative," McAfee said. "We want to be good neighbors, and we're very supportive of the neighborhood we're in. It's just that every year it seems to be getting a little more out of hand. I can't continue to dump thousands of dollars into recovery."

The Pride parade winners are:

- Best Performance — Gay & Lesbian Band Association.
- Best Walking Group — Windy City Cowboys.
- Best Costumes — Los Rieles.
- Best Social Commentary — Youth First Texas.
- Best Presentation of Theme — Caven Enterprises.
- Best Overall Entry — Kaliente.
- Best For-Profit Entry — ilume/ilume Park.
- Best Non-Profit Entry — Cathedral of Hope.
- Judges' Choice: Rainbow Members Club. ■

■ **SHERIFF**, From Page 9

turned Democrat."

The Republican candidate for sheriff, Kirk Launius, is a Navy veteran and former Dallas police officer who owns a security company with two business partners. He said he'd like to get back into law enforcement and wants to bring better morale and stronger leadership to the sheriff's department.

"Dallas is my home. It's always been my home," he said. "I just love my city and I love serving people and that's how I view this job as a public servant."

Launius said fundraising has been a challenge because of the focus on the presidential race, as well as congressional and senatorial races.

As for the LGBT community, Launius said he knows many LGBT people and would work to serve all of Dallas' communities if elected.

"I have a lot of friends in that community," he said. "I love my friends. That's a really personal decision on their part. ... I think I'd be a good representative for the whole community."

Valdez was a target of anti-gay attacks during her first two campaigns, but said she hasn't seen any this cycle.

"I wouldn't be surprised if there's stuff out there," she said. "Last time there's was so much of that it was unreal."

Valdez said she will always be a political target because she is Hispanic, lesbian and a Democrat.

"I will always have an opponent because of all the strikes against me," she said. "I don't think it has anything to do with how I'm doing my job. ... I think there's a certain segment that will never look beyond that."

She said Republicans are gunning for her because many Democrats only won their races in 2010 by less than half a percentage point.

"If it's that close on some of our candidates, there's a reason for the other side to fight," she said, adding that she's just trying to keep up with Launius in fundraising. "Even though we're not raising as much money as we should to run a decent campaign, as long as I'm keeping up with him, I'm OK."

Rob Schlein, president of Metroplex Republicans of Dallas, said many donors are supporting presidential nominee Mitt Romney or Ted Cruz's Senate campaign. Schlein said Launius has spoken to his group and he thinks most members will vote for him.

"I think he'll make an excellent sheriff and the question comes down to confidence and qualifications," he said.

Schlein said many Dallas County races were close two years ago, so Republicans are gearing up to win offices back in November, especially with a lack of enthusiasm for President Barack Obama — who carried many local Democratic politicians in 2008.

"It wouldn't surprise me if Dallas County went red this cycle because of the strong will to defeat Obama and with Romney at the top of the ticket," he said.

Traci Clinton, political chair for Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, said there has been donor burnout among both parties locally because Re-

Stonewall fundraiser

A fundraiser for Sheriff Lupe Valdez and Dallas County Commissioners Court candidate Theresa Daniel is from 7-9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24, at the Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. For more info, visit StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.org.

publicans didn't break the Democratic majority in 2010, but Democrats didn't win by much. He said the strong focus on the presidential campaign could help Democrats in Dallas County because more people vote during presidential elections.

Clinton said complacency among voters is misguided because grassroots organizations are out there and spreading their message to shift the county's power to the Republicans, and people still need to donate and focus on important races up until election day.

"It's not in the bag," he said about Democratic races. "We're looking better than a few months ago, but we're not done yet."

Valdez agrees that her work is not done and said she'll keep striving to inform voters that she's on the ticket and needs funds. And if people can't give her campaign a check, she said she'll manage if she can still win their vote.

"It's important that the LGBT community get out and vote. Apathy is my worst enemy," Valdez said. "We're hurting for money but we can probably do without that if the people would just get out and vote." ■

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Marriage foes grow desperate

Anti-gay leaders from states where issue is on ballot this year sound pessimistic at Values Voter Summit — a sign their streak is set to end

Anti-gay activists have never lost a referendum on marriage equality (32-0), but that might be about to change. (Well, they did lose once in Arizona, but voters reversed themselves within a year.) Shifting demographics and more accepting attitudes could make 2012 the year that America junked the anti-gay marriage juggernaut. Voters will decide on marriage questions at the ballot box in Minnesota, Maine, Maryland and Washington state.

The outcome of these fights is critically important because one of the extremists' main talking points is that their track record proves that they represent "the people" against activist judges and the ruling elite who are enacting such laws against the will of voters.

Last week, I attended the Values Voter Summit in Washington, D.C., where there was a Saturday morning panel featuring leaders of the statewide fights against gay marriage. With the exception of the Minnesota representative, the anti-gay activists seemed as desperate as they were defeatist — which is a change from the optimism of previous years.

Carroll Conley, executive director of the Maine Family Policy Council, was incredibly pessimistic and claimed his campaign had "tremendous obstacles to overcome." He began his speech by blasting the Catholic Church for not helping enough with his efforts.

"Our campaign is absent the leadership of the Catholic Church," complained Conley. "This great ally in so many other battles and so many other times has chosen not to engage publicly. The Bishop's absence is a tremendous obstacle in a predominantly Catholic state ... we are seemingly not in a good place."

Desperate to gain traction, Conley implored the audience to contact him if they knew of any "religious liberty conflicts" that he could presumably distort to trick voters into believing that marriage equality clashed with religious freedom.

If Conley is having trouble attracting support, it might be because his message is too sectarian and he appears to be using his campaign as an effort to proselytize:

"It is my belief that as we stand here on this beachhead, we are doing this for the glory of God, to honor him, to honor our community, and draw them to Jesus Christ. And I ask that you pray and consider that be our motivation that the Lord would anoint our efforts in his honor."

Joseph Backholm, the executive director of Preserve Marriage Washington, was also a bit too much of a holy roller for the state he is represent-



GETTING IN ON THE HATEFEST | Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan speaks at the Values Voter Summit on Sept. 14. The summit is hosted by the Family Research Council. (Associated Press)

ing: "You are not on the wrong side of history because God is not on the wrong side of history," he piously proclaimed to the pompous puritans.

If not to underscore his disconnect with the majority of his state's voters he declared, "I bring you greetings from the People's Republic of Washington State." This crowd of archconservatives that hallucinates commies under every rock had a hearty chuckle. But I'm not sure calling voters communists is the best way to convince them to support your cause.

The strategy of Backholm is fascinating. He believes that the majority of Washington voters don't really support marriage equality. They are deceived, weak-minded and subject to peer pressure not to appear homophobic. To counter this, his campaign has a simple message: "Demonstrate there is no inequality" and convince voters that they "can be kind and also support [heterosexual-only] marriage." The problem Backholm will have with educated

Washington voters is that neither assertion is true.

Derek McCoy, executive director for the Maryland Marriage Alliance, excited conference-goers with a rousing speech. His strategy was right out of the National Organization for Marriage's disgraceful handbook: He would seek to drive a wedge between gay people and African-Americans, as well as appeal to the state's conservative Catholics. But, McCoy appears terrified that Obama's support for marriage equality, as well as support from Gov. Martin O'Malley, will undermine his campaign.

"If we lose in Maryland specifically the headlines will read the next day, 'Obama Wins On Gay Marriage' and 'Catholic governor of Maryland Switches the Catholic Vote,'" he said.

John Helmberger, CEO of the Minnesota Fam-

ily Council, was by far the most confident in winning. He claimed that his campaign was leading in every demographic. And he said there was no ethnic or religious group his campaign was not targeting: "We've been in the state's largest mosques and they are solidly behind the marriage amendment ... but getting out the vote is everything for us."

The chance for victory in at least one state is fairly good, which will forever end the Religious Right's claim that they represent "the people." From now on, they will be forced to switch their message to the less appealing: "The people are against God." These anti-gay activists can pray all they want, but their useless movement doesn't stand a prayer in the long run. People are wising up to their inflammatory lies and realizing that on the issue of gay marriage they are divorced from reality. ■

Wayne Besen is founding executive director of Truth Wins Out, a Vermont-based nonprofit organization that fights anti-gay religious extremism. He can be reached at WBesen@TruthWinsOut.org.



Wayne Besen
Contributing Columnist

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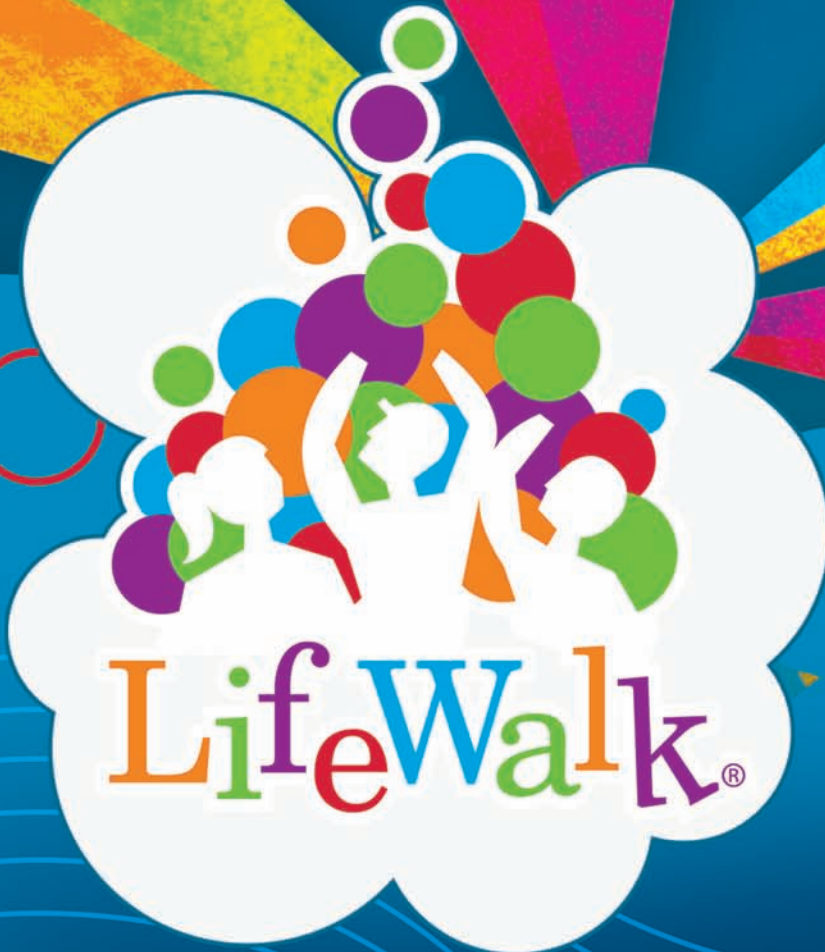
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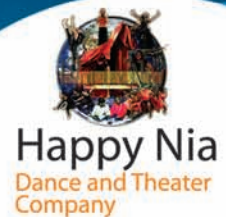
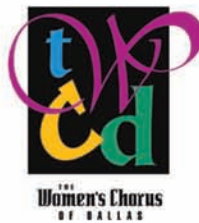
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Dallas VideoFest gets its queer on

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

There's almost always some gay content at most film festivals, but the Dallas VideoFest, for its 25th installment, has turned out a huge selection of queer-interest films for its annual event, starting Thursday — all documentaries, and many from gay filmmakers. From Ann Richards to Edward Albee to the trans underworld of L.A. and the Beat Generation, the slate mounted this year is consistently compelling — one of the best festivals the DVF has yet produced.

Here are some highlights, all of which screen inside the Dallas Museum of Art.

DALLAS VIDEOFEST 25

All films screen at venues inside the **Dallas Museum of Art**, 1717 Harwood St. Sept. 27–30. All-fest pass: \$50. VideoFest.org.

Ann Richards' Texas by Keith Patterson and Jack Lofton

You never needed to like Ann Richards to love her. Or hate her. Ann was the essence of Texas independence, "a character" when that term meant something. There were many men like her in public office before (including LBJ), but few women. With her passing, and that of Molly Ivins, we have simply not seen her like in a while. And probably never will again.

Richards stormed onto the national stage at the Democratic Convention in 1988 with her notorious "silver foot in his mouth line," and a legend was made. Plain-spoken and refreshing in a way only a Texan can be, Richards was folksy and witty, a brilliant combination of down-home and uptown, of wisdom and savvy, of the art of the possible and the power of dreaming big.

Ann Richards' Texas does justice to this friend of the gays (she was even accused of being gay on numerous occasions — a true sign of people fearing your power) and this authentically Texas-flavored documentary does a terrific job of conveying her brilliance, thanks to comments from Lily Tomlin, Ron Kirk, Dolly Parton and mostly footage of Ann herself.

Screens Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Horchow Auditorium.

The Wildness by Wu Tsang

There have been movies narrated by dead people and women in comas and unborn children, but this may be the first narrated by a drag bar. The Silver Platter has been a refuge for gay Spanish-speaking immigrants to the MacArthur Park area of Los Angeles for nearly 50 years and girl, she's *seen some shit*. And she's talkin'. Wu Tsang's magical-realism-influenced documentary about the place trans Latinas seek out for safety and acceptance speaks to a fascinating subculture of LGBT life with dignity but a serious fascination for what this seemingly insignificant corner of the barrio has meant to three generations of gay Hispanics.

Screens Sept. 27 at 9 p.m. in the C3 Theatre.

Joffrey: Mavericks of American Dance by Bob Hercules

The teaming of Robert Joffrey and Gerald Arpino had a transformative impact on modern ballet. At a time when classical ballet and modern dance remained segregated, they melded the two, adding a sexuality and masculinity not common at the time. (For once under them, men in ballet were more than just girl-lifters.) This documentary tracks their development — as a romantic couple, then as solely artistic partners — with tons of video of the actual dances they choreographed, plus interviews with scholars and those who were there, making history.

Joffrey is fairly conventional documentary filmmaking, and despite almost uniform praise for their artistry, some of their works (especially *Trinity* and some of the later stuff) seem dated and dull today. Ah, well. Geniuses aren't always right; they are still geniuses, as this film makes clear Joffrey and Arpino were.

Screens Sept. 28 at 9 p.m. in the C3 Tech Lab Screening Room.

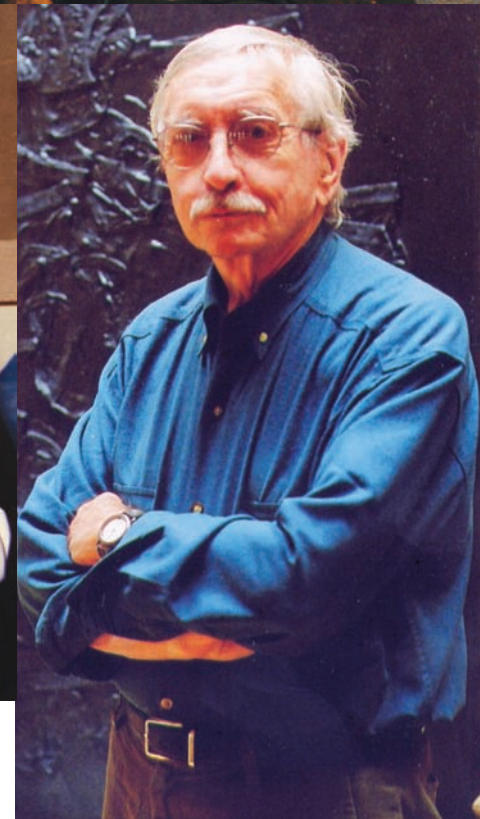
Stages of Edward Albee by James Dowell & John Kolomvakis



LIFE+STYLE
screen



FLICKER BY | Gay folks put on a great party in 'The Wildness,' top; Ann Richards proudly meets one of her drag impersonators, above; the weirdness of Edward Albee, right, is captured in 'Stages;' and a woman embraces her inner Amazon in 'Wonder Women,' below right.



Edward Albee — and I say this having met him once briefly — is a weird man. That weirdness has served him well. He basically hated his wealthy (adoptive) family — a recurrent theme in most of his plays, which range from intense psychological dramas to screwy absurdist comedies about how terrible parents and children are. The thing is, Albee has never tried to *disguise* his weirdness. He seems content making the most bizarre statements as if they were totally ordinary, not unlike many of his characters.

Dallas-based filmmakers James Dowell and John Kolomvakis (who screened their doc about their efforts at surrogacy at last year's VideoFest) capture his abiding peculiarity while still being respectful and unblinking. With recollections from former lover Terrence McNally, Ned Rorem and others including playwrights Tony Kushner and John Guare, and actresses Kathleen Turner, Rosemary Harris and Marian Seldes, it's a fascinating profile of one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

Screens Sept. 29 at 1:45 p.m. Horchow Auditorium.

The Beat Hotel by Alan Govenar

A bohemian enclave in Paris from about 1958 to 1963, The Beat Hotel was, like all great social legends — the Lost Generation, the Algonquin Round Table, the Golden Age of Hollywood, Woodstock — a moment that can never be fully captured in its fullness. You truly had to be there to understand it.



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BON VOYEUR

From Page 16

Alan Govenar takes a shot, though, with this documentary, and while there's some interest here, it's not a compelling dissection of the Beat leaders (including gay and bisexual leaders Allen Ginsberg and his partner Peter Orlofsky, Jack Kerouac and William S. Burroughs). Successfully, it reflects the seamier side of any artistic movement ... which the Beat Generation would probably love.

Screens Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. in the Horchow Auditorium.

Wonder Women! The Untold Story of the American Superheroines by Kristy Guevara-Flanagan

Gay people often say the absence of gay role models in their youth contributed to feelings of inadequacy of otherness. But women often have similar experiences — at least, in the comic book universe. Other than Diana Prince, name a female superhero! ... Yeah, it's hard. But not impossible.

"She was the only game in town," observes Gloria Steinem in this documentary, though we find out she wasn't — though she was the first and most important.

Wonder Woman is the heart of this story that explores not only the character and comic books, but feminism and pop culture in the broader sense. A gay comic store owner in Portland, Ore., even created Wonder Woman Day as a fundraiser for domestic violence shelters because, he says, as an openly gay man, he wanted to embody her ideals.

Princess Diana isn't the only hero profiled here — it eventually delves into other modern characters, from Ripley to Charlie's Angels to Hillary Clinton — though she is the focus. And what gay man doesn't like a little Wonder in his life?



CORPS DE BALLET | The Joffrey Ballet infused dance with a sexuality missing before.

Screens Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. in the C3 Theatre.

Angel by Andrew Nelson

A short documentary about the female boxer. (No screener available.)

Sept. 30. Screens with other shorts, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Horchow Auditorium.

QUEER CLIP: 'The Master'

I'm not sure you could convince me that Paul Thomas Anderson is any less of a charlatan than L. Ron Hubbard. Both men have created cults around themselves — Hubbard with a phony religion (Scientology) made up to exploit closeted Hollywood stars and make a fortune; Anderson, a slate of films that are less brilliant than they pretend to be. Still, I think the comparisons end there; Hubbard was a megalomaniac and a bully, a man who allowed his greed to become a destructive mind-game; Anderson just wants to make movies.

Some of his movies are entertaining, if not the masterpieces his followers believe them to be. *Boogie Nights* was a mainstream film masquerading as indie-art; *There Will Be Blood* an overlong sick comedy in which Anderson seemed to be teasing his audience about their limits of tolerance. With *The Master*, he finally exceeds our capacity to indulge him.

The leading character in *Blood* was a dark soul, a villainous man in many ways, but you could understand him and even sympathize; the same cannot be said of any characters in *The Master*, a fictionalized idyll on the founding of Scientology, where Hubbard aka Lancaster Dodd (Philip Seymour Hoffman) enlists a shell-shocked World War II sailor named Freddie (Joaquin Phoenix) as a kind of half enforcer, half pet, as he preaches his gospel of "programming" (talk about brainwashing!). Every single character is despicable.

Anderson, forever *l'artiste*, never feels an obligation to explain himself (remember the raining frogs in *Magnolia*?), so not a lot here makes sense, even owing to the vagaries of creative impulse. We never have a sense for why Dodd keeps Freddie around, with the possible exception that he hopes to use Freddie as the lab-rat that assuages his own guilt about fleecing good people — maybe he can actually make Freddie's life better. If so, that's a slender thread on which to dangle a storyline that is densely opaque.

Phoenix, the squirreliest of actors, goes on a full-out acorn hunt here, with Anderson seeming to give him free rein to turn tics into techniques. I hesitate to call it a bad performance, because it's not really that; it just feels unnecessary — and character in search of a motivation. Hoffman is persuasively narcissistic, but Amy Adams, as Dodd's wife, is a walking zero here, as uninteresting as wallpaper in a bus stop men's room.

It's ironic, that this movie critiques Dodd's techniques, since Anderson himself is all about process. He's a gifted stylist who treats moviemaking as a social experiment. Pardon me for not joining the cult. — AW.J.
Two stars. Opens today at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre.



TOM FORD

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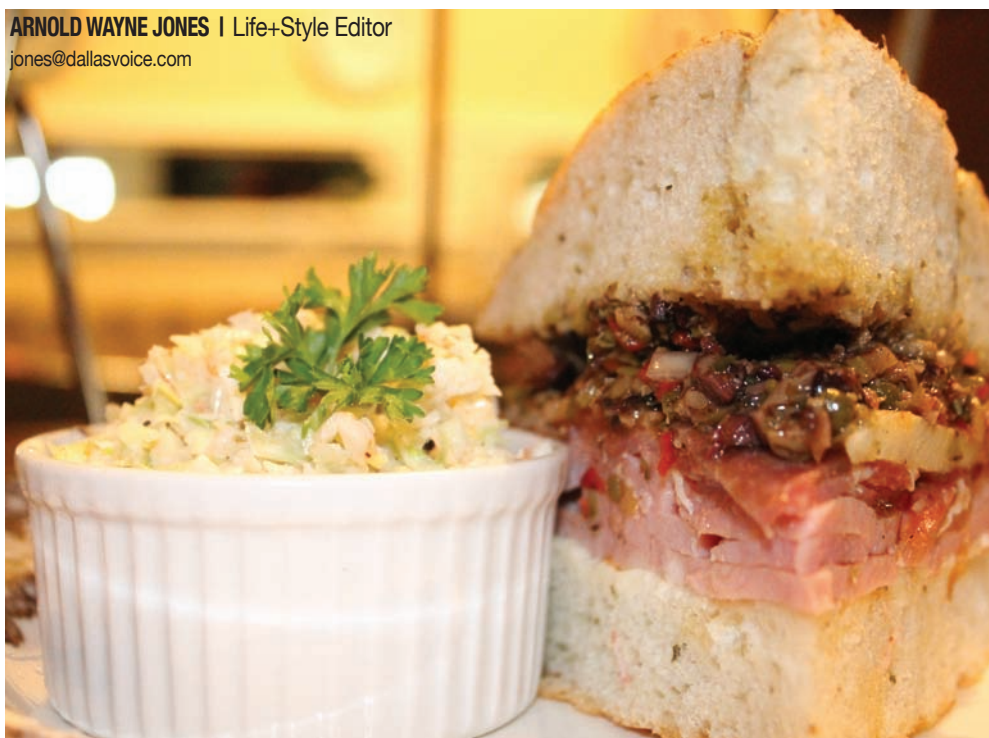
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Tasting notes

Hey, y'all! Paula Deen does Dallas; Sissy's serves lunch

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



If you've stopped by the website of **Sissy's Southern Kitchen** any time in the last five months, you've seen "lunch coming soon" promised. Well, "soon" finally arrived. **Lisa Garza's** Henderson Avenue eatery, already Dallas' favorite destination for fried chicken, began serving lunch Tuesday. (And that lunch comes now from chef de cuisine **Chris Ostlund**, following the recent departure of founding exec chef **Jeffrey Hobbs**.)

The lunch menu has only one total newcomer to the menu — the New Orleans-style muffuletta sandwich with slaw, pictured ... and it's as authentic as you can get without being flooded out. The rest of the menu turns some familiar dinner entrees into lunch-sized versions, whether turning the fried oysters into the kitchen's first po boy sammich (always a good idea) or wrapping the chicken-fried flatiron steak in a bun, stacking on some crisp onions and providing the essential accompaniment: A side of white cream gravy for dippin'.

There's a definite Low Country bent at Sissy's, which shows especially at lunch, from the po boy to shrimp and grits with a jambalaya-influenced sauce. That should hit home with down-home Savannah chef and TV cooking icon **Paula Deen**. The goddess who believes butter can make everything from grits to iced tea taste better will be the headliner, along with **Bobby Flay**, at the MetroCooking Dallas Show. The inaugural expo of cooking and entertaining features celebrity appearances by Flay and Deen, but also demonstrations and tons of vendors (including many local purveyors, offering everything from artisan oils, jellies and sauces to health supplements and specialty foods).

The two-day event takes place at the Dallas Convention Center. For a full listing of events and prices (adult general admission is \$24.50), visit MetroCookingDallas.com.

They're coming to Dallas.
(There goes the neighborhood.)

Photo by: Matt Hoyle

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Shop worn

Pet Shop Boys less than heavenly on 'Elysium'



As the Pet Shop Boys, alterna-pop pioneers Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe never fail to keep the musical landscape interesting. With a knack for super-clever lyrics on top of dreamy dance beats, the duo has carved a signature sound into the ears of gay audiences for three decades.

With their 11th studio album, *Elysium*, The Boys are back. But with so many years in the industry, the new album makes it hard to tell if they are making music for fans or just for their own amusement.

PSB does not have much relevance in today's music landscape. They are a product of decades past with a beautiful legacy. The upshot is, there is no reason to expect that their Next Great Album is due, though good music is still expected. And they are experts at delivering tunes that fascinate with sophistication.

"Rent" was a classic and "Was it Worth It?" an underrated bit that pulsed with energy worthy of a Michael Bay movie, but with brains. Some of that is here, but a lot of it just doesn't matter.

They start off strong with the smooth "Leaving," immediately sticking to the lush beat that we've heard before but which never grows tiresome. Tennant's usually elfin voice has a bit of gravel to it when he sings *I can still find some hope to believe in love*. This is some of their best work that manages to surprise.

Then they fizzle out with "Invisible." The subsequent track slows the pace considerably ... but it's only the second song. The album is stilted in its flow but fortunately, they know how to treat the quieter tunes. "Invisible" is an exercise in elegance, if completely misplaced.

Mistakes like these plague *Elysium* — mostly on the second half, though they never establish a flow. The songs are so up and down that it's hard to settle in. "Winner," the album's feel-good song, sounds like an ode to Olympic athletes and is out of character lyrically when as PSB boast *we came so far just to compete*. The song is fine if a little bit contrived. (*Elysium* was produced in Los Angeles and this is a track that proves it. PSB is smart to keep their sound intact, but the commercial tone is present and even cheesy.)

Things turn bad with "Breathing Space," a ballad so drawn out that it's a chore to listen to. Just skip this track. Ditto "Ego Music." Where they create some of pop's more sophisticated music, they also often resort to ridiculousness. Remember "Shopping"? They bring that mentality to this track that actually repeats *me me me / you you you* with poetic conviction behind it — just no substance. Past tricks that tend to work begin to annoy here with Tennant's vocal narration and throwaway beats.

"Hold On" plays like a forgotten track from their flawed *Closer To Heaven* musical, and "Give it a Go" has inspired lyrics, but the chant of its title is pedestrian. Still, somehow in the one-two of these tracks they find their old selves.

They recover more with the bleak, industrial "Memory to the Future," reminding how they orchestrate electronica rather than just programming it. And when Tennant delivers *It's taken me all of*



HEAVY PETTING | PSB's new CD is a mish-mash of old-school electronica.

my life to find you, there's relief in his voice despite a purposeful lack of emotional resonance. What a trick. "Everything Means Something" starts with a bitter tone but builds; the stanzas and beats are weighty and hard juxtaposed by Tennant's voice.

Elysium suffers from many PSB clichés, but the biggest of all is also its best attribute. They saved the best for last with "Requiem in Denim and Leopardskin." This high-energy song isn't about anything, but the usual PSB twists and turns, reminiscent of "Go West," join with "Leaving" to bookend the CD. Unfortunately everything in between was a mish-mash — some good, a lot bad. And there isn't a track that sticks with you (be wary of the "Ego Music" earworm), but Pet Shop Boys prove something they have seemed to sidestep their entire careers: Even genius can falter. ■

— Rich Lopez



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LGBT Job Expo presented by Resource Center Dallas, Out & Equal Dallas-Ft. Worth and hosted by the Office of Diversity at SMU Cox School of Business. Media sponsor, Dallas Voice.

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Pockets of mystery

Gay dads, codependence and the post-feminist cleverness of 'Becky Shaw'



BAD DATES | Four damaged adults behave like petty children in Kitchen Dog's 'Becky Shaw.'

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

A closeted gay dad squanders his fortune while carrying on a torrid affair with his Japanese financial adviser; meanwhile, his wife hires rent boys while his overeducated, under-realized daughter soaks herself in dramatic grieving. Just a typical upper-class family in countless comedic plays, from Neil Simon to A.R. Gurney to Woody Allen.

Only in *Becky Shaw*, Kitchen Dog Theater's snap-crackle-pop culture tirade through the modern family, playwright Gina Gionfriddo has hit a sweet spot, where unbearable, ego-centric one-percenters snipe at each other while their neuroses keep them from becoming self-actualized humans. This is the kind of super-smart comedy of manners many attempt but few have the gift of language to pull off — one where a pompous bully (Max Hartmann, channeling Jeremy Piven's relentless attack-dog defense mechanism — damaged, indignant), a granola-crunching, Toms Shoes-

BECKY SHAW

The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave.
Through Oct. 6.
KitchenDogTheater.org.

wearing hipster-poet (Michael Federico, in full Phil Donahue mode) and a confused urban princess (Leah Spillman, sufficiently addled) nevertheless are fun to spend time with ... even if the reason is a chance to witness their inevitable implosions.

The trick seems to be that the play itself avoids self-indulgence while the characters wallow in it. No one is as strong as he or she appears to be, no one as weak as they would have you realize.

There's a misogynistic air running through *Becky Shaw*, the kind you usually associate with David Mamet or Neil LaBute, only rewritten by a woman, they lose their moral superiority and attempts at justification. Gionfriddo lays men out bare (and women), including the clingy, awkward title character (Jenny Ledel) and the brittle matriarch (Cindy Beall). It's as if Tennessee Williams had written a chamber piece about Northerners.

David Walsh's set is an amusing mish-mash, with scenery hanging from the rafters like a consignment store. He and director Tina Parker seem to be keeping the furniture out of the way and arrested, mid-air, much like the way these characters deal with their emotions.

"If you look hard enough at anyone, you'll be revolted," observes the mother. *Becky Shaw* does just that, but with a twist: It handles serious matters with such clear-eyed understanding of human complexity and a sharp wit, you almost don't see the tragedy underneath. ■

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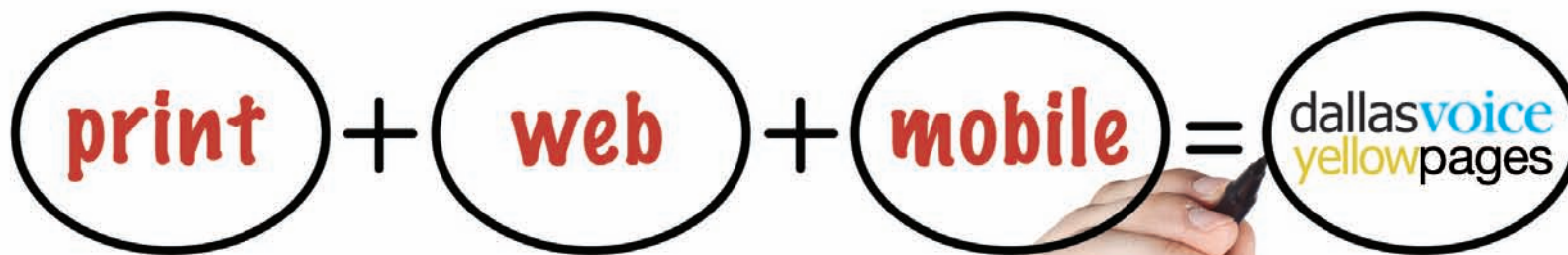
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Friday 09.21

'Dream' cast for 'Freud's Last Session'

No, that's not Sigmund you're looking at, it's Theatre 3 founder/artistic director Jac Alder in a rare acting role playing the father of psychotherapy in *Freud's Last Session*, where he confronts his own mortality (and his atheism) in a session with Christian novelist C.S. Lewis (Cameron Cobb). The show is in previews this weekend prior to its Monday opening.

DEETS: Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Oct. 20. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Thursday 09.27

Resource Center counts to 5 again

The 5 Factor has quickly become one of the more entertaining annual benefits, with five local luminaries in various disciplines — including one of this year's honorees, Mar-quee chef Tre Wilcox, pictured — singled out for making a difference. You can meet Wilcox (and find out the other four celebs) at this fundraiser for Resource Center Dallas, which is always a red carpet blast.

DEETS: eM the Venue by Marc, 1500 Dragon St. 7–9 p.m. Tickets \$50; sponsorships available. The5Factor.org.

Thursday 09.27

Trans sexpert Angel dishes at Dish

Buck Angel is one of the world's most famous female-to-male transgender men, owing largely to his post-op experience as a triple-X porn actor. But Angel is also a motivational speaker and trans activist, and will share his thoughts and insights at a meet-and-greet on the patio at Dish, followed by a dinner by chef Gareth Dickey.

DEETS: Dish at the ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. Meet-and-greet from 6:30 p.m., dinner at 8 p.m. \$15–\$69. TheIntimacyDojo-Buck.eventbrite.com.



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calendar

FRIDAY 09.21

THEATER

Avenue Q. Presented by Theatre 3 in the Theatre Too space, 2900 Routh St. It's an adult musical with puppets. Gay puppets. Having sex. Leave the kids at home. Through Oct. 28. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Kooza. The latest Cirque du Soleil show, under the big top at Reunion Tower, 500 Memorial Drive. Through Oct. 7. CirqueTicketsOnline.com/Kooza.

Rent. Presented by Theatre Arlington. 305 Main St., Arlington. Through Sept. 30. TheatreArlington.org.

The Second City Does Dallas. The Chicago-based comedy troupe teams with the Dallas Theater Center for a scripted-with-improv skewering of all things Big D. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Extended through Oct. 6. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

War Horse. The Tony Award-winning play, presented with life-sized puppet horses, tells the story of World War I from the perspective of the innocent animals who fought in it. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Sunday. ATPAC.org.

Becky Shaw. A smart comedy about family. (Reviewed in this issue.) Presented by Kitchen Dog Theater. The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through Oct. 6. KitchenDogTheater.org.

FESTIVALS

Art Uprising in the West Village. An expo of more than 50 local artists and bands takes over the Uptown destination for the weekend, starting with an art walk and auction on Friday night, 6:30-9 p.m. and all day Saturday and Sunday WestVillageDallas.com.

Addison Oktoberfest. The 25th annual German celebration of food and beer continues through the weekend. For details, visit AddisonTexas.net.

FINE ART

Beyond the Lens: The Photography of Resistance and Liberation. A new exhibit featuring the photos of Faye Schulman opens at the Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St. Through Nov. 25. DallasHolocaustMuseum.org.

On the Silk Road and the High Seas: Chinese Ceramics, Culture and Commerce. New exhibit of centuries-old pottery and sculpture, at the Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through Jan. 27, 2013. CrowCollection.org.



WILKOMMEN, Y'ALL | Addison hosts its 25th annual Oktoberfest this weekend.

SATURDAY 09.22

COMMUNITY

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

Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., 5353 Maple Ave. #130 (entrance at rear of building).

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

Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 5-10 p.m. 214-879-0400.

PARTY

Street Dance. DJ Ms. Larissa Baxter spins at the monthly mixers from OpenDoor Productions. Attendees can register to see Big Bad Gina perform at Fort Worth Pride in October. Agape MCC, 4315 E. California Parkway, Fort Worth. 7 p.m.-midnight. \$5 cover.

SUNDAY 09.23

COMMUNITY

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

Youth First Texas Collin County. Group for LGBTQ youth and allies up to age 22. North Texas Youth Connection Allen Office, 201 W. Boyd Road. Suite 105D, Allen. 6 p.m. CollingCounty@Youth-FirstTexas.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. DignitytDallas.org.

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

BROADCAST

The Primetime Emmy Awards. The annual television awards will be hosted by Jimmy Kimmel, and once again gay-friendly *Modern Family* is the favorite for best comedy, and *The Big Bang Theory's*

this week's solution

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ONE WEEK MORE | This is your last chance to see the stage version of the hit popera 'Les Miz' before the film version arrives on movie screens in December.

gay star, Jim Parsons, hopes to threepeat as lead actor in a comedy. Airs on Ch. 8 at 6 p.m.

MONDAY 09.24

COMMUNITY

Log Cabin Republicans. Mattito's, 3011 Routh St. 6:30 p.m. 214-346-2115.

PFLAG Denton. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2200 Bell St., Denton. 7 p.m.

TUESDAY 09.25

COMMUNITY

Elizabeth Trail's Happy Hour. The LifeWalk team hosts a mixer, with raffle items and drinks. Monica's Nueva Cocina, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 5-7 p.m.

JEWEL Writing Discussion & Exchange meets on the fourth Tuesday. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Visit website for the discussion topic and assignment for the month. RCDallas.org.

BROADCAST

The New Normal. The hottest new series of the year is Ryan Murphy's (*Glee*, *American Horror Story*) sitcom about a gay couple who hire a surrogate. Ch. 5 at 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 09.26

ONLINE

The Variants. The locally produced web series *The Variants*, set at gay-owned Zeus Comics, launches a new episode every Wednesday for its new third season. TheVariants.com.

THEATER

Les Miserables. The hit sweeping musical, which set records last winter at the Winspear, arrives at Bass Performance Hall. 435 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Sept. 26-30. BassHall.com.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guests are members of the Dallas Deciding Moments Campaign, which seeks to involve people of color in AIDS awareness. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 09.27

COMMUNITY

Standing on the Promises is the Alcoholics Anonymous group that meets at Cathedral of Hope. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, political organization or institution. 5910 Cedar Springs Road, Room 107. Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY



Fannie Flagg turns 67 on Friday. A staple game show panelist in the 1970s, the lesbian comedian and author got an Oscar nomination for adapting her gay-themed novel, *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*, into a hit movie.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

You could be in for a raise. Make nice with people who decide that, but more importantly, make sure your true value is clear. Remember: Promotions bring bigger challenges.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Popularity is a double-edged sword. Invitations can cause friction with your family/mate. If your partner suggests that some of your pals are taking advantage of you, (s)he is probably right.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Your efforts to get ahead will be noticed, but that will also highlight your faults. Your best strategy is to ask your boss or another expert for help where you need improvement.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

If you're looking for love, look among your friends. If you have one, get your baby to socialize more with your pals. In love and friendship, think about who you want to be with years from now.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Reality is about to lose those clean definitions you love so dearly. You can gain empathy and foresight, but like any new skill those can be challenging at first. Yes, you are going a little crazy, but that can be a brilliant adventure.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Secrets will be revealed! Keep your mouth shut. Focus on digging up your own with a counselor or a trusted confidante, and you could free yourself from old fears and anxieties.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

You have many opportunities to indulge fleeting passions, but don't mistake them for love. Life is about to get harder. You'll need to define and focus your goals, but that will take time.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

"All's fair in love and war," but there are consequences that go beyond victory. Beware of collateral damage to your reputation and other regrets. Are you really fighting for something worthwhile? Or just needing to assert yourself? Think ahead.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Cleaning house or digging up family secrets can expose a lot more than you bargained for. Someone will not be pleased. Keeping your home together may require open-mindedness.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

A winning streak (in love and games won't last long), so enjoy it while it does. Be careful, though — too much fun could upset your partner, or botch efforts to start something new.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

The need to assert yourself can run you afoul of authority. It may be more strategic in the long run to let a boss steal credit for your innovations. Deserved credit will come your way in time.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

You may have all the answers, but don't be too eager with them. Let people figure it out for themselves and you might even learn something in the process. Deal with small health problems now.

THIS WEEK

Venus is squaring Mars, boosting creative and sexual tensions. Impulse and ego are very strong here, not true love. Commitments to a higher cause can prove dramatic. Promises of love will just explode.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

343

Website - www.kylecomics.com

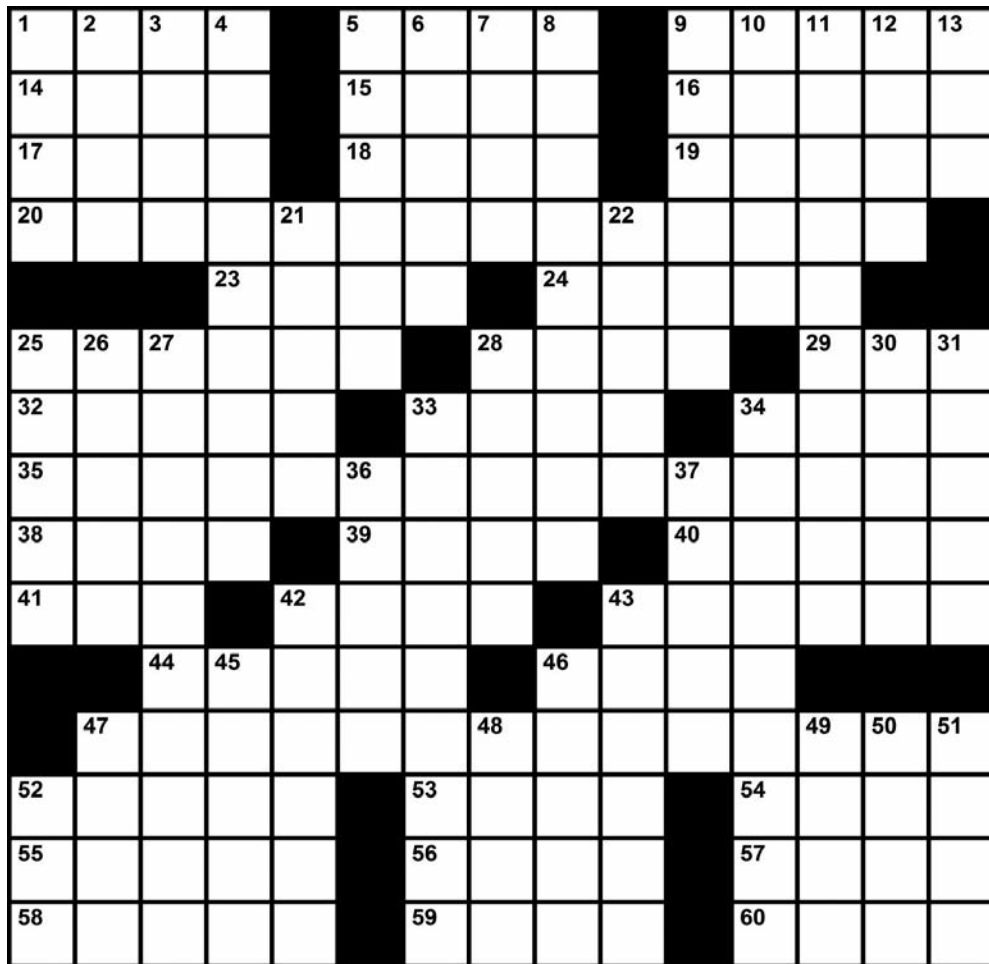
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bitter girl

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The Write Stuff

Solution on page 24

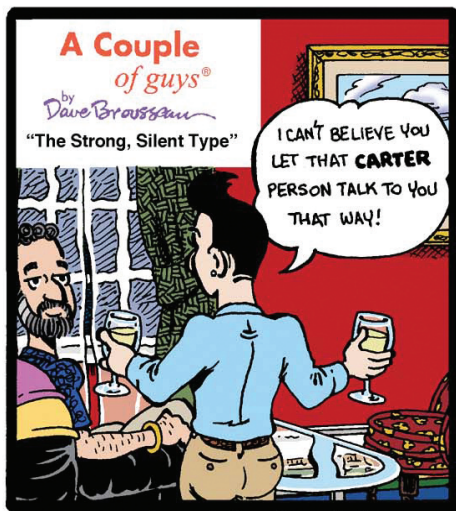
Across

- 1 Drivers get off on it
- 5 Clothes line
- 9 Go straight
- 14 John Goodman's *Normal*, ___
- 15 Scat legend Fitzgerald
- 16 It arouses two body openings
- 17 Hamburger Mary's list
- 18 State surely
- 19 Edna and others
- 20 19th century poet of a recently discovered photo
- 23 New Mexico town
- 24 Check for electronic bugs
- 25 Hanging one's head
- 28 Hit boxers
- 29 One who chews the scenery
- 32 Potential mate
- 33 Sinn ___ (Irish society)
- 34 Wooden trunk
- 35 Lover of 20-Across in the photo
- 38 Deity on Xena
- 39 Skating jump
- 40 He played Superman
- 41 "___ out!" (cry by Pallone)

- 42 That's bull, to Frida
- 43 Prejudice and then some
- 44 S&M reminders
- 46 Woodpecker's pecker
- 47 Title for 20-Across
- 52 Chase behind
- 53 Company correspondence
- 54 Corleone patriarch
- 55 Start something with Mauresmo
- 56 Isle near Corsica
- 57 "If ___ I Would Leave You"
- 58 Made less difficult to bear
- 59 Musial of baseball
- 60 Candace Gingrich's half-brother

Down

- 1 Julius Caesar setting
- 2 "Excuse me!"
- 3 It reveals a drag queen's thighs
- 4 Medical dressings
- 5 Pirate
- 6 "Jailhouse Rock" star
- 7 Obi-Wan's portrayer
- 8 Comment about a swimmer who doesn't swallow?
- 9 Comic Gilda
- 10 Use a rubber
- 11 What gay guys use to call each other?
- 12 Sherman Hemsley religious sitcom
- 13 Coll. degs.
- 21 Americans, to Auden
- 22 Spoiled kid's phrase
- 25 Sportscaster Jim
- 26 Its monitors show Windy City times
- 27 Benjamin Britten's companion
- 28 Brief fight
- 30 Prop for "I have a headache tonight"
- 31 Mothers, to Sarah Bernhardt
- 33 Couples coupling with couples
- 34 Just cover costs
- 36 Twin made without sex
- 37 Old Testament cuckold
- 42 Used hoes
- 43 Grieve over
- 45 Kicking partner
- 46 Ritchie Valens hit, with "La"
- 47 City near Anaheim
- 48 Made it to second base
- 49 Gauche side, for Debussy
- 50 One way to cook fruit
- 51 Legal wrong
- 52 Poet who inspired Cats, initially



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scene



Girls' night out at Sue Ellen's.



Dancers at BJ's NXS!

After it rained on our parade, a quieter week ahead before another few weekends of events including **Lone Star Ride**, the **Fort Worth** parade and picnic, **Dallas Southern Pride** and **LifeWalk**. ... **Carlos Saenz** performs with **Paul Allen** at **Alexandre's** on Sept. 21. Then **Bad Habits** appears on Sept. 22. ... **Best Friends Club** presents **Rooster Boots** performing live on Sept. 21 at 10 p.m. ... **JR.'s Bar & Grill** holds a **Children's House Benefit** on Sept. 21 from 5 - 7 p.m. to help Children's House at Baylor/Irving with donations of cash, clothes or diapers for children with serious medical challenges. Then two CD release parties — **Pink** on Sept. 24 and **No Doubt** on Sept. 25. ... Join **Ginda** for **Retro Mondays** at **The Brick/Joe's** starting at 4 p.m. ... **Bella and Darla** perform 8-11 p.m. on Sept. 26 at **Sue Ellen's**. ... **Hunky's, Thairrific, Zeus** and **Anytime Fitness** present **PUMP**, live workout demonstrations by the hottest men in Dallas on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. at **Dallas Eagle**. On Sept. 22, it's **Bare As You Dare** with a clothes check at the door. Keep it legal but show off those tats, skin, steel, hairy or smooth. ... **Hip Hop Sundays** at **S4** with **DJ Mark Rinewalt** begin at 9 p.m. with no cover before 11 p.m. ... Get political at the **Round-Up Saloon** on Sept. 24 at 8 p.m. Join **Stonewall Democrats** for a fundraiser for Dallas County candidates. ... Celebrate with **DJ Carl Katana** at his birthday bash at **Rainbow Lounge** on Sept. 22. ... **So Strung Out** appear at **Woody's Sports and Video Bar** on Sept. 21 at 8 p.m. **Songs in E Minor** on the **Back Patio** on Sept. 22 at 8 p.m.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES



Steve, Robert and Sara at TMC: The Mining Company.



Guys' night out at Station 4.



Darren and Byron at the Round-Up Saloon.



Pat and Gary at Pekers.



Robert, Tim, Jim and Joseph at Alexandre's.



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