

LGBT resource centers under attack

Anti-gay bill passes at A&M; statewide measure withdrawn for now
Rep. Bill Zedler backs off effort to cut funding for universities that promote 'high-risk behavior'

■ TEXAS NEWS, Page 6



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Established 1984 | Volume 29 | Issue 47

FREE | Friday, April 5, 2013



THE Sports

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From a new lesbian tennis group to gay rugby, it's prime time for local LGBT sports.

■ COVERAGE starts on page 20

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CAMERA HOUND | A canine gets his close-up during the Pooch Parade at Easter in the Park on Sunday, March 31. For a full slideshow, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos. (Chuck Marcelo)

GetEQUAL TX plans 'red out' at DART meeting next Tuesday

GetEQUAL TX is planning on showing up in full force at next Tuesday's DART board meeting to address the board about its lack of action on domestic partner benefits.

Activists will wear red in honor of marriage equality and stand up when speakers address the board about domestic partner benefits during the open comments portion of the meeting.

The board voted last week to table action on a plan to offer DP benefits until July so the U.S. Supreme Court can decide two marriage equality cases.

Rafael McDonnell with Resource Center Dallas said he wants someone to speak about their delayed action at every board meeting until they take up the issue again in July.

DART's board meets next Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at 483 N. Field St.

— Anna Waugh

8 Denton churches pledge to be LGBT-inclusive in newspaper ad

Eight Denton churches pledged to be inclusive of the LGBT community in an ad that ran in Sunday's Denton Record-Chronicle.

The Rev. Jeff Hood took out the ad for Easter Sunday to show the number of churches who are supportive and welcoming after he sent about 60 churches letters asking them to be inclusive on Ash Wednesday. He said the letters started conversation with church leaders and led to the ad's creation.

The ad entitled, "We Believe in the Universality of God's Love," states that the listed churches will "be open and celebrating of persons of diverse sexual orientation and identities" and encourages other churches to do so as well.

Since the Ash Wednesday letters went out, Hood said he's met with several churches and their pastors to speak to them about the importance of being welcoming of LGBT people. He said he had 16 churches that agreed to participate in the ad, but many backed out last minute. However, he expected only a few to actually participate.

"I think for some churches up here pastors have diverse congregants to satisfy and it seems like

often more conservative congregants are heard," he said. "So churches that are on [the ad] are willing to take a hit, if a hit comes."

Hood plans to continue to meet with church leaders about being inclusive and would like to publish another statement in six months or next Easter to show the growing number of churches in Denton who welcome LGBT members.

The churches that participated are: Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Cooper Creek United Methodist Church, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Refuge Ministry at the University of North Texas, Harvest Metropolitan Community Church, Lutheran Campus Ministry at Denton, Christ The Servant Lutheran Church, the Church at Mable Peabody's Beauty Parlor and Chainsaw Repair.

— Anna Waugh

Gay suicide victim Asher Brown's parents drop suit against district

Amy and David Truong, parents of gay teen suicide victim Asher Brown, have dropped their lawsuit against the Cy-Fair Independent School District in Houston.

Brown, 13, committed suicide in September 2010. The Truongs claimed Asher had been bullied based on his Buddhist beliefs, his size and his sexual orientation.

The Truongs became crusaders for passage of anti-bullying legislation in Texas and testified in favor of the state's new anti-bullying law, which passed in 2011.

"All of this has been so difficult," Amy Truong wrote on her blog recently after they dismissed the lawsuit. "Yet, no matter what happens, we have won. Everyone in the state has won. Laws have changed and everyone benefits from it."

The school district denied the Truong's allegations about bullying at Hamilton Middle School. Officials claimed Asher's death resulted from problems at home.

Martin Cirkiel, the Truongs' attorney, said the suit was based on Title IX and was dropped because they were unable to prove Asher was bullied because of gender or gender stereotypes. Neither state nor federal law specifically prohibits bullying based on sexual orientation. The standard of proof under Title IX is high, Cirkiel said.

— David Taffet

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Campus LGBT centers under attack

Texas A&M Student Senate passes anti-gay bill to cut program's funding; state Rep. Bill Zedler temporarily withdraws similar statewide measure

FROM STAFF REPORTS

AUSTIN — LGBT resource centers at Texas universities became the target of legislation this week aimed at defunding them based on religious and health reasons.

State Rep. Bill Zedler, R-Arlington, withdrew a budget amendment Thursday night that would have cut state funding from universities with "Gender and Sexuality Centers." It was unclear whether Zedler would try to revive the measure later in the session.

Matthew Posey, Zedler's legislative director, declined to comment on what led to Zedler's decision.

Meanwhile, the Texas A&M University Student Senate approved a bill Wednesday that would allow students to opt out of funding the campus GLBT Resource Center if they have religious objections.

Zedler's amendment would have prohibited universities from using state funds "to support, promote, or encourage any behavior that would lead to high risk behavior for AIDS, HIV, Hepatitis B, or any sexually transmitted disease."

Two years ago, a proposal to ban LGBT resource centers was defeated on the House floor. Several calls to Zedler's office were not returned earlier this week.

Daniel Williams, field organizer for Equality Texas, said the amendment being withdrawn shows how the "massive public outcry" about the measure put Zedler under "tremendous pressure."

"It means we won," Williams said, adding that Zedler will have a harder time adding the amendment on to future bills.

The amendment would have to be added to a related bill, Williams said. And despite there being a number of higher education-related bills this session, he said the process makes it harder for Zedler to pass his amendment.

"We will continue to diligently analyze all legislation," Williams said.

Equality Texas Executive Director Chuck Smith said Zedler's amendment was "misguided and misinformed" and was glad to see the large response in opposition to the amendment this week leading up to Zedler's decision to withdraw it late Thursday. Smith said in most instances student fees go toward LGBT centers, so there is little, if any, state funding allotted them.

State Rep. Chris Turner, D-Grand Prairie, de-



GIGGING THE GAYS | Texas A&M student Emily Bach holds up a sign in opposition to 'The Religious Funding Exemption Bill,' during a meeting of the Student Senate on the Texas A&M campus on Wednesday. The bill, designed to cut funding for the GLBT Resource Center, passed 35-28. (Stuart Villanueva/The Eagle)

feated Zedler in 2008 but lost to him in 2010. Turner was drawn into a new district in 2012. Turner told Dallas Voice this week that the Zedler amendment would only continue to harm LGBT youth.

"Many young Texans struggle with their sexual identity every day," Turner said. "We, as state legislators, have no business making their struggle even more difficult by proposing mean-spirited and divisive measures."

Williams said while the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M and the University of Houston have dedicated offices for their LGBT resources centers, the amendment could also affect the LGBT program at the University of Texas at Arlington, as well as women's centers at several universities.

Last year \$42,000 was budgeted for the UTA program that is staffed by graduate interns and peer volunteers.

The University of North Texas offers a minor in LGBT studies and has an LGBT library collection, but it was unclear whether the amendment would affect those programs.

James Lee, a junior at the University of Houston, started the "Get Off my Backpack" campaign this week in opposition to Zedler's amendment. Lee also created an online petition to encourage people to contact their legislators to vote down the measure.

As a senator in student government, he helped unanimously pass a resolution opposing Zedler's amendment Wednesday night.

Lee grew up in a conservative Catholic family in Brownsville. His family members had different views on being gay, so when he researched universities to transfer to two years ago, he said the LGBT resource center at U of H was the deciding factor.

During his time at the university, he said his ex-

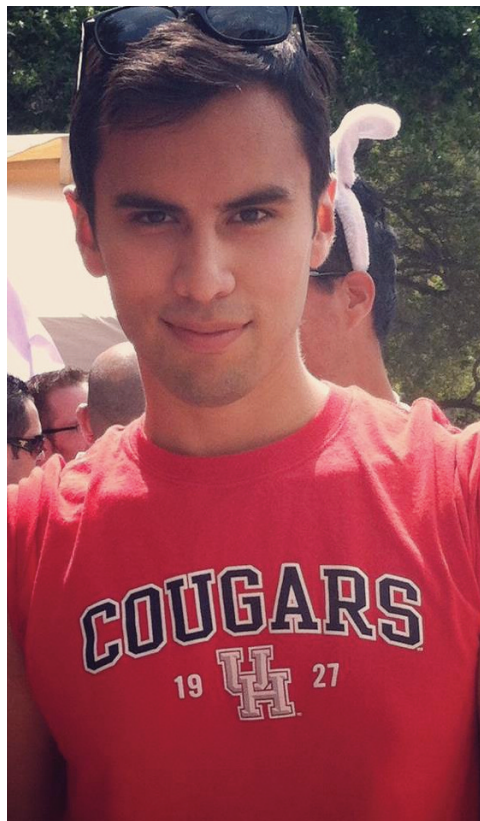
perience has been life changing because of the support and education he received from the center.

"Coming to the University of Houston and having the resource that's on that campus, it opened so many other doors for me and completely changed my life," Lee said. "Its sole purpose is to help and to educate students."

Lee said he thinks Zedler's mission was to stop LGBT centers from prospering at universities, as well as to prevent any future centers.

Meanwhile, in College Station this week, Texas A&M's Student Senate approved a bill late Wednesday after an emotional three-hour debate that would allow students to opt out of funding the LGBT resource center if they have religious objections.

Less than 24 hours before the vote, the name of the bill was changed from the "GLBT Funding Opt Out Bill" to the "The Religious Funding Ex-



'GET OFF MY BACKPACK' | James Lee, a junior at the University of Houston, started the 'Get Off my Backpack' campaign this week in opposition to Zedler's amendment.

emption Bill," and specific references to the GLBT Resource Center were removed. However, opponents of the bill who packed the Student Senate meeting before the vote Wednesday said the name change did not alter the bill's discriminatory, anti-gay intent.

Online petitions sprung up in response to the vote, encouraging Student Body President John Claybrook to veto the bill, as his predecessor did with a similar bill in 2011.

Another petition called for alumni to pledge to end donations to the university until the discrimination stops.

Camden Breeding, former president of the GLBT Aggies group on campus, said he's confident Claybrook will veto the bill. And with the bill passing by only a 35-28 margin, it's unlikely the veto could be overturned.

"He, himself, responded with great emotion to the pain of his fellow LGBT Aggies and left the meeting in tears," Breeding said Thursday of Claybrook. "I think he understands the hurt and division this bill has caused and I hope he stands by us in our time of need."

As for the LGBT community on the campus, Breeding said the lack of knowledge has contributed to the attacks on the center and he hopes that will change in time thanks to the tireless work of advocates.

"It is a great challenge to be an LGBT Aggie, especially on days like today, but we are a strong and resilient community that will grow stronger and closer as a result of this," Breeding said. "This is not the end; it is just the beginning." ■

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Image (detail): Cindy Sherman, Untitled #458, 2007-08, chromogenic color print, Courtesy the artist and Metro Pictures, New York, © 2013 Cindy Sherman

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■ deaths

Charles Thurmond Cole, 63, passed away at his home in Dallas on Friday, March 29, 2013.



Charles received his undergraduate degree from Baylor University in 1971 and his Juris Doctor from Baylor University School of Law in 1973. After practicing civil and criminal law in Texas, Charles became a hearing judge for the Workman's Compensation Division of the Texas Department of Insurance.

He was an active member and Sunday school teacher at White Rock Community Church.

He is predeceased by his father, James W. Cole Jr., and grandparents. He is survived by his mother, Mary A. Cole of Dallas; sister, Marilyn (Chris) Jones of Creve Coeur, Mo.; nephew, Benjamin Cole Jones of Kansas City, Mo.; niece, Katelyn Jones of Munich, Germany; aunt, Emma Jean (Harrell) Dumas of Port O'Connor, Texas; and cousins, Jerry Chevallier of Tennessee, Cecil (Mary Ann) Lowry of Rowlett, Texas, Susan Dumas of Fair Oaks, Texas, and John Dumas of Port O'Connor. He is also survived by many dear friends, including Marcus and Ronald, and maintained a very close friendship with his ex-wife, Lynda Conner of Florida.

Memorials may be made to the Youth Ministry at White Rock Community Church.

Donna Gail Fischer, 50, died on March 8 from colon cancer. She was a native of Chickasha, Okla.

In the '80s, she began working in Dallas in property management after acquiring her real estate license. In the mid-'90s she worked as an

environmental technician for a well-known engineering firm, acquiring multiple certifications and was assigned to various military installations, including Hickham AFB in Honolulu, where she got to play some serious golf.



She was passionate about building things, acquiring knowledge in electrical installations and the basics of home remodeling. In 2001, she moved to Tennessee, where she acted as project manager for Putnum County Habitat for Humanity — eventually helping to build her own home with her partner in Picayune, Miss.

Her most rewarding accomplishment was working for Habitat for Humanity of Pearl River County, Miss., in 2006. After Hurricane Katrina, Habitat was burdened with a need for affordable housing. She was able to impact 12 families and give 27 children a chance to grow up in a safe, decent home.

She was also an avid and accomplished golfer playing on the LPGA Futures Tour following college. In her later years, she enjoyed golf and fishing and spending time working in the yard and pets.

Donna returned to Texas when her job was done in Mississippi. She leaves boots which cannot be filled.

She is survived by Holly Hoffer, her partner of 21 years; her mother, Rita Fischer; father, Robert McKenna; brother and sister-in-law, Rob and Michelle Fischer; and nephews, Dustin and Drew Fischer.

The funeral will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at Kessler Park United Methodist Church, 1215 Turner Ave.

■ pet of the week / AUGEY

Augey is a 3-year-old neutered Akita mix. He weighs in at nearly 80 pounds — and is just as sweet as he can be. This big, loveable teddy bear has been here since early March, so his adoption fee has been waived. Come by and meet him in person and you're sure to fall in love. Ask for Augey A768785.



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NORTHSIDE PRIDE | Plano Mayor Phil Dyer, far left, attended the North Texas Pride launch party as honorary chair in March. The event is set for June 1 at the American Legion. (Courtesy of Matthew Bado)

Plano mayor to chair LGBT Pride celebration

Organizers say Phil Dyer's decision to attend 3rd annual event shows they're making political progress in conservative Collin County

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

PLANO — In a milestone for the LGBT community in Collin County, outgoing Plano Mayor Phil Dyer has agreed to attend the North Texas Pride event this June.

It's believed to be the first time a Collin County mayor has attended an LGBT Pride Month celebration since then-Carrollton Mayor Becky Miller sparked a major controversy by appearing at Dallas Pride in 2006.

Morris Garcia, co-chair of North Texas Pride, said the group wanted to reach out to Dyer because he's been supportive of the LGBT community since taking office in 2009.

"Mayor Dyer has been a good friend to the community," Garcia said. "He's very open and welcoming to sit down and listen to concerns of the community."

Dyer, who has been named honorary co-chair of North Texas Pride, said he's glad to be a part of this year's event.

3rd annual North Texas Pride

The third annual North Texas Pride festival will be from 2-6 p.m. June 1 on the grounds of American Legion, 1236 J Ave., Plano.

A dance party follows until 11 p.m. at Urban Rio's Rooftop Event Spot, 1000 E. 14th St., Ste. 400 in Plano.

Tickets for the evening event are \$15 before the event and \$20 at the door. For more information or to purchase tickets, go to TinyURL.com/NTPride13.

"As I retire as mayor, it is kind of this event to recognize me for my service to Plano," he told Dallas Voice this week.

The two candidates to replace Dyer as mayor of Plano, Henry LaRosiliere and Fred Moses, were invited to the event's launch in March. LaRosiliere attended, but Moses did not.

LaRosiliere is a former Plano councilman, and Moses is chair of the Collin County Republican Party.

Garcia said he doubts Moses would attend the June event if elected, adding that LaRosiliere has already proven to be more supportive of the LGBT community and would likely attend as mayor.

■ PLANO, Next Page

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■ texasnews

■ PLANO, From Previous Page

"It remains to be seen, but I'm hopeful," Garcia said. "It's open to everyone."

Garcia's co-chair, J.J. McCormick, said he "absolutely" thinks LaRosiliere is an ally after speaking to him.

"He is supportive of us," he said, adding that he hasn't spoken to Moses.

This is the first year organizers have reached out to the mayor of the city where the event is being held. Garcia said Dyer has come around during his time in office to understand the LGBT community.

He said the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance met with Dyer when he took office and told him that Plano has the fifth-most same-sex families raising children of any Texas city. That conversation "kind of opened his eyes" to the LGBT community in the city, Garcia said.

From that point to Dyer's involvement in North Texas Pride, Garcia said it's helped Plano change and become more welcoming of its LGBT citizens.

"I think it's added to the city becoming more and more progressive and that's what we've always been about," he said. "We're not making great strides, but we're taking baby steps. It all helps our community."

This year's theme of modern community also ties into the group's efforts of inviting the entire community to support them. They've invited Plano City Council members.

"We're trying to establish the fact that our community is integrating with the straight and conservative community as a whole, and we're trying to educate and make people aware that we're just like them," Garcia said.

The Pride event started two years ago in McKinney as a way for the Collin County LGBT community to celebrate and educate people about LGBT issues. Last year's event was much larger, drawing hundreds of people to the Lewisville venue and helping raise \$1,700 — three times the amount raised the first year — for C.U.R.E., a Plano-based HIV/AIDS agency.

"It was a huge success," Garcia said of the first year. "From that point, we had people from surrounding areas that wanted to be involved and decided to hold it in different cities."

Organizers hope this year is even bigger than last year.

The festival is on the grounds of the American Legion in Downtown Plano during the afternoon and will feature family-friendly activities and vendors. That evening a dance party will be at Urban Rio's Rooftop Event Spot with DJ Fierce, door prizes and party favors.

McCormick said he's excited to have the festival and party in Downtown Plano, as well as have the support of several Plano businesses that are involved in the planning. He said he wants people who would often shy away from a Pride event to come to North Texas Pride because it is geared toward LGBT families and allies.

"A lot of people are afraid of gay Pride because of what they see in the media or on the news," McCormick said. "It's a welcoming event. It's a wholesome event."



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LGBT Dems, Republicans gather separately in Austin this weekend

Barney Frank, Annise Parker to headline Texas Stonewall event, while state Rep. Sarah Davis will address Log Cabin conference

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

AUSTIN — Political unity and collaboration will be the topics of discussion at two conferences in the state capital this weekend.

The Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus and the Texas Democratic Party are teaming up for the first time for the Equality Forward Summit on April 5-7.

Eli Olivarez, president of the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus, said the two statewide organizations coming together for the event is exciting and shows that the LGBT community can make even more of a difference when involved in the mainstream movement.

He said the inclusion of marriage equality in the Texas Democratic Party Platform at last year's state convention proved how influential LGBT leaders have become, even in a red state.

"We're starting to see that we can make a difference, and we have to be proud to be Democrats," he said.

Olivarez said 3 percent of the electorate last year were estimated to be LGBT voters, so one mission of the conference will be to focus on those who vote while engaging others who aren't included in that 3 percent.

Openly gay former Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank will speak Saturday night. Frank will discuss how Texas can become a swing state.

Olivarez said he met Frank last year at the Democratic National Convention and asked him to come and speak at the summit that he was planning. He said Frank told him Texas has the numbers to become a blue state but not the turnout.

"If we want to change, we have to know how to make that change," Olivarez said.

Houston Mayor Annise Parker will introduce Frank, and openly LGBT state Rep. Mary Gonzalez, D-El Paso, will speak at an awards brunch Sunday. Dallas activist Erin Moore, state Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston, Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats and Stonewall Democrats of San Antonio will be recognized for their accomplishments during the luncheon.

Workshops during the day Saturday will focus on impacting the needed change, from school and municipal policies to immigration reform and marriage equality. Olivarez said the topics provide a wide range of education for people to understand that all Democratic organizations must work toward the same goals to accomplish them.



Congressman Barney Frank

"If we want equality to move forward, we have to work together, all of us," he said.

Log Cabin Republicans are also meeting in Austin this weekend. This is the first time the three state chapters in Dallas, Houston and Austin have held a conference.

Log Cabin Austin President Jeff Davis said this is the first year that the conference could've been planned in recent years because the Austin chapter had been inactive before last summer.

When Davis moved to Austin last year, he wanted to start the chapter again and help it thrive.

"This really is the first time we've had an opportunity to do this," he said. "It makes it a lot easier if we have a chapter in the capital."

Log Cabin attendees will begin the conference with a marriage equality panel Friday featuring experts from around the state. Other workshops and speakers that day will touch on workplace equality, starting new chapters and growing the Republican Party into a more inclusive unit.

"Our party is changing day by day," Davis said. "We haven't seen that kind of shift and advancement of modern thought in a long time."

State Rep. Sarah Davis, R-Houston, will deliver the keynote speech Friday afternoon, and Jerry Katlin, chairman of the Board for Log Cabin Republicans, will speak at the dinner Friday night. A Saturday brunch will conclude the conference.

Davis said he's excited the chapters came together to plan the conference so soon after the Austin chapter relaunched, and he hopes to see support grow so Log Cabin can have the conference in future years when the Legislature is in session.

"It's not going to be all about blue states and red states," Davis said. "It's really about our coming together and seeing what we can do in the LGBT community and party to help our brothers and sisters."

Equality Forward Summit, April 5-7, Hilton Austin Airport, 9515 Hotel Dr.

Log Cabin Republican Texas Conference, April 5-6, Hilton Garden Inn, 500 N. Interstate 35.

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Trans American

Army assistant Amanda Simpson, nation's 1st transgender presidential appointee, quietly fights for equality in the halls of the Pentagon

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

When "don't ask, don't tell" was repealed, gays, lesbians and bisexuals became eligible to serve openly in the military. Transgender people still cannot. But since 2011, trans woman Amanda Simpson has served as special assistant to the assistant secretary of the Army.

In 2009, when President Barack Obama named Simpson to a position in the Commerce Department, she became the first trans presidential appointee.

While some accused Obama of filling quotas, those Simpson had worked with during her career at Raytheon touted her experience as a test pilot, an engineer and as deputy director in the company's advanced missiles and unmanned systems product line.

But it's Simpson's work on trans issues and her care for the LGBT community that endeared her to her Raytheon co-workers.

Louise Young, who founded Raytheon's LGBT

employee resource group, credited Simpson with getting gender identity and expression added to the company's equal opportunity policy.

"It's a delightful irony she's working with the Army," Young said. "Amanda is a real trailblazer in many ways."

Young said Simpson broke barriers by courageously sharing her story with upper management at the company. For that work, she won the company's Louise Young Award.

On April 6, Simpson will speak at Resource Center Dallas during the annual awards reception for RCD's trans program, Gender Education, Advocacy and Resources, or GEAR.

GEAR coordinator Blair High said, "We need role models for our community."

High said with a high unemployment rate and a high suicide rate, the transgender community needs to see people who are successful.

"For our events, we invite speakers who are mavericks," High said. "You can aspire to be something great. And Amanda Simpson is at the top of the food chain."

Dallas Voice spoke to Simpson earlier this week by phone from her Pentagon office:

Dallas Voice: Since transgender people still can't serve in the Armed Forces, has your gender

identity been an issue at the Pentagon?

Amanda Simpson: It hasn't been an issue.

I was fortunate to be in the back of the room when Secretary Panetta and Admiral Mullins certified the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell," and nothing really changed. I got to go to a couple of meetings and I got to say: "So I can ask. Now you can tell."

In all my time at the government, my gender identity has never been an issue. A lot of people aren't aware [of my gender identity], but at one point or another, it comes up in a conversation.

DV: What was it like to watch DADT repeal go through, when it didn't include transgender people?

A.S.: Certainly when [Defense] Secretary [Leon] Panetta was here, we had some conversations on how to move forward on this. Whether that's going to happen long term or short term, I don't know.

We know what the impediments are. They're not imposed by Congress as "don't ask, don't tell" was. They're self-imposed by the military. There's

still some growing pains involved with the recency of "don't ask, don't tell." I think we have to wait while things are still being absorbed.

We had a Pride event here in the Pentagon last year. We're planning another one this year. I think that's pretty big movement. Just last

month we formed an LGBT organization in the capital region. There hadn't been one in the military in this area before. There's a unified voice now.

There's a lot of movement happening. There's going to be progress. Whether it's going to happen tomorrow or next month or next year, I don't know. But there's going to be progress.

It certainly didn't hurt when Alyson Robinson became executive director of the combined [Servicemembers Legal Defense Network/Outserve]. While that's not that organization's focus, it highlights that here is a retired officer, West Point graduate who, while she didn't leave specifically because of gender identity issues, if she were to pull up her service record, it's in her old name and old gender and cannot be changed. If someone like her wanted to re-enter the service, she couldn't, even with her experience.

Even after you leave the service, you can't have your records changed, so there you are going after private employment and, say you're a military officer, but once you show your records, you're out-ing yourself.

There are things going on, but it's all very back-room at this point because I'm afraid if it goes too public, certain people will say, "Well, we've got to stop it before that happens." I certainly don't want

Amanda Simpson at GEAR

Amanda Simpson, special assistant to the Army acquisition executive, will speak at the GEAR awards reception, from 6:30-8 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. Free and open to the public.



OUT IN THE FIELD | Amanda Simpson, special assistant to the Army acquisition executive, talks with Charles Lind, chief of staff in the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, while visiting the Software Engineering Directorate in Alabama. (Skip Vaughn, USAG Redstone)

to see legislation thrown in the face of potential progress.

If a person who is gay cross-dresses, that is conduct unbecoming and is a dischargeable offense. Just because they repealed “don’t ask, don’t tell,” there are things that are transgender and cross the line even for LGB people that can get them kicked out of the military. There are still some issues around gender identity.

DV: GEAR invited you to speak because you serve as a role model. How important is it for trans people to have role models?

A.S.: It’s always important to have role models. Transgender people are often shown in the media to be extremists, or working and living on the streets, unemployable or weirdos.

To have real life success stories, people can say, “Here’s someone who works for the president of the United States,” or “Here’s someone who is an executive in a major corporation,” or “Here’s someone at the top of their field in medicine, law or education.” They can say, “They can do it, I can do it, too.” There doesn’t have to be a concrete ceiling just because I used to present myself differently than I do now.

DV: You were instrumental in getting Raytheon to add inclusive policies. How did you convince a conservative company to change?

A.S.: The business case is that if you draw from a larger talent pool, you draw better talent. When Raytheon was the first aerospace company to do that, others were starting to feel they were losing people to Raytheon. Now all of them have reasonably inclusive policies.

DV: The gay and lesbian movement is fixated on marriage equality. How does that relate to the needs of the transgender community?

A.S.: Marriage is important as much to trans

people as it is to LGB people. However, you’re talking about spiritual satisfaction — hitting those higher points on Maslow’s hierarchy of needs — whereas in the trans community, we’re worried about where we work, where we’re allowed to sleep, where we’re allowed to pee — just the basic bottom of the pyramid that says I need to have some security in my life. As wonderful as it is and is bringing attention to the LGBT cause, I think sometimes they forget that there are people out there who are literally struggling to survive.

I don’t turn a blind eye to those who are struggling.

DV: How did your run for the Arizona House in 2004 lead to your current position?

A.S.: During that run, even though I lost that election, I won the respect of many people in the Democratic Party in the state of Arizona. Even though I didn’t run the following cycle, I assisted with other people’s campaigns. So when the ‘08 election came around, I ran for a spot as a delegate. I won that spot, not because I was trans, but because I was a strong contributor of my time, energy and knowledge to the party.

When I was a delegate, I met a lot of people in the Obama campaign, and those connections led to them asking me to come serve. I didn’t seek an appointment. They came looking for me because they were looking for someone who had specific technical knowledge.

When you get a call from the White House asking you for your assistance, I just couldn’t say no.

Sometimes the greater good is more important. Not only am I an example or role model for the trans community, but I’m making sure that our men and women in uniform do have the right tools they need to do the job to protect our freedoms and our liberties and be able to come home at the end of their tours safely. That’s my job and what I’m very serious about. ■

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What is STRIBILD?

STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. It combines 4 medicines into 1 pill to be taken once a day with food. STRIBILD is a complete single-tablet regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.

STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking STRIBILD. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects:

- **Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include feeling very weak or tired, unusual (not normal) muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain with nausea or vomiting, feeling cold especially in your arms and legs, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.
- **Serious liver problems.** The liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and fatty (steatosis). Symptoms of liver problems include your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored bowel movements (stools), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach pain.
- **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems** if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time. In some cases, these serious conditions have led to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any symptoms of these conditions.

- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you also have HBV and stop taking STRIBILD, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. STRIBILD is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you:

- **Take a medicine that contains:** alfuzosin, dihydroergotamine, ergotamine, methylergonovine, cisapride, lovastatin, simvastatin, pimoziide, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revatio®), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John’s wort.
- **For a list of brand names for these medicines,** please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.
- **Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection,** or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:

- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do regular blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with STRIBILD. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD.
- **Bone problems,** including bone pain or bones getting soft or thin, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV-1 medicines.
- **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking STRIBILD.

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include nausea and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or don’t go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

- **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.
- **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start any new medicines while taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.
- **If you take hormone-based birth control** (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc).
- **If you take antacids.** Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD.
- **If you are pregnant** or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
- **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, some medicines in STRIBILD can pass into breast milk, and it is not known if this can harm the baby.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information with **important warnings** on the following pages.





STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.

I started my personal revolution

Talk to your healthcare provider about starting treatment.

STRIBILD is a complete HIV-1 treatment in **1 pill**, once a day.

Ask if it's right for you.

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Patient Information

STRIBILD™ (STRY-bild)

(elvitegravir 150 mg/cobicistat 150 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

Brief summary of full Prescribing Information. For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

What is STRIBILD?

- **STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before.** STRIBILD is a complete regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.
- **STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.** You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.
- **Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing HIV-1 to others.** Do not share or reuse needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

- 1. Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take STRIBILD or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**
 - feel very weak or tired
 - have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
 - have trouble breathing
 - have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
 - feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
 - feel dizzy or lightheaded
 - have a fast or irregular heartbeat
- 2. Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**
 - your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
 - dark “tea-colored” urine
 - light-colored bowel movements (stools)
 - loss of appetite for several days or longer
 - nausea
 - stomach pain**You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time.**
- 3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection.** If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.
 - Do not run out of STRIBILD. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD is all gone

- Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider
- If you stop taking STRIBILD, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking STRIBILD

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you also take a medicine that contains:

- adefovir (Hepsera®)
- alfuzosin hydrochloride (Uroxatral®)
- cisapride (Propulsid®, Propulsid Quicksolv®)
- ergot-containing medicines, including: dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Migranal®), ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot®, Ergostat®, Medihaler Ergotamine®, Wigraine®, Wigrettes®), and methylergonovine maleate (Ergotrate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor®, Altoprev®, Mevacor®)
- oral midazolam
- pimozone (Orap®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®), when used for treating lung problems
- simvastatin (Simcor®, Vytorin®, Zocor®)
- triazolam (Halcion®)
- the herb St. John’s wort

Do not take STRIBILD if you also take any other HIV-1 medicines, including:

- Other medicines that contain tenofovir (Atripla®, Complera®, Viread®, Truvada®)
- Other medicines that contain emtricitabine, lamivudine, or ritonavir (Combivir®, Emtriva®, Epivir® or Epivir-HBV®, Epzicom®, Kaletra®, Norvir®, Trizivir®)

STRIBILD is not for use in people who are less than 18 years old.

What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

- **See “What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?”**
- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and while you are taking STRIBILD. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD if you develop new or worse kidney problems.
- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take STRIBILD. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system** (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having any new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

- These are not all the possible side effects of STRIBILD. For more information, ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:

- If you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis B infection
- If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
 - There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take STRIBILD.
 - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
 - Two of the medicines in STRIBILD can pass to your baby in your breast milk. It is not known if the other medicines in STRIBILD can pass into your breast milk.
 - Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements:

- STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works.
- Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
 - Hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc)
 - Antacid medicines that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD
 - Medicines to treat depression, organ transplant rejection, or high blood pressure
 - amiodarone (Cordarone®, Pacerone®)
 - atorvastatin (Lipitor®, Caduet®)
 - bepridil hydrochloric (Vascor®, Bepadin®)
 - bosentan (Tracleer®)
 - buspirone
 - carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Epitol®, Equetro®, Tegreto®)
 - clarithromycin (Biaxin®, Prevpac®)
 - clonazepam (Klonopin®)
 - clorazepate (Gen-xene®, Tranxene®)
 - colchicine (Colcrys®)
 - medicines that contain dexamethasone
 - diazepam (Valium®)

- digoxin (Lanoxin®)
- disopyramide (Norpace®)
- estazolam
- ethosuximide (Zarontin®)
- flecainide (Tambocor®)
- flurazepam
- fluticasone (Flovent®, Flonase®, Flovent® Diskus, Flovent® HFA, Veramyst®)
- itraconazole (Sporanox®)
- ketoconazole (Nizoral®)
- lidocaine (Xylocaine®)
- mexiletine
- oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®)
- perphenazine
- phenobarbital (Luminal®)
- phenytoin (Dilantin®, Phenytek®)
- propafenone (Rythmol®)
- quinidine (Neudexta®)
- rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- rifapentine (Priftin®)
- risperidone (Risperdal®, Risperdal Consta®)
- salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol when taken in combination with fluticasone (Advair Diskus®, Advair HFA®)
- sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®) or vardenafil (Levitra®, Staxyn®), for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED). If you get dizzy or faint (low blood pressure), have vision changes or have an erection that last longer than 4 hours, call your healthcare provider or get medical help right away.
- tadalafil (Adcirca®), for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension
- telithromycin (Ketek®)
- thioridazine
- voriconazole (Vfend®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®)
- zolpidem (Ambien®, Edlular®, Intermezzo®, Zolpimist®)

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

Keep STRIBILD and all medicines out of reach of children.

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about STRIBILD. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can also ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about STRIBILD that is written for health professionals, or call 1-800-445-3235 or go to www.STRIBILD.com.

Issued: August 2012



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Subscriptions via First Class Mail are available at the following rates: Three months (13 consecutive issues), \$65. Six months (26 consecutive issues), \$35. One year (52 consecutive issues), \$130. Subscriptions are payable by check, cashier's check, money order, Visa, Mastercard or American Express.

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viewpoints

Dressing up the elephant

Soul-searching post-election report recommends GOP reach out to minority groups, including gays, but don't expect it to actually happen

My grandfather was the first to impart this rural wisdom to me: "You can dress up a pig, but it's still a pig."

I believe he was using it in reference to a new model automobile from Studebaker. He was not a fan of the merger of Studebaker and Packard, and his intuition was right.

The pig was the "Lark" and it was one of the last cars produced by the company.

The Lark was a compact car that was intended to push the company back into the ranks of the other Detroit auto giants. It was too little, too late.

Today, the expression might well be, "You can dress up an elephant, but it's still an elephant."

I am referring to the GOP's latest soul-searching report, which revealed that the public finds the Republican Party "scary," "narrow-minded" and "out of touch."

The GOP is viewed as a party of "stuffy old men," and that is a direct quote from their research.

The Republicans have come to the realization

that the electorate is growing younger every day and their base is dying off.

In the party's own report they note, "It is no wonder that Republican policies can seem stale; they are very nearly identical to those offered up by the party more than 30 years ago. For Republicans to design an agenda that applies to the conditions of 1980 is as if Ronald Reagan designed his agenda for conditions that existed in the Truman years."

The proposed solution? Reach out to African-Americans, Hispanics and, of all people, "gays."

The report, called the Growth and Opportunity Project, reads more like a Democratic organizers handbook than something from the Republican Party.

Indeed, many of the ideas included in the report as to the "messaging" needed to attract the younger demographic are actually progressive ideas.

Another startling quote from the report:

"We have to blow the whistle at corporate malfeasance and attack corporate welfare. We should speak out

when a company liquidates itself and its executives receive bonuses but rank-and-file workers are left unemployed. We should speak out when CEOs receive tens of millions of dollars in retirement packages but middle-class workers have not had a meaningful raise in years."



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left



That one left me stunned.

The idea that the GOP would actually do anything to prevent the good-old-boy network from lining their pockets with Golden Parachutes is absolutely laughable. Remember the prime contributors to the GOP are big businesses, and at the helm of those businesses are guys who will do anything to keep their wealth — company be damned.

Equally startling is this one: "Already, there is a generational difference within the conservative movement about issues involving the treatment and the rights of gays — and for many younger voters, these issues are a gateway into whether the Party is a place they want to be. If our Party is not welcoming and inclusive, young people and increasingly other voters will continue to tune us out."

Inclusivity is the absolute opposite of the current GOP attitude.

The whole report is filled with this kind of wisdom, and though I sincerely believe enacting the suggested changes would be best for the GOP and the country's two-party system, I think the writers are living in an academic fantasy world.

Already voices from the faithful are sabotaging any efforts to enact these suggestions. With members like our own Texas Sen. Ted Cruz seen as the new vanguard of the party, I would say this report will be used as kindling for the next GOP barbeque fundraiser.

It would seem that the Republican Party may not even try to dress itself up and instead opt for being the lumbering slow beast of its mascot — its huge feet crushing any hint at change and assuring that it will continue its march backward in time.

No matter how they try, it's still an elephant. ■

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and board member for the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at DungeonDiary.blogspot.com.

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Friday night racket

Sets in the City tennis club serves up a new social scene for athletic-minded North Texas lesbians

SARAH DENISE MORGAN | Contributing Writer
lifestyle@dallasvoice.com

When Marilyn Sherman raised her racket last April to start a lesbian tennis group in Dallas, she had no idea she was serving up a hot new social club in the lesbian community.

Sherman, a tennis professional who has worked in Florida, Georgia and North Carolina, spent 15 years directing tennis for nine states as a national manager of the U.S. Tennis Association, setting up clubs for people interested in pursuing the courtly pastime.

"I like to create groups. I have a lifetime of seeing how tennis can truly change lives," Sherman says. "I have people say that [playing] tennis is when they find their joy. It gives a person a chance [at] a mind-body-soul experience. It is actually a lifestyle — a major way you frame your life."

This philosophy drove Sherman and her partner, Susie Oliver, to look around the Dallas lesbian and gay community for players. Oak Lawn Tennis Association, all male, seemed stacked with members at a high level of play; Sherman wanted to create a more social event-night for women of all skill levels, where women who had never picked up a racket — or even been athletic — would feel welcome alongside experts.

Within weeks of starting last April, the group grew by word of mouth; an average Friday night welcomes about 40 players of the 125 members. Ages range from 20 to 65. Activities range from drills to singles and doubles matches over four courts.

It has certainly been a welcome addition to the community for

Louise Ritter. An Olympic gold medalist in the high jump, Ritter had never touched a tennis ball until Sets in the City came around.

"I had such high expectations and it was intimidating to start but everyone rallied around me," Ritter says. "I started embracing the group. I haven't been active since I retired, and this opened up a door. Physically and socially I know I'll be in it for a lifetime."

Sherman smiles whenever she hears such stories. "Tennis changes lives," she says. "I witness it before my eyes in ways I have never seen before because it is in my own community. I ran tennis for 100,000 people in the South, but it wasn't for people in the lesbian community. It's great to be able to do this within my own community."

The format for each event is two hours of tennis followed by two hours of dinner and drinks at different locations. The Village Country Club at Greenville Avenue and Southwestern Boulevard has been the prime location for play, as members can simply walk over to the patio after a game.

"We found out so many women didn't have a weekly social outlet because maybe they stopped going to the bars and here they found an event with people they would see regularly," Sherman says. "Tennis was the draw and they had professional and personal things in common."

P.J. Johnson, another newcomer, says she has been "amazed at the many friends who have embraced me as a person. These

friendships came to fruition over the past several months and directly due to the connections made via Sets in the City."

Sherman insists that while she's serious about the sport, fun is the focus of the group.

"Fun on the courts looks like competition — they compete with each other whether it is in a match or in the drills," she says. "A lot of our people are coming from other sports who love to be competitive and have found tennis is a great avenue. You may not be able to play soccer, softball or volleyball your whole life but you can play tennis and compete. It isn't as hard on your body."

No one has experienced that change more than Ginger Kamm.

"When I started in May, I wasn't as confident, I didn't really care about exercise and being mentally and physically fit as much as I do now," she says. "My priorities have changed. I feel younger, too. I think I understand that having quality people

in your life is important and can absolutely lead to a better life and relationships. I've lost a couple of [dress] sizes because now I am biking and exercising with team members outside of Friday nights. The team attracted very positive, healthy, good, caring people."

For Sherman, that's game, set and match.

The new season of Sets and the City kicks off April 5. For more information, email setsinthecitydallas@gmail.com. Weekly cost is \$10.



GAME, SET, MATCH | Marilyn Sherman, from left, founded Sets in the City as a social/sports outlet for lesbians, including her partner, Susie Oliver, Stephanie Keith and Lisa Johnson. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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L+S sports

The Lost boys



Lost Souls wants to make the brutal sport of rugby a social outlet for gays

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

Ever since gay rugby player Mark Bingham became one of the heroes of Flight 93 on Sept. 11, 2001, the sport of rugby has exploded in the U.S. — especially among gay athletes.

For a number of years, Dallas had one gay rugby team, the Diablos; in the last year, however, two more have popped up: The Lady Quins (a women's off-

shoot of the mainstream Dallas Harlequins with a predominantly lesbian roster) and the Lost Souls. And Caleb Hand thinks he knows why.

"I think a lot of people are realizing there's a bonding aspect of it that's not always present in other sports," says Hand, the general manager and one of the four

founding members of the Lost Souls along with



SCRUM MEN | Lost Souls (clockwise from upper left, Matt Delbridge, Donnie Stantin, Todd Maria, Mark Amayo, Bill McElheny and Richard Blackney) scrum at a recent practice. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

his partner, Todd Maria, AJ Tello and Patric Alva. "That's why I stuck with it — it's a brutal sport on your body, but there's a brotherhood. Once you are aware of that, it becomes kind of addicting."

Addicting, yes, but not necessarily all-encompassing. One of the reasons the Lost Souls came about was to give themselves a breather from the rigors of the game.

"We had a bunch of players who wanted to be active in the sport of rugby but couldn't commit to the almost full-time schedule the Texas Rugby Union [demands]," Hand says. "We wanted to form a team that would be competitive but allow for friendlies and attend tournaments,"

similar to college intramural sports. That means a member-driven team with no club dues, operating solely on fundraising and sponsorships.

Since their founding last June, they've succeeded in developing a roster and are still working toward establishing a play schedule.

"We started with HellFest, which is a tourney the Diablos hold in October. We placed third out of six or seven teams, which was great. We played one friendly match against Arlington," then attended an International Gay Rodeo Association and Board tournament last weekend out of state. (Dallas is now the only city in the U.S. with two IGRAB teams.) "It's my first Easter in a while where I won't have a bonnet," Hand says.

The sacrifice paid off. Last weekend, they made it to finals, eventually falling in the championship round to the Chicago Dragons, the defending champs. Still, that means the newcomers came in second out of eight teams.

They'll probably pick up again in the fall with HellFest, plus some "touch" games over the summer.

"The climate in Dallas is about what it was in Phoenix, where I came from, and it's just too hot to spend hours out in the sun," Hand says. (Hand himself is retired from play — "they call me Jerry Jones," he jokes — while his partner, another founding member, is a coach.)

The Lost Souls already have a roster of 16 members — a mix of many previous rugby players, as well as newcomers to the sport.

"It was something we were hoping for, but we were not positive we could recruit new players," he says. They've also netted some sponsorships (including their home bar, the Round-Up Saloon), and have been active in the community.

"Our members volunteer for BearDance and



GETTING ROUGH | Coach Todd Maria, left, and manager Caleb Hand are not only two of the Lost Souls' founders, they are also a couple.

Honey Pot. And we work with the Resource Center. We want to be part of the gay community, not just a team," Hand says.

And he hopes people will come out and share the love of rugby — if not as a player, as a fan.

"It's also a lot of fun to watch," he says. "It's exciting and fast-paced, like basketball. There's constant action."

And gay guys love to go where the action is — especially if it involves full body contact. ■



Diablos auction off ... themselves

The Lost Souls aren't the only gay rugby team that relies on fundraising — the Dallas Diablos are about to mount one of their big moneymakers, their annual Bachelor Auction. Members of the team will take to the platform at Woody's on April 14 to strut their stuff and boast about their big packages ... by which we mean, the goodies that come with winning a date with one of the members, from spa treatments to travel. It's all in good fun, but also a sexy way to enjoy a Sunday.

— A.W.J.

Woody's Sports and Video Bar, 4011 Cedar Springs Road. April 14 at 5 p.m. For details, visit DallasDiablos.org.



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L+S dining

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How Eric Tschetter took his successful FW sports bar Pour House to the Cliff

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

Eric Tschetter can tell you the day when he decided what he needed to do.

For a decade, he has owned The Pour House, a Fort Worth sports bar. For virtually all of that time, however, he's lived in Dallas. The commute for work didn't bother him much; it was the commute when it came to having fun.

"My partner and I were having brunch in Oak Cliff, with the intention of driving over to Pour House in Fort Worth," he explains, "but we had been drinking

and really just wanted to stay someplace closer." But nowhere in the immediate area offered the combination of athletics, snacks and gay-friendly atmosphere he wanted.

"We thought, 'Why can't we watch sports right here in the Cliff?' It was football season!" That was 2011; in less than a year, Tschetter had his wish — and he's the one who made it happen. PhD (a clever twist — it stands for Pour House Dallas) opened on Davis Street across from the Kessler Theater last fall,



PENNE FOR YOUR THOUGHTS | PhD sports bar owner Eric Tschetter holds a spicy pasta, one of the upscale twists to a menu that also features traditional sliders, opposite. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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just in time for the start of football and to watch the World Series. Oak Cliff finally has a place folks — gay and straight — can nosh on burgers, beer and wings while rooting for their favorite teams.

Doors opened on Sept. 7 and they secured their liquor license on Oct. 7 — which is good for Tschetter, because that's what he loves best about being a bar owner.

"My favorite part is the tasting of the beers," he says, noting that PhD carries many local microbrews, including ones from Four Corners, Deep Ellum and Oak Cliff Brewing. But he also likes the socializing. "It's nice getting to try something different every day," Tschetter says. "It's an interesting people-friendly job."

Tschetter is especially glad his gay neighbors who enjoy sports have a place they can feel comfortable south of the Trinity.

"I've lived in the neighborhood for 10 years, and we've seen a lot of gays and lesbians here, but I didn't know just how much until I opened here," he says. (Just listen to the music over the speakers to detect the gay sensibility — there's everything from Queen to Madonna.) Tschetter



has also recently started showcasing live music, with singers from the community on Friday and Saturday nights, and he hopes to have a DJ for brunches as well. And with the weather warming up, he expects the patio will get popular.

"We can enclose it and it's heated in the winter," he notes, but Dallas is all about patios.

The food consists of a lot of traditional pub grub, though there are some interesting twists. The kitchen offers three kinds of wings (honey barbecue, Buffalo and teriyaki), plus Texas faves like King Ranch chicken and fish tacos; a plate of deluxe nachos can satisfy a lot of hungry mouths. (Half-price happy hour prices on appetizers and cocktails are also a lure.)

And, of course, PhD also has weekend brunch. Face it: You can't be gay, even in Oak Cliff, without a Sunday Funday. ■

Getting your gay sports fix this season

With the first pitch of the season of Major League Baseball earlier this week, the NCAA championship just around the corner and the NBA finals set to start later this month and the NHL playoffs on its heels, it's a perfect storm for sports fans. But it's not just pro and college teams you have to root for — there's lots going on among local gay teams. (Have a sports group, league or event you want to see covered? Add it to our online calendar at DallasVoice.com, or email lifestyle@dallasvoice.com with news of your event.)

Dallas Gay Basketball Association (pictured) — The spring playoffs for this still-newish league start next week (April 11) with a winning team picked on April 18. (As of press time, the Suns was the only undefeated team, while the Clippers have yet to win a game.) But that's not the end of the season — there's still a banquet scheduled for Woody's on April 20, starting at 7 p.m. DallasGBA.org.

Oak Lawn Tennis Association — With weather like it is in Dallas, tennis is practically a year-round sport. The OLTA started its season last month, with events scheduled three times a week — at Samuell Grand Park (Sundays), LB Houston Tennis Center (Tuesdays) and Fair Oaks Tennis Center (Thursdays) — until the Texas Open tourney in October. The OLTA's diversity board is also in the middle of a recruitment push to get more women to come out and enjoy the sport. OLTADallas.org.

Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association — If Dallas' gay community can be said to have an official sport, it's probably softball. Prior to its annual Beat the Heat Classic tourney (hosted over Memorial Day Weekend as usual, May 25–26), members will be out in force for the third annual Diesel Chill Kickoff this Sunday, April 7 at 4 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon. DallasPSSA.org.

Dallas Independent Volleyball Association — Fridays are game night with the DIVAs, with play continuing through May 3 until the Spring Tournament on May 11. But even before that, you'll want to put down the ball and pick up your wallet to attend the Miss DIVA Pageant, which takes place April 14 at the Round-Up, starting at 7 p.m. DIVADallas.org.



— Arnold Wayne Jones

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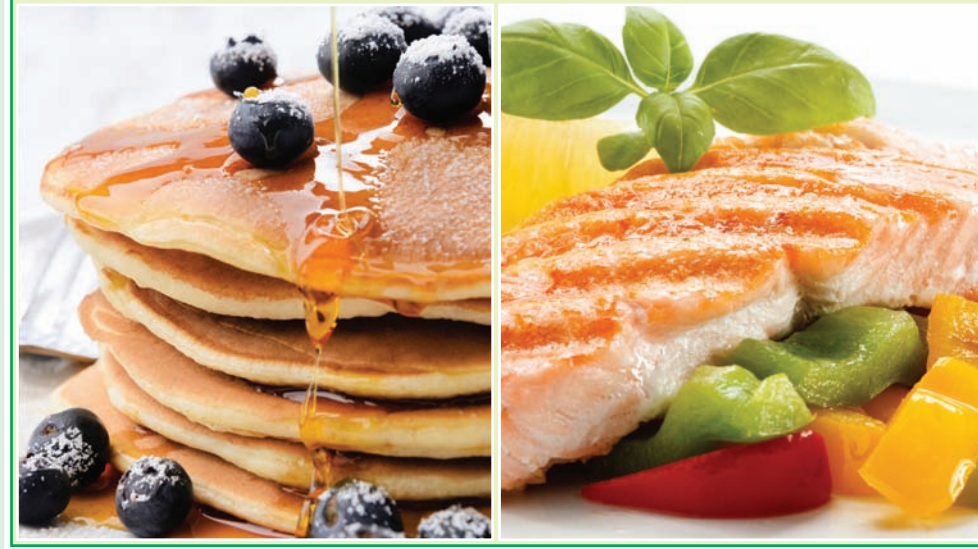


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Magic Mikes

Texas beefcake share the secrets of strippers (Big news? They're all straight!)

Between them, Taylor Cole and Justin Whitfield have been getting naked (or nearly naked) professionally for more than 30 years. With that much skin in the game, it naturally made sense they would share their experience with the world — both the fans who like to watch them, and other men who want to be them. The result was the book *Take It Off: The Naked Truth about Male Strippers*.

Originally planned as a self-published e-book, *Take It Off* had the good fortune to come out just as last year's male stripper film *Magic Mike* opened, triggering a tidal wave of interest.

"We were in the process of editing the e-book when the movie came out," Cole says. "Writing a book, the problem is always getting a publisher. [After the success of the film], everyone was saying, 'Send us over what you got!' They gave us a contract," which resulted in the print version. (The movie was very accurate about the business, Whitfield says.)

The two Texans practically begin their book about being the *real* Magic Mikes by answering the most common question women ask them: "How many of you are gay?" The answer, surprisingly, is "none."

"We get asked that probably three or four

times a night," Cole says. "It gets old quick."

It's not that gay guys *don't* like to strip, they insist — and there's certainly no homophobia on their parts. It's that, in general, gay dancers can make a helluva lot more money in gay clubs than in straight ones.

"They make probably five times the money we make," says Cole, who notes that many strippers in women-only clubs often get started in gay bars. "It's probably because gay men have more disposable income, and usually don't have a wife milking them dry. And no kids!"

Of course, that begs the question: Why not stick to dancing in gay clubs? Of course the answer to this is simple: Women.

It's not unheard-of for strippers to pull down six figures, but that's not necessarily all in dollar bills shoved down G-strings. There's a science to it (and gay or straight, the book provides some insights into what it takes to be a dancer, what it takes to *succeed* at it, and even the proper etiquette to observe when tipping).

Both men insist that the most successful male strippers have common attributes — unexpectedly among them, humility and brains.

"The ones who are cocky? We push them out," Cole says.



SHAKE YOUR BOOTY | Justin Whitfield and Taylor Cole had already written their book about male strippers when 'Magic Mike' came out; now they just seem prophetic. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

"You learn a lot about humility," adds Whitfield. "You have to put yourself out there for people to judge," and not every dancer suits every taste. "The best looking guy doesn't mean he's the best earner, and the best dancer is not necessarily the best looking. People bring different things to the table."

And the brains? Neither of these guys are dummies. Whitfield (a UT grad) tosses around big words casually, and says his highlight on the

stage wasn't dropping trou, but when he did Chekhov in college.

Another key factor? You have to want the attention.

"The thing the dancers love the most is the moment or the rush — it's more important than the money," Whitfield says. "I like the roar of the crowd, to be the center of attention," adds Cole.

And a rockin' body doesn't hurt. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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No tie required

Sassy lifestyle guru Steve Kemble shows you how to throw the perfect party

Just because the No Tie Dinner eschews the fuss and formality of a black tie doesn't mean you can't do it up right. Steve Kemble—America's sassiest lifestyle guru and this year's honorary chair of the AIDS Services of Dallas fundraiser—came up with this list of hints for how to put on your party, from creating a theme to tailoring the event to your personality. (Best of all, the tips are good beyond the No Tie Dinner.)

If you aren't hosting a dinner this year, or attending one, you can still enjoy the dessert party at the Frontiers of Flight Museum on Saturday night.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Coming up with a theme

Country. For example, why not Italy!? Dress your party in the colors of Italy and serve amazing Italian cuisine!

Color. Pick a color and go with it—you'll be amazed how much atmosphere and decor it adds to your party by asking all your guests to dress in one color. Come on Dallas—let's show Palm Springs how you really do a "White Party" (just watch the party lines)!

DIY. The do-it-yourself trend is still hot! So why not prepare the "base" of the entrée and let your guests do it themselves by selecting their own pizza toppings, fillings for their burrito or the items they would like on a slider?

Giving your event personality

Create a signature cocktail. Not only does this create a personal touch to your party, it is a big time-saver. I suggest pre-mixing your specialty cocktail (which can go along with your theme) and pouring it in a wonderful pitcher. Then place out a table card with the name and ingredients, a bucket of ice and tongs, glasses and let guests pre-serve themselves as you continue with any last-minute dinner preparation.

Set the mood. You've heard the phrase "Let there be light" ... I say, "Let there be *no* light!" Dim those lights and bring in lots and lots of candles. Candles are the most cost-effective way to create an atmosphere. I love to use them in a



GET THIS PARTY STARTED

This year's honorary chair for the No Tie Dinner, Steve Kemble has good ideas about entertaining.

variety of shapes and sizes. For dinner parties I think it is best to use unscented candles as to not compete with the fabulous aromas of what you are serving!

Pump it up. I'd never take any business from our fabulous DJ's here in Dallas, but sometimes space will not allow someone manning the turntable. Consider asking a local superstar (think Jennifer Miller and Paul Paredes, Lucy Wrubel or Brandon Olds) for a playlist ... and let your guests know who created it!

Fake-out/Take-out! This time of year is so very crazy busy for everyone, so if time runs out before dinner, don't fear. Take action and do what I like to call Fake-out/Take-out: Go to your favorite carry-out establishment (Eatzi's?) and order some amazing to-go meals. For that special touch, I always take in my own platters or serving dishes and have them put the food right on the dish. You know it looks good and you know what garnishes to buy to finish the presentation of the dish.

Finish strong. I love to finish any dinner party with a fabulously strong cup of joe, and maybe a few chocolate truffles as well. I even go as far as to set up a "to-go" station so guests can take their coffee on the road with them, à la Starbucks. It is a wonderful treat on the way home. (Tea is a nice addition for your non-coffee drinkers.)

NO TIE DESSERT PARTY

Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. at Love Field. April 6. Starting at 7 p.m. NoTieDinner.org.

Participating Stylists:
Melissa Renee
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Saturday, April 6, 2013 at 7:00 pm
Frontiers of Flight Museum
6911 Lemmon Ave., Dallas, TX 75209

A donation of \$50 per person is suggested. Come prepared to bid on items donated by Dallas' finest showrooms, retailers and restaurants. Decadent desserts from the city's top chefs will be served, along with beverages of your choice!

Go-Go 60's theme is encouraged. Casually chic, fun and fabulous always!

To volunteer at the Flight Museum, contact Henrietta Martin at 214-941-0523 or hmartin@aidsdallas.org

www.NoTieDinner.org

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Friday 04.05

Dallas Opera returns with 'Turandot'

It's been a long hiatus since the Dallas Opera's last full-scale musical of the 2012-13 season, but it should be worth the wait, with the return of one of the most beloved productions in the canon — Puccini's last work, *Turandot*. Stage director Garnett Bruce, who led *Aida* last fall, returns with conductor Marco Zambelli to lead this story of intrigue, love and bloodlust as a barbarian princess in Beijing is pledged to any prince who can answer three riddles. Lise Lindstrom stars as Turandot, with Anotello Palombi entrusted with the stirring aria "Nessun Dorma."

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 4203 Flora St. April 5, 10, 13 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and April 7 and 19 matinees at 2 p.m. The April 13 performance will be simulcast at Cowboys Stadium with free admission and parking. DallasOpera.org.



Wednesday 04.10

Are you a friend of Dorothy? Then you simply must see 'Wicked'

Wicked isn't even a decade old, but already it's one of the true classics of Broadway musicals. And why wouldn't it be, with a staggering score by Stephen Schwartz, a smart, character-driven book by Winnie Holzman and faboo special effects (watching witchy Elphaba fly at the end of Act 2 will transform you). Dallas Summer Musicals again offers us nearly a month of performances to see what happened in Oz before Dorothy flew her house there.

DEETS: Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. April 10–May 5. DallasSummerMusicals.org.



Thursday 04.11

Mary Gauthier performs at Poor David's Pub

Mary Gauthier's last name (it's pronounced "go-shay") pegs her as a Louisiana girl, but her sound, filtered through her life in Nashville, bespeaks a rootless wandering that has made her a cult fave and one of our favorite LGBT artists. She delivers on her new live CD, *Live at Blue Rock*. But you don't need to go to Blue Rock to hear it — you can just see the top-notch troubadour perform Thursday at Poor David's Pub.

DEETS: Poor David's Pub, 1313 S. Lamar St. Doors open at 7 p.m. \$20–\$22. FrontGateTickets.com.

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calendar highlights



HOW YOU LIKE THEM APPLES | A city boy (Jonathan Groff, with Dale Dickey) takes a job on an Oregon apple farm and meets bushels of characters in 'C.O.G.,' a film based on the writing of gay humorist David Sedaris. 'C.O.G.' screens along with many other films all week at the Dallas International Film Festival.

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

The Apartment Plays. A double bill of two one-acts by Bruce R. Coleman. Green Zone, 161 Riveredge Drive. *Final weekend.* UpstartTheater.com.

Avenue Q. Theatre 3's hit from last summer and fall returns for an unlimited run in its Theatre Too space, once again with 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.

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

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

The Grapes of Wrath. WaterTower Theatre presents the Tony Award winner about the Joads, Oklahomans making a life for themselves in Cali. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through April 28 (in previews through April 7). WaterTowerTheatre.org.

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.

John Michael and the Order of the Penix, a one-man show about Dallas, Harry Potter and HIV. (*Reviewed this week.*) Magnolia Lounge at Fair Park, 1121 First Ave. Through April 16. Nouveau47.com.

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

Re-Designing Women. Cross-dressing spoof of the '80s sitcom, performed by men. Presented by Uptown Players in the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Through May 19. UptownPlayers.org.

Rx. Kitchen Dog Theater presents this regional premiere, a dark comedy about Big Pharma. (*Reviewed this week.*) The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through 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.

OPERA

Turandot. Puccini's final work, containing the most famous tenor aria in the canon, "Nessun Dorma." Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. April 5, 10, 13 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. and April 7 and 21 matinees. The April 13 performance will be simulcast at Cowboys Stadium for free. (*Turandot* will run in repertory with *The Aspern Papers* starting next week.) DallasOpera.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 plates. 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.

FILM

Dallas International Film Festival. The week-long screenings of new movies and classics features a sizeable collection of gay-interest films, at the Magnolia and Angelika theaters. Visit DallasFilm.org for a complete schedule, and DallasVoice.com for reviews.

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/dvssubmit.

FRIDAY 04.05

CONCERTS

Frankie. Billboard artist Frankie performs her new single, "Forever," at three locales in a day: April 5 at Plush, 1400 Main St., at 11:30 p.m.; Round-Up Saloon, 3812 Cedar Springs Road just after midnight on April 5 at 12:30 a.m., and 24 hours later at the Rose Room inside Station 4, 3811 Cedar Springs Road, also at 12:30 a.m. FrankieLive.com.



FRANKIE GOES TO DALLAS | Singer Frankie performs her new single at shows Friday and Saturday at Plush, the Round-Up Saloon and the Rose Room.

SATURDAY 04.06

THEATER

Burnt at the Steak. A one-woman show of comedy, music and dance, performed by New York artist Carolann Valentino, who portrays 18 characters. Frisco Discovery Center, 8004 N. Dallas Parkway, Frisco. April 6 at 8 p.m., April 7 at 3 p.m. \$15-\$25. BurntAtTheSteak.com.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly, radio show addressing LGBT issues. This week's guest is outgoing City Councilwoman Angela Hunt. 89.3 KNON-FM at 11 a.m.

SUNDAY 04.07

COMEDY

Another Round with Josh Johnson. The 23-year-old Cowtown native performs at a showcase for area standup talent. Presented by QLive! Four Day Weekend Theatre, 312 Houston St., Fort Worth. 8 p.m. \$10. QCinema.org.

PETS

Dog Bowl. The 7th annual unleashed social hour for wagging family members, sponsored by Friends of Fair Park. Cotton Bowl at Fair Park, 3750 Cotton Bowl Circle. 1-5 p.m. Free.

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. Intrigue among the Lannisters, Baratheons and Starks. HBO at 8 p.m.

MONDAY 04.08

BROADCAST

Dallas. J.R. is dead, but the Ewings continue their conniving. TNT at 8 p.m.

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

TUESDAY 04.09

FILM

Codebreaker. The GLAAD nominee for best documentary, about Alan Turing — the British genius who solved the Nazis' Enigma code, only to be shamed and broken when it was discovered he was gay — screens at a video-on-demand presentation at AMC NorthPark, 8687 N. Central Expressway. 7:30 p.m. \$11. Note: Tickets must be purchased beforehand and the screening will only occur if at least 50 tickets are sold. Book now at Tickets.todpdx.com/codebreaker.

WEDNESDAY 04.10

THEATER

Wicked. The bewitching hit musical returns, courtesy Dallas Summer Musicals. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. April 10-May 5. DallasSummerMusicals.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 04.11

THEATER

The Pleasure of Seeing You. WingSpan Theatre Co. and One Thirty Productions present a two-day, four-performance staged reading of this fun and heart-breaking play about the complex relationship between parent and child in this play by the gay French-Canadian author Michel Tremblay. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. April 11-12 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. \$5-\$10. WingSpanTheatre.com.

CONCERTS

Mary Gauthier. The queer troubadour performs in support of her CD, *Live at Blue Rock*. Poor David's Pub, 1313 S. Lamar St. Doors open at 7 p.m. \$20-\$22. PoorDavidsPub.com.

ART

Dallas Art Fair. 80 galleries represented at this weekend-long showcase. Fashion Industry Gallery, 1807 Ross Ave. April 11-14. \$25-\$50. DallasArtFair.com.

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY



Janis Ian turns 62 on Tuesday. The pop-folk singer-songwriter shot to fame in the 1970s, and is best known for her Grammy-winning hit "At Seventeen" — a long way from 62! She came out as lesbian in 1993.

ARIES: Mar 21–Apr 20

It's hard to know when we are truly being honest with ourselves. You've got so much invested in your own thing, it confuses you when it comes to dealing with others. Someone keeps coming around to give you whatever you need.

TAURUS: Apr 21–May 20

You have more than one option. It doesn't matter which one you choose, because they carry an equal amount of opportunity. Don't rush into decisions.

GEMINI: May 21–Jun 20

You can do this with your eyes closed, so stop worrying about how it's all going to turn out. Your dexterity applies to a million different things. Your best qualities get axed when it comes time to focus.

CANCER: Jun 21–Jul 20

It's amazing how people don't know how to behave. Your nearest and dearest could be driving you nuts. If it isn't that, there is probably more than one female giving you a run for your money. In most cases, there is nothing you can do about it.

LEO: Jul 21–Aug 20

Don't let blame keep obscuring the truth. Nobody is out to get you. You need to stop dramatizing your situation and snap out of it. How you choose to interpret and react to others' behavior is your business.

VIRGO: Aug 21–Sep 20

Nobody knows how much you need to make everything right. When things are less than perfect, you go crazy wondering where you messed up. Sometimes life takes us away from our best laid plans, not to make us wrong or punish us for our mistakes, but to show us how to mend things.

LIBRA: Sep 21–Oct 20

Your relationship situation is always an issue because you keep trying to make things look like they're 'supposed to.' You've got so much going on, it would be a shame to let your life fall into the dustbin of convention and conformity.

SCORPIO: Oct 21–Nov 20

Don't think too much about what you should, or shouldn't, do in this situation. On a higher level it is being coordinated to go exactly where it needs to go. In obsessing too much about how it's all going to work out, you betray a certain lack of faith.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21–Dec 20

You've got a lot of well-meant advice making it very difficult for you to see what you need to do. In the course of looking at things from every possible angle, you forgot about your own! The truth is you don't know what you want. Somehow that got lost under a pile of distractions that have left you confused.

CAPRICORN: Dec 21 - Jan 20

The pressure is off — who knows why, but something clicked. In the course of figuring out what to do next, a couple of things come to mind. Everything that you have been working toward has finally begun to take shape.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21–Feb 20

We don't stay in the same groove forever. What needs to happen next isn't something that's clear at the moment. Any impulse to change the way you do things has to be tempered with enough patience to wait till the time is right.

PISCES: Feb 21–Mar 20

Your doubts about this keep getting confirmed by the way things look to you. Others are not of the same mind. It's interesting how two people can look at the identical situation and see entirely different things.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

357

GOOD LORD, RICHARD... WHAT HAVE YOU GONE AND DONE TO YOUR HAIR NOW?

THOUGHT I'D TRY A NEW HUE. HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?

ALL YOU NEED IS SOME WHITE FACE PAINT, AND YOU'LL LOOK LIKE THE JOKER.

THE JOKER?

YOU MEAN... FROM BATMAN? THAT'S NOT VERY FLATTERING, PRICE.

IT WASN'T MEANT TO BE. BY THE WAY, I'M ACTUALLY A BIG BATMAN FAN.

I'VE ALWAYS FANCIED MYSELF AS A BRUCE WAYNE TYPE.

REALLY? I SEE YOU AS MORE OF A BRUCE BANNER TYPE.

I'D WATCH YOUR TONGUE, YOU LITTLE MAGGOT.

TEMPER, TEMPER, DARLING.

SORRY TO INTERRUPT GUYS, BUT...

...RUDY, YOUR NIECE JUST CALLED.

OH? IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT, KYLE?

WELL, THERE'S BEEN AN UNEXPECTED OPENING AT THE CRESTWOOD HOME. THEY'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO TAKE YOU NEXT TUESDAY.

NEXT TUESDAY?!

MY GOODNESS, I... ..HADN'T EXPECTED TO BE LEAVING HERE SO SOON.

NO, NO, KYLE. I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE ANY TROUBLE. SHE'S VERY DETERMINED THAT I ENTER THAT... FACILITY.

WELL, THAT SUCKS. WHY CAN'T HE JUST STAY HERE?

PERHAPS WE COULD SEND YOU IN HIS PLACE, RICHARD.

OH, BUT WOULDN'T YOU MISS ME, PRICE?

DO YOU WANT ME TO CALL YOUR NIECE BACK? SEE IF YOU CAN STAY HERE A LITTLE LONGER?

I'D BETTER GO START PACKING MY THINGS.

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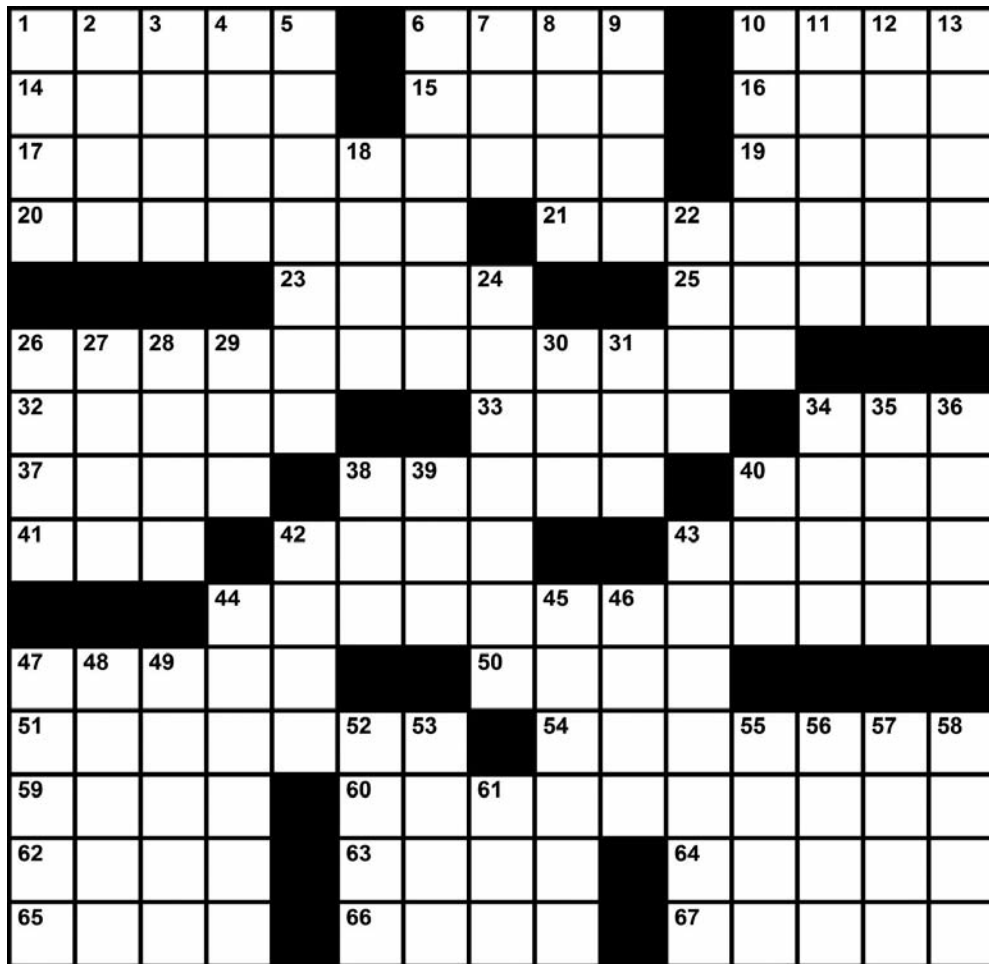
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Passion of Crime

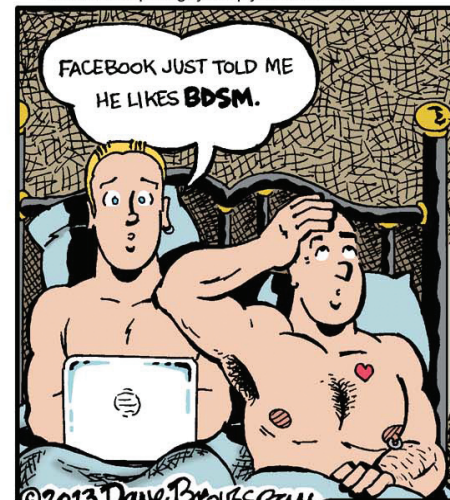
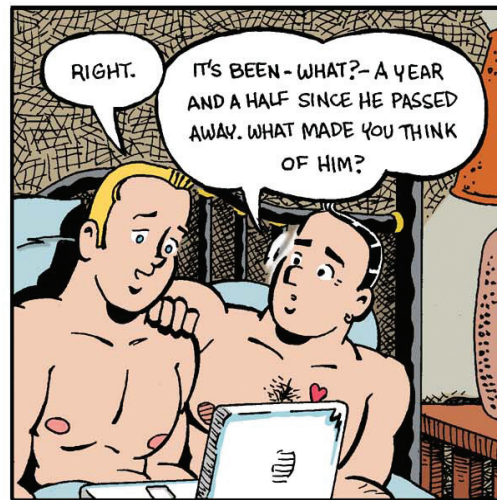
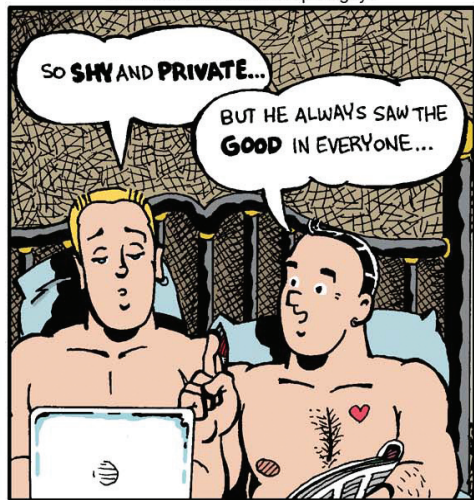
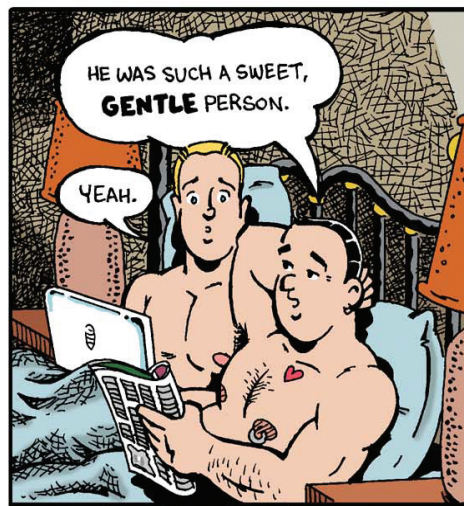
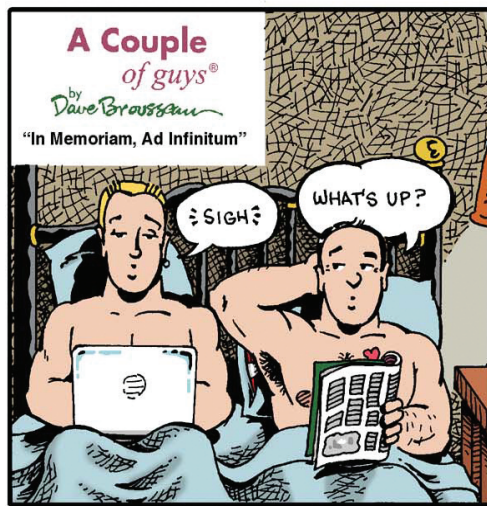
Solution on page 33

Across

- 1 Sarandon's partner in *Thelma & Louise*
- 6 Neuwirth of *Chicago*
- 10 Court order
- 14 Bridge call, informally
- 15 Like a meticulous bottom?
- 16 Have ___ to grind
- 17 Serial killer on 26-Across
- 19 Baby's dusting
- 20 Not oral
- 21 Man-to-man, to Sue Wicks
- 23 Bone to pick
- 25 Rupert Everett's *An ___ Husband*
- 26 Fox crime drama
- 32 DJ's creation
- 33 Event for George Frenn
- 34 Down in the mouth
- 37 Shakespeare's foot
- 38 Detective Ryan of 26-Across
- 40 Remarkable item
- 41 Cross-dresser's cup pair
- 42 Oz visitor Dorothy
- 43 On top
- 44 Actor who plays 17-Across
- 47 Seat at the Stonewall Inn
- 50 Strip in the locker room

Down

- 51 Device used to determine orientation?
- 54 Flips out
- 59 It comes at the bottom of a list
- 60 Actor who plays 38-Across
- 62 Old fruit drink
- 63 Hacker's cry
- 64 Words from an emcee
- 65 Govt. investigator
- 66 Emulate Rufus Wainwright
- 67 Cuts *Leaves of Grass*?
- 1 School for martial arts
- 2 At once, to Byron
- 3 Lincoln's Johnson
- 4 Pre-Columbian Peruvian
- 5 TV when you're watching *Desperate Housewives*?
- 6 Bung-hole's place
- 7 Rocker Brian
- 8 Smooth on top
- 9 Pronoun for Proust
- 10 Like *Beauty and the Beast*
- 11 Cockamamie
- 12 Latin music
- 13 Do a bang-up job
- 18 Rod attachment
- 22 Like some print
- 24 Tom Hanks' *Gump*
- 26 Chi paper
- 27 Get wind of
- 28 Oscar winner Thompson
- 29 White lie
- 30 What a guy may shoot
- 31 Like treacherous winter roads
- 34 Foam at South Beach
- 35 On top of that
- 36 Moral obligation
- 38 Show-off on the stage
- 39 Maugham's *Cakes and ___*
- 40 Become prone
- 42 The Oscars, e.g.
- 43 It's comped
- 44 Bi singer Janis
- 45 Alerting electronically
- 46 Second word of a fairy tale
- 47 Pumbaa's problem, in *The Lion King*
- 48 Family figure
- 49 Largest cornhusker city
- 52 Dashes through the snow
- 53 Interstate rumbler
- 55 Material for Sylvia Beach?
- 56 Beginning of *Wicked*
- 57 Left to pirates
- 58 Biblical patriarch
- 61 What fifty





Guys' night out at Havana.



Gage and J-Zee at BJ's NXS!



Friends' night out at Club Reflection.

Spring into Leather at the Hidden Door on April 6. Showtime is 8 p.m. hosted by Mr. Hidden Door Louis Kenmar. ... The USofA Boys take over Randy's Club Cherries on April 6, then head to the Rainbow Lounge on April 7. Skye O'Hara Paige emcees, with guests Jordan Mathews, Xavi Mathews, Patrick Mikyles, RJ Mathews and Sebastian Anthony performing both nights. ... Voice of Pride 2012 winner Angie Landers joins Gary Poe on Friday nights at Pekers. ... Mustache Envy takes over Sue Ellen's on April 5. Chix performs on April 6 and Bad Habits on April 7. ... JR.'s Bar & Grill celebrates the release of Alexis Jordan's Acid Rain CD on April 9. ... Eternal After Hours invades The Brick on April 9. ... DJ Perry Resinbilcher spins at The Dallas Eagle on April 5 while Dallas Bears and Leather Knights hold First Friday Club Night. The Dallas Girls of Leather monthly meeting begins at 4 p.m. on April 6. Then the United Court of the Lone Star Empire stages Angels vs. Demons hosted by Devon Devasquez benefiting the Resource Center Dallas Nutrition Program. ... The third annual Dallas Diesel Chili Cook-off takes place in the Round-Up Saloon parking lot on April 7. The fourth annual Palm Springs Cocktail Challenge picks the best Dallas bartender on April 8. Win a trip to Palm Springs. ... Mi Diva Loca performs at Woody's Back Patio on April 6. ... Get the best view of the Deep Ellum Pooch Parade on April 7 at noon from the rooftop of Eden Lounge. ■

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



Stoney at Sue Ellen's.



Friends' night out at TMC: The Mining Company.



Beckie and Rachel at Best Friends Club.



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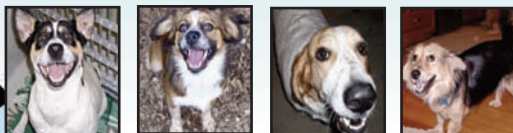
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Pin the Date!
Thursday, April 25th
A Tapestry of Business Equality
Join us for the 8th Annual Business Excellence Awards Dinner of the North Texas GLBT Chamber At: eM the Venue ■ 1500 Dragon St. Visit: www.glbtcchamber.org

Society for companion animals need volunteers. Please contact office@societyforcompanionanimals.org

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