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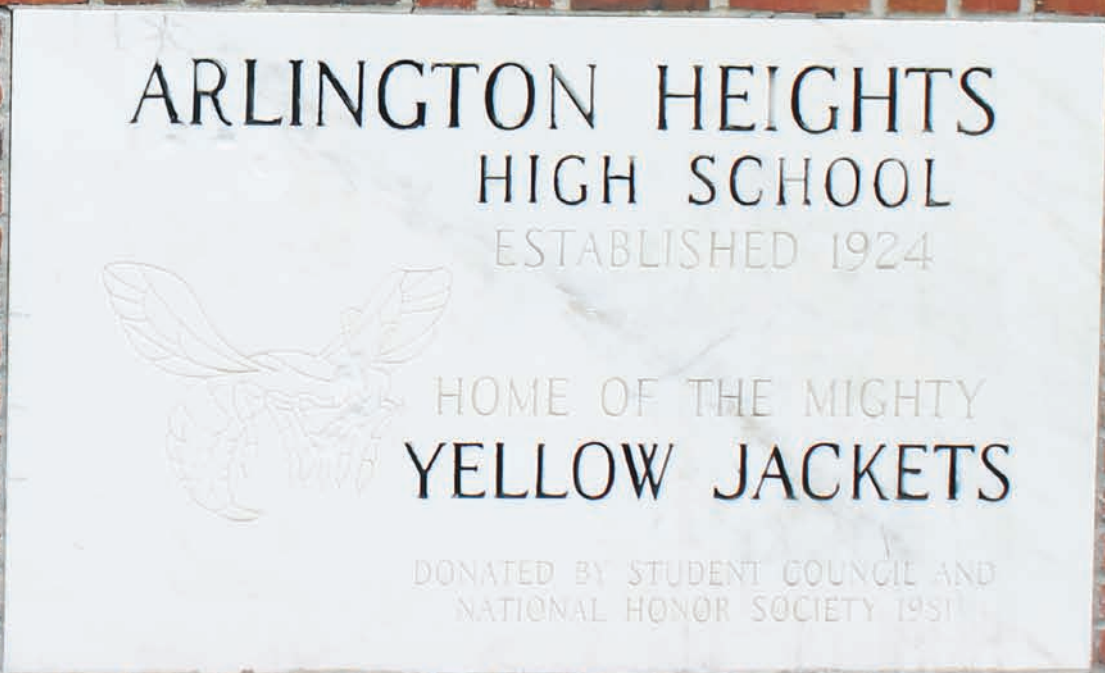
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'It's NOT Okay'

Fort Worth ISD's anti-bullying initiative has earned national recognition, but LGBT advocates say it isn't doing enough to protect queer youth

COVER STORY, Page 6



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Cover photo by Anna Waugh

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Resource Center Dallas to take over Youth First Texas on June 1

Resource Center Dallas will assume all programming from Youth First Texas on June 1 as a result of an agreement reached between the two organizations, according to a release sent out by RCD on April 30.

This will ensure a continuation of programming for LGBTQ youth, which was in doubt earlier this year after the previous YFT board had dwindled and remaining members either resigned or were removed.

After RCD assumes YFT programming, YFT will become a program of RCD. Programming will continue with YFT's current staff and volunteers at its present location at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.

"Our strategic vision is to expand programs for seniors, families and youth," RCD CEO Cece Cox said in the release. "As Resource Center Dallas nears its 30th anniversary, we are eager to take on the new challenges of serving our community's youth and plan to work with the youth to develop additional programs and services. We will build upon the significant foundation and broad community support established by Youth First Texas over their 13 years of service."

Richard Gordon was one of YFT's first board members. He returned to the board in January to become interim chair after all previous board member resigned.

"I am confident that the LGBTQ youth of North Texas will greatly benefit by the Center taking on the programming offered by Youth First," Gordon said.

"After extensive review and discussion, it was decided that this move to the Center will provide the much-needed stability and support that our LGBTQ youth deserve."

— David Taffet

5 GetEQUAL TX activists arrested in state ENDA protest at Capitol

Cd Kirven and four other GetEQUAL TX activists were released on \$1,500 bail each on May 1. They were charged with class-B misdemeanors.

The five held sit-ins in state Senate offices to protest Senate bill SB 237 not being moved to the Senate floor for a vote. The legislation is a statewide LGBT employment nondiscrimination law.

"We have three weeks to push hard," Kirven said.

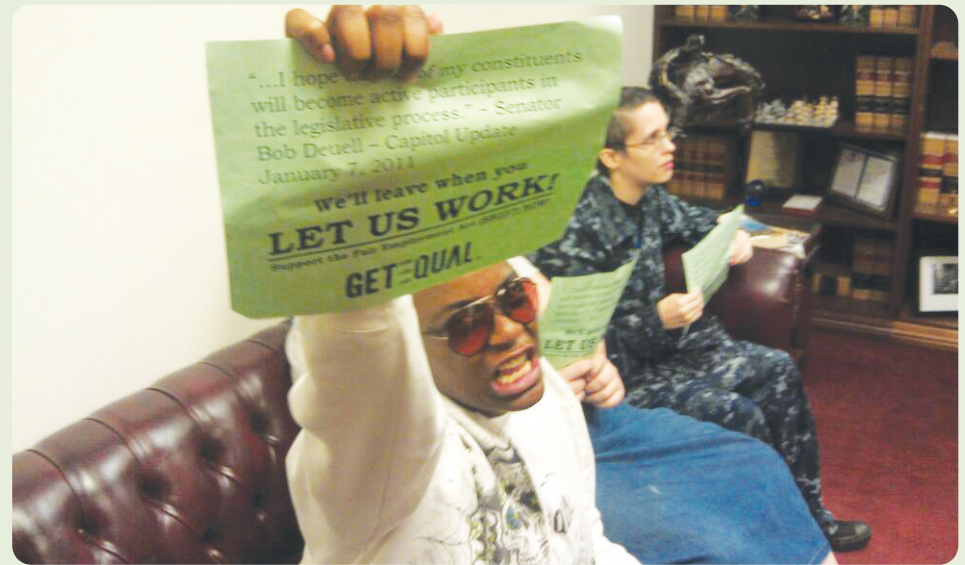
GetEQUAL TX had threatened action if the bill was not moved to the Senate floor by May 1. Kirven said additional actions are planned.

While they were being arrested, Kirven said she was talking to officers about the lack of workplace protection for LGBT people.

"No wonder you're doing this," she said her arresting officer told her.

Kirven said a vote from just one of four Republican Senators targeted is needed to move the bill to the floor.

A preliminary hearing for the arrested activists is set for May 15, but defense attorney Dax Garvin left the country this morning for several weeks. His associate Makenna Hatter said the first hearing is always reset in Travis County so the case will probably be



SITTING TO STAND | Dallas activist Cd Kirven at the sit-in prior to her arrest at the Texas Capitol.

rescheduled for the end of the month.

Garvin also represents Dallas marriage-equality demonstrators Major and Beau Jiminez.

Kirven said GetEQUAL plans polling place demonstrations on May 11, when municipal elections are held throughout the state, to let the public know about the lack of workplace protections. She said other actions are planned in and around the Capitol through the session until the bill moves to the floor of both houses for a vote.

Class-B misdemeanors are punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000 and/or a jail sentence of up to 180 days. The court may also impose a maximum of two years of probation or three years of community su-

pervision with an extension.

Kirven said she's not sure if the charges against the group will stick. The Texas Capitol is considered public park land.

"You can't criminally trespass on public land," she said.

In 2010, Kirven was arrested in former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office in Washington, D.C., demonstrating for the federal ENDA bill. After serving six months probation, charges were dismissed.

After posting bail in Austin on Wednesday night, Kirven returned to Dallas and got home about 3 a.m.

"They haven't seen the last of us," Kirven said.

— David Taffet

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A Letter From Hon. Ed Oakley

Dear Friends,
It was my great honor to serve as your City Council representative from 2001-2007. The time that I spent serving on your behalf was one of the most meaningful and rewarding periods of my life.

Because of that, I feel compelled to write you about the current race for District 1 between Delia Jasso and Scott Griggs. Since leaving office in 2007, I have followed the leadership on the Council I feel strongly that Delia has done such a great job of representing the citizens of District 1 that I must speak out.

Delia has demonstrated her leadership abilities time and time again. I believe that she is a true rising star in Dallas. She has done outstanding work, serving on the Dallas Park Board for 7 years and City Council for four years. During that time, she learned how to handle the critical day-to-day issues that our residents face, such as code enforcement, public safety, crime reduction, zoning, economic development, and transportation. If you talk to the people who live in District 1 or the business owners there, they will tell you that Delia came through for them time and time again.

Delia went to Washington to lobby for the funds to bring the streetcar to Oak Cliff. She worked to bring the first complete streets to Bishop Arts District and funding for Kidd Springs Recreation Fitness Center

She has won over 200 endorsements from people like you. She was endorsed by The Dallas Morning News in 2009 & 2010, the Police and Firefighter Associations, the Real Estate Council. People of all races and income levels have endorsed Delia. She has support from the all over the district.

I strongly urge you to vote for Delia Jasso for Dallas City Council District 1. It is rare that we see someone so dedicated and experienced to serve on the City Council. Oak Cliff needs her now more than ever.

Early voting begins April 29 and runs through May 7, and the election is Saturday, May 11. If you would like a yard sign or further information about Delia, you can contact her campaign by calling 214-984-7279, or you can go to her website at www.deliajasso.com.

Thank you for your time, and thank you for the honor of serving as your Councilmember in the past.

Ed Oakley





FILLING A VOID | Carina Perry, a freshman at Arlington Heights High School, started a Gay-Straight Alliance to address bullying, coming out and how to stop anti-LGBT sentiment from peers. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

FORT WORTH — When Carina Perry came out last year in middle school, she wasn't sure how to talk about it with friends and family.

She wanted a space where she and other LGBT students could discuss problems they were having and help educate others to prevent people from calling fellow students "faggot" and using the expression, "That's so gay."

"It took me a while to be comfortable to come out to family and friends. And it took a while to be comfortable to talk about it," she said. "It just gets annoying when they keep telling you you're not good enough."

Now a freshman at Arlington Heights High School, Perry, 14, started a campus Gay-Straight Alliance in March. The group meets weekly to address bullying, coming out and how to stop anti-LGBT sentiment from peers.

"It was originally a place where we could feel safe and have a place to be comfortable," she said. "It's becoming a place where we can educate about what it means to be LGBT."

LGBT advocates in Fort Worth said GSAs like the one at Arlington Heights are filling a void left by the district's anti-bullying program, called the "It's Not Okay" initiative, which they say doesn't have a strong enough LGBT component.

Fort Worth ISD has had a fully LGBT inclusive anti-bullying policy since 2011. And the It's Not OK, which recently made news when it was

'It's Not Okay'

Fort Worth ISD's anti-bullying initiative has earned national recognition, but LGBT advocates say it isn't doing enough to protect queer youth

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

picked up by a national consulting firm, includes a video filmed by gay Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns.

But LGBT advocates have called INOK "window dressing." Jon Nelson, president of the LGBT group Fairness Fort Worth, was heavily involved in making the district's anti-bullying policy LGBT-inclusive in 2011. Nelson said no such policy can be effective without proper training of staff and reporting of incidents.

"Each one of those aspects is equally important. If one of those components fails, anti-bullying procedure fails," Nelson said. "One of the ways to determine if this training and dissemination of information is effective is to ask the students."

Nelson was invited to attend a training in the

fall for school counselors and hasn't been informed of any other trainings. He said LGBT-inclusive training needs to part of any program, instead of "some nebulous training that focuses on disrespect."

Nelson also said the school district needs an LGBT liaison so questions about implementation and effectiveness of the school's efforts "can become answers before they become problems."

District defends initiative

The It's Not Okay initiative, or "INOK," targets multiple aspects of disrespect and ways to report it, including bullying, teen dating violence, sexting, suicide, sexual harassment and substance

abuse, according to FWISD officials. The initiative started three years ago when employees working to end employee harassment decided to create a program for students.

New York-based Positive Promotions recently picked up the program for national distribution and the district will receive royalties based on sales. For example, the district would get a 20 percent royalty on sales up to \$250,000. Kathryn Everest, guidance and counseling director, said the district will begin reviewing the materials with the company over the summer.

Everest claims students in GSAs didn't want the INOK program to single LGBT students out, so it's an all-inclusive initiative that aims to change the social norm that being different is wrong. And Everest said students can report incidents online or by text so they can help another student who isn't comfortable reporting something.

Aspects of the program's materials on monthly topics are LGBT-inclusive, such as suicide data on LGBT teens when bullying is discussed in classrooms, Everest said. The program began to target adults this year with a video all faculty and staff were shown on campuses during in-service days at the beginning of the school year.

Gay Fort Worth Councilman Joel Burns narrated the video for adults, showing that bullying and harassment isn't acceptable at any age.

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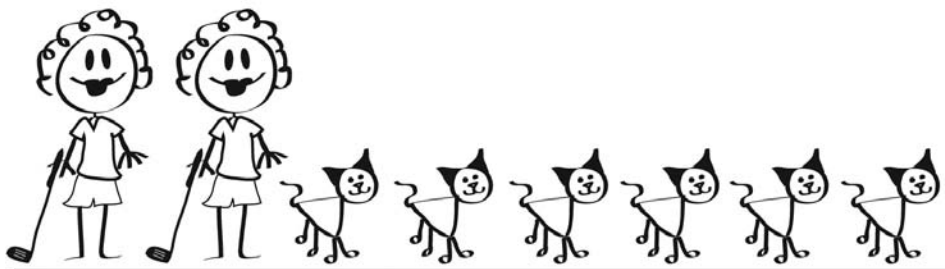
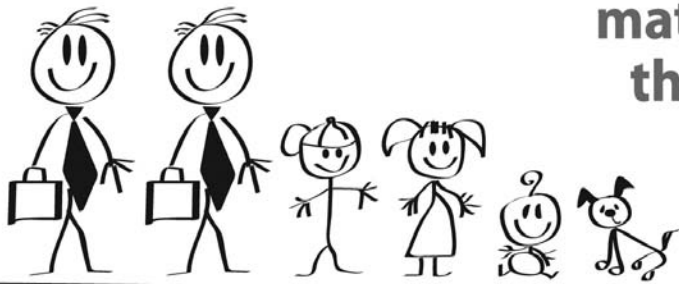
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localbriefs

LGBT immigrants to participate in Citizenship for All march in Dallas

Quir Dallas, a group for undocumented LGBT immigrants, will participate in the Citizenship for All march in downtown Dallas on May 5. LGBT and straight allies are welcome to join.

Lucy Martinez asked people to bring Pride flags, and posters will be provided.

As an immigration reform bill works its way through Congress, LGBT inclusion has been the greatest point of contention.

Republicans in the Senate Judiciary Committee have insisted the Uniting American Families Act, which would allow a U.S. citizen to sponsor a same-sex partner for residency, be omitted from the bill.

Martinez said transgender rights are also not adequately addressed in the legislation.

"Stop profiling immigrant trans women," she said. Trans detainees are usually housed according to their birth gender or subjected to long periods of solitary confinement.

Many are asylum-seekers who would be murdered in their home countries.

Amendments to the bill must be submitted by May 7 and the committee will vote the week of May 13, according to Immigration Equality spokesman Steve Ralls.

Both Texas senators sit on the committee and are among eight Republicans who have "drawn a line in the sand" to exclude same-sex partners, he said.

The DREAM Act and repeal of the one-year filing deadline for asylum remain in the bill. Both benefit LGBT immigrants.

The DREAM Act would give immigrants who arrived as minors with their parents and remain un-

documented a path to citizenship. The asylum provision refers to a rule that within a year of arrival, a person must ask for asylum. Circumstances such as coming out more than a year after arrival are not taken into consideration.

But UAFA is a major concern. Under current law, an opposite-sex spouse may sponsor his or her partner. A same-sex spouse may not.

Ralls said a large proportion of LGBT undocumented immigrants are raising children, but a child cannot sponsor a parent until the child is 21 years old.

"The child doesn't have the ability to keep his parents together in the U.S.," Ralls said. "If we get a good Supreme Court decision, that will take care of things for most LGBT couples."

The Supreme Court heard a case challenging the Defense of Marriage Act in March. The ruling is expected at the end of June.

If DOMA is declared unconstitutional, same-sex couples could travel to equality states. For immigration purposes, their marriages would be recognized by the federal government even in inequality states. The non-resident spouse could then apply for a Green Card.

Ralls said the most effective thing to do is to contact members of Congress to tell personal stories.

A 2011 Williams Institute study estimated 28,574 binational same-sex couples live in the U.S. Of those, 1,607 live in Texas.

The Citizenship for All march begins at Cathedral of Guadalupe and finishes at city Hall.

QuirDallas will meet at 12:30 p.m. in front of the Meyerson Symphony Center. The march begins at 1:30 p.m. QuirDallas.org.

— David Taffet

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Scott Griggs



Mike Rawlings

Rawlings undecided on LGBT equality resolution

Griggs says he has votes needed to pass measure backing same-sex marriage, employment protections, but mayor calls it 'misuse' of time

JOHN WRIGHT | Senior Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings is so frustrated that a resolution in support of marriage equality has been brought before the Dallas City Council that he doesn't know how he'll vote on the issue.

"I haven't decided," Rawlings told Dallas Voice on Thursday, May 2. "I'm so upset about this maneuver ..."

The mayor said while he "unequivocally" supports marriage equality, he believes the resolution is a misuse of the council's time because the city has no control over the issue.

"It's not the council's responsibility to opine on issues that are not in its jurisdiction, and ergo it's a misuse of their time," Rawlings told the Voice, doubling down on statements he made to the Dallas Morning News a day before.

"I'm a big believer in advocating marriage equality in the right way, but not from the debating standpoint and voting standpoint at City Council," Rawlings said. "I am pro-marriage equality. I'm not for voting for it at the City Council."

Despite his feelings about the resolution, Rawlings has no choice under city charter but to place it on the council agenda on or before June 12.

That's because Councilman Scott Griggs, who authored the resolution, obtained the required five signatures from council members before filing it on Friday, April 26, triggering the deadline.

Griggs announced this week that he believes he has the eight votes needed for the resolution to

pass — with or without the mayor's support.

"I don't believe it's a misuse of council time at all," Griggs said. "We have the required number of signatures, so we have other councilmembers who don't believe it's a waste of time, and we have eight votes, so that's an indication that it's not a waste of time."

Griggs compared the resolution to proclamations and special recognitions that are issued regularly at the start of council meetings, taking up as much as an hour of the council's time in a typical meeting.

In addition to marriage equality, Griggs' resolution calls for a statewide ban on anti-LGBT employment discrimination. Griggs noted that Dallas has had an ordinance banning anti-LGBT discrimination in employment citywide since 2002. However, the city has never prosecuted a complaint under the ordinance — in part because there is no state or federal law to back it up.

"This is something the city has had in place for a decade, and if we can get some help from the state, it would be great," Griggs said. "We can influence things that are going on at the state and national level just by taking a stand. If Dallas passes this, we're really sending a strong message to Austin and D.C."

Griggs said those who've committed to vote in favor of the resolution are Delia Jasso, Angela Hunt, Pauline Medrano, Monica Alonzo, Dwaine Caraway, Jerry Allen and Sandy Greyson.

He began working on the resolution in December, but said he didn't want to bring it forward until he had eight votes. Until last Friday, only seven council members had indicated support for the resolution. Then Greyson came on board.

"I didn't know I was going to be the deciding vote, and I do represent a conservative district, but given that it is a human rights issue and the right thing to do, I'm going to vote for it," Greyson told Dallas Voice. ■



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■ texasnews

Texas AG Greg Abbott: DP benefits are illegal

Advisory opinion says government entities that offer health insurance to employees' partners are violating state's ban on same-sex marriage

JOHN WRIGHT | Senior Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

Republican Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott issued an opinion Monday, April 29, saying domestic partner benefits offered by local government entities in Texas violate the state's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

Abbott's opinion, which is nonbinding, was issued in a response to a request last year from anti-gay Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston.

Patrick requested the opinion after Pflugerville ISD, north of Austin, became the first school district in the state to agree to offer DP benefits.

The constitutional amendment, approved by voters in 2005, bars the state or any political subdivision of the state from creating or recognizing "any legal status identical or similar to marriage."

Pflugerville's decision to offer DP benefits also prompted a Republican state lawmaker to introduce a bill that would cut funding for school districts that offer DP benefits. The bill — HB 1568 by Drew Springer of Muenster — is awaiting a vote in the House.

While Pflugerville was the first school district to offer DP benefits, several other local government entities do so, including the cities of Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth and San Antonio; as well as Dallas County and Parkland hospital. Most offer DP benefits to both same-sex and opposite-sex domestic partners.

Ken Upton, Dallas-based senior staff attorney for the LGBT civil rights group Lambda Legal, said Abbott's opinion is hardly surprising. Abbott has also used the marriage amendment to try to prevent same-sex couples legally married in other states from obtaining divorces in Texas.

"He didn't do anything we didn't expect," Upton said. "The truth is, it's just an opinion."

Upton said if a local government that offers DP benefits decides to rescind them based on the AG's opinion, employees losing benefits for their partners likely would sue. On the flip side, a disgruntled anti-gay taxpayer could try to sue if money is being used to offer DP benefits.

"Maybe the next step will be some litigation," Upton said. "I'm sure some of these right-wing groups will be more than ready to sue. The sad thing is, it's just going to make the state less competitive."

"It's unfortunate, but it's not surprising he did this," Upton said.



Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott

Openly gay Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns agreed.

"I am disappointed in Greg Abbott," Burns said in a statement. "However, I am not surprised that once again he is more interested in dividing Texans for political gain than bringing them together to make Texas stronger and more prosperous."

"He continues to pursue faulty legal strategies and disrespect local control at the expense of taxpayers," Burns said. "Here in Fort Worth we value every citizen which makes every family stronger."

Rebecca L. Robertson, legal and policy director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, emphasized that Abbott's opinion is just that — an opinion — and said her group strongly disagrees with him.

"Contrary to the AG's reasoning, giving an employee the ability to purchase insurance coverage for his or her family does not create a legal relationship even remotely similar to marriage," Robertson said. "The good news is that AG opinions do not have the force of the law, so unless a Texas court issues a ruling on the subject, there shouldn't be any legal impediment to government employers continuing to do the right thing for their employees."

Equality Texas issued a statement Tuesday saying it believes Abbott's opinion would still allow DP benefits, but they must be restructured and cannot be called DP benefits.

"It means cities, counties and school districts seeking to remain competitive with private business can offer employee benefit programs that provide health and other benefits to unmarried household members if the eligibility criteria are properly structured," Equality Texas said. "However, eligibility should not use the term 'domestic partner,' or be based upon proving the existence of a 'domestic partnership,' or use criteria usually associated with marriage (like current marital status, or related by a certain degree of consanguinity). It means political subdivisions can offer employee benefit programs to unmarried household members if their eligibility criteria don't look like marriage, or create something that resembles marriage."



Philip Kingston and Angela Hunt

“Philip Kingston is the only candidate I trust to represent our interests and continue my fight for good governance and accountability at City Hall.”

- Angela Hunt

“I am supporting Philip Kingston because he is an advocate for all in the City of Dallas. Philip is the first candidate running for an elected position in the city to have specifically asked me about the needs and concerns of the Trans community in terms of city services and municipal representation. He is likely one of only a few candidates to have ever reached out to the Trans community for input during a campaign. This tells me that Philip's representation in District 14 and of the city as a whole will be responsive not only to his base demographic, but to all persons who deserve a fair and equal voice in our municipal government.”

Nell Gaither

President, Trans Pride Initiative

“With six other good options, Philip Kingston is a candidate in a league of his own. I have been a resident of District 14 for 13 years and believe that his knowledge of the issues are unparalleled. He cares about what is important to our community, our district and our city, and will make sure to build our case and the consensus to get things done.”

-Pam Gerber



Supporters Steve Atkinson and Pam Gerber

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Christopher Howard Beachum, left, and Gerald Canepa (via Facebook)

Suspect arrested in gay Dallas man's murder

Police say Christopher Beachum stabbed and strangled Gerald Canepa to death in his Oak Cliff home after they met on Craigslist

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A suspect wanted in the murder of a gay Oak Cliff man after they arranged to have sex on Craigslist was taken into custody Thursday, May 2, according to Dallas police Lt. Paul Stokes.

DPD issued an arrest warrant Monday, April 29, for 27-year-old Christopher Howard Beachum of Addison, on a charge of capital murder. The warrant alleged that Beachum murdered 68-year-old Gerald Canepa in his Hampton Hills home on March 15.

Stoke said Beachum was arrested Thursday in Eugene, Ore.

Police believe Beachum stabbed and strangled Canepa to death. According to the warrant, Canepa was found nude on his bed on March 18 with multiple stab wounds. A TV, DVD player, computers and Canepa's cell phone had been removed from the residence.

Canepa's email records showed he'd exchanged messages with Beachum, which indicated he was going to Canepa's house to have sex before their last correspondence at 12:29 a.m. on March 15.

Records indicated that Canepa's cell phone was detected by a cell tower one-half mile from Beachum's residence in Addison at 1:51 a.m.

Police say Beachum pawned two cameras and several DVDs belonging to Canepa on March 18.

According to Jon Garinn, a neighbor of Canepa's, police notified neighborhood crime watch leaders early in the investigation that the

murder was targeted and a killer was not randomly breaking into homes.

Garinn said Beachum had a Facebook page that was inactive from November through March but had postings again after the murder. That page has since been removed.

Johnny Line, the victim's next-door neighbor, was helping relatives clean out the house this week. "It's frustrating it's not getting much publicity," Line said prior to Beachum's arrest.

Lt. Paul Stokes said Dallas police don't usually release photos of wanted criminals. However, Dallas Voice obtained photos from Facebook and the Dallas County sheriff's department. Stokes said the Addison address listed on the arrest warrant was Beachum's last known address.

"We're following some promising leads today," Stokes said earlier Thursday.

Beachum was also arrested in 2012 for a 2010 home burglary in Dallas. That case has not come to trial.

Police LGBT liaison Laura Martin warned the gay community about hooking up online. She called it a red flag if the person won't meet first.

"If you're going to meet with a stranger, meet somewhere in a public place with other people around," she said. "Not somewhere private with no witnesses."

According to an obituary in the Dallas Morning News, Canepa had recently retired from the Dallas school district after 31 years as a computer programmer.

"Gerry has left us forever memories of his smile, kind heart, love for cycling around White Rock Lake, his love for his dog Buddy, gourmet cooking, his beautiful roses, driving his red 2012 convertible Camaro, and the special moments shared with family, close friends, and neighbors throughout the years," the obit states. ■



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Meyer takes on anti-gay incumbent Hill in District 3

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Claudia Meyer jumped into the District 3 race near the deadline when, she said, neighbors came together hoping for representation for the area.

Meyer is challenging South Dallas District 5 incumbent Vonciel Jones Hill, who's home was redrawn into the Southwest Dallas District 3, retaining only about 20 percent of her former constituents. Meyer calls Hill an embarrassment to the city.

In a City Council debate on City Manager Mary Suhm, Hill compared Councilwoman Angela Hunt to Haman, the most hated figure in the Jewish Bible whose name is drowned out with noise-makers when spoken in synagogues. And she compared Suhm to Jesus.

Hill has refused to participate in the Dallas Gay Pride parade and also refuses to even sign a letter welcoming LGBT visitors to the city. Hill is the long sitting council member who has refused to appear at Pride.

In a 2010 interview with Dallas Voice, Hill explained her position:

"I won't be participating [this year], and based on my present beliefs, I won't be participating in the future," Hill said. "There's no reason I should be castigated for that."

Asked what those beliefs are, Hill said: "I believe that all people are loved by God, all people are created equal under God, but there are acts that God does not bless. It does not mean the person is any less God's child. I'm entitled to stand for what I believe, and I don't appreciate anyone castigating me for standing for what I believe."

Meyer, who received the endorsement of both Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance and Stonewall Democrats, said she's lost some support of her fundamentalist neighbors but comes by her LGBT support naturally.

Her next door neighbors are gay and she said she and her husband share Saturday game night with them regularly.

She addresses the issue of sexual orientation on the front page of her website as one of three reasons she's running — gas drilling in Dallas, trust and transparency in government and diversity and tolerance.

She said her answer to a question in the Dallas Voice candidate questionnaire probably best describes how she lives her life.

"The GLBT community would be an equal and critical partner in my approach to how City Hall should and must move forward during my term in office," she wrote.

Fracking is the issue that propelled her into the race. Hill is in favor of it and received the Citizens Council endorsement for it. Meyer has been endorsed by Downwinders at Risk, a group that opposes urban drilling that also supports Scott Griggs, Adam Medrano, Leland Burk and Philip



Claudia Meyer

Kingston.

Meyer opposes the Trinity Toll Road because of concerns of escalating costs. She noted the current estimate of \$1.5 billion.

"That's the annual Dallas city budget," she said.

She backs Griggs' plan to rebuild I-35 and the Mixmaster, which would move more cars at half the construction cost.

But neighborhoods are her passion.

"Quality of life," she said is what she hears as she goes door to door. "Responsible development."

Meyer is the first person from the Mountain Creek area to run for office. That far southwest Dallas neighborhood has less than 3,000 homes.

Kiestwood Neighborhood Association President Raymond Crawford said he's known Meyer for about three years and worked with her on the gas drilling issue.

"She owes no one anything," he said. "She believes in equality and she's in it to do the right thing."

Roger Bolen chaired Oak Cliff's Earth Day celebration and lives in District 3.

"Claudia has been in the trenches helping to keep the environment from being destroyed — cutting down trees, fracking, large tract commercial distribution centers with no landscaping," Bolen said. "In all the forums I have attended, Ms. Hill was very good at pontificating and proclaiming her love of God and doing things in God's honor but the only thing I heard was Vonciel talking about Vonciel."

Although Meyer acknowledges she has an uphill climb to beat an incumbent, District 3 is the only council district that has turned an incumbent out of office since the current 14-1 council configuration began in 1993.

In 2011, Scott Griggs trounced incumbent Dave Neumann, and in 2003, Ed Oakley beat incumbent Mark Housewright in a similar fight after re-districting.

Among the candidates, Meyer has raised the most money. In her financial report filed in April, Meyer had \$30,000 in contributions. Hill raised \$7,000. Two other candidates are Kermit Mitchell with about \$4,000 and Michael Connally who reported \$200.

With the most money on hand, Meyer has campaign signs throughout the district. Just this week, Hill's signs began appearing — some placed directly in front of a Meyer sign, whether on private property or public.

In the last election, Neumann's campaign placed unwanted signs in front of houses throughout District 3. Within a week, many of those signs were replaced with signs for the challenger and Griggs went on to win the election. ■

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As questions linger, COH tries to move on

Church's board holds open meeting to discuss abrupt resignation of Senior Pastor Jo Hudson, who declines requests for an interview

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

At a public meeting this week, members of the Cathedral of Hope's Board of Stewards acknowledged a lack of support for the Rev. Jo Hudson, who stepped down as senior pastor April 21. Financial problems, leadership style and management of staff were among their reasons.

Board Vice Chair Cline Taplin said no single event led to the pastor's resignation.

In a sometimes contentious open meeting attended by several hundred congregants April 29, Board Chair Stacia Sims was booed when she refused to answer whether the board recorded a vote of no confidence in Hudson during an executive session prior to her resignation.

“That is not public information,” Sims said.

After making an initial presentation, the board answered questions from the congregation for almost two hours. While there was disagreement about past events, the congregation appeared united behind the board's plan to move forward.

Staff members from the Cathedral's denomination, the United Church of Christ, were expected to be at the church this weekend helping the congregation implement its plan for moving forward.

A committee of the board was appointed to name an interim senior pastor with plans to have that person in place by May 19, which is Pentecost Sunday.

Once an interim is in place, a search committee that may include members of the congregation and board will be named to look for Hudson's permanent replacement.

The special board meeting Monday night was prompted by rumors in the community and on social media after Hudson resigned her position



HOPE AND HEALING | Representatives from ministries of the Cathedral of Hope carry signs down the aisle to show that the church is greater than any one person, during a Sunday service on April 28.

during her sermon at an 11 a.m. Sunday service. An email was sent to all members that afternoon since those who attended the 9 a.m. service or watched the broadcast of that service had not been informed of the resignation.

Some assumed Hudson learned information between services prompting her resignation. Board members insisted they were as surprised by the resignation as everyone else in the congregation. But the board was aware of disagreements involving Hudson, while many members of the congregation were surprised at the level of conflict.

Hudson declined to be interviewed for this story.

On April 28, the first Sunday after Hudson's resignation, services were led by the Rev. Dawson

Taylor. To celebrate the many people who make up the church's spiritual life, the service began with a representative of each ministry walking down the aisles holding a sign for their group. Everything from ushers to hospital and prison ministries were represented. The intended message was that the church is greater than any one person.

Many congregants came to the service looking for answers to why Hudson left. While Taylor alluded to the stressful week, the Rev. Katherine Godby, associate pastor for spiritual life who delivered the sermon, addressed the hurt among congregants without giving a reason for the sudden departure.

“For some of you, it's a huge loss,” Godby said.

■ COH, Page 18

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L-R: Steve Atkinson, Linda Moore, Chad West, Nell Gaither, John Loza, Pam Gerber, Angela Hunt and Mike Lo Vuolo

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■ COH, From Page 16

She spoke about a variety of emotions among congregants including anger, anxiety, abandonment, disillusion and hurt.

But she also called the situation an opportunity for growth. She claimed to have no knowledge of a reason for Hudson's departure. She said she could only speculate.

"But speculating leads to rumors," she said. "And rumors are very destructive."

Godby's sermon received two standing ovations as she called for unity within the church as it begins to move forward.

At this week's open board meeting, the first question came from a member who told the board the congregation has a right to know what happened.

"What transpired that brought us to this point?" she asked. She turned to the congregation and asked, "Do you think that's a reasonable question?"

Those in attendance shouted "Yes" and applauded.

"I don't know why Rev. Jo made the decision she made," Sims said.

Board members said problems began in the fall with the layoff of 10 staff members. Treasurer David White said the board has been cutting expenses, but there's currently a \$130,000 shortfall.

Financial issues have dogged the church since before it severed ties with Metropolitan Community Church in 2003. That period was marked by charges of financial impropriety.

When MCC sent auditors to the church, which had a budget larger than the denomination's, then-Senior Pastor Michael Piazza said the auditors were overwhelmed. He brought a question of affiliation to the congregation, and 90 percent of members voted to withdraw from MCC.

Hudson's nine-year tenure was also plagued by financial controversy, but mostly because of shrinking revenues. During that period she pushed ahead with building the Interfaith Peace Chapel.

In October 2012, the Cathedral laid off 10 people while three top staff members, including Hudson, took pay cuts. That was attributed to a downturn in giving.

One congregant at the board meeting suggested saving the cost of an extra staff person by making a current clergy member the interim.

One questioner brought up an email he said Hudson received from a board member asking her to resign and threatening to bring up a vote of no confidence at every board meeting.

No board member claimed knowledge of the email and Sims said the threat wasn't carried out at the board. Congregants challenged board members' claim they didn't know Hudson was resigning. Sims offered an explanation.

"One person can only take criticism for so long," Sims said. "She did what she thought was best for herself and her family."

Several commenters were surprised at the level of criticism of Hudson and accused the board of not being transparent.

"She did not have the support of the board," one board member said. "She didn't have the support of the staff. She felt she had no choice."

One congregant told the board he felt like a 6-year-old being hidden from a pending divorce.

The board said they came up with a plan to move the congregation forward and discussed that plan with Hudson the week before she resigned. The plan would increase fundraising and fix what wasn't working.

Martin said it wasn't the first plan developed since the fall layoffs, but he felt this plan would work. The board thought Hudson had agreed to carry out the plan.

Lower attendance has affected giving. The church has two Sunday services now. When the current building opened, they filled three services a week.

The Rev. Eric Folkerth, senior pastor of Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas, called Cathedral of Hope a marquis in the LGBT community that he expects to be strong for decades. He said financial problems are something every church faces.

"The biggest fights are over money," he said.

Folkerth said he thinks a number of things may be contributing to membership and financial woes at the Cathedral.

He compared today's need for an LGBT church to the fate of Crossroads Market on Cedar Springs. At one time, that store was the only place to buy a gay-themed book. Once every bookstore had a gay books section, fewer people had a reason to shop there.

While Folkerth believes gay churches are still relevant, he sees more mainstream congregations fully including their LGBT members in congregational life. With more choices, many LGBT people are remaining in the denomination where they were raised.

"Every church is struggling with the growing ranks of the 'nones,'" Folkerth added.

Nones are those who don't identify with any religion.

"They're asking themselves, 'Why do I need organized religion?'" he said. "And when you have church controversies, they say, 'I'm done with that.'"

Many people with AIDS in the '80s and '90s joined churches because of a need for community that isn't as urgent as it once was.

Toward the end of this week's board meeting, several members addressed the thriving Spanish ministry whose pastor also resigned. The day after Hudson announced her resignation, the Rev. Alejandro de la Torre announced he would leave as well. De la Torre is leaving because of family health issues.

Congregants were concerned about finding someone to fill in because unlike the main congregation, the Spanish ministry has no backup.

Shelly Hamilton, a staff member who was laid off in the fall and now works for Resource Center Dallas, said, "It's pointless to wonder and speculate about what the senior pastor has done. We'll heal. Churches heal. She made the choice she made because she thought it was best for her and for the church."

Church member Tommy Thompkins said, "If the energy that went into social media this week went into feeding the homeless or anything else we do here, it would be amazing how much we'd get done."

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NEW LIFE | Former San Angelo Mayor J.W. Lown walks down a street in the Centro district of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, where he sells real estate, on April 10. (Bob Owen/San Antonio Express-News)

Gay TX mayor who fled U.S. speaks out

J.W. Lown, who left San Angelo for Mexico 4 years ago to remain with his partner, becomes an advocate for same-sex immigration rights

JEREMY ROEBUCK | San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANGELO — A secret gnawed at J.W. Lown's conscience after his six years as mayor of this deeply conservative city on the West Texas plains.

At 32, he began dating a young university student, and their relationship quickly grew serious. The problem? His new love was a man — and an undocumented immigrant.

Advisers pleaded with the mayor to drop the romance. If word got out, it could sink his political

career. Even worse, they cautioned, illegally harboring an immigrant could send him to federal prison.

So days after winning re-election to a fourth term, Lown made a drastic decision.

"We just packed up the car, drove for the border and never looked back," he said. "Just like Thelma and Louise."

With that choice four years ago, San Angelo lost one of its most popular mayors ever, and Lown — widely viewed as a rising star in West Texas politics — abandoned his rapid ascent. But he followed a path blazed by hundreds of gay Americans each year, who have found that U.S. immigration law offers no easy way for them to live legally with foreign-born partners.

While heterosexual citizens can sponsor spouses for green cards with relative ease, no such

■ **MAYOR**, Page 22

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■ **MAYOR**, From Page 20

option exists for committed same-sex partners. Many move abroad. But few have their choices play out on such a large public stage.

"I could not honestly take the oath of office to uphold the laws of this country and remain in my relationship," Lown said.

In the years since his flight, he sought to avoid the TV news crews and tabloid press that descended on San Angelo, hungry for any detail of the gay mayor and his lover in the heart of conservative Texas.

But now, as debate over immigration policy and same-sex marriage have moved to the national forefront, San Angelo's runaway mayor has re-emerged, hoping to marshal his past notoriety to influence opinion back home.

"It's painful to think about — leaving behind my family, leaving behind eight years of building a stellar reputation within my community," he said in an interview from his new home, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, where he and his partner have settled. "I'm hopeful the country has come to a point that we can have this discussion."

Conservative and tolerant

Granting new rights to same-sex couples has emerged as one of the most controversial elements of the immigration reform debate.

President Barack Obama has endorsed including same-sex partners "in permanent relationships" among those eligible for spousal green card sponsorship. But key constituencies, including some Republicans and religious groups, describe that plan as a deal-breaker.

Some might view Lown's recent attempts to enter the fray, including a letter to chief immigration reform opponent U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio, as a quixotic effort, given the politically charged debate.

But if anyone stands to sway opinion, it might just be Lown. After all, the residents of San Angelo not only chose him, a gay man, as their mayor, but re-elected him three times.

Lown never spoke openly about sexuality while in office. Though looking back, he said, it had to have been "one of the worst-kept secrets in San Angelo."

"When you're 33 and still escorting your sister to every social event in town, people start to wonder," he said.

Ask residents now, and most will tell you they knew well enough.

"Everybody knew the mayor was gay," said Jean Rochford as she prepared for a game with one of the city's many bridge clubs on a recent afternoon.

"And nobody cared," card partner Betty Whitten chimed in.

Still, opinions are slow to change. When a proposition to ban same-sex marriage appeared on the ballot in 2005, 83 percent of the city's voters supported it. Pundits still rank San Angelo's U.S. congressional district as one of the most conservative in the nation.

For Greg Gossett, Lown's former campaign

treasurer, the inconsistency isn't too hard to explain. In a city founded as a small, bone-dry outpost on the Texas frontier, folks have always faced life with a hearty dose of "live and let live," he said.

"Life was tough here, and you had to rely on your neighbors," he said. "There was a sense of everyone banding together. Even today, people are conservative, but also fairly tolerant."

That Lown, son of a prominent local foundry owner and an immigrant mother from Mexico City, proved to be a charming and able politician didn't hurt either.

Joseph Wendell Lown could not have been more different than the bankers, developers and good-ol'-boy types San Angelo was used to sending to City Hall when he first announced intentions to run for the city's highest office in 2003.

Fresh off a stint with the Peace Corps in Bolivia, the then-26-year-old looked as if he could have walked off the campus of Angelo State University. About the only trait that lent him an air of gravity was a head of prematurely graying hair.

But what Lown lacked in age and familiarity he made up for in a willingness to devote himself to the political grind.

He knocked on doors of seniors, women and Hispanics, groups the old business establishment had long ignored. He attended garden clubs, block parties and dozens of other community events.

And once elected, he rarely let up. He would spend hours in conversation with constituents and later echoed their concerns at City Council meetings, supporter Louise Karona recalled. In one year, he attended nearly 1,600 community events.

"He had this special charisma you don't find in too many people," she said. "He had a way of making you feel important."

Politically, Lown brought a brand of fiscal conservatism and social libertarianism to bear on city management, keeping a tight watch on taxpayer money while promoting the city's downtown and investment in its infrastructure.

"He was tireless, and people saw that," Gossett said. Eventually, "at his political rallies, you started seeing Republicans next to Democrats, liberals standing with conservatives."

His passion paid off among voters. After three terms in office, Lown won his last campaign — just days before his departure in 2009 — with an unheard-of 90 percent of the vote.

"Of course, people knew he was gay," said Mario Castillo, a prominent Washington lobbyist from San Angelo, who became Lown's political mentor. "But they kept voting for him to be mayor, not the parish priest."

He added: "As long as they liked what they saw on the ledger sheets, they didn't much care what was going on between his bedsheets."

Fleeing the country

But close friends rarely heard Lown discuss much of a social life.

"Occasionally, he would mention how it would

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In 2000 Medrano was arrested for running from the police at NorthPark Center. Where an officer was investigating reports of sexual behavior in department store men's room

-Dallas Morning News

The officer "could hear low tone moaning sounds and could hear a plastic packaging noise behind the stall door." After a few minutes, Medrano exited the stall "in a hurry." The officer recognized both men from an hour before in another bathroom in the store where homosexual behavior was suspected, the report states.

When the officer tried to stop him, Medrano ran from the officer.

-Dallas Voice

Doesn't Dallas deserve an OUT and Open Candidate for City Council in DISTRICT 2?

be nice to have a dinner conversation with or someone to wake up with and grab breakfast in the morning," said Charlotte Flowers, a city councilwoman and friend. "But he was so geared toward politics, so focused on his career."

So when he met and began dating the man who would eventually become his partner in early 2009, he was as shocked as anyone to find himself falling in love.

The man, a then-20-year-old junior studying business at Angelo State, first met the mayor while working on a class assignment. The two hit it off and began to see each other socially.

Lown's new beau grew up in the Mexican state of Guanajuato and came to Texas in 2004, hoping to pursue an education. And at Angelo State he thrived, becoming a fixture on the dean's list, studying business and teaching salsa classes on the side.

From the beginning, Lown said, "he was very up-front with me about his legal status."

Fearing for family members still living illegally in West Texas, the man asked not to be identified in this story.

But while Lown recalled seeing something of himself in the attractive, young striver, his political advisers saw only trouble.

Castillo first heard of the budding romance well into the mayor's 2009 re-election campaign.

"I made it very clear to J.W. the perils of the situation," he said. If word got out, the relationship could sink Lown politically, or worse, send him to jail.

Lown tried to break it off, but doubt quickly crept in. As supporters celebrated his overwhelming election victory, Lown couldn't muster much in the way of enthusiasm.

"Finally, it just hit me," he said. "I couldn't live my life regretting I never took a chance on love."

On the morning of May 9, 2009, San Angelo's newly elected officials gathered at City Hall to be sworn in at the first meeting of their new terms. "Nine o'clock came. Then 10 o'clock came," said Flowers, the councilwoman. "We were all getting kind of worried. Finally, about an hour later, the city manager broke the news."

Lown had fled the country.

Opened minds

Today, Lown's sprawling ranch house south of San Angelo remains much as he left it four years ago. Presidential biographies and books of philosophy still cram his bookcases. His bed lies unmade. His closet remains stuffed with abandoned clothes, among them a pair of size-13 work boots.

"They still haven't found the guy who can fill his shoes," his sister Alicia joked while giving a recent tour.

A persistent rumor heard about town has it that Lown will return any day now to run for his old office.

"If he were to come back," said Dwain Morrison, one of three actual candidates in May's mayoral race, "he would beat all of us."

Despite the town's conservative politics, San Angelo has rallied around its former mayor.

Drop his name even now and watch as faces

light up and questions pour forth asking how he and his partner are doing. During his one visit back to San Angelo — for a friend's wedding last year — the receiving line at his homecoming party stretched three hours long.

Some even credit Lown with reshaping their political views. Flowers' husband, a man the councilwoman described as "as red-necked as they come," no longer makes gay jokes over weekend barbecues. "He's done a complete 180," she said. "Without J.W., he still would have been back in his old, closed way of thinking."

Back at Jean Rochford's daily bridge game, similar sentiment has spread among the crowd of players.

"I don't understand why they can't just live here together," she said. "Who are they hurting?"

Brenda Chapman nodded her head in agreement. "Sometimes when it affects someone you know and respect," she said, "your conservative views just go right out the window."

Life in San Miguel

Lown and his partner realize they might never be able to return. Their efforts to find a legal path back have so far have met with disappointment.

Last year, the White House issued an executive order sparing immigrants brought into the country illegally as children from the threat of deportation. Had he stayed put in Texas, Lown's partner might have qualified.

Recent talk in Washington of overhauling the nation's immigration system brought more cautious hope. But an immigration reform bill introduced in the U.S. Senate this month makes no mention of visas for same-sex couples.

As it stands now, his partner won't become eligible for even a tourist visa until 2019.

"You can't plan a life on a tourist visa," Lown said. "So, you just block it out and try to press the restart button as best you can."

Since settling in San Miguel, a colonial tourist haven in the Central Mexican highlands, Lown's partner has finished his degree. The former mayor now works in real estate and attends classes at a Mexican university.

But even in their new life, signs of Lown's first love peek through.

At every bar and restaurant he enters, he works the room like he's running for office, stopping to visit with an endless stream of friends, business contacts and casual acquaintances. At school, a recent lecture on building and maintaining political power drew a wistful look to his eyes.

And so, Lown persists.

On a recent afternoon, he set out to write a lobbying letter to Congressman Smith, who he worked for as a college intern in the late 1990s. Typing from his computer, more than 2,000 miles from Washington, Lown sought to prevail on their past personal connection to sway the lawmaker's thinking.

"There's no other place than San Angelo I'd rather be," he said. "But I have no plans to return again, unless (my partner) can come with me."

He won over San Angelo. How hard could a congressman be? ■

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■ **BULLYING**, From Page 6

Everest said if a classroom needs more awareness, the training can utilize a Safe Space Kit from the national Gay, Lesbian Straight Education Network, or GLSEN. And while the adults don't go through a formal training on the program, she said adults do undergo LGBT-inclusive diversity training.

"It's about empowering kids on their campuses and getting them to promote respect," Everest said of INOK.

'I am who I am'

Perry felt empowered to create the GSA to tackle LGBT issues more closely. During the Day of Silence on April 19, she said students handed out cards with Bible verses on them condemning homosexuality and she's been told she's going to hell for being gay. Many more students were supportive on the day and Perry said they reported the cards to their GSA sponsor.

But the program hasn't seemed to help much with religious intolerance and anti-gay slurs, so Perry said the club is thinking about making an INOK video to educate students on being LGBT.

Mary Noer, Perry's mom, said she's glad the district has a program like INOK but thinks the GSAs have been more successful in helping students because they're student-led.

"No one wants their kid to be a target, but you want them to stand up for what they believe in," she said, adding that her daughter has taken charge with the GSA to help protect LGBT students. "She won't let herself be a target."

Shana Saddler, 19, is a senior at Polytechnic Senior High School and helped start a GSA last semester with a group of students. She said the group's discussion has focused on how to come out when parents have threatened to kick some kids out when they tried to tell them they were gay.

"I feel like there's a lot of help needed for young kids. It's sad to see kids that need help and don't have anyone," Saddler said. "I wanted us to come together as one and help them come out as who they are."

Saddler said the INOK "helps a little but not as much as it should." Even though teachers and parents receive pamphlets about the program, she said she wants the schools to do more to help parents accept their kids when they come out.

"I feel like instead of students being taught how to come out, the parents need to be taught to be accepting," she said.

When students can't come out at home, Saddler said they have a hard time coming out to strangers at school and defending themselves when they're picked on for being LGBT.

Earlier this semester, a vice principal at her high school repeatedly made comments about her wearing masculine clothing and told her she was too pretty to be a lesbian. After telling him she didn't like his comments, she finally reported it to the principal and the comments stopped.

"I feel like I have to set an example for sophomores, juniors and freshman because if they don't see anyone stand up for themselves, then they won't stand up for themselves," Saddler said. "To

be honest, I don't care what people think about me. I am who I am."

Serving as a role model

Sharon Herrera, who's openly gay, is a program specialist for FWISD's department of student engagement. She was brought in several years ago to teach diversity and harassment training, but at the time there wasn't an LGBT component because it was prior to the LGBT-inclusive policies.

"I think since it's going national there needs to be some training component," Herrera said of INOK. "That would complete the package."

But her position was eliminated in 2010 and she said there's not an LGBT-specific training going on that's she aware of. She echoed Nelson's suggestion of having a district LGBT liaison like the Fort Worth police has to address concerns and help with training.

But teachers, students and parents still reach out to her about issues and how to start GSAs because she's openly gay. She said there's about seven GSAs in the district's 15 high schools.

Herrera started Fort Worth's community program LGBTQ Students, Administrators, Volunteers, Educators, Support, or LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S., in 2010 as a place for youth to feel safe. She said

she was bullied in high school and thought about suicide and she wanted a place where youth could go to find help and resources.

The group planned a winter prom the last few years at Celebration Community Church and now has an end-of-the-year barbecue. She said the group has dozens of kids, many who attend from outside Tarrant County, like Burleson and Mansfield. She hopes to eventually create a Youth First Texas Fort Worth.

"I choose to be openly gay because of my personal story," she said. "I want people to know I am here for them. I want to also be a role model for our LGBTQ students." ■



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viewpoints

Jason Collins' giant leap

NBA player's coming out helps end grand illusion about gays and sports

Jason Collins is not the first gay male professional athlete, just the first to make history by coming out of the closet while active in a major team sport.

This incredible development continues the remarkable momentum in our march for equality. Well, forget march — at this point it's feeling more like an all out sprint towards freedom's finish line.

What Collins did was help end the grand illusion that sports are a straights-only club. In reality, for as long as there have been competitive games, there have been gay players on courts and fields. However, the steep price for participating in the sport they love, often meant giving up the potential for love. These individuals were forced into playing rigid straight roles, at an alarming cost to their mental health.

For example, I'll never forget that evening at The Stud when I was a college summer intern in San Francisco in the early 1990s. Inside the bar stood an NBA player over 7 feet tall. He was not a major star, but a solid player who was respected throughout the league for his toughness, much like Jason Collins.

As an avid basketball fan, I recognized the huge athlete and stared in amazement. Realizing he had been spotted, the player shot me a look that showed that he was terrified. It was both a warning to leave him alone and a tacit acknowledgement that this powerful giant could be bought to his knees with one anonymous letter to his employer or the media. The look was one

that countless gay men and women have given when their secret is exposed and they are vulnerable.

Collins' acknowledged the steep psychological toll he faced in Sports Illustrated:

"No one wants to live in fear. I've always been scared of saying the wrong thing. I don't sleep well. I never have. But each time I tell another person, I feel stronger and sleep a little more soundly. It takes an enormous amount of energy to guard such a big secret. I've endured years of misery and gone to enormous lengths to live a lie. I was certain that my world would fall apart if anyone knew. And yet when I acknowledged my sexuality I felt whole for the first time."

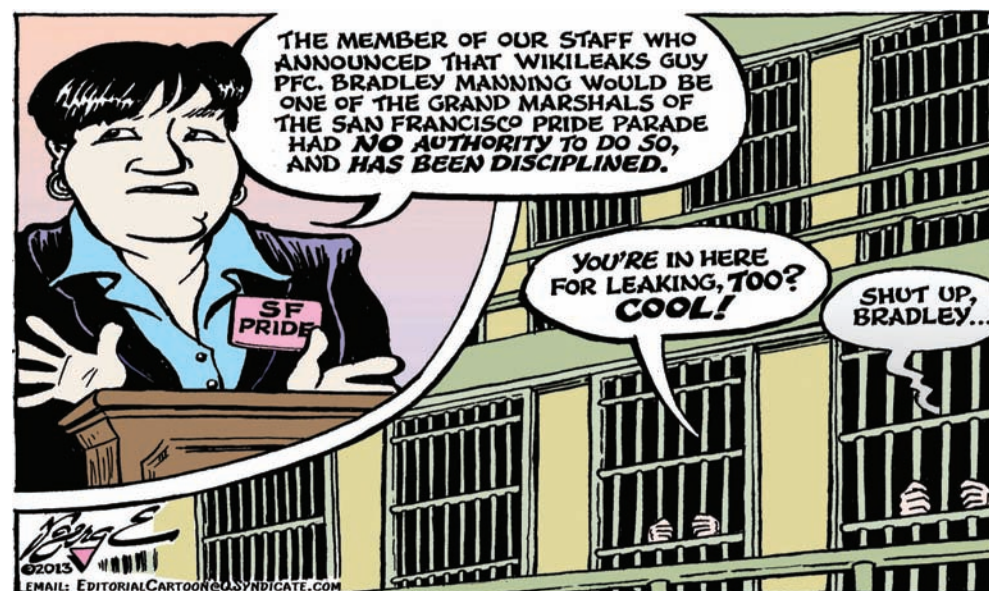
Collins' remarks are eerily similar to those offered by former professional soccer player, Robbie Rogers, who came out in February, but promptly (and unfortunately) retired in his prime:

"Life is so full of amazing things. I realized I could only truly enjoy my life once I was honest. Honesty is a bitch but makes life so simple and clear. My secret is gone, I am a free man, I can move on and live my life as my creator intended."

Of course, in some respects this will not be an easy road for Collins. He is in between NBA contracts and almost 34 years old — so it would be easy for teams to pass on signing him because he is gay, while justifying their decision by blaming his age. There will also be homophobic knuckleheads and religious zealots in the league who will either shun or harass Collins (although, given that he is 7 feet tall and weighs 250 pounds, most of the derogatory statements likely will occur behind his back). Additionally, there will be bigoted fans that taunt him during games.



Wayne Besen
Contributing Columnist



Such small-minded attitudes were already on full display. Liberty Counsel's perpetually immature Matt Barber tweeted: "When will the first brave athlete 'come out' that he & his mother hook up? We need role models for incestuous kids! Courage!"

Miami Dolphins wide receiver Mike Wallace tweeted: "All these beautiful women in the world and guys want to mess with other guys ..." (According to Miami Herald reporter Steve Rothaus, he has since apologized, as have the Miami Dolphins.)

Second-rate ESPN analyst Chris Broussard attacked Collins (who is a Christian) and justified his bile by invoking a backward version of Christianity:

"If you're openly living that type of lifestyle ... I believe that's walking in open rebellion to God and Jesus Christ."

Fortunately, times are rapidly changing and so far Collins' announcement has been met with more cheers than jeers.

President Barack Obama said at a White House press conference that he had called Collins: "I told him I couldn't be prouder ..." Obama said.

Former President Bill Clinton said, "Jason's announcement today is an important moment for professional sports and in the history of the LGBT community."

He has also received support from NBA notables such as the Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant and Steve Nash, as well as Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban.

While I'm sure that Collins would be happy to play for the Lakers or Mavericks next year, a team more appropriately named to honor his bravery would be the Portland Trailblazers.

Wayne Besen is founding executive director of Truth Wins Out, a Vermont-based nonprofit organization that fights anti-gay religious extremism. He can be reached at WBesen@TruthWinsOut.org.

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Pride Weddings

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Dressing the part

Wedding gown designer Xay Vongphachanh can help same-sex couples establish their dress code

FARAH FLEURIMA | Special Contributor
farah@thedallasdiva.com

Xay Vongphachanh knows wedding wear trends well before they hit the street. She should — as head designer at the bridal label Watters, Vongphachanh helps set the trends. And from Watters Bridal (an upscale line) to WToo (for budget-conscious shoppers), Watters caters to the gamut of gown lovers, even offering wedding dresses in colors other than neutrals and carrying plus-size fits. And as a proud members of North Texas' LGBT community, Vongphachanh knows the gays are always at the forefront.

Vongphachanh shares her treasure trove of information on what's new and next for spring brides.

Trends for spring

Higher necklines are back in demand.

"Girls are looking for other ways of wearing dresses, other ways of not necessarily being so bare," she says. "So it's not a full-on sleeve — some of them have illusion necklines, some of them have a high lace neckline, so it's sheer and you can see through it. It's not like fabric all the way up to your chest, but you have sheerness and a little bit of fabric ... but not too much."

Another resurgence is also a Vongphachanh signature at Watters: Fabric movement. "[It's what] we're always known for — skirt ruffles, fabric manipulation, mixing fabrics to create some sort of dimension and movement. It's really a big trend for us."

Another signature happens to be a perpetual bridewear classic: lace.

"Lace is always big," Vongphachanh says. "We use lace in different ways, and this time we've mixed different laces, from really thick to really thin and creating almost a third fabric by combining the two."

Can't pick just one from these spring trends? Happily, it's not too difficult to find a gown that incorporates all three elements, Vongphachanh says.

Turning the formality down (or up)

With DIY, backyard and rustic-chic weddings all the rage for the last few years — as well as nontraditional and commitment ceremonies — a growing number of brides-to-be are looking for ways to tone down the formality of traditional weddings. It's not hard — just lighten up, Vongphachanh says.

"For a more casual wedding style, you'd wanna look for something that's a little lighter, that's not so heavily constructed, something that *feels* less formal," she says. "You could always dress it



ELEGANZA EXTRAVAGANZA! | Xay Vongphachanh stands alongside some her of gowns, which contrast nicely if both brides want to wear dresses without looking matchy-matchy. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

down or up with accessories. A lot of people make a dress more casual [by changing] footwear — I know a lot of our girls wear cowboy boots," she says.

Vongphachanh notes that not just dresses but hairstyles can go a long way toward projecting a more casual style; touches like belts, sashes and vintage pieces (such as brooches) can also project more

informality.

"A lot of our dresses actually are used for more rustic weddings because of the texture of the fabric. We have this washed silk organza that doesn't feel so heirloom, it doesn't feel so precious," she says.



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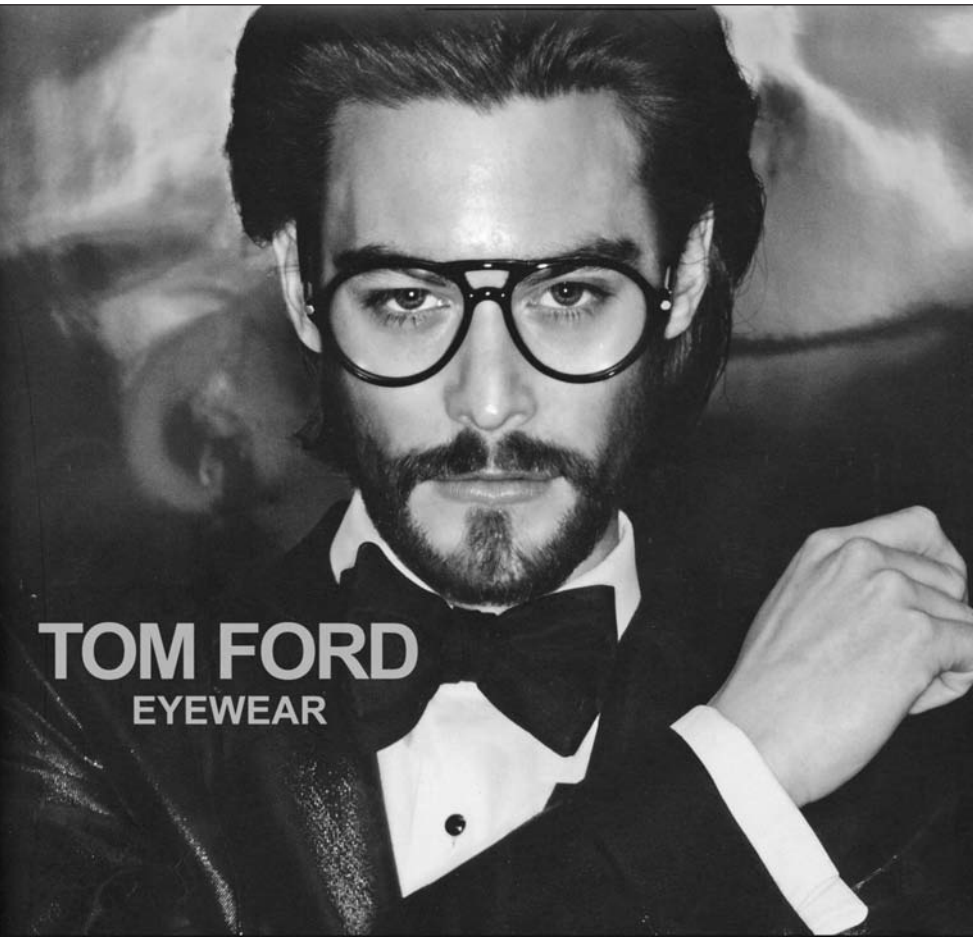
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Weddings through a new lens



New book by Dallas native guides photographers and couples through strange territory: Shooting gay weddings

JONANNA WIDNER | Contributing Writer
jonanna.widner@gmail.com

The complexities and nuances of same-sex wedding photography probably aren't the first things that come to mind for a wedding photographer. After all, the art of capturing images of nuptials has been around since the invention of the camera — the template is set, so why not just apply it to LGBTQ ceremonies? Easy-peasy.

Not so much, say Kathryn Hamm and Thea Dobbs, co-authors of *Capturing Love: The Art of Lesbian & Gay Wedding Photography*, a new self-

published book that serves as the first guide of its kind for educating wedding photographers.

"When you pose two women or two men together, the majority of the time they end up looking like just friends or siblings," Hamm explains. This is a direct result of applying conceptual and technical rules of wedding photography to gay ones. Photographers applying ideas for hetero couples to portraits of same-sex couples face challenges — something prospective spouses should consider when choosing *their* photographer.

"Some of it is understanding the relationship," as far how gender roles and other nuances play





out, Hamm says. "The second part to it is, some of the mechanics the photographer might consider relative to, for example, contrasts in outfit color. If you have two dark-suited gentlemen together, you're in danger of having a picture of a dark blob with two heads on top of it."

Dobbs offers another example: "A classic [straight] wedding pose [will show] the bride [with] her hand on the groom's chest. If you've got two women, you cannot do that pose, right? That may seem obvious, but if a photographer is working in the heat of the moment, they may not think of that."

Written in a clear and engaging voice, *Capturing Love* provides specifics on how to reconfigure wedding photography aspects so that no wedding album will feature two brides feeling each other up ever again.

Hamm and Dobbs started working on their book by sifting through thousands of same-sex wedding photographs, assessing them under three criteria: "Are the images authentic?" "Do the images reflect intimacy?" "Are the images believable?" After poring through hundreds of stills, they set to writing, ending up with a book that successfully blends conceptual ideas with mechanical ones. The process only took six months, but you'd never know it from its compelling and refreshingly simple production values.

The book begins with a background section, which gives a succinct overview of gay marriage and its attendant issues. After that, *Capturing Love* centers on case studies of engagements, ceremonies and receptions of real same-sex couples. Hamm and Dobbs break down each case, ana-

SHOOTING INTIMACY | Hamm and Dobbs looked for same-sex photos that demonstrated an understanding of how gay and lesbian couples interact that does not make them look like siblings.

lyze what makes it work, along with a statement from the photographer who took the picture.

Capturing Love is never mushy, instead standing as an intelligently wrought manual for anyone who works weddings or is planning one. On top of that, it works as a subtle critique of the current state of gay marriage.

"The entire wedding-industrial complex is geared toward the bride," Hamm observes. "So what happens when you have two brides? Or none?"

Capturing Love is available in softback (\$32.95) and as an e-book (\$9.99) at Amazon.com and other retailers. A limited hardcover edition (\$34.95) is available exclusively at CapturingLoveGuide.com.



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Designer Dian Malouf branches out into wedding rings for gay couples

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

Dian Malouf came up with the idea for her line of men's wedding rings, as she does most things, in the middle of the night.

Malouf has been a jewelry designer for 20 years — a career she stumbled onto mostly by accident.

"I started out doing it for myself when I couldn't find a large Texas ring," she says about her entrée into finger fashions. "I was in Santa Fe, working on my first book, and every day at 3 I'd take a break and go looking for [a ring I liked]. I never found one," she says. When she came back to Dallas, she designed and created one herself. And it was *big*.

Soon after, Malouf and her husband went to Rome where strangers would stop and ask her where she got her marvelous jewelry.

"My husband said, 'You should try some more of those.' But I was not in the ring business — I had children! I designed another that was so ugly I literally threw it in the garbage. It never occurred to me I'd sell any."

Eventually, though, shops expressed an interest, and almost without trying, Malouf was in the business of designing jewelry.

It's almost the same process that led her to her current line of rings targeting gay male couples.

"My husband has a really interesting wedding ring I bought years ago along the Mexican border, where they have much more interesting things," she says. "[Last year], I was looking for a good-looking man's ring like that. I went to 18 jewelry stores and didn't find one that I would buy. What does that say? They were all round and looked exactly alike."

Then one night five months ago, she awoke suddenly from sleep and began sketching.

"I came back to it and drew a square ring. Then another square one," she says. Before she knew it, she had an entire collection of rings in intriguing finishes and unusual designs, from interlacing strands to one emblazoned simply with "Hitched."



SQUARING THE CIRCLE | Malouf's line of men's jewelry were meant to stand apart from the sameness of round, boring options so widely available.

The designing was just a small part. Malouf then found a model who would wear all of them and convey the masculine sex appeal the line was designed for. (She made sure it was a shirtless pic — yeah, she's that kind of lady.)

The process has been "a series of learning events," she says. It so preoccupied her, she has been on hiatus writing her third book (about the old Texas ranches near the brush country along the Mexican border, where she grew up) until the line was ready; it just launched, more than four-and-a-half months after she started the process.

So how did a straight married lady decide to design a line of men's wedding rings?

"Hmmm ... I never thought about that," says Malouf with absolute sincerity. "If they are going to legalize [same-sex marriage], for me the men will need something. I think there's a need for it. I just feel like. Before I was even thinking about gay marriage rings, it was just about options for men with taste."

And everyone knows, Malouf says, gay men have taste. ■

A bed of roses?

Making a bouquet boffo takes planning and style, says florist Michael Fritz



J. DENTON BRICKER | Contributing Writer
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When it comes to décor, flowers are the heart of a wedding. Flowers aren't just fragrant afterthoughts — something for your niece to drop as she shuffles down the aisle. The bouquets, boutonnieres, the nosegay and other arrangements form a cohesive sense of style that helps to tell the story of your big day. Michael Fritz has been in the floral business for more than 20 years; his budding company, Flora Arts Studio, has arranged more blossoms than Mayim Bialik's handlers. He shared his advice about tending that heart until it blooms.

Plant seeds of inspiration. Before meeting with your florist, Fritz suggests researching (magazines, Pinterest) for images that inspire you. Bring these along with you to provide a visual aid and inspire a creative discussion. And remember to be realistic; images featured in

magazines are intentionally over-the-top (and more importantly, expensive), so unless you have a budget to match, expect a simplified version.

Pick a versatile flower. Similar to the camellia, the ranunculus is loved by both grooms and brides alike: Brides adore them because they are layered, lacy, delicate and girly, but being small, they also work as boutonnieres. Their multi-petals allow for them to offer beautiful detail without overpowering a lapel, as a rose can. There are 600 species of ranunculaceae, which allows for a plethora of color options, suitable with almost any palette. From April through late spring, the Dutch ranunculus is divine.

Be honest with your florist if there are flowers you dislike. It's your wedding, after all.

■ **ROSES** Page 35

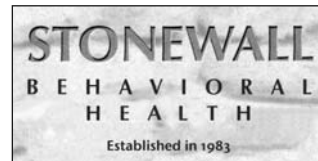
FLOWER POWER | Don't be afraid to tell your florist if there are flowers you don't like, but if you need to stay on budget, greenery can enhance an arrangement inexpensively. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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Spatial relations

J. DENTON BRICKER | Contributing Writer
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Weddings used to be done “a certain way:” You had to have a big cake, fine china and serve a full dinner in the grand ballroom of a hotel.

But gays have always broken the rules — and straights have followed suit. It just isn’t done that way any longer — at least it isn’t according to Reg Land of 7@150, who walked us through his chic industrial loft space.

Full of diverse, eclectic furniture arranged in clever seating areas and thought-provoking art that adorns the walls, Land’s space has a capacity of 700. It is customizable for any event need and ignites the seven senses that Land prescribes to. And everything inside is purchasable.

“The people that come here don’t want the normal,” says Land. He encourages guests to shed their inhibitions and just have fun. “It’s the perfect place for queens to come dance and a cool spot to share,” he says.

So just what should you look for when booking a space for your ceremony? The jovial, artistic Land walked us through his advice on finding the ideal venue for your wedding.

It’s your day and no one else’s. “Do what you want and have fun because it is your day and it should be about you. Break the rules. Do not go by what people tell you or what has to be done because it isn’t that way anymore,” Land says.

Work your space. Don’t reinvent the wheel — find a space already adorned or which has something to work with. Work the flow of furniture based on the expected crowd. If it needs to look fuller, adjust the furnishings accordingly. Make actual traffic patterns to direct the flow of your

guests.

Drop dinner. Consider *not* doing a sit-down meal — tables take up a lot of space. And most people don’t sit down the entire time. “Guests want room to dance and visit,” Land notes. Also consider the costs of wait staff, tables, place settings, etc., in addition to a full meal. Instead, serve heavy hors d’oeuvres like sliders or Chinese lunchboxes and offer ice cream cupcakes or pies instead of a wedding cake.

Think about your timetable. If the ceremony is at 5 p.m., then the reception should normally begin around 6:30 p.m. — and guests won’t have eaten anything since lunch. Starving attendees will eat you out of house and home. Push the reception back to allot time for guests to stop and grab a bite and it will make all the difference in the world on your wallet.

Stock up on supplies. Make sure you have enough food and booze. “You may think it is enough but it probably isn’t and many places will allow the return of unopened bottles so don’t be afraid to stock up,” Land says. If the event is on a Sunday and booze is gone after the first hour, there is no opportunity to purchase more.

Let the music flow. Without knocking live music, tunes are important in setting the tone for how the night progresses. Music helps to control the event with a constant flow of rhythm. With a band, you get songs then a break, songs, then a break ... it can end up choppy. A natural flow comes with a DJ. There are highs in the event that need to be built up into peaks just as there are appropriate times for mellowing it out.

It’s all in the details. The things that do not seem important are probably the most important things, because if they aren’t in place, they can



Booking the right event space for your ceremony and reception can be half the battle

upset the rest; unglamorous considerations like trashcans can turn a swank event into a messy one. Include a venue representative in any planning meetings so they can think about the things you won't.

Schedule, schedule. For many weddings, the brides and grooms are on a schedule. They have to be here for pictures and they have to be there to greet guests and they end up being exhausted and not being able to enjoy the day. Let it loose, go with the flow and make your own itinerary.

Go with the pros. Your grandma or aunt might want to help by offering their catering or photography services, but hire professionals. That ensures full accountability if something goes awry without hurt feelings. Family should get to attend the event stress-free.

Manage the event planners. There are tons of great wedding planners, but for a small wedding it isn't necessary to hire an event planner — not doing so can be a good way to keep a tight budget. If using one, make sure you do not lose your voice along the way. Have the planner sit down for a minute and experience the event so that they can know what guests are experiencing.

Go gay. Gay weddings and receptions are new territory for a lot of people and it is something that needs to be shared. Be honest and open with the venue representative. Pick a setting that provides a friendly environment comfortable for all. ■

SPACE ODYSSEY | 7@150's venue can set the tone for your reception with funky decor and ready-to-use floorplan options. (Photo courtesy Flashbox Photography/TonyValadez.com)

■ ROSES From Page 33

Compliment/contrast with color. You don't always have to match the color of flowers to dresses, but you should know what color your wedding party will wear. "Don't select blooms that clash, but if they are too matchy-matchy, it becomes easy for them to disappear," says Fritz.

Think outside the bud. Flowers are all about texture and color. Succulents have gained popularity and are a great way to also add shape to both bouquets and centerpieces. You can also have complete arrangements made solely from diverse plants. Not only do succulents provide a unique textural element, but they also offer masculinity to balance some of the frillier flowers.

Don't forget the filler. When working with a barrage of spring-colored flowers, especially those of paler shades, remember the greenery — pastels pops nicely amid silvery or gray foliage. "Lamb's ear and Dusty Miller are common greens that add richness and depth to arrangements," says Fritz.

Go au naturel. Even though certain colors become trendy, make sure your flowers stay natural. Especially popular with hydrangeas, florists have a way of tinting and painting flowers to match a custom color. When the specified color is not found in nature, they do not look authentic.

Budget your blooms. People often go into a meeting with no clear budget, Fritz says. "The thing is, we could sit there and talk about gorgeous flowers and show cut-outs from magazines but they set themselves up for disappointment if they don't know what their budget is for flowers." Be realistic and do your research. For a common wedding party, altar flowers and personal flowers could easily cost \$1,500 to \$2,000 — and that's not even including the reception. Table centerpieces are also a big line item. "Think about how many tables you are going to have and what you would like to spend per table," Fritz says. If needing to save dollars, do a column of floating orchids in a single cylinder instead of a traditional, fat centerpiece. Ask yourself: Are you a true minimalist or a traditional romantic?

Flower your farewell. Check with your venue on any restrictions on what is allowed to be tossed toward the bride and groom during their exit, Fritz suggests. For example, the Dallas Arboretum only allows white petals because they don't want color staining the natural surroundings. Or be creative. "Seize the opportunity to flip a table during the reception and create a departure display accessorized with vases, cylinders and candles, where guests pick up their petals," he says.

Preserve your petals. The best way to preserve a bouquet is to freeze-dry it — and the cost of that will be more than the bouquet itself. Find a company you can ship it off to. Follow their recommendations and pack your bouquet in a cooler as soon as possible following the nuptials. Some bouquets, depending on what they are made of, may dry naturally but they will not maintain the same color or shape, especially hydrangeas and ranunculaceae. ■

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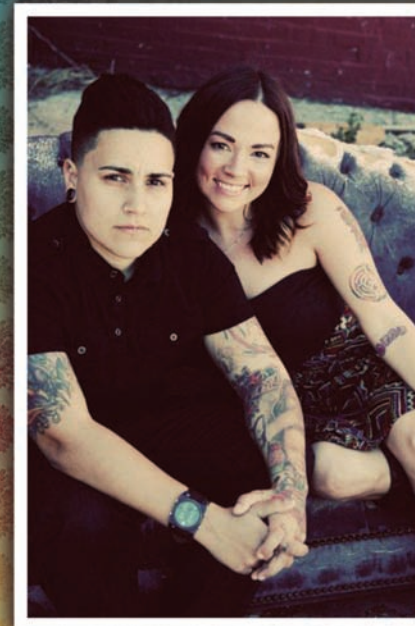
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Spin cycle

Selecting the right DJ can make a difference at your reception

You'd think choosing a wedding DJ might be the simplest part of making nuptial plans — just google "Dallas wedding DJ," call the first name that comes up, book him or her for the date, and boom, you're done!

Not so fast.

As anyone who has ever been to a dud of a reception knows, the wrong DJ can turn even the most festive guests into wallflowers. Finding the right spin doctor requires as much attention and planning as other reception details. But, as with many of those other details, where to begin?

Neale Jones, event art director of Dallas Light and Sound — one of the most popular wedding design companies in Dallas — has some suggestions.

"You're going to want the music to be a reflection of who you are, what you like and what your tastes are," says Jones about the most important first step. "It's *your* day." He suggests that the couple come up with a playlist of their own to guide the DJ before the meeting, but also add a list of what you *don't* want to hear. That way, if a guest comes up and says, "Can you play 'Who Let the Dogs Out,' the DJ can say, 'I'm sorry, the couple has asked that we not play that.'"

A second consideration is experience. Wedding DJs don't just spin tunes; in a sense, they *run* the reception, acting as master of ceremonies for toasts, timing of the special dances, introduction of the couple and cuing up the right songs to play during certain traditions.

"You want someone who is going to be more adept at working the crowd, announcing certain things that are going to happen," Jones says. "They can kind of end up being the Voice of God, so you want someone who's used to doing that."

A good wedding DJ, Jones says, can run between \$750 and \$1,200, "depending on the size of the room, the number of people [attending] and how much equipment they have to bring." The quoted price should cover the *entire* reception, from start to finish. Tipping is common if the DJ has done a good job, but not particularly expected.

What is expected: Your DJ needs to eat, so include him or her in your food cost calculations. "He or she can't leave, so you want to make sure they're taken care of," Jones says.

DJs should provide their own equipment, and it usually take about an hour to set up, so be aware of that when handing over the keys to the venue or scheduling the caterer to arrive. "I always give myself an hour and half," Jones says, "in case of things like blown circuits. There's often some kind of power issue in the



venue."

Which brings us to a final detail many people overlook: When scoping out reception spots, check and see what kind of outlets and power sources the place has, and how many. Couples rarely do this, which can lead to some last-minute finagling. If possible, arrange for an on-site visit to make sure the DJ has what he or she needs.

— Jonanna Widner

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Ascension Lutheran Church — 4230 Buckingham Road, Garland. 972-276-0023. AscensionTexas.org. Pastor Kurt Friederich. Blessing service for church members; no weddings for non-members.

Cathedral of Hope/Interfaith Peace Chapel — 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 214-351-1901, ext. 109. CathedralofHope.com. Contact director of the Interfaith Peace Chapel, for information. The Sanctuary of the Cathedral of Hope, United Church of Christ features beautiful faceted glass windows and can accommodate up to 750 guests.



Celebration Community Church — 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth, 817-335-3222. Celebration-Community-Church.com. Pastor Carol West; ask for wedding/holy union coordinator. Non-denominational Christian congregation.

Center for Spiritual Living — 4801 Spring Valley Road, Suite 115. 972-866-9988; CSLDallas.org. Senior minister Rev. Petra Weldes; Rev. SharonLynn Martinez. Marriage or commitment ceremony. United Centers for Spiritual Living.

Community Unitarian Universalist Church — 2875 E. Parker Road, Plano, 972-424-8989. Community-u-church.org. Rev. Patrick D. Price. The Unitarian Universalist Church performs weddings and supports full marriage equality.

Congregation Beth El Binah — Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. BethElBinah.org. Rabbi Steve Fisch, *pictured*. rabbi@Bethelbinah.info. Reform Judaism recognizes marriage between two Jewish men or women; however the rabbi will perform an interfaith service.

First Unitarian Church of Dallas — 4015 Normandy Ave. 214-528-3990. Dallasuu.org. Rev. Dr. Daniel Ches-

ney Kanter; associate minister: Rev. Aaron White. The Unitarian Universalist Church performs weddings and supports full marriage equality.

Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus — 411 S. Westmoreland Road. 214-333-9779. Pastor Tony Hoult. Performs holy unions.

Harvest MCC — 725 N. Elm St., Denton. 940-484-6159. Harvestmcc.org. Performs weddings or holy unions.

Metropolitan Community Church of Greater Dallas — 1840 Hutton, Suite 100, Carrollton. 972-243-0761. Mccgd.org. Lead pastor: Rev. Colleen Darraugh; pastor of congregational care, Norma Gann. Provides premarital counseling and performs weddings or holy unions. The church facility is available for non-members to rent. The MCC can also connect couples with musicians, photographers and caterers.

Midway Hills Christian Church — 11001 Midway Road. 214-352-4841. MidwayHills.org. Senior minister: Rev. Arthur Stewart. Performs union ceremonies.

Promise MCC — 2527 W. Colorado Blvd. 214-623-8400. Promisemcc.org. Senior pastor Rev. Jon Haack. Performs weddings or holy unions.

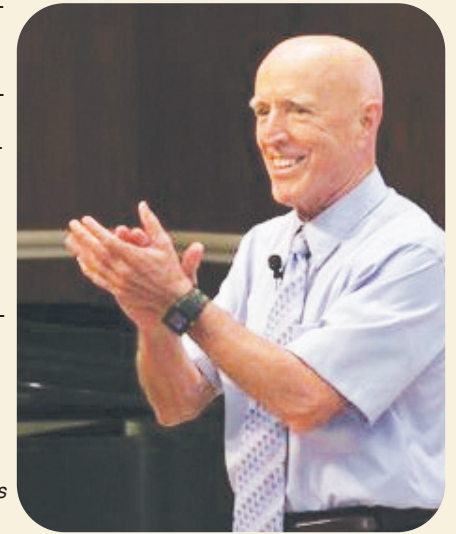
Trinity MCC of Arlington and Grand Prairie — 933 E. Avenue J, Grand Prairie. 817-265-5454. Trinitymcc.org. Performs weddings or holy unions.

Unity Church of Christianity — 3425 Greenville Ave. 214-826-5683. DallasUnity.org. Rev. Steve Colladay, *pictured*. Weddings@DallasUnity.org. Performs holy unions, commitment ceremonies. Its gay pastor is supported by the congregation.

White Rock Community Church — 9353 Garland Road. 214-320-0043. WhiteRockChurch.org. Pastor Douglas Shaffer. Performs holy unions, commitment ceremonies or weddings — “whichever the couple is comfortable with.” Activities center available for receptions.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Oak Cliff — 3839 W. Kiest Blvd. 214-337-2429. OakCliffuu.org. Rev. Mark Walz. The Unitarian Universalist Church performs weddings and supports full marriage equality.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



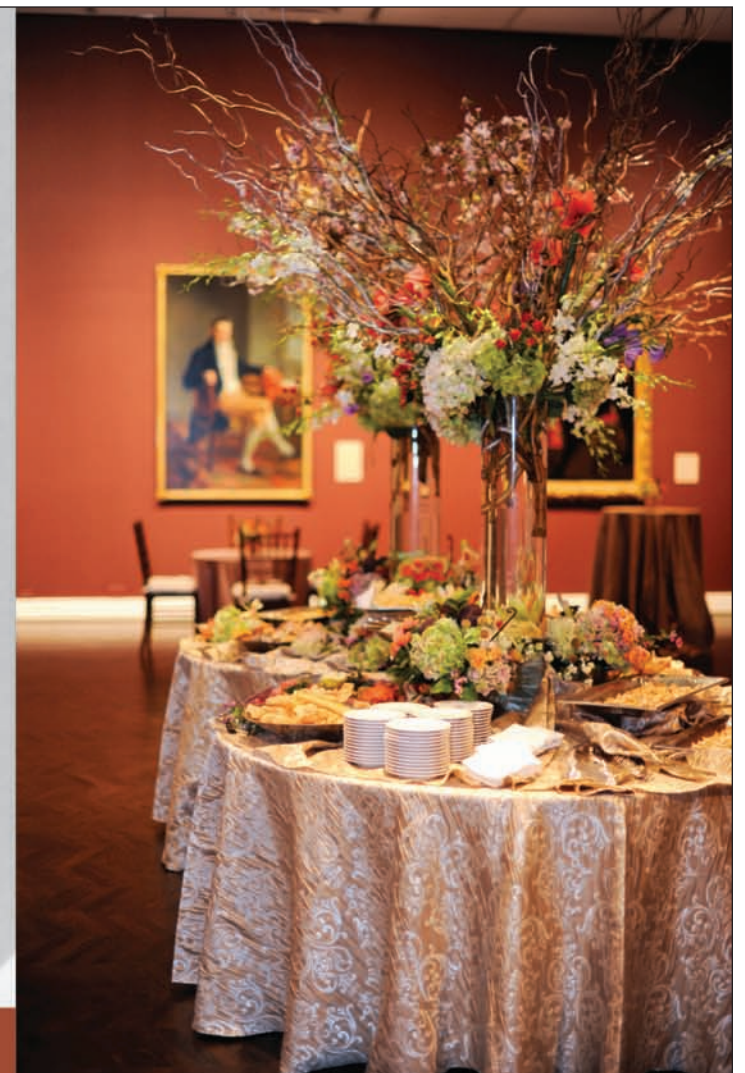
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Food for thought

How do you feed a hundred hungry friends? Caterer Wendy Krispin can show you how

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
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You know the joke about NASA? That the astronauts sat on top of a million pounds of explosives in a machine built by the lowest bidder? Well, you could say the same thing about the way many people pick a caterer.

"It's definitely the biggest expense for most weddings," says Wendy Krispin, who has been in the business for 30 years. "I'd say 60 to 70 percent of most weddings [is food]."

When it consumes so much of your budget — and it's usually the one tangible thing your guests have to remember from your big day — it makes sense to get what you want.

"One of the biggest mistakes people do is piecemealing," says Krispin, president of Wendy Krispin Caterer in the gayborhood. "They'll say, 'We'll do our own alcohol,' and not realize we can order it for them and deliver it." And usually at a discount.

In her years planning parties, Krispin has seen trends come and go ... some good, some bad. But "there's always something to learn — you have to change," she says.

Even so, Krispin does have some trends she

likes and some she doesn't.

"We're seeing a lot of vegan and vegetarian requests, and gluten-free," says Krispin — and that's all right with her. (At her Design District restaurant, Royal Sixty, she's moving toward a more organic menu as well.)

Krispin also enjoys how many weddings are requesting "stations:" Pizza bars, Southern Comfort bars, etc. Rather than being more work for her and her staff, it's what Krispin lives for — to show her creativity and make a wedding unique. She's *not* as excited about the "mashed potato" craze, but even that she can roll with.

"I try to make the toppings more interesting," she says. "Instead of cheese, sour cream, bacon and chives, we'll throw on turnip confit and creamed corn and fried chicken."

Indeed, such invention is where choosing a good caterer becomes essential. Krispin interviews her clients to come up with the best ideas, asking questions like, "What's the best meal you've ever had?" "What's your favorite restaurant?" and "What foods do you absolutely *not* want?" She then builds a menu around that,



EAT UP | Whether you plan a sit-down dinner or stick with buffet or passed apps will affect what kind of experience your guest have, says Krispin.

often coming up with ideas even the couple hadn't considered.

As for the decision of whether to do a seated dinner, buffet or pass hors d'oeuvres, Krispin takes a simple position: "It's what the couple wants." Still, she has some suggestions.

First, the best meal may depend on the time of day the reception takes place.

"Hors d'oeuvres are better for early in the day or later in the evening," she says. "If you are having the reception at dinner time, it's gonna take a lot to feed people."

Second, let the space dictate the style.

"We have an event coming up where the parents wanted a seated dinner, but it's not possible [in the space]," she notes. They had to decide whether the location or the style of food was more important.

"If you're doing a buffet, set the table for your guests," she says. It not only saves the hassle of them grabbing silverware to shove in their pockets, it allows you to present a fancier buffet.

Third, the meal will largely be price-driven. If you only want to spend \$12/person, you'll get what you pay for.

With so many decisions, a natural question is: What happens if the couple have different ideas about what they want their dream reception to be? It's not as clear-cut as you might think.

"More and more, then *men* in straight weddings are making all the decisions about the catering," she notes. "The women are sometimes so concerned about how they will look, they turn it over." But mostly the conflicts she sees aren't between couples, but where parents disagree with their children's decisions.

But on those occasions when they brides- or grooms-to-be can't agree? That's a different discussion, Krispin says.

"If you can't agree on one meal, you probably shouldn't be talking to a caterer," she says; "you should be talking to a psychologist."

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L+S weddings



■ DRESSING From Page 28

To turn the formality up a notch, however, there's one watchword: *More*. More fabric, more embellishments, more structure.

"Go for a bigger dress that's more constructed on the inside — it really does change the way you move. For a lot of people, the more embellished a dress is, the more formal it feels," Vongphachanh says. A veil or any kind of headwear instantly adds drama to a wedding-day look.

When two brides walk down the aisle

One modern consideration: What's a girl to do when she *and* her bride-to-be both want to wear wedding gowns? Vongphachanh assures there are several ways both can wear their big white dream dresses without seeming matchy-matchy.

"The best way to do that would be to do two different silhouettes," she says. "One could do a ballgown and the other bride could do a sheath or a mermaid, just to contrast. Or you could also do two different fabrics — one bride in lace, while the other bride does organza. They're very different."

As for a way to show a sense of unity once a contrast is established, Vongphachanh endorses selecting lovingly curated details to enhance the look.

"I think you could definitely tie them in with a color [such as] the same color sash on each dress. You could even do the same jewelry to unify it, or you could go with the same bouquet," she suggests.



COLOR AND FABRIC | A pale blush called Whisper Pink, above, and billowy fabrics that move, left, are signatures of Xay Vongphachanh's designs for Watters.

Unique colors — and sizes

Speaking of color, brides wanting different shades of dress will find a few Watters gowns in a blushy hue called Whisper Pink. The label also carries plus sizes, primarily through their budget-conscious line, Wtoo. No matter their size, however, almost every bride deals with a pesky sizing issue stemming from their unique shape. Vongphachanh guides us to the best fits for particular bodies:

Boxy/boyish waist: A mermaid cut exaggerates curves, she notes. An A-line dress nips in at the waist and flares out, adding shape.

Small chest: Vongphachanh designs dresses that come with (*ahem*) a bit of sewn-in assistance. "We build in bust pads and bust cups and boning in it," she confides. "It's not really an issue, but if you are looking to minimize or maximize that area, look for something with ruching or some sort of fabric manipulation along the bust."

Plus-sized: "Larger women come in all shapes and sizes, so it really depends on what they're trying to enhance or hide," she says. To conceal hips, she recommends going for a larger skirt seen in a ballgown. But so-called curvaceous gals who don't mind flaunting their shape should aim for a mermaid dress. ■

Brides-to-be can find Watters dresses locally at Stardust Celebrations, Stanley Korshak and Lulu's, which features WToo selections. Watters also creates mother-of-the-bride, bridesmaid and flower girl dresses. Watters.com.

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Friday 05.03

Alvin Ailey returns to Dallas after 30 years

In the world of modern American dance, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has stood for more than 50 years as something special, with a freedom and energy to the movement of its dancers that set the tone for many companies since. It's been 30 years, though, since the company performed in Dallas, but this weekend North Texans actually have three chances to see the troupe perform, with opening night on Friday, followed by matinee and evening performances on Saturday. You don't want to wait another 30 years to see them.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. May 3–4. ATPAC.org.

Saturday 05.04

Cottonwood Arts Festival opens

Springtime in Dallas means a lot of things, but one of the certainties is: It's outdoor art festival season! And one of the best is the Cottonwood Arts Festival in Richardson. Hoards of artists and artisans — including this year's featured talent, Michelle Mardis, whose colorful dog portraits can melt your heart — set up booths with varied selections of items from crafts and leather to paintings and sculpture. Plus there's live music and snacks available. And parking and admission are free. That's an art movement everyone can appreciate.

DEETS: Cottonwood Park. 1321 W. Belt Line Road, Richardson. May 4, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., May 5, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Free.



Sunday 05.05

Film version of gayish play 'The Soul Gatherer' screens

Dallas theater impresario Mark-Brian Sonna has been writing, directing, producing and/or acting in plays with his theater company for years now, and almost all have a queer bent. Now, one of his better plays, *The Soul Gatherer*, has been made into an indie film. Sonna himself co-stars in the feature, which will get its first public screening (along with cast and crew on-hand) on Sunday at the Texas Theatre in Oak Cliff. It's a sneak peek at the moody, sexually charged drama.

DEETS: Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. 7 p.m. \$7.50 (tickets available in advance at BenAndRenda.net).



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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Angels Fall. Pulitzer Prize-winning gay playwright Lanford Wilson's comic drama about six people brought together in a New Mexico mission church, directed by Rene Moreno. Greenville Center for the Arts, 5601 Sears St. *Final weekend.* ContemporaryTheatreofDallas.com.

Avenue Q. Theatre 3's hit from last summer and fall returns for an unlimited run in its Theatre Too space with most of the original cast. A puppet show, but not for kids (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.

Enron. A musical adaptation of the events that led to one of the biggest corporate scandals in history. Regional premiere. (*Reviewed this week.*) Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through May 25. \$10-\$50. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Fly By Night. A new pop musical set during a blackout goes into previews at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through May 26. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Re-Designing Women. A 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.

Too Many Girls. The Rodgers and Hart musical gets revived by Lyric Stage. Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. *Final weekend.* LyricStage.org.

Wicked. The bewitching hit musical returns, courtesy Dallas Summer Musicals. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. *Final weekend.* DallasSummerMusicals.org.

OPERA

Fort Worth Opera Festival. The Fort Worth Opera continues its 17 days of opera, featuring four different works at Bass Performance Hall and other venues. *Through Sunday.* For a complete schedule, visit FWOpera.org.

COMEDY

Dixie's Tupperware Party. Drag diva Dixie Longate sells housewares with humor. Van Cliburn Recital Hall at McDavid Studio, 330 E. 4th St., Fort Worth. *Through Sunday.* 817-212-4280. DixiesTupperwareParty.com.

FINE ART

Justin Ginsberg: Mesophase. New show with opening night artist's reception. Ro2 Art. 110 N. Akard St. May 3-June 1.

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.



SUPER DEAL | Free Comic Book Day is at gay-owned Zeus Comics on Saturday, but you can get a jump-start by attending a mixer Friday featuring two of the gay creators of famous imprints.

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.

Dan Rees. Work from the man just designated the first artist in residence at the Goss-Michael Foundation, 1405 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through July 27. GossMichaelFoundation.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. *Final weekend.* 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 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.

ModArtists. More than a dozen artists exhibit at the ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. Through May 11. ilumegallerie.com.

FRIDAY 05.03

THEATER

Viva Dallas Burlesque. The regular first Friday show is based on a tribute to *Grease*. Lakewood Theater, 1825 Abrams Parkway. Doors open at 8 p.m., show at 9 p.m. VivaDallasBurlesque.com.

CONCERTS

Rodriguez. The famed musician, the subject of the Oscar-winning documentary *Searching for Sugarman*,

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

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HEY, FELA | The dance musical *Fela!* opens at the Winspear Opera House Tuesday.

performs. Annette Strauss Square next to the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. \$25-\$45. ATPAC.org.

COMMUNITY

LifeWalk Date Auction. A bachelor auction for LifeWalk's Team Heart features Drag Racer Alyssa Edwards. Havana, 4006 Cedar Springs Road. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$10 suggested donation.

Zeus Comics GeekOut Gay Mixer. Gay comic book stars Phil Jimenez (Wonder Woman, New X-Men) and Stephen Sadowski (JSA, Avengers/Invaders) attend a mixer sponsored by the gay-owned comic book store. Dallas Eagle. 5740 Maple Road. 6-9 p.m. Free.

SATURDAY 05.04

COMMUNITY

Free Comic Book Day. The annual comic giveaway event with out comics icons Phil Jimenez and Stephen Sadowski, as well as Peter Mayhew (Chewbacca) in attendance. Zeus Comics, 1334 Inwood Road. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Dallas Vegan Bake Sale. The vegan group holds its annual bake sale of animal-free products at the Beauty Bar, with proceeds benefitting Resource Center Dallas. Items range in price from \$2-\$5. 1924 N. Henderson St., noon-4 p.m.

FINE ARTS

Dick and Jane: A Narrative and Pull the Lion's Mane. New exhibits with artists' reception Saturday begin at Norwood Flynn Gallery, 3318 Shorecrest. Through May 25. NorwoodFlynnGallery.com.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly, radio show addressing LGBT issues. This week's guest is Candy Marcum. 89.3 KNON-FM at 11 a.m.

SUNDAY 05.05

CONCERT

Sue Ellen's Outdoor Music Festival. The 7th annual pet- and family-friendly concert event, featuring Mi Diva Loca, Heather Knox and Eric Himan and headliner Uh Huh Her. Sue Ellen's 3014 Throckmorton St. 2 p.m. PartyAtTheBlock.com.

TUESDAY 05.07

STAGE

Daffodil Girls, Inspired by David Mamet's Glengarry Glen Ross. A children's play with a dark bent, written and directed by Jeff Swearingen. Plano's Children's Theatre, 1301 Custer Road, Suite 706, Plano. May 7-12. \$5-\$10. FunHouseTheatreAndFilm.com.

Fela! Musical about the African musician Fela Kuti, staged by Bill T. Jones. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. May 7-19. ATPAC.org.

WEDNESDAY 05.08

SEMINAR

Financial Planning for LGBT People. A complimentary educational meeting for meeting the financial challenges facing gay people. The Social House, 5100 Belt Line Road, suite 410. 6-8 p.m. Hosted by TI Pride Network. RSVP at DPhilbrick@ti.com.

THURSDAY 05.09

COMMUNITY

Boi Thursdays. Weekly gay mixer with music from guest DJs. Winston's Supperclub, 3111 Welborn Ave., Suite 110. 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

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James Beard was born 110 years ago on Sunday; he died in 1985. The gay gourmand, chef and author helped bring French cooking to American kitchens and is the father of the foodie craze. His James Beard Foundation awards the most coveted prizes in the food world.

TAURUS: Apr 21—May 20

Don't be too sure about how your current state of affairs will unravel. What looks good could change radically; the same goes for whatever it is that isn't looking that hot. Much of what you're dealing with right now has to do with payback.

GEMINI: May 21—Jun 20

Diversifying your options seems like a wise move. Before you decide to branch out too far, why don't you look at whatever's going on, on the bottom line.

CANCER: Jun 21—Jul 20

Baby steps, my friend, baby steps! Whatever's going on, don't try to cook it up all at once. It's interesting that the scenery has changed and you're adjusting to a whole new perspective. You may even be looking at your life from a totally different location.

LEO: Jul 21—Aug 20

It isn't easy to figure out why things went the way they did. There's no way to explain the events of the last year. Only now are you beginning to see the ways in which the universe has conspired to bring you back to yourself.

VIRGO: Aug 21—Sep 20

Before you get all worked up, slow down and get real for a minute. Just because all of a sudden everyone wants a piece of you, it doesn't mean you need to say yes to any of this.

LIBRA: Sep 21—Oct 20

The sense of paranoia that had you waiting for the other shoe to drop has been replaced with the understanding that you have nothing to fear. If those who seemed untrustworthy have redeemed themselves, you are also realizing that your trust issues have played a huge role in making this entire situation harder than it has to be.

SCORPIO: Oct 21—Nov 20

No one knew how far this situation would go. You can't blame others for what they didn't understand. As much as it looks like this has nothing to do with you, there's no way around it; you're here, too.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21—Dec 20

You aren't entirely sure about anything these days. The last few years have brought so much change, it would be good if you could get up to speed on where you're really at with yourself. A big part of you thinks it has to keep maintaining the status quo at a time when you have no desire to do so.

CAPRICORN: Dec 21—Jan 20

Whatever they're saying behind your back will cost them more than it costs you. Don't be concerned. You can be sure that the only ones who are listening are the ones who see it that way to begin with. Your truer friends are always there for you.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21—Feb 20

Being taken for granted has been an issue. It seems as if people expect you to be there for them no matter what. You wouldn't mind but it's been a while since anyone returned the favor, and you've had enough of being the one who cares.

PISCES: Febr 21—Mar 20

Too many things are eating away at your sense of certainty for you to be sure how you feel. The brunt of it seems to be coming from circumstantial interference, and the rest of it is coming from other people and their choices. How those things affect you will depend upon what you're willing to accept.

ARIES: Mar 21—Apr 20

You have a hard time coming to terms with the fact that you might not be right about everything. Between people who seem like they're exactly what you need and others who've arrived to tell you a thing or two, you're a little confused.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

YOU'RE HERE. NICE. DO ALL OF YOUR GUESTS GET SUCH A WARM WELCOME?

DON'T PUSH ME. OKAY, SORRY. I GUESS I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL YOU AGREED TO LET ME STAY HERE.

WHY DON'T I SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM? I'M NOT A MONSTER, KYLE. I'M A GOOD GUY.

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT...

SHORTLY... KYLE... AM I HALLUCINATING?

OR DID YOU JUST CHECK IN BILLY SIPLE... THAT IDIOT COMEDIAN...

... WHO GOT SUSPENDED FROM 'FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE' 'CAUSE OF HIS HOMOPHOBIC STAND-UP ROUTINE?

YOU'RE NOT HALLUCINATING, THAT'S HIM. EDUARDO. WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING HERE?!

AS PART OF HIS 'SENSITIVITY TRAINING' TO GET HIM REINSTATED ON 'FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE'...

... HE'S BEING SENT TO LIVE IN A GAY ESTABLISHMENT FOR A FEW WEEKS.

AND YOU AGREED TO LET HIM COME LIVE HERE? KYLE...

YOU THINK I HAVE THE BIGGEST DICK ON THE PLANET? WOW. GUESS I'M GONNA BE REAL POPULAR IN THIS HOUSE.

NOTHING? C'MON, GUYS... THAT WAS A JOKE. REALLY? I THOUGHT THOSE WERE THE DYING SOUNDS OF A SHOOTING STAR. OUCH. TOUGH CROWD...

... THAT GUY IS THE BIGGEST DICK ON THE PLANET!

Website - www.kylecomics.com E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

bitter girl

the ol' can-do spirit

WHAT ABOUT JEALOUSY? WHAT ABOUT STD'S? WHAT ABOUT H1N1?

PRIDE 09 HRC

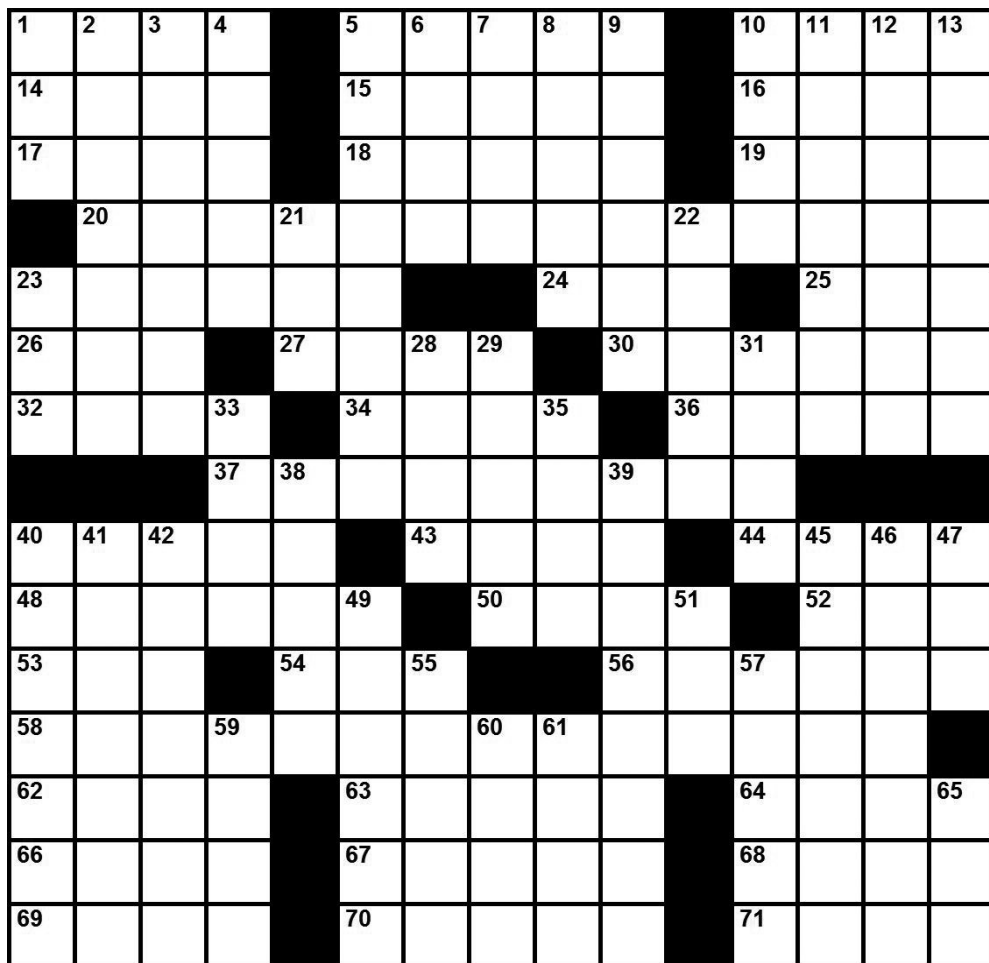
NONMONOGAMY IS NOT GOING TO GIVE ME SWINE FLU. WELL, I STILL THINK ROSE IS BEING A PIG.

WHY KNOT? HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

IF IT'S WHAT SHE WANTS, I HAVE TO TRY IT... CATE WANTS ME TO BE CATHOLIC! YOU THINK I'M GONNA TRY THAT?

SO CATE TELLS ME YOU MET IN CHURCH. OY.

email: bittergirl@qsyndicate.com www.joanhilty.net JOAN HILTY ©2009



“Stonewall Headline”

Solution on page 47

Across

- 1 Foreman, formerly of NGLTF
- 5 Marlon Brando’s hometown
- 10 Frisbee, for one
- 14 As to
- 15 Sarah of *Alaska*
- 16 Rubber stamp
- 17 Eyelid ailment
- 18 Humped antelope
- 19 In the public eye
- 20 Start of a New York Post headline after Stonewall
- 23 Stirred up
- 24 Title for A. Spear
- 25 However, briefly
- 26 *Unhappily Ever After* actor
- 27 Sitarist Shankar
- 30 Radiant
- 32 NASDAQ rival
- 34 Fey of *30 Rock*
- 36 Students may take them out
- 37 More of the headline
- 40 Name derived from Nicholas
- 43 Austria’s capital, to Austrians
- 44 Watch a NY Liberty game here
- 48 Irritating

50 ___ of *Seventeen*

- 52 Toto’s home state (abbr.)
- 53 Come out on the beach
- 54 Surg. locales
- 56 Everett’s ___ *Monkey Zetterland*
- 58 End of the headline
- 62 Adult filly
- 63 Western director Sergio
- 64 His grandmother had a Woody
- 66 Art Deco design name
- 67 Shaft of a knight
- 68 Trickle through the cracks
- 69 Twosome
- 70 Second name in cross-dressing
- 71 Doest own

Down

- 1 Wrong (prefix)
- 2 Reformer Susan B.
- 3 Cattle calls, e.g.
- 4 Is abundant
- 5 Unzipped partner?
- 6 International ___
- 7 “What a shame”
- 8 Dropped hankie and such
- 9 Mitchell of NBC News
- 10 Lucie’s father
- 11 Brewed drink for teetotalers
- 12 Golfer Patty
- 13 “No glove, no love” subjects
- 21 Finish’d
- 22 Avoid going straight
- 23 Hightailed it
- 28 Vidal’s *A ___ from the Diners Club*
- 29 Torso opening
- 31 Give the slip to
- 33 Prefix with lateral
- 35 In the sack
- 38 “Lead ___ into temptation”
- 39 Casey Jones, e.g.
- 40 Got excited
- 41 Hollinghurst’s *The Swimming-Pool* ___
- 42 Edmonton’s province
- 45 Many a place near Aspen
- 46 Ball whackers, in Ping-Pong
- 47 U-turn from SSW
- 49 Gate design
- 51 C. Marlowe’s tongue
- 55 Golfer Sam
- 57 Overhand stroke, for Mauresmo
- 59 It gets spilled at wild parties
- 60 Beat it
- 61 Peruvian native
- 65 Quit, with “out”



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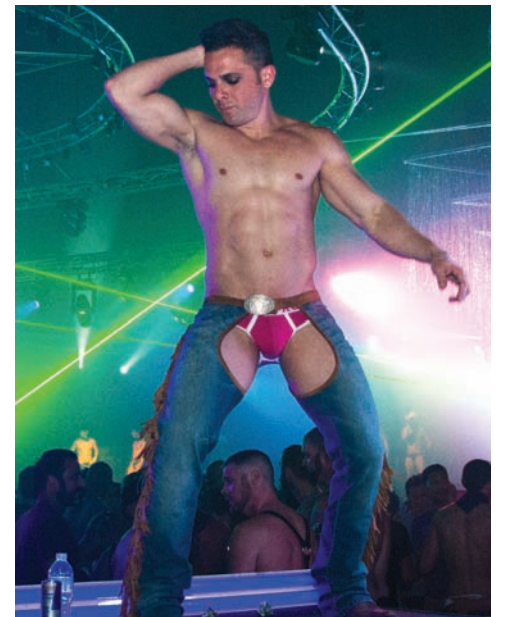
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This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE

LIFE+STYLE

scene





Alyssa Edwards and friends at 'RuPaul's Drag Race' watching party at the ilume.

The seventh annual **Outdoor Music Festival** takes place in the parking lot behind **Sue Ellen's** on May 5 featuring **Uh Huh Her** with The L Word's **Leisha Hailey**. **Coles Whalen**, **Heather Knox**, **Eric Himan**, **Bad Habits** and **The Bright** also perform at this pet- and family-friendly event. ... **Leather Knights** holds **AWOL 5 — A Weekend of Leather** (All Hands on Deck). The weekend begins with a bar crawl on May 3 beginning at 8 p.m. at **Woody's Upstairs Back Patio**, 9 p.m. at **JR.'s Bar & Grill**, 10 p.m. at the **Round-Up Saloon**, 11 p.m. at the **Hidden Door** and ending at midnight at **Dallas Eagle** 'til close. May 4 events take place at the host hotel with an afternoon shore excursion to **Skivvies**. A Sunday farewell brunch with champagne and awards takes place at **Dallas Eagle** at noon. ... **Girl's Night Out** with **Peggy Honea** begins at 10 p.m. at **Alexandre's** on May 3. **Andrea Dawson** appears May 4. ... **JR.'s Bar & Grill** has an **Ashley Allen** CD giveaway of her instantly infectious pop single **Let's Go** on May 9. ... **BJ's NXS Squeaky Clean Foam Party** takes place on May 3 on the newly renovated patio. ... **Zeus Comics** holds a mixer at **Dallas Eagle** on May 3 with **DC Comics' Phil Jiminex**. ... **Best Friends Club** has a '90s party on May 3. Come dressed in '90s attire and get ready for some great '90s music and trivia. ... **The Brick** holds a college night party on May 9. ...

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



Dancers at the Tin Room.

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presents

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■ auto

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CENTRAL KIA — (Plano); 3401 N. Central Expy, Plano; 972-422-5300; centralkia-plano.com.
GOODSON ACURA — 4801 Lemmon Ave.; 214-6922872; goodsonacura.com.
HILEY MAZDA/VW — 1400 Tech Centre.; Arlington; 817-575-6100; hileycars.com.
JOHN EAGLE HONDA — 5311 Lemmon Ave.; 800-539-1844; eaglehonda.com.
PARK PLACE MERCEDES-MIDCITIES — 3737 Airport Frwy.; Bedford; 817-359-4746.
VAN HYUNDAI — 1301 S. Hwy I-35 East; Carrollton; 1-888-80HYUNDAI; vanhyundaionline.com.

■ clubs

***ALEXANDRE'S** — 4026 Cedar Springs Rd.; 214-559-0720.
***1851 CLUB ARLINGTON** — 931 W. Division, Arlington; 682-323-5315.
***BEST FRIENDS** — 2620 E. Lancaster, Ft. Worth; 817-534-2280.
***BJ'S NXS** — 3215 N. Fitzhugh; 214-526-9510; bjssnxs.com.
***THE BRICK/JOE'S** — 2525 Wycliff Ave.; Ste. 120; 214-521-3154; brickdallas.com.
***CHANGES** — 2637 E. Lancaster; 817-413-2332.
***CHERRIES** — 2506 Knight St.; 214-520-8251.
***CLUB KALIENTE** — 4350 Maple Ave; 214-520-6676; kaliente.cc.
***CLUB REFLECTIONS** — 604 S. Jennings; Ft. Worth; 817-870-8867.
***CROSSROADS LOUNGE** — 515 Jennings, Ft. Worth; 817-332-0071.
***DALLAS EAGLE** — 5740 Maple Ave.; 214-357-4375; dallaseagle.com.
EDEN LOUNGE — 2911 Main St.; edenlounge@dallas.com.
***EXKLUSIVE** — 4207 Maple Ave.; 214-432-2826.
***HAVANA** — 4006 Cedar Springs; 214-526-9494.
***HIDDEN DOOR** — 5025 Bowser; 214-526-0620.
***J.R.'S** — 3923 Cedar Springs; 214-528-1004, caven.com.
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***STATION 4** — 3911 Cedar Springs; 214-526-7171; caven.com.
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***TIN ROOM** — 2514 Hudnal; 214-526-6365; tinroom.net.
***WOODY'S SPORTS AND VIDEO BAR** — 4011 Cedar Springs; 214-520-6629.
***ZIPPERS** — 3333 N. Fitzhugh; 214-526-9519.

■ entertainment, adult

***ALTERNATIVES OF NEW FINE ARTS** — 1720 W. Mockingbird Ln.; 214-630-7071.
***MOCKINGBIRD VIDEO** — 708 W. Mockingbird Ln.; 214-631-3003.
***NEW FINE ARTS WEST** — 1966 W. Northwest Hwy.; 972-869-1097.
***ODYSSEY ADULT VIDEO** — 2600 Forest at Denton Dr., 972-484-4999; 950 W. Mockingbird Ln., 214-634-3077.
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***THE VIDEO STORE** — 3015 Arapaho at Galaxie; Garland 75044; 972-495-1460. 214-528-6500; robbwiley.com.
***ZONE D'EROTICA** — 2600 Forest, Dallas. 972-241-7055, zonederotica.com.

■ entertainment, adult

XPOSED ADULT THEATER AND MEGASTORE — 910 W. Mockingbird Ln.; 214-819-0571; xposedtheater-megastore.com

■ entertainment, general

***ARLINGTON MUSEUM OF ART** — 201 W. Main St., Arlington; 817-275-4600; arlingtonmuseum.org.
ARTES DE LA ROSS — 1440 N. Main St; Ft. Worth; 76164; 817-624-8333.
BASS HALL — 330 E. 4th St.; Ft. Worth; 817-212-4280.
BEARDANCE — beardance.org.
BRUCE WOOD DANCE PROJECT — 214-428-2263; brucewooddance.org.
CASA MANANA — 3101 W. Lancaster Ave.; Fort Worth; 817-321-5030; casamanana.org.
CITY PERFORMANCE HALL — 2700 Flora St.; 75201; 214-880-0202; dallasperformingarts.org.
DALLAS ARBORETUM — 8525 Garland Rd.; 214-515-6500; dallasarboretum.org.
***DALLAS MUSEUM OF ART** — 1717 N. Harwood; 214-922-1204.
DALLAS SUMMER MUSICALS — 909 1st. Ave.; 214-421-5678; dallassummermusicals.org.
DALLAS OPERA — 214-443-1000; dallasopera.org.
DALLAS THEATER CENTER — 2400 Flora St.; 214-252-3927; dallastheatercenter.org.
FT. WORTH OPERA — 31-877-FWOPERA; fwopera.org.
FT. WORTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — 330 E. 4th St. Ft. Worth; 817-665-6500; fwsymphony.org
***LAKEWOOD THEATRE** — 825 Abrams Rd.; 214-827-LAKE.
***MAGNOLIA THEATER** — 3699 McKinney Ave.; 214-520-0025.
MBS PRODUCTIONS — 214-951-9550; mbsproductions.com.
McKINNEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER — 111 N. Tennessee; McKinney; 75069; 972-547-2650.
MEADOWS MUSEUM — 5900 Bishop Blvd.; 214-768-2516; meadowsmuseumdallas.org.
MODERN ART MUSEUM — 3200 Damell, Ft. Worth; 817-738-9215.
NASHER SCULPTURE CENTER — 2001 Flora St.; 214-242-1500; nashersculpturecenter.org.
SAMMONS PARK — (Annette Strauss Artist Square); 2100 Ross Ave.; 75201; dallasperformingarts.org.
TEXAS BALL THEATER — 1540 Mall Circle; Ft. Worth; 817-763-0207; texasballettheater.org.
***THEATRE THREE** — 2800 Routh, #168; 214-871-2933; theatre3dallas.com.
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WATERTOWER THEATRE — 15650 Addison Rd.; 972-450-6232; watertowertheatre.org.
WINSPEAR OPERA HOUSE — (Margaret McDermott Performance Hall & Nancy Hamon Rectal Hall); 2403 Flora St.; 75201; 214-880-0202; dallasperformingarts.org.
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■ healthcare

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ADVANCED SKIN FITNESS — 2928 Oak Lawn Ave.; 214-521-5277; advancedskinfitness.com.
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STEVEN GRAVES INSURANCE AGENCY — 2919 Welborn, Ste 100 214-599-0808; stevengravesinsurance.com.

■ private clubs

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***MIDTOWNE SPA** — 2509 Pacific; 214-821-8989; midtowne.com.

■ real estate

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BUYADALLASHOME.COM — 214-500-0007.
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NALL, STEVE — (Virginia Cook); 972-248-5429; teashomeguy.com.
NESSLE DEVELOPMENT — 6603 E. Lovers Ln., 888-836-8234; nessleinc.com.
NUCIO, TONY — (Nucio Realty Group); 3100 Monticello, #200; 214-395-0669; dallascitycenter.com.
ORAM, MARK — (Keller Williams); 214-850-1674; gayrealstateagent.com
PARKER, BRIAN — (Ebbys Urban Alliance); 214-443-4909; wcondosdallas.com.
PARKSIDE CONDOS — 4777 Cedar Springs; 214-377-2233; parksidecedarsprings.com.
PNC MORTGAGE — 8235Douglas Ave.; 972-473-8924; pncmortgage.com.
SALADIN, MARTY — 1227 Fern Ridge Pkwy #200, St. Louis, MO 877.763.8111; midwestmortgagecapitol.com.
SCHWARTZ, JOEY — (Local Dwelling); 3710 Rawlings, #850; 214-522-9100; localdwelling.com.
SOUTHWESTERN, THE — 5959 Maple Ave.; 214-352-5959; thesouthwestern.com.
UPDIKE, JEFF — (ReMax Urban); 214-943-9400; jeffupdike.com.
WATERMARK — wartermark.org.; (Joe DeuPree); 214-559-5690; (George Durstine); 214-559-6090; (Dannay Allen Scott); 972-588-8304
WYNN REALTY — (Craig Patton); 18636 Vista Del Sol Dr.; 469-449-9917; wynnrealty.com.

■ restaurants

***ALFREDO'S PIZZA** — 4043 Trinity Mills, #108; 972-307-1678.
***ALL GOOD CAFE** — 2934 Main St.; 214-742-5362.
***ANGELA'S CAFE** — 7929 Inwood, #121; 214-904-8122.
***BIC'S RESTAURANT** — 2245 Midway Rd., Carrollton; 972-233-5819.
***BLACK-EYED PEA** — 3857 Cedar Springs; 214-521-4580.
***BULI CAFE** — 3908 Cedar Springs Rd.; 214-528-5410; bulicafe.com.
***BURGER ISLAND** — 4422-B Lemmon Ave.; 214-443-0015.
***BUZZBREWS KITCHEN** — 4334 Lemmon Ave.; 214-521-4334; 4154 Fitzhugh; 214-826-7100; buzzbrews.com.
***CAFÉ BRAZIL** — 3847 Cedar Springs; 214-461-8762.
CHILI'S — 3230 Knox; 214-520-1555; chilis.com.
***COSMIC CUP** — 2912 Oak Lawn Ave.; 214-521-6157.
CREMONA KITCHEN — 2704 Worthington.; 214-871-115. www.cremonabistro.com
***DEEP SUSHI** — 2624 Elm St.; 214-651-1177.
***DICKEY'S BARBECUE** — 2525 Wycliff Ave.; 214-780-0999; dickedys.com.
***EINSTEIN BROTHERS BAGELS** — 3827 Lemmon Ave., Dallas, 214-526-5221; 3050 University, Ft. Worth, 817-923-3444.
EPIC CONES — 3025 Main St.; 214-364-8842; epiccones.com.
***GOOD LUCK DRIVE IN** — 900 W. Rosedale, Ft. Worth; 817-332-5507.
***GOODCENTS DELI FRESH SUBS** — 2817 Howell St., #220; 214-758-0870; mgoodcents.com.
***THE GREAT AMERICAN HERO** — 4001 Lemmon Ave.; 214-521-2070.
HARD ROCK CAFE — 2211 N. Houston St.; 469-341-7625; hardrock.com
***HOWARD WANG'S UPTOWN** — 3223 Lemmon Ave.; 214-954-9558; hwrestaurants.com.
***HUNKY'S** — 4000 Cedar Springs and 321 N. Bishop St.; 214-522-1212; hunkys.com.
***IT'S A GRIND** — 2901 Indiana, 75226; 214-954-7109.
JOHNATHON'S OAK CLIFF — 1111 N. beckley Ave.; 214-946-2221; johnathonsoakcliff.com
***LA CABANA** — 1417 W. Davis; 214-941-9292.
***LONE STAR BBQ** — 6320 Beach St, Halton City; 817-428-7887.
***LOVER'S EGROLL** — 3510 McKinney, #8; 214-443-1888.
***LUCKY'S CAFÉ** — 3531 Oak Lawn; 214-522-3500.
***MAMA'S DAUGHTERS' DINER** — 2014 Irving Blvd.; 214-742-8646; mamasdaughtersdiner.com.
***MAIN STREET CAFÉ** — 2023 S. Cooper, Arlington; 817-801-9099.
***MCDONALD'S** — 4439 Lemmon Ave.; 214-522-0697.
MOMO'S PASTA — 2800 Routh #165; 214-521-3009; momospasta.com
***OJEDA'S** — 4617 Maple; 214-528-8383.
***PIZZA INN** — 5460 Lemmon Ave.; 214-526-2560.
***POLLO FIESTA** — 4535 Maple Ave., 214-443-9078; 903 S. Hampton, 214-942-6645.
POP DINER — 3600 McKinney Ave.; 214-599-8988; popdinerusa.com
SAKHU THAI CUISINE — 4810 Bryan St.; Ste 100; 214-828-9300; sakhuu.com.

■ restaurants

***SAL'S PIZZA** — 2525 Wycliff; 214-522-1828.
***SPIRAL DINER AND BAKERY** — 1101 N. Beckley; 214-948-4747.
***STARBUCK COFFEE** — 3330 Oak Lawn, 214-219-0369; 4101 Lemmon Ave, 214-522-3531.
***STRATOS GREEK TAVERNA** — 2907 W. Northwest Hwy.; 214-352-3121; dubstratos.com.
TEXAS LAND AND CATTLE — 3130 Lemmon Ave.; 214-526-4664; www.tlbc.com.
***THAIRIFFIC** — 4000 Cedar Springs; 972-241-2412; thairiffic.com.
TILLMAN'S ROADHOUSE — 324 W. 7th St.; 214-942-0988; tillmansroadhouse.com.
***TOMMY'S HAMBURGERS** — 5228 Camp Bowie, Ft. Worth; 817-569-1111.
TWO CORKS AND A BOTTLE — 2800 Routh St. # 140 (the quadrange); 214-871-9463; twocorksandabottle.com
VERACRUZ CAFE — 408 N. Bishop St. #107.; 214-948-4746; veracruzafedallas.com.
WENDY KRISPIN - CATERER — 214-748-5559; wendykrispincaterer.com
***WINDYTOP** — 4411 Lemmon Ave.; 214-219-9464.
ZINI'S PIZZA — 4001 Cedar Springs; 214-599-2600; ZinisPizza.com.

■ services

20CDESIGN — 1430 N. Riverfront Blvd.; 214-939-1430; 20cdesign.com.
AGAIN & AGAIN — 1202 N. Riverfront; 214-746-6300; againandagain.com
ALADDIN RENTALS & EVENTS — (Jody Parish); 738 W. Hurst Blvd.; Hurst; 871-282-3902; aladdinrentalsandevents.com.
ALLEN, RON, CPA, P.C. — 2909 Cole Ave., #300; 214-954-0042.
ALTA MERE TINTING — 4302 Lemmon Ave.; 214-521-7477; altameredallas.com.
ANTIQUE FLOORS — 1221 Dragon St.; 214-760-9330; antiquefloors.net.
ANTIQUE GALLERY OF LEWISVILLE — 1165 S. Stemmons Fwy. #126.; 972-219-0474; antiquegallerylewisville.com.
ANTIQUE GALLERY OF MESQUITE — 3330 N. Galloway #225.; 972-270-7700; antiquegallerymesquite.com.
BLUE RIBBON HEAT & AIR — 10033 Lake Highlands Pl, 75218; 214-823-8888; blueribbonheatandair.com.
CAMPBELL CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION — 214-802-2280; cccdallas.com.
CONSIGNMENT SOLUTIONS — 1931 Skillman St.; 214-827-8022; consignmentsolution.com.
***ENERGY FITNESS** — 2901 Cityplace West Blvd.; 214-219-1900.
FLOATSTORAGE.COM — floatstorage.com
GIACO, ERNIE CPA — 817-731-7450.
GREAT SKIN BY LYNNE — 4245 N. Central Expy., #450; 214-526-6160; greatskinbylynne.com.
***HOLLYWOOD STYLE NAILS** — 3523 Oak Lawn; 214-526-7133.
HOPE COTTAGE — (Adoption); 4209 McKinney Ave.; 214-526-8921; hopecottage.org.
***COSMIC CUP** — 2912 Oak Lawn Ave.; 214-521-6157.
***IRON PRESS CLEANERS** — 3818 Cedar Springs; 214-443-9936.
***JESSICA HAIR SALON** — 4420 Lemmon; 214-521-9244.
LIFELONG ADOPTIONS — 888-829-0891; lifelongadoptions.com
LUX: A TANNING SALON — 4411 Lemmon Ave., #105; 75219; 214-521-4589; luxtandallas.com.
***MR. S'S BEVERAGE** — 1453 Coit, Plano; 972-867-2821.
NORTH HAVEN GARDENS — 7700 Northaven Rd.; 214-363-5316; ngh.com.
THE NAIL SPA DALLAS — 4020 Cedar Springs Rd.; 214-526-6245; thenailsalpdallas.com.
***PALM BEACH TAN** — 2817 Howell, #190; 214-871-2786; palmbeachtan.com.
***POOCH PATIO** — 3811 Fairmount; 214-252-1550.
PORTRAIT SKETCHES BY DAVID PHILLIPS — 214-498-6273; drphillips.net.
PROMOTIONAL RESCUE — 703 McKinney Ave., Ste 402; 214-303-1325.
POSH AESTHETICS — (Nexus Financial

organizationdirectory

■ hotline

AIDS HOTLINE — 214-559-AIDS; Sponsored by Resource Center of Dallas.

■ aids services

***AIDS ARMS INC.** — 219 Sunset, #116-A, Dallas 75208, 214-521-5191; 1907 Peabody Ave., Dallas 75215, 214-421-7848; aidsarms.org.

AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK — 501 N. Stemmons, #200, Dallas 75207; 214-943-4444 (Programs), 214-941-7696 (Administration); aidsinterfaithnetwork.org.

AIDS OUTREACH CENTER — 400 North Beach Street; Fort Worth, 76111; www.aoc.org; 817-335-1994.

AIDS PREVENTION PROJECT — 400 S. Zang, Dallas 75208; 214-645-7300, 214-645-7301.

***AIDS RESOURCE CENTER** — 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5124; resourcecenter-dallas.org.

***AIDS SERVICES OF DALLAS** — P.O. Box 4338, Dallas 75208; 214-941-0523; aidsdallas.org.

AIDS SERVICES OF NORTH TEXAS — 4210 Mesa, Denton 76207, 940-381-1501; 2540 Ave. K, Ste 500, Plano 75074, 972-424-1480; 3506 Texas, Greenville 75401, 903-450-4018; 102 S. First, Rockwall 75087, 800-974-2437; aidsntx.org.

EXHALE SERVICES — 417 S. Locust, #101, Denton 76201; 940-484-2516.

GREG DOLLGENDER MEMORIAL AIDS FUND, INC. — P.O. Box 29091, Dallas 75229; 972-423-9093; gdmf.org.

***LEGACY COUNSELING CENTER & LEGACY FOUNDERS COTTAGE** — 4054 McKinney, #102, Dallas 75204; 214-520-6308; legacycounseling.com.

***LEGAL HOSPICE OF TEXAS** — 3626 N. Hall, #800, Dallas 75219; 214-521-6622; dlh.org.

***NELSON-TEBEDO HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER** — 4012 Cedar Springs, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-528-2336; rcdallas.org/nthrc.html.

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS HIV PLANNING COUNCIL — 1101 S. Main, #2500; Fort Worth 76104; 817-321-4743 (Office), 817-321-4741 (Fax); netexasaids.com.

POSITIVE VOICES COALITION — 8099 Pennsylvania Ave., Ft. Worth; 817-321-4742; netexasaids.com.

PROJECT ESPERANZA — 5415 Maple, #422, Dallas 75235; 214-630-0114.

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE AIDS FUND — P.O. Box 190409, Dallas 75219; 214-394-9064; tccdaidsfund.org.

WHITE ROCK FRIENDS MINISTRY — 9353 Garland Rd., Dallas 75218; 214-324-1193; whiterockchurch.org.

■ education

ALLIES — 3116 Fondren Dr., Dallas 75205; 214-768-4796; smu.edu/womenscenter/allies.

***DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY** — 1515 Young, Dallas 75201; 214-670-1400; dallaslibrary.org.

GAY AND LESBIAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTON — 940-565-2456; andrew.wexler@gmail.com; orgs.unt.edu/glad.

GLSEN - DALLAS — 2505 Wedgela Dr. #235, Dallas, 817-999-0199; glsen.org/dallas, dallas@chapters.glsen.org.

HOMAGE — P.O. Box 830688, #12, Richardson 75083; 214-415-8495; mail@homageutd.org.

HOMAGE AT UTA — 817-272-3986; tmarshall@uta.edu.

OUT @ COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE — 214-991-7851; out.ccccd.edu.

SPECTRUM — 3140 Dyer, Dallas 75275; 214-768-4792; people.smu.edu/spectrum.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS ALLY PROGRAM — 940-565-2000; ally@unt.edu; unt.edu/ally/index.htm.

■ media

***DALLAS VOICE** — 4145 Travis, 3rd Floor, Dallas 75204; 214-754-8710; dallasvoice.com.

DALLAS VOICE YELLOW PAGES — 4145 Travis, 3rd Floor, Dallas 75204; 214-754-8710; gayyellow.com.

GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION — 800-GAY-MEDIA; glaad@glaad.org; GLAAD.org.

LAMBDA WEEKLY — GLBT talk-radio show. KNON 89.3FM; Lambda Weekly, KNON FM, P.O. Box 71909, Dallas 75371; lambdaweekly@aol.com; geocities.com/lambdaweekly.

PRIDE RADIO — 14001 N. Dallas Parkway, #300, Dallas 75240; 214-866-8000; prideradiofwd.com/main.html.

■ music

DALLAS SUMMER MUSICALS — 909 Ist. Avenue., Dallas 75210; 214-565-1116; livingthemusical.com.

FRONTIER DRUM & BUGLE CORPS — 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., #18, Dallas 75219; 972-437-6974; frontiercorps.org.

OAK LAWN SYMPHONIC BAND — P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-621-8998; oaklawnband.org.

NEW TEXAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — P.O. Box 190137, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x101); ntso.org.

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE — P.O. Box 190137, 75219, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x101); turtlecreek.org.

WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS — 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., #210, Dallas 75219; 214-520-7828; twcdoffice@twcd.org; twcd.org.

■ political

DALLAS STONEWALL DEMOCRATS — 4145 Travis St.; #204; DallasYO.org

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF DALLAS COUNTY — P.O. Box 541712; DALLAS 75354-1719; lpdallas.org.

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF DALLAS — P.O. Box 191033, Dallas 75219; 214-346-2115; robschlein@aol.com; dallas.logcabin.org.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DALLAS — P.O. Box 192305, Dallas 75219; 214-887-4990; stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DENTON COUNTY — P.O. Box 703392, Dallas 75370; 972-890-3834; info@stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org; stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org.

TARRANT COUNTY STONEWALL DEMOCRATS — P.O. Box 185363, Fort Worth 76181; 817-913-8743; info@tarrantcountystonewalldemocrats.org; tarrantcountystonewalldemocrats.org.

■ professional

ALLIANCE OF DESIGN PROFESSIONALS — 214-526-2085.

BUSINESS NETWORK OF COLLIN COUNTY — 972-702-0058; businessnetworkcc.org.

CATHEDRAL BUSINESS NETWORK — 214-351-1901 (x204); cbn.info@cathedralofhope.com; cathedralofhope.com/cbn.

DALLAS PRIDE RESOURCE GROUP — bruce.shelton@bankofamerica.com.

DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN BAR ASSN. — 214-540-4460; adamsidel@aol.com; dgiba.org.

DALLAS LAMBDA MEDICAL NETWORK — Contact Paul Jentz; 214-820-6930; paul.jentz@baylorhealth.edu.

DELOITTE GLOBE — dallasglobe@deloitte.com.

GLEAM — gleam@aam.com; amrgleam.com.

GLEE — 972-605-1212; edsu.eds.com/glee/index.html.

GLOBE — P.O. Box 50961, Dallas 75250; 972-308-7233; marie.garza@irs.gov; fedglobe.org.

IBM EAGLE — haywardm@us.ibm.com.

LAMBDA PRIDE TOASTMASTERS — 2701 Reagan 75219; 214-957-2011; lambdapride@freetoasthost.us; lambdapride.freetoasthost.us.

LEADERSHIP LAMBDA TOASTMASTERS — info@leadershiplambda.freetoasthost.com; leadershiplambda.freetoasthost.com.

LBGT LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS — www.lgbtlawtx.com, 800-204-2222 x 1420.

NORTH TEXAS GLBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE — 3818 Cedar Springs Rd., Suite 101-429, Dallas, 75219, 214-821-GLBT.

OUT & EQUAL DFW — www.outandequal.org/dallas-fort-worth, DFW@outandequal.org.

PRIDE DFW METROPLEX — roger.brownlow@jpmorgan.com.

RAYTHEON GLBTA — Roland Zuniga, 972-344-5245, rz@raytheon.com.

TI PRIDE NETWORK — 12500 TI Blvd., MS 8683, Dallas, 75243, 214-480-2800, tipridenetwork-officers@ti.ti.com.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS NETWORK — P.O. Box 190692, Dallas 75219; 972-949-4355; info@womensbusinessnetwork.org; womensbusinessnetwork.org.

■ services

BLACK TIE DINNER, INC. — 3878 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 100-B #321, Dallas 75219; 972-733-9200; blacktie.com.

BOYS4TOYS — 4327 Vandelia, Dallas 75219; 214-522-5200; b4t@swbell.net; boys4toys.org.

COLLIN COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE — P.O. Box 860030 Plano, TX 75086-0030; 214-521-5342 (x1715); info@ccgla.org; ccgla.org.

DALLAS SOUTHERN PRIDE — 3100 Main, #208, Dallas 75226; 214-734-8007; dallassouthernpride.com.

DALLAS/FORT WORTH FEDERAL CLUB — P.O. Box 191153, Dallas 75219; 214-428-3332; dfwfederalclub.org.

DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE — P.O. Box 190712, Dallas 75219, 214-528-4233; info@dgla.com; dgla.com.

DALLAS GENDER SOCIETY — 214-540-4475.

DALLAS TAVERN GUILD — 214-571-1073; michaeldoughman@sbjglobal.net; dallastavernguild.org.

ERNIE GIACO, CPA — 817-731-7450; erniecpa@aol.com.

***JOHN THOMAS GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER** — 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-528-9254; Phil Johnson Historical Archives and Library; 214-540-4451.

GAY AND LESBIAN FUND FOR DALLAS — 3818 Cedar Springs Rd. 101, #371, Dallas 75219; 214-421-8177; volunteers@gldf.org.

GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD — 214-528-0022; rcdallas.org/glcc.html.

HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE OF NORTH TEXAS — 214-855-0520; info@hrionline.org; hrionline.org.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND, SOUTHWEST REGION — 3500 Oak Lawn, #500, Dallas 75219; 214-219-8585; lambdalegal.org.

LEGACY OF SUCCESS FOUNDATION, INC. — P.O. Box 700072, Dallas 75370; heritagecelebrationdfw.org.

LEGACY OF SUCCESS FOUNDATION, INC. — P.O. Box 700072, Dallas 75370; heritagecelebrationdfw.org.

LEGACY OF SUCCESS FOUNDATION, INC. — P.O. Box 700072, Dallas 75370; heritagecelebrationdfw.org.

■ services

NAMES PROJECT DALLAS — P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-520-SEWS (Phone), 214-553-8129 (Fax); dallasname-project@hotmail.com; aidsquilttdallas.org.

NATIONAL COMING OUT PROJECT-DALLAS — P.O. Box 190726, Dallas 75219, 214-261-5610; comeout.org.

TARRANT COUNTY GAY PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION — P.O. Box 3459, Fort Worth 76113; info@tcgpa.org; tcgpa.org.

TALK OF THE TOWN TOASTMASTERS CLUB — 214-404-2118; dgershner@aol.com.

TRIANGLE FOUNDATION — P.O. Box 306, Frisco 75034; 972-200-9411 (Phone), 501-643-0327 (Fax); collinequality.org.

■ social

BATTALION MOTORCYCLE CORPS — P.O. Box 190603, Dallas 75219; commander@battalionmc.com; battalionmc.com.

BITCHNBRUNCH — bitchnbrunch.org; bitchnbrunch@yahooigroups.org.

CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB — P.O. Box 225463, Dallas 75222; 214-446-0606; information@classicchassis.com; classicchassis.com.

COUPLES METRO DALLAS — P.O. Box 192116, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1764); couplesmetro.dallas.com.

DAMN — DAMNmen.org; P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1739); oakwinguy@hotmail.com.

DALLAS BEARS — P.O. Box 191223, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x2943); dallasbears.org.

DFW BIG MEN'S CLUB — P.O. Box 227262, Dallas 75222; 972-AM-I-BIG; dfwbmc@hotmail.com; chubnet.net/dfwbmc.

DFW FUSE — 214-540-4435; dfwfuse.com; fuse@rcdallas.org.

DISCIPLINE CORPS — P.O. Box 190838, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1731); webmaster@disciplinecorps.com; disciplinecorps.com.

FIRE DANCERS — mikeykeith@cs.com; fire dancers.org.

FLYING "W" OF DALLAS — P.O. Box 815485, Dallas 75381; 972-514-0511.

FOR MEN ONLY DALLAS (FMO) — http://socialnetwork.meetup.com/1102/

FRISCOPEIDE — P.O. Box 1533, Frisco 75034; 469-324-4123; friscopride.com.

GAY AND LESBIAN RESIDENTS OF OAK CLIFF — galroc.org.

GAY & LESBIAN SINGLES — 214-328-6749.

GAY MEN'S BOOK CLUB — 214-418-3354; gaymensbookclub@sbjglobal.net.

GAY OUTDOOR CLUB — 469-387-2530; mrralley@gmail.com; gayoutdoorclub.org.

GAYMSTERS BRIDGE CLUB — P.O. Box 190856, Dallas 75219; 214-946-6464; gaymasters@yahoo.com; gaymasters.org.

GROUP SOCIAL LATINO — 2701 Reagan; 214-540-4446.

IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH/ARLINGTON — P.O. Box 365, Fort Worth 76101; 817-897-8612; webmaster@ic-fwa.org; ic-fwa.org.

JEWEL — 214-540-GIRL; jewel@rcdallas.org; rcdallas.org.

KHUSH TEXAS — http://groups.yahoo.com/group/khushstexas.

LATE BLOOMERS — La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon; 903-887-7371.

LEATHER KNIGHTS — P.O. Box 190111, Dallas 75219; 214-559-3625; leatherknights.org.

LONG YANG CLUB — 214-521-5342 (x428); lyc_dfw_tx@hotmail.com; longyangclub.org/dallas.

LVL/PWA CAMPOUT — Rick; campout@lvpwa.com; lvpwa.com.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER — P.O. Box 190611, Dallas 75219; 214-521-4765; groups.yahoo.com/group/mactdallas.

NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION-DALLAS — P.O. Box 190432, Dallas 75219; info@nla-dallas.org; nla-dallas.org.

NORTH TEXAS RADICAL FAERIES — groups.yahoo.com/group/ntrafdae.

OAK LAWN COUPLES — oaklawn couples.com.

ONCE IN A BLUE MOON — 10675 East Northwest Hwy., #2600B, Dallas 75238; 972-264-3381; cschepps@sbjglobal.net; once-in-a-blue-moon.org.

ORANGE CLUB — groups.yahoo.com/group/orange-club.

OUT TAKES DALLAS — 3818 Cedar Springs #101-405 Dallas 75219; 972-988-6333 (Phone), 866-753-9341 (Fax); outtakesdallas.org.

POZ DALLAS — pozdallas@gmail.com; pozdallas.org.

PRIME TIMERS OF DALLAS-FORT WORTH — P.O. Box 191101, Dallas 75219; 972-504-8866; information@primetimers-dfw.org; primetimers-dfw.org.

RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB — P.O. Box 226811, Dallas 75222; 214-941-8114; info@rainbowgardenclub.com; rainbowgardenclub.com.

SAVVY SINGLES NEWS DFW — http://singles.meetup.com/2049/

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS DALLAS/FORT WORTH — groups.yahoo.com/group/sindallasfortworth; dalmusj@yahoo.com.

TEXAS TWISTERS — P.O. Box 192315, Dallas 75219; info@texaswisters.org; texaswisters.org.

UNITED COURT OF THE LONE STAR EMPIRE — P.O. Box 190865, Dallas 75219; dallascourt.org.

WOMEN'S THEATER GROUP — 972-907-8804; bridalblowers@comcast.net; thewomenstheatergroup.com.

■ spirituality

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION — dallasfamily.org.

PROJECT TAG (TYLER AREA GAYS) — 5701 Old Bullard Rd. #96; Tyler 75703; 903-372-7753; tylerareagays.com.

AGAPE MCC — 4615 E. California Pkwy., (SE Loop 820), Fort Worth 76119; 817-535-5002; agapemcc.com.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH — 4230 Buckingham Rd., Garland 75042; 972-276-0023; alc1@aimail.net; ascensiontexas.org.

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — 4523 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75235; 214-528-4084; bethanypresby@sbjglobal.net; bethany.presbychurch.org.

***CATHEDRAL OF HOPE** — 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75235; 214-351-1901 (Local); 800-501-HOPE (Toll free); cathedralofhope.com.

CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT — 2040 N. Denton Dr., Carrollton 75006; 972-245-6520; info@colight.org; colight.org.

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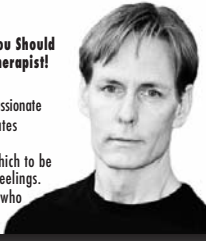
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LULAC 4871 Rainbow Council President

David Morris-

Democratic Dallas County Precinct Chair 4021

Michael Hendrix-

CEO Red Digital Media

Ken Smith-

Founder Revitalize South Dallas Coalition

Jessica Gonzalez-

Democratic Dallas County Precinct Chair 3077

William Busby-

Republican Tarrant County Precinct Chair 4256

Patricia Porter-

Founder, Dallas Business Committee for the Arts

Robert Moore-

Co-Founder Dallas Voice

Sergio Garcia-

President Dallas County East Democrats

Judy Pollack-

Former Chair, Office of Cultural Affairs Commission



100's of Endorsements-
www.HerschelForDallas.com

GAY SETS THE PACE TO WIN THE RACE.

Come Meet Herschel from 11-2 on Saturday, May 4th at ilume.

**"I'm OUT and Proud to be your Voice."
- Herschel Weisfeld**

Drinks and Food Provided by Spike Vodka and Mattito's Tex-Mex



HERSCHELWEISFELD
FOR DALLAS CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

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