

Robert Moore retires after 29 years

Dallas Voice publisher sells company to 2 longtime employees
LGBT media pioneer who co-founded company in 1984 looks back on 1,500-plus issues

■ TEXAS NEWS, Page 10



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GRAY PRIDE

Resource Center Dallas launches program to address needs of LGBT seniors as community reaches 'precipice of a pandemic of aging'

■ COVER STORY, Page 6

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14

headlines

■ TEXAS NEWS

- 9 DART delays vote on partner benefits
- 10 Dallas Voice publisher says farewell

■ LIFE+STYLE

- 14 Monologist performs at Fair Park
- 15 A classic at DTC and 2 new gay plays
- 16 Hunky Jonathan Beyer in 'Turandot'
- 20 DIFF launches with gay-themed films

■ COVER ART

Design by Michael Stephens

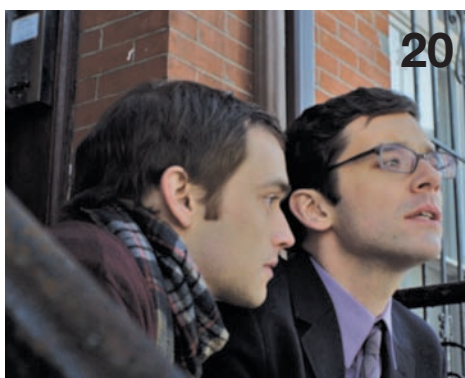


16

departments

- | | | | |
|----|------------|----|-------------|
| 6 | Texas News | 23 | Calendar |
| 8 | Briefs | 26 | Starvoice |
| 12 | Viewpoints | 28 | Scene |
| 14 | Life+Style | 30 | Classifieds |

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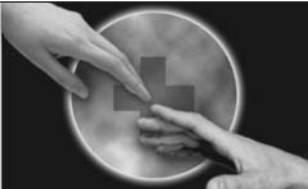
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LIGHTING THE WAY TO JUSTICE

The Davis Building in downtown Dallas is shown lit in the colors of the LGBT Pride rainbow this week to mark oral arguments at the U.S. Supreme Court in two marriage equality cases. For full coverage of the oral arguments, visit DallasVoice.com. (Chuck Marcelo)

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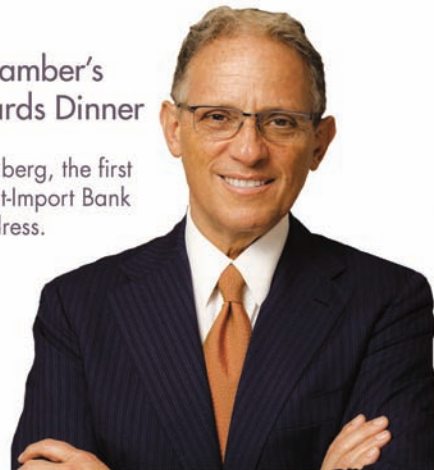


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Gray Pride

Resource Center Dallas launches program to address needs of LGBT seniors as community reaches 'precipice of a pandemic of aging'

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Jim LeCroi has a partner and stays active by volunteering at Resource Center Dallas twice a week.

For the last four years, LeCroi has participated in the center's volunteer-run program for seniors, the GLBT Aging Interest Network, or GAIN.

"I'm out and about," said LeCroi, 72. "But many [LGBT seniors] don't have resources and find themselves alone."

LeCroi said GAIN helps people get out. He'd like to see more social and educational programs but doesn't want to limit those to the elderly. He wants to help younger people plan ahead for their golden years.

"Some day there will be a cure for HIV," he said. "Will there ever be a cure for old age?"

To address a range of issues from isolation to housing, the center recently hired a part-time employee, Shelley Hamilton, to oversee the senior program, which has been renamed Gray Pride.

"We're at the precipice of a pandemic of aging," Hamilton said.

An ordained Metropolitan Community Church pastor for almost 40 years, Hamilton came to Dallas in the '90s as Cathedral of Hope's AIDS chaplain, moved to Wichita, Kan., for 10 years and returned to Dallas seven years ago as COH's congregational care chaplain.

For the next few months, Hamilton plans to gather data while beginning to offer monthly programming. And she wants to start a dialogue with other agencies rather than reinventing what others in the community already do well.

Last fall, RCD assessed GAIN and received survey answers from 700 respondents. Added to information gathered from executive directors of LGBT community centers across the country, senior programs became part of the center's new strategic plan.

CEO Cece Cox said the next step in developing



NEW AGE OF LGBT SERVICES | Jim LeCroi, 72, stays active by volunteering at the front desk of Resource Center Dallas two days a week. However, he says many other LGBT seniors are isolated, one of the reasons why the center's Gray Pride program is needed. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

Gray Pride was hiring its first staff member to work specifically on senior issues. She put isolation at the top of the list.

"Care tends to come from our circle of friends rather than from a bio family," Cox said of LGBT seniors.

She cited a number of reasons. Gays and lesbians are less likely to have children to care for them. Some are estranged from their biological families. With fewer ties, many have moved away.

"We want to provide more frequent opportunities to get together," Cox said.

That would deal with isolation and help older people build their support networks.

Counseling would be another component including group peer support.

"Grief is an issue," she said.

After living through the worst of the AIDS crisis, those approaching old age and already there should have quite a bit of experience with loss. But Cox wonders how many actually learned to grieve and how many simply learned to cope. Many people went from one funeral to another and then returned home to care for someone else

living with AIDS.

But that developed a generation of good caregivers. Gray Pride hopes to tap into that experience and connect people.

"Nutrition is an issue in the U.S., but for seniors it gets more complicated," Cox said.

She said mobility is a problem, both in getting out to buy food and in getting around the house to prepare it.

"Housing is a gigantic issue that comes up," she said.

But that's on the long-range to-do list. Cox said the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Center is about to do some senior housing and the Chicago center has created some partnerships.

Serena Worthington, director of community advocacy and capacity building for the national LGBT seniors group SAGE, said every city is different and has different needs. But each city must make a specific commitment to its LGBT elders, she added, praising RCD's effort.

The SAGE Center in New York City offers meditation, dinner, a support group for men living with HIV, films, an acting class, a creative writ-

ing workshop, a drawing class and telephone support for homebound elders. And that's just on Mondays.

"I urge folks to do modest programming but make it sustainable and regular," Worthington said. "Coffee and conversation. Pairing a monthly meal with a program."

Worthington cited housing as a huge problem. With as many as 3 million LGBT seniors around the country, five cities are building properties specifically for this group. The largest are in Philadelphia and Chicago, with just 90 units. Los Angeles is adding 40 units to its existing property.

"We could build now and never keep up," she said.

But she said the days of gays and lesbians going back into the closet when they enter nursing homes are numbered.

"This generation is less tolerant of being discriminated against," she said.

The government is paying attention and giving guidance to nursing facilities. And the Human Rights Campaign is working on a nursing home index similar to its Corporate Equality Index.



RETIREMENT COMMUNITY | Although housing is often cited as the biggest problem for LGBT seniors, everyone's needs are different. Gay Dallas couple Jack Evans, 83, and George Harris, 79, would like to remain in their home but seek access to services and ways to remain engaged.

Worthington thinks nursing homes will improve acceptance and quality of care for LGBT residents fearing a bad rating could scare away business.

Hamilton wants to come up with creative solutions for LGBT elderly housing. She doesn't believe there's one solution.

Building an LGBT senior facility from the ground up, she said, would take millions of dollars at a time when RCD is already in the middle of capital campaign for its new home.

Besides, not all seniors have the same housing needs.

For example, Jack Evans, 83, and George Harris, 79, said most of their friends are 20 years younger and Evans continues to work. The couple sold real estate for decades but lost most of their listings when the market began to crash in 2005. They've also participated in GAIN programs.

Evans and Harris want to remain in their home as long as possible with access to services and ways to remain engaged.

Hamilton likes the approach used by AIDS Services of Dallas, which has bought existing apartment buildings and renovated them for assisted living.

On her wish list is someone donating a large home for a group of seniors to live communally. And for nursing care, the best fix for the short term is finding an existing facility with staff sensitive to the needs to LGBT elders.

The additional specialties of caring for people living long-term with HIV and medical and social needs of elderly transgenders make that a challenging goal.

Hamilton called establishment of the Gray Pride program an example of visionary thinking.

"I think it's a courageous step on the part of our executive director," she said. ■



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localbriefs

Black Tie announces beneficiaries for 32nd annual LGBT fundraiser

The Black Tie Dinner Board of Directors has selected 17 North Texas beneficiaries that will receive proceeds along with the Human Rights Campaign from the 32nd annual November fundraiser.

"After a thorough review of the programming and services provided, and the short- and long-term goals that these organizations have formulated, we are confident that we have selected 17 local beneficiaries that are tuned in to the needs of the North Texas GLBT community," LTD Co-Chair Mitzi Lemons said. "In addition, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation works on a national level to help secure basic human rights."

The beneficiaries are: AIDS Arms, Inc., AIDS Interfaith Network, AIDS Outreach Center, AIDS Services of Dallas, Celebration Community Church, Congregation Beth El Binah, East Texas CARES Resource Center, Equality Texas Foundation, Health Services of North Texas, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Legacy Counseling Center, Legal Hospice of Texas, Northaven United Methodist Church, Resource Center of Dallas, The Women's Chorus of Dallas, Turtle Creek Choral and White Rock Friends.

BTD is Nov. 2 at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel. The

party announcing this year's theme is April 4 at 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the T&P Station, 221 W. Lancaster Ave, Fort Worth. For more info, visit BlackTie.org.

Razzle Dazzle to return to its roots with Main Event downtown

Big D's June LGBT Pride Month celebration, Razzle Dazzle Dallas, will include an event downtown for the first time in more than 20 years.

The 2013 edition of Razzle Dazzle Dallas—The Main Event will be in Main Street Garden on June 8, organizers announced this week.

After a decade hiatus, Razzle Dazzle Dallas returned as a multi-day June Pride event in 2011. The reborn Razzle Dazzle Dallas was held on Cedar Springs Road as it had been at the end of the 20-year run of the original event. This year's Main Event at Main Street Garden will include entertainment, food and alcohol vendors, as well as retail, nonprofit and art exhibitors and sellers. A \$5 admission will be charged.

Razzle Dazzle began in the late 1970s in abandoned downtown warehouses and at the old auto pound on Inwood Road. The event later moved to the Automobile Building at Fair Park and Market Center Hall. For more, visit RazzleDazzleDallas.org.

Deaths

Michael A. "Grandma" Sykes, 63, passed away unexpectedly in his Oak Cliff home on Tuesday, March 26.



Michael was born on Dec. 27, 1949, in Canyon, Texas. He was an avid reader and antique and art collector who loved good food, music, movies, jewelry, needlepoint and his beloved dogs.

Michael was a founding member of the Positive Voices Choir at the Cathedral of Hope. He was an active member of the church who sang in the choir and faithfully attended worship services. Michael was very generous with his time and resources, supporting the annuity fund, the building of the Interfaith Peace Chapel and many church ministries. He enjoyed a long career at Bank of America as a facilities and project manager. Michael was a warm and joyful individual who always had kind words and encouragement.

Michael is survived by his brother, Jim Sykes; his sister, Pat Allen; and several nieces, nephews and numerous friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, H.A. and Dorothy Sykes, of Canyon, Texas.

Sykes' Celebration of Life service will be held on

Easter Sunday, March 31, at 6 p.m. at the Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Family and friends will gather for fellowship after the service. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to a HIV/AIDS charity of your choice or to the Interfaith Peace Chapel at the Cathedral of Hope.

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of **Salvador Amador** on March 19, 2013.



Sal was born in Chicago on June 7, 1950, to Severa Luna and Salamon Amador. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Robert, Victor and Carlos; stepfather, Carl; and father, Salamon.

Sal is survived by his mother, Severa L. Aleman; brother, Joe Amador; Mary E. Spence and Sylvia Aleman Rodriguez; brother-in-law, Paul Rodriguez, godfather to Marcello Aleman; and many nephews and nieces.

He cherished his life partners, friends and pets. He enjoyed pre-Columbian history and loved Mexico City and Oak Cliff, especially Jefferson Boulevard in the '60s. He graduated from W.H. Adamson High School in 1969. In lieu of flowers, make a donation to StrayDog.org or a charity of your choice.

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LGBT advocates outraged by DART's delay on DP benefits

Some say Mayor Mike Rawlings should be more involved after transit agency's board tables issue until after high court rules on marriage

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

LGBT advocates are regrouping this week after DART's Board of Directors suspended action on domestic partner benefits until after the U.S. Supreme Court rules in two marriage equality cases.

The board voted 10-1 to hold off on a decision on offering the benefits to opposite- and same-sex partners of employees during a committee-of-the-whole meeting Tuesday, March 26. A similar motion was voted down during a Feb. 26 meeting.

Rafael McDonnell, communications and advocacy manager at Resource Center Dallas, said the lack of leadership at DART has contributed to continued delays in board action, as well as the agency's "risk-avoidance" culture.

He said Mayor Mike Rawlings needs to take a larger role in working with board members to pass the benefits.

"There's not a whole lot of internal involvement at DART, so I think it'd be a good thing for the mayor to be a little bit more involved," McDonnell said.

Paula Blackmon, chief of staff for Rawlings, told Dallas Voice that the mayor has called appointees since discussion began on the issue in October.

"I am in full support of domestic partners benefits and have expressed this point of view to DART members," Rawlings told Dallas Voice in an email two days after the vote. "I urge the agency to deal with this issue as soon as they can. It is about workforce equality."

Eight of the 15 DART board members are appointed by the city of Dallas. Four of the eight Dallas appointees voted in favor of the delay.

Blackmon said Tuesday's vote seemed to have a lot to do with timing as the high court heard oral arguments in California's Proposition 8 case Tuesday.

"We're never going to force an appointee on a position," Blackmon said. "We will approach them on a position and they'll make up their minds."

Blackmon said she'll work with the Resource Center to come up with a new plan of action when the board takes up the issue again in July.

"I plan to reach out to the Resource Center and regroup and figure out where missed opportunities were and where we could've capitalized and see if we can get this moving now," she said.

In addition to Rawlings' phone calls, Council-



Mike Rawlings

woman Delia Jasso wrote a letter to DART board Chairman John Danish calling for the agency to add DP benefits.

McDonnell said part of the new strategy will be getting more activists to call and email board members to instill a sense of urgency for the issue, as well as have speakers address the issue at every public comment section at board meetings and find LGBT employees to share their stories of how not having the benefits has impacted them.

During the hour-long discussion about the benefits plan before the vote, some board members requested more accurate estimates about the number of employees who would use the benefits and argued against another delay.

Others claimed that the benefits would be illegal in Texas and could be challenged by the U.S. Supreme Court or the Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's opinion on domestic partner benefits expected in May.

Ken Upton, senior staff attorney for Lambda Legal's Dallas office, said the board's comments were incorrect and misinformed.

He said domestic partner benefits aren't illegal in Texas because of how municipalities and companies have worded their insurance policies to not violate the state's marriage amendment. And while he expects a negative opinion from the attorney general, he said that is an opinion, not a ruling.

As for the Supreme Court, he said that the issue of domestic partner benefits isn't being addressed. He said the federal Defense of Marriage Act case would only affect the federal government's recognition of same-sex marriage. Upton said the Prop 8 ruling would only affect Texas if the court rules that all state marriage amendments are unconstitutional.

"It's not justified on those grounds for sure," Upton said about the delay. "That's just silly."

Patti Fink, president of Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, told the board during the public comments section after the vote that she was "taken aback by the level of ignorance on this board on this issue."

"I encourage you to educate yourself and take advantage of the resources we have in our community to bring yourself up to speed because this is shocking that you're going to wait for a Supreme Court of the United States decision, which has nothing to do and no impact on this decision," Fink said.

"I'm concerned and I'm angry that this board is not acting. And we'll be back to talk to you about this again and again and again." ■

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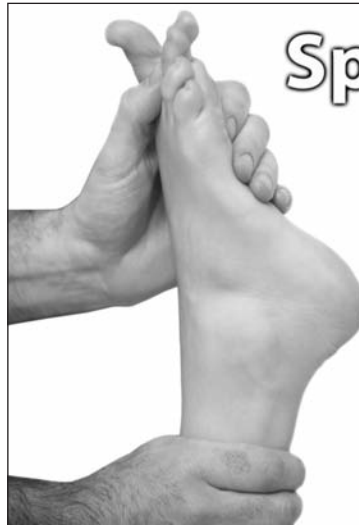
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DV publisher retires after 29 years

Robert Moore, 'pioneer of local LGBT media' who co-founded weekly newspaper in 1984, sells company to 2 longtime employees

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Dallas Voice co-founder and longtime publisher Robert Moore's tireless work and commitment to the LGBT community over the decades have made him an institution in himself.

Moore, 57, announced his retirement this week after almost 29 years at the paper and more than 1,500 issues, making him one of the longest-serving publishers at an LGBT publication.

He plans to spend time traveling and exploring other cultures, beginning with a biking trip in the south of Spain in May.

"I want to get out of the bubble. I want to get off the beaten track," he said. "I just have this hunger, this passion, for seeing places and going places I have never been before."

Moore also announced this week that he is selling Voice Publishing Company Inc. — the parent company to Dallas Voice, the Dallas Voice Yellow Pages and online product developer Digital Seltzer — to longtime employees Leo Cusimano and Terry Thompson.

After working at Dallas Gay News for two years, Moore started Dallas Voice with Don Ritz and William Marberry in 1984. The three each put in \$250 and began to put the paper together week-by-week in a small Oak Lawn office, not knowing what to expect.

For the first year, Ritz and Moore planned the paper and Marberry in Houston would put it together using a printer in Galveston. The paper would ride the Greyhound bus on Friday mornings, and the two back in Dallas would distribute it.

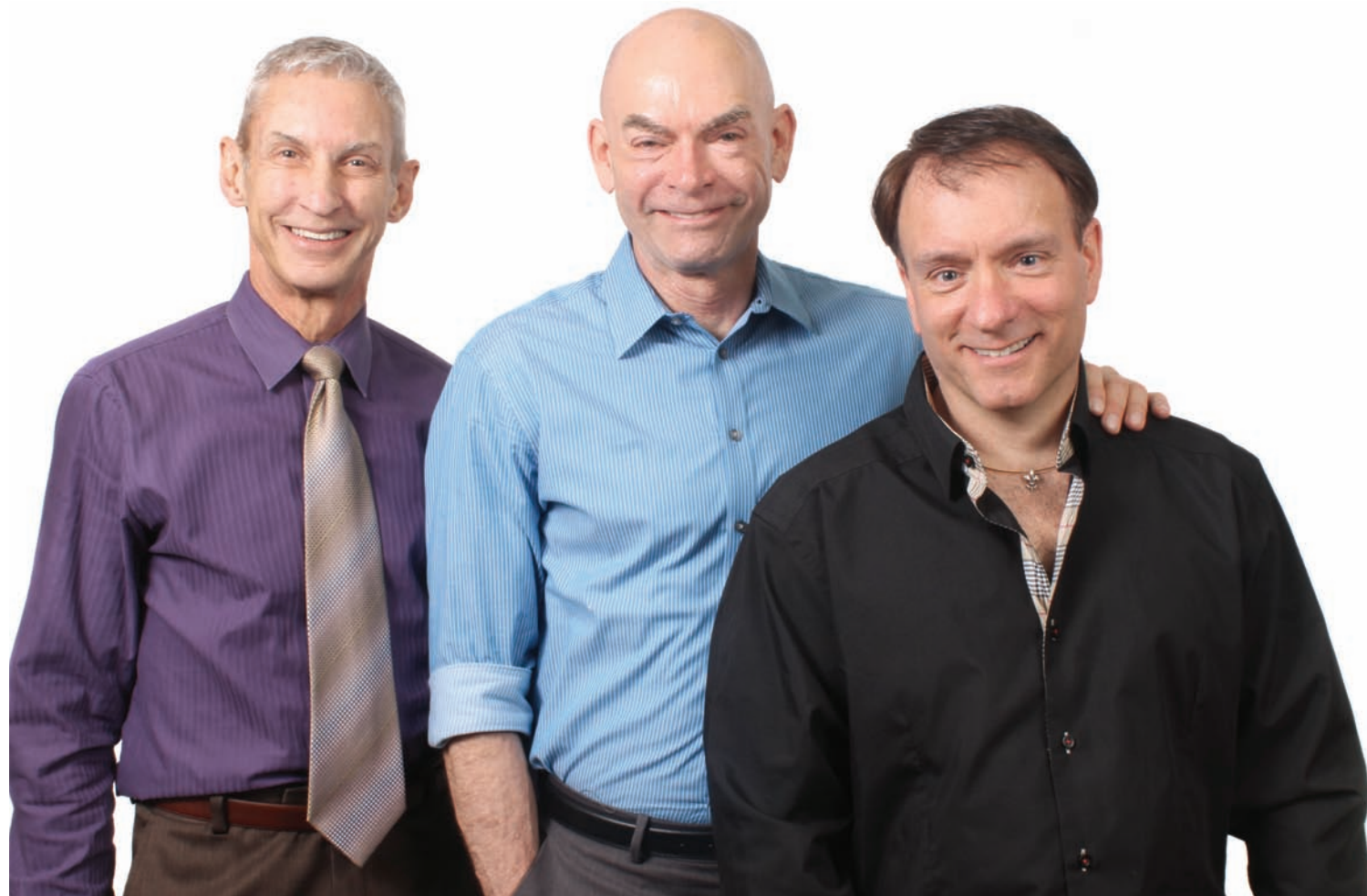
"It was a bare-boned, shoestring operation," Moore recalls.

Moore and Ritz later bought out Marberry and moved the operations to Dallas. The two remained business partners until Ritz left the business in 1998 after battling HIV for a number of years. When Ritz died in 2001, Moore became the sole owner.

Ritz's departure to spend his time in good health doing what he dreamed of doing has been an inspiration to Moore, who said he's now ready to move on.

"He had three years of being free and being able to do what he wanted to do. That's not very long. I think about that," Moore said. "I am still young enough and fit enough that I have a lot of time left, I hope, as long as a DART bus doesn't get me, so I'm afforded that opportunity."

Moore has seen the progression of LGBT issues



HANDING OVER THE REINS | Robert Moore, center, is selling Voice Publishing Company Inc. — the parent company to Dallas Voice, the Dallas Voice Yellow Pages and online product developer Digital Seltzer — to longtime employees Terry Thompson, left, and Leo Cusimano. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

from the AIDS crisis in the 1980s and the rise of activism during that time to the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" and anti-sodomy laws with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling them unconstitutional in *Lawrence v. Texas*.

"I have been there at the absolute worst of the AIDS crisis when anytime you read the word celebration it was a sad word because you knew that the next part of that was a celebration of life for someone who had left us," Moore said.

Reflecting on his time at Dallas Voice, Moore said he was also greatly affected by the story of State District Judge Jack Hampton, who sentenced a murderer to a lighter sentence in 1988 because his victims were gay, and the election of the first openly gay Dallas City Councilman Craig McDaniel in 1993.

Over the decades, Moore's seen the paper through a lot of changes, from paper size and a growing staff to several redesigns and technological upgrades, all while maintaining journalistic integrity in its coverage.

"From the very beginning, we decided to trust our readers and simply tell them the story, give them the facts, and allow them to form their own

opinions," Moore said. "It was very important to me and to Don that the Voice did not become our personal soapbox."

Stories of Moore's time at Dallas Voice mention his even temper, witty personality and wise business judgment of a young man who grew into his own at a company he started with a little bit of money and lot of community support.

Philadelphia Gay News Publisher Mark Segal called Moore "one of the great LGBT publishers" and "a professional from the start and a pioneer of local LGBT media."

Tracy Baim, publisher of *Windy City Times*, said Moore has "always been a focused, professional voice of reason in the landscape of gay media."

"Those involved in this niche have tended to be large personalities that often clashed with one another," Baim said. "But Robert always seems to be the calm in the middle of the storm. His voice will be missed in our gay media gatherings."

Bob Witeck, president of the Washington, D.C.-based LGBT marketing company Witeck Communications Inc., called Moore "one of those rare, and too often unsung heroes in our community."

"His tenure at the Dallas Voice has made him the glue in that community, and he has spent the last three decades (and more) serving our unquenched appetite for news and knowledge," Witeck said. "It is good to know he's just changing directions, and earning some rewards for the sizeable contributions he's made."

Todd Evans, president and CEO of Rivendell Media, said he's not surprised Moore is retiring because LGBT media is often more challenging than mainstream media because of the issues of equality that are confronted on a daily basis.

"This business is a labor of love because there are so many things that can get you down," he said, adding that Moore has overcome those challenges to make the publication a staple in LGBT media. "Robert has made Dallas Voice essential to Dallas and to Texas."

Cece Cox, CEO at Resource Center Dallas, said she remembers Dallas Voice linking her to the LGBT community when she first moved to Dallas in 1984.

She said Moore's dedication to LGBT news has provided "a really valuable service to the community."

"It provided a way to put my life in a context of the larger world. And it still does," Cox said. "Robert's part of that legacy and he's continued that legacy."

Don Maison, president and CEO at AIDS Services of Dallas, said Dallas Voice has come a long way in the years since it started because of the strong leadership.

"They started with nothing. Virtually nothing," Maison said. "And now he's got a well-run, well-respected company."

As for turning the company over to Cusimano and Thompson, Moore said the two have often run things during his extensive travels over the last five years and he knows they're ready.

"I think for the Voice as an institution it was time for me to go and turn it over to two other people who have a real enthusiasm for this place and are dedicated to this place and the community that we serve," he said.

Cusimano has worked at Dallas Voice for 21 years. Currently advertising director, he will become publisher. Thompson, promotions manager, has been with the company for 10 years and will be president.

Cusimano said Moore will be greatly missed but his time at Dallas Voice isn't over, as he'll become a consultant to the company.

"It's this bittersweet kind of thing where I want to see him follow his dream, but I'll miss him dearly," Cusimano said. "It's up to us to set the direction of the company, but it'll be helpful to have Robert in the wing to ensure we have that additional support."

Thompson said he believes that the local LGBT community will always have a need for LGBT media. He expects the company to continue to thrive and grow with the support and commitment of the staff.

"There will always be a market for niche media. We'll continue to focus on what's important to our readers, which is the LGBT market, and report on local news," he said.

Candy Marcum, Stonewall Behavioral Health founder, wrote an advice column for the paper for several years in the '80s and again in 2000. She said that Moore has grown up with the business and his choice of successors is an evolution for the company.


"The paper is changing ownership, but a lot of the history and institutional knowledge is staying," Marcum said. "I feel some sadness because he's the last of the original guys, but I feel hopeful of the future leadership because they are a hybrid of historical perspective and the future."

While Moore is ready to embark on new adventures when his retirement begins April 1, he remains immensely grateful to the LGBT community for their enduring support over the years.

"The city and the community here have been really good to me and I'm very grateful for my life here and the support that we've had through the years. And I'm extremely proud of the LGBT community here," Moore said.

"There are a lot of small stories about groups and institutions here that when taken together paint a picture of a community that's come a long way and has matured and is still growing and active."

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Jesse Arnold Office Manager | 110

news&opinion

John Wright Senior Editor | 113
Anna Waugh News Editor | 124
Arnold Wayne Jones Life+Style Editor | 129
David Taffet Staff Writer | 125

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Jim Villaflores Account Manager | 126
David Liddle Account Manager | 115
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viewpoints

DV wrong to out Medrano

Column calling for council candidate to be honest about his orientation violated Golden Rule that says everyone's journey is their own

After reading the column by Dallas Voice senior editor John Wright in this space last week, I feel perhaps a coming out guide refresher is in order.

For those of us who are out, especially when we've been out for a long time, we can sometimes too easily forget what it can be like for others. While I think it's fair to say that I've been out very publicly for many years, I try to remember that it can be an easy trap to be critical of how others live out their lives when I have no real idea what it might be like to walk in their shoes. In our rush to advance our own equality, it can be so easy to forget how difficult coming out can be for many of our LGBT brothers and sisters... and for our allies, too.

After all, my journey is not yours, and yours is not mine. We all depart, travel and arrive at different places at different times, and that's OK.

It's OK because as LGBT people and allies we must first and foremost treat each other with the same dignity and respect that we each deserve and that we each expect in our own journeys. It's the Golden Rule of coming out, and without it as

our resolute guide, we risk creating an ugly hypocrisy that stains us all and undermines our common struggle as a movement for equality.

We should not presume people to be anything other than how they present themselves. We do not ask someone if they are straight, transgender, bisexual, lesbian, pansexual or any of the other myriad of possibilities that make up humanity. It is up to you to define yourself. It's up to me to define myself. It is not up to anyone in the community or the Dallas Voice to tell someone what their identity is or how we should feel about it. It is up to the individual. You decide, you report. It is your story, not mine.

What I define as equality is just that: To stop letting others define our community for us, to define you or me and to dictate how we serve our community. Equality means the right to say yes or no, it is about opportunity and access. Equality means the right to make personal choices and decisions, including the right to decide to come out. Maybe your journey is going just fine without me butting in. And maybe me heaping unwanted unsolicited pressure on you to come out on MY terms is really no different at all than society heaping unwanted unsolicited pressure on you to stay in the closet. It is your story, not mine. And not theirs.

The list of issues that influence our journeys daily is long and sometimes legal: Physical safety issues (thus we have hate crime bills), employ-

ment issues (thus we need ENDA), religious issues, family issues, and a thousand other issues that may give a person pause in their willingness to discuss his/her own sexual orientation, gender identity, or other kinds of "otherness" with those around them. It is your story, not mine.

We fight the big battles to make it easier and safer for everyone to be honest about who they are, not to mandate that they do so. We worked to get "don't ask, don't tell" repealed so that people serving in our military didn't have to lie about who they are — so that the decision to come out is theirs and theirs alone. It is your story, not mine.

Our parents and allies have a coming out process too. They have to be ready to field a barrage of questions from those who don't know us. We ask them to be staunch defenders of a community they belong to by choice. The sea of red icons on Facebook should tell us we are not alone. Should we ask them their orientation? It is your story, not mine.

As a past president of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, we have never asked a candidate if she or he is LGBT. Councilwoman Hunt, are you a lesbian? Representative Anchia, are you gay? The thought of asking them what we seek not to be asked of us in job interviews is repulsive to me and to my fellow Stonewall Democrats. We ask candidates if they are supportive, an advocate, what their involvement in the community is and we judge whether or not they would be good stewards of that community. If a candidate chooses to run for office as an out, open and honest LGBT person and is the best candidate, we ring that bell loudly, but being LGBT has never been the sole criterion for a Stonewall endorsement, nor should it be.

Let us not assume anything until we are certain and let us not tell a story before it is ready to be told.

Erin Moore is a past president of the Stonewall Democrats of Dallas and former co-chair of National Coming Out Day in Dallas. She can be reached at ErinMoore@aol.com.



Erin Moore
Guest Contributor

Feedback

A word of caution on marriage

I'm a single gay man so one might think that I have no stake in the current discussion of marriage equality in our country. Of course, I beg to differ. I know and love same-gender couples who have proven with their history over the span of time that their relationships are as stable as heterosexual marriages.

On another level, when the discussion of marriage equality is broadened out to include equality in general, every person in this country, gay or straight, is gathered into the same big tent and that's when we must certainly all partake equally of the meal.

America really must stop following political and religious leaders down the rabbit hole when they claim that gays and lesbians and our marriages would tear away at the foundation of traditional marriage. Think this through logically rather than emotionally: Each marriage, gay or straight, succeeds or fails on its own merits and lies solely upon the shoulders of those united by it.

I do, however, worry that the young people I see at the rallies may have stars and hearts in their eyes. We must remain clear headed about the seriousness of marriage and keep in mind that there will be no special rainbow exit from it.

Steve Walters
Dallas

Texas can learn from 'Crazy Mary'

Thanks for the excellent, sensitive piece about "Crazy Mary" (March 22). The picture in my mind is Mary, lying on her right side on the DART bench in front of what is now Hunkey's on Cedar Springs, facing JR's, her body curled with the worn-out soles of her tennis shoes bent toward me. I so wished for a camera to capture the 2-inch circle of her dusty dark skin centered and framed by large concentric circles of rubber sole — white and blue.

That picture has been in my mind for years. I wish I had an actual photo that could be blown up into a giant, obnoxiously brilliant electronic billboard to illuminate the Capitol in Austin and strategic spots throughout Texas. Our smug "no-new-taxes" voters and their pandering politicians would rather strut and brag. They feel no shame at Texas' miserable standing in its care for the mentally ill — or their daily celebration of ignorance toward sex education, women's health, education and other issues that have gone begging for years.

Yes, "Crazy Mary" is an icon, revealing the way with the soles of her feet for the people of Texas to examine their souls. Mary's bare feet show the evil and greater expense when sick people are treated inadequately. The "no new taxes" tribe in the Legislature and governor's office must recognize the higher, long-term cost of doing little or nothing to solve serious problems. We all need to picture Mary's feet to gain perspective and appreciate a vital concern for the poor and unfortunate.

Woody Wood
Dallas

Speak Out poll

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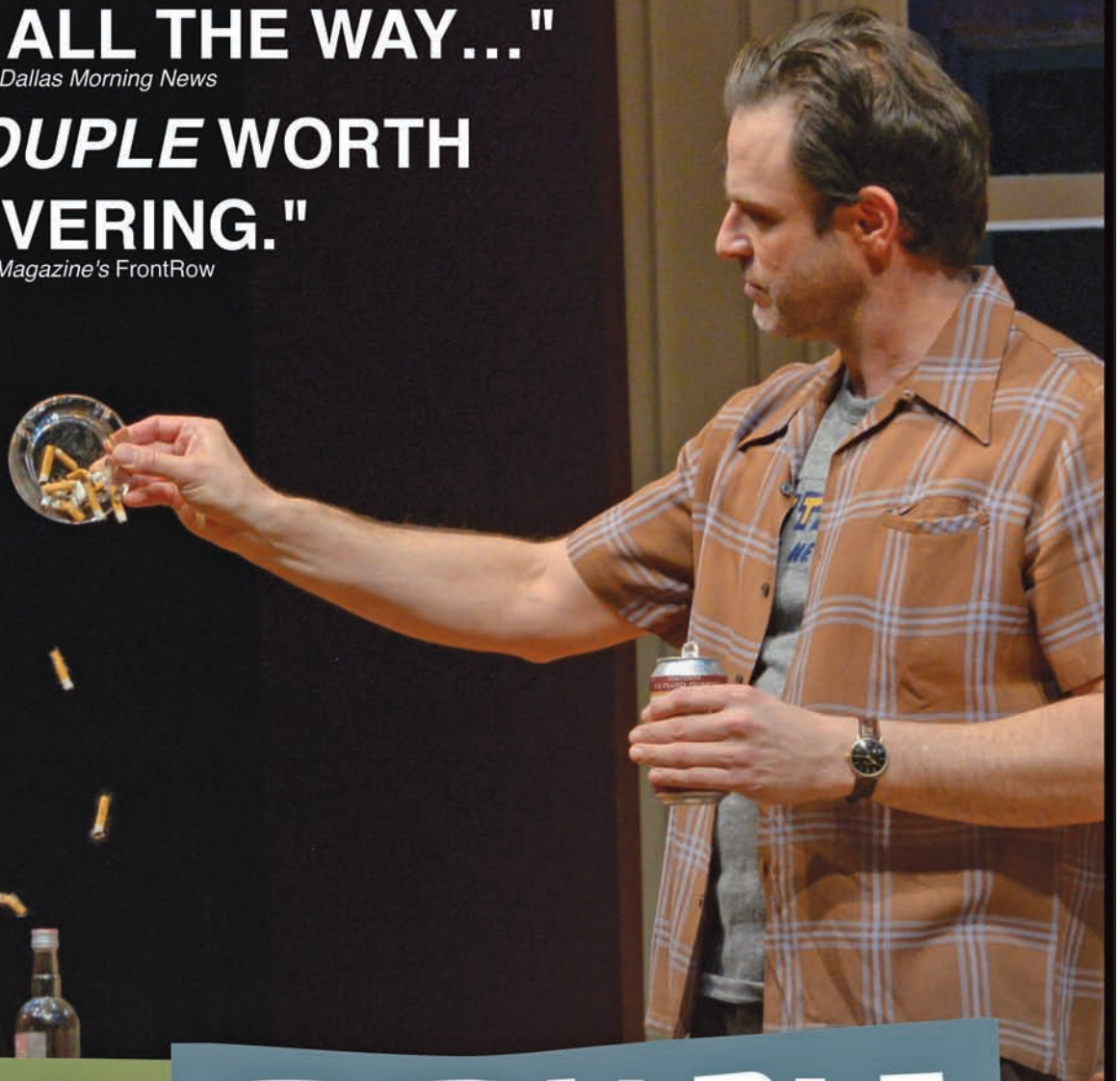
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Call John Michael a standup comic, performance artist or monologist — whatever makes you comfortable ('cuz it'll still make him *uncomfortable*)

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

When John Michael Colgin's parents kicked him out of the house, his life changed forever.

You might think you've heard the story before: Gay youth is rejected by his family after coming out. You haven't.

"I wish I could say it was for being gay," John Michael (who goes professionally, like Cher, without his last name), "but it's because I'm messy. They are very supportive of my sexuality."

He ended up living at the ilume in a friend's unused apartment, then working down the block at TapeLenders. "I started to have the time of my life — partying, drinking, meeting cute boys and giving more customer service than is required of my job, let's say," he explains. But then a customer triggered an idea for a performance piece. And that has been his focus for the past few months.

John Michael is no stranger to performance pieces. Depending on who he's talking to, he describes himself alternatively as a monologist (to journalists), performance artist (to the IRS) or standup comedian (to cute boys). Whatever he calls it, though, it's the same thing: Taking his life and turning it into his art.

John Michael's first two shows — *The A-Gays of Stillwater, Okla.* and *Would You Like Guys with That?* — explored his coming-out process ("coming out as an asshole," he admits), but his latest — *John Michael and the Order of the Penix* — is about some more grown-up subject matter: Partying, safe-sex and HIV.

The title (a play on one of the Harry Potter books) puts John Michael bouncing back and forth between Dallas and Hogwarts,

where a "Muggle disease" (AIDS) is ravaging the ranks of wizardry, including Harry himself. Only John Michael can stop it, helped along by Neville Longbottom and Luna Lovegood ("the most sexually ambiguous characters in *Harry Potter*," he explains). Along the way, he appears at GayBingo, the Nelson-Tebedo Clinic, S4 and other Dallas landmarks.

The routine (it's not written down, but an outline he performs nightly, with tweaks and changes as the mood fits him) is an ambitious one for the 24-year-old, and that's how he likes it.

"I like to put myself in environments that aren't always easy and comfortable," John Michael says. But perhaps no environment is more uncomfortable than the chair across from a reporter writing down everything he says.

John Michael, quoting the old saw about the therapeutic nature of performing to exorcise his demons, admits that *talking* about his work is more difficult than *doing* it.

"The reason I *do* the show is I can't get that much clearer explaining it myself," he says. "It's a wonderful feeling when I walk into the lobby after the show where I don't have to explain myself. The biggest truth I ever find is on the stage."

All of this springs up from his love of storytelling. John Michael is a fan of monologists like Spaulding Gray and Mike Daisy and even Louis C.K., who find humor in their personal stories while also baring themselves in warts-and-all ways. Indeed, the storytelling has become so pervasive, he admits he sometimes isn't sure

whether he's doing something just to do it, or because he senses it might make a good piece down the road.

But what he is sure about is the passion with which he's approaching the current show. While working at TapeLenders, John Michael was surprised by the differences between generations. "Someone who came in to buy lube, I would often up-sell them asking, 'Do you need condoms?' The older guys usually said something like, 'Thanks for reminding me.' But the younger guys — the guys my age — who just say, 'No thanks — don't need those.' My generation has lost their stories, or are not listening ... or a mix of both."

The parallels between the older wizards of *Harry Potter* telling stories about Voldemort and gay men who have lived through the height of the AIDS crisis resonated with John Michael. He has, though, experienced some blow-back.

"When I told this older guy I was doing a play where Harry Potter had AIDS, he looked at me like, 'You don't have the *right* to talk about AIDS when you haven't really lived through it,'" he says. But John Michael insists he's not making light of the disease; rather, he's trying to reach an audience that needs to learn about it.

He's not sure he wants everyone to see the show, however. His parents won't be coming to this one — while they are supportive of his career, there are limits. ("I loved every bit of it," his father told him after one performance, "except the fellatio scene.") And there's one other category of fan he'd like to exclude.

"I would never want someone I would like to date to come see my show!" he says. There's honesty, and then there's TMI. ■

ORDER OF THE PENIX

Magnolia Lounge,
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Through April 13.
Nouveau47.com.

WORK THAT WAND | Entertaining audiences with a one-man show about Harry Potter getting AIDS is just some of the sleight-of-hand John Michael hopes to work. (Photo courtesy Chuck Marcelo)



Living arrangements

Booking a room between DTC's fussy classic and two new gay plays

The awkwardness that comes with sharing a space with someone is a story as old as the Bible itself, but Dallas theaters are looking at it afresh this week.

At Dallas Theater Center, it's the subject of the most famous of mismatched roommates, Neil Simon's 1965 three-act **The Odd Couple**. The TV series established the parameters of messy Oscar (J. Anthony Crane) and fussy Felix (Michael Mastro) — it's the same basic premise of the first season of *Frasier* — but there's still a lot to discover in this well-trod classic.

Simon has always been known as a jokemeister, but there's often darkness to his plays, as here: Felix is suicidal; divorce — still a taboo in the '60s — is dealt with frankly. Director Kevin Moriarty doesn't shy from those themes, but what he has really presented us is a straightforward comedy, with the two leads (hunky ham Crane versus nasally deadpan Mastro) showing great chemistry. The casting of two black actresses as the Pigeon Sisters could have added an anachronistic element, but actually their bad accents are far more distracting than their race. It matters little — the men, including their poker buddies — move all the heavy furniture.

Bruce R. Coleman steals more from Woody Allen than from Simon, especially in the second play in a collection of one-acts at the Design District's Green Zone, which he wrote and directed,

called **The Apartment Plays**. Of the two, it's the show closer, *Larry Kramer Hates Me*, that stands out.

In this raucous sex comedy, 20something twinks Josh and Drew (Gregg Gerald and Angel Velasco) contemplate having unprotected sex. Quicker than you can say *deus ex machina*, all of Josh's former lovers, as well as his own conscience — manifested in the persona of abrasive AIDS activist Larry Kramer (Rick Espaillat) — appear to tell Drew what a selfish heel Josh really is. It's a joyous bit of nonsense punctuated by lessons about maturity and safe sex, but those

don't overwhelm the fun, especially with Espaillat hilarious as the foul-mouthed Kramer and a half-naked Heath Billups as Josh's intellectual hunky ex.

It clearly overshadows the first act, *A Conversation with a (Potentially) Naked Man*, Coleman's dourly autobiographical two-hander about an emotionally re-

pressed painter and the male model he hires to pose nude for him. Even the sexy model (played by Marcus Stimac, who does get naked, but acts well when clothed, too) is no salvation for this mawkish and over-long tale of "redemption" and "honesty." It tries way too hard to be meaningful. If you're gonna cram everyone into an apartment for more than two hours, keep it light — nobody wants cabin fever. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

ON THE BOARDS

THE ODD COUPLE at the **Wylie Theatre**, 2400 Flora St. Through April 14. DallasTheaterCenter.org.
THE APARTMENT PLAYS at the **Green Zone**, 161 Riveredge Drive. Through April 6. UpstartTheater.com.

CONDOM MINIMUM | The better of the two one-acts making up 'The Apartment Plays' involves handsome young twinks in love ... and in trouble.

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L+S opera

Beyer — beware!

Out 'Barihunk' Jonathan Beyer sings as part of a trio in Dallas Opera's upcoming production of 'Turandot,' but he'll be missing his operatic partner



GREGORY SULLIVAN ISAACS | Contributing Writer
gregoryisaacs@theaterjones.com

Who, or what, are Ping, Pang and Pong? Not video games nor Saturday morning cartoon characters. They are one of the most famous trios in opera, the three ministers of state in ancient Peking (one a baritone, the other tenors) who appear, always together, in Puccini's *Turandot*.

These three roles are not like the usual secondary characters in operas. They appear in all three acts and have a considerable amount of music to sing. The opening scene of Act 2 is theirs alone, as they touchingly reminisce about the lives they had to leave behind to serve in court and the bloodthirsty ice princess, *Turandot*.

In the Dallas Opera's upcoming production, out baritone Jonathan Beyer takes on the role of Ping. Beyer's resume has some impressive high-

MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC | Jonathan Beyer, standing, has performed in the past with his boyfriend, fellow opera singer Brandon Cedel, but for Dallas Opera's 'Turandot,' he's going it alone.

lights: He was a national finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Competition and won the grand prize at the 2011 George London Foundation. But the accomplishment some of his fans are most intrigued by is this: Beyer and his partner, bass-baritone Brandon Cedel, won the "cutest couple award" at their condo in Philadelphia. (They are both featured on Barihunks.com as well ... and for good reason.)

"We have been together for seven years now," Beyer says. "We first met when we were at Curtis [Institute for Music in Philadelphia], but soon after, I went to join the young artist program in Pittsburgh. So, right from the start we knew that it would have to be a 'see you when I see you' relationship."

They are occasionally cast in the same production — recently, a production of *La Bohème* in the sultanate of Oman. "Loren Maazel was conducting, one of the best opera conductors in the world. It was a terrific production. The Sultan Qaboos loves classical music," Beyer says.

Since homosexuality is illegal in Oman, how did that work out for the two of them?

"They let us share a hotel room and everyone treated us like any other couple, even though some were a little reserved about it," he says. "Apparently, these rules are not energetically enforced and even less so for foreign visitors. Once again, the Sultan is working very hard to modernize Oman and you can see the results every-

where you go."

Sadly, Cedel isn't part of Dallas Opera's *Turandot* — and in a way, Beyer almost wasn't, either. The first time he was ever offered the role of Ping, his initial reaction was to turn it down.

"In my memory of the opera, it was hard to separate [the trio] from the whole spectacle," he says. "However, once I started to look through the score, I realized how much music the three characters really have. It is quite a lot of singing, and it is not easy, either."

Since then, he sings Ping frequently. "You never know how the director will handle the three of us. Sometimes we are always in a tight grouping and other times we are more separate and move

around on our own. Sometimes we are the same character in triplicate and other times very different."

After *Turandot*, Beyer will go to Pittsburgh for a recital, then to Frankfurt as soloist for an orchestra, then to France to sing Escamillo in Bizet's *Carmen*. Cedel won't be in any of those places.

"This is one of those periods where it is really hard on our relationship," Beyer says. "We will have three solid months of not seeing each other. But we keep in touch with Skype and FaceTime. It's a big improvement over a phone call, but it is still not a hug."

Sounds to us like the makings of a tragedy worthy of opera. ■

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Of dwarfs and dragons

'Game of Thrones' returns, and not a moment too soon

Fans of the HBO series *Game of Thrones* don't just love the show — they *loooooove* the show. I should know; I'm one of them. (It was one of my Top 10 of 2012.) It's the third-highest-rated series in HBO history, made even more significant considering how complex and challenging the storytelling is: More than 250 speaking parts with Middle-earth-sounding names like Tywin and Tyrion, Daenerys and Sansa, with more intrigue than a Kardashian pregnancy and more sex than ... well, the same. It's a sweeping story of rivalries between factions on the fictional continent of Westeros — the Lannisters and the Starks and the Baratheons — but each season is only 10 episodes long. You'd be exhausted by more.

Now that Season 3 starts up this weekend, fans will have some English accents to glue them to the tube every Sunday other than *Downton Abbey*.

This season, though, gets off to a slow start. It's not surprising — after killing off the leading characters by the end of Season 1 and fomenting a rebellion throughout Season 2, a breather was in order. We're introduced to more new characters (including Diana Rigg as a sassy dowager and Ciaran Hinds as king of the north) before saying goodbye to old ones. And many of the old ones still hold their appeal, especially Emmy winner Peter Dinklage, pictured, as Tyrion Lannister, the wily dwarf (and sole likeable member of his clan), and Daenerys (Emilie Clarke), the mistress of dragons (we get to see the buggers fly around in the season premiere, though she's not even in Episode 2). And let's not forget hunky, brooding bastard Jon Snow. What's missing so far is a bit more deliciousness and sex (they killed off the best gay character last season!), but we can wait. It's all in the *Game*.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Four stars. Premieres on HBO Sunday at 8 p.m.



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Thinking DIFF'rently

Dallas International Film Festival launches with a slate filled with gay-interest programming

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

With OutTakes Dallas gone and QCinema pushing its big festival to the fall, we're lucky to have the Dallas International Film Festival filling the void with some gay programming at its 11-day-long festival of moviemaking. In addition to gala events — including husband and wife filmmaking icons William Friedkin and Sherry Lansing receiving awards — among the new films screening this year are a number with gay content, with gay interest themes or from gay filmmakers — often all three. Here is a rundown of what to look for, listed alphabetically by category. (A • indicates that the film has been screened and is recommended.)



FEATURES

C.O.G. — The first feature film adapted from David Sedaris' writings, *C.O.G.* stars out actor Jonathan Groff as David, a city boy who finds himself encountering odd folks when he goes to work on an apple farm in Oregon. Denis O'Hare co-stars in the film from director Kyle Patrick Alvarez. (Screens April 10 at 7 p.m. and April 11 at 10:30 p.m. as part of the Narrative Feature Competition)

•**Pit Stop.** Texas-based filmmaker Yen Tan, whose two-hander *Ciao* won honorable mention at DIFF a few years ago, is back with this *Brokeback*-esque story of gay life in a small town. Gabe (Bill Heck) shares child-rearing of his daughter with his ex-wife, but

the man he loves has dumped him. Ernie (Marcus DeAnda) has just broken up with his ex, while nursing his friend in a coma. Both stories — about grief and loss and coping with feelings while deeply closeted and without social support — proceed independently, until their worlds cross in this tender drama of rural romance where gay rights is a foreign concept. (Screens April 6 at 7:30 p.m. and April 8 at 10:15 p.m. at the Magnolia as part of the Texas Competition)

•**Petunia.** Charlie (Tobias Segal) is the wallflower of the Petunia family — and why wouldn't he be? Parents Felicia and Percy (Christine Lahti, David Rasche) don't speak to each other; older

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brother Adrian (Jimmy Heck) bangs anything in a pushup bra; and other brother Michael (Eddie Kaye Thomas) just married Vivian (Thora Birch) whom he doesn't seem to be in love with. When Charlie meets Vivian's cousin George (Dallas native Michael Urie) at a wedding, though, his self-imposed vow of chastity gets put to the test. Paris, Texas, native son Ash Christian, who made *Fat Girls* and *Mangus* in Dallas, follows in the footsteps of fellow North Texans Wes Anderson and Owen Wilson with this quirky family comedy that calls to mind *The Royal Tenenbaums* — only with more gay sex. (Screens April 8 at 7:30 p.m. and April 9 at 4 p.m. at the Magnolia)



DOCUMENTARIES

Blood Brother — In this documentary, an American visits India and discovers an underclass of orphans with HIV/AIDS, and is transformed. (Screen April 10 at 4:15 p.m. and April 11 at 7:15 p.m. at the Angelika)

God Loves Uganda. A hit earlier this year at Sundance, Roger Ross Williams explores the rampant anti-gay policies in the African nation of Uganda, driven largely by Christian activists in the United States. (Screens April 10 at 7:15 p.m. and April 11 at 4:30 p.m. at the Angelika)

DALLAS INT'L FILM FEST

Screenings at Angelika Film Center and Magnolia Theatre, April 4-14. For scheduling and tickets, visit DallasFilm.org



TAKE ONE | Among the movies screening this year at DIFF are, from far left, 'C.O.G.' with Jonathan Groff and Denis O'Hare; Ash Christian's 'Petunia' with Tobias Segal and Michael Urie; Yen Tan's 'Pit Stop'; and 'Blood Brother,' about orphans with HIV, above.

• **Lord Montagu** — Dallas native Luke Korem profiles the British peer, an important figure in the restoration and appreciation of automobiles as well as the center of a gay sex scandal that helped change the laws in England on homosexuality. (Screens April 6 at 5:15 p.m. and April 7 at 8 p.m. at the Magnolia)

The Other Shore — The documentary profiles lesbian swimming champ Diana Nyad, famed for her open-sea distance attempts. (Screens April 9 at 10:15 p.m. and April 11 at 4:30 p.m. at the Magnolia)

SHORTS

Yeah Kowalski! — 13-year-old Gabe tries to impress his schoolyard crush, Shane. (Screens April 6 at 7:15 p.m. and April 7 at 5 p.m. at the Angelika as part of a Shorts Program)

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Friday 03.29

Avenue Q returns to T3

After opening last summer, the local production of the uber-gay puppet musical *Avenue Q* became a (Kate) Monster hit, extended four times before closing before Christmas. But not all good things must come to an end. Theatre 3 has revived the show, with much of the same creative team in place, for an open-ended run at their downstairs Theatre Too space. It's tremendous fun, but trust us — leave the kiddies at home. And grandma, too.

DEETS: Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Now playing. Theatre3Dallas.com.



Friday 03.29

Dick's Night Out gets a room with a view, moving to the W's Ghostbar

Dick's Night Out has been a hip gay happy hour since it debuted last year, but the outdoor locale down on Ross Avenue presented weather problems. That won't be the case on the 33rd floor, inside the W Hotel in Victory Park. The spacious club once known as Ghostbar is the site for this month's incarnation of the mixer, which features \$5 cocktails, \$5 valet (and two hours of complimentary self-parking), service from the hunky bartenders at Bar10 and music from DJ Charlie Phresh.

DEETS: W Victory Hotel, 2440 Victory Park Lane, 33rd floor. 6–10 p.m. Free, but RSVP required at DNo33.eventbrite.com.



Sunday 03.31

Easter in the Park, Pooch Parade are resurrected

Easter's almost here, and that means one thing to gay Dallas: Fun in Lee Park. The annual festival is back, with music from Mi Diva Loca, food and beverage booths and the highlight of the event: The Pooch Parade, with prizes in small, medium and large dog categories, owner look-alive and best overall. MC Paul J. Williams and guest judge Steve Kemble will make sure it's all fun.

DEETS: Lee Park at Arlington Hall along Turtle Creek Boulevard. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. TheStripOnCedarSprings.com.

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ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

The Apartment Plays. A double bill of two one-acts by Bruce R. Coleman: *A Conversation with a (Potentially) Naked Man* and *Larry Kramer Hates Me.* (Reviewed this week.) At Friday's performance, mention "Dallas Voice" to receive \$5 off. Green Zone, 161 Riveredge Drive. Through April 6. UpstartTheater.com.

Avenue Q. Theatre 3's hit from last summer and fall returns for an unlimited run in its downstairs Theatre Too space, once again with a cast including Denise Lee, Megan Kelly Bates, James Chandler and Michael Robinson. A puppet show, but not for children (there's lots of sex). Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Ongoing. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. \$10-\$40. Theatre3Dallas.com.

A Bright New Boise. Gay playwright Samuel D. Hunter's comedy about life in an Idaho big box store. Circle Theatre, 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. Through April 13. CircleTheatre.com.

The Futility of Hope. Mark-Brian Sonna's new play, about a conservative girl who meets her biological father, only to find out he's gay. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through April 20. MBSProductions.com.

Idols of the King. Theatre 3's newest mainstage show, a play with music about "The King," Elvis Presley. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Sunday. \$10-\$50. Theatre3Dallas.com.

John Michael and the Order of the Penix, a one-man show about Dallas, Harry Potter and HIV. Magnolia Theatre at Fair Park, 1121 First Ave. March 29-April 16. Nouveau47.com.

Mary Poppins. The practically perfect nanny flies her umbrella into Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through Sunday. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

My Name Is Rachel Corrie. Second Thought Theatre revives its acclaimed show from the Festival of Independent Theatres. Bryant Hall at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Saturday. SecondThoughtTheatre.org.

The Odd Couple. Neil Simon's classic comedy of mismatched messy Oscar and prissy Felix. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through April 14. (Reviewed this week.) DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Peter Pan. Cathy Rigby in the children's classic about the boy who never grew up. Bass Performance Hall, 535 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Through Sunday. BassHall.com.



THERE'S A PILL FOR THAT | Tiny Parker and Max Hartman star in Kitchen Dog's new production, 'RX' by Kate Fodor.

RX. Kitchen Dog Theater presents this regional premiere, a dark comedy about Big Pharma. The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. March 29-April 27. KitchenDogTheater.org.

A Wrinkle in Time, Dallas Children's Theater presents the Newberry Award-winning sci-fi classic for its 50th anniversary. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through April 14. \$12-\$40. DCT.org.

FINE ART

Marc Chagall: Beyond Color. The groundbreaking surrealist's work, from early posters to costumes to sculpture, are exhibited in a splashy exhibit. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through May 26. Special exhibition fee: \$16. DallasMuseumofArt.org.

Cindy Sherman. Massive collection of massive photographs from the influential artist are on display. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through June 9. Special exhibition fee: \$16. DallasMuseumofArt.org.

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

Gold on Black: Japanese Lacquer from the Jacqueline Lavant Collection. The beauty of lacquered finishes is highlighted. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through Sept. 15. Free. CrowCollection.org.

Connecting Dallas to the Holocaust. A special temporary exhibit at the Old Red Courthouse in cooperation with and curated by the Dallas Holocaust Museum. 100 S. Houston St. \$8 admission, \$4 special exhibit fee. Through July 14. OldRed.org.

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

submit

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FRIDAY 03.29

COMMUNITY

Dick's Night Out. The gay happy hour moves to the W Hotel's former Ghostbar space, with \$5 cocktails and \$5



A DOG'S LIFE | Dogs have their day this weekend, with a pet-friendly happy hour and fundraiser for GALT on Saturday and the Pooch Parade at Lee Park on Sunday.

valet. W Hotel, 2440 Victory Park Lane. 6–10 p.m. No cover, but RSVP required at DNO33.eventbrite.com.

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

SATURDAY 03.30

COMMUNITY

"Yappy Hour." The Greyhound Adoption League of Texas and The Gin Mill pair up for a pet-friendly patio happy hour — all (well-behaved) breeds and dogs welcome. A \$10 contribution includes your first beer and happy hour prices. The Gin Mill, 1921 N. Henderson Ave. 4–6 p.m. GALT.org.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly, radio show addressing LGBT issues. This week's guest is Steven Pace of AIDS Interfaith Network. 89.3 KNON-FM at 11 a.m.

SUNDAY 03.31

COMMUNITY

Easter in the Park. The annual picnic and party, highlighted by the Pooch Parade. Lee Park outside Arlington Hall along Turtle Creek Boulevard. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. TheStripOnCedarSprings.com.

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.

BROADCAST

Game of Thrones. The fantasy series returns. (Reviewed this week.) HBO at 8 p.m.

MONDAY 04.01

COMMUNITY

Leadership Lambda Toastmasters meets to improve public speaking and leadership skills. First Unitarian Church of Dallas, 4012 St. Andrews. 6:30–8 p.m. 214-587-7979.

TUESDAY 04.02

COMMUNITY

FUSE Foundation discussion group for gay and bi guys up to 29. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 2367. 7 p.m. DFWFuse.com.

WEDNESDAY 04.03

THEATER

The Ghost Sonata. August Stringberg's haunting chamber play of the living and the dead. Presented by Pantaglaize Theatre Company, 1115 W. Rio Grande, Fort Worth. April 3–14. \$10–\$17. 817-810-0850. PantaglaizeTheatre.org.

COMMUNITY

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

THURSDAY 04.04

THEATER

Big Love. Charles L. Mee's updating of the Aeschylus dram *The Suppliant Women*. Presented by the University of Dallas. Margaret Jonsson Theater, 1845 E. Northgate Drive, Irving. April 4–14. \$10. 972-721-5314.

COMMUNITY

HRC Volunteer Engagement Committee meeting. ilume in the Community Room, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 7–9 p.m. Free. Volunteers@hrcdfw.org.

this week's solution

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY



David Hyde Pierce turns 54 on Wednesday. A multiple Emmy Award-winner for his role on *Frasier*, Pierce is also a popular stage actor and thanked his partner while accepting a Tony Award for his appearance in the Broadway musical *Curtains*.

ARIES: Mar 21 — Apr 20

Anyone can see that you have to make a move, but when you put the cart before the horse, nothing comes to fruition. Get centered enough to have your ducks in a row and keep your heart focused on your purpose.

TAURUS: Apr 21 — May 20

No amount of forcing your will on this situation could have improved it. When it comes to other people and their ideas about where you need to go from here, you know enough to shut off your control trips — don't succumb to theirs.

GEMINI: May 21 — Jun 20

There is nothing to suggest that anything you're about to do is going to do anything but open your life up to a greater sense of your own purpose. The last thing you need to do is let your fears and other people's doubts keep you from finding out what you came here for.

CANCER: Jun 21 — Jul 20

You've been pouring your heart into a person or project that seemed like a great idea at the time. Between external pressures and internal changes that have been hard for everyone involved, you insist on being the one who hopes for the best.

LEO: Jul 21 — Aug 20

You could do so much with all the power you loan to yourself. Maybe this is all about you finding out that any power we have is meant to be given away. The less you make everything be about you, the happier you and everyone around you will be.

VIRGO: Aug 21 — Sep 20

The need to come back to center, along with a willingness to really look at what you're trying to create, will remind you that your pictures of perfection need to include you.

LIBRA: Sep 21 — Oct 20

By the time your experiences show you that it's safe to trust your feelings, you'll be able to see that you are supported by people who would do anything to get you to see how much they care.

SCORPIO: Oct 21 — Nov 20

All of your pictures of how things are supposed to be are in the process of getting reframed. Don't think too much about what it all means. You're going to have to grow into this before you'll be big enough to contain the experience.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21 — Dec 20

Ignoring your intuition, hanging on or playing games will get you into more trouble than anything facing the truth may cause. Don't let pride keep you from clearing the issues that are bound to get the best of you if you don't wake up and see how lucky you are and how much you are loved.

CAPRICORN: Dec 21 — Jan 20

Part of this may involve making peace with those who have kept their distance up till now. Making amends, or getting to the point where you see that it isn't worth it to keep holding on to the hurts of the past will go a long way to opening your heart to the beauty of life.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21 — Feb 20

At times the only remedy for what pains you is an internal examination. At other times the best you can do is nurse yourself through it. Either way, stop flailing around; slow down, get quiet and keep it really simple.

PISCES: Feb 21 — Mar 20

Instead of pushing steadily along, try turning off the switch that keeps you going at intervals every day and use that time to do absolutely nothing. Life has to balance or it just doesn't work.

JANE'S WORLD



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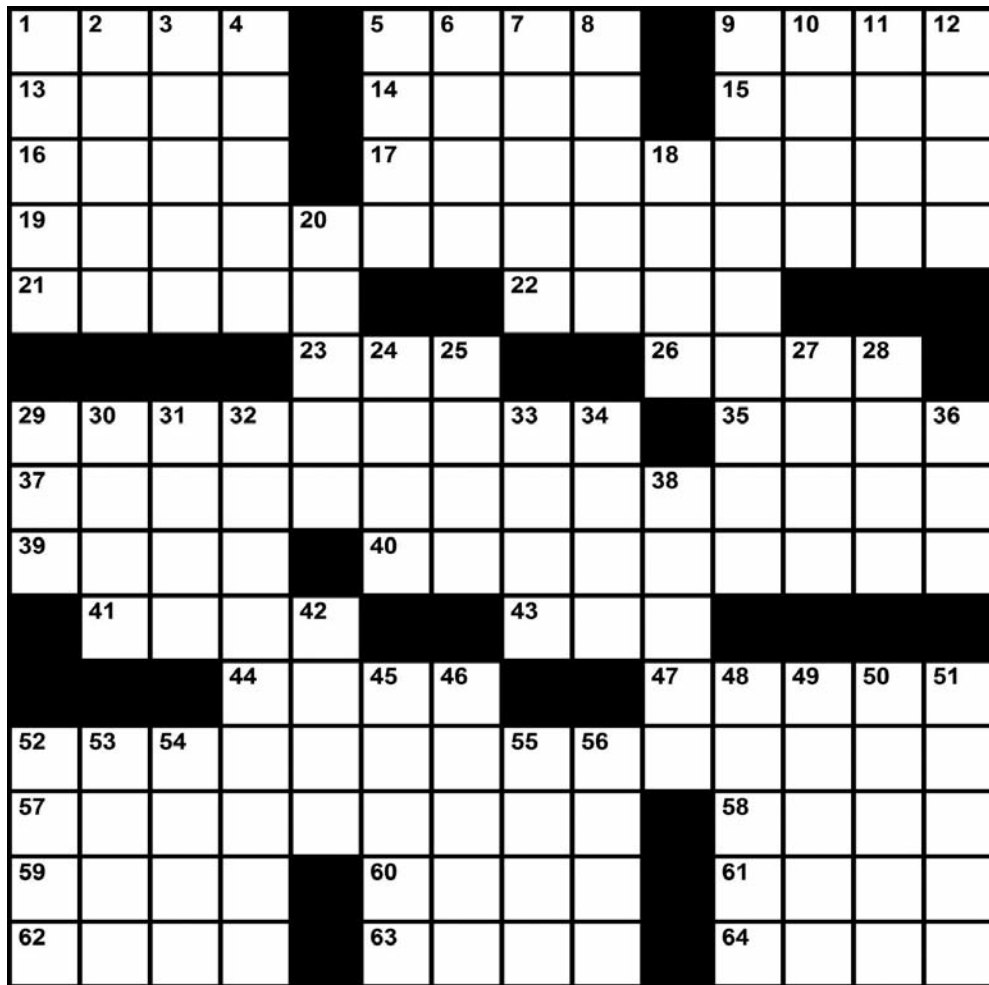
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You Said a Mouthful

Solution on page 25

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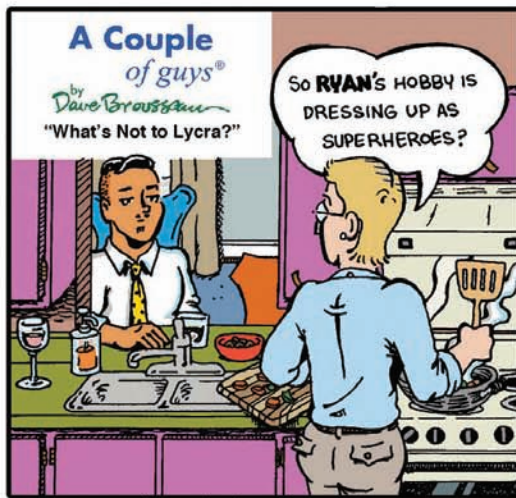
- 1 Disneyland feature
- 5 R. Nureyev's land, once
- 9 Bug spray victim
- 13 Bucatinsky's *All ___ the Guy*
- 14 Icy coating
- 15 Buffalo's lake
- 16 Silents vamp Theda
- 17 Boy Scout ties
- 19 Start of a rebuke made to Thomas on *Downton Abbey*
- 21 Sulu portrayer George
- 22 Twin to Jacob
- 23 Drop of the head
- 26 "Why should ___ you?"
- 29 Portland daily, with *The*
- 35 Russian river
- 37 End of the rebuke
- 39 Milk-colored gem
- 40 Witches in *Macbeth*, e.g.
- 41 They get lipstick lesbians started
- 43 Marseilles moniker
- 44 Dust Bowl refugee
- 47 Bridge declaration

52 Response to the rebuke?

- 57 Appetizer from the land of Pasolini
- 58 Serious sign
- 59 ___ all-time high
- 60 Hawaiian wedding party, perhaps
- 61 Merge metals
- 62 *Star Trek* villain
- 63 "___ we forget"
- 64 The L.A. Sparks strip them

Down

- 1 Man with a steel rod
- 2 An ex of the Donald
- 3 McDreamy on *Grey's Anatomy*
- 4 Use a rubber
- 5 Bear that may be a minor
- 6 Ledge
- 7 Word from Bruce Weber, perhaps
- 8 Some used cars
- 9 Real swingers?
- 10 Switch end
- 11 www.stopaids.org, e.g.
- 12 Della's angel
- 18 1957 movie river
- 20 Tipplers
- 24 Heavy burden
- 25 Bas relief of Eleanor's husband
- 27 Stats from *A League of Their Own*
- 28 Bit of filming
- 29 Mrs. Lennon
- 30 Style of gold chain
- 31 Series ender
- 32 Like a stallion in a hurry
- 33 Baldwin's *The ___ Corner*
- 34 Roman fiddler
- 36 ___ *Miserables*
- 38 Fork over
- 42 Bound gaily
- 45 "I knew ___ along!"
- 46 Come next
- 48 Popular resort, briefly
- 49 Singing Mann
- 50 Refine metal
- 51 Turns on
- 52 Sad-sounding European auto maker
- 53 Not taken in by
- 54 *Sex and the City* creator Darren
- 55 Schedule guesses, briefly
- 56 Mark through



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LIFE+STYLE

scene

The Round-Up Saloon presents its annual **Easter Basket Auction** benefiting **Resource Center Dallas** and **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** on March 31. Baskets can be previewed in the parlor on March 30. ... The 20th annual **Hidden Door Easter Basket Auction** hosted by the **T-Bear Club** benefits the **RCD Nutrition Center** and begins at 8 p.m. on March 30. Preview baskets at 7 p.m. ... **Linda Petty** and **The Main Event** performs at **Pekers** on March 29. Call ahead to reserve a table. ... **Woody's Sports and Video Bar** presents **Totally Gnarly Monday** with '90s hit music, movies, TV and more. ... **Carlos Saenz** appears at **Alexandre's** on March 29. **Kristen Majors** performs on March 30. Later in the week, **Matt Baron** entertains on April 4. ... The weekend at **Sue Ellen's** begins with **Mi Diva Loca** on March 29, **Kick-back** on March 30 and for Easter Sunday it's **Good Girls with Bad Intentions**. ... **JR.'s Bar & Grill** celebrates the release of Grammy-nominated **Carly Rae Jepsen's Tonight I'm Getting Over You** on April 4. ... **Nina Morgan** hosts the **April Fools Show** at the **Dallas Eagle** on March 31 that benefits **AIDS Services of Dallas**. **Eagle Amateur Talent Night with Miss Wanda** begins at 10 p.m. on April 2. ■

More Scene photos at DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos.



Ladies' night out at TMC: The Mining Company.



Kristin and Pamela at Sue Ellen's.



Randy and Joe at Best Friends Club.



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Fun Education	30
Real Estate	30
Realtors	30
For Sale	30
For Rent	30
Movers	31
Employment	31
Business Opportunity	31
Seeking Employment	31
Insurance	32
Notary Services	32
Services	32
Photography	32
Computer Services	33
Home Services	33
Electrical	33
General	33
Roof Repair	33
Air Conditioning/Heating	33
Interior Design Remodeling	33
Plumbing	33
Landscaping	33
Cleaning	33
Pets	34
Personal Care	34
Spirituality	34
Psychotherapists	34
Chiropractors	34
Salons/Stylists	34
Hypnosis	34
Travel	34
Massage	34
Announcements	35

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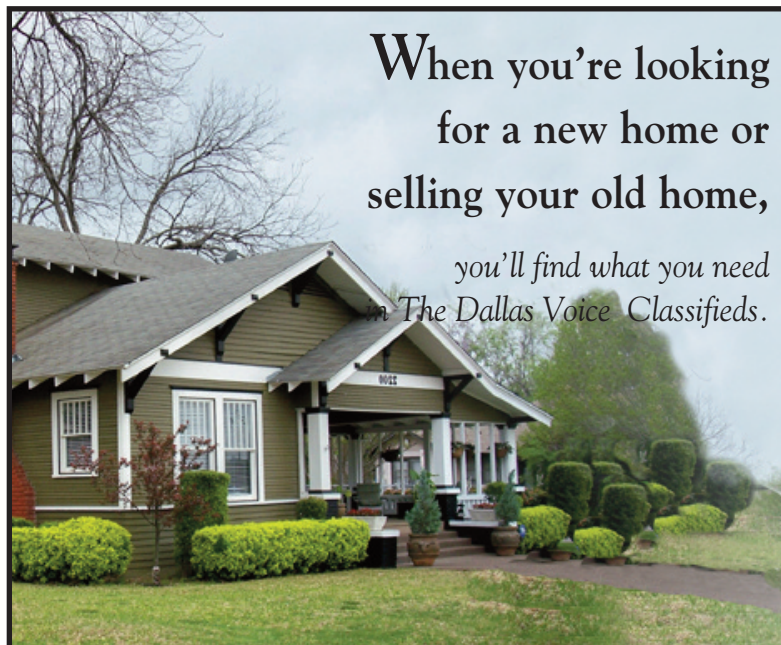
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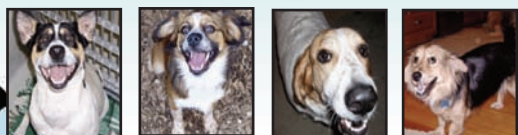
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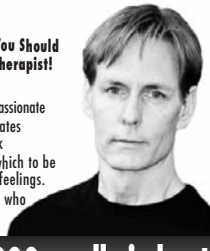
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