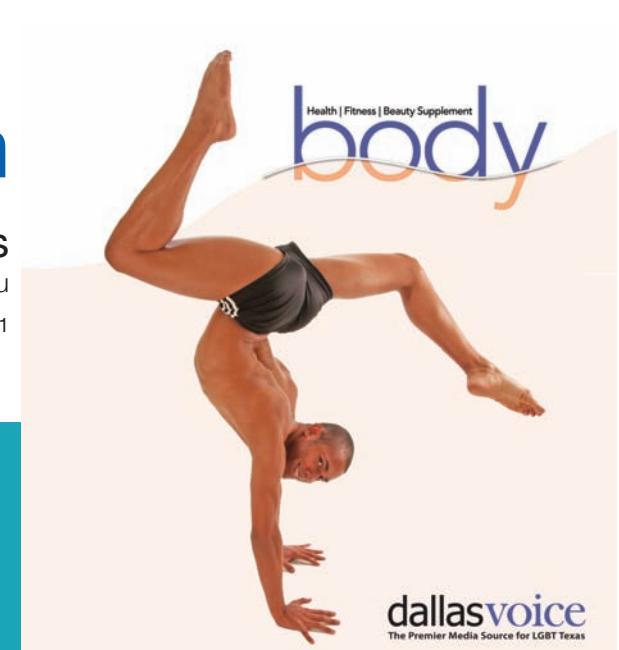


Body: Our health and fitness section

From weight loss tips to healthier eating, a gay guide to wellness
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NOWHERE to TURN

Despite high rates of same-sex domestic abuse, few resources are available to LGBT victims in North Texas. Will the city of Dallas' new domestic violence campaign help change that?

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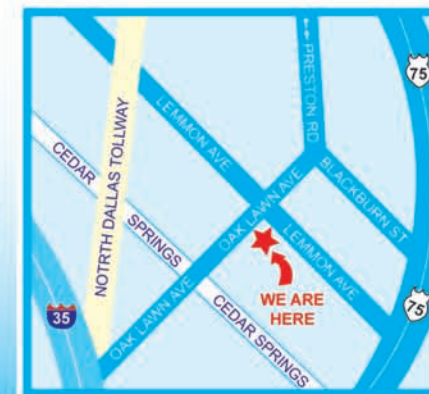
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THREE KINGS | Elvis impersonators make their way through the Bishop Arts District during the annual Mardi Gras Parade in Oak Cliff on Sunday, Feb. 10. For more Mardi Gras photos from the parade, from Dash for the Beads and from Kristene W at Station 4's Carnivale, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

Gay man's case against Granbury bank heads to mediation

Although local attorneys declined to take the case of an area bank executive fired for his sexual orientation, the ACLU has stepped in to help after seeing the story in Dallas Voice, and the case is now headed to mediation.

Amanda Goad, an ACLU attorney with the LGBT and AIDS Project based in New York, who covers a number of states including Texas, contacted Marty Edwards after our story ran.

Goad believed Edwards, who was fired last year from First National Bank of Granbury, could file an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission complaint under the category of sexual discrimination.

She cited an EEOC policy relating to discrimination based on marital status, political affiliation, status as a parent, sexual orientation or gender identity status in federal employment.

"The Commission has also found that claims by lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals alleging sex-stereotyping state a sex discrimination claim under Title VII. See *Veretto v. U.S. Postal Service*," the EEOC policy states.

"Favoring a straight man who has a wife and kids, over a gay man who doesn't, sounds like a strong example of what they're talking about," Goad said.

Edwards was fired during a meeting with two other bank executives.

One told him, "I don't care if you are seeing Billy Graham as your counselor," and the other said, "You obviously have some things messed up in your head."

"They said it was not my work because I did a great job," Edwards told Dallas Voice. "I was told that one guy who has three kids, a wife and white picket fence home was a better fit for the image we are looking for."

Following our article that appeared in January, Edwards filed an EEOC claim based on his firing after seeking counseling.

After speaking to Goad, Edwards amended the claim to include sexual discrimination.

He couldn't file a claim simply on sexual orienta-

tion discrimination, because it is legal to fire someone based on sexual orientation under both Texas and federal law.

The bank has agreed to mediation on the counseling claim and they will meet on March 27.

— David Taffet

Dallas' Zeus Comics won't carry anti-gay writer's Superman

The gay owner of Dallas' Zeus Comics store has announced he won't carry the print edition of DC Comics' *Anthology of Superman*, after the comic book maker hired a board member from the National Organization for Marriage to help write the series.

DC Comics announced Feb. 11 that Orson Scott Card will help write the new Superman. Card not only sits on the board of NOM, but he has also called homosexuality "deviant behavior" and argued that marriage equality will lead to the collapse of civilization.

Despite outrage from the LGBT community and a petition calling for DC Comics to get rid of Card that has almost 12,000 signatures, DC Comics stood by its decision in a statement to the Advocate.

Richard Neal, owner of Zeus Comics, posted the following statement on his Facebook page:

Zeus Comics will not be carrying the print edition of writer Orson Scott Card's Superman.

Card sits on the board of the National Organization of Marriage which fights against marriage equality.

His essays advocate the destruction of my relationship, that I am born of rape or abuse and that I am equated with pedophilia. These themes appear in his fiction as well.

It is shocking DC Comics would hire him to write Superman, a character whose ideals represent all of us.

If you replaced the word "homosexuals" in his essays with the words "women" or "jews" he would not be hired. But I'm not sure why its still okay to "have an opinion" about gays? This is about equality.

— John Wright

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LAST RESORT | Although the Salvation Army is known for being anti-gay, lesbian domestic violence victim PJ Snyder says the organization's shelter on Harry Hines has been accepting. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

Nowhere to turn

Despite high rates of same-sex domestic abuse, there are few if any resources available to LGBT victims in North Texas. Will the city of Dallas' new domestic violence campaign help change that?

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

PJ Snyder decided to leave her ex-girlfriend three years ago, after the angry outbursts and brutal beatings became more violent and life threatening.

Snyder had been dating the woman for a few months in the fall of 2009 in Oklahoma when they moved in together.

Within a couple of weeks, her ex began belittling her, which soon led to violent episodes.

"It became increasingly violent," she said.

Snyder worked in law enforcement and her ex was a former cop who knew her sergeant. Her ex

threatened to out her at work if she told anyone about the abuse. But her ex was careful not to leave bruises that would show, beating her on her arms, legs, chest and back — but never in the face.

"I was really passive and wanted to keep the peace," Snyder recalls. "I let her get away with a lot."

Stunned by how violent the relationship quickly became, Snyder said she didn't know where to turn or in whom to confide. After leaving and moving back in repeatedly over two years, Snyder finally moved to Dallas last year to start over. But there are few resources in North Texas for victims of same-sex domestic abuse — which new CDC statistics show happens at the same rate or higher

as heterosexual domestic violence.

Resource Center Dallas had an LGBT domestic violence program beginning in 2004 but it ended in 2010 because of the small number of clients and a lack of funding.

A city of Dallas initiative announced in January to help stop domestic violence and reach out to victims is aimed at the traditional population affected by abuse. Mayor Mike Rawlings has scheduled a "Men Against Abuse" rally for March 23 to encourage men to support ending violence against women.

But Councilwoman Delia Jasso, who chairs both the city's Domestic Violence Task Force and its LGBT Task Force, insisted that the initiative will

be inclusive and help LGBT people in abusive relationships.

Jasso said when Dallas police respond to domestic violence calls, they now ask a series of questions to determine if the victim's life is at risk. If so, they coordinate with a local shelter to take them. She said the same questions and services will be offered to LGBT victims.

"Our shelters do not turn anyone away," Jasso said. "We need to get that info out to the LGBT community that they have the same resources as anyone else."

Jasso said the official outreach campaign will kick off in March to encourage victims and people

■ **NOWHERE**, Page 18

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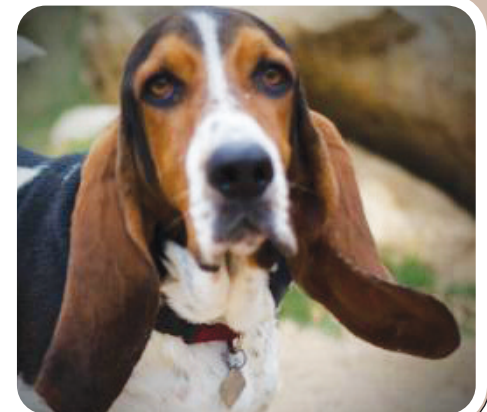
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AT&T CARES GIVES 5K TO RCD | LEAGUE — the LGBT employee resource group of AT&T — presented Resource Center Dallas a \$5,000 check from the AT&T CARES program. Pictured, from left, are Gary Fraundorfer, AT&T vice president for human resources and RCD board member; John Cramer, chief executive officer of LEAGUE; Jerry LaBerteaux, DFW LEAGUE chapter president; RCD CEO Cece Cox and Theresa Bates-McLemore, chief financial officer of LEAGUE.

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SHOT IN THE HEART | Deputy Dallas County Clerk Tanisha Johnson, right, explains to Mark "Major" Jiminez, left, and Mike Montalvo that she cannot give them a marriage license on Thursday during a Valentine's Day protest organized by GetEQUAL TX at the Records Building. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Marriage equality bills give LGBT community 'something to fight for'

2-week barrage of legislation seeking relationship recognition for same-sex couples in Texas is punctuated by Lon Burnam's Valentine's Day gift

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

AUSTIN — Five state lawmakers have filed legislation over the last two weeks that would bring relationship recognition to gay and lesbian couples in Texas.

The barrage of pro-equality bills received an exclamation point Thursday, when State Rep. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, filed legislation to legalize same-sex marriage. Burnam's bill would also require Texas to recognize same-sex marriages from other states.

Burnam said he filed HB 1300 on Valentine's Day as a gift to LGBT Texans. He said marriage is "the greatest and most rewarding experience of my life" and wanted same-sex couples to experience it, even though bringing marriage equality to Texas will take time.

"I look at this as kind of the long road in the struggle for justice and it just needed to be done,"

Burnam said.

And state Rep. Chuy Hinojosa, D-McAllen, also filed legislation this week with SB 480 to amend the family code and grant civil unions to same-sex couples.

Hours after Burnam filed the legislation, Mark "Major" Jiminez was joined by friends as he went to the Dallas County Records Building to apply for a marriage license during a GetEQUAL TX Valentine's Day protest. Jiminez and his husband Beau Chandler were arrested at a similar protest in July for trespassing when they refused to leave without a license. This time Chandler couldn't attend because of work, so Jiminez had Mike Montalvo serve as proxy for his husband.

Jiminez and Montalvo were denied the license as expected. Jiminez explained to the clerk that the U.S. Supreme Court could make a sweeping decision about marriage equality in June. If so, he said he would return with Chandler for a license in July because that is when both of their birthdays are. The clerk smiled and said that would make a great birthday present.

Jiminez said the recent legislation means more legislators have come to terms that marriage equality is coming and more should support the efforts to bring it to Texas.

■ MARRIAGE, Next Page

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■ texasnews



Rep. Lon Burnam



Rep. Rafael Anchia

■ MARRIAGE, From Previous Page

"It's promising. And it just shows that the whole country is united in little ways. Each state's doing their own thing," Jimenez said. "That just proves that there's people in Texas working on it."

But before civil unions or full marriage equality can go into effect by legislation, Texas' marriage amendment that defines marriage as between one man and woman would have to be repealed.

State Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston, has filed a bill to repeal the state's marriage amendment in every legislative session since voters approved it in 2005.

The amendment defines marriage as between a man and a woman and prevents the recognition of anything similar or identical to marriage — including civil unions.

Coleman and state Rep. Rachael Anchia filed HJR 77 and HJR 78 last week to repeal the amendment. And for the first time, a companion bill, SJR 29, was filed in the Senate by state Rep. Jose Rodriguez, D-El Paso.

"It prepares the way of the repeal of this law," Coleman said. "People have to have something to organize around. What anybody should want for the LGBT community is these issues are being forwarded in the Legislature."

Anchia said he and Coleman agreed that the time was right with strong public support of marriage equality to try to "memorialize the rights that loving, same-gender couples can't access."

A University of Texas/Texas Tribune poll released in October found that 69 percent of Texas voters support some form of relationship recognition for same-sex couples. The support was the highest since regular polling on the same-sex relationships began in 2009.

Anchia said the growing support for marriage equality among Texans shows the need to remove the amendment, adding that the national momentum for marriage equality could help this be the year Texas repeals its amendment.

"I think our chances for success are better than they ever have been," he said. "As opinion changes, it can and should be represented in the Legislature."

Equality Texas Executive Director Chuck Smith said all the bills demonstrate a shift in public and political opinion toward equality.

"I think the fact that legislation is filed is the big news," he said. "This starts the process."

Also this week, state Rep. Chuy Hinojosa, D-McAllen, filed legislation to allow same-sex couples to enter civil unions.

Smith said Hinojosa's civil unions bill was assigned to the State Affairs Committee, where the other four bills will likely be assigned. The committee is conservative in both chambers, he said, so "they definitely will face an uphill battle getting out of committee."

Hinojosa's bill has received criticism from marriage equality opponents and LGBT advocates who want same-sex marriage, not civil unions.

Daniel Cates, regional director for GetEQUAL Texas, is against civil unions legislation.

"I don't think it's going to help us at all to have a separate but equal status," he said.

But Smith said Equality Texas will continue to work with lawmakers to support bills like Burnam's that would bring full marriage equality.

"Anything short of full equality is not good enough," he said. "That being said, progress is progress."

Cates said the amount of relationship recognition legislation is "indicative that Texas is right along with most of American and has evolved." He said LGBT advocates need to push for lawmakers to support the legislation now that it exists with protests and by calling and writing their lawmakers.

"It really means that our work became harder because now there's something to fight for," Cates said. "It's our time to stand up and finish the fight. I think marriage equality is going to come to Texas a lot sooner than people in our community think it will."

GetEQUAL TX plans a rally at 7 p.m. on March 25 at the Legacy of Love monument in advance of when the Supreme Court will hear arguments in Windsor v. United States, the case challenging the federal Defense of Marriage Act, and the Prop 8 case challenging California's marriage amendment, on March 26 and 27. ■



GOOD SIGN | Participants gathered on the steps of the Capitol for Equality Texas' Lobby Day in 2009. This year for the first time, two other LGBT groups — the Transgender Education Network of Texas and Log Cabin Republicans — will hold their own Lobby Days. (John Wright/Dallas Voice)

3 LGBT groups plan Lobby Days in Austin

Collin County group charters bus for Equality Texas event on March 11; Log Cabin, Transgender Network plan their own Capitol campaigns

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

AUSTIN — Equality Texas' Lobby Day is set for March 11 in Austin, and for the first time the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance has chartered a bus from Plano that will make a stop in Dallas to pick up riders before heading to Austin.

Because of a scarcity of hotel rooms in Austin in March during the SXSW music festival, the Transgender Education Network of Texas will hold a separate Lobby Day on Feb. 25.

Both lobby days will concentrate on a variety of legislative issues important to the LGBT community, such as employment nondiscrimination. But the transgender lobby day will also focus on issues of particular interest to the trans and gender nonconforming community.

TENT Executive Director Katy Stewart said she's particularly interested in bills filed by Sen. Rodney Ellis and Rep. Senfronia Thompson, both Houston Democrats, that would prohibit insurance discrimination. She also said members of her group would speak to legislators about making the process of name changes and gender-marker changers easier.

"Name change and gender change in Texas is so hit or miss," she said. "It depends on finding a sympathetic judge and a good lawyer."

The annual Transgender Advocacy Summit takes place at the Allendale Hotel in North Austin on Feb. 24, the day before TENT's lobby day.

Equality Texas' Lobby Day on March 11 will begin with training at First United Methodist Church of Austin, one block to the west of the Capitol.

Team leaders are being selected for groups that will concentrate on individual priorities. Those leaders are encouraged to recruit members. Individuals who attend will be assigned to one of the groups.

During orientation, teams will learn more about the legislation they are supporting. The most effective lobbyists simply tell their stories briefly to legislators so they'll understand that these bills affect real people's lives, according to Equality Texas Executive Director Chuck Smith.

Smith said rooms are already getting scarce, especially in the larger convention hotels. He said the CCGLA bus is a good alternative.

Breakfast will be served during the early morning trip to Austin, with wine available on the trip home. The bus is equipped with reclining seats, DVD players and a restroom. The group is asking for a donation of at least \$10.

The night before Equality Texas' Lobby Day, GetEQUAL TX plans a Texas March for LGBT Justice from Austin City Hall to the Capitol.

■ **LOBBY**, Page 14

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MAN WITH THE PLANS | Michael Muhammad, DART vice president of diversity and innovative services, presents three DP benefits proposals at the committee meeting on Tuesday. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

DART board is next stop for DP benefits

LGBT advocates say community's input critical as agency's directors prepare to take up plan approved by committee in 5-2 vote this week

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Members of DART's administrative committee approved a plan Tuesday, Feb. 12, to offer domestic partner benefits to the regional transit agency's gay and lesbian employees.

The committee discussed three plans but approved one in a 5-2 vote that would offer health-care to an employee's same- or opposite-sex partner and their children. According to previously released documents, the plan could cost anywhere from \$76,860 to \$929,758, depending on how many people enroll.

The plan is now set to go before the entire DART Board of Directors on Feb. 26.

Resource Center Dallas' Rafael McDonnell and lesbian activist Cd Kirven attended the meeting and were glad the committee approved the plan.

"I'm happy that we're seeing forward movement," McDonnell said.

They stressed the importance of the LGBT community reaching out to DART board members so they understand the need to vote in favor of the change.

"We need their help," Kirven said. "I'm excited."

Michael Muhammad, DART's vice president of diversity and innovative services, explained the three proposed plans to committee members, including one that would allow both a partner and another dependent to be covered. Muhammad said that would guard against any legal challenges and would require an employee to have a guardianship for the relative to be eligible for DP benefits. But that plan was the most expensive at \$355,236 to \$1,625,697.

After 20 minutes in executive session, committee vice chair Claude Williams made a motion to vote on the most expensive plan, which would cover partners and another dependent. But the motion failed to get a second.

It seemed that the committee would hold off on a vote until next month, but then committee member Pamela Dunlop Gates made a motion to vote on the plan that would cover either a same- or opposite-sex partner, which received a second and ultimately passed by two votes.

Gates, Williams, Jerry Christian, William Tsao and Richard Carrizale voted in favor of the plan. Randall Chrisman and Gary Slagel voted against it.

To be eligible, employees would have to have lived together for at least one year and sign a domestic partnership affidavit. They would also have to provide two other documents proving their shared residency.

If approved by the full board, the plan would take effect in January 2014. Contact info for board members is at DART.org/about/board/boardbios/boardbios.asp.

MCC-Dallas on Journey of radical trans inclusion

Church leaders say new program offering everything from classes to naming ceremonies will be 1st of its kind in city's northern suburbs

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

CARROLLTON — With a free pancake supper, Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas kicked off its new Gender Journey project, whose goal is to make the church radically inclusive of the transgender and gender-nonconforming community.

To the Rev. Colleen Darraugh, the church's senior pastor, radical inclusion means having an ongoing program, providing a safe space, networking and catching people wherever they are in their journey to discovering what gender means to them.

"We're looking at providing a safe environment to explore what it means to have gender, gender identity and gender expression, to be two-spirit or questioning," Darraugh said.

Two-spirit comes from the American Indian tradition of acceptance of people who express mixed gender roles.

Between each month of Transgender 101 and Transgender 201 classes will be "connection" months.

The weekly 101 classes will explore coming out, family and medical issues. The 201 sessions will dig deeper into issues such as self-acceptance and transition. Connection months will include speakers, films, dinners, discussions and spiritual rituals.

Oliver Blumer, regional director for Transgender Education Network of Texas and a member of Councilwoman Delia Jasso's LGBT Task Force, is among those behind Gender Journey.

"This is the first faith-based group that put together a task force, asked congregants and put together an intentional, structural program," he said.

Darraugh said the church will provide spiritual support and create ceremonies to mark certain occasions. All faiths celebrate the naming of a new child. Drawing from a variety of traditions, she said, MCC of Greater Dallas is creating a naming ceremony to mark the beginning of people living as their authentic selves.

But she said it's OK for parents to mourn loss as they let go of the image of who they thought their child was before celebrating the rebirth.

Darraugh has lots of ideas, but those attending will guide where the group goes.

"We want to catch people where they are," she said.



The Rev. Colleen Darraugh

If enough spouses of transgender people attend, they may form their own breakout group to deal with their own issues of how to be supportive and what the transgender status of their spouses means to them, Darraugh gave as an example.

And they hope to have some weekend events so transgender members can bring their children to a safe space.

She said everyone is welcome to participate in the weekly event with no expectation they'd join the church.

Blumer called Gender Journey "beyond open and affirming" and said the program is for allies as well.

"With MCC having larger numbers of GLBs, Gender Journey is helping them understand us," he said.

Blumer said this is the first transgender program in the northern suburbs and there's great need for it there.

He's optimistic for its success because of the lead Darraugh is taking. He said MCCGD made the commitment to sustain the program and delayed its launch until everyone was satisfied they were doing it right.

Angel Collie, who serves as leader of MCC's transgender ministries, called the work at MCCGD exceptional.

"I feel at home when worshipping there," he said.

He said a program like Gender Journey institutionalizes inclusion, education and outreach to welcome the community into the full and vibrant life of the church.

■ MCC, Next Page

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■ MCC, From Previous Page

He called rites of passage ceremonies empowering.

"Those are deeply meaningful for a person as they are recognized within their faith community," he said.

Collie said some congregations that welcome their transgender and gender non-conforming members still see this as a fringe issue. An effort is being made throughout the MCC denomination to incorporate the trans community fully into congregational life.

He said the most successful congregations do everything from using inclusive language to providing single-stall, gender non-specific restrooms. Trans and gender-nonconforming members are found in all ministries and are part of the church leadership.

An important feature of Gender Journey is the inclusion of friends, families and allies, he said.

Collie believes the denomination as a whole is doing a good job of welcoming and including the transgender and gender non-conforming commu-



Oliver Blumer

nity. But he said MCCGD is becoming a model congregation. ■

Gender Journey meets Tuesdays at MCCGD, 1840 Hutton Dr., #100, Carrollton, at 7 p.m.

■ LOBBY, From Page 11

Meanwhile, both Log Cabin Republicans and Stonewall Democrats are holding statewide conventions in Austin the first week in April. This is the first time Log Cabin is holding a statewide meeting in Texas.

"This is a very big deal, especially since the Austin Chapter was just founded in August 2012," said Log Cabin Austin President Jeffrey Davis, who is putting the weekend together.

Dallas and Houston have chapters that will participate.

"There are also lots of Log Cabin Republicans in Texas that aren't close geographically to any of the three chapters," Davis said, "so this gives them a unique opportunity to get involved and to meet other LCR Texans."

Log Cabin's weekend begins on April 4 with a lobby day at the Capitol. Borrowing an idea from Equality Texas, the chapters will form teams that will speak to legislators from their areas.

Davis said they will focus on three areas of legislation — Rep. Rafael Anchia's birth certificate bill, the employment nondiscrimination bills and the Romeo and Juliet disparity between gays and straights — and expects to also talk about economic issues.

"Nothing can or will change without Republican support, and our goal with this conference is to both thank our Republican allies and to find more of them who will continue to support us over the years," he said.

Republicans hold almost two-thirds of the seats in each house so support from some of their members is needed for any of the proposed bills to pass.

"We feel that we need to focus on our similarities rather than our differences in order to create positive change in our community, and approaching our representatives that way will generate ac-

Keeping Austin queer

- Transgender Advocacy Summit, Feb. 24–25, Allendale Hotel, 7685 Northcross Drive, Austin; Lobby Day on Feb. 25; TransTexas.org
- Texas March for LGBT Justice, organized by GetEQUAL TX, March 10, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Austin City Hall to Texas Capitol, GetEqualTX.org
- Equality Texas Lobby Day, March 11, First United Methodist Church of Austin Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca St., Austin at 9 a.m., EqualityTexas.org
- Log Cabin 2013 Conference, April 4–6, Hilton Garden Inn, 500 N. I-35, Austin, Lobby Day on April 4, Texas.LogCabin.org
- Stonewall Democrats Equality Forward Summit, April 5–7, Hilton Hotel at Bergstrom Airport, TexasStonewallDemocrats.org

tion that will translate into the support of LGBT-friendly legislation," he said.

Stonewall Democrats will be meeting in Austin the same weekend.

Dallas Stonewall Democrats President Omar Narvaez said plans for the conference on are still being drawn up. Rather than create its own lobby day, Stonewall chapters are encouraging members to attend the March 11 Equality Texas' Lobby Day.

At the beginning of the year, National Stonewall Democrats suspended operation but Narvaez said the Texas organization is stronger than ever with more than a dozen local chapters. He said a new Central Texas chapter just opened covering the area from Temple and Killeen to Waco and he's looking forward to working with them at the conference.

The Stonewall meeting begins April 5 at the Hilton Hotel at the airport. ■

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BASKING IN THE STARLIGHT | Resource Center Dallas CEO Cece Cox, from left, Dana Barber and Kee Holt pose during RCD's Volunteer Appreciation Party at the Starlight Room on Feb. 10. Barber was named RCD's Volunteer of the Year. (Courtesy of Roger Lippert)

Dana Barber is RCD's Volunteer of the Year

Resource Center Dallas honors 1,040 people who contributed 45,500 hours valued at \$949K in 2012 at annual appreciation party

FROM STAFF REPORTS

More than 1,040 people gave over 45,500 hours of their time and talents valued at over \$949,000 to Resource Center Dallas in 2012.

The volunteers were honored at RCD's annual Volunteer Appreciation Party on Feb. 10 at the Starlight Room in the Dallas West End.

Longtime volunteer Dana Barber received the 2012 Martha Dealey Volunteer of the Year award for his significant contributions to the Center.

"Dana's consistent presence volunteering for the center, from the front-desk Saturday mornings to events such as Toast To Life, are a stellar example of selfless service for our staff and clients," said RCD CEO Cece Cox. "We are thankful for his long-term support of the Center."

Resource Center also recognized the following:

- Curtis Young received the Randolph Terrell Community Service Award, given to a group or individual for exceptional service to the LGBT community and/or people living with HIV/AIDS;

- Linda Freeman, Helen Goldenberg and Rosa Carballo were given the Suzanne Wilson Award, presented to the year's most significant volunteers in Client Services;

- Sammy McKinzie received the John Thomas Award, in recognition as the Gay & Lesbian Community Center's exceptional volunteer of the year;

- Brian LeBlanc was awarded the Bill Nelson Award honoring the Nelson-Tebedo Health Resource Center's outstanding volunteer of the year; and,

- Rebecca Wright received the Bruce Long Award for outstanding development department volunteer.

The Center also recognized 121 volunteers who contributed more than 100 hours during 2012. Michael Chau, with 1,106 hours, was recognized for donating the most amount of time last year. ■

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Deep Ellum lesbian bar a 'land of Eden'

Newly opened Eden Lounge is 1st gay bar area has seen in several years and 1st female-owned LGBT bar in Dallas since Jack's Backyard

AMY PRICE | Contributing Writer
editor@dallasvoice.com

Making a mad dash from the front door to the bar and back again, Lauren Nguyen frantically converses with guests and staff as the grand opening of Eden Lounge commences.

Within 20 minutes, the venue turns from solitary vacancy to bustling, standing-room-only Deep Ellum hot spot.

Not in several years has Deep Ellum had an LGBT bar. The new lesbian bar, Eden Lounge, celebrated its grand opening Saturday, Jan. 26. Alongside Sue Ellen's, Eden Lounge is only the second lesbian bar in Dallas.

Owner Lauren Nguyen, 43, a home mortgage lender, has transformed the shell of a building into a heavenly oasis.

A far cry from the location's former occupant, Cantina Dallas, Eden Lounge has been revamped from head to toe. The only thing left over is a custom-welded, cowboy-and-cowgirl-silhouetted railing leading up to the rooftop, which happens to boast one of the coolest views in Deep Ellum.

Eden Lounge houses two bars, one downstairs and a rooftop bar, but it's not exactly the dance-club atmosphere of Sue Ellen's.

Catering mostly to women in their 30s and 40s, Eden Lounge is billed a place to relax and have a friendly conversation.

"I wanted it to be like you're in your own backyard or living room, and that you could hear yourself talk — that was very important. Very laid back," Nguyen explained.

Nguyen's partner, Kristi Holman, is vice president of Sherpa Management Partners and serves as Eden Lounge's public relations manager.

Not since Jack's Backyard in Oak Cliff has there been a documented lesbian-owned bar in Dallas. Nguyen and Holman said they're aiming to fill the void left by the closure of Jack's Backyard in June 2011.

"She (Kathy Jack) really paved the way for us, and we thank her for that — for passing on the torch," Holman said.

Nguyen said she didn't want to bring in investors and dug deep into her life savings to open the bar.

"I didn't want the headache or to lose people's money," Nguyen said. "I wanted to take a chance on my own."



HAPPILY EVER AFTER | Eden Lounge Lauren Nguyen, left, and her partner Kristi Holman, who handles PR, met at Chick Happy Hour, a Dallas lesbian mixer, five years ago. (Sil Azevedo)

This is not Nguyen's first business endeavor. She has previously co-owned two Asian restaurants.

She said she didn't want the hassle of running a full service restaurant alongside a bar, although Eden Lounge still has a non-functional kitchen in the back — grease trap included.

Nguyen said there is an assortment of restaurants all over Deep Ellum, including Maracas Cocina Mexicana, which frequently sends over staff with platters of complimentary quesadillas for Eden Lounge guests.

Since the beginning of their venture, Nguyen and Holman said the Deep Ellum community has been nothing but accommodating and welcoming.

Deep Ellum Foundation President Barry Annino said Eden Lounge brings a new level of diversity to the neighborhood.

"I think we're looking for a little more quality and diversity — you know — we don't have a lot of balance. It's a lot of the same thing. That's something Eden brings to the table," Annino said.

It's not that Deep Ellum is a stranger to LGBT-related businesses. The LGBT-owned Leather Masters is a staple in the area.

Annino said there have also been places like

Mark and Larry's Stuff, the art shop Casa Mexicana and a coffee shop — all of which are now closed.

He said he can recall another lesbian bar around 20 years ago that did not last very long.

"It was run poorly and someone just kind of stopped it together," Annino explained. He said Eden Lounge is in a prime location and Nguyen and Holman have their act together.

"They're doing a nice job fixing it up, and I've met them and they're professional people, and so I think they'll probably run it like that," he said.

Nguyen and Holman's personalities couldn't be more different. Their 5½-year relationship was a match made in happy hour — Chick Happy Hour, Dallas' monthly lesbian mixer, to be exact.

"She brought a balance to my life. She's a work-hard and I'm a play-hard — it works," Holman said.

To run the business to its fullest the two could only think of one person — veteran bartender Ginda Bayliss, who has an Oak Lawn resume dating back to 1997, including Mickey's, Sue Ellen's, JR.'s and The Brick/Joe's. Bayliss excitedly joined the Eden Lounge family, and Nguyen often refers to Bayliss as her other partner.

"I feel like I have two wives," Nguyen said.

Bayliss makes it her mission to greet everyone who walks through the Eden threshold with a hug.

"I don't want you to be a stranger here," Bayliss



EAST OF EDEN | Deep Ellum Foundation President Barry Annino said the Eden Lounge, which occupies a freshly renovated building that previously was home to Cantina Dallas, brings a new level of diversity to the artsy enclave east of downtown Dallas. (Amy Price/Dallas Voice)

said. "You may come in a stranger but you're going to leave a friend — enter into the land of Eden."

From their country music night on Thursday to the live DJ on Saturdays, Eden Lounge tries to cater to a variety tastes. Yes, it is a lesbian bar, but all are welcome, according to Nguyen.

Just don't expect to find a men's restroom at Eden Lounge. Nguyen has turned the old men's room into a unisex bathroom with no urinals.

"I took that out. I didn't want a nasty urinal in my bar — it's yucky," Nguyen said.

Holman and Bayliss said they want everyone in the LGBT community to give Deep Ellum a

chance.

"Deep Ellum is such a free and uplifting experience," Bayliss said.

Nguyen added, "I just want everyone to come and enjoy it here. This is a place I built for them — the LGBT community — just to relax," Nguyen said. ■

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■ **NOWHERE**, From Page 6

who know victims of abuse to seek help. She said the campaign won't specifically target the LGBT community but said wording could be added so everyone knows help is available.

"We want to make sure that LGBT people know that the shelters and the resources are available to them," she said. "There's no exclusion."

A safe place

Snyder recalls her ex shooting a gun into the air and trying to stab Snyder with a screwdriver. The experiences drove her to leave after three short months.

"I was like, 'I'm done. I can't handle this,'" she recalls.

Six months later, she found herself living back with her ex due to health and financial reasons. The two had tried to work things out apart but her ex was still violent.

Her ex was addicted to pain killers and Snyder even sent her to rehab three times in eight months, but nothing changed. She lived with her on and off for two years, but every time she moved out, her ex would win her back.

"She was very charming," she says. "That's how I got sucked in."

Snyder finally sought help from a Baptist-run shelter in 2011 after her ex threatened her with a gun and said she would commit suicide.

When the people at the shelter found out she was a lesbian, they put her in a private room to seclude her and didn't like her interacting with the other women. The shelter even offered homosexual reform classes.

She finally left the shelter and lived in her car before staying with her ex for a few weeks until she found another shelter that actually offered LGBT group therapy.

Although she was afraid to report her ex because she was a former police officer, she finally filed for a protective order.

But she wanted a fresh start away from her ex and away from the memories of the pain she had endured. She moved to Dallas in January 2012 and stayed with a friend for a while before seeking help at the Salvation Army. She's now staying in the Salvation Army Carl P. Collins service center on Harry Hines Boulevard until she can find a permanent place to stay.

While the Salvation Army is known for being anti-gay, Snyder said she didn't know where else to go and that people at the shelter have been kind to her, even after she came out.

"They have welcomed me," she said.

Although Snyder has been accepted at the Salvation Army, there still isn't counseling or programs for LGBT victims of domestic abuse available locally.

Cece Cox, CEO of Resource Center, said the center's defunct domestic violence program began as a grassroots effort and developed into a full program with counseling, group therapy and training for how to leave a violent situation. Cox said one major challenge was the lack of a shelter, so the center worked with the North Texas LGBT

Family Violence Coalition.

With about 75 clients a year using the program's services and a continued struggle for state funding, Cox said the program ended in 2010 as did the coalition, though the center has continued to refer people to area shelters that were accepting.

Cox said domestic violence is an issue in the LGBT community that needs to be addressed. She said fear of not being accepted and having to admit that their partner was of the same sex prevents many LGBT people from seeking help — issues that officials at shelters need to keep in mind.

"I do think that other providers need to be culturally competent," she said. "It adds to how people have shame and don't access services and remain in the shadows."

Paige Flink, executive director of The Family Place, said the nonprofit worked with RCD in the past to place LGBT victims. While specific LGBT counseling isn't offered because there hasn't been a need, she said Dallas police will also begin recording the gender of the victim and the abuser.

"That will tell us what the numbers are for same-sex couples," she said.

Dr. Liz Hodges, a lesbian program director and counselor at The Family Place, has been with the nonprofit for 17 years and planned to do LGBT group therapy several times — but there weren't enough people. She'd like to have a group to eventually address issues specific to same-sex domestic violence, such as the fear of being outed, fear of losing children because of unfriendly courts, increased shame because of the gender of the abuser, and fear to tell police and seek help because of bias.

"If the shelters don't take them, then there's no point to calling," she said, adding that things have changed in the last decade and many local shelters will help LGBT victims.

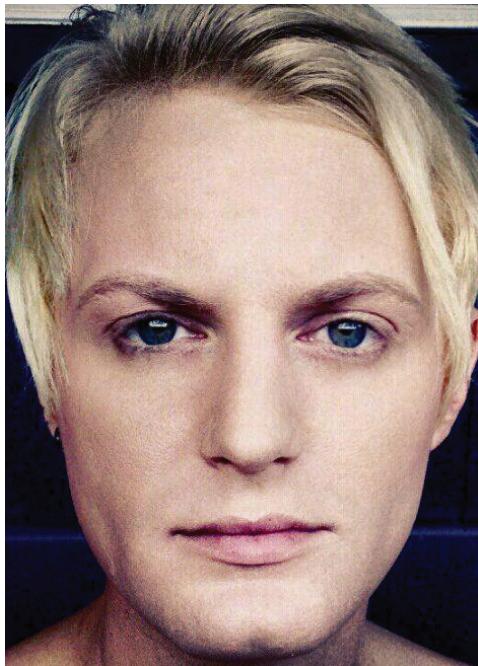
Representatives from Genesis Women's Shelter and SafeHaven of Tarrant County said they welcome lesbians, though there are no specific programs or groups for them. SafeHaven also helps men with counseling and shelter if they are in imminent danger.

Hodges said gay victims often want to speak to other gay victims and many women are afraid to admit to others that their abuser was a woman. Finding a path to healing often involves speaking to someone the victim trusts, so Hodges will arrange for same-sex victims to talk to each other about their experiences.

A national impact

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey in January that estimated LGBT people experience the same or higher rates of domestic abuse than heterosexuals.

The report was the first to evaluate violence in relationships based on sexual orientation. It found that prevalence of sexual and physical violence in a relationship is high in the LGBT community, with 44 percent of lesbians, 26 percent of gay men, 61 percent of bisexual women and 37 percent of



ODD MEN OUT | Jonathan Bayne moved to Tyler to escape an abuser in Dallas, where shelters will only take battered men if their life is in danger.

bisexual men experiencing abuse. Among heterosexuals who responded, 35 percent of women and 29 percent of men experienced abuse.

Sally Huffer, community project specialist at Houston's Montrose Center, is a member of the New York-based National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, which focuses on violence affecting the LGBT community.

The Montrose Center has a 24-hour domestic abuse hotline to help provide shelter and resources for LGBT victims. But Huffer said many people in abusive relationships aren't near an LGBT center where they can seek help.

On average, Huffer said one in four relationships involve domestic abuse with one in two transgender relationships involving violence. She said the CDC numbers show a greater need to educate mainstream shelters on LGBT issues and have outreach programs.

"A lot of people in the gay and lesbian community don't know if there are resources," she said. "If there is a place, we need to educate them so they don't turn them away because that may be the only place they can go."

Congress is working on renewal of the Violence Against Women Act. A version with LGBT protections passed the Senate this week. The House bill hasn't been introduced yet.

Last year the Senate passed the bill with provisions to help LGBT victims, including gay men, but the version in the U.S. House excluded them, and the bill wasn't renewed. The Senate rejected a version of the bill last week that would have taken out the LGBT protections.

Ty Cobb, senior legislative counsel for the Human Rights Campaign, has been working on the VAWA. He said he hopes the protections can be added to the Republican House version this year. If the bill makes it without the provisions, he said the LGBT protections could be added during the reauthorization process later this year.

Cobb said HRC has been working with domestic violence service providers for years to extend equal protection and help to LGBT victims. He said having VAWA include same-sex couples would prevent discrimination and allow more funding for outreach and services.

Many male victims

Resources for men, especially gay men, are extremely lacking. While lesbians are often welcome in mainstream shelters, gay men have a difficult time finding help.

Jonathan Hall-Neal-Bayne moved to Dallas to live with his boyfriend in 2006 after dating him for two months. He said there were control issues from the start with his ex often taking his car and his phone, and the abuse began in May 2007 when Bayne asked his ex where he was going one night.

The question started an argument and led to his ex slamming him with the bathroom door before tackling him. He punched him and held his arm behind his back until Bayne heard a snap. He said his ex then left, taking his phone and car so he wouldn't tell anyone.

Bayne tried to walk to nearby Baylor hospital, but he was in such excruciating pain that he couldn't make it. He said a man pulled up beside him, picked him up off the ground and drove him the short distance to the hospital, where he found out he had a fractured clavicle and a 2-inch bite mark on his cheek that needed stitches. He said the bite hit muscle, so sometimes he still experiences numbing on his cheek.

He stayed at a friend's place that night and left the next morning to stay with family in Tyler.

But after a couple of weeks of messages from his ex, explaining that he'd had a bad childhood and Bayne just didn't understand him, he convinced Bayne to move back.

After moving back, his ex wouldn't talk about the issues that led to the abuse and more violence followed. He moved in and out over the next few years, staying with friends from time to time, but eventually going back to stay with his ex.

"I can't wrap my mind around it," he said about continuing to go back to his ex. "I think I felt sorry for him. ... The amount of control someone can have on you. It's unbelievable."

He went to the Resource Center at one point, but was told shelters would only take a man if it was an emergency. So he again went back with his ex because he didn't like asking friends for help.

Cox said it was a challenge to find shelter for male victims, who made up 75 percent of RCD's client load, as mainstream shelters weren't equipped to help them.

Bayne's father became ill in 2010, so he moved to Euless to stay with him until he died. After that, Bayne said his perspective of life changed and he decided living in Tyler was better than being with his ex in Dallas.

To this day, he wishes he had left and never returned after the first sign of violence.

"It broke me. It literally broke me down — mentally, physically, emotionally," he said. ■

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viewpoints

Black queer history lives

Marlon Riggs Film Festival aims to further revive legacy of LGBT people of color in Dallas, which seemed all but forgotten 5 years ago

A few weeks ago a young woman by the name of Juju contacted me on Facebook and began to inquire about the work of Fahari Arts Institute.

She asked things like whether there's a physical address where we regularly offer black queer programs — or whether events like this weekend's Marlon Riggs Film Festival are just special occasions. She said she has an interest in black history and an eagerness and sense of urgency to involve herself with "the cause." While it was relatively easy for me to address those questions and offer her some resources, her last question caused me to pause and analyze my life and work in ways that I hadn't in years.

She asked, "How did you get started doing what you do as it relates to activism?"

I avoided the question for days. I interpret "the cause" as the full liberation of all queer people of color — not only the fight against racism and for racial justice, but for also gender justice and economic justice and against all forms of oppression that queer people of color face in society.

Each time I pondered her question, the image, philosophies and works of Audre Lorde came to mind. Lorde was a feminist, lesbian, warrior and mother who confronted issues of racism in feminist thought and aided a generation of women of color and black gay men in a practice of defining their lives for themselves.

In a 1984 interview in *Blacklight*, a groundbreaking periodical created by Sidney Brinkley that has covered black LGBT life and events since the '70s, Lorde stated that, "It's a struggle, but that is why we exist, so that another generation of lesbians of color will not have to invent themselves, or their history, all over again."

Reminding myself of this quote provided me with the answer to Juju's question. My political awakening came out of my introduction to the black queer cultural movement of the late '70s, which extended through the '90s.

It was learning about pivotal figures like Audre Lorde, Joseph Beam, Marlon Riggs and Assotto Saint — and realizing the social ills they fought are still present sparked a sense of urgency in me to somehow find the cause and my place within it. It was at first invigorating and exciting but soon led to disappointment.

In 2008, there didn't appear to be a "cause" that was fully invested in the full liberation of queer people of color in my city — not one that was connected to the rich history and accomplishments of black queer people

— even though things like racism, hate crimes, health disparities and poverty still ravish the local black queer community. The most that I could find dealt with the desire for marriage equality, but that cause lacked the participation of people of color, and I myself didn't feel called to join that particular fight.

Some encouragement came from learning that the cause has not totally passed over Dallas, that in fact people like Alpha Thomas, Linus Spiller and Ajumu formed organizations like Umoja Hermanas and The Ajamu Collective and held trainings, workshops and cultural productions to

build community among the local queer community of color, as well as lead protests and engage in other direct actions that brought awareness to racism within that LGBT community and other injustices that queer people of color face in Dallas.

But just as Lorde, Beam, Riggs and Saint had passed away, so had many of the local organizations that were created by and served black queer people and much of their work was unknown to the generations that followed them, and that is still the case for many people today. This began a major shift in my life toward cultural organizing and activism.

Black history as a whole is becoming very limited. More and more black history observations and celebrations focus on a narrow list of individuals and accomplishments that happened within a particular time frame.

Black history taught in our schools is often apolitical and currently being rewritten to erase certain details from even being taught. Black queer history is a concept that many still have trouble fathoming and the subject finds itself in a tenuous place.

But black queer history is an essential part of political and cultural progress for black queer individuals. That is why Fahari Arts Institute exists. Fahari's work is largely about connecting black queer folks to legacy, memory and the present moment.

This weekend Fahari presents the 4th Annual Marlon Riggs Film Festival — inspired by the work of award-winning Fort Worth activist/filmmaker, the late Marlon Riggs.

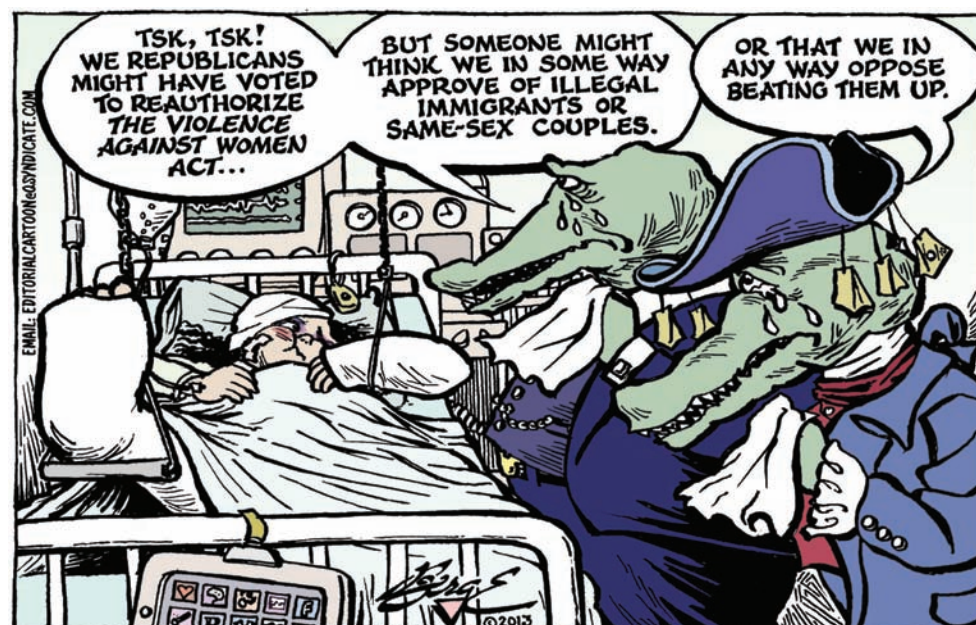
These films and this festival are ways we are queering black history month and striving to create a bridge between Audre's existence and Juju's desire.

For more information on the Marlon Riggs Film Festival, go to BlaqOutDallas.com.

Harold Steward is artistic director of Fahari Arts Institute and editor-in-chief of *BlaqOut Dallas*. He can be contacted at info@blaqoutdallas.com.



Harold Steward
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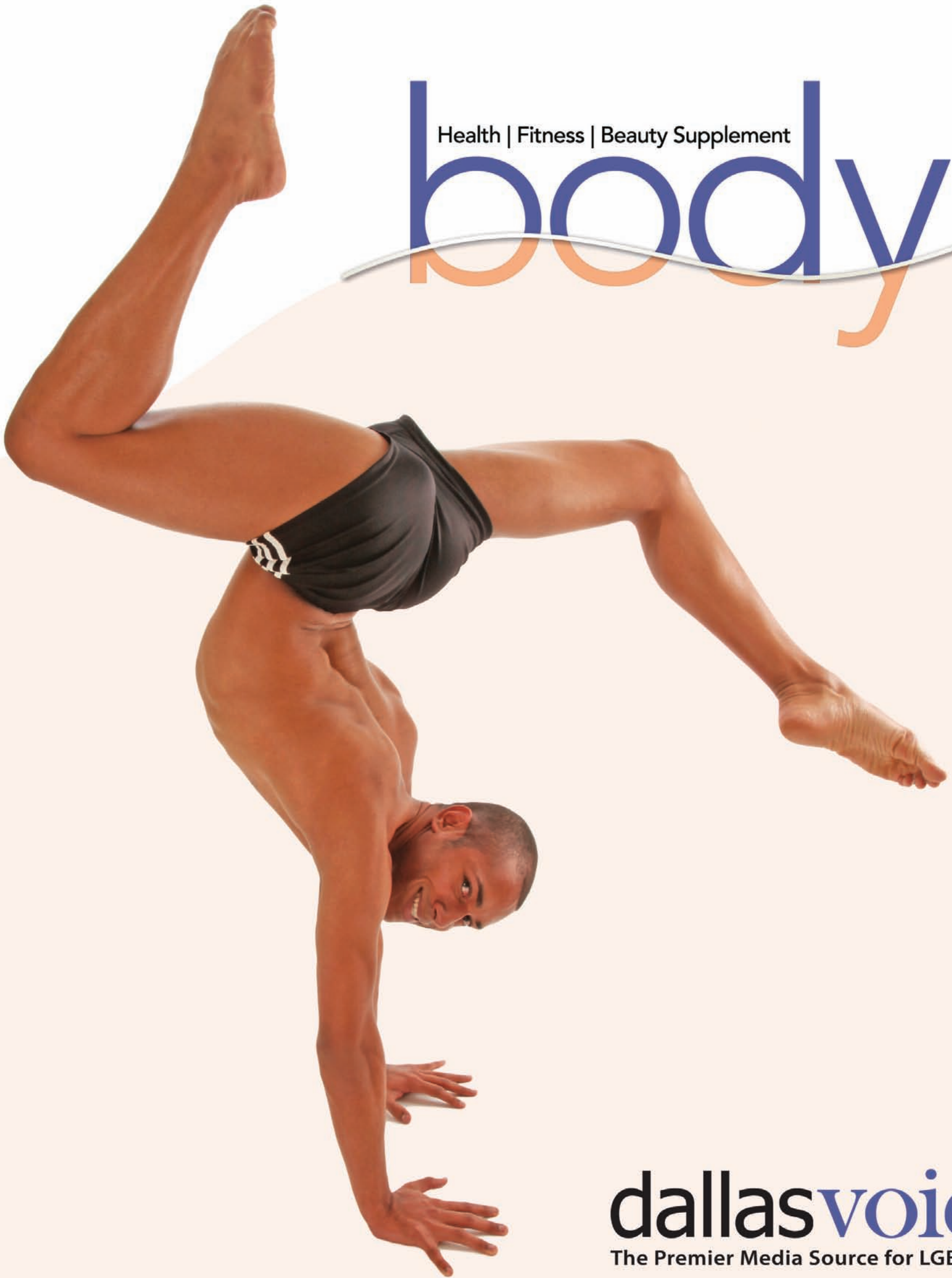
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Spinning your wheels

Mark Shipman, Flywheel Sports' resident spin doctor, takes you right 'round baby, right 'round

JEFTINGLEY | Contributing Writer

In the hierarchy of things to dread at the gym, "stationary bike" ranks somewhere between "treadmill" and "that sweaty ogre who grunts while bench-pressing the equivalent of a Volkswagen Beetle." Sure, some facilities offer classes where you can commiserate with others while *literally* spinning your wheels, but at Flywheel Sports, a new North Texas fitness boutique, the mission is to reinvent the whole concept of indoor cycling.

Facing my bicycle dread head-on, I stopped in Flywheel to try a class with out instructor Mark Shipman. At first glance, Shipman is almost menacing: Bulging muscles, a shaved head, full tattoos sleeves that wind onto his chest, too. He began inking up over just a 10-month period, getting tattooed every single weekend while living for a year in Chicago.

But the hard exterior masks a demeanor that, in his classes, is more pep squad leader meets motivational coach than *Oz* cast member. (Could this high-energy personality be the result of burning upwards of 2,000 calories a day teaching classes?)

Recently open in Highland Park and Plano — Shipman works both gyms — Flywheel Sports was developed about three years ago by cycling instructor Ruth Zuckerman and a team of fitness enthusiasts. It begins with stadium-style seating so that every bike seat has a view of the instructor (you can even reserve a particular seat online). Add to that an in-house DJ who works with the instructors to create custom playlists, and you have something unique — especially for the gay fitness junkie. And what boutique would be complete without shoes? Flywheel provides a special kind that clip onto the pedals of their custom-made bikes for a gratifying, albeit very sweaty, workout. And yes, there are showers and towels if you need to freshen up after class.

Best of all, they aren't out to intimidate you. Shipman notes that the studio is dimly lit, so fellow riders won't judge you if you take it easy for

a while — it's about serving your needs, not ego.

For first-time riders in the 45-minute classes, Shipman recommends "learning the positions [to] ride in and how your body feels in each of those. Take it easy on yourself, be ready to work and have fun. You get stronger with every ride and before you know it you will be a pro ... and addicted!"

It comes as no surprise that Shipman has a contagious "can do" attitude; he's worked with some of the best fitness motivators in the business, including *Biggest Loser* trainer extraordinaire Jillian Michaels. They met on a Wellness Cruise where she proceeded to pick him as a volunteer from the audience and lead him through an unforgettable 90-minute workout. Later, they worked together to open the Chicago Gold Coast Flywheel location. "I owe that woman so much! She showed me I could do whatever I wanted and helped me realize fitness was my one true passion," says Shipman.

Today, he shares those same lessons learned with his room full of riders. "I am all about motivating people, inspiring them and showing them just how fun working out is ... especially on the bike," he says. "I try to push people to dig deep inside themselves and find out how strong they really are. People rarely give themselves the credit they deserve and give up before achieving what they really want. It's my job to not let that happen."

And if his motivation alone isn't enough to

keep riders returning, there's always the music. Flywheel structures each class around a series of tunes in which you increase the speed and torque (resistance) of your ride. As such, Shipman and others help you feel the burn to hits ranging from Madonna and Rihanna to Linkin Park and Nicki Minaj.

"Music is a huge part of my class," says Shipman, who has a gay man's sense for what'll get you moving on the dance floor *and* the gym. "I want you to feel like you are dancing while you ride and you just do not want to stop. In fact, [I

was once] described as a 'spin instructor-slash-go-go dancer that will make you want to dance and party while you sweat.' I think that sums me up well."

So no more excuses for putting off that fitness goal, take a spin at Flywheel. As they say, you never forget how to ride a bicycle ... even a stationary one. Especially when at the request of a hunky (and single) instructor.

Flywheel Sports, 4252 Oak Lawn Ave., (214) 504-2205 and 5964 W. Parker Road, Suite 100, Plano, (214) 865-7261.



Flywheel spinning instructor Mark Shipman is in it to spin it — he brings a go-go boy energy to an intense cycling workout. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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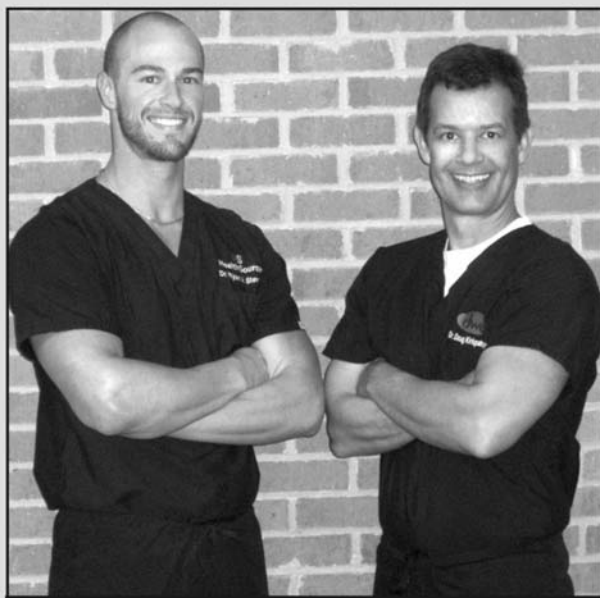


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Take my breath away

Gay yogi Trionne Barnett
explores the healing
power of breathing



When Trionne Barnett first began studying yoga eight years ago, one of the most dramatic things she noticed was how calm she became when breathing and stretching in unison. "Everything started moving in slow motion, and whatever happened in the day, I could leave it on the mat," she recalls.

That curiosity inspired her — not just to practice yoga, but to understand its overall health benefits.

It has since become her calling. Barnett and her girlfriend built a studio in their back yard initially as a place for Barnett to conduct her practice. Today, that studio is one of two for Patva Yoga, where she passes along her therapeutic instruction to those who worried core strength was beyond them.

Barnett has witnessed how deep breathing techniques have brought dramatic physical and emotional healing to students suffering from COPD, rheumatoid arthritis and other illnesses.

Barnett sees students with stress and fatigue illnesses, like COPD and arthritis, improve through yoga therapy.

steady breath inhalation connected with gentle yoga stretching movements," she explains in a soothing, almost meditative voice. As a yogi she knows "the more you breathe, and connect to the breath, the stronger you feel and your mind becomes calm, your muscles become tension free. It gives you confidence. Posture changes give you [a feeling] you can do anything. For me, it releases a deep-rooted strength I didn't know I had."

Barnett has been active for her entire life, but until she united breath and muscle movement through yoga, she hadn't reached her full potential.

"With deep and steady breathing, you are completely grounded and centered," she says.

There is no one form of yoga, and different techniques serve diverse needs of its practitioners. Students sometimes struggle with the faster-paced, more vigorous programs of some yoga studios, where they were unable to hold postures and balance their body weight, or master the synchronization of breath and movement, which is what builds strength.

"When I saw these students come to me for private practice, I decided to slow down my



SARAH DENISE MORGAN | Contributing Writer

practice — slow down the breath. Through that I have watched immobile students become completely active. I started seeing amazing physical changes in people," she says.

For one student, a COPD sufferer, she began with *ujjayai* breath — "an inhalation into the nose to a count of five and an exhale to a count of five — smooth, steady and calm — to the back of the throat, and an exhalation out of the nose, forcing all the air out," she explains. "On a very basic level, the oxygen — the breath — reduced her stress. It increased the strength of her diaphragm and intercostal muscles between the ribs so she could get a full breath. With COPD, breathing is so shallow she had to learn to trust that when she exhaled, she would fill back up."

Once the student could breathe again, her activity level increased.

"Having that extra oxygen in her body gave her more energy, so we started working on poses to improve her posture and build strength in the rest of her body," much of which she had lost due to inactivity. "Now it is like night and day for her. She walks and lifts weights and exercises weekly and continues to practice yoga."

Barnett has seen similar results with yoga stu-

dents dealing with rheumatoid arthritis. She tells of one who has had difficulty closing her fingers into her hands. "After [one of my classes] specifically designed to open and stimulate joints, she shouted, 'I can actually close my hands!' It had been months since she had accomplished that feat."

Longstanding yoga lovers likely won't be surprised by these stories.

"Yoga stretches and strengthens. It is a full body workout, improving posture and the circulation function of your endocrine system, organs, and the whole body. I have one student who has lost 60 pounds," Barnett says. But for many, the breath control is the most difficult aspect of a rewarding practice.

"It is a practice, and it takes time," she counsels. "I practice the breath in my car, in the shower — everywhere. Inhale to a count of five, exhale to a count of five. Each breath is an opportunity for change in your mind and body."

For more information about classes and training, visit PatyaYoga.com.

Trionne Barnett practices therapeutic yoga techniques that turn oxygen into energy. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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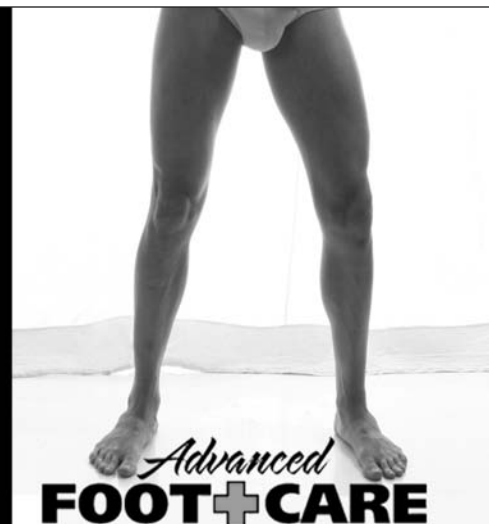
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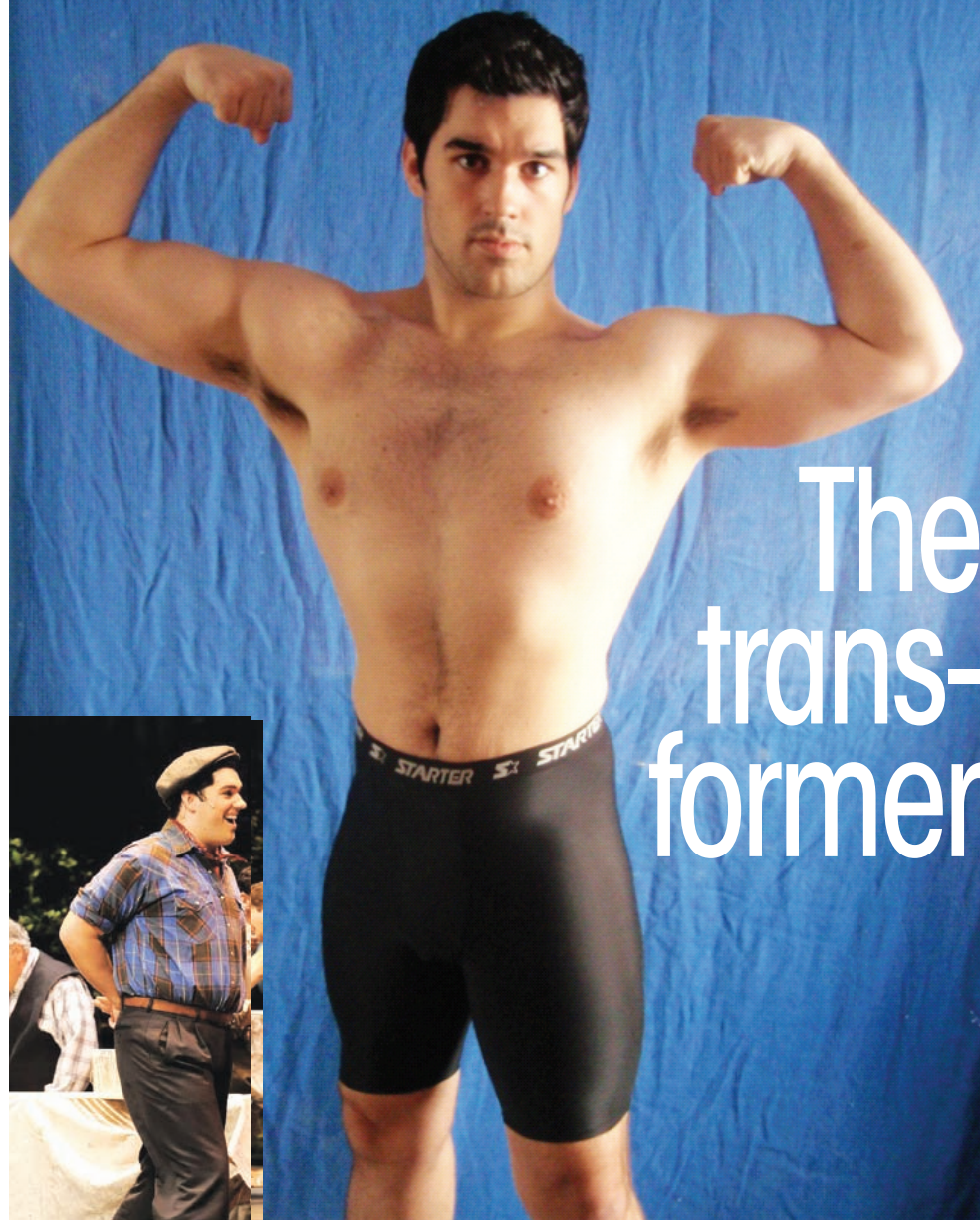


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The
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Out Dallas actor Keith J. Warren knew that to get better roles, he'd have to morph from butterball to beefcake. Here's how he did it.

Dance 10, looks 3. Anyone who's a fan of *A Chorus Line* knows what those numbers mean: Good onstage, but not the "right type."

It was a fact that began to annoy Dallas-based actor Keith J. Warren.

Warren — tall, young, with a strong voice — should have been getting leading roles in plays. But a dough middle often resigned him to supporting parts despite his leading-man good looks.

So last fall, he determined to change all that.

It seems to have worked. Since October, and through last month, Warren trimmed down, bulked up and even looks younger. It's paying off in roles, too — he's currently playing the lead in the musical *The Full Monty* in New Orleans ... a play that requires men to get naked onstage. He's never been more ready for that.

Here's how he did it.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Name, age, occupation. Keith J. Warren, 26, actor.

Has your weight fluctuated much throughout your life? Over the last 10 years, my weight and body type have gone in different directions — literally. When I got to be a senior in high school, I began to realize that I was too big, even for me. And as an aspiring actor, I knew that my body was going to have to do some changing, or I'd spend my young life missing out on roles made for guys of my potential type. After high school, I went from stocky to more slender, while still tall and broad. In the years following, I'd gone from having a few extra pounds to shedding them off again and back and forth. Now I've gotten to a good weight with less body fat, more muscle tone, and overall better health and fit.

In high school, I was in athletics, including a daily workout regimen. When I went into fine arts, my daily workouts were dancing, various cardio and diet. I would be lying if I said I never cheated on my diet. It happened then — and it happens now!

What was your highest weight? At 18, I was at my peak weight — 275 pounds — and while in good health, my body needed to catch up with the rest of me. I was too athletic to be that big. At the time my goal weight was simply anything *less* than what I was, but I got down to a nice 215 by age 20. Now, at 26, I'm 225 with a 10 percent body fat and lean muscle tone. I'm still working on lowering my body fat percentage with my daily workouts and diet, but I'm in extremely better condition than where I was before.

To get better roles, and stay healthier, Warren took on an intensive exercise regimen to transform his body in short order, from last fall's 'Most Happy Fella,' inset, to now. (Main photo by Marshall Harris; inset photo by Michael C. Foster)

When did you decide you wanted to get into shape now? In January of 2010, I made a New Year's resolution that I wanted to get myself into shape. It had mostly to do with wanting to get better theater roles! I had been told by several respected directors that I was missing out on role opportunities. One, a very good friend, said to me, 'Keith, you *are* a leading man, but you have to look like one all the time. You need to start now while you're young.' That pretty much sealed the deal.

What regimen did you follow? In August 2012, just as I was closing *The Most Happy Fella* at Lyric Stage, I started a 21-day vegan detox/cleanse diet called The Beachbody Ultimate Reset. Thankfully, this was a diet that doesn't starve you. In those three weeks, I lost about 18 pounds and lowered my cholesterol, blood pressure and body fat percentage, and shed several inches. After that, I began a hybrid workout of P90X and Insanity, both of which are from the Beachbody company. I had already done P90X before with pretty fair results. I really wanted to make this next round a challenge, though, so I threw Insanity into the mix. In addition to the workouts, I kept a strict diet of daily protein and muscle confusion supplements, as well as a product called Shakeology, which I still use. I followed this schedule for 90 days, which wrapped up at the start of January — just in time for the new year.

I'm still continuing my maintenance with daily doses of either Insanity or one of the many great P90X workouts, as well as trips to the gym.

What was the hardest part of the regimen? The first week of the schedule was the hardest. Getting started has always been the hardest for me. Once the first seven days ended, the hard part was over. After that, it was just making sure to keep the diet under control. This happened around Thanksgiving and Christmas, like most people usually encounter.

There's an adage: "No food tastes as good as skinny feels." True? Is there some food you really miss? It's true for me. I take one look at certain things I used to eat and have no response whatsoever now that I'm in my current condition. As a rule, I do believe in 'cheat days,' so I allowed myself a day to enjoy an extra treat now and then. I stayed away from sodas and beer full-time. Any adult beverages consisted of low calorie clear liquids.

I will confess it was a guilty pleasure of mine to sit down and *inhale* Oreos with ice-cold milk. But I've grown stronger and have more will power now. Still, when I sleep, visions of Oreos dance in my head. Which is probably why I wake up starving for breakfast the next morning.

Aside from the visual, what have you noticed as the most real change? I've got a *huge* increase in energy and stamina. I have an overall better attitude and confidence towards most things in daily life. I definitely do not crave junk food and other crap that I used to need on a daily basis just to be satisfied.

But I'd have to say that the biggest change is simply feeling like a whole new person. I could put it in many different terms, such as a phoenix rising from the ashes or a butterfly emerging from the cocoon. It's just great to feel like you've reached a new beginning.

What was the most unexpected consequence of your transformation for good or bad? As much as I hate to say this, there was something very negative that I encountered as a result of my fitness journey. I was confronted by an acquaintance via Facebook, who read up on my frequent posts and photos of my progress, and told that I was nothing more than a show-off and an obsessive fitness freak and that I basically needed to get a life. I was dumbfounded by this reaction to something that I considered to be

nothing but positive and encouraging to others. Whatever issue they had with my lifestyle was clearly irrational, so I didn't let it affect me. It was nice to click the 'unfriend' button that day.

Any advice for people looking to get going? Changing your body is never easy. It's definitely a complete lifestyle change and with that comes a lot of dedication, motivation and even sacrifice. I had to surround myself with a support group that helped keep me focused and positive about my goals and realistic about how to achieve them. I'm very grateful for the support and positive influences, as well as inspirations that got me where I am now. And now, as I continue to add to the progress, I always keep in mind that I'm not alone in the challenges I face while making the choices I have to make for my body and health's sake. When I pick up those weights, they don't feel as heavy as they used to. And when I run those 3 miles, they don't seem as far. I just do the best I can and keep going. And to anyone who thinks he can't, I promise you, you can!

THE TALE OF THE TAPE



If you watched the Summer Olympics in London last year, you probably noticed many athletes trussed up in mysterious strips of black tape. Well, the technology used by those swimmers, cyclists and runners is not available only to Olympians — you can take advantage of it, too.

"Kinesio tape can be applied to all parts of the body," says Dr. Karim Harati-Zadeh with Spectrum Chiropractic & Acupuncture. "They go over injured muscles, pulling the skin away to allow it to heal faster. And while braces restrict your range of motion, Kinesio tape doesn't interfere."

The first step in deciding whether to use the tapes is to undergo an exam and treat the underlying injury. The tapes then must be applied carefully by a professional trained in the proper technique for each affected part of the body, from the shoulder to legs and even abs. The stretching of the tape is key to ensuring its effectiveness.

While athletes and gym-rats will find Kinesio tape especially useful to aid in recovery and reduce time away from working out, almost anyone with a strain, sports injury or inflammation can benefit from the treatment. The tapes stay in place anywhere from 24 to 72 hours — even after intensive activity and showering. Harati-Zadeh does have one suggestion before getting them, though: "If you're hairy, you might wanna shave the area first, unless you want a free waxing," he says.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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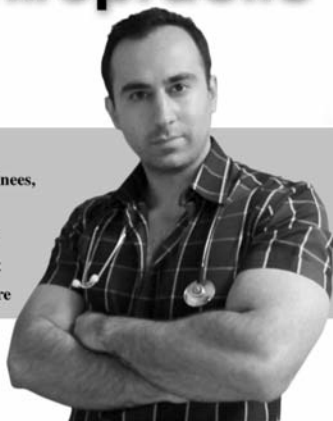
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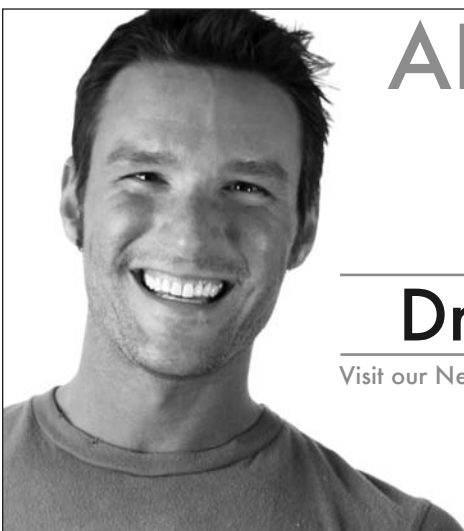
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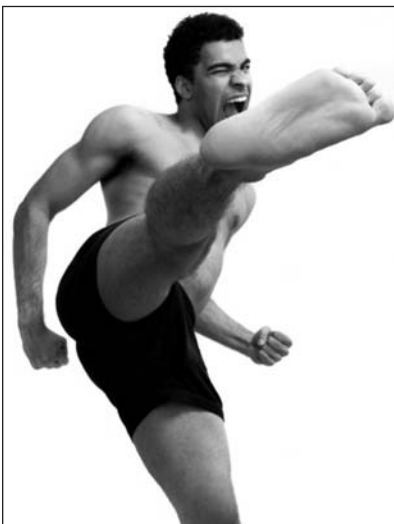


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Going the distance

Running a marathon is one for the bucket list, but go about it wisely

So you wanna run a marathon ... and why not? It's perhaps one of the best ways to set fitness goals, since you're usually working against a target date. It's also an athletic achievement by which many others are judged.

But what, exactly, does training for a 26.2-mile race entail? Well, it's more than just about running a whole lot.

Timothy Rupp is a veteran marathoner who graduated to the triathlon circuit. As an emergency room doctor at a local hospital, Rupp is versed in how to get your body in the right condition before venturing on those two dozen ... or heck, even that much more achievable 5K.

Rupp answers those FAQs the novice runner may have and throws in some of his own tips to make sure you are in tip-top shape before pounding that pavement.

Where to start

Rupp points out that for the beginner, regardless of experience, scheduling is crucial. Once that becomes set, the rest will follow. Plus, don't get too set on busting out a marathon right away. There are shorter options to be just as proud of.

"It's a good idea to pick an event six to 12 months out," he says. "One could download a training schedule from the web or sign up with a place like Luke's Locker, Run On or the Dallas Running Club. They would likely lay out a training plan, albeit a somewhat generic one. But that's a start, and know that part of the training would include running shorter distances." In addition to full marathons, there are 5Ks, 10Ks, 15Ks, half-marathons "and even trail runs for nature lovers." (To clarify, 5 kilometers equal 3.1 miles; a half-marathon is 13.1 miles.)

Talk to the foot

Just because you have a slamming pair of Nikes, don't assume those are the best shoes for you. Or if you're frugal, consider hard the importance of new shoes for your running endeavor. Rupp is emphatic about proper shoes ensuring a healthy foot.

"Invest in quality running shoes," he says. "Your old shoes? Hell, no! Luke's and Run On will do a video gait analysis to determine your stride and match them up with a quality shoe."

This is especially important for the flat-footed. Rupp notes that the wrong shoe will challenge your foot in all the wrong ways. A visit to a podiatrist may even be advisable, especially if he has a sports medicine background, to see if orthotic inserts are necessary.

Food for thought

With all that running, food shouldn't be a



problem because any and all of those calories will be burned off quickly, right? Yes and no.

"It is safe to say the increased caloric burn and increased metabolism will allow you to eat with some amnesty, but certainly not carte blanche to have burgers, fries and ice cream 24/7/365. Be smart," Rupp says.

Running will be the majority of training, but Rupp says not to forget cross-, core- and weight-training for a complete body workout and to build up endurance ... not to mention that extra muscles never hurt a tight shirt.

Health kick

As with any new exercise regimen, consider your other health issues. The age-old advice of speaking to your doctor applies. And Rupp recommends a personal trainer for additional guidance. But in general, marathon training provides substantial health benefits.

"In general, training will help problems like Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol and heart problems, but people don't realize physical fitness [also] helps brain activity, sex drive and other routine homeostatic functions of the body," Rupp says.

Show off

Regardless of fitness level, competitive spirit might kick in at the wrong time. Just because you want to show up the jogger next to you doesn't mean you should.

"It is possible to start pushing yourself in relation to those around the track or the gym. But trying to one-up someone on Day 1 ... well, that's just a no-no. And you'll likely just hurt yourself," he says.

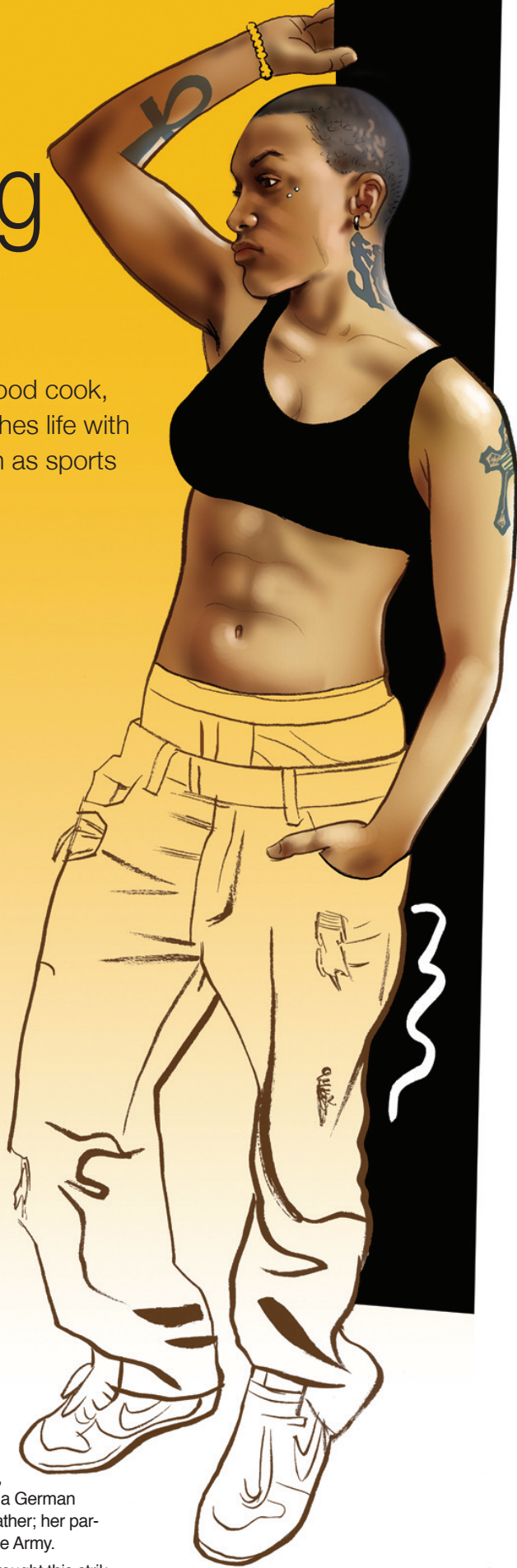
But if it's Rupp you start showing off against, he at least can take care of you at the emergency room. And that won't be embarrassing at all.

— Rich Lopez

Drawing Dallas

Athletic, smart and a good cook, **Aela Mathews** approaches life with the same determination as sports

MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com



Name and age: Aela Mathews, 24

Occupation: Sales

Spotted at: Fair Park

Aela Mathews is a stand out in any crowd. Born and raised in Tacoma, Wash., Aela is a handsome mix of a German mother and an African-American father; her parents met when her father was in the Army.

"Chasing girls and going to school" brought this striking Aries to Dallas two years ago. She's a recent college grad, with a degree in sociology (and a minor in criminal justice).

An avid, lifelong sportswoman, Aela excels in tae kwon do (since age 5), basketball, track (varsity team) and tennis. Tendonitis may have stopped her basketball career, but athletics continue to be an important part of her life. She also likes to cook, which she does with the same fervor as sports.

Aela didn't come out of the closet, she says — she

was "pulled out." She had a very difficult time when, at age 16, her mother found a note written to her by her girlfriend. Despite a difficult adjustment period, her unstoppable spirit kept this determined woman on the path to the life she deserved.

Her philosophy: "You gotta move on to move up." And as her basketball coach used to tell her, "Success is when preparation meets opportunity" ... usually followed by "Mathews, you're as slow as molasses — get on the line!"

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Casie Caldwell opened a version of Greenz inside of Equinox with unique items, but the Uptown location still serves classics like the Hawaiian tuna salad. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Salatude

With its Equinox location and mix of many meals and heart-healthy options, Greenz is not some dainty tearoom rabbit-foodery

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor

When Casie Caldwell opened Greenz Salads in Uptown nine years ago, she was hoping to offer a healthy alternative that wasn't considered a dainty tearoom for middle-aged ladies.

She succeeded.

Since those first days in the kitchen, Caldwell has built a small empire, franchising out the concept (the Greenz in Addison and the original along McKinney Avenue are both franchisee-owned), while steering the brand. But Caldwell still maintains day-to-day operations at her latest Greenz — inside the Equinox health club on Oak Lawn.

With its rabbit-foodish name, Greenz is a no-brainer option for the athletic and the health-

conscious while offering enough variety to attract (and keep) those who crave hearty protein. It is, in other words, a salad joint for carnivores, herbivores and omnivores of all stripes.

The McKinney location has recently undergone an updated look (fresh, vibrant paints), but aside from the addition of sandwiches to the menu in late 2010, seasonal items added as supplies dictate and the ability to turn any salad into a wrap, the menu has remained consistent all this time.

So has the quality. The BBQ Texas slaw (\$8.25; get it as a wrap) turns the traditional pulled pork sandwich into a deceptive healthy and flavorful lunch item, with a sweet, tasty sauce and crunch

from spicy red cabbage. The puffed brie (\$5.25), wrapped in a fluffy phyllo and kissed by strawberry gelee, serves as a great sharable app.

While the chipotle chicken salad has remained the best seller, deeper on the menu the buffalo chicken salad/wrap (\$9.95) impresses more: crisp, breaded slivers of chicken pick up a perky pungency from blue cheese and a creamy soothe from avocado. It's spicy and refreshing, much like the chicken enchilada soup, which packs a welcome kick without weighing you down. For a springtime favorite, a cup of the asparagus soup is ideal.

Like many of the entrée salads, the Hawaiian tuna (\$11.95) is huge and engaging, from its mesclun greens to the seared squares of ahi perched inside an edible bowl. Also edible is the pretzel bowl that surrounds the bar none (\$9.95), a staple on the menu meant to draw in men who wants the pub experience in lettuce form: grilled flank steak tops roasted nuts and a white beer vinaigrette, tossed with mixed greens.

Not surprisingly, the bar none is not available on the Equinox menu, which boasts fewer fried items and more coffees and breakfast items (it's open all day). They also serve fresh squeezed juices from locally owned Roots Juices.

After nine years, Greenz has established itself as purveyor of healthy food without the stigma of being *just* that.

WHERE TO WORK OUT

Club Dallas

Exclusively serving gay men for more than 30 years, this institution actually has one of the largest gyms in the city, and is open 24 hours, 365 days a year. 2616 Swiss Ave., 214-821-1990, TheClubs.com.

Diesel Fitness

Located on the third floor of the Centrum, it's right in the heart of the gayborhood. 3102 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 300, 214-219-6400, DieselFitness214.com.

Energy Fitness

This gym has a reputation for affordable memberships and solid service in the West Village. 2901 Cityplace West Blvd., 214-219-1900, UptownEnergyFitness.com.

Equinox

Located in the old Park Place Motorcars location, it offers a full range of fitness services, and a Greenz location. 4023 Oak Lawn Ave., 214-443-9009, Equinox.com.

Gold's Gym

Locations are throughout the city, but the one in Uptown serves a fit, very gay customer base. 2425 McKinney Ave., 214-306-9000, GoldsGym.com.

LA Fitness

Multiple locations, but the ones on Lemmon and a new Signature on Haskell are popular with gay clientele. 4540 W. Mockingbird Lane and 2690 N. Haskell Ave., LAFitness.com.

Trophy Fitness Club

With five locations, one can be found in the downtown Mosaic and one in Uptown. 300 N. Akard St. and 2812 Vine St., Suite 300, TrophyFitnessClub.com.

24 Hour Fitness

Popular locations include one downtown and one at Mockingbird and Greenville. 700 N. Harwood St. and 5706 E. Mockingbird Lane, 24HourFitness.com.

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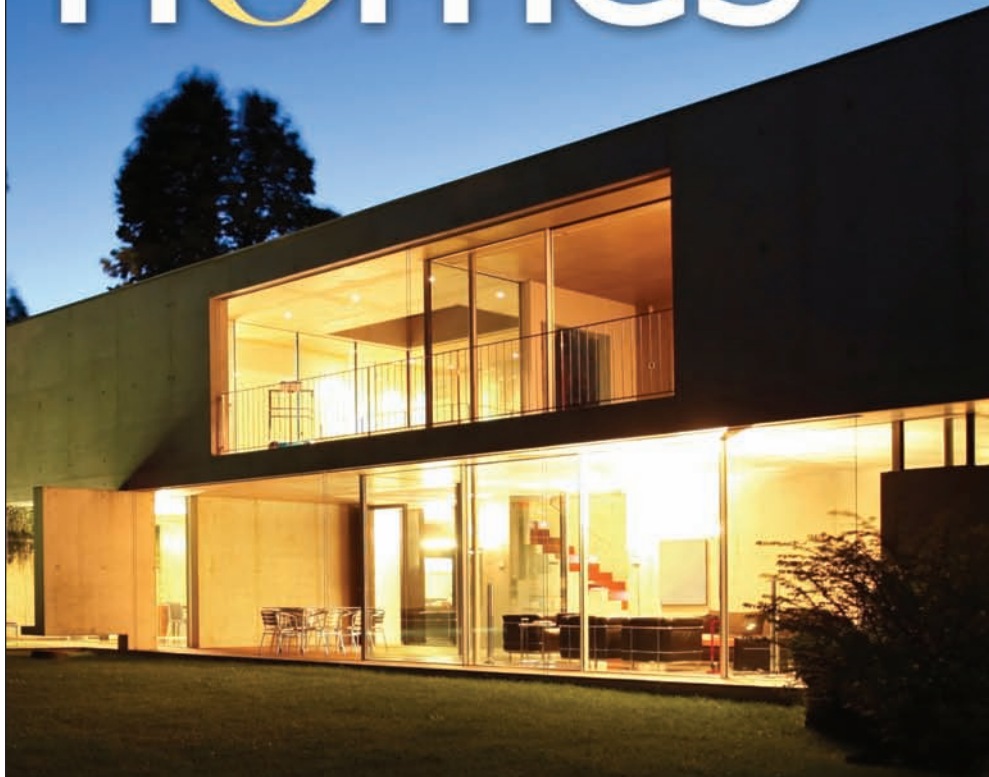
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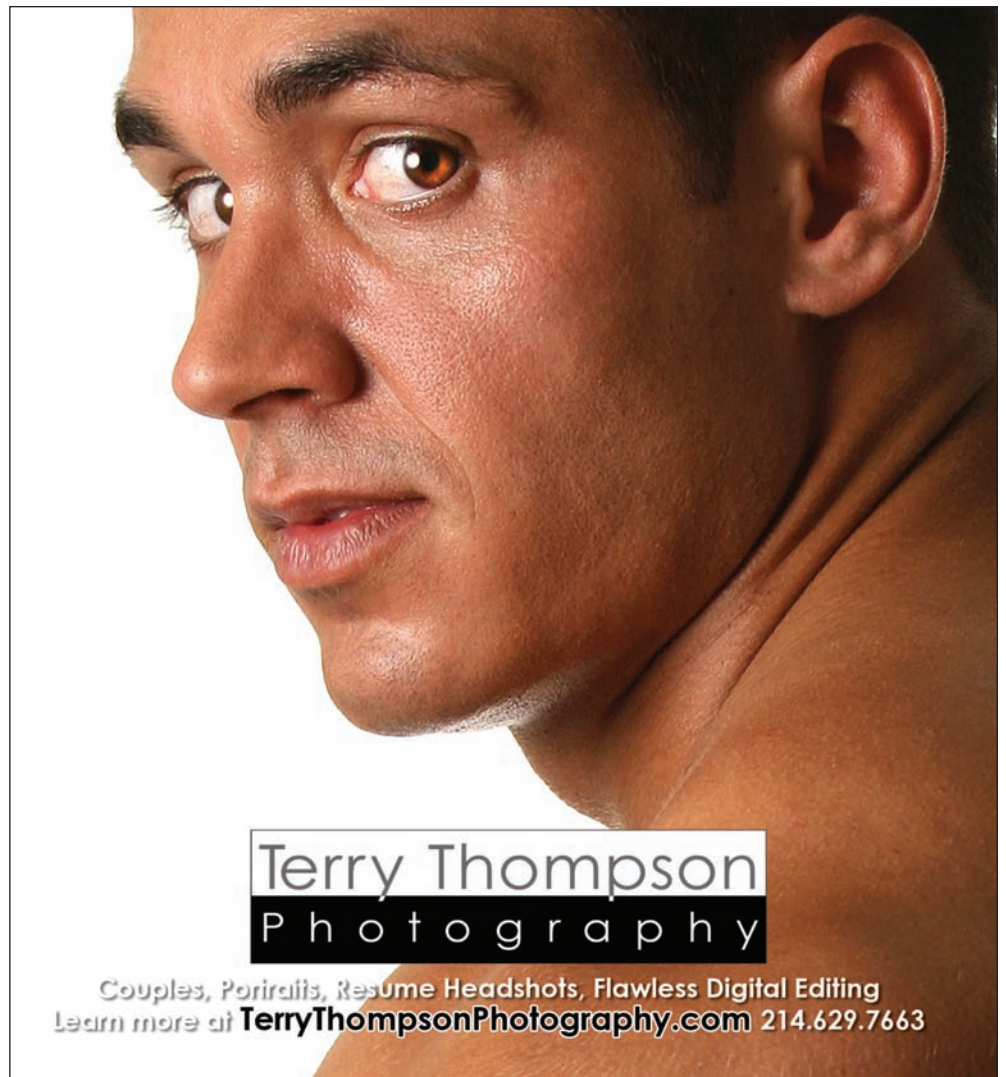
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Friday 02.15

4th annual Marlon Riggs film fest begins

Fort Worth-born filmmaker Marlon Riggs was an influential documentarian, with films about being both black and gay, most notably *Black Is ... Black Ain't*. This hometown hero, who died in 1994 at age 37, gets lauded once again at the Fourth Annual Marlon Riggs Film Festival, which this year features four films, including a profile of lesbian poet Audre Lore, pictured. Each free screening will be accompanied with a talk-back session.

DEETS: South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh. Feb. 15–16 starting at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. Free.



Friday 02.15

Theatre 3 celebrates 'Love ... Now Change'

Gay playwright Joe DiPietro is well represented on North Texas stages this week. His Tony Award-winning musical *Memphis* is at Bass Hall through the weekend, and his off-Broadway hit — Dallas' longest-running theatrical production, *Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* — continues at Theatre 3's downstairs space, Theatre Too. It's a whimsical look at love and relationship, perfectly timed for Valentine's Day. (And it's been extended through March 3, so there's still time to catch it!)

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



LIFE+STYLE

best bets

Sunday 02.17

DJ Alyson Calagna spins at Purple Party launch event

The Purple Party isn't until April, but you can already get pumped for it — at Pump, the kick-off event hosted by the Purple Party Foundation. DJ Alyson Calagna, one of the headliners at last year's party, will spin at TMC: The Mining Company and get you in the mood for what's to come.

DEETS: TMC: The Mining Company, 3903 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m.–midnight. \$10. PurplePartyFoundation.org.



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ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

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. Through Feb. 24. ATTPAC.org.

The Chairs. Ionesco's absurdist classic, presented by Kitchen Dog Theater. *Reviewed this week.* 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. Final weekend. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

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

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. 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.

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. Final weekend. BassHall.com.

FINE ART

China Through the Lens of John Thomson 1868-1872. The vanished world of Imperial China is preserved on glass plate made over a four-year period in this new exhibition at the Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Feb. 16–May 5. Free. CrowCollection.org.

Optical Spaces: The Art of Victor Vasereley 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 Stillet'O's. 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. Through Feb. 28. ilumeGallerie.com.

FILM

Marlon Riggs Film Festival. South Dallas Cultural



ROGER THAT | The hunky TV tastemaker brings his design concepts to the Collin County Home and Garden Show in Allen this weekend.

Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh. Feb. 15–16 starting at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. Free.

FRIDAY 02.15

GARDENING

Collin County Home & Garden Show. Gay TV decorator Roger Hazard appears at the event. Allen Events Center, 200 E. Stacy Road, Allen. Feb. 15–17. \$9.50. AllenHomeandGardenShow.com.

CONCERTS

Broadway Love Songs. Tony Award nominee Gregg Edelman performs his cabaret act for two shows in one night at the Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson. 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. \$30–\$38. EisemannCenter.com.

COMMUNITY

FUSE for gay and bi guys up to 29. Daily drop-ins are from 2 - 8 p.m. weekdays at ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, #2367. 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.

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

AUTOMOTIVE

AutoRama. Annual O'Reilly Auto Parts showcase features the original Batmobile from the 1960s series, as well as versions from the recent films. Dallas Market Hall, 2200 N. Stemmons Freeway. Friday–Sunday. AutoRama.com.

SATURDAY 02.16

BURLESQUE

Pretty Things Peepshow. A "girly roadshow" from NYC featuring vintage Vandeville acts. Kessler Theater, 230 W. Davis St. \$15–23. 8 p.m. TheKessler.org.

browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit Tinyurl.com/dvevents.

submit

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit.

LOVE AND SHOWTUNES | Just in time for Valentine's weekend, multiple Tony Award nominee Gregg Edelman performs love songs from Broadway for two cabaret performances Friday at the Eisemann.



BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is Dallas Voice Life+Style Editor Arnold Wayne Jones, giving his Oscar predictions. 89.3 KNON-FM at 11 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

COMMUNITY

GayBingo. This month's theme is Broadway with Love. The Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m. \$25. 214-540-4495.

SUNDAY 02.17

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.

MUSIC

Pump, a kick-off of the Purple Party event coming in April, features DJ Alyson Calagna. TMC: The Mining Company, 3903 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m.–midnight. \$10. PurplePartyFoundation.org.

MONDAY 02.18

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*.

TUESDAY 02.19

COMMUNITY

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. Meets every third Tuesday. Ojeda's Restaurant, 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. 214-506-3367. Omar@stonewalldemocrats.org.

Log Cabin Republicans Dallas meets the third Tuesday of each month, Texas Land & Cattle Co., 3130 Lemmon Ave. 6:30 p.m. Dallas@logcabin.org.

WEDNESDAY 02.20

JOB FAIR

Diversity Employment Day Career Fair. Hundreds of openings with top Dallas companies interested in diverse applicants. Holiday Inn Conference Center-Dallas/Galleria, 6055 LBJ Freeway. 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

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 02.21

CONCERTS

Hunter Sullivan. The popular artist performs as part of the new Cabaret Series at the Sammons Center, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. 8 p.m. SammonsArtCenter.org.

THEATER

Titanic The Musical. J Players present this Tony Award-winner for five performances only; directed and choreographed by Linda Leonard. Jewish Community Center of Dallas, 7900 Northaven Road. Feb. 21–March 2. JCCDallas.org.

Fiction. A happily married couple complicate things when they read each others' diaries. Amphibian Stage Productions, 120 S. Main St., Fort Worth. Feb. 21–March 17. \$15–\$30. AmphibianProductions.org.

this week's solution

T	A	P	E	C	A	R	A	T	N	E	E	D		
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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

John Travolta turns 59 on Monday. A huge star after his early film *Grease*, he returned to movie musicals playing a cross-dressing mother in 2007's *Hairspray*, pictured. For much of his career, he has been dogged by rumors of being secretly gay.



AQUARIUS: Jan 21–Feb 20

There's little relief in knowing that current troubles won't require anything new from you. Whatever time it takes up won't be enough to rob you of time for yourself, during which you need to cook up what's next and set yourself free.

PISCES: Febr 21–Mar 20

A situation has gone beyond both experience and comprehension. I think they call this "The Big Stuff." It is what it is; but underneath, whatever's going on is blessing you with a chance to come to terms with what you could never see on your own.

ARIES: Mar 21–Apr 20

It would be great if you could back off and let life show you how it needs to go. Those of you who are less forceful in your methods will have an easier time tuning in to the winds of change and making the most of things that could turn your life around.

TAURUS: Apr 21–May 20

Whoever's telling you whatever you want to hear hasn't offered anything concrete to show you how much they care. Without it, you get the sense that you're being used. Take a good look at what you're getting out of this because it looks like you're fed up and are just beginning to realize that it's time to let go.

GEMINI: May 21–Jun 20

Your tendency to gloss things over isn't working for you. If you're smart, you'll relax when it comes to making too many commitments and wait to see how people react when they don't get an immediate 'yes' from you. Too much is on the line for you to risk it. Don't misplace your trust.

CANCER: Jun 21–Jul 20

Before you can get on with the show, the truth has to come out. The last thing you want to do is hurt people, so find a way to say or do whatever you've got to without blowing too many minds. You can't go on in this condition.

LEO: Jul 21–Aug 20

Life is heating up in ways that are making it easy to get lost in superficial issues. None of those issues will be resolved if you get too wrapped up in the drama to remember to stay centered and grounded enough to remain objective to it all.

VIRGO: Aug 21–Sep 20

The only thing that matters right now is where you decide to place your trust and the extent to which you understand we are living in a time when love has to be the guiding principle in everything we do. Seen from that POV, your choices are clear.

LIBRA: Sep 21–Oct 20

You stopped asking questions a while back and are living with the consequences of whatever you thought you knew the answer to. The good news is you're about to come to terms with the truth and reclaim the things that matter most to you.

SCORPIO: Oct 21–Nov 20

Ask yourself what you want out of your current status. Others will respond, or not, to the extent that they are able. Until that happens, you need time and space to sort things out, reclaim your power and connect with your strength.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21–Dec 20

Depending on your rate of recuperation, it could take a month to remember what you're here for. Something new is definitely waiting. It seems to be wrapped in an opportunity that you can only connect with in another set of coordinates.

CAPRICORN: Dec 21–Jan 20

It looks like you're about to crack the code that will allow you to take the best of both worlds and make something new and beautiful with what's in place. How that works is up to you.

JANE'S WORLD



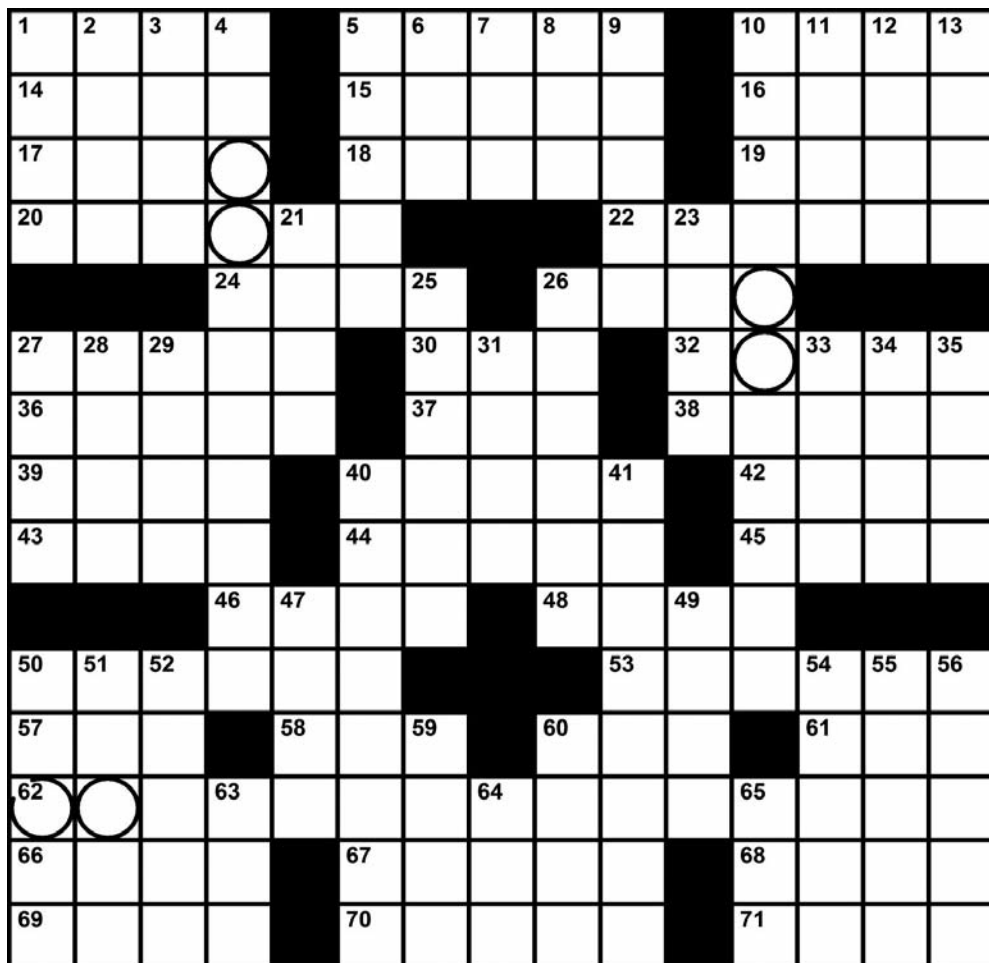
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bitter girl



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In All the Right Circles

Solution on page 37

Across

- 1 Strip in the locker room
- 5 Weight unit for your stones
- 10 Cry out for
- 14 Oodles
- 15 Emanation from Feniger's kitchen
- 16 ___ Betty
- 17 Women's suffrage leader Carrie
- 18 Toxic stuff
- 19 Part of a plane
- 20 At a rock-bottom price
- 22 Groups of manhunters
- 24 Lass in a Hardy tale
- 26 Baby's dusting
- 27 March cockily
- 30 Neighbor of Miss.
- 32 Day of many Hudson flicks
- 36 Graceful steeds
- 37 Eccentricity
- 38 "Dinah ___ Weekend"
- 39 Smith of *Dawson's Creek*
- 40 Ecclesiastical gathering
- 42 Shakespeare's stream
- 43 Twin to Jacob
- 44 Thick liqueur
- 45 ___ *It Like Beckham*
- 46 Retreat for D.H. Lawrence

Down

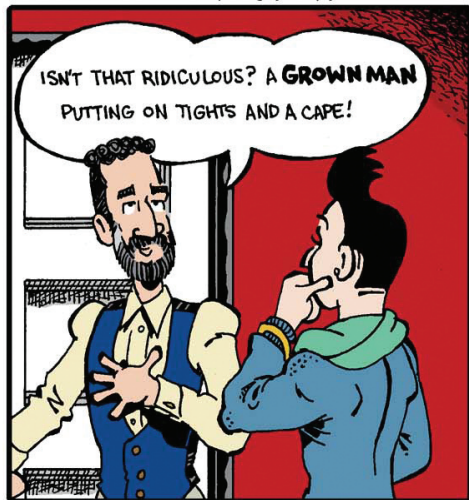
- 48 Member of the opposition
 - 50 ___ City in America (26-Down, per *The Advocate*)
 - 53 Uranus and others
 - 57 Do an impression of
 - 58 An end to sex?
 - 60 Use of a homophone, perhaps
 - 61 Lucy of *Charlie's Angels*
 - 62 Broadway musical about unhappy guys?
 - 66 NCAA home of the Bruins
 - 67 Tickle pink
 - 68 Lorca's mouth
 - 69 Student woe
 - 70 Sondheim's staff members
 - 71 British carbine
- Down**
- 1 Meaty Mexican dish
 - 2 Ball of film and TV
 - 3 Poker prizes
 - 4 Caesar's question about a Russian singing duo?
 - 5 Spelunkers' openings
 - 6 "Diamonds ___ a Girl's Best Friend"
 - 7 Dancer Reagan
 - 8 First in a Latin threesome
 - 9 Home of the Buccaneers
 - 10 Comment about women living together in *Sister Act*?
 - 11 Big ones in porn films, sometimes
 - 12 Last word in a threat
 - 13 Changes colors
 - 21 Do-overs for Amelie Mauresmo
 - 23 Pioneer automaker
 - 25 Well-endowed old goats?
 - 26 Put the letters in circles here
 - 27 Drink from the land of the samurai
 - 28 Very, to Verlaine
 - 29 Cicero's singular
 - 31 Dotterman's *Antonia's* ___
 - 33 Travel around
 - 34 Something to pump
 - 35 Put on cloud nine
 - 40 Cumming and others
 - 41 Old people may take them out for a blow job
 - 47 Early AIDS play
 - 49 Rocker Turner
 - 50 Full range
 - 51 Lickety-split
 - 52 "Lesbians ignite!" and more
 - 54 Pass out
 - 55 Dorothy, to Em
 - 56 Her name is Anthony
 - 59 Dog in *The Mask*
 - 60 Guitarist Townshend
 - 63 Stop fasting
 - 64 Posed for Herb Ritts
 - 65 Tiny balls



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This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE



Anton Shaw and her wife at Alexandre's.



Chris and Davis at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Guys' night out at Station 4.

Miss Gay Dallas America 2013 takes place at the Round-Up Saloon on Feb. 20. The evening, dubbed **A Night in Paris**, features Miss Gay Dallas America 2012 Chanel Champagne and Miss Gay Texas America 2012 Kara Dion. Onyx is emcee for this direct preliminary to Miss Gay Texas America 2013. ... Jason Huff performs at Alexandre's on Feb. 15. Anton Shaw is the Wednesday entertainment. Kristen Majors sings on Feb. 21. ... Boi Thursdays begins Feb. 21 featuring sexy bartenders, sexy guys and the best in vocal house music featuring both local and national DJ talent with a newly renovated interior. The weekly event takes place at Winston's Supper Club in the Centrum on Oak Lawn Avenue. ... Beauty and the Beat presents the return of Miss CJ the DJ spinning top 40, hip-hop, breaks and more on Feb. 16 at Sue Ellen's. The live entertainment for the weekend includes Chix on Feb. 15, Anton Shaw and the Reason on Feb. 17 and Song Swap on Feb. 18. ... Broadway with Love GayBingo takes place at S4 on Feb. 16 with guest emcee Mel Arizpe, 2010 Voice of Pride winner. ... After the Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association's softball clinic, Woody's Sports & Video Bar holds Extra Innings on Feb. 17. ... DFW Leather Corps presents a seminar at Dallas Eagle on Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. Then after playing Fort Sill, the Dallas Diablos meet at the Eagle for the Third Half. On Feb. 17, the United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents the 80s Memorex Show with host Thelma DaZel. The first Bear of the Month contest of 2013 begins at 10 p.m. on Feb. 21. January and February will be chosen. ... Krystal's And Mpressive Films Hillbilly Style Party takes place at Rainbow Lounge on Feb. 19. Hottest hillbilly boy or girl takes home \$150. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos.



K.C. and Kristy at 1851 Club.



Victor, Erik, Steven, John and Austin at TMC: The Mining Company.



Tony and Jesse at Havana.



Sarah, Lewis and Ashley at the Dallas Eagle.



Joel, M.J. and Kristen at The Grapevine Bar.



Diva and Shelby at the Rainbow Lounge.



Ladies at Station 4.



Stacy at Sue Ellen's.



Cowboy Billy at The Brick.



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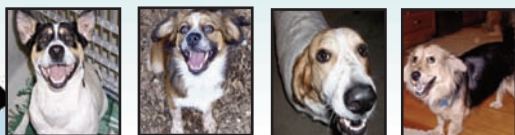
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