

# Loving on Rihanna's new album

After following Rihanna around the world, our critic is 'Unapologetic' in praise  
7th studio CD shows a mature vocalist delivering her best disc yet

■ MUSIC, Page 24



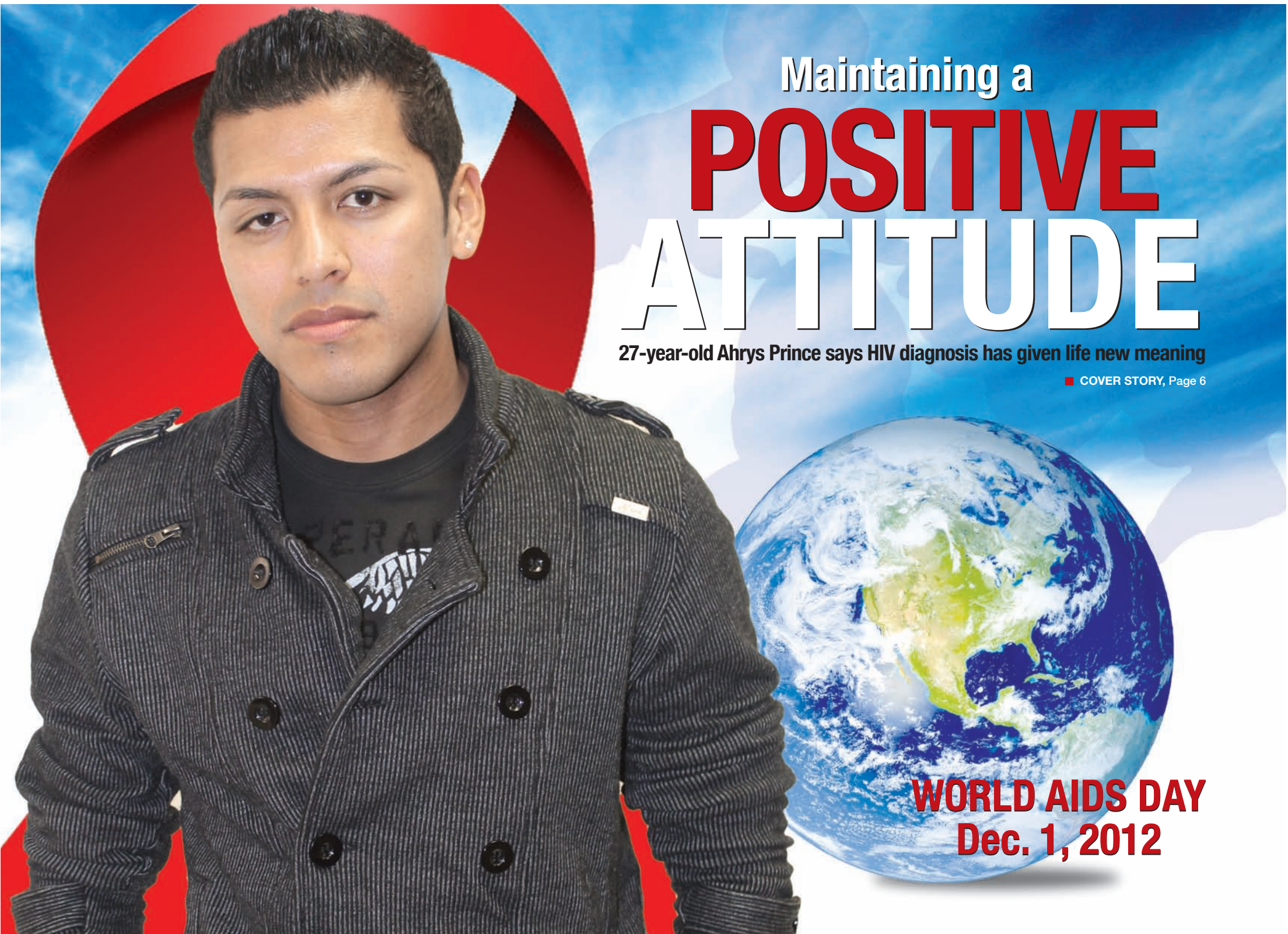
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## Maintaining a **POSITIVE** ATTITUDE

27-year-old Ahrys Prince says HIV diagnosis has given life new meaning

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**Dec. 1, 2012**

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**viewpoints**

# Is 2012 the new 1965?

This year has lacked glitz and glam but been huge for LGBT equality — much like a protest 4 years before Stonewall outside the White House

**F**ights and fabulousness make history; good news and policy shifts rarely do. As an example, I don't think I've seen more than two pictures from the 1969 Stonewall riots, but my mind is filled with images of those amazing '60s-era drag queens using handbags like weapons and kicking out the back of a police van with stiletto heels. Stonewall is so burned into my consciousness as The Beginning that it hardly matters that I've never really seen what it looked like.

Did you also know that four years earlier there was an organized gay rights protest in front of the White House? In 1965, brave members of the Mattachine Society and the Daughters of Bilitis put on suits (the men) and dresses (the women), carried signs and politely picketed one Saturday afternoon. This was no small thing, considering that homosexuality was still listed as a mental disorder. Still, it looked more like a bunch of accountants protesting tax code changes.

I've seen a lot of pictures from that day, and I might even argue that 1965 is Year One of the modern LGBT rights movement, not 1969. Yet that protest has become not much more than an interesting footnote in our collective historical

memory compared to the sheer brass of Stonewall.

I have a feeling 2012 might go down like 1965. There's hardly any photographic evidence this year of a critical mass of queers pushing down the fences and stopping traffic, and I don't remember a word being about LGBT rights in the presidential debates, though I did nod off a few times. You could even say 2012 was boring, which would be a shame, because I believe that historians will one day look back and declare 2012 a great civil rights turning point.

Let's not say goodbye to 2012 without giving it its due:

President Barack Obama "evolved" on same-sex marriage. Right, overdue, whatever. But then he went on to become the first president elected on a platform of full LGBT equality. That didn't happen in 2008, and it couldn't have. For the last 12 years, LGBT rights have been used as a wedge issue to get out the conservative vote. Notice how little of that there was this time around, though there were marriage initiatives in swing states — oh, and Obama took all the states that put marriage on the ballot.

We didn't have a Prop 8. We didn't even have a loss. After 28 straight defeats for marriage equality at the state-level, by popular vote, since 1998, we won four marriage referenda in one shot, three of which were ballot measures legal-

izing same-sex marriage. We've never been able to vote down a marriage ban and suddenly people are all for it in places as un-swishy as Maine.

Emboldened by the passage of North Carolina's draconian Amendment One in May, the National Organization for Marriage decided to bet the house on the overwhelming opposition to marriage equality among racial minorities. Then NOM lost. Nov. 6 exit polls show that both

African-American and Latino voters support marriage equality by a large margin. (Can we finally put that myth to rest, everyone?)

Tammy Baldwin, from Wisconsin, became the first openly gay member of the U.S. Senate, and she was just one of the 152 openly LGBT candidates up for election on Nov. 6. Seventy-seven percent of them won in such notoriously pink bastions as North Dakota and West Virginia.

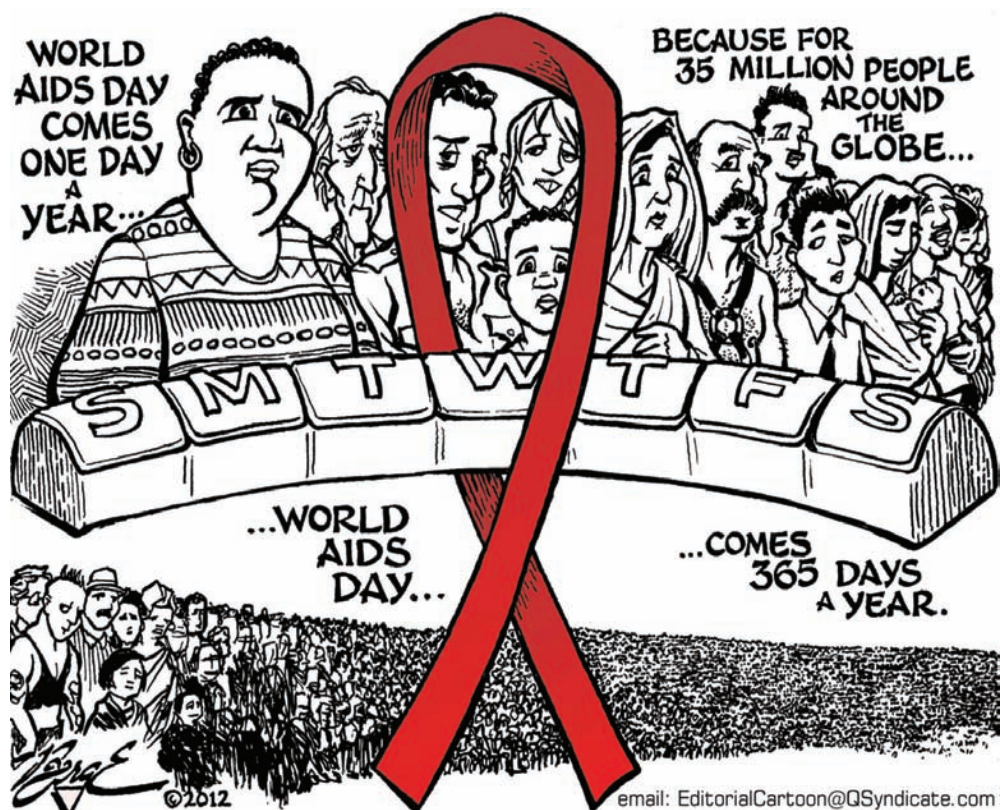
Stacie Laughton of New Hampshire became the first openly trans person elected to state office (although she subsequently resigned this week), and self-described pansexual Mary Gonzalez of El Paso became a Texas state representative.

2012 also set the stage for what could be our biggest legal victory yet: Three different circuit courts (the 1st, 2nd and 9th) ruled for marriage equality. The odds favor at least one of these cases making it to the Supreme Court next year, which has implications for LGBT rights far beyond marriage. While the Court could rule against us, good money says it won't, especially if it chooses to hear the DOMA cases instead of the Prop 8 case. Either way, the outcome will send us out in the streets, in celebration or fury. And watch: that will be the day we remember.

California-based writer Abby Dees is the author of Queer Questions Straight Talk. She can be contacted via [QueerQuestionsStraightTalk.com](http://QueerQuestionsStraightTalk.com).



**Abby Dees**  
Thinking Out Loud



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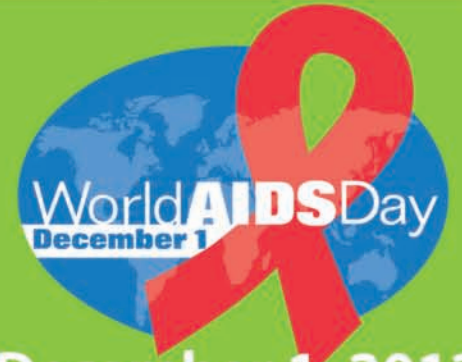
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**D**allas Voice is searching for the **TOP HAT** in LGBT North Texas, kicking off our annual contest for the Readers Voice Awards. This year's theme is **TOP HAT**, and we are asking readers to submit photos featuring **HATS**. The winner will be featured on the full page cover of the March 22, 2013 Reader Voice Awards edition and a **\$1,000 donation will be made in the winner's name to their favorite charity**. Use your imagination, and send your best Hat photos to [TopHat@dallasvoice.com](mailto:TopHat@dallasvoice.com). Submission deadline is Friday, December 7.

## THROW YOUR HAT IN THE RING TODAY!

Dallas Voice editors will chose the **9 TOP HAT** Finalists. Finalists will be given a Top Hat professional photo shoot. A model release will be required before publication. Results will be used for promotional materials and online balloting. Readers will pick the **2013 Top Hat in Readers Voice Awards** voting **Jan. 4 - 31, 2013**. Please include Photographer name, email and cell phone, and a statement of model release if you have photographed a friend.. "Top Hat" is a liberal term and all entries will be considered.



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# The emancipation of Amy Cook

The out Austin-based singer found freedom by releasing her expectations

RICH LOPEZ | Contributing Writer  
rlopez5428@yahoo.com

Amy Cook has friends in high places — and almost by accident. The indie artist may not yet be a household name, but for her latest album, *Summer Skin*, she has a rock 'n' roll legend, a queer music icon and a noted producer just hanging around doing their thing to make her shine. All in a day's work for the lesbian singer who nonchalantly acknowledges the cred that has landed on her album.

"Austin is a nice place to live, and the people I know have been kind enough to help out," she says. "I'm friends with Patty, and she's been dating Robert. When he wanted to take a listen, how do you say 'no' to that?"

"Robert" is Robert Plant of Led Zeppelin. Cook's longtime friend just so happens to be dating one of the gods of rock 'n' roll. Did we mention that this is *Robert FUCKING Plant*?

After days of traveling, Cook is back at her Austin home for 24 hours before heading back out for a performance at the El Cosmico fest in Marfa. Perhaps she's run through her squeal moments, because at this time, she's ready to chill and relax. *Summer Skin* is a rich album of tunes that don't just play, they surround — and despite fellow players on the album, the one thing you really hear is Cook.

"I just wanted to say whatever was in my heart at the time and I went in with less expectations of myself," she says. "I think that allowed me to be freer and go with the flow, so this album felt like a sort of emancipation from pressure."

Cook's songs exude confidence instead of being intimidated by Plant or a group of players that included singer and bassist Me'Shell N'Degeocello, guitarist David Garza, singer-songwriter Ben Kweller and her friend Patty Griffin. Craig Street, who produced Norah Jones' Grammy-winning debut *Come Away With Me*, then put it all together to create an album worthy of year-end lists. Although she mentions lowering her expectations, that doesn't mean the pressure was off.

"I think I have to pressure myself with some sort of demands, but there are false ones that kept happening. There was this part of sharing things I wanted to and knowing what I wanted to keep for

myself. Knowing that, I felt very confident with these songs."

That sureness also helped keep her songs in check and even when someone like Plant or N'Degeocello might veer a bit, she kept her vision. Cook lived with these new songs for a year and once it came to recording, she could recognize what it should sound like or when it felt wrong.

The 37-year-old singer considers herself an honorary Texan now after moving her, eight years ago from Los Angeles. Austin is the perfect fit for a musician but there she found much more.

"I felt this sense of community and the music and the people are so inspiring, so it's just been an amazing feeling here," she says. "To be part of that in any way is an honor. I don't know how I might fit into 'Texas music,' but I have a great love for making music here. And my girlfriend lives here."

Cook's other half is Liz Lambert, the noted hotelier behind Hotel Saint Cecilia, El Cosmico, Hotel San Jose, Hotel Havana and Jo's Coffee, making them quite the lesbian power couple. They have been together for eight years and for Cook, because of their vastly different careers, it's the perfect match.

"She's helpful in a lot of ways because she's smart," Cook laughs.

"She's good at the business stuff which is a part of the great team of

people behind me. But we're both so busy and traveling that it works out for us."

Cook brings her show to Dallas Thursday (Dec. 6), opening for Mark Kozelek at the Granada Theater. With an amp in her confidence, Cook says days are better now as she readies her guitar to perform for the crowds.

"My instincts are better and it's not as mystical to me," she says. "I'm more knowledgeable about my craft and I need to use that to my advantage. When I'm writing, I hope to connect with somebody even as a lesbian woman. Music is universal and speaks to everybody regardless of the pronoun. I'd love my songs to be straightforward and hit you in the gut." ■

**AMY COOK/MARK KOZELEK**  
Granada Theater,  
3524 Greenville Ave. Dec. 6, 7 p.m.  
\$24-\$32. GranadaTheater.com.



**AMY? I SCREAM** | Austin-based troubadour Amy Cook found an unlikely mentor in Led Zeppelin's legendary rock god, Robert Plant.

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The cast of *A Christmas Carol*,  
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## Duncan, chic

From 'Breathing' to 'Awakening,' Sheik steps back to move forward

It's hard to know where things begin and end for Duncan Sheik. Best known for his 1996 sensitive-man mellow pop hit "Barely Breathing" and score for the controversial, critically adored Broadway musical *Spring Awakening*, Sheik is currently touring in support of his most recent album, *Covers: Eighties Remixed*.

You might call this a reconstruction project. With his 2011 album *Covers Eighties*, Sheik took some of his favorite pop tunes from the 1980s and deconstructed them, stripping them of their many electronic elements and recording his own acoustic versions.

For *Remixed*, Sheik enlisted help from Samantha Ronson, El-P, Gabriel & Dresden, Chico Mann and Terry Urban (among others), rebuilding these tracks and re-injecting them with their original electronic lifeblood.

"It's probably too meta," he says lightheartedly about what has become a multi-CD, multi-year endeavor. "It's turned out to be kind of a complicated art-school project."

Possibly, but one borne of a personal quest. "Basically [*Covers*] is mostly artists who were hugely influential when I was first starting to write and record — songs that at some juncture had an immense personal impact on me," says the 43-year-old Sheik, who grew up on '80s pop. The decade also informs Sheik's score for a Broadway adaptation of gay author Bret Easton Ellis' intense, violent satire of the selfishness of yuppie culture, *American Psycho*.

"When I first decided to work on it, I re-read the book and actually thought, 'This is a terrible idea,'" he laughs. "There are [graphically violent] passages you can barely read, but I realized how prescient it was. Patrick Bateman really is a product of late capitalism. The book is rich."

It's also full of references to '80s music — the same type he plays with in *Covers* and *Remixed*. Inspired by the electro-dance aesthetic, Sheik primarily used synthesizers and drum machines to create the songs for the musical, which goes into full production in the next few months.

### SUNSET SESSIONS TOUR

Duncan Sheik, Courier, Alpha Rev.  
**The Kessler Theatre**, 1231 W.  
Davis Ave. Dec. 5. Doors open at  
7 p.m. \$15-\$35. [TheKessler.org](http://TheKessler.org).



**DUNCAN GOES NUTS** | Tony Award-winner Duncan Sheik is back on tour with a new album of remixes.

Sheik has pursued a decidedly ouroborian cycle in recent years, leading one to wonder what he has on tap next: More stage work, like a musical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Nightingale*, is in the works, and then he plans to start work on a new album.

"It's not going to be related to any theater. It will be a new record of unrelated songs," he says. Right

back where he started. Well, sort of.

"Electronic dance music has always been an integral part of my life," he says. "I like the idea of applying those techniques and approaches to straightforward, more pop songs using 'real' instruments."

—Jonanna Widner

## TREAT YOUR FEET!

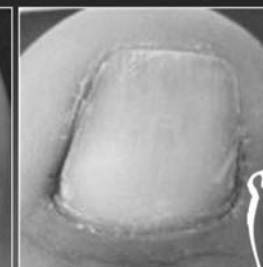
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# 'Hyde' & peek

Club diva Deborah Cox is B'way bound in a sexy 'Jekyll'

If you've been in a club anytime in the last decade, you've heard a Deborah Cox song — either performed by Cox herself during one of her many Dallas visits, or lip-synced to perfection by a member of her devoted drag queen army. Her hit "Nobody Supposed To Be Here" even broke records, holding the No. 1 R&B single spot for 14 consecutive weeks.

But these days, this mother of three is tearing up the footlights instead of the disco balls. After an eight-month stint on Broadway in the lead role in *Aida* (where she took over for notables including Tony Braxton), Cox is headed back to the Great White Way in the spring, in *Jekyll & Hyde*, where she plays Lucy, a prostitute making the best of her situation by lording sexuality over her johns.

Fans of *American Idol* will also enjoy Constantine Maroulis, sixth-place winner of the show's fourth season, in the title role, who'll join Cox on the stage of Winspear for a pre-B'way tryout this week. We recently caught up with Cox via telephone as part of a 19-city tour.

—Jef Tingley



**Dallas Voice: What's new about this version of *Jekyll & Hyde* that fans and newcomers can look forward to?** Deborah Cox: This show is edgy, sexy and provocative. [Taking it to various locations] gives us a chance to see what works and what doesn't and to find all the magical spots in the show to keep for Broadway. It takes a while for a character to develop — like six or seven months. This is a really nice way to have time to hone in and continue to discover who [Lucy] really is.

**You starred in the title role in *Aida* on Broadway — how's it different to do a show in one place versus traveling from city to city?** Aida was already on before I worked with the director, which gave it a different vibe. Tony Braxton had stepped in and so had Michelle Williams. I followed and stayed on show for eight months. It was great to sink my teeth into the character. And it was the time doing that show night after night which reignited my love for musical theater. When I was approached about playing Lucy, I was very intrigued. First, I did not know of any female characters in Robert Lewis Stevenson's book *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. It was intriguing to be able to play a sexy, confident survivor.

**True showtune fans, especially gays, mourn that many stagings of *Jekyll* cut the double entendre ridden number "Bring on the Men." How does it fare in your show?** [Laughs] It's one of the most fun numbers we do. I think that song says a lot about Lucy — who she is and the situation she's in. She thrives on power over men even though she is in this horrible place, being a prostitute. There is a lot of power in being that go-to girl.

**True showtune fans, especially gays, mourn that many stagings of *Jekyll* cut the double entendre ridden number "Bring on the Men." How does it fare in your show?** [Laughs] It's one of the most fun numbers we do. I think that song says a lot about Lucy — who she is and the situation she's in. She thrives on power over men even though she is in this horrible place, being a prostitute. There is a lot of power in being that go-to girl.

**SOMEONE LIKE HER** | Cox returns to Dallas in the New York-bound Frank Wildhorn musical 'Jekyll & Hyde,' which once made Linda Eder a star.

**What are some of your other favorite songs in the show?** "A New Life" is great because it represents the person that she is and who she aspires to be. But all of the songs, even the quiet moments, change. Every night I have a different favorite. For me, last night was "A New Life," but tomorrow might be "Someone Like You" because there's a different emotion attached to each. The show is a rollercoaster and reactions of the audience really affect my reaction to the show.

**When not playing a prostitute, you recently had a chance to perform for the Obamas. How did that happen?** First I was asked to sing for Michelle [Obama] in Florida. They were campaigning a lot at the time. I heard she was a jazz fan, so I did three cuts from my jazz album, *Destination Moon*. Michelle gave me shout-outs, and we got to talk backstage. It was a wonderful quiet moment where we got to talk about being a mom and campaigning woman-to-woman. You gotta love the tips from the first lady about being a mother, being on the road all the time and juggling work balance and personal life. About six months after that, I was invited to Miami to perform for the president, although I did not get as much personal time with [him]. But it was an absolute honor — an honor surrounded by lots of Secret Service.

**What's the one thing you want Dallas fans to know about this version of the show?** I just encourage them to come out and see it without preconception and judge for [themselves]. It's thought-provoking, and some people even call it haunting. And if you are a Deborah Cox lover or fan ... c'mon out!

## JEKYLL & HYDE

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# Lucky No. 7

Bad girl Rihanna grows on her 7th CD but keeps an edge on 'Unapologetic'

**RICH LOPEZ** | Contributing Writer  
getrichindallas@gmail.com



**UNAPOLOGETIC**  
Rihanna  
Def Jam Records



Earlier this month, I was among the cadre that joined Rihanna for her 777 Tour — seven concerts, seven days, seven countries. The intention was to hype up the release of her seventh album, **Unapologetic** ... and make a splash on the charts and with her fans.

The plan worked: *Unapologetic* debuted at No. 1. But promo aside, was the album worth the trouble?

Well, yeah.

Whether seven is lucky or just a number, it's all good for RiRi's latest. This is the album we've been waiting for since her major breakthrough, *Good Girl Gone Bad*, in 2007. Averaging a staggering album per year since 2009's *Rated R*, Rihanna has been dropping hits with abandon. 2010's *Loud* and last year's *Talk That Talk* were almost mashups, with cohesion that struggled despite strong singles. Somehow, *Unapologetic* shows the grace and patience of an album years in the making even though she began recording it in June.

She pulls off a solid record despite the troubling opener "Fresh off the Runway." Skip that mess and head to its lead single, second track "Diamonds." Here, Rihanna blossoms into more than she's ever been. (It doesn't hurt that the Norwegian team StarGate and lesbian singer Sia co-wrote this stunner.) The song is leaps and

bounds ahead of any of Ri's previous work and also keeps away from her usual tone (slightly self-absorbed) or intent on displaying her swagga-tude. Instead, she matures into womanhood here, delivering fantastic vocals runs over an emotional soundscape.

Contributors at this level push the album above the hardness of her previous catalog, yet Rihanna is far from absent. She executive produced and co-wrote 11 of the 14 tracks on the regular edition (if you go for the deluxe, you're getting remixes of "Diamonds," the song "Half of Me" and a concert DVD) and exudes confidence in her performance. Sometime she goes a little Beyonce, like on "What Now," but she's gained a grasp of who she is and her intention on *Unapologetic* isn't to be defiant so much as it is to be focused.

The tone stays even although the songs range from electronica-tinged tracks to sultry ballads. What's missing is a strong dance track a la "Only Girl (In the World)" or "We Found Love," that usually anchors a Rihanna album. "Right Now" with David Guetta, while fine, lacks power. She buoys the disc with impressive numbers that straddle the chill side of pop and the sophisticated side of EDM.

The misses are few but spectacular, such as the ridiculously titled "Loveeeee Song" with Future. The song is his while Rihanna pops in with a few vocals, but it's far more interesting when she's in on this quiet storm. The song could be ultra sexy if Future's vocals weren't AutoTune'd until he sounds like a broken muffler. She gets to her Barbadian roots in "No Love Allowed" with island music flavored beats that sound gratuitous and out-of-place.

Rihanna's releases post-*Good Girl* have been eclipsed by her time with Chris Brown and all that comes with that. He shows up here on the forgettable "Nobody's Business," but hopefully

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her declaration of *sing it to the world / always be my boy / always be your girl / ain't nobody's business* can settle the fact that she and Brown are clearly gonna be an item and we can move on.

Rihanna re-teams with Eminem on "Numb" to magic. Seductive and sophisticated, it merges eccentric sounds with Eminem's cocky rhyming that is borderline silly, but still keeps its cool. She flips from slinky into delicacy with the ballad "Stay."

While I have no idea what she's singing about in "Love Without Tragedy/Mother Mary," she injects drama with finesse to the seven-minute epic. She kept away from minute long interludes like last year's "Birthday Cake" or Rated R's "Mad House" which were just confusing. Now she's growing into giving us weighty tunes that have cohesion with each other instead of a playlist.

Fans packed small venues for Rihanna's 777 Tour and cheered for her big hits when she sang "Umbrella" or "Talk That Talk," but they relished her new stuff. Rihanna is one of the biggest pop stars at the moment, yet it's hard to pin down why. After her breakthrough, she just pounded the radio with solid hits but forgettable albums. Then she seemed to appear on everyone else's albums in between like Nicki Minaj, Drake and Coldplay. But *Unapologetic* is just smart enough to give us reason to believe that Rihanna, as a solo artist, deserves to be on that A-list mantle and hopefully an indicator of stronger releases to come.



**NOW BOARDING** | Rihanna wrapped up her whirlwind international 777 Tour in New York City's Webster Hall, promoting her seventh studio album, 'Unapologetic.' (Photo courtesy Rich Lopez)

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Hopkins, Johansson, D'Arcy slash through 'Hitchcock.'

**QUEER CLIP: 'HITCHCOCK' OF THE WALK**

There's been an odd trend in recent years to name biopics after the subject, then concentrating just on a tiny sliver of their lives, a single incident that seemed to define them: *The Queen*, *Lincoln*, *Capote*. Amazingly, of these films, none more brilliantly distills the person to microcosm than **Hitchcock**. The director of dozens of films, most huge successes — before the modern era of cinecelebrity, he and John Ford were the only film directors whose names above the title meant something at the box office — Alfred Hitchcock's words alone could fill countless volumes: His early silent thriller *The Lodger*; *Rope*, his single-shot riff on Leopold and Loeb; the classics *Strangers on a Train*, *Rear Window*, *Dial M for Murder*, *North by Northwest*; even his masterpiece, *Vertigo*, or his TV series. But this film sticks to one movie: *Psycho*.

Like *Capote*, however, this becomes an inspired framing device. No other Hitchcock film has had a popular legacy — just the words "Bates Motel" invoke instant imagery, and the term "shower scene" can only mean one thing ... and you can hear the violins slashing as you read this, can't you? But *Psycho* was also something of a departure for Hitch — a low budget, black-and-white B-movie that he elevated to cult status with an A-list cast and a savvy marketing campaign. He got the last of his five Oscar nominations for his work on it; he also lived comfortably on the income it generated.

But Hitch (played here with eerie verisimilitude by Anthony Hopkins) couldn't have done it at all without his devoted wife Alma (Helen Mirren). Alma was his uncredited story editor, creative consultant, screenwriter, producer and cheerleader. She recommended Anthony Perkins (James D'Arcy) as Norman because, she felt, being a closeted homosexual would permit him to convey the duality of the character — a man with something serious to hide. She even suggested killing off the leading lady earlier than planned to *really* throw off the audience. And she did all this while enduring Hitch's mood swings, his lecherous behavior toward a stable of blonde starlets (including prim housewife Janet Leigh, played here by Scarlett Johansson) and his unwarranted jealousy of her.

*Hitchcock* is that rarest of behind-the-scenes peeks at Hollywood, the kind that extrapolates character, even a touching love story, out of the banality of making a movie. The director, Sacha Gervasi, and the screenwriter, John J. McLaughlin, have given Hitch an invisible friend in the conscience of Ed Gein, the Wisconsin farmer whose murders inspired *Psycho*. He's the devil on the shoulder, driving Hitch's near-madness and adding depth to a familiar personality.

Of course, none of that would matter without Hopkins, dead-on as Hitch (he doesn't so much look like the director as he does embody him), and Mirren, in another award-worthy performance. Their strained duet carries the wood and water, though everyone — especially D'Arcy, who holds his body in ways that conjure Perkins exactly, and Johansson, in one her most open screen performances — acquits themselves tremendously. Gervasi's look (all retro Technicolor and VistaVision glamour and Edith Head-like costuming) and sense of black humor (all the jokes land beautifully) add to the Gestalt. Without becoming a navelgazing exercise in fanboydom, *Hitchcock* creates a crackling thriller worthy of *The Master*.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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## Friday 11.30

### Start your weekend with Dick

Just because the weather has turned cooler doesn't mean you have to huddle indoors in heavy sweaters. Certainly the bartenders from Bar10 won't be on Friday as they serve up Van Gogh vodka at Dick's Night Out, the monthly-or-so free happy hour at the al fresco friendly Ku•De•Ta. Charlie Phresh will be spinning and so will your eyes. Kick off the weekend right.

**DEETS:** Ku•De•Ta, 3121 Ross Ave. No cover. 6–9 p.m. RSVP to VanGogh. Eventbrite.com. DicksNightOut.com.

## Saturday 12.01

### Perot Museum officially opens

Three years in the making, the Borg cube along Woodall Rodgers that houses the Perot Museum of Nature and Science has taunted Dallasites with the promise of elaborate exhibits inside. And guest what? They are pretty spectacular, especially for young folks curious about the universe. Its grand opening — ahead of schedule — takes place Saturday, but there's never a bad time to check out the fun.

**DEETS:** Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. Open daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (noon Sundays) (special extended hours this weekend). Memberships from \$65. Non-member general admission \$10–\$20. PerotMuseum.org.

## Saturday 12.01

### Theatre Britain's holiday panto returns

Call us big kids at heart, but we love Theatre Britain's annual Christmas panto — an English traditional children's show featuring hammy acting, colorful set, audience participation, a simple plot stolen from fairy tales and mythology ... and lots of cross-dressing bawdy humor. OK, so maybe it's not our kid side that gets a kick out of men in dresses making salacious (but surreptitiously child-friendly) jokes. This year's offering is *Mother Goose*. I can already hear the puns rolling off.

**DEETS:** Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Avenue, Plano. Dec. 1–30. \$10–\$20. 972-490-4202. Theatre-Britain.com.



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## calendar



**THE WRIGHT DECOR** | The Arlington Museum of Art reveals an exhibition that evokes the 'dream house' of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. (Photo courtesy Alexander Vertikoff)

### FRIDAY 11.30

#### THEATER

**A Christmas Carol.** The Dallas Theater Center's traditional holiday show begins its final season at the Kalita Humphreys. 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Dec. 23. \$15-\$85. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Avenue Q.** Presented by Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. An adult musical with puppets. Gay puppets. Having sex. Leave the kids at home. Extended through Dec. 9. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**The Beauty Queen of Leenane.** Oscar-winner writer/director Martin McDonagh's dark play. The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through Dec. 8. \$10-\$30. KitchenDogTheater.org.

**The Beulaville Baptist Book Club Presents: A Bur-Less-Q Nutcracker!** The annual holiday offering from MBS Productions, a farce-and-ballet about a small town inadvertently hiring strippers to dance *The Nutcracker*. Stone Cottage Theatre at the Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Dec. 29. BurlesqueNutcracker.com.

**Crazy for You.** The music of the Gershwins. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Dec. 15. \$10-\$50. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**The Nutcracker.** Tchiakovsky's timeless holiday classic, performed with Kathy Burks' puppets at the Dallas Children's Theater. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through Dec. 21. \$14-\$40. DCT.org.

**It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play.** Water-Tower's holiday production, a play version of the film where five actors perform all the roles. *Reviewed this week at DallasVoice.com.* Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Dec. 16. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

#### BALLET

**The Nutcracker.** Tchaikovsky's beloved holiday classic plays in Dallas' Winspear before moving to Bass Hall. Presented by Texas Ballet Theater. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Dec. 2. Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Dec. 7-23. TexasBalletTheater.org.

#### COMMUNITY

**Dick's Night Out.** Gay happy hour. Ku-De-Ta, 3121 Ross Ave. 6-9 p.m. RSVP at VanGogh. Eventbrite.com.

**Oak Lawn Group for Gays** meets weekly. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 6525 Inwood Road. 7 p.m.

For more information, call 214-868-7350.

### SATURDAY 12.01

#### THEATER

**Mother Goose.** Theatre Britain's annual Christmas panto, a children's show with tons of saucy adult content, including cross-dressing and gay jokes. Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Avenue, Plano. Dec. 1-30. \$10-\$20. 972-490-4202. Theatre-Britain.com.

#### FINE ART

**Frank Lloyd Wright's Samara: A Mid-Century Dream Home.** Furnishings and designs by the renowned architect are brought to life. Arlington Museum of Art, 201 W. Main St., Arlington. Dec. 1-Feb. 17. Tuesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (open Sundays at 1 p.m.) ArlingtonMuseum.org.



**Anne Frank: A Private Photo Album.** A new exhibit featuring 71 private photos of the Frank family, taken by Otto Frank, opens. Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St. Dec. 1-March 31. Open daily. DallasHolocaustMuseum.org.

#### CONCERTS

**Mary Fagan.** The folksy singer-songwriter and guitarist performs. Community Cafe Coffee House, 2875 E. Parker Road, Plano. 7 p.m. \$10.

**Patti Larkin (with Steve Forbert).** The urban folk-pop musician performs two concerts at Hamon Hall inside the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. \$45. ATPAC.org.

#### BROADCAST

**I'm Positive.** A documentary commemorating World

AIDS Day airs on MTV, featuring HIV-positive Dallasite Otis Harris. Premieres on MTV at 6 p.m.

**Lambda Weekly.** LGBT radio for North Texas on its new day and time. 89.3 KNON-FM at 11 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

## SUNDAY 12.02

### WORSHIP

**The ONE Church,** 5427 Philip Ave. Services 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.

### COMMUNITY

**Youth First Texas Collin County.** Group for LGBTQ youth up to age 22. North Texas Youth Connection, 201 W. Boyd Road. Suite 105D, Allen. 6 p.m. CollinCounty@YouthFirstTexas.org.

## MONDAY 12.03

### COMMUNITY

**Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous.** Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m. 2438 Butler St., #108.

**Unwired Dallas.** Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA) for those wishing to quit using crystal meth meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7:30 p.m. Free. Crystallmeth.org.



**QUEER AS FOLK** | Folk musician Mary Fagan performs Saturday at the Community Cafe Coffee House in Plano.

phony Center, 2301 Flora St. Dec. 5 and 10 at 8 p.m. \$20-\$75. TurtleCreek.org.

## TUESDAY 12.04

### THEATER

**Jekyll & Hyde.** Constantin Maroulis and Deborah Cox star in the pre-Broadway revival of the musical. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Dec. 4-16. ATPAC.org.

### COMMUNITY

**Youth First Texas** groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 4-9 p.m. 214-879-0400.

**FUSE Movie Night.** For gay and bi guys up to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m.

**Classic Chassis Car Club.** Car enthusiasts meet for their monthly dinner. 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.

## WEDNESDAY 12.05

### COMMUNITY

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

### CONCERTS

**Sunset Sessions Tour with Duncan Sheik.** KesslerTheater, 1231 W. Davis Ave. 7 p.m. \$15-\$35. TheKessler.org.

**Turtle Creek Chorale: Comfort and Joy.** The first of two separate holiday concerts from the chorale, this one features traditional Christmas songs. Meyerson Sym-

## THURSDAY 12.06

### COMMUNITY

**PFLAG Fort Worth** meets. 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.

### CONCERTS

**Amy Cook and Mark Kozelek.** Granada Theater, 3524 Greenville Ave. 7 p.m. \$24-\$32. GranadaTheater.com.

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**CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY**

**Bette Midler** turns 67 on Saturday. The Divine Miss M — a multiple Grammy winner and Oscar nominee — got her start working in the Continental Baths in the late 1960s and early '70s before becoming a pop culture icon. She has long been a champion of gay equality.



**SAGITTARIUS Nov 21-Dec 20**

Before you decide to dedicate yourself to anything, you need to get real about the fact that others are totally out of integrity — and what's at stake right now is the idea that you can't allow yourself to get sideswiped by their issues.

**CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 20**

It's time to start looking at what your life would be like minus all of this circumstantial interference and to shed the idea that any of it has the power to hold you back.

**AQUARIUS Jan 21-Feb 20**

No matter how it looks to us, everyone's doing the best they can. Instead of wondering why someone else isn't 100 percent there, try to understand that in their mind they think they are doing their utmost to make things work.

**PISCES Feb 21-Mar 20**

More than anything, now you need freedom to breathe and reconnect with the part of your being that has more to do than worry about how long it will take before you get to be yourself. Hold on and keep the faith. It looks like things are about to shift.

**ARIES Mar 21-Apr 20**

It would be awesome if you see around corners but this just so happens to be a test. For now the best you can do is get through the obstacle course and figure out when and how much to push.

**TAURUS Apr 21-May 20**

Your happiness depends on how you respond to the unexpected. It looks to me like you have to find a way to pull away from everything long enough to get your bearings and recognize that this is a huge turning point. Take a deep breath and let your spirit show you the way.

**GEMINI May 21-Jun 20**

This is an awesome time to be putting your best foot forward with any project or goal that is currently in the works. If you keep showing up and put your time in, your career life could really take off.

**CANCER Jun 21-Jul 20**

Certain things in your life need to be rearranged and/or eliminated before you can reinvent yourself. A move could cure everything; so could a love affair. Before you do anything, get as real as you can about where you really stand with yourself.

**LEO Jul 21-Aug 20**

Other things are about to filter in, which could bless everything you're involved in. It may mean you need to pull up stakes and move on; it could also be an opportunity to take your current affairs to a whole new level and give you a chance to grow.

**VIRGO Aug 21-Sep 20**

Find your center and settle in to the strength that comes from knowing that home is where the heart is. Make that your base of operations and it will be easier for you to see how to handle the rest of it.

**LIBRA Sep 21-Oct 20**

You have a tendency to want the road to success to be paved with rose petals and sunlight. At this point, your lessons have to do with being willing to do the grunge work that goes with any worthwhile endeavor.

**SCORPIO Oct 21-Nov 20**

Maybe you can see why relationships haven't looked the way they were supposed to. Instead of looking at yourself through other people's eyes, know that there is perfection in your uniqueness and stop trying to fit the mold.

**Kyle's Bed & Breakfast** by Greg Fox

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WELL, WELL... LOOK WHO'S HAVIN' SOME CAR TROUBLE.

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WANT ME TO TINKER WITH THE ENGINE? SEE IF I CAN GET IT STARTED?

YOU'LL DO NO SUCH THING.

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THIS IS A BMW. NOT SOME BACKWOODS ROADSTER FOR YOU TO... "TINKER" WITH.

IF HE WOULD ANSWER HIS GODFORSAKEN PHONE!

'KAY, THEN. GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.

WAIT...

... IF I'M NOT AT WORK IN THIRTY MINUTES, I'M GOING TO MISS A VITALLY IMPORTANT CLIENT MEETING.

AIN'T SURE HOW THAT CONCERNS ME.

COULD I POSSIBLY PREVAIL UPON YOU FOR A RIDE?

WOULDN'T YA' PREFER A TAXI-CAB OVER MY "BACKWOODS ROADSTER"?

IF I HAVE TO WAIT FOR A TAXI... I'LL MISS MY MEETING. DREW... PLEASE?

ALL RIGHT. UNDER ONE CONDITION. YA' HAVE DINNER WITH ME AGAIN.

UM... I THOUGHT WE BOTH AGREED OUR FIRST DINNER DATE WAS A DISASTER.

I DUNNO 'BOUT THAT.

AFTER ALL... YA' GOT ME STRIPPED DOWN TO MY BRIEFS. MAYBE THIS TIME YOU'LL GET ME OUTTA 'EM.

SOMETHING I NOW HAVE LITTLE INTEREST IN.

WHATEVER. SO... WE GOT A DEAL?

SIGH, FINE. IT'S A DEAL. YOU DRIVE A HARD BARGAIN.

THAT AIN'T ALL I DRIVE "HARD".

RIGHT NOW, ALL I CARE ABOUT YOU DRIVING IS THIS WRECK OF A PICK-UP TRUCK.

OUCH...

Website - [www.kylecomics.com](http://www.kylecomics.com)

E-Mail - [KylesBnB@aol.com](mailto:KylesBnB@aol.com)

**bitter girl**

the lyin' in winter

WELL, IF YOU'RE GONNA RELAPSE WITH ROSE, DO IT BEFORE VALENTINE'S DAY IN CASE YOU GO AND BREAK UP AGAIN AFTERWARDS.

IT DOESN'T HAF TA BE THAT SOON! JUST SOMETIME BEFORE THE WEATHER GETS NICE...

... BREAKING UP IN SPRINGTIME IS THE WORST.

I WOULDN'T KNOW. I NEVER GO OUTSIDE.

SPRING!

V-DAY!

GUYS! I'M NOT GETTING BACK TOGETHER WITH HER! I BARELY THINK ABOUT HER!

THAT CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE.

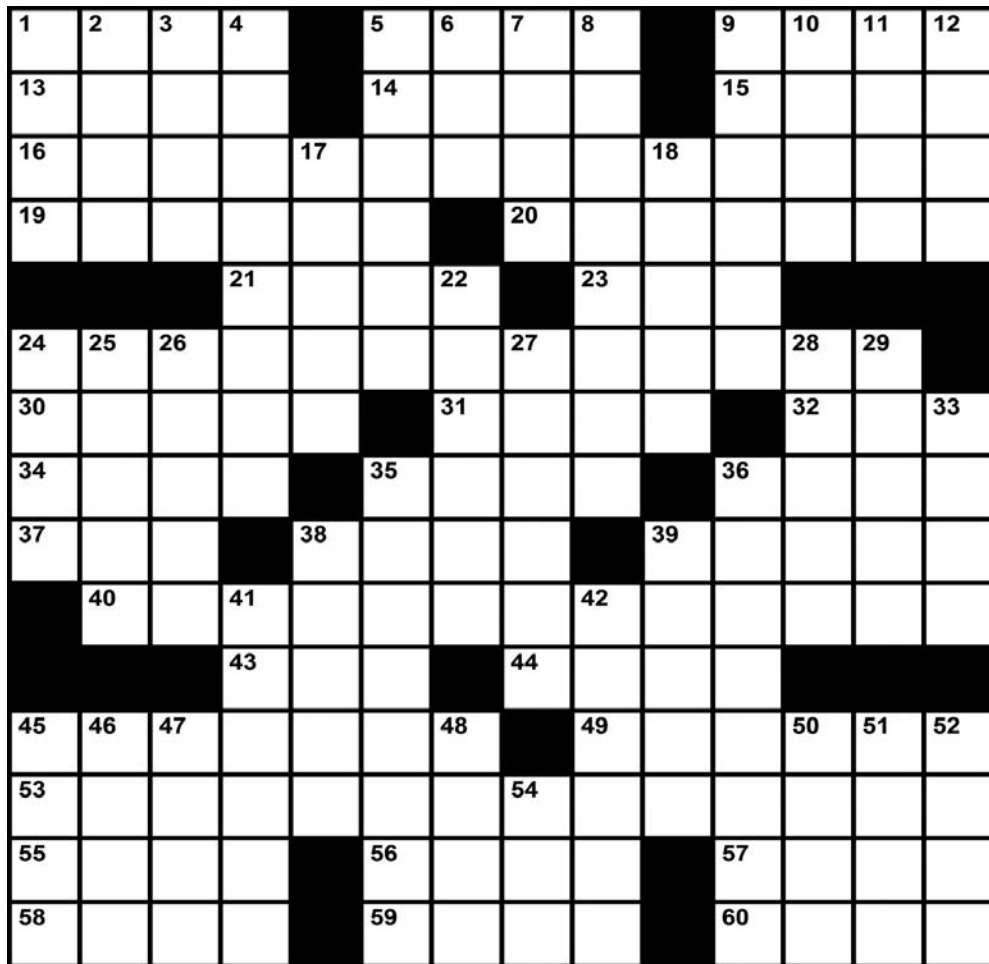
SHE MEANS SHE THINKS ABOUT HER BARE.

email: [bittergirl@qsyndicate.com](mailto:bittergirl@qsyndicate.com)

[www.joanhilty.net](http://www.joanhilty.net)

JOAN HILTY © 2009





# Look Out, Dan White

Solution on page 29

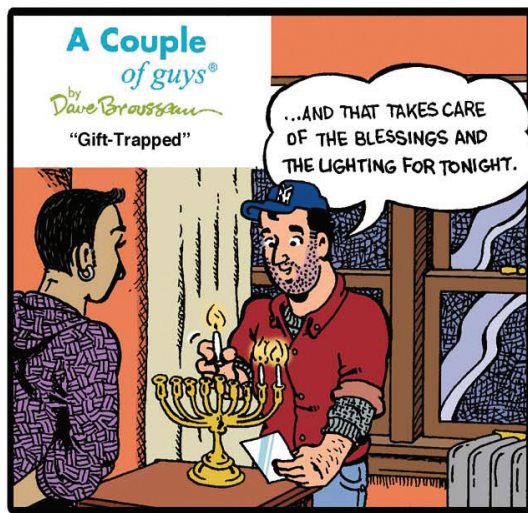
**Across**

- 1 It can give a man legs like a lady
- 5 My Lady\_
- 9 Farmer's tool
- 13 Like Hawaiian shirts
- 14 Voice in a loft
- 15 Straddled a stallion
- 16 Start of a "benefit" of a food company's demise
- 19 Tank top
- 20 As a bottom limit
- 21 Many a moon
- 23 Dorm VIPs
- 24 More of the "benefit"
- 30 \_\_\_ fours (doggy-style)
- 31 Pet food brand
- 32 Triangle side
- 34 Dietary, in ads
- 35 Bannon and Northrop
- 36 Fashionable Fla. resort
- 37 Cold-cocks
- 38 \_\_\_ fu
- 39 Flip
- 40 More of the "benefit"
- 43 Toothpaste box letters

- 44 Debussy's daddy
- 45 What drawers do
- 49 Able to assume many positions
- 53 End of the "benefit"
- 55 It crosses Hollywood
- 56 Romeo or Juliet
- 57 Breaks for Heather's mommies
- 58 "Don't leave me!"
- 59 Hit with hand motions
- 60 Windshield feature

**Down**

- 1 Went down (on)
- 2 Vegetarian's staple
- 3 German industrial locale
- 4 Like Teletubbies
- 5 Become like a bear
- 6 Malt drink
- 7 Words with shame or boy
- 8 Oration stations
- 9 Mychal Judge, e.g.
- 10 Marlene's *Blue Angel* role
- 11 Sapphic poems
- 12 \_\_\_ *Side Story*
- 17 George of *It's My Party*
- 18 Labia, e.g.
- 22 The 411
- 24 Coffeehouse music
- 25 Tear producer
- 26 Dustin in *Midnight Cowboy*
- 27 Processed with a cash register
- 28 Political power
- 29 "That's disgusting!"
- 33 Ironically straight singer Marvin
- 35 Balls
- 36 Bargain spot
- 38 Eastman camera
- 39 Letter flourish
- 41 Frank on the House floor
- 42 One-named Tejano singer
- 45 Off-rd. travelers
- 46 Boob, to a Brit
- 47 Fey of *30 Rock*
- 48 Abound
- 50 \_\_\_ B'rith
- 51 Where to see sweaty men
- 52 Silence for Saint-Saens
- 54 Last mo.





Friends' night out at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Jessie and Margo at Sue Ellen's.



Friends at Station 4.

Mi Diva Loca appear at Sue Ellen's on Nov. 30. On Dec. 1 it's Chix and on Dec. 2 see Kickback. Then on Dec. 4, Playing for a Purpose, a memorial poker game night and toy drive in memory of Heather Alden, benefits Youth First Texas and the Sam Houston School Christmas Project. ... Edna Jean Robinson presents a great JR.'s Bar & Grill tradition on Dec. 4: A Trailer Park Christmas benefiting the Sam Houston School Christmas Project. ... Mr. And Ms. Texas Leather 2013 takes place Nov. 30 to Dec. 2 at the Dallas Eagle, where the Leather Knights' and DFW Sisters' annual Angel Tree Project continues. ... Texas All American Goddess and All American Goddess at Large with reigning queens Whitney Paige and Asia O'Hara takes place at Best Friends Club on Dec. 2. Kalexis Davenport hosts. ... Last Friday with Carlos Saenz begins at 10 p.m. on Nov. 30 and 3 Drunk Monkeys on Dec. 1 at Alexandre's. ... Jenni P hosts a show along with Nicole O'Hara Munro and others at Randy's Club Cherries on Dec. 2 to help a family who has a newly adopted baby girl. ... The DFW Sisters presents its second annual Red Dress Party at TMC: The Mining Company benefiting the Resource Center Dallas and AIDS Interfaith Network. Dancing with Sister Spinna Deviny!, door prizes and silent auction begin at 8 p.m. on Dec. 1. Admission is \$20 for anyone wearing red, \$10 for anyone in a red dress. ... Dan's annual Christmas Cookie Party begins at 6 p.m. on Dec. 5 at the Round-Up Saloon.

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



Carline and Jimmy at Alexandre's.



Tammy and Olivia at the Round-Up Saloon.



Anthony and Austin Wilde at Drama Room.



Mel, Mary and Albie at Best Friends Club.

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photo: marc cartwright



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**Trailer Park Christmas**



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**Christmas Extravaganza**



**Sunday Dec. 16**

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**SUIT-AND-TIE ACTIVISTS** | Mark 'Major' Jiminez, left, and Beau Chandler at the Frank Crowley Criminal Courts Building prior to Chandler's court appearance. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

## Beau gets community service; marriage sit-in charge dropped

Beau Chandler and Mark "Major" Jiminez, the couple arrested at a marriage equality sit-in in July, are one step closer to their goal. The couple has vowed to see their charges of criminal trespass through to trial unless their cases are dismissed.

Chandler's case was dismissed Tuesday during his first court appearance. Supporters lined up for a rally in the chilly weather in front of Frank Crowley Criminal Courts Building before the couple went inside.

One of the couple's attorneys, Chad West, met with the assistant district attorney and agreed to a dismissal and a waiver of the \$650 fine if Chandler completes 40 hours of community service.

Chandler said he felt neutral after he learned the outcome because he wanted a full dismissal instead of community service. However, he and Jiminez often volunteer so 40 hours wouldn't be hard to finish.

"I feel kind of neutral. I'm not happy. I'm not disappointed," he said. "It's a win. All in all, it sort of worked out. It is a dismissal, which was our ultimate goal."

Jiminez said his two cases are still pending and he doesn't know when his next court appearance will be. His cases were moved to another court, so he said that is part of the hold up.

West said the dismissal was a plea bargain and Chandler could still push the case to trial if he wanted.

However, he said the couple wanted a trial or dismissal and this was the only way to get a dismissal in this case.

"In my mind, it's a complete win," he said. "There's nothing better than this other than a full dismissal."

Assistant District Attorney Jessica Trevizo, the prosecutor on Chandler's case, said the case is a conditional dismissal and would be dismissed when the community service was completed. She

declined to comment on why the case wasn't simply dismissed altogether.

— Anna Waugh

## 'A-List: Dallas' cast member arrested for theft at NorthPark

*The A-List: Dallas* may no longer be on TV, but that hasn't prevented the cast members from gossiping.

Gay Republican Taylor Garrett — known for filing his own police reports — tipped off Dallas Voice that fellow Dallas A-Lister Chase Hutchison was recently caught playing klepto at NorthPark Center.

And, indeed, court records indicate that the gay mortgage broker featured in Logo's gay reality show was arrested earlier this month for stealing, as his mug shot at left confirms.

Chase Hutchison

Hutchison was seen taking two green scarves valued at \$530 each from Barneys New York on Nov. 13 and leaving the store without paying around 8 p.m., according to a Dallas police report.

He was then arrested for a theft of more than \$500 but less than \$1,500, a class-A misdemeanor. He was released the next day on a \$1,000 bond. His first court date is set for Dec. 18.

Hutchison faces up to a year in jail and a maximum fine of \$4,000.

We know that Garrett was obviously angry with Hutchison for cozying up to cowboy Levi Crocker while the two were trying to reconnect by dating again, though only Garrett thought it was exclusive. But haven't those bad feelings calmed down by now?

— Anna Waugh

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# Maintaining a positive attitude



**A FAMILY AFFAIR** | Ahrys Prince, center, has called both Rosie, left, and Diosy 'Mom' for more than a decade, but he didn't know they were partners until they came out to him two years ago. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

## 27-year-old Ahrys Prince says HIV diagnosis has given life new meaning

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Ahrys Zhen Prince has used his HIV diagnosis this January as an opportunity to change his life for the better.

The 27-year-old, originally from Acapulco, Mexico, said he's been getting tested every three to six months since he came out at 19.

Prince said when he went to the health department to get tested this time, "I kind of knew it."

But he added, "I was still shocked."

As a young Latino gay man, Prince is in three high-risk categories for contracting HIV.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Con-

trol, the rate of HIV infections among Hispanics is three times as high as among whites. Meanwhile, people ages 13-24 now account for 26 percent of all new infections. And, although the rate has gone down over the years, gay and bisexual men still account for 61 percent of new HIV infections.

Getting out the message to high-risk groups is among the ongoing challenges facing local HIV/AIDS organizations as they convene on Saturday, Dec. 1, for the 25th annual World AIDS Day, which has the goal of "getting to zero" — zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths.

"We need to get better at addressing communities of color and the gay community with the pre-

vention message," said Don Maison, CEO of AIDS Services Dallas, one of the partners for World AIDS Day Dallas. "People are still dying."

### 'This changed my way of life'


The summer before he tested positive, Prince got sick with a throat infection. The illness lasted four weeks and he lost 20 pounds. He said it hurt so much, he cried every time he tried to eat.

His doctor at Bluitt Flowers, a Parkland hospital community clinic in Oak Cliff with an HIV specialty, told him she was concerned because the infection normally appeared in people with AIDS.

■ **POSITIVE**, Page 16

### World AIDS Day Dallas

- More than 30 Dallas organizations mark World AIDS Day from 3-6 p.m. Saturday at Main Street Garden, 1900 Main St. Anthony and Sarah Garcia/ASG, Denise Lee and Gary Floyd perform. An AIDS Memorial Quilt Ceremony with six panels from the quilt begins at 3:45. Speakers include Dallas County Health and Human Services Director Zach Thompson, openly HIV-positive Ms. Plus America Michelle Anderson and Otis Harris Jr., featured in the MTV special *I'm Positive*. For more info, go to [WorldAidsDayDallas.com](http://WorldAidsDayDallas.com).



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## localbriefs

### Youth First TX to honor LGBT heroes during 13th anniversary celebration

To mark Youth First Texas' 13th birthday, the youth and the board are celebrating the heroes of the community, people who make the difference directly and indirectly for acceptance, justice and human rights for all people, especially young people.

"We often forget to say 'thank you' to those who pave the way for all of us to have a better life. We forget that our lives are enriched because of the work of others," said Board Chair Chris-James Cogna.

The celebration is on Thursday, Dec. 6, and is open to the public.

Guests may arrive at 6:30 p.m., and the program and recognition ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m. Beer, wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Youth First Texas appreciates a suggested donation of \$40 for adults and \$5 for youth.

The honorees chosen by the youth and board of directors are: Michael Doughman, Dallas Tavern Guild; David Fisher, Turtle Creek Chorale; Richard Gordon, Matt Hein, Christopher Hendrix and Robert Ivancic, Youth First Texas; Craig Lynch and Jeff Rayne, Uptown Players; Roger Poindexter, Lambda Legal; Jeffrey Paine, The Sharon St. Cyr Fund; Max Rippetoe, J.C. Penney LGBTQA Business Resource Team; Rosie Roetto, Adam Lambert Fan and Ally; David Taffet, Dallas Voice; James W. Tate, GLSEN; Cece Cox, Resource Center Dallas;

Paul Jentz, Baylor Medical Center; Tonya Parker, 116th District Court Judge; Alex Ortega and Lisa Waitemon-Moses, AIDS Arms; Gary Allinger, Lipps Larue and Marshall Styers, United Court of the Lone Star Empire; Wayne Davis, The Dallas Bears; Christopher Weinfurter, Dallas Woody's; and Oliver Blumer, TENT.

### Out & Equal elects officers; Jeffrey Gorczynski re-elected affiliate chair

The DFW Regional affiliate of Out & Equal elected officers for the new year. Jeffrey Gorczynski, a vice president at Citi, was re-elected affiliate chair.

"I'm excited by the opportunity to continue leading our group's important work," Gorczynski said. "Although things are getting better for many LGBT people, there are still too many places where they cannot bring their entire selves to work. I encourage everyone to join us at Out & Equal in the fight for workplace equality."

Paul von Wupperfeld of Texas Instruments was the first chair of the Out & Equal DFW Regional Affiliate when it was formed in 2006. In 2011, he helped engage the local community when Out & Equal brought their annual Summit to Dallas. He continues as chair emeritus.

Erza Litton with MetLife will chair community outreach. Sam Seelback with American Airlines is secretary and Nell Gaitner with Trans Pride Initiative is treasurer.

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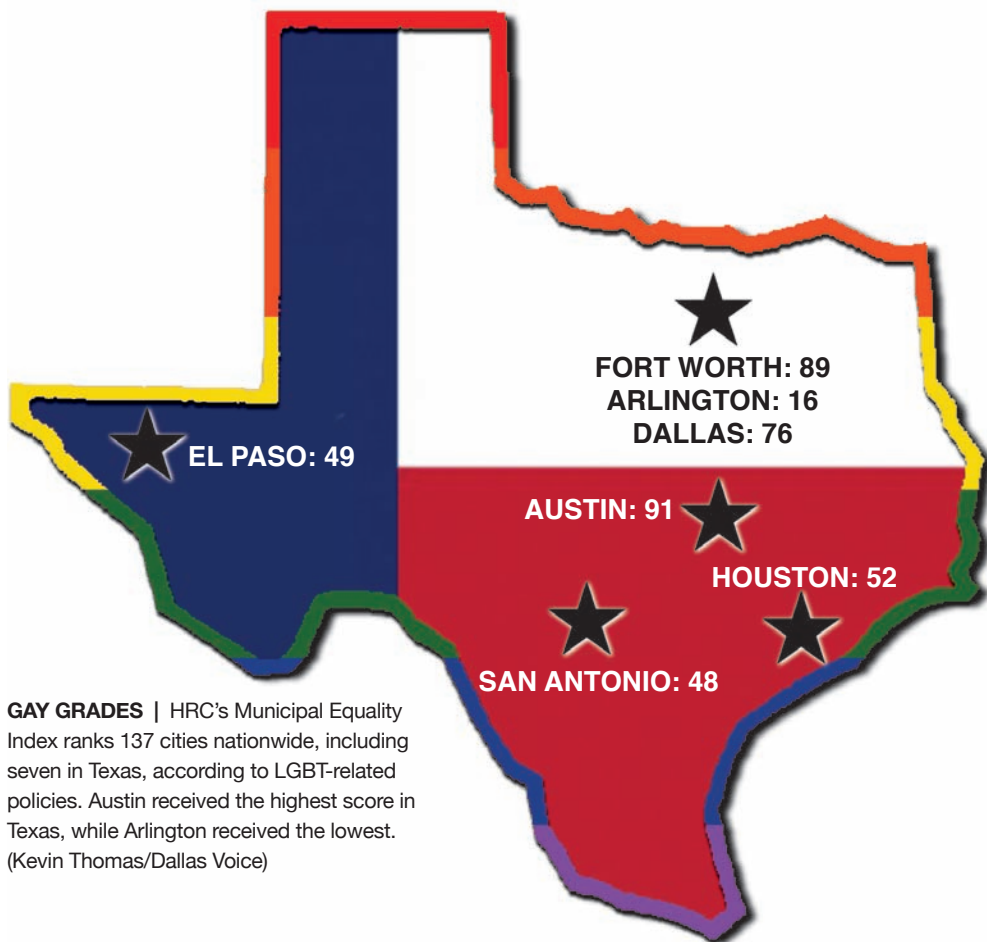


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# New HRC index gives city of Dallas 'a reality check' on LGBT rights



**GAY GRADES** | HRC's Municipal Equality Index ranks 137 cities nationwide, including seven in Texas, according to LGBT-related policies. Austin received the highest score in Texas, while Arlington received the lowest. (Kevin Thomas/Dallas Voice)

## Fort Worth tops Big D on Municipal Equality scorecard

**ANNA WAUGH** | Staff Writer  
waugh@dallasvoice.com

It's widely believed that the city of Dallas — which has long had domestic partner benefits and a citywide nondiscrimination ordinance — has done virtually everything it can to support LGBT equality.

But a new national survey, released this week by the Human Rights Campaign, reveals some chinks in the city's gay-friendly armor and shows that when it comes to LGBT equality, Fort Worth scores better than Dallas as a municipality.

Using a scale of 100 with 20 possible bonus points, HRC examined nondiscrimination laws, relationship recognition, employment practices, inclusiveness of city services, law enforcement and municipal leadership for its first Municipal

Equality Index.

Austin scored the highest in Texas with 91 points. Fort Worth came in second with 89, and Dallas in third with 76. El Paso scored a 49, Houston a 52, San Antonio a 48 and Arlington a 16.

The study examined 137 cities of varying sizes, including all state capitals, the 50 most populous cities in the country, and the 25 large, 25 mid-size and 25 small municipalities with the highest proportion of same-sex couples.

The study also included cities with HRC steering committees. Several overlapped to bring the total to 137.

Cathryn Oakley, the primary author of the MEI, said that Texas was "a wonderful surprise" because the scores were so progressive in a state where there are no pro-LGBT state laws.

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Auguste Rodin, *The Age of Bronze*, ca. 1876, Plaster, 71 1/2 x 25 1/2 x 21 1/4 in. (181.6 x 64.8 x 54 cm).  
Photo: David Heald. Raymond and Patsy Nasher Collection, Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, Texas

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**UPON FURTHER REVIEW ...** | Marriage equality supporters celebrated a victory in California's Prop 8 case outside San Francisco City Hall in 2010, but the victory wasn't final, and the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to announce whether it will take up the case on Monday, Dec. 3. (Associated Press)

# TX losing \$60 million annually due to ban on same-sex marriage

UCLA's Williams Institute provides estimate as U.S. Supreme Court prepares to decide whether to hear cases challenging Prop 8, DOMA

**ANNA WAUGH** | Staff Writer  
waugh@dallasvoice.com

As the U.S. Supreme Court decides whether to weigh in on marriage equality, new estimates show Texas' ban on same-sex marriage will cost the state \$182.5 million over the next three years.

The Williams Institute, a prominent LGBT think tank at UCLA, estimates that same-sex couples marrying in Maine, Washington and Maryland — where voters recently approved marriage equality — will gross a combined \$166.6 million for the states in three years.

The estimate is based on Census 2010 data if 50 percent of same-sex couples marry in the first three years, which is consistent with what has happened in other states with marriage equality. The estimate takes into account the average wedding expenditures in the state and tourism reports.

The institute then calculated what Texas' economy could gain from marriage equality, and it projected that \$182.5 million was likely to result

from same-sex weddings in the first three years. While the amount is more than the other three states combined, LGBT experts say it could take Texas more than a decade to legalize or be forced to recognize same-sex marriage.

The estimates don't take into account the gay couples who are already married or registered as domestic partners in a state, nor do they factor in revenue generated from out-of-state couples who would plan weddings in the state. The institute found that 1,200 out-of-state couples traveled to Iowa in the first year of its marriage equality, which brought in revenue from wedding and tourism services.

Christy Mallory, Reid Rasmussen Fellow at the Williams Institute, said the estimates are particularly meaningful because any revenue is important during budget crises.

California's economy could soon see a boost in wedding revenue if the U.S. Supreme Court opts not to hear a lawsuit challenging Proposition 8 — the state's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

Mallory said the Williams Institute has not yet run a similar estimate for California. But in 2008 the institute calculated that taxes on same-sex weddings alone would bring in \$63.8 million over three years in California.

Brian Moulton, legal director at the Human

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**BOXED IN** | Those protesting the reopening of the Hideaway, left, include residents of nearby condos like the ones at right, as well as the owner of the office building in the background. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

# Residents of condos that have risen near Hideaway fight gay bar's reopening

Protest letters cite concerns about prostitution, sexual activity, but neighbors deny opposition is rooted in homophobia; hearing set Dec. 7

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

About 250 people are protesting the reopening of the Hideaway on Buena Vista Street, according to Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission records.

Protesters include several area homeowners associations, the owner of an office building adjacent to the bar and Dallas City Councilwoman Angela Hunt.

On TABC protest forms, neighbors checked off traffic, noise and criminal activity. Under "other," a variety of additional reasons were given, including concerns about sexual activity, prostitution, ADA compliance, trash, safety and drunk people.

An administrative law judge is scheduled to hold a hearing Friday, Dec. 7 — delayed from September — on granting a TABC license to the Hideaway.

But the hearing may be delayed again by a request for a continuance that was set to be heard on Friday, Nov. 30.

In her letter of complaint, Hunt requested

TABC deny the license because of numerous neighborhood complaints concerning quality of life issues should the bar reopen.

"I base my request on continuous crime and disturbances (loud noise, unruly behavior, destruction of private property, unauthorized parking, litter and other illegal activities) driven by patrons of the previous establishment at this location and the other three bars within one block of this location," Hunt wrote.

The iconic Hideaway, well known as a piano bar, closed after 26 years in 2009. The Hershner family, which owns the Tin Room and the Drama Room, is trying to reopen it.

Lonzie Hershner told Dallas Voice the neighborhood's concerns are unfounded.

"We have taken every step to assure them about their concerns," Hershner said. "We're hiring off-duty police and providing valet parking."

The administrative law court is independent of TABC but hears cases that involve a dispute between a government agency and someone affected by a decision of that agency.

Six hours have been set aside on the Dec. 7 docket for the hearing.

Carolyn Beck, a spokeswoman for TABC, said the agency is neutral.

In its investigation, the agency found no reason to deny a license. Beck said before the scheduled

■ **HIDEAWAY**, Page 14

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# Congresswoman files bill targeting 'ex-gay' therapy

Resolution wouldn't ban practice, but Rep. Jackie Speier says she hopes it will prompt other states to join Calif. by passing their own laws

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service

U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier, D-San Francisco, announced Wednesday, Nov. 28, the introduction of a resolution aimed at stopping "reparative therapy" operations from preying on young gay people.

The bill, dubbed the "Stop Harming Our Kids" resolution, seeks to express "the sense of Congress" that efforts directed at LGBT minors to change sexual orientation and gender identity or expression "are discredited and ineffective, have no legitimate therapeutic purpose, and are dangerous and harmful."

The efforts to change sexual orientation are generally referred to as "reparative therapy" or "conversion therapy." A reportedly small number of mental health care facilities purport that the practices can change a homosexual sexual orientation to heterosexual.

Both the American Psychiatric Association and

the American Psychological Association have raised concerns about the efforts, saying there is no sound evidence that the practices work but that there is evidence they can pose significant risks of self-destructive behavior to the client.

"Being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered is not a disease to be cured or a mental illness that requires treatment," Speier said at the press conference. "Any effort to change sexual orientation is not medicine, it's quackery, and we should not be supporting it with taxpayer dollars."

Introduction of the bill comes less than two months after California Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law a first-ever bill to ban the use of reparative therapy on people under the age of 18. That law takes effect Jan. 1. Speier's bill does not seek to establish a legal ban but rather to put the weight of Congress behind the professional community's determination that reparative therapy can be harmful to young people.

Speier said she also hopes her resolution will prompt other states to "take steps to protect minors from efforts that promote or promise to change sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, based on the premise that homosexuality is a mental illness or developmental disorder that can or should be cured."



Jackie Speier

Cooper 360, with substitute host Wolf Blitzer.

The lawsuit, filed in New Jersey Superior Court, accuses a Jersey City reparative therapy group of violating the state's laws against consumer fraud.

The lawsuit states that the group, Jews Offering New Alternatives for Homosexuality, or JONAH, engaged in such practices as "violent role play exercises where they beat effigies of their mothers" and derided as "faggots" in mock locker room scenarios. The lawsuit also says the group's clients, all young men, were "instructed to remove their clothing and stand naked" with a

Speier's press conference took place just one day after the Southern Poverty Law Center filed a high-profile lawsuit against a reparative therapy group in New Jersey. The lawsuit was the subject of a number of mainstream media reports Tuesday, including on CNN's Anderson

group counselor who was also naked in front of a group of other clients.

Speier said Wednesday she is investigating whether federal taxpayer funds have been used to fund conversion therapy for minors. So far, she said, she has found two instances of "so-called mental health professionals that advertise these services and appear to be eligible for federal dollars." She said she sent letters of inquiry to Medicaid and TRICARE (which provides health to the military and its families) "to determine if these instances reflect systemic weaknesses that allow federal taxpayer dollars to go to harmful, illegitimate medical services."

Speier will have to re-introduce her resolution next month after the start of the new session of Congress.

Human Rights Campaign President Chad Griffin issued a press statement praising Speier's resolution and calling change therapies "junk science" that has "been proven harmful to children and adults."

Joining Speier at the press conference were representatives of the Southern Poverty Law Center, the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the Human Rights Campaign.

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■ INDEX, From Page 9

"Austin and Fort Worth did really well. There were not that many cities that scored that high," she said. "Dallas, I think, did really well. A 76 is not only above average but coming from a state where there is no state support, it's particularly notable that they did so well."

Texas' average score was 60, which is about the same as the national average. Out of the 137 cities, 11 scored a 100, 42 scored higher than Dallas, nine scored higher than Fort Worth and 120 scored higher than Arlington. One tied with Arlington and two had the same score as Dallas.

Oakley said the goal of the study was to see how cities are helping advance LGBT equality and identify areas where they can improve. She said HRC conducted research and sent the results to the cities for their input. Both Fort Worth and Dallas responded.

Dallas and Fort Worth lost points for not having comprehensive transgender health benefits and for not having some "soft benefits" like equivalent family leave or legal dependent benefits. Fort Worth also received more points in municipal services in programs because it has a Human Relations Commission and a City Manager's Human Relations Unit, which Oakley said acts in the mayoral LGBT liaison capacity because it is separate from the commission. Dallas received credit for the LGBT liaison for Councilwoman Delia Jasso's

LGBT Task Force.

In the municipality's relationship with the LGBT community category, Fort Worth received six out of eight points, compared to Dallas' two points. Fort Worth also got all seven bonus points in the category when Dallas received five.

Oakley said that category was mainly subjective and she made scoring decisions based on how outspoken city officials were on behalf of LGBT causes, using Councilman Joel Burn's 2010 "It Gets Better" speech at a council meeting as an example.

The category also took into consideration recent legislation. Fort Worth passed domestic partner benefits and added trans protections to its nondiscrimination ordinance in the last few years, whereas Dallas hasn't had any recent legislation, she said.

"One of the things that this project does is it is a reality check and it's saying you think that you're amazing, and you are, but maybe you're not quite as amazing as you could be," Oakley said. "For Dallas, having a Human Rights Commission would be a big deal. ... It's clear that there are a lot of good intentions, but I think it would be great to have some of those intentions turned into actions."

Cece Cox, CEO of Resource Center Dallas, said she was glad Dallas was ranked third in the state and was grateful for the outlined areas of improvement.

"I think that it identifies some areas that the city could take action on to improve its score. [Dallas]

has a pretty decent score," she said.

Cox said the city could improve by adding transgender inclusive and soft health benefits for complete workplace equality, along with city-provided services for LGBT elderly, homeless and youth.

Jon Nelson, Fairness Fort Worth president, said for any city to score above 70 is an accomplishment, adding that it's hard to compare cities based on the scores.

He said Fort Worth needs to push for the city manager to add comprehensive transgender health coverage, which the City Council almost did in 2009.

Arlington's score shocked Nelson because former FFW President Tom Anable reached out to the mayor and council members numerous times to work on pro-equality legislation. Arlington received points for nondiscrimination in city employment, reporting hate crimes to the FBI and one point for city leadership regarding LGBT equality.

"I think the only telling score of Texas cities that's important is Arlington. It's a shame because they don't seem to care very much," Nelson said. "It's my hope that Arlington will wake up to the realization that cities which protect all of their citizens and all of their employees, including those with particular sexual orientations or gender identities, are in the forefront of what cities should be like." ■

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## ■ texasnews

### ■ HIDEAWAY, From Page 11

hearing in September that an agent visited the neighborhood at night and during the day.

During the day the area is quiet, but at night, the neighborhood is already noisy.

She said that the investigation didn't connect the activity listed in the complaints with the bar management or the applicant.

"We're looking for a legal reason to deny the permit to the bar," Beck said. "We didn't find one."

Since the Hideaway first opened 20 years ago, quite a bit of residential development has taken place along Buena Vista Street. Property across the street from the bar fronts the Katy Trail. Condos have been built on a lot where patrons used to park.

"The location has limited parking, there is little street parking and the location is access via residential streets," wrote Shawna Wilson and Rick Schene on behalf of the Parkwood Townhomes Homes Owners Association [sic].

To address parking issues, Hershner said that on busy nights there would be valet. In addition to parking he built behind a neighboring dentist's office, he has leased parking in another nearby lot.

"We've already got more than double the parking we're supposed to have," he said.

Other complaints involve trash, drug use and sex on a private street that runs between Buena Vista and Travis streets.

"Bar patrons engaging in sexual relations on our property — I had to tell 2 men to leave from behind the bushes next to our mailboxes," wrote Jamie and David Baker in a letter to TABC.

To address that concern, Hershner said he's hiring off-duty police officers for security to keep things under control on the property and the immediate neighboring area.

Hershner said neighbors were worried about dancers in the back bar attracting the wrong type of clientele to the area.

"We won't be a dancer bar," he said. "We signed an affidavit that said that with TABC."

The complaints have come from both gay and straight neighbors.

"My request to not allow the new bar at 4144 Buena Vista to not obtain an alcohol license is not motivated by homophobia in any way whatsoever," wrote Craig Pineau, who's gay. "All we want is a safe peaceful living environment and permitting this bar to obtain an alcohol license will infringe upon the health, safety and welfare of the residents in the area."

According to TABC, the judge has 60 days after the hearing to issue a ruling. Each side then has 15 days to file exceptions and the other side has 15 days to answer. Then TABC has up to a year to issue an order but one to six months would be normal. If the neighborhood wins, the Hershners can appeal. However, if the Hershners win, the neighborhood may not appeal. ■

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### ■ MARRIAGE, From Page 10

Rights Campaign, said it's expected that the Supreme Court won't hear the Prop 8 case — instead letting the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling stand, which would mean same-sex marriage could be legal in California a few days later. The court could also hold the Prop 8 case if it takes one of several cases challenging the Defense of Marriage Act, then send the Prop 8 case back to the appeals court in light of their opinion on DOMA.

Moulton said if the Prop 8 case is heard, it's likely it would be to overturn the decision. However, it's possible the court could affirm the decision in a broad decision that could affect states around the country.

The high court is expected to decide on the Prop 8 case and the DOMA cases at its conference Friday, Nov. 30, and will likely announce its decisions Monday, Dec. 3.

As for DOMA, Moulton said the court is expected to take at least one of the cases with the hope that it will uphold previous rulings and find the anti-gay law unconstitutional.

"Obviously if the court takes it up, we hope that means that they will eventually uphold all of the lower courts that have struck DOMA down and give us a final answer on that question," he said. "The most problematic outcome would be if they decide not to take any of the DOMA cases and we're left not having a final answer on the constitutionality of that law."

The Supreme Court has faced criticism in the past for moving too fast on abortion and too slow

on interracial marriage, but Moulton said the court is aware of the recent marriage equality wins and a popular opinion that favors marriage equality.

"Certainly they're not ignorant of the practicalities of these questions that are coming sooner or later before the court and could deal with them now or put that off until another day," he said.

The Supreme Court will also decide whether to hear *Diaz v. Brewer*, an Arizona case in which state employees sued after their domestic partner benefits were revoked under the state's marriage amendment.

*Diaz* is currently before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which issued a temporary injunction to allow the DP benefits to continue until the case was decided. The court asked the Supreme Court to review the case.

Ken Upton, a senior staff attorney in Lambda Legal's Dallas office, said he wouldn't be surprised if the court declines to hear the DP benefits case because the it rarely takes cases that haven't been decided.

He said it's possible the court could set it aside and give guidance on how the 9th Circuit could interpret the law.

If the court does take the case, Upton said it could help Texas if the court writes a decision that requires states to offer benefits to domestic partners, especially in light of Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, who has requested the Texas attorney general's opinion on whether Texas governmental entities can offer them without violating the state's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. ■

A photograph of Gary with da Tea, a radio personality, sitting in a red chair in a radio studio. He is wearing a blue and green patterned shirt and a white watch. He is looking directly at the camera. In front of him is a professional microphone on a stand. To his right, there is a desk with a laptop and other equipment. The background is a grey wall.

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## coverstory

■ POSITIVE, From Page 6

But she tested him for HIV and the result was negative.

Prince said he thinks he knows when he contracted the virus but it took longer than usual to seroconvert and produce enough antibodies to return a positive test result.

Prince said at first he blamed himself for contracting the virus, but spending time blaming himself or anyone else was unproductive.

As a 27-year-old who contracted HIV 15 years after effective treatments for the disease were found, he said he thinks of the virus differently than his parents' generation.

He said that three decades later, after so much research, HIV is a treatable illness. But he said there are two ways to approach treatment.

"One is destructive and the other is positive," he said.

After diagnosis, some people run scared the rest of their lives or do nothing. He called that destructive. He said others take the news as a sign it's time to make changes. He said before he was diagnosed with HIV, all he cared about was working and partying — and he had no goals.

"This changed my way of life," he said. "It gave my life meaning. It was my chance to tear myself apart and rebuild myself."

He called it a great journey. This spring, his T-cell count dropped from 540 to 300 in a couple of months. In May, he went on medication and his T-cell count is back over 600 with an undetectable viral load count.

### 'There's nothing I can't do'

When Prince first went on medication, he spoke with his CrossFit coach whom he'd been working with for more than a year.

CrossFit gyms feature short, intense workouts combining a variety of movements with various pieces of equipment.

"What if things go wrong?" he asked his coach. "What if my body isn't strong enough to keep me alive?"

He said his coach told him, "You've done it before. You can do it."

And he hasn't looked back.

"There's nothing this year I feel bad about," he said. "I've pushed myself to do things I've never done before."

That includes going back to school. He won a LEAP Scholarship from the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce. In June, he'll graduate from the University of North Texas with a degree in human resource management.

He plans to get his teaching certificate and wants to teach high school Spanish, English as a Second Language or math. He got A's in calculus and statistics last semester.

Among his new activities is tutoring.

"I tutor because I can change people's lives," he said.

He needed to prove himself physically as well.

Over the summer, he hiked in Yosemite even though he'd never been hiking before.

He never was a runner before, but he ran a 5K and took first place.

In September, he was set to bike the 150-mile

### Other World AIDS Day events

- C.U.R.E. and Health Services of North Texas present speakers and panels from the Names Project Quilt at 4 p.m. Saturday at Art Centre of Plano, 901 E. 18th St.
- Carnival of Life — with snacks, games, free HIV testing, gift card raffles, booths, prizes and AIDS organization displays — will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Resource Connection of Tarrant County, 1100 Circle Dr., Fort Worth.
- Dallas County offers free HIV testing from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at St. Luke Community United Methodist Church, 5710 E. R.L. Thornton Freeway.

Lone Star Ride that was rained out. He's planning to participate next year. Although the fundraising proved daunting, he succeeded in that, too.

"I had to prove to myself HIV can't stop me," he said. "There's nothing I can't do because I'm positive."

He said he's reinforced relationships with his family and friends as well — in addition to possibly even saving his father's life.

Prince moved to Dallas from Acapulco with his mother and brother when he was 13. They live in Oak Cliff with another woman and her three daughters. When he went back to school, he moved back in with them.

Although he's called both Rosie and Diosy "Mom" for more than a decade, he said he didn't realize they were lesbian partners until they came out to him just two years ago.

Since moving to Texas, Prince had no contact with his father. After being diagnosed, he called his father who still lives in Acapulco. His father had gotten remarried after he left with his mother. But he found out he had something in common with his father — his dad also had AIDS.

But his father hadn't gotten medical treatment in a year, had contracted opportunistic infections and wasn't on medication. He said his father was living with a cultural stigma of shame for having AIDS.

"He was just going to die," he said.

That call changed his father's life.

"I talked to him about how people live," he said.

He said his father went to a doctor and is now on medication. "He's back to normal like nothing happened," he said.

Prince said he's been called *descarado*, an insult meaning bold-faced, blatant or impertinent. It's a label he wears proudly as it's used to describe a gay man who's out and doesn't care who knows or what they think.

But he does care when he's talking to people about HIV. He said he forgave himself for contracting HIV.

"I always tell people to get tested, but that won't keep you from getting it," he said. "Be careful. Be safe. Don't do what will get you in that situation."

Although he wants people to get the safe-sex message, if someone tests positive, he wants them to know what they should do.

"We have so many great resources here in Dallas," he said. "And AIDS is not the same as it was in the 80s." ■



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