

# Kristine W: Queen of the dance

Recording artist hits milestone as a chart topper  
Diva headlines Mardi Gras celebration on Cedar Springs this weekend

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# United by LOVE

As Valentine's Day approaches, same-sex binational couples hope 2013 will be the year that finally brings them a permanent solution

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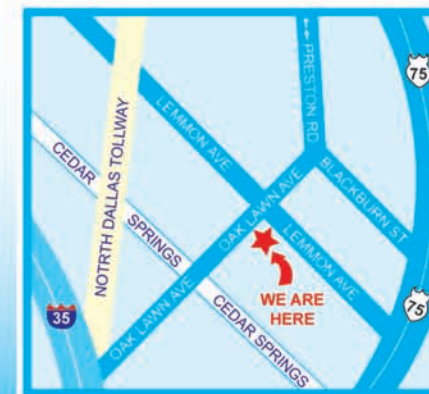
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# instantTEA

## Comprehensive trans healthcare 'off the table' for city of Dallas

Despite efforts by local activists, the city of Dallas likely won't add comprehensive healthcare for its transgender employees this year.

Trans Pride Initiative President Nell Gaither met with City Manager Mary Suhm, as well as representatives from the Human Resources department and UnitedHealthcare, last week to discuss what the city's plans actually cover due to confusion in January.

Gaither said the city covers everything related to trans healthcare except gender reassignment surgery, including hormones, counseling and wellness checkups regardless of gender.

She said the possibility of covering the surgery next year wasn't discussed, as the conversation focused on ways to communicate the coverage to city benefit workers and all the city's employees, who are encouraged to contact Human Resources if they have questions or if something is not covered that should be.

"The city's position is, they've covered these [benefits] for several years, so that's what we're going with," Gaither said, adding that surgery won't be added. "It's off the table."

But Dallas police officer Debbie Grabowski said she hasn't ever had her hormones covered under the city's plan. She said she's been on vacation but would contact the city when she goes back to work to talk to them about hormone coverage. She added that she wished she and other trans people didn't have to continue to fight for coverage under the plans by contacting Human Resources.

After starting a letter campaign to city officials to change the healthcare plans to include everything related to trans healthcare, Gaither said she ended that campaign because of the meeting, even though it looks like adding the surgery to the plans isn't going to happen.

However, she'll use the opportunity over the next year to educate people about the surgery and the need for it to eventually be covered. Many believe when the Affordable Healthcare Act is fully enacted in 2014 that all medically necessary surgeries will be covered, including comprehensive trans coverage, but Gaither said the specific requirements for coverage are still being written.

"I'm going to continue to advocate because I think there's a lot of misinformation about the surgeries and how they're medically necessary," she said. "If we have these other things covered, that's not bad for now."

In Fort Worth, where nothing related to trans healthcare is covered by the city's Aetna plans, Fairness Fort Worth board member Tori Van Fleet said the group is still working on a plan to add the coverage outside of the City Council.

— Anna Waugh

## Round-Up patron accuses club of anti-Hispanic discrimination

A Round-Up Saloon patron says he fears the bar is discriminating against Hispanic clubgoers who have permanent resident visas, but management says it accepts them.

Eddie Munoz said he and a friend visiting from out of town went to the Round-Up on Jan. 29 after the Lady Gaga concert.

Gaga was expected to appear at the club after her Dallas performance.



Nell Gaither

But when Munoz's friend presented his permanent resident visa — commonly called a "green card" — the doorman told him that management had changed the policy to no longer accept them as valid IDs. When Munoz and his friend asked to speak to a manager, Munoz said they were rudely told to wait outside.

"It was a perfectly legitimate ID. We never had issues before," Munoz said. "I was infuriated."

While waiting, Munoz said he saw a group of women who looked Hispanic being turned away with their IDs in their hands.

Munoz ended up texting a friend already inside the club to seek out a manager to address the issue. His friend spoke to a manager who then approved the ID and let them in.

But Munoz said his friend, who is from Mexico but lives in South Texas, had been admitted to the club the previous Saturday and Sunday using the same ID, so he wanted to know why the policy had suddenly changed, but he said they were never given an answer that night.

Round-Up co-owner Alan Pice told Instant Tea a doorman did say he asked the men to wait outside while he called for a manager because he'd never seen a green card before. The manager then told the doorman to let them use the ID.

Pierce said the club has accepted green cards as a form of ID in the past, as long as they are not expired and contain photos and dates of birth, but few people use them as IDs for entry. Pierce said there hasn't been a policy change, though the allegation of discrimination may prompt him to create a policy.

"We don't have any problem with Latinos in our club. It's not about race, I can promise you that," Pierce said. "This whole thing has gotten a little bit blown out of proportion. ... We'll make sure with all of our employees in the future that everybody is updated."

Raul Hinojosa Jr., president of the gay Dallas LULAC chapter, #4871, said he wasn't aware of gay clubs that won't accept green cards as ID. Hinojosa added that if bouncers haven't seen them before, they may not know what they are, which is what Pierce said happened that night.

Carolyn Beck, spokeswoman for the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, said under Texas law, bars can accept any state or federal ID with a photo and physical description. But she added that bars are also permitted to have stricter rules for acceptable IDs.

— Anna Waugh



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# United by love

As Valentine's Day approaches, same-sex binational couples hope 2013 will be the year that finally brings them a permanent solution

**JOHN WRIGHT** | Senior Editor  
wright@dallasvoice.com

Kenny Hill and Rick Ziraldo's love story spans three continents and eight-plus years.

The couple met in 2004 in Australia, where Ziraldo was studying abroad for a semester and Hill was vacationing.

"One Tuesday we ended up meeting and spending the rest of the day together, and that kind of went into the rest of that week," Hill recalls. "Toward the end of that week, Ricky had to be back in school and I was moving on to other places in Australia. He said, 'Well this has been fun, but I'm Italian and you're American, and I don't see that we could ever make this work.' And I said, 'Well, I'm going to travel around the world to find you and make it work.'"

Nine months later, Ziraldo had returned to Italy when Hill sent him a message saying he'd be in Venice for the weekend.

"The same spark was there," Hill says. "At that point, we made the decision to see what we could do to formalize it."

After Ziraldo finished his bachelor's degree at an Italian university in December 2006, he obtained a 90-day visa waiver to visit Hill in Dallas.

"We basically at the end of that 90 days determined that we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together," Hill says.

Ziraldo enrolled at Richland College, and they traveled to Italy to obtain a three-year student visa.

"At that point we realized the only way we could bring him into the States to live anywhere close to permanently was on a student visa," Hill says.

Since then, they've spent about \$50,000 in out-of-state tuition to keep Ziraldo in school — he's now working on his doctorate at the University of Texas at Dallas. Ziraldo renewed his student visa for five years so that he can remain with Hill in Dallas. But the couple notes the visa could be revoked if authorities determine he intends to emigrate to the U.S.

When Ziraldo's student visa finally expires, Hill is prepared to become an expatriate, leaving his country, family and career behind so the couple can remain together.

Hill and Ziraldo are among some 40,000 binational same-sex couples in the U.S. who face a similar predicament. Unlike their heterosexual counterparts, they are unable to obtain spousal visas because of the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act.

However, as another Valentine's Day approaches, LGBT advocates say they're optimistic those couples will finally see an end to their uncertainty this year.

The Uniting American Families Act, which would allow gay Americans to sponsor "permanent partners" for residency in the

U.S., was reintroduced in Congress this week. Advocates hope UFAA will receive sufficient bipartisan support to be included in a comprehensive immigration reform package.

But even if UFAA doesn't make the cut, advocates say a favorable ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court in a case challenging the constitutionality of DOMA would fix the problem once and for all. The Supreme Court's decision in the DOMA case is expected in late June.

"I am optimistic and hopeful that 2013 will be the year that we finally get a permanent solution," said Steve Ralls, a spokesman for Washington, D.C.-based Immigration Equality. "We hear from couples literally every single day who have used so many temporary options to remain together — student visas, work visas, tourist visas. And for many of those couples those temporary options are expiring, and they need a permanent solution now."

## DOMA case looms large

Ralls said Immigration Equality is working on three fronts — administrative, legislative and judicial — to help binational same-sex couples.

Administratively, he said the group has seen "great progress" under President Barack Obama.

"The White House assured us many months ago that they would work to make sure that no LGBT binational couple was separated under their watch, and they have kept their word, and when we have brought cases to their attention where a partner is facing potential removal, they have moved very quickly to make sure that



Kenny Hill, right, and Rick Ziraldo

those individuals are not separated from their U.S. citizen partners," Ralls said.

The White House also sent a directive to immigration field officers saying LGBT couples should be considered family, an important distinction because federal agencies take family ties into consideration when deciding which individuals to target for deportation.

However, Ralls said these changes could easily be reversed under a future administration, and for most couples, they don't come with any real benefit.

"While stopping deportations is good and important, it doesn't provide that lasting piece of mind that couples need to build a life together and have some permanency," he said, adding that almost half of binational same-sex couples have children. "Their kids face the prospect of either having to pack up and leave the country and move abroad, or see their family split apart. Republicans who want to talk about family values should talk about keeping those families together."

On the legislative front, Obama has signaled his support for including same-sex couples in comprehensive immigration reform. However, same-sex couples were left out of the Senate's framework for immigration reform unveiled last week, which Ralls called a disappointment.

"The framework is just that," he said. "It's a framework. It's not a bill yet. Our goal is to make sure that when a bill is introduced, that it does include the UFAA. Our view is that we should be in the bill when it's introduced. It's much better for us to be in the base bill than to have to be added in the amendment process later."

Ultimately, though, Ralls said UFAA is now a legislative "safety net" in the event that the Supreme Court doesn't strike down DOMA in *United States v. Windsor*, the case brought by lesbian Massachusetts widow Edie Windsor challenging a section of the 1996



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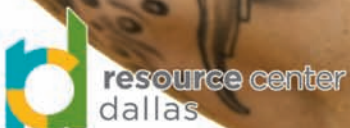
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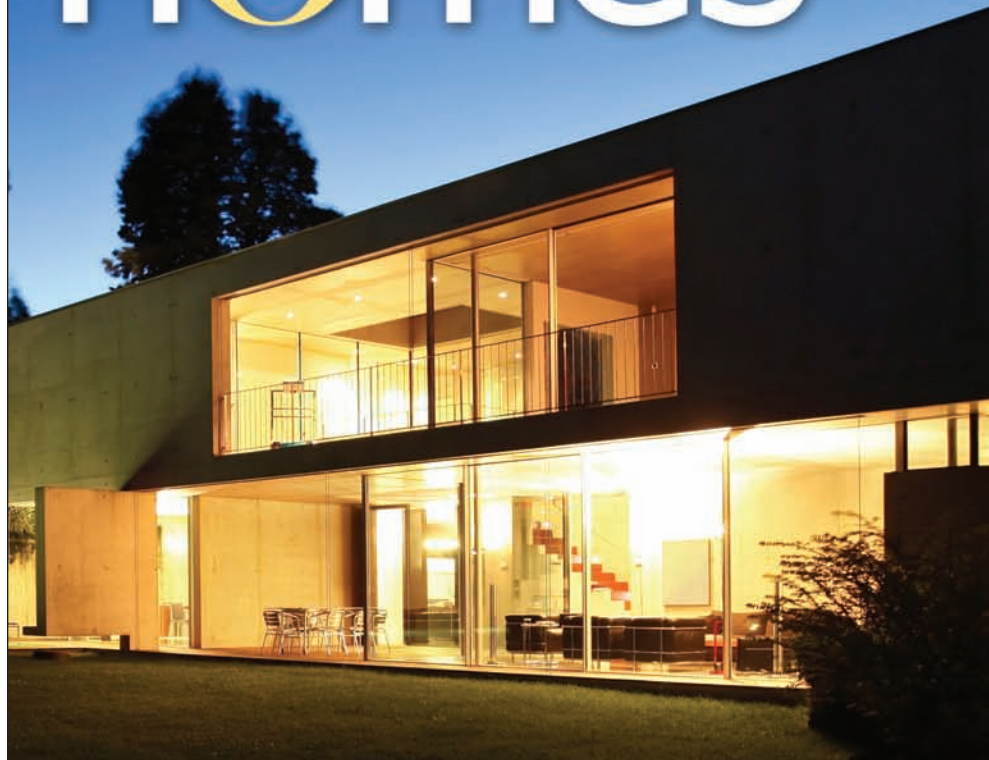
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## localbriefs

### Agency seeks LGBT foster parents

GARLAND — More LGBT parents are needed to help care for the more than 2,000 abused and neglected children living in foster care in Dallas County on any given day.

Each year, more than 3,000 children go through the foster system in the county because they cannot safely live with their parents.

A panel discussion for LGBT people interested in fostering and adopting through Child Protective Services takes place on Saturday, Feb. 9, at Jonathan's Place, a home-style emergency shelter for abused, abandoned and neglected children.

Despite anti-marriage laws in Texas and an attorney general who has aggressively opposed LGBT families, CPS welcomes LGBT foster and adoptive parents.

Leslie McKinney, a foster/adoption case manager at Jonathan's Place, said her agency has placed a number of children in loving LGBT homes and is looking for more.

She said there are a number of criteria for prospective parents to keep in mind.

"We're looking for stability in your life," McKinney said.

She said foster parents must be at least 21 and couples must be together at least a year. Newer couples who are thinking of adopting later are welcome to attend and begin the process.

Single people are also eligible to foster and adopt.

"We're looking for stability in your relationship with your family and friends," she said.

Prospective parents must complete several classes before they become foster parents.

McKinney said to consider the resources you have, although a high income is not a requirement.

"You need other people to help you out," she said. "A support system."

A foster child would need a room separate from the parent and can only share a room with a sibling or foster-sibling of the same gender and similar age.

Speakers will include LGBT foster and adoptive parents, a family law attorney specializing in LGBT adoption and a Department of Family and Protective Services representative. A question and answer session follows.

McKinney said there are other ways to help children in the foster system, including volunteering with Court Appointed Special Advocates. CASA advocates are appointed by judges to speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children, helping them get safe, permanent homes as quickly as possible.

Statewide, 28,800 children are in foster care and 10,700 of these children are waiting for adoptive families.

The panel takes place at Jonathan's Place, 6065 Duck Creek Road, Garland, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. RSVP at therapy@inclusivecounseling.com.

— David Taffet

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# Gay candidate to run in 1 of Dallas' most conservative districts

Out businessman Leland Burk picks up endorsements from 2 previous council members in District 13, which covers all of Preston Hollow

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

For the first time, Dallas has a viable openly gay candidate for City Council outside of heavily gay districts in Oak Lawn and Oak Cliff.

Leland Burk, 50, who founded First Independent Bank and is now a real estate and oil and gas investor, is running for City Council District 13.

Burk lives with his partner of seven years and has three children — twins in college and a high school junior still at home.

After District 13 incumbent Ann Margolin and her predecessor Mitchell Rasansky approached him to run, Burk said he discussed it with his family.

"My kids are so well adjusted, which played into my being able to devote the time," he said. "And family comes first."

Margolin, who is stepping down after four years on the council, called Burk smart and dedicated.

"And Mitchell [Rasansky] was very eager to see him on the council," she said.

Margolin said Burk would be a leader on the council because he's an experienced businessman who will watch spending.

She doesn't believe his sexual orientation should be a factor in the race.

"That's not an issue to me," she said. "The voters in District 13 have voted for someone with strong business experience. Leland is that person."

The new lines for District 13 extend as far south as Lemmon Avenue and Inwood Road. From there the district extends north to I-635 roughly between Marsh and Preston roads. Preston Hollow, one of the city's wealthiest and most conservative areas, forms the core of the district, but it also takes in a small area east of Central Expressway at Park Lane that has one of the city's highest crime rates.

A self-proclaimed conservative, Burk said he doesn't believe his sexual orientation will be brought up by opponent Jennifer Staubach Gates.

Her father, Roger Staubach, received the 2010 Hope for Humanity award for promoting toler-



Leland Burk

ance and equality from the Dallas Holocaust Museum, so Burk said he thought she would be above that sort of campaigning.

Gates, the other candidate who plans to run in District 13, couldn't be reached for comment.

Thairrific owner Danny Sikora, who grew up in Preston Hollow and lived there until a few years ago, called the area extremely conservative but agreed sexual orientation wouldn't be much of a factor in the race.

"There's a faction in the community that would make an issue of it," he said. "To others it wouldn't matter."

Openly gay former City Councilman John Loza said he believes the right candidate can be elected anywhere in the city.

"That wasn't true when I ran," he said.

In 1997, Loza became the second openly gay non-incumbent elected to the council. He represented District 2, which includes much of Oak Lawn.

"If he's known in the district and has a history in the district, he stands a reasonable chance," Loza said of Burk.

He said a successful LGBT candidate must have knowledge and experience on a wide variety of issues.

"That's what I'd expect regardless of orientation," Loza said.

■ CANDIDATE, Next Page

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■ **CANDIDATE**, From Previous Page

In addition, he said, a successful gay candidate needs good backing and support.

Craig Holcomb served on the City Council from 1983 to 1989. Although he was always an LGBT ally, Holcomb was married to a woman when first elected. By his last term, he was living with his current partner, Hector Garcia, and appearing with him at public events.

"I think we're past the period where sexual orientation is a qualifier or disqualifier," Holcomb said. "Straight, gay and lesbian voters don't consider that an issue."

He said the LGBT community is more interested in quality of life issues and is looking for someone who is going to responsibly manage the city budget and make sure that city services are provided efficiently.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas President Omar Narvaez said North Dallas voters tend to elect candidates who are socially progressive and fiscally conservative.

"In the northern districts we don't have anyone super-right wing," he said.

Although Burk expects the race to center on neighborhood issues and fiscal responsibility, he is clear about where he stands on issues that face the LGBT and other minority communities.

"I will oppose discrimination wherever I see it," he said.

Much of Burk's neighborhood work has been as a member of the Oak Lawn Committee, an organization that addresses quality of life issues for

the Oak Lawn Special Purpose District.

"I'll focus on what's good for our neighborhoods," Burk said.

He described development that benefits the city as a balancing act between knowing when to expand and when to preserve and protect.

He cited a recent case that came before the Oak Lawn Committee. An out-of-state developer proposed a new development in Oak Lawn with apartments, retail, restaurant space and very little parking. Before sending the proposal to the city, the community group insisted on removing the restaurant.

Burk said Oak Lawn already has a parking problem and it wasn't fair to make residents of a project fight with restaurant patrons for the same spaces.

While District 13 has little room for expansion and development, he said he hopes to work with the mayor on development in South Dallas.

"There are vast opportunities in the southern sector," he said. "I could be helpful in that area."

Burk is an active member of the Dallas Assembly, an organization of 350 city leaders who interchange ideas and discuss issues to improve the community through dialogue.

Over the years, the group has been led by people as diverse as former Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison to gay former Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Chris Luna.

He is a member of the Greater Dallas Crime Commission, and the Better Dallas, Safer Dallas Steering Committee. He also serves on the board of the Children's Cancer Fund of Dallas, Inc. ■

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**Adam Medrano files; George Clayton to run in Richardson**

The race for Dallas City Council District 2 has officially begun, as incumbent and Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano's nephew tossed his hat into the ring this week.

Adam Medrano, a Dallas ISD trustee, filed to run and fill his aunt's seat she's vacating due to term limits.

Medrano resigned from his position as a supervisor in the Park and Recreation department last month, which was a requirement to run. He'll have to resign from the school board if elected.

Pauline Medrano has a strong record of supporting the LGBT community, and her nephew has ridden alongside her more than once in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade. Adam Medrano also voted in favor of LGBT-inclusive policies prohibiting bullying and harassment as a member of the Dallas school board.

But openly gay real estate developer Herschel Weisfeld also plans to run for the District 2 seat. Dallas hasn't had an openly gay council member since Ed Oakley resigned in 2007 to run for mayor.

With the district covering most of Oak Lawn, as well as parts of downtown and East Dallas, it's one of the gayest, if not the gayest, council districts, so Weisfeld and Medrano will have to compete for the LGBT vote.

Meanwhile in Richardson, former State Board of Education member George Clayton announced his plans to run for a seat on the



George Clayton

Richardson school board.

Clayton was defeated in last year's Republican Primary after he was outed as gay.

Although Clayton works for Dallas ISD, he lives in Richardson. He sent a letter to DISD Superintendent Mike Miles and Thomas Jefferson High School Principal Aamir Ashiqali informing them of his candidacy.

"Three years ago I announced my candidacy for a seat on the Texas State Board of Education, an election I went on to win," Clayton wrote. "Now, at the urging of many good friends, I have decided to run for a seat on the Richardson Independent School District Board of Trustees."

— Anna Waugh





**TRYING TO BOX THEM IN** | Eric Andresen, from left, Will Oliver, Greg Bourke and Jennifer Tyrrell deliver boxes with 1.4 million signatures from their combined Change.org petitions to the Boy Scouts of America's Irving headquarters on Monday, Feb. 4. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

# LGBT advocates say Boy Scouts' delay is chance to be heard

Group's National Executive Board puts off decision about whether to lift gay ban until national council's annual meeting in Grapevine in May

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

IRVING — The Boy Scouts' decision this week to delay a decision on lifting its ban on gays launched more debate and raised doubts about whether the policy will be changed anytime soon.

The Boy Scouts of America's National Executive Board, which had been expected to vote on the change this week, announced Wednesday that it was putting off the decision until the national council's annual meeting in May.

LGBT advocates said the three months will give the community the opportunity to be more vocal about its opposition to the national gay ban.

"They can choose to continue to discriminate, but all that does is give them year after year of bad press and corporate donors who pull out," said Jon Langbert, who was asked to step down as popcorn colonel of his son's Dallas troop in 2010 because he's gay. "Eventually they will change. ... Hopefully they'll make the right decision in May."

Comparing the Boy Scouts policy change to the repeal of "don't ask don't tell," Langbert said there was strong opposition and threats that al-

lowing openly gay members would destroy the U.S. military. Instead, it did no harm.

"It was a non-event," he said. "It's going to be the same thing with the Boy Scouts."

He said the BSA's leadership is split on the decision to be inclusive because of pressure from both LGBT advocates and anti-gay, religious extremists. He said the organization will have to decide whether to stand up against the pressure. In the meantime, he expects more corporate donors to pull their funding for the Scouts.

Langbert said the time until the May meeting will give advocates the opportunity to be heard through grassroots efforts. He said contacting local troop sponsors — of which many are schools with nondiscrimination policies — and informing them of the positive impact would be more beneficial than contacting the national Scouting office.

Cece Cox, CEO of Resource Center Dallas, said she doesn't believe this is the end of the issue and urged people working with the Scouts to redouble their efforts.

"The ban is a relic of discrimination and disinformation," Cox said. "It should be on the ash heap of history."

The National Executive Board announced Wednesday after three days of discussion at the DFW Airport Marriott that the national council will take action in May. The national council's roughly 1,400 members will vote on a resolution during the meeting May 22 at the Gaylord Texan

■ **SCOUTS**, Next Page

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## ■ texasnews

■ SCOUTS, From Previous Page

in Grapevine.

"After careful consideration and extensive dialogue within the Scouting family, along with comments from those outside the organization, the volunteer officers of the Boy Scouts of America's National Executive Board concluded that due to the complexity of this issue, the organization needs time for a more deliberate review of its membership policy," BSA spokesman Deron Smith said in a statement.

The move to delay deliberations came after several troops threatened to leave the BSA and councils asked that they be able to have a say in the future of the organization.

But a national poll conducted by Quinnipiac University released Wednesday found that 55 percent of U.S. voters supported lifting the ban, compared to 33 percent who opposed it. The poll's margin of error was plus/minus 2.3 percent.

Pat Currie, Scout executive at the Dallas-based Circle Ten Council, said the 1,400 national council members are comprised of the National Executive Board and representatives from every council in the nation. He said the number of representatives per council varies depending on the number of troops.

"I think it's a good decision because it'll allow us to get more feedback and more information from people who are concerned about the Scouts," Currie said, adding that the BSA has gotten a lot of feedback on the issue. "To me, that just sort of reinforces the fact that people care about the Boy Scouts and are passionate about what we do for young people."

Jennifer Tyrrell, the Ohio lesbian mom who was removed as den mother from her son's Cub Scout troop in April, said the BSA has failed again and promised the fight for equality in the organization isn't over.

"The Boy Scouts had the chance to help countless young people and devoted parents, but they've failed us yet again," Tyrrell said. "Our fight will continue and we will continue to educate donors and supporters of the Boy Scouts about the effects of their anti-gay policy."

Tyrrell was in Irving on Monday to help deliver four Change.org petitions to BSA headquarters that have garnered 1.4 million signatures in an effort to persuade the board to support the change. Two days later, as the decision was announced, anti-gay Texas Values held a "Save Our Scouts" prayer vigil at BSA headquarters.

The Human Rights Campaign has called for more action to sway the BSA toward an inclusive policy. HRC originally supported the proposed policy to allow local troops to decide whether to admit gay Scouts and leaders, but later called for a national nondiscrimination policy to protect gay members and leaders in every troop.

"Every day that the Boy Scouts of America delay action is another day that discrimination prevails," President Chad Griffin said. "Now is the time for action. Young Americans, gay and straight, are hurt by the inaction associated with today's news. The BSA leadership should end this awful policy once and for all, and open the proud



**SCOUTS' HONOR** | A supporter of lifting the gay ban holds a sign during Monday's press conference in Irving. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

tradition of Scouting to all."

President Barack Obama voiced his support for including gays in Scouting. As sitting president, he is the honorary president of the Scouts. Calling scouting a "great institution," Obama said in a pre-Super Bowl interview that the BSA should welcome gay members and leaders.

But Gov. Rick Perry, an Eagle Scout, spoke out against allowing gays to join. He said his views on homosexuality haven't changed since he wrote a book, *On My Honor: Why the American Values of the Boy Scouts Are Worth Fighting For*, and hoped the national position would remain the same.

Texas Values published a letter on its website this week signed by 37 Republican lawmakers across the state who support the ban and want the BSA "to stick with their decades of support for family values and moral principles."

State Rep. Jessica Farrar, D-Houston, a Girl Scout, later issued her own statement calling for full inclusion of gay members with a national nondiscrimination policy.

"Gay youth have been excluded by the Boy Scouts for too long," Farrar wrote. "Socially ostracizing anyone is immoral; causing mental anguish to potentially emotionally vulnerable youth is unconscionable."

The American Family Association responded to the delay by calling for the resignation of Randall Stephenson, CEO of AT&T and vice president of the Boy Scouts.

AFA said Stephenson would only continue to push to end the no-gays policy, especially since he is scheduled to be the board's next chairman.

Stephenson and Ernst & Young Chairman and CEO James Turley, who both run companies with nondiscrimination policies, have been outspoken on the need to change the policy.

The Family Research Council praised the decision to keep the current policy for a few more months but wanted the Boy Scouts to reaffirm the policy like it did in July after saying a two-year study proved the gay ban was necessary. ■



## YFT board vows to put youth first

After two contentious meetings with up to 100 community members attending, Youth First Texas is moving forward with an interim board that's pledging to renew its commitment to programming. At a Thursday night Big Group meeting on Jan. 31, the new board introduced itself to youth. Although the six members of the new board have years of experience with the organization dating back to its founding, each had been gone for at least two years.

Interim board President Richard Gordon said rumors had been swirling among the youth, but that all activities would continue and the center would be open the same hours. On some of the questions from youth Gordon responded that he didn't know.

"I'm still getting up to speed," Gordon said. "I've only been at this since Sunday."

Dorian Mooneyham was hired as a part-time employee to open the center three days a week, and volunteers will be there another two. The drop-in center on Harry Hines Boulevard is open Tuesday through Saturday evenings.

Representatives from groups that raise money for YFT, who had expressed a lack of confidence in the previous board, also attended the meeting.

"You have our support and full confidence," said Devon DeVasquez, empress of the United Court of the Lone Star Empire.

With the interim board in place and financial situation stable, Gordon's main priority is programming to bring youth back to the center. Attendance has dwindled over the past year.

"We can't tell you what kind of programs you need," Gordon told the youth. "If you want a Valentine's Day dance, put it together and tell us how much money you need."

Gordon said Friday night home-cooked dinners will continue. For some of the youth who attend, he said, it's their only full meal for the week.

One youth asked if the Gayla Prom would happen this year. Gordon said he hopes so. He's looking into what work has been done so far and whether corporate funding has been solicited.

A member of YFT's drama club asked if it would be possible to get tickets for shows. Renee Baker, returning to the board as programming chair, said she would look into it and asked for help from the community to secure tickets.

Gordon said he hopes the interim board will be in place for only six to nine months. During the next few months, he hopes to relaunch the youth board and community advisory board. Both disbanded in the last few years. And he's looking for new volunteers over the age of 25 to work with the organization on committees.

During this transition period, Gordon said he plans to keep the board "lean and mean." He hopes to find community members who can apply to serve on a permanent new board that will be in place by the end of the year.

He said the board is looking for volunteers to plan the Gayla Prom and Dallas Pride activities, and to sponsor Friday night dinners. Immediate help is needed for next week's Valentine's dance.

Gordon said all volunteers must complete a training class. To volunteer, email [volunteer@YouthFirst-Texas.org](mailto:volunteer@YouthFirst-Texas.org).

— David Taffet

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# Gay-led Dash for the Beads opens Oak Cliff Mardi Gras

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Dash for the Beads, the first of several Mardi Gras weekend events in Oak Cliff, begins and ends in Kidd Springs Park this year, rather than in the Bishop Arts District.

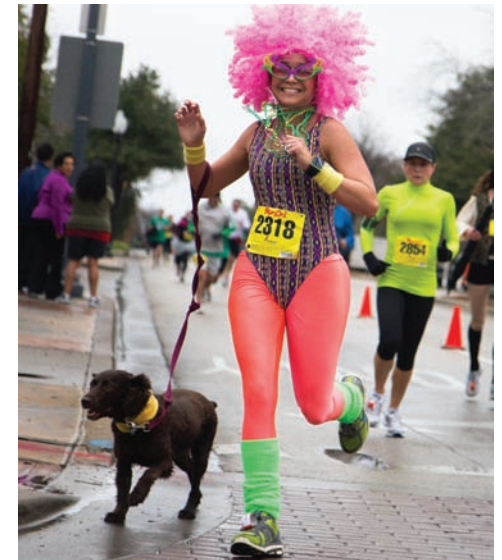
Gay attorney Chad West, co-founder and co-chair of the event along with David Sassano, said this year's route will include the new Coombs Creek Trail and run through East Kessler Park. The first phase of the trail that runs along Interstate 30 in Kessler Park opened in 2011.

"We want to show off a different part of the neighborhood this year," West said.

Proceeds from the run benefit Fido Oak Cliff, which aims to open Oak Cliff's first dog park, likely in Kidd Springs Park.

The events begin and end at the Cedar Hill Avenue and 5th Street entrance to the park. A 1-mile walk begins at 9:30 a.m. The 5K Dash for the Beads begins at 10.

An awards ceremony, street party and costume contest begin at 11:30 a.m.



**PAWS CAUSE** | Proceeds from the 5K, shown last year, go to Fido Oak Cliff, aimed at opening the area's first dog park. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

After the race, West said, the after-party will be in Bishop Arts District. He said that Bishop Arts merchants will be participating by offering a number of specials and promotions. He expected many of them to be at the park encouraging people to head over to the shopping and restaurant district that is about 10 blocks away.

More than 1,500 adults, children and dogs have registered to participate.

Amy Cowan, who chairs the weekend of Mardi Gras events, said there's plenty of street parking around the park, as well as some parking at the recreation center in the park.

Ocarnivale Masquerade Ball takes place that night at the Kessler Theater. Live New Orleans-style swing music will be provided by Club Wood and the Inner City All Stars. Festive attire is encouraged with prizes given for best dressed.

On Feb. 10, the Mardi Gras party begins in Bishop Arts at noon and continues through the afternoon. Because of the crowds last year, the area for the beer garden and crawfish boil will be expanded.

Public parking is available at Methodist Hospital for the afternoon and pedicabs will run up and down Bishop Street between the hospital and Bishop Arts.

Cowan said the Mardi Gras parade will come down Davis Street and wind through Bishop Arts beginning at 4 p.m. She said line-up for the parade will be along West 7th Street at Polk Street. Most of the 60 entries in the parade will be throwing beads to the crowd.

On-site registration on Feb. 9 is \$35 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Kidd Springs Park. Commemorative cups will be available for a \$5 suggested donation and the cups can be used at the Rahr Brewery tent. More information at [MardiGrasOakCliff.com](http://MardiGrasOakCliff.com).

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■ LOVE, From Page 6

law that prohibits the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages.

Immigration Equality has filed its own lawsuit challenging DOMA on behalf of LGBT immigrant families, but a judge has put that case on hold pending the Supreme Court's decision in Windsor's case. Ralls said if Windsor prevails, binational same-sex couples who marry in a state where it's legal would enjoy the same immigration rights as heterosexual spouses. He said there's a long tradition in immigration law of recognizing marriages based on where they are performed.

"If DOMA is struck down, couples like Kenny and [Ricky] should have the ability to pursue a green card," Ralls said. "Any victory for Edie [Windsor] would translate into a victory for binational couples regardless of where they live."

### TX couples hope for the best

Back in Dallas, Hill says he doesn't have much faith in a legislative solution — "Republicans control too much," he says — but he puts the chances of a favorable Supreme Court ruling at 70-30.

"That's pretty optimistic," Ziraldo responds during an interview in the living room of their high-rise condo at Victory Park's House.

"I'm an optimist and he's a little bit of a pragmatist," Hill says.

If a favorable ruling does come down, the couple is prepared to marry in California or New York.

"We consider ourselves engaged," Hill says. "It's not a matter of if; it's more a matter of when."

Hill grew up in Granbury, and his dad once served as mayor of the town. His family owns a large Fort Worth-based pharmaceutical software company. He says the couple is lucky to have the financial resources to keep Ziraldo in school.

Hill praises Immigration Equality for its work on the issue, but criticizes other national LGBT groups for not focusing on it enough.

"We've been telling this story to anybody that will listen," Hill says. "It's amazing to me how many people in the gay community have no idea this issue exists. Their first comment is, 'Go get married in a state that allows marriage,' which does absolutely no good other than having a piece of paper."

Ziraldo, who grew up in a small town in Italy, which is largely controlled by the Vatican, notes that his home country doesn't recognize same-sex marriage either. He calls the situation "definitely stressful."

"It's been years of uncertainty," Ziraldo says. "It would be very nice to settle this issue, and at least know whether we're going to be able to live here or if we're going to have to move. Now that we're kind of settled here, it would be nice to be able to stay."

Hill and Ziraldo are one of 1,607 binational same-sex couples in Texas, according to the Williams Institute at UCLA. That's fourth-most behind New York, California and Florida.

Elizabeth Allen and Jennifer Wigle, who live in



**IN LIMBO** | Jennifer Wigle, left, and Elizabeth Allen live near Houston but plan to move to Wigle's native Canada, where they are legally married, if the situation isn't resolved soon.

Katy, Texas, met through the LGBT group at the University of Houston in 2007.

Wigle, who's Canadian, is currently on an Optional Practical Training visa, basically an extension of her student visa. When it expires this July, Wigle said she plans to return to Canada and try to obtain yet another type of visa.

"It's something that can keep me here for a few years, but we can't buy a house, can't start a family," she says. "We're in a better situation than a lot of people, so I don't want to complain too much, but it kind of sucks."

Wigle and Allen were married in Canada, which has marriage equality, in 2012.

"Legally it would be a lot easier for us just to go there," Wigle says of her home country, noting that she could sponsor Allen for citizenship. "But that's not what we consider our home. The possibility of being forced to move there without having any choice is kind of frustrating to say the least."

Describing the harrowing process of returning home and coming back to the U.S., Wigle says she chose not to take Allen's last name in part because it would lead to even more questions from immigration officials.

She says the couple also chooses not to invest in better furniture or anything that would be too big to move to Canada. Like other LGBT immigrants, she's hoping for a ruling striking down DOMA, but she also understands that a negative ruling would be a huge setback that could take years to overcome.

"If it doesn't go our way, we've pretty much decided we're going to end up going to Canada. We can't sit out and wait," Wigle says. "It's very exciting but also incredibly scary to know we'll have some sort of decision soon." ■

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viewpoints

# Is the Constitution passé?

In spite of all its flaws — such as the infamous three-fifths provision — ‘living document’ may be poised to grant us marriage equality this year

Despite my radical spirit, my committed feminism and deep distrust of old establishments, after I went to law school I became a fawning, dorky fan of the U.S. Constitution.

It's normal for lawyers to do this. We see in the Constitution all this promise of equality and justice, even though we know all too well what a problematic document it is, and how very bloody its failings have been. We will fight for it like rabid dogs.

I was, therefore, gobsmacked to hear esteemed constitutional law professor Michael Seidman calling it “an ancient and outdated document” on *CBS Sunday Morning* recently.

I almost threw my cereal at the TV. I refrained, and instead, continued to watch while suppressing a twitch. OK, he made some sense. His question was, “Why are we so beholden to a bunch of dead guys?”

Come to think of it, is there really a good reason for the Electoral College or a two-year term for members of the House other than, “because it's in the Constitution”? All those provisions have done for us is Bush II and unending cam-

paign robocalls.

Even beyond its pragmatic failings, Seidman points to the gun-control debate to illustrate our misguided obsession with what people thought 200 years ago.

Instead of discussing the role guns should play in our society today, we get bogged down on what the framers meant in 1790.

One's opinion on the matter then becomes needlessly elevated to a litmus test about who's most patriotic, all because of the Second Amendment, written back when guns coughed out a lead gumball. At this point, forget rational debate.

I can't really argue with him, but I'm not willing to concede so quickly, especially since this year promises to be a turning point in LGBT rights.

There's no doubt that the Constitution got many things profoundly wrong — for example, the notorious provision that counted slaves as three-fifths of a person, or the fact that only rich white men got to vote. Whoops.

I also see in it, though, a good faith attempt to be enlightened, to be better. The framers understood that it

was inherently flawed and subject to the prejudices of the times.

Thomas Jefferson probably embodied this contradiction as much as any of the founding fathers: He was a seeker of truth and also a slave owner. I make no excuses for this, but he was at least somewhat aware of his failings.

He wrote, “I am not an advocate for frequent

changes in laws and constitutions, but laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. ... We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors.”

There is nowhere else in our legal canon such a document that allows for improvement to our collective wisdom or marks so well where we've been.

The three-fifths provision still exists in the text of the Constitution, but it has been superseded by the extraordinary historical moment of the 14th Amendment (1866), recognizing the equality of all American citizens. And we've bumped along toward full equality for women, despite the failure of the ERA.

The Supreme Court, as interpreter of our Constitution, has enshrined our biases, and then at other times, pushed us well out of our national comfort zone. In recent history, we only need look at the shameful *Korematsu* case of 1944 in which the internment of Japanese-Americans was held to be lawful. Then, just 10 years later, the high court declared segregation on the basis of race to be unlawful, in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

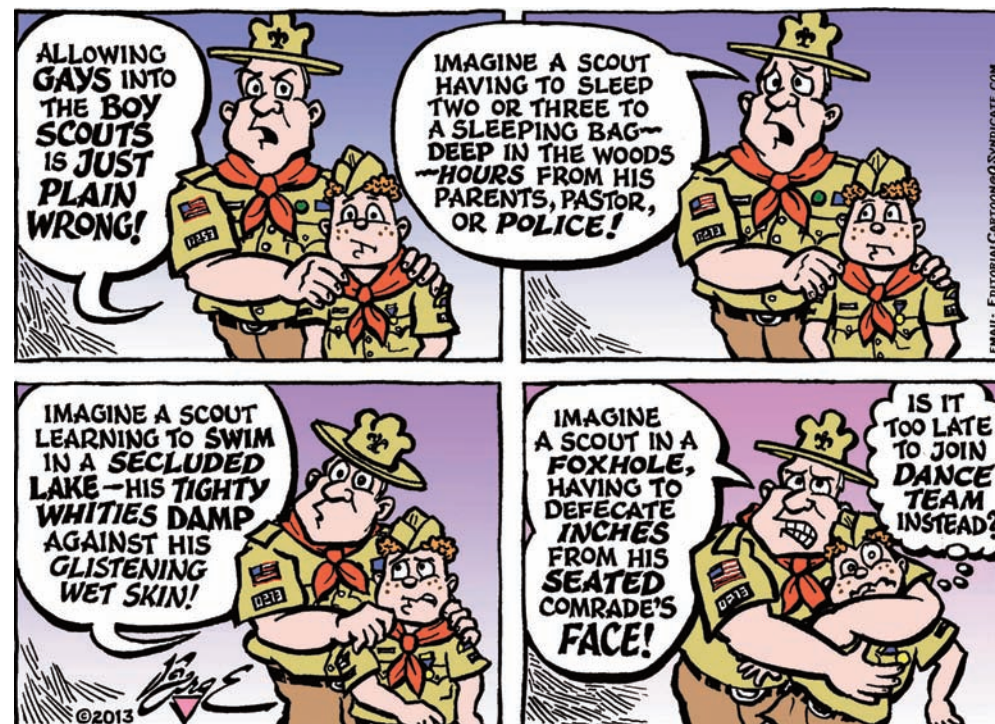
My point is, the Constitution isn't a crumbling piece of parchment; it is, like lawyers are fond of saying, a “living document.” In that spirit, LGBT rights are poised to be the next logical step in it — and our — growth.

I'm all for deleting the Electoral College text, and who cares about the “framers' intent” if it can't guide us today. But I still have faith in the Constitution's unique power to urge us forward. Absent a better alternative, I'll keep it.

Abby Dees is a civil rights attorney-turned-author who has been in the LGBT rights trenches for 25-plus years. She can be reached through her website, [QueerQuestionsStraightTalk.com](http://QueerQuestionsStraightTalk.com).



Abby Dees  
Contributing columnist



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# Queen of DANCE

Kristine W opens up about her struggles, her record-breaking chart achievement and her upcoming Dallas gig

LIFE+STYLE

concerts

STEVEN LINDSEY | Contributing Writer  
stevencraiglindsey@me.com

Who among us hasn't had at least one vivid dream where we're in the company of Madonna, Beyonce and Mariah Carey?

For recording artist and gay icon Kristine W, it's her current reality. Not only did she recently pass Carey for the most consecutive No. 1 hits on Billboard's Hot Dance Club chart (with her single "The Power of Music"), she was also named one of the top three Billboard dance artists of the 2000s — alongside Beyonce and Madge.

"I was so honored — and a little in awe that I was in their company," she says of the announcement. "That is quite the trio there of hard working women."

Of course, a collaboration between Kristine W and any of her diva colleagues seems like a no-brainer.

"That would be amazing, but I think I'm the only independent label owner in the group at the moment, so that may be hard to negotiate. I would love to sing with either of them. You never know," she laughs.

Her latest album, *New & Number Ones*, is a chronicle of most of the chart-toppers so far in her career, with a twist.

"I took four of my first No. 1 dance hits and hired brand new producers from scratch. We re-recorded everything top to bottom — it was a big job. I then wrote and co-wrote nine new songs, including a remake of 'Through The Fire,' changing [it] from a ballad to a dance song. That raised a few eyebrows!" she laughs.

The first single, "Everything That I Got" has been in heavy rotation on Pride Radio locally and it's got an addictive beat and catchy melody.

"Everything That I Got" was an amazing experience," she says. "Lee Dagger, one half of Bimbo Jones, flew in to Las Vegas from London to write songs for the album and one of them was 'ETIG.' Lee stayed at my rehearsal studio, which looks like a little farmhouse on a couple of acres. I have my horses there, a rescue goat, three sheep and lots of cats that people just dump off, so we feed them."

The experience was like something from a children's story.

"He's like Doctor Doolittle, carrying on full-length conversations with them all lined up staring at him like they totally knew what he was saying! Everybody loves Lee, including my animals. That's how the album got started. Pretty nuts."

With many hits and dozens of other songs in her discography, Kristine W's favorite song tends to change depending on her current situation.

"Presently, 'Land Of The Living' is my favorite because I really know what it means to be glad to be alive and in the land of the living. After I battled leukemia from 2001 for a couple of years, I lived the words I had previously written. It was surreal and took on more relevance," she remembers.

Another source of strength in her life and career has been a deep

## CARNIVALE 8

Station 4,

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9 p.m.–4 a.m.

Kristine W performs at midnight.  
Caven.com.

admiration for Donna Summer, though the closest she ever came to meeting her was waving at her through a window of a recording studio.

"Donna Summer's voice spoke to me when I was very young and searching to find a musical role model. She definitely changed my life. Something in the power, emotion and perfectly rich tone of her singing made me want to project like that. I grew up singing in the church choir like Miss Summer and my hometown, Pasco, is very diversified culturally. I was encouraged to embrace my soulful side and *sang!*" she emphasizes with a laugh. "Donna showed us all what a great live performer should be as well as being an excellent songwriter. She is and will remain a musical hero to many."

As for her legion of gay followers, she's forever devoted.

**LET'S DANCE** | Mardi Gras starts early on Cedar Springs, with Kristine W headlining Carnivale 8 on Saturday.

"I love my gay fan base, because they embrace life and tell you the truth even if it hurts, live out loud, love the arts, are survivors and super creative. What's not to love and admire?" she laughs.

In addition to her support of gay rights and marriage equality, she's also deeply involved in animal rights, protecting the planet, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and Music in Our Schools, many of which are featured on her blog.

For this weekend's show at Station 4 in Dallas (which she calls a "great city with amazing people"), she promises one thing to fans.

"I am going to fit as many of my hits into a 30-minute show as possible," she says. "See you all there!"



L+S dance



# Cedar Lake effect

Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet's Benoit-Swan Pouffer keeps dance alive

Benoit-Swan Pouffer spent seven years with the Alvin Ailey troupe as a dancer prior to joining Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet as its artistic director. Since then, the French-born choreographer (he still speaks in a thick, charming accent), has helped bring the company national recognition, from tours to Dallas (Saturday at the Winspear will mark the third time here) to being featured in the 2011 film *The Adjustment Bureau*. We took a few minutes to ask the gay dance icon about making his art fresh for a variety of audiences.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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**Dallas Voice:** The last time I saw you wasn't onstage, but on screen in *The Adjustment Bureau*! What was that experience like?

Pouffer: That was a first [for me] and a great experience. I was actually involved in the production and teaching [star] Emily Blunt [to dance]. It was an excellent opportunity for me to teach someone while discovering a different media where you can let an audience [see what you do].

**It seems dance has gotten a lot more attention in movies in recent years, with *Black Swan* ...** And on TV. I feel there is an awareness [of dance] insofar as moviemakers and TV producers are concerned, for the chance for the masses to experience it.

**Your company has both the words "contemporary" and "ballet" in its name. Do you feel that confuses people or makes what you do a harder sell?** People use these terms when they can't define the technique. We do ballet every day [at the company] — my dancers know how to dance in point shoes, but we don't do *just* ballet. And contemporary for me means just what's happening now, what's present. I see lots of dance myself and make sure I am up-to-date and stay in touch with my dancers and what they yearn for.

**When you travel to a city like Dallas, what goes into deciding what to put on the program?** A lot of consideration as far as where we are performing. I put myself in the audience's shoes. It is very

thought out. This is the third time we are coming to Dallas — the last was with an installation I created. I wanted to create a diverse program because they have seen us before. I want to keep it fresh. It is a challenge, but we are a new company so I am not in a place to say we have done it all. We have just touched the tip of the iceberg.

I think Dallas audiences have seen a lot of dance coming through so it is really wonderful to be appreciated because they are an educated [audience]. It is a place where you can push the boundaries and they appreciate that.

**One of the pieces you are bringing is called *Ten Duets on a Theme of Rescue*, but many of the pairings are same-sex. Is that the kind of boundaries you are pushing?** There are Male-male, male-female and female-female duets, but when Crystal [Pite, who choreographed the piece] created this for us I likened it to how can you convey feelings through body language. It's about rescuing — a brother, a sister — so I don't think sex comes into it. We are just human beings, trying to push that imagery.

**POETRY IN MOTION** | The style of dance practiced by Cedar Lake combines both classical techniques and modern ideas — which has helped make its artistic director, Benoit-Swan Pouffer, a force in dance.



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# The color of gay

Filmmaker Patrik-Ian Polk makes Black History Month a little gayer



Gay filmmaker Patrik-Ian Polk's 2000 breakout debut film, *Punks*, became a hit on the LGBT film festival circuit, introducing moviegoers to a fresh new voice in cinema. He followed that up with the popular Logo TV series *Noah's Arc*, which in turn led to the feature-length movie *Noah's Arc: Jumping the Broom*. Last year, Polk returned to movies with *The Skinny*, in which five queer, African-American college classmates reunite for a Pride weekend of fun, frolic, floats and fireworks. *The Skinny* is a sexy (and occasionally graphic) queer soap, including betrayal and an assortment of sexual situations, but Polk also manages to work educational information into an entertaining film. The unrated director's cut DVD of *The Skinny* (QC Cinema) includes deleted scenes, commentary by Polk, the soundtrack, audition clips and much more among its special features.

—Gregg Shapiro

**Dallas Voice:** You have a track record with ensemble pieces, beginning with *Punks* and continuing through *Noah's Arc* and your latest film, *The Skinny*. What do you like about writing for and working with an ensemble cast? Polk: I think that when you're doing a movie, sometimes working with an ensemble group of characters allows you to explore different stories, different personalities. I also think in life, [with] groups of friends you have different dynamics, different types. There's a type represented in any group of friends. I think that's an interesting

thing to explore.

**Is there one or more character in each of your films that resembles you in some way or another?** No. Not really.

**So your characters are more inventions than based on ...** I usually just think about the kind of story I'm trying to tell. Then I let my imagination go where it will. Sometimes it can be quite random, just the subject that interests me. The goal is always to create fully realized and interesting, dynamic characters.

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**BLACK LIKE ME** | In 'The Skinny,' above, Patrik-Ian Polk, opposite, gives his characters real issues to deal with, usually related to being black and gay. (Polk photo by Daniel M. Schumde)

**There is an ongoing debate about gay and straight actors playing gay roles. As a filmmaker, how do you deal with that issue?** I don't really care at the end of the day. I don't ask the actors what their personal sexuality is. I only ask that they be completely fearless, that they commit to whatever character they're playing. I really couldn't care less what they do in their personal lives. It's just about how good and fearless are you as an actor. How committed to the character you are. That's the most important thing.

**One of the subjects that *The Skinny* addresses is the impact of online social media on the gay community. Please say something about that impact, as well as the impact it has had on you personally.** We live in an advanced technological age. Ever increasingly we communicate more and more through social media outlets. All that stuff is portable now. We can take it with us on our smart phones — Twitter and Facebook and email and instant messages and text messages. I think, especially when you're dealing with the younger characters, it's important to incorporate these things into what you're portraying because that is their reality. A lot of dating now is done online. So much of our lives and what we learn about life we're first exposed to online. It's an interesting phenomenon.

**Would you say that you are utilizing it as well in your own life?** Sure, to a certain extent. Certainly as a gay man I've done my share of online dating and whatnot. I'm kind of on the fence as to how good that is or is not. I think we're all starting to feel like everyone is spending too much time on their phones. People often talk about going to dinner parties or meeting people out and everyone at the table is looking down at their phones. I think there's something to be said about the technology limiting or affecting our ability to communicate in actual live, real-time, face-to-face, and that's not the best thing.

***The Skinny* has an educational component in the way that it is packed full of gay literary and historical references. Do you feel like it is your duty as a gay filmmaker to educate the children about our community's history?** I try not to put those kinds of restraints or requirements on my work. It starts with what story am I trying to tell and who are these characters and what's important to them. When you're talking about a group of five, well-educated, gay, African-American, Brown University graduates, many of whom may be coming to New York for the first time, they're going to be interested in certain things. They're going to be interested in the black queer culture of that city. They're going to want to see where Langston Hughes lived or certain other things. It's not so much an obligation... The only obligation I feel is to the character in the story that I'm trying to tell.

***The Skinny* also contains informative discussions of HPV, preparations for anal sex and PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis) treatment in regards to HIV, and more regarding STDS. Would you say that you have a responsibility to your audience to include that kind of information in your films?**

Yes and no. Again, it's about the characters. If you have a young character, for instance Sebastian in *The Skinny*, who is embarking on his first sexual encounter, and his friend happens to be in medical school, there's a reason that person might share sexual health information with him. I suppose on some level, sure. But it has to be rooted in story. On some level, yes, if I am doing a movie about five young 21-, 22-year-old black, gay characters, with current STD and HIV rates and statistics, I do feel a responsibility to talk about these issues. But if they're not rooted in the characters, I'm not going to cram it in there just to be educational. It has to fit into the story in a way that feels organic. Or else the kids watching the film will disconnect.

**Have you begun thinking about or working on your next film project?** Yes. I'm actually in preproduction right now in Mississippi on a film, an adaptation of the coming-of-age novel *Blackbird* by Larry Duplechan.

**This would be your first adaptation — all of your others have been original screenplays, correct?** That is correct.

**So do you think you will do more adaptations in the future, say maybe *Melvin Dixon*?** It's a possibility. There's been some talk about me doing an E. Lynn Harris adaptation, which I'm excited about. I'm always open to it. *Blackbird* has been a book I've loved. I first found that book when I was a freshman in college and I've always wanted to make it into a movie. It's a long time coming.

***Noah's Arc* was one of the first and most popular series on the Logo cable channel. Logo has recently undergone a bit of restructuring when it comes to its original vision. As someone who benefited from being affiliated with the network, how do you feel about that?** I try to stay sympathetic and understanding to the plight of a network like Logo. When you're part of a bigger corporate machine like Viacom, or the MTV Networks and on top of that Viacom, I'm sure you have a lot of mandates and requirements to meet and people to satisfy. That has to be a difficult position to be in. That said, I don't see a lot of physical evidence of a huge shift. It still feels like the same Logo when I watch the channel. I think maybe, if anything, it's more of a philosophical shift. Maybe that's an effort to try to get that community to not view the network in such myopic terms. To me, they still run gay and lesbian programming that is of interest to gay and lesbian communities.

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L+S dining

## Tasting notes: Cupid edition

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**PRALINE DREAM** | The chewy, inventive pralines at gay-owned Jack's Southern Comfort Food make for a unique twist on the standard box of chocolates for Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day this year is on a Thursday — in fact, just a week away! These restaurants all offer special menus, as well as gay-friendly environments where same-sex couples can enjoy a romantic meal out on the town. (For updated Valentine's Day dining suggestions, visit Instant Tea at DallasVoice.com.)

**Salum** and **Komali** from chef Abraham Salum are both offering Valentine's Day menus, with a three-course tasting available at Salum in addition to the usual menu for \$45/person, and a Latin-inspired menu (including shared dessert) at Komali for \$35/person. Salum: 214-252-9604 or SalumRestaurant.com; Komali: 214-252-0200 or KomaliRestaurant.com.

**Asador**, the high-end but approachable locavore restaurant located inside the Renaissance Hotel, is preparing a Valentine's Day dinner worthy of Aphrodite, with Gulf oysters, tuna tempura (or flatiron steak) and a dessert of warm chocolate cake or crème brulee, all for \$40/person. The violinist playing throughout your meal is just a perk. 214-267-4815.

**Jack's Southern Comfort Food**, the new down-home resto from Scott Jones, suggests sweetening up your sweetheart with some sweet house-made pralines. The style here — chewy instead of brittle — includes such unusual flavors as roasted pecan and candied jalapeno, spicy rosemary cashew and walnut/cranberry. Available by the dozen in a hand-packed basket or steel bin, prices start at \$45.95. 214-821-0900 or JacksSouthernComfortFood.com.

Perpetual romantic getaway **The Grape** is a no-brainer on Valentine's Day, especially with a chef-inspired three-course menu on Feb. 14 for \$65/person (and \$20 for wine pairings), and a romantic a la carte menu on the 15th and 16th as well. 214-828-1981 or TheGrapeRestaurant.com.

**Sissy's Southern Kitchen** offers variety for Valentine's Day: For those who want to share a

bucket of the signature fried chicken (plus a bottle of Moët champagne), it's just \$75 total. Or you can try a six-course tasting menu for \$80/person, including oysters Rockefeller, Creole risotto, pork belly and more. 214-827-9900.

Over in The Cedars, The Terrace Bistro at the recently opened NYLO Hotel lets you dine while enjoying live music and a panoramic view. And in addition to the Feb. 14 menu, it offers you the option of a staycation, with special room rates and breakfast for those who want to make a night of it. 214-421-1080 or NYLOHotels.com/Dallas.

Graham Dodds, who took over the kitchen at **Central 214** inside the uber-gay Hotel Palomar last year, prepares his first Valentine's menu there, and it's available all weekend long. The four-course menu (which includes options like seared suck with cassoulet and flatiron steak) comes with a complimentary glass of champagne. \$75/person. 214-443-9339.

Uptown's **Abacus** has been an institution for nearly 15 years, and there's no better time to splurge there than a special occasion like Valentine's. The \$125/person prix fixe menu includes a host of selections for soup or salad, small plates, big plates and dessert, plus a strawberry champagne popsicle "intermezzo." 214-559-3111.

The impressive seven-course menu at **The Pyramid Restaurant** inside the Fairmont includes caviar and lobster for \$85/person, but go ahead and add the wine (\$140) for a chance to experience sommelier Hunter Hammett's fine pairings of wines with food — he's one of the best at it in Dallas. 214-720-5249.

Also, the day before Valentine's Day (Feb. 13) marks the start of Chinese New Year, and what better way to ring in the Year of the Snake than with a six-course meal from chef Wolfgang Puck, who will be on hand at **Five Sixty** at Reunion Tower. The cost is \$135/person.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



# Hazard pays

Bearish gay home guru Roger Hazard returns to Texas ... in style, of course

RICH LOPEZ | Contributing Writer  
getrichindallas@gmail.com



**ROGER THAT** | The TV tastemaker brings his design concepts — and his hunky frame — to the Collin County Home and Garden Show.

For a while, it seemed home style guru Roger Hazard and his partner Chris were back in Texas for good. They proudly tweeted and posted from their Austin home, giving the public hints of their latest venture, Love Decades, a line of hand-made upholstered furniture and décor that is both affordable and stylish.

Then they opened a showroom ... in Sharon Springs, N.Y. (also home to *Amazing Race* winners The Beekman Boys). But that doesn't mean the two are gone for good.

"You never know. We have many friends in Texas and continue to work with a few companies there," Hazard says of the move. "Worst case scenario: we'll be back often to visit and grab some good barbecue!"

Still, Texans don't have to wait until he's hungry to see Hazard; he returns to the area for the Collin County Home and Garden show in Allen next week, dispensing advice, talking up Love Decades, his new venture with Custom Cupboards and his A&E show, *Sell This House: Extreme*. And, of course, he'll be on-hand in a tight shirt, making all those musclebear admirers swoon.

With all his knowledge and experience, Hazard says that trending topics for his appearances

never change: Kitchens and wall colors.

"Kitchens are the big-ticket item for any home owner with dozens of choices to make like countertops, appliances, drawer pulls — it goes on and on," he says. "And wall colors are always tricky. People are trying to find a middle ground between stylish and safe and there's no perfect answer. Every home is different, so that always makes for an interesting discussion. I also do a lot of negotiating between couples because one loves blue, the other hates it ... that sort of thing. Being an interior designer is a lot like being a therapist."

Hazard appreciates talking up procedure, but in a half-hour show (read: 22 minutes), the how-to often gets overlooked. That's why he and Chris created the web series *The Grey House*, which details the renovation of their

Sharon Springs home, as well as giving Hazard freedom to provide more.

"We came up with the idea because, in 11 years of TV, I never had a chance to dedicate five minutes to explaining a project, or really dig in to complex design issues. With the web series, we'll have videos, blog posts, lots of images, and step-by-step guides so we can take the time to explain

#### HOME & GARDEN SHOW

Allen Events Center, 200 E. Stacy Road, Allen, Feb. 15-17. \$9.50.  
AllenHomeandGardenShow.com.

■ HAZARD, Page 25

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# Chile today

From the excitement of Santiago to the wonders of the South American wilderness, a trip to Chile is like getting lost in multiple worlds



JACOB STAPP CIGAINERO | Contributing Writer  
jacobstapp@gmail.com

Brazil may have the 2016 Summer Olympic Games, but the geographically svelte Chile — its slender profile snakes down most of the western coast of South America — easily takes the gold for outdoor adventure. Chile is both sporty by nature and stylish by design, where boutique hotels sit side-by-side an outdoor paradise, luring luxury seekers and active adventurers alike.

Chile packs almost every terrain imaginable into its trim borders, from valleys, mountains to volcanoes to desert, plus a top-to-bottom stretch of Pacific coast, rivers, lakes and untouched forests. Santiago, the nation's capital and main international entry-point, welcomes travelers eager to experience Chile's greatest asset: nature. But before going *au naturel*, the city itself is worth a day or two, especially to visit the regional vineyards.

Santiago's Bellavista neighborhood is the city's bohemian claim to hip and trendy. The lively barrio is packed with restaurants, bars and nightlife, and explodes with some of the city's most colorful street art.

The Aubrey, a 1920s Mission-style mansion recently turned 15-room boutique hotel, is a haven of art deco sophistication in the midst of high-energy revelry.

Once the home of a Chilean railroad magnate

and congressman who hosted infamous weekly lunches for Santiago's political and social elite in the 1940s and '50s, The Aubrey opened its new life as a hotel in 2010 after a \$3 million renovation.

Upon arrival, guests are greeted with Chile's national drink, the pisco sour (when lounging by the rooftop pool, go for the cucumber sour), in to Aubrey's slick and nostalgic piano bar, where contemporary Chesterfield seating and tall suede wingback chairs lend an air of updated Gatsby charm. You might catch the laid back Aussie owner making the rounds in flip-flops and shorts.

The hotel features the recently opened indoor/outdoor restaurant forthrightly named The Dining Room, which hosts guests on a cobblestone terrace flanked by misty cascades. A word to the wise: the metropolis of 6.25 million shuts down on Sunday, but The Aubrey's restaurant opens to serve the elusive brunch.

"Restobar" is the word around town, and Bellavista has the hungry and thirsty covered seemingly on every street. Vietnam Discovery is one of the latest restobars that Santiago's well-heeled frequent for French-Vietnamese fusion and handcrafted cocktails. The bamboo-heavy terrace centered around a Buddha statue is anything but Zen with a live DJ spinning thumping house music. Locals looking for national beers head to low-key hotspot Galindo for hearty

**REFUEL** | After biking the hills of Chile's wine country in the San Antonio Valley, lunch at the Matetic Vineyards' sunny gazebo restaurant La Casona will energize you for the ride home.

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**THROUGH THE HAZE** | Hike up to the top of Cerro San Chistobal (or take a funicular) to get a view of Santiago's metropolitan sprawl ... and the Andes in the background. (Photos by Jacob Stapp Cigainero)

Chilean favorites, like a thick eel fillet battered and fried, or *pastel de choclo*, a savory corn pie filled with beef or chicken, olives, onions and hard boiled eggs.

Just around the corner from The Aubrey, literati pay homage to famed poet and politician Pablo Neruda at his quirky multi-part home, and Cerro San Cristoból in the Metropolitan Park offers panoramic views of the city against the backdrop of the Andes Mountains.

Widely known as a lesbian bar, divey and relaxed Punto G on Bombero Nuñez, owned by a local theater actress, welcomes all and could be host to chance run-ins with local TV stars. If you're looking for a cave in the South American city, Cero is well-stocked with bears, and for your all-night dancing needs, Bunker keeps the lights low and the music up.

To catch a breath of fresh air outside of Santiago, head to the Central Valley's local vineyards to sample regional wines. The fertile San Antonio Valley's proximity to the Pacific coast gives it a cooler Mediterranean climate that produces

some of South America's best wine.

The region's rolling hills of farmland and sweeping vistas of wine-on-the-vine offer a scenic cycling route. Santiago Adventures offers bike-and-wine tours from the city to nearby vineyards like Matetic, where knowledgeable sommeliers give an informative bird's-eye view of organic winemaking and the unique biodynamic philosophy.

After guided tastings of oaky Chardonnay and spicy Syrah (a relative newcomer to the region's typical Cabernet Sauvignon and Carménère), a quick pedal over to Matetic's restaurant La Casona is a much deserved refueling in an airy gazebo where the main event includes artful presentations of classics like reineta ceviche, and of course, more wine.

Tip: you might be able to snag one of the winery's out-of-commission \$1,000 French oak wine barrels for about \$10. Shipping, however, will cost you much more than that. The better investment would be shipping a case or three of your favorite bottle back home. ■

■ **HAZARD**, From Page 23

what we're doing with our house renovation."

With his TV series and a budding social media empire (their Twitter feeds are just short of phenomenal) and the web series, is there such a word as downtime in Hazard's busy life?

"I don't know about it being *too* much. It makes for a pretty full plate, but I wouldn't have it any other way," he admits. "But we'll run to the gym to clear our heads, catch up on reading or sneak in an episode of *Drag Race*. And we spend a lot more time socializing in a village of 500 than I ever would have guessed."

Having his life partner as his business partner has worked in his favor. Love Decades has been a labor of love for the couple as they handle all the dealings from customer consultations, order processing and developing new product lines, but the plan is to make the company a major player in home décor by growing beyond what they started offering just last summer.

"We've poured so much of ourselves into it so when people email us telling us how much

they love the website, or our showroom, that's a great feeling," Hazard says. "We felt like the two of us, by connecting with the right craftspeople, had the ability to pull something like this off. We've started out with classic furniture designs that are very solidly made and should last for decades, so it was important that they be timeless and lasting as well. We have a great selection of statement pieces, so now it's time to focus on developing furniture for smaller homes. I'm very excited about this, because the trend is moving toward smaller homes, and that market has been unfairly ignored by furniture companies for too long."

So who sleeps on the sturdy, timeless couch when disagreements happen over a swatch or a particular hue?

"I trend toward a rustic look and Chris prefers a more modern style. It makes for a fun dynamic, because we're constantly pushing each other outside of our respective comfort zones," Hazard says. "But believe it or not, we're in agreement most of the time."

Yeah, they're *that* couple. ■

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## Saturday 02.09

### Comedian Anjelah Johnson hits Dallas

She may be Hispanic and American Indian, but comedian Anjelah Johnson is probably best known for pretending to be Korean. Her hilarious nail salon employee became an online hit, but the sassy-mouthed comic has a variety of jokes and characters, which you can enjoy at her late-night performance at the Majestic.

**DEETS:** The Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm St. 10 p.m. \$34.50. LiveNation.com.



## Sunday 02.10

### Documentary on Uganda's leader for gay rights screens at Angelika

David Kato was, remarkably, the first openly gay man in Uganda's history — a title he won by struggling against the African nation's homophobic laws (inspired by American evangelicals) that sought to execute HIV-positive gay men, or "kuchus." The World Affairs Council of DFW is hosting a screening of *Call Me Kuchu*, a documentary about Kato's activism, his assassination and the laborious task of obtaining rights for the LGBT community of Uganda. The event will include a panel discussion about gay rights in Africa.

**DEETS:** Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane. 5 p.m. \$10-\$24.

## LIFE+STYLE

### best bets



## Wednesday 02.13

### Cole Porter's 'Anything Goes' sails into Winspear

In olden days a glimpse of stocking was looked on as something shocking, but then Cole Porter helped reinvent the modern American musical with pithy, clever songs only a gay man could write. *Anything Goes*, his 1934 caper comedy set aboard an ocean liner, was revived in 2011 on Broadway to spectacular success (winning three Tonys on its voyage). The national tour of it, starring Broadway vet Rachel York, docks into the Winspear for two weeks with lots of sailor boys high-kickin' it! It's like Fleet Week without sneaking around!

**DEETS:** Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Feb. 13-24. ATPAC.org.

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calendar

**ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING**

**THEATER**

**Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo.** Rajiv Joseph's Pulitzer finalist examines the war in Iraq through the eyes of a dead jungle cat. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. *Final weekend.* \$10-\$50. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**The Chairs.** Ionesco's absurdist classic, presented by Kitchen Dog Theater. The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Feb. 8-March 9. KitchenDogTheater.org.

**King Lear.** Shakespeare's grand tragedy; directed by Kevin Moriarty. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Feb. 17. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**The Lucky Chance, or The Alderman's Bargain.** Dallas' Rene Moreno adapted and directs this new version of the classic Restoration Comedy for women-centric Echo Theatre. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Feb. 8-23. EchoTheatre.org.

**Plaza Suite.** Neil Simon's comedy of three one-acts. Greenville Center for the Arts, 5601 Sears St. *Final weekend.* ContemporaryTheatreofDallas.com.

**Red.** Joel Ferrell directs John Logan's Tony Award-winning play about artist Mark Rothko. Wyly Theatre rehearsal space, 2400 Flora St. Through March 24 (in previews through Feb. 14). DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Triumph of Love.** MBS Productions presents their annual Valentine-timed love comedy — this year, an adaptation of Pierre Marivaux's masterpiece. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. Through Feb. 23. MBSProductions.net.

**Zero.** Actor-playwright Danny O'Connor's one-man show about male relationships. Studio Theatre at the Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. *Final weekend.* ZeroThePlay.com.

**FINE ART**

**Optical Spaces: The Art of Victor Vaserey** opens at the MADI Museum, 3109 Carlisle St. Through April 7. GeometricMadiMuseum.org.

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

**Diamonds and StilletOs.** An exhibit of the color, texture and beauty of exotic wood sculptures by Omar Perez and jewelry from Martha Wilkinson. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. Feb. 8-28. Opening weekend reception on Feb. 8 and 9, 7-10 p.m. ilumeGallerie.com.

**FRIDAY 02.08**

**GARDENING**

**Fort Worth Home & Garden Show.** The 33rd annual gathering of gardening experts. Fort Worth Convention Center, 1201 Houston St., Fort Worth. Feb. 8-10. TexasHomeandGardenShow.com.

**COMMUNITY**

**FUSE Movie Night,** for gay and bi guys up to 29, screens the first Friday of every month. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, #2367. 7 p.m. DFWFuse.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.

browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvevents](http://Tinyurl.com/dvevents).

submit

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit](http://Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit).



**CATCH IT IF YOU CAN** | Dallas Summer Musicals' first production of 2013, the musical adaptation of the film 'Catch Me If You Can,' opens at Fair Park Tuesday.

**Youth First Texas** for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. Tuesdays-Fridays, 4-10 p.m. 214-879-0400

**SATURDAY 02.09**

**OPERA**

**Bon Appetit!** A one-act opera buffa with Susan Nicely singing the role of Julia Child. This whimsical production, presented for two performances only by the Dallas Opera, takes place at the Farmers Market Demonstration Kitchen, 1010 N. Pearl St., at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. only. The cost is free, but an RSVP is required at DallasOpera.org.

**FILM**

**Raid of the Rainbow Lounge,** a documentary about the Fort Worth event that triggered activism in the gay community, screens on the campus of UNT on the Square in Denton, with the director in attendance for a post-screening Q&A. 4 p.m. ThinLineFilmFest.com.

**FINE ART**

**Padilla Gallery.** Gay artist Daniel Padilla celebrates his five year anniversary with a party and special exhibition at his Oak Cliff atelier. Padilla Gallery, 829 W. Davis St. 7-10 p.m.

**COMMUNITY**

**Dash for the Beads.** Fourth annual 5k walk/run in Oak Cliff with a Mardi Gras theme — it includes a costume contest and pet-friendly festival. Kidd Springs Park. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the race at 10 a.m. and events throughout the day. DashForTheBeads.org.

**BROADCAST**

**Lambda Weekly.** LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest will be community activist Erin Moore. 89.3 KNON-FM at 11 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.





## SUNDAY 02.10

### WORSHIP

**Cathedral of Hope.** Traditional service at the United Church of Christ congregation. 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

**The ONE Church,** 5427 Philip Ave. Services 6 p.m. Dallas1Church.org.

### COMEDY

**An Evening with Lily Tomlin.** The out comedy icon performs her character-driven show. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATTPAC.org.

### COMMUNITY

**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. CollinCounty@YouthFirstTexas.org.

## MONDAY 02.11

### COMMUNITY

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

### BROADCAST

**RuPaul's Drag Race.** The new season continues. Logo at 8 p.m., followed by the behind-the-scenes *Untucked* at 9 p.m.

## TUESDAY 02.12: MARDI GRAS

### THEATER

**Catch Me If You Can.** The Tony Award-winning musical adaptation of the Leonardo DiCaprio film, about a very successful con artist, is Dallas Summer Musicals' first production of 2013. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Feb. 12–24. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

**Memphis.** The Tony Award-winning best musical, written by gay scribe Joe DiPietro, arrives at Bass Hall,

535 Commerce St., Fort Worth. BassHall.com.

## WEDNESDAY 02.13

### THEATER

**Anything Goes.** Cole Porter's classic musical, this is the national tour of the recent Tony winner for best revival. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Feb. 13–24. ATTPAC.org.

### COMMUNITY

**Dallas FrontRunners** fun run for runners and walkers at all levels. Meet at the statute of Robert E. Lee at Lee Park at 7 p.m. Dinner to follow. FrontrunnersDallas.org.

## THURSDAY 02.14

### COMMUNITY

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

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY



**Judith Light** turns 64 on Saturday. The Tony Award-winning actress first gained attention on the soap *One Life to Live*, but became embedded as a gay icon TV mom to gay actor Danny Pintauro on *Who's the Boss* and on *Ugly Betty*. She's long been active in gay causes.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21–Feb 20**

You're feeling blessed. Savor the moment, because life is about to turn into another round of balls to the wall. Fortunately, what lies on the road ahead isn't anything you haven't seen, or had to deal with before, though that may be cold comfort.

**PISCES: Febr 21–Mar 20**

Reckoning with blind spots is one of those things we can never be sure about. You thought you had yourself all figured out until lately. There is an amazing amount of weight bearing down on you. At the moment you've got everything it takes to cope.

**ARIES: Mar 21–Apr 20**

You have so much going for you, and all of it is being supported by aspects that would inspire most people to wake up. How this is working for you could be easy or hard, depending on how you relate to yourself.

**TAURUS: Apr 21–May 20**

After all of this you're wondering if it's worth it to keep nursing a situation that has "leave it alone" written all over it. If persistence pays off, you haven't seen much reward for your effort.

**GEMINI: May 21–Jun 20**

You can't be sure about anything right now. Too much seems to be converging all at once for you to be able to see it for what it is. As usual, you need to be particularly careful about where others are coming from.

**CANCER: Jun 21–Jul 20**

Things have gotten tense. It looks like you're too wound up to get real. Others aren't sure where you're coming from and the situation will get better or worse depending on your willingness to come clean about what's going on. A lot of this has to do with them; as much of it has to do with you.

**LEO: Jul 21–Aug 20**

You think you know everything; maybe you do, but you're not the only voice in the crowd. And while you may be right, you won't get anyone else to see it your way until you give them a chance to air their views. The ability to listen will take you a lot farther than anything else you do to make your influence felt.

**VIRGO: Aug 21–Sep 20**

You're in the middle of something that you won't fully understand for 20 years. By the time you figure it out, you'll realize this is where everything came out in the wash. For better or worse, here you are, walking a fine line between love and fear.

**LIBRA: Sep 21–Oct 20**

You've got your hands full. It's interesting how you always act like you don't know how it got this way. Life gets complicated when we try to make it too big, and it goes crazy whenever we go out of integrity.

**SCORPIO: Oct 21–Nov 20**

In a perfect world things would look a lot different, but if you're honest, you'll see you've got a big share of what you always thought you wanted. You make it hard for yourself when you can't take what comes. Don't forget: there are no mistakes.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21–Dec 20**

Let go of a need to be shackled by convention. On some level, you've just about had it and could use a good trip out of here. Too much nothing has turned into craziness. How you go about it is up to you, but it's time to shake the dust off your monotony.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 21–Jan 20**

The next big thing is making you wonder if it's worth it to be this involved with outer things, or if it's time to go within. You're not sure where you stand. At this point you need to walk in both worlds, stranded between this dimension and the next.

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

**THE CRESTWOOD HOME FOR THE ELDERLY...**

WELL? WHADDYA' THINK, RUDY?

I HAVE TO SAY, IT'S NOT QUITE THE... DICKENSIAN NIGHTMARE I WAS FEARING.

ALTHOUGH IT DOES FEEL A BIT ANTISEPTIC.

SEEMS PRETTY NICE TO ME. N' IF BY "ANTISEPTIC" YA' MEAN CLEAN, WELL...

...YA' SURE WOULDN'T WANT THE OPPOSITE, WOULD YA'?

NO. I DON'T SUPPOSE I WOULD.

I MADE SOME INQUIRIES THROUGH MY SOCIAL WORK CONNECTIONS...

PERHAPS IT'S NOT THE CREDENTIALS OF THE INSTITUTION THAT HAVE ME CONCERNED, DREW.

PERHAPS I'M JUST... AFRAID OF THE "INSTITUTION" ITSELF.

FOLKS RUNNIN' IT SEEM PRETTY ABOVE BOARD, TOO.

...N' IT TURNS OUT THIS PLACE HAS A 5-STAR RATING.

OF THE IDEA OF BEING BRUSHED ASIDE... LOCKED AWAY... FORGOTTEN ABOUT.

THAT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN, RUDY. TELL YA' WHAT...

...I'M GONNA MAKE SURE YA' GOT KYLE'S NUMBER... N' MY CELL NUMBER... ON YA' AT ALL TIMES. N' IF THINGS EVER GO BAD HERE...

DEAL. NOW, I'M FEELIN' PRETTY HUNGRY. HOW 'BOUT WE GO TRY SOME OF THAT NEW YORK PIZZA I BEEN HEARIN' EVERYBODY RAVE OVER?

I'D LOVE THAT, DREW... BUT DON'T YOU HAVE OTHER PLANS? WITH LANCE, PERHAPS?

LANCE? HA! KINDA' HARD TO MAKE PLANS WITH A GUY WHO REFUSES TO BE TIED DOWN.

ANYONE WHO'D RESIST BEING TIED DOWN BY YOU IS A FOOL.

...YA' JUST CALL US... N' WE'LL COME N' GET YA' OUTTA' HERE. DEAL?

THERE'S A QUOTE FOR YA'...

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

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

**bitter girl**

**passenger heat**

YOUR I.D., MS. TERAN... THAT'S A LOVELY PICTURE.

BEEP!

BODY SEARCH! I GOT IT!

NO, I GOT IT! MINE!

LET ME KNOW IF THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE I CAN GET FOR YOU.

SHOULD'VE CHECKED HER WITH THE LUGGAGE.

HUH. LUGGAGE HANDLER CHICK'S WAVING AT ME.

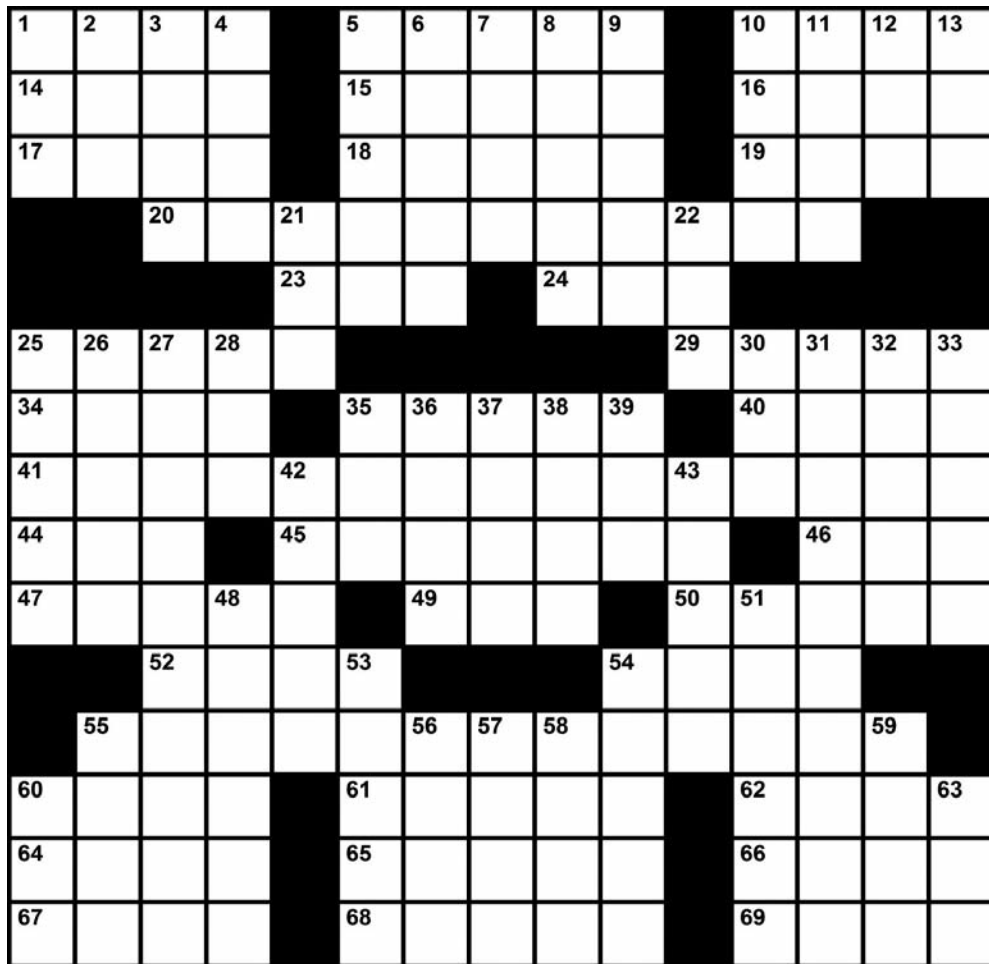
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# Just Another Pretty Face

Solution on page 29

**Across**

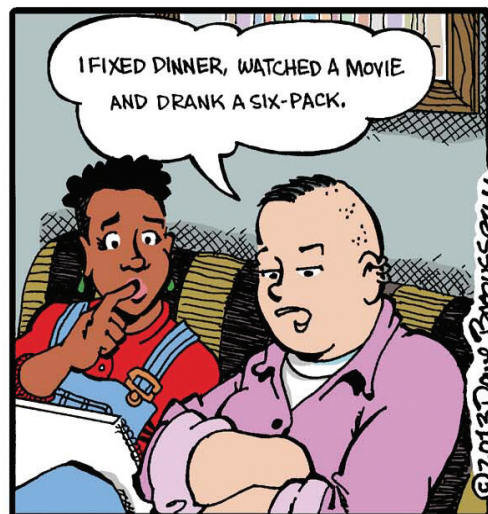
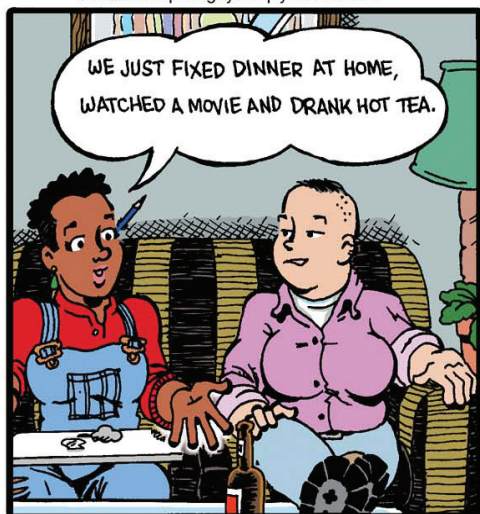
- 1 Clinton of this puzzle's quote
- 5 Teo of Notre Dame, who could also have said this puzzle's quote
- 10 Leave a trail behind a boa?
- 14 Soft cheese
- 15 Big jugs
- 16 Nurse Jackie nurse
- 17 Ward of *Once and Again*
- 18 Final straw
- 19 Ready for plucking
- 20 Start of a quote
- 23 NYC arena
- 24 Slippery one
- 25 Loads of
- 29 Like some trigger fingers
- 34 Place for Young men?
- 35 Receiver of stolen goods
- 40 Skin moisturizer
- 41 More of the quote
- 44 A little more than bi-
- 45 Event for drawers?
- 46 Match a poker bet
- 47 Come slowly closer
- 49 That to Juan
- 50 Operates like a chickenhawk

52 Sings like Eazy E sang

- 54 Bucks, for example
- 55 End of the quote
- 60 Like a great review on Broadway
- 61 Causing goosebumps
- 62 In a bit, to the bard
- 64 Steven's opening
- 65 Moon of Uranus
- 66 Ice house (var.)
- 67 Cheeky
- 68 Rock-bottom
- 69 Sign gas

**Down**

- 1 Tiny balls
- 2 Hot temper
- 3 Composer Boulanger
- 4 Big part
- 5 Card combos
- 6 In the hole
- 7 Verne captain
- 8 Old hat
- 9 "Where \_\_\_ Life That Late I Led?" (Cole Porter)
- 10 Griffin of game shows
- 11 Garfield's sidekick
- 12 Labium
- 13 Photographer Corinne
- 21 "\_\_\_ Yankee Doodle Dandy"
- 22 He knocked out many men
- 25 Fantasizes about a hottie
- 26 Funny Cheri
- 27 1976 Jodie Foster film
- 28 Moo \_\_\_ pork
- 30 Half a cocktail
- 31 Notes Glenn can sing?
- 32 Mead base
- 33 Ass-kissers' responses
- 35 First name in Follies
- 36 Art deco illustrator
- 37 Is left with
- 38 African queen
- 39 Copland capability
- 42 Alpha, to the circumcized
- 43 It's not a mistake at the Red Cross
- 48 Lingering in the closet
- 51 Stay put
- 53 One way to get to second base
- 54 Was a liver
- 55 Surfer's ride
- 56 On the spot
- 57 Opera queen's delight
- 58 Neckwear
- 59 Legal plea, briefly
- 60 Log Cabin member, for short
- 63 Woman who doesn't date men







Travis, Chuck and Layne at Equality Texas' Merry Martini Mixer.

Valentine's week begins with the **United Court of the Lone Star Empire's** Valentine's Show at the **Dallas Eagle** on Feb. 8. **National Leather Association** holds its monthly bar night and **Leather Knights** hosts its annual **Buy Daddy's Box** fundraiser on Feb. 9. ... **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** picks its king and queen of the rodeo season at the **Round-Up Saloon** on Feb. 10. Then there's a **Fat Tuesday Crawfish Boil** on Feb. 12 and **Rent-a-Cowboy** for a buck per dance benefiting the **Roundup Employee Benevolence Association** on Valentine's Day. ... **Christine W** performs at **S4** at midnight on Feb. 9 as part of **Carnivale 8**. ... Aerialist **Marilyn Chen** flies high over the **Sue Ellen's** dance floor to celebrate **Carnivale**. **TMC**, the **Rose Room** and **JR.'s Bar & Grill** participate in **Caven's Mardi Gras** celebration with face painting, butt-sketch artists, masks, beads and more. ... **Ciao Bella** performs at **Sue Ellen's** on Feb. 9 and **Bad Habits** appears on Feb. 10. **Bella and Darla** entertain on Feb. 13. ... **Mark Alan Smith** performs at **Alexandre's** on Feb. 8. **Shelia P & The Infinity** is the Saturday headliner. **Spencer West** is the Valentine's Day entertainer. ... Come meet your match at **The Brick's** Valentine's Day singles mixer with giveaways, a 50-50 raffle and photos with Cupid on Feb. 14 at 10 p.m. ... **Olive** presents **It Only Makes Me Laugh** open mike comedy night Tuesdays at 11 p.m. at **Best Friends Club**. ... Celebrate **Juan's 40th birthday** on Feb. 10 at **BJ's NXS**. No gifts please, but donations for **The Trevor Project** are welcomed. ... The new **Eden Lounge** in Deep Ellum is open Thursdays through Sundays with valet parking available. ... Happy Valentine's Day. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to [DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos](http://DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos).



Mario and Brandi at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Jessica at Station 4.



The Women's Chorus of Dallas' masquerade party and casino night at the Sammons Center.





Girls' night out at Sue Ellen's.



Mark and Chad at The Brick.



Chris and David at the Round-Up Saloon.



Randy and friends at the Rainbow Lounge.



Friends at TMC: The Mining Company.





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