

Rayne supreme: The journey of Jurni

Out musician Jurni Rayne reinvented herself — and the music scene
Local singer/songwriter wins praise for her style

■ MUSIC, Page 20



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Pro-LGBT MAVERICKS

Dallas Mavs owner **Mark Cuban** and
FC Dallas goalkeeper **Chris Seitz** are
paving the way for gays in sports
through their work with Athlete Ally

■ COVER STORY, Page 6



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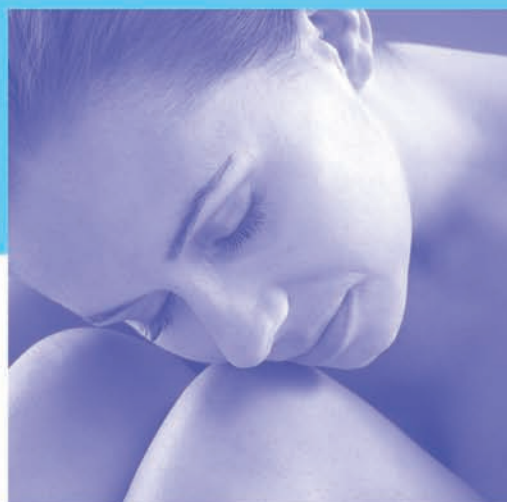
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11



23



24

headlines

TEXAS NEWS

- 8 Dallas kicks off Pride Month
- 11 Rally to push city Equality Resolution
- 13 Equality TX's legislative scorecard
- 15 Confessions of a gay storm-chaser

LIFE+STYLE

- 23 Dan Savage's memoir offers advice
- 24 Dukakis hosts Dallas fundraiser
- 28 Douglas Beane's 'Sister Act' in town
- 29 Actor Stan Graner takes on dad roles

COVER ART

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departments

- | | | | |
|----|------------|----|-------------|
| 6 | Texas News | 34 | Starvoice |
| 18 | Viewpoints | 35 | Crossword |
| 20 | Life+Style | 36 | Scene |
| 31 | Calendar | 38 | Classifieds |

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NORTHSIDE PRIDE | Participants dance during the 3rd annual North Texas Pride Party at Rooftop Spot in Plano on June 1. The event raised \$15,000 for HIV/AIDS services organization CURE. For more photos, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos. (Patrick Hoffman/Dallas Voice)

Dallas United Way gives Boy Scouts Circle Ten Council \$350K

The United Way of Metropolitan Dallas has once again allotted grant money to the Dallas-based Circle Ten Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Circle Ten received \$200,000 for its life skills Learning for Life program and another \$150,000 for its Trevor-Rees Jones ScoutReach program, which helps underprivileged youth be able to participate in Scouting. The council received \$315,846 from United Way last year.

LGBT advocates have tried to discourage United Way chapters from donating to BSA councils that don't have LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination policies, including a Change.org petition targeting United Way Worldwide to cut funding to the BSA. While Circle Ten doesn't have a nondiscrimination policy, United Way officials have said the organization requires its grantees to follow all federal laws but it doesn't require them to adopt its own internal policies.

But the council's leadership wouldn't take a stance on the resolution that passed May 23 to allow gay youth into the BSA, saying only that the council would follow the policy if it changed.

The Human Rights Campaign is continuing to discourage companies and organizations from donating to the BSA because it still bans gay adult leaders.

In the meantime, hopefully some of that grant money will help gay Scouts in the future.

— Anna Waugh

said. "I'll comply with that oath. I'm a fully paid-up member of the Stonewall Democrats and a straight ally."

Both candidates also were asked at the forum about Councilwoman Delia Jasso's decision last week to withdraw her support for an LGBT equality resolution — which appears to have effectively killed the measure for now.

Kingston noted that he gave money in 2005 to fight Texas' constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, which he called "horrid" and said will eventually make Texas less competitive.

"It's procedural gamesmanship at its worst," Kingston said of Jasso's decision to remove her signature from a memo that would have required the resolution to be placed on the council agenda. "You can count on me not to do that to the LGBT community."

Abtahi called the LGBT equality resolution "the right thing to do." He also noted that his lesbian sister got engaged six weeks ago.

"It's a personal issue to me," Abtahi said, adding that he approached Mayor Mike Rawlings about the resolution last Friday. Rawlings is refusing to put the resolution on the agenda now that Jasso has withdrawn her signature from the memo.

"We didn't get very far," Abtahi said of his conversation with Rawlings, "but I will push when on the council to get that resolution back up."

— John Wright

Rock-throwing vandals break 9 windows at Resource Center

Nine windows were broken at Resource Center Dallas on Thursday, May 30. All of them were along the back wall of the main building facing the alley.

The windows were broken with rocks. No one entered the building and nothing was missing. Computer equipment sits behind some of the windows but nothing was damaged. In March, four windows were broken by vandals.

"The number is surprising," RCD spokesman Rafael McDonnell said. "More than we've seen previously."

He said repairing the windows will cost about \$300 and the center is looking into buying security cameras.

"Money used for this is money that can't be used for something else," he said.

He asked people in the neighborhood who see something suspicious going on in the alley, especially after hours, to call the police. Dallas police LGBT liaison Laura Martin said there are no suspects and no evidence the vandalism is a hate crime but that motive has not been ruled out.

— David Taffet

District 14 council candidate comes out as a Democrat

District 14 Dallas City Council candidate Philip Kingston came out as a Democrat on June 1 during a District 14 forum at the Oak Lawn Library.

Although council races are nonpartisan, District 14 leans strongly Democratic. And Kingston's party affiliation has come under scrutiny since he signed an oath declaring his allegiance to the Democratic Party to become eligible for an endorsement from Stonewall Democrats of Dallas in March. Despite Kingston signing the oath, Stonewall's endorsement went to Bobby Abtahi, his opponent in the District 14 runoff June 15.

Kingston has voted in five Republican primaries and one Democratic primary since 2002. Last month, he reportedly told The Dallas Morning News he's an independent. But at the forum, Kingston suggested the newspaper had misquoted him — and that he merely said he thinks *independent-LY*.

"I'm a Democrat and actually a fully paid-up member of the Stonewall Democrats," Kingston

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HAVING A GOAL IN MIND | FC Dallas goalkeeper Chris Seitz calls Athlete Ally a support system and says his reason for joining was simple: 'Letting people know if they come out, it will be fine.' (Associated Press)

Pro-LGBT mavericks

Dallas Mavs owner Mark Cuban and FC Dallas goalkeeper Chris Seitz are paving the way for gays in sports through their work with Athlete Ally

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

After professional basketball player Jason Collins came out this spring, Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban called him a pioneer. That wasn't surprising since Cuban's been an LGBT ally for years.

But last week, Cuban took his support one step further by joining the advisory board of the national group Athlete Ally, founded in 2011 by Hudson Taylor to make professional sports more accepting of gay players. Cuban is the second North Texas sports figure to join Athlete Ally — after Chris Seitz, who plays soccer for FC Dallas.

"There was never a question in our family that everyone was treated with respect," Cuban told Dallas Voice this week, explaining how he came to be gay-friendly.

"I'm not trying to change the world," he said of joining Athlete Ally. "I'm simply trying to extend the expectation of acceptance to professional sports."

He added that he isn't worried about backlash from conservative fans in Texas.

"I don't think the media portrayal of Texans matches the reality," Cuban said. "My experience in North Texas has been one of acceptance."

Asked whether he hoped to convince Mavericks players, such as future Hall-of-Famer Dirk Nowitzki, to join Athlete Ally, Cuban said: "I'm not out to convince anyone to join the board. I think there will be plenty of big names that find their own way to support AA."

Indeed, there already have been.

Earlier this year, Baltimore Ravens linebacker Brendon Ayanbadejo joined Athlete Ally just before his Super Bowl appearance. Since then,

Collins and Major League Soccer's Robbie Rogers have both come out as gay, and lesbian star Brittney Griner from Baylor became the No. 1 overall draft pick in the WNBA.

Former Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese and former New York Rangers hockey player Sean Avery are members of the Athlete Ally board. Tennis champ Martina Navratilova, sportscaster Brett Haber and former NFL player Dave Kopay are advisory board ambassadors.

After Collins came out, Cuban said, "I would have no problem signing Jason if he fits our needs."

He also made news with comments about

■ MAVERICKS, Page 14



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NOW BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED ... | Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano, from left, and LGBT Task Force members Pam Gerber, Omar Narvaez and Patti Fink display a city proclamation declaring June as Pride Month in the Flag Room at City Hall on Wednesday, June 5. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Dallas kicks off Pride Month

Dallas officials and LGBT leaders gathered in the Flag Room at City Hall on Wednesday to declare June LGBT Pride Month in the city and celebrate the first of many related events this month.

Pam Gerber, member of Councilwoman Delia Jasso's LGBT Task Force, spoke briefly about the history of Dallas city Pride events. Two years ago was the first time the city held a reception marking Pride Month, followed by last year's series of events. More events are planned this month to continue to educate and celebrate the city's LGBT community.

"Thanks to the leadership of the Task Force and Delia Jasso, we now have a very high profile June Pride month," Gerber said. "It certainly has become a big thing that we're very, very proud of."

Jasso was not among the roughly 40 people who attended, but several council members did, including Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano, Angela Hunt, Ann Margolin, Scott Griggs, Monica

Alonzo, Sheffie Kadane, Linda Koop and Councilman-elect Adam Medrano.

Gay former Councilman John Loza and District 14 candidate Philip Kingston were also in attendance.

Mayor Mike Rawlings was out of town and did not record a video message like last year.

Task Force member Omar Narvaez spoke about Pride's history and the important milestones in LGBT history from the Stonewall Riots to the Lawrence v. Texas ruling 10 years ago.

"That case was the first time that the U.S. Supreme Court legitimized same-sex relationships. They struck down all the sodomy laws across the entire United States," he said. "Our history has moved so fast and so furious. ... We honor our past because those brave men and women at the Stonewall riots, they stood up and said enough was enough."

— Anna Waugh

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Equality resolution still on life support

Supporters make last-ditch effort to get measure on Dallas City Council agenda in June, but as of press time they appeared to have fallen short

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

A vote on an LGBT equality resolution appears unlikely before a new Dallas City Council convenes in August.

Supporters of the resolution were exploring other options this week for getting it on the council's June 12 agenda, after Councilwoman Delia Jasso unexpectedly withdrew her signature from a memo May 28. But as of press time Thursday, efforts to get the resolution before the council during Pride Month and in advance of the U.S. Supreme Court's rulings in two marriage equality cases appeared to have fallen short.

Jasso's decision to withdraw her signature meant it no longer had the five signatures necessary to force Mayor Mike Rawlings to place it on the agenda. Rawlings said last week that in the absence of the memo requiring him to put the resolution on the agenda, he had no plans to do so because he believes it is a "misuse" of the council's time.

City Manager Mary Suhm, who can also put items on the agenda, said this week she didn't plan to do so with the resolution because it's the mayor's role to address policy issues. A Change.org petition started last week urging Suhm to put the resolution on the agenda received more than 1,000 signatures.

"The things that I put on are general agreement type of things or operational type of things," Suhm said. "If it's a policy issue and the council's trying to decide how they want to go with a policy, the rule is the five signatures."

"I do operational stuff, not policy stuff, and it's very clear that the city manager shouldn't be involved in policy stuff," Suhm added. "There's a rule to get it there."

Councilman Scott Griggs, the author of the resolution, said Thursday, June 6, he has a new memo with four signatures — those of council members Angela Hunt, Monica Alonzo, Pauline Medrano and Griggs — that needs one more before it can be submitted.

But even then, it would only require the resolution to be placed on the agenda within 30 days, pushing it to the new council, which is sworn in June 24, and bringing it up for a vote in August after the council's summer break.

According to the city's charter, Mayor Pro Tem



NOT HER POLICY | City Manager Mary Suhm accepted an award from the LGBT Task Force this week. But Suhm said she didn't plan to put an equality resolution on the council agenda since it's the mayor's role to address policy issues.

Pauline Medrano could place the item on the agenda for June 12 since Rawlings is out of the country this week. The mayor pro tem "shall perform the duties of mayor in the case of the absence or inability of the mayor to perform the duties of office, who shall, during that time, be vested with all the powers belonging to the mayor," the charter states.

Medrano, who has been a staunch LGBT ally during her four terms on the council, wouldn't comment Thursday about her ability to place the resolution on the agenda, saying she didn't want to "jinx anything."

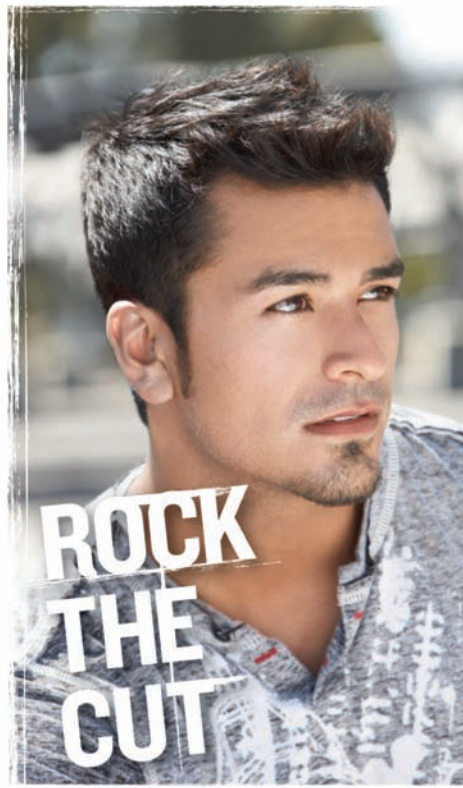
"We're looking at different options," Medrano said. "We're working really hard and different people are looking at different options."

Medrano has until 5 p.m. Friday to add the resolution to the June 12 agenda if the city attorney's office finds it within her powers to do so. Phone calls to the city attorney's office went unreturned.

Rumors circulated this week that council members who originally pledged to vote in favor of the resolution had wavered in their support. According to another rumor, Rawlings sent word from Brazil that he would find a way to remove the resolution from the agenda if Medrano places it there.

Paula Blackmon, Rawlings' chief of staff, said the mayor denied having any information about conversations to move the resolution forward while out of town.

■ **RESOLUTION**, Page 13



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Resolution rally aims to razzle city officials

Pride Month march was planned to prepare for Supreme Court rulings, but tone changes after Dallas council fails to take up Equality Resolution

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

In anticipation of the Supreme Court's ruling in two marriage equality cases, three groups joined forces to stage a march from City Hall to the Razzle Dazzle Dallas Main Event at Main Street Garden on Saturday.

But after Councilwoman Delia Jasso withdrew her support of a resolution for employment nondiscrimination and marriage equality, and Mayor Mike Rawlings refused to place it on the June 12 City Council agenda, the rally has turned into a protest.

Rawlings said people can call or email his office, but he was not going to change his mind.

"If you don't change your mind, we're going to keep doing what we're doing," march organizer Cd Kirven said.

The march is sponsored by GetEQUAL TX, Love is Stronger and Hope for Peace and Justice.

Kirven said while the march retains its original theme, "Love is stronger," the rally afterward at Razzle Dazzle will take on a different tone.

GetEQUAL organizer Daniel Cates said the removal of the resolution from the City Council agenda puts a stronger focus on City Hall than before. He said the issue brings up the question of what is an ally and what does that mean.

"It's more than attending a few receptions and videotaping a Pride Month message," he said. "We have to see action."

He disputed Rawlings' claim that he didn't sign a pledge from Mayors for the Freedom to Marry last year because he preferred to do something substantive. That group of mayors filed an amicus brief with the Supreme Court in a case challenging the Defense of Marriage Act.

Cates said the LGBT community has a right to be upset.

"Mayors from across the country representing millions of Americans signed onto that brief," he said. "But not Dallas."

While Cates would still like to see the marriage and employment equality resolution passed by City Council this month, he called it too late to make a difference.

"We needed the help in January," he said. "That might have helped get the [Texas] Fair Employment Act out of committee."

He said, instead, activists were arrested trying to bring attention to the urgency of the legislation.

"In the absence of an openly gay city council member, we've got to hold their feet to the fire,"



A HEART ON FOR LOVE | Love Is Stronger, a photo campaign started by GetEQUAL TX, is among the sponsors of the march and rally.

Cates said.

Hope for Peace and Justice executive director Lynn Walters said the march has the support of all of the clergy at Cathedral of Hope.

"At a time when kids are still being kicked out of their homes for being gay," she said, "I think it's important that people of faith who believe in marriage equality show up at the rally to show not all Christians are against equality."

Walters is inviting the rally speakers, who will include the Rev. Carol West of Celebration Community Church, the Rev. Arthur Stewart of Midway Hills Christian Church and Rabbi Steve Fisch of Congregation Beth El Binah.

Love is Stronger, a photo campaign started by GetEQUAL TX, will participate in Razzle Dazzle Dallas to raise money for political action and help pay bail for those arrested in a protest at the Capitol earlier this year.

Cates said participants should wear a red shirt and will get a temporary tattoo of a red heart to display on the bicep. The photos are \$15 for an individual or \$10 each for group shots.

"We're fighting hate," Cates said.

He called love a weapon stronger than homophobia and hate.

"Love built the Oak Lawn community when we had nowhere else to go," he said. "Love helped us get through the AIDS crisis."

When purchasing Razzle Dazzle Dallas tickets online with the promotion code GETEQUAL, \$1 of the price goes to GetEQUAL TX.

Marchers are asked to wear red and carry heart-shaped signs.

"I hope this becomes a story of how we fought City Hall and we won," Kirven said. ■

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EQTX ranks Coleman 1st, Krause worst for 2013

North Texas Reps. Alonzo, Anchia, Burnam make top 10 as group revives its LGBT legislative report card; Zedler finishes 3rd from last

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
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Garnet Coleman Matt Krause

The number of lawmakers who fought for LGBT equality in Austin this session increased greatly since Equality Texas last ranked House members on their voting history.

Chuck Smith, executive director of Equality Texas, said the last time the organization ranked lawmakers was several sessions ago. This year the report card was brought back and each House member received a numerical and letter grade, with the top 10 best and worst lawmakers listed.

And many lawmakers scored well, with 43 receiving an A or A+. And even three Republicans — Sarah Davis of Houston, John Otto of Dayton and Diane Patrick of Arlington — received Cs.

"It is important on votes that do occur that we track them and let the public know how they vote," Smith said, adding that the numbers are strong but also show need for growth. "I think it demonstrates the growth of the people who are able to vote the right way. It also points to the larger amount of work that we still need to do."

A Senate report card would be more difficult because no LGBT issues made it on the floor, so there are fewer record votes, Equality Texas field organizer Daniel Williams said. He said the organization likely will release a top five of the best and worst senators on LGBT issues.

For the top 10 House slots, public votes, authorship of pro- and anti-LGBT legislation, resolutions and committee votes were taken into account.

Houston Democrat Garnet Coleman received the No. 1 spot on the Top 10 Best list for his more than two decades of working on and advocating for LGBT legislation. Two of his longtime-authored bills to remove the state's unenforceable sodomy law from the Texas Penal Code and to protect minors in same-sex relationships under the "Romeo and Juliet" defense made it out of committee this session.

"I'm honored to be recognized as the No. 1 House member on LGBT issues by Equality Texas," Coleman said. "I take great pride in having been a leader on LGBT issues for the more than 20 years I've been a legislator."

Coleman said that times are changing and he expects support for LGBT issues to only continue to grow.

"The tide is turning. In 2013, polls found that the majority of Americans support marriage equality," he said. "Still, we must turn this public

support into legislative action, and I will continue to lead the charge to do so."

Dallas' Roberto Alonzo and Rafael Anchia, and Fort Worth's Lon Burnam also took spots in the top 10, as did Ron Reynolds, D-Missouri City, Mary Gonzalez, D-El Paso, Elliot Naishtat, D-Austin, Gene Wu, D-Houston, Alma Allen, D-Houston, Joe Moody, D-El Paso, Armando Walle, D-Houston.

"I'm very happy to be recognized for this distinction, but I think it's something everybody should do," Alonzo said. "It's something I enjoy doing and I'm going to continue to do it."

Alonzo said he was proud to have a large number of lawmakers from Dallas be strong supporters. He said other lawmakers will eventually follow suit and fight for LGBT equality.

"I think it's great that we have a large number of supporters in Dallas and that number will only continue to grow," Alonzo said. "We have seen more and more people understand the LGBT community. For some people, it takes a longer time."

Burnam, who authored a marriage equality bill this session, said he would work harder in the future to get pro-equality legislation heard.

"I definitely appreciate the recognition," he said. "While we weren't able to get a hearing on the marriage equality bill, I'm glad to have filed it, and I plan to file it until Texas follows the rest of the country and has marriage equality."

Fort Worth Republican Matt Krause won the top spot on the 10 Worst list with a score of negative-6. Krause authored HB 360 that would have allowed student groups at state-funded colleges to reject members based on sexual orientation, race and gender. A substitute bill cleared committee that would have allowed student groups to disregard colleges' nondiscrimination policies. He then tacked an amendment onto another bill that didn't make it into the final version.

Krause's office did not respond to a request for comment.

Arlington's Bill Zedler, who tried to defund university LGBT resource centers, took the No. 3 spot on the Worst list. His office also did not return calls.

Williams said the scorecard was more extensive from the one in the past, but every member except Krause received at least one point.

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"We are tough graders. We have very high expectations of the people who represent us," Williams said.

He said he hopes people will use the scorecard as a reference for how their representatives voted, which could end up hurting unsupportive lawmakers like Krause.

"I think Matt Krause's ineptness in representing the interests of his constituents is going to hurt him in re-election," Williams said, adding that Krause wasn't able to get any legislation passed. "The scorecard just reflects that ineptness. He did nothing, accomplished nothing."

For those who scored well, Williams said he hopes constituents realize the value of their hard work and remember it come election time.

"Our community needs to understand that we have a lot of really wonderful allies and we need to work to keep them," he said.

Sarah Warbelow, state legislative director for the Human Rights Campaign, said several state LGBT groups have begun using report cards similar to HRC's Congressional Scorecard.

"It helps hold legislators accountable for their actions," Warbelow said. "It takes a lot of bravery to stand up for issues that have been unpopular for so long. But there's been a lot of progress. ... This is an opportunity to praise individuals willing to take a stand for these issues." ■

To view the full scorecard, go to EqualityTexas.org.

Best, worst on LGBT issues

BEST

1. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston
2. Ron Reynolds, D-Missouri City
3. Roberto Alonzo, D-Dallas
4. Mary González, D-El Paso
5. Elliot Naishtat, D-Austin
6. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth
7. (tie) Rafael Anchia, D-Dallas, and Gene Wu, D-Houston
9. (tie) Armando Walle, D-Houston, Joe Moody, D-El Paso, and Alma Allen, D-Houston

WORST

1. Matt Krause, R-Fort Worth
2. Dennis Bonnen, R-Angleton
3. Bill Zedler, R-Arlington
4. Steve Toth, R-The Woodlands
5. (tie) Drew Springer, R-Muenster and Harvey Hildebran, R-Kerrville
7. Scott Sanford, R-McKinney
8. (tie) Cecil Bell, R-Magnolia; Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake; Brandon Creighton, R-Conroe; George Lavender, R-Texarkana; Jeff Leach, R-Plano; Larry Phillips, R-Sherman; Walter 'Four' Price, R-Amarillo; Ron Simmons, R-Lewisville; Phil Stephenson, R-Wharton; Jonathan Stickland, R-Bedford.

Source: Equality Texas

RESOLUTION, From Page 9

Blackmon also maintained the mayor can't remove an agenda item once it's added.

Griggs said if the council doesn't pass the resolution, it's because Jasso withdrew her support.

"We had the votes. We built a strong coalition," Griggs said. "But when Delia pulled her signature from the memo, it pulled the rug out from under the coalition."

But Griggs said he remains hopeful that pro-LGBT council members will find a way to bring the resolution before the body eventually.

"I'm committed to move this forward," he said.

If last-ditch efforts are unsuccessful, Griggs said he plans to bring the issue up before the new council. However, depending on how the U.S. Supreme Court rules later this month on marriage equality, the resolution's current wording "would be stale and have to be rewritten" and would "lessen the relevance" of it being passed in August.

"It was a chance to be on the right side of history for a cause we believed in," Griggs said. "We've got new council members coming in and I'm excited to work with them." ■

NEW HOME FOR HOSPICE



LEGAL AID CLINIC MOVES TO DESIGN DISTRICT | Legal Hospice of Texas, which provides legal services to low-income persons diagnosed with terminal illnesses or HIV, moved to its new office in the Design District at 1825 Market Center Blvd., Suite 550 this week. Executive Director Roger Wedell, pictured, said: "The rent is lower with a little more space and it's on a bus line. We look forward to serving our clients in an environment that's secure and convenient for them."

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GOING TO THE MAT FOR EQUALITY

Athlete Ally founder Hudson Taylor, now a wrestling coach at Columbia University, started wearing an HRC sticker on his headgear as a senior at the University of Maryland. 'Speaking out as an ally, I can save lives, change lives and change sports for everyone,' he said.



■ MAVERICKS, From Page 6

Griner, who led her team to a 40-0 record and was Big 12 Player of the Year three times. She was the first NCAA basketball player to score 2,000 points and block 500 shots. She is so good, in fact, there was talk of drafting her into the NBA.

"I've thought about it already," Cuban said earlier this year. "Would I do it? Right now, I'd lean toward yes, just to see if she can do it. You never know unless you give somebody a chance."

Since then, Griner began her professional career and debuted in May by setting a WNBA dunk record in her first game.

As an undergraduate, Griner was always out to her team and her friends. But her coach warned her about coming out in the press at Baylor, which is affiliated with the Southern Baptist church. The school reportedly was afraid it would hurt recruiting.

Taylor said he founded Athlete Ally to combat just this type of discrimination. At the University of Maryland, he was a theater major and competed on the wrestling team. He said the contrast between complete acceptance in the theater department and homophobia in the gym put things in perspective.

During his senior year, he decided to wear an HRC sticker on his headgear.

"Speaking out as an ally, I can save lives, change lives and change sports for everyone," Taylor said this week.

He said athletes faced a chicken or egg problem.

"Athletes won't come out until it's safe for them to do so," he said. "They need the support of the majority."

Taylor, who now coaches at Columbia University, started wrestling at 6.

"It upsets me kids in this country that don't have those opportunities because of their sexual orientation," he said. "It would be enormously powerful for a member of the Dallas Cowboys to join."

He said there's no place for discrimination in athletics and he'd like to see more active players like FC Dallas' Seitz join the organization.

Seitz's college roommate was Robbie Rogers, who recently became the first openly gay player in pro soccer. Seitz, who also attended Maryland, joined Athlete Ally earlier this year along with several other classmates. He said his reason for joining was simple.

"Letting people know if they come out, it will be fine," Seitz told Dallas Voice. "We want people to be who they are."

He said Rogers is in a much better place than he was before he came out. Seitz called Athlete Ally a support system.

"Letting people know it's OK — that's the coolest part about it," he said.

Like Cuban, Seitz said he grew up in a family that encouraged him to be who he is.

"It's not a big deal," he said.

And he hopes that attitude becomes prevalent. He said an athlete coming out now makes headlines, but in the long run, he hopes it's not news.

For Seitz, helping goes beyond aiding LGBT athletes. When he played in Salt Lake City, a teammate's wife was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia. They held a bone marrow drive and Seitz was tested. Last year, he was called because he was a match for someone he hasn't met yet, and he took part of the season off to donate bone marrow.

"If I have the opportunity to save someone's life," he said, "I'd have a hard time dealing if I didn't do it."

And that's how he views his affiliation with Athlete Ally — as an opportunity to help people. ■

Confessions of a gay storm-chaser

In the aftermath of the severe storms that ravaged Oklahoma last week, I guess it's time I came out. Not as gay — heck, everyone knew that — but as a storm chaser. Actually, my partner has been chasing storms for more than 20 years, and after worrying about him out on the prairie, I decided to tag along. That took courage, since I'd been afraid of severe weather most of my life.

It all stemmed from that 'Wizard of Oz' tornado! I had nightmares for years after seeing the classic 1939 movie. It seemed so real. Apparently, it seemed real to early tornado researchers, who actually contacted MGM to find where that tornado had been filmed. The answer: on a sound stage in Culver City!

So how did this "friend of Dorothy" get hooked? Well, contrary to the movies and TV reality shows, storm chasing begins by an experienced forecaster, my partner, pouring over data and computer models. Once the rapid update models come out of the National Center for Atmospheric Research, he plots a map of where the most likely spots for the severe weather will occur. Then, if the probabilities are strong enough, and it is within a reasonable distance (up to 400 miles sometimes), we hit the road.



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

Often we are accompanied by fellow storm chasers to share the driving and data collecting duties. It's most often a long drive out into the grasslands of Oklahoma or Kansas and getting little in the way of photographic evidence of tornadoes. Contrary to the movies, most chasing is just long drives, bad convenience store burritos and oftentimes disappointment.

About eight years ago we added a live-satellite radar to the car and additional communications gear and our luck has improved. The live radar data also helps keep us from getting in the path of the storms and actually has made chasing safer and more productive. This is the same kind of gear used by professional storm chasers and, though it is accurate, it does not guarantee safety.

The very experienced storm chaser Tim Samaras, his son and a chase partner were killed in the recent storms in El Reno, Okla., when a very large tornado moved in an unexpected direction. My partner was chasing that same storm last week but from a couple of miles farther away. Though this was a tragic accident, the truth is it is very rare. Personally, chasing has helped me overcome my fear of severe weather and given me some real insight into nature's most amazing phenomenon.

My partner and I have seen a few dozen tornadoes together on our chases; though he racks up many more miles than me since my time is more limited. Additionally, it has been a great bonding experience. For many couples, a long drive through dense rain, hail and high winds might cause friction, but for us it has become a shared

experience and we rarely have conflicts, except over where to grab lunch.

As far as other gay storm chasers, there are several I know. I have to wonder if they were inspired to take up the activity as a result of a childhood fascination stemming from that story of Dorothy Gale being swept away to Oz? ■

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

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■ **viewpoints**

Paying tribute with Pride

Memory of those who marched in gay parades of the 1980s and later died from AIDS should inspire us to keep fighting for LGBT equality

The motto of my first Pride parade was “Unity and More in ‘84.” If you think this is ancient history, I can assure you it’s not. Pride in ‘84 meant then, as now, that despite the insults and assaults we faced other days, for one weekend at least, we had each other and we were beautiful.

Next came “Alive with Pride in ‘85,” with “alive” being the operative word. If it was possible to spend 1984 having only heard about the “gay plague,” by 1985 AIDS had touched almost every one of us. Pride in ‘85 felt like a wake.

President Reagan, “the Great Communicator,” stayed resolutely silent about AIDS as the death toll kept climbing.

Members of his administration, though, freely told the press that it was our own damn fault. So much for policy. In 1986 at a centennial celebration of the Statue of Liberty, comedy legend Bob Hope cracked, “I hear Lady Liberty has AIDS. Nobody knows if she got it from the mouth of the Hudson or the Staten Island Ferry.”



Abby Dees
Contributing Columnist

for public-health education, but Bush did show commitment that his predecessors were afraid to. I’ll give him that.

The Reagans, who were present, laughed. By the end of that year, U.S. AIDS deaths topped 11,000, with tens of thousands infected and no treatment in sight — my friends among them.

Can you imagine if Leno joked about the victims of the Boston bombings or the Oklahoma tornadoes? What if the president did nothing but laugh? It was as bad as it sounds. To quote a 1986 episode of *Designing Women*, AIDS was “killing all the right people.” Clearly, to survive, we could only truly count on those personally affected by it.

In 1987, five years in, the Reagan administration finally took some measure of leadership. AIDS historians still argue about what could have happened and what should have happened, but they surely must agree on what spurred the progress we made in this country to fight AIDS: relentless, unflinching activism by LGBT people and our allies.

Now that it’s been 18 years since anyone in my life died from AIDS, my anger has softened. I even publicly praised President George W. Bush for his commitment to the issue. Yes, yes, I know about the abstinence-only garbage that passed

We have drugs that — for those with reliable

access to them — can keep HIV at bay. No one is putting an AIDS quarantine initiative on the ballot like Lyndon LaRouche once did, or advocating branding people with AIDS like William F. Buckley once did. Childhood AIDS in the U.S. is now virtually nonexistent.

Why am I talking about this now, then? Precisely because it’s easy to forget how bad things used to be, even if we were there. And when we forget how bad things used to be, two things happen:

First, we get complacent about where we are now. The purpose of knowing our history isn’t to pat ourselves on the back for being wiser than people were back in the day; it’s to remind us to keep checking our assumptions and questioning our fears. They have always gotten humanity into serious trouble.

The second thing that happens is that we lose our faith in the possibility of cultural progress. When state legislators can sponsor a bill prohibiting teachers from mentioning gay people at all — except to “out” a child (this year in Tennessee), or when a young man can be gay-bashed and left for dead in his gay-Mecca neighborhood (this week in West Hollywood), it’s easy to think that we will never, ever get to a place of rational acceptance, let alone equality.

But big change is possible and the history of AIDS in the U.S. is just one example. Of course, people had to fight with the profound knowledge that their lives and those of their loved ones depended on it.

And lives still depend on it. This is why, for this year’s Pride, I’m remembering those who fought so hard not so long ago, many of whom are gone now. They would still be fighting today, I know, because there’s so much left to do. ■

Abby is a civil rights attorney-turned-author who has been in the LGBT rights trenches for 25-plus years. She can be reached through her website, queerquestionstraighttalk.com.

Feedback

Why we support Bobby Abtahi

We support Bobby Abtahi in the June 15 runoff to represent District 14 on the Dallas City Council. We believe Bobby is the candidate best able to support our neighborhoods and community by listening to our concerns and working positively with others to find solutions that keep us safe and improve our quality of life.

We believe Bobby is the only candidate with the ability to build coalitions and get a majority vote on serious issues. We believe Bobby will be more than just an ally but a real leader who will carry on the proud tradition of District 14 leadership on LGBT issues.

We have worked hard in the trenches to advance the cause of LGBT rights and are proud of our achievements some of which include:

- Elected the first openly gay member of the Dallas City Council
- Originated and passed diversity training and liaison programs for the Dallas Police Department and the LGBT community
- Passed a nondiscrimination ordinance protecting LGBT city employees
- Passed a city ordinance prohibiting discrimination

against LGBT persons in housing, employment and public accommodations

- Implemented domestic partner benefits for city employees
- Secured Federal funds program improvements at the AIDS Resource Center (ARC)
- Secured city of Dallas grants for HIV/AIDS education
- Served on the Ryan White HIV Planning Council allocating \$10 million annually for HIV services and education
- Married legally in the United Methodist Church by ordained Methodist ministers.

Bobby’s commitment to our community and values is personal. As a Persian-American, Bobby knows from his own experience what it means to be discriminated against. As the brother of an out lesbian, Bobby believes passionately that his sister should be entitled to the same rights that he enjoys.

We are proud to endorse Bobby in the June 15th runoff election and hope that you will join us in electing a bright young leader who will bring a new voice to the Dallas City Council.

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Guitar hero

Local femme musician Jurni Rayne shifts her career into high gear

RICH LOPEZ | Contributing Writer
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DON'T STOP BELIEVIN' | Jurni Rayne redefined herself — and hopes to redefine expectations about music at the SolJazzin' Arts Festival. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



No one asks who Veronica Butler is anymore. You could argue that Veronica doesn't even exist, save for a few, pesky, lingering legal documents. Instead, Butler has made way for Jurni Rayne ... and shedding one for the other may be the best decision the singer has ever made.

As she discusses on her eponymous blog, Veronica Butler is her government name, but Jurni Rayne is her *real* one. You could say that's been around longer than she has even been an active musician. For Rayne, it was about shedding one persona to birth another. And by doing so, she found herself.

"It was a process," she says. "I think that I really wanted something that represented where I came from, what I want to do and so forth. And now, I'm Jurni all the time. My mom, my best friend, even my fiancée call me that."

The goal is now for the general public to know who Jurni Rayne is as well; so far, she is making all the right moves. Part of that happens Wednesday when she co-headlines the SolJazzin' Arts and Poetry Set with host Mike Gunn. For the out musician, this is an opportunity that she hopes bridges communities she's a large part of: The southern Dallas sector and the gay community.

"When I lived in DeSoto, we didn't go down-

town or Addison for any live music," she says. "Those areas are like their own encased entities. I think it's beneficial for SolJazz to be in the south, but also to Dallas to bring attention to that part of the city."

Last year's SolJazz was heavy on national acts, featuring MC Lyte, Cameo and Doug E. Fresh, but Rayne is glad the festival opted to focus on local fare such as herself with major headliner Cherelle capping off the finale on Saturday. But it's significant that Rayne adds the queer element to the festival. And in that, she expects her familiar fans to show up, but hopes that other LGBT peeps show up for a different music experience that represents all artists hope for: a crossroads of people together for the sole reason of art.

"I think [organizers] even wanted more of a queer roster with me and [spoken word artist] Flow involved," she says. "I think it's cool that we're visibly seen in that sector. Of course, other people have to *know* that I'm gay or out, but in the end, I think the diversity looks good."

SolJazz founder Meredith Capleton sees her festival as not just a music event, but as a community event, and embraces Rayne's out identity as just an added feature to the 10-day festival. She's proud that SolJazz opens opportunities to smaller and local artists to expand their audi-

ences.

"There's a lot of talent in the area that goes unknown or ignored," Capleton says. "I want SolJazz to focus on this Dallas talent and create stars here! She's become more of a brand and we're glad to have her fans and anyone of the LGBT community to come be a part of this. We want everybody."

Rayne's sound mixes sultry soul with an acoustic sensibility that balances the likes of Norah Jones and John Legend. Neo-soul could be the best description, placing her in the company of Erykah Badu or Maxwell, but there's added depth that brings in the heartfelt resolve of Carole King. She sounds like many artists but is decidedly her own. For out music blogger J.W. Richard, he finds certainty in her music, but also a beating heart. Founder of the Groove Loves Melody site, Richard has displayed a definite knack for plucking out music that shouldn't go unnoticed, and he gives Rayne high praise.

"She really wants to be a songbird for the community and that's something cool to see," he says. "You can just feel that she takes it seriously and she brings her heart and talent to the game. I've always appreciated that about her. I think she really wants to be not the performer for the community, but its muse. Jurni inspires and encourages with her music."

Local music mogul Nik Ceo echoes Richard.

"Jurni continues to elevate her performance and she connects well with the crowd. When she's onstage, she captures your attention," says Ceo, who heads the Moscato Music Lounge nights where Rayne has gigged.

It's not just live music aficionados who have taken note. Last year, Rayne was given a big break when she was selected by filmmakers to contribute a song to *The Last Fall*. The film, about a post-career NFL player, had a limited release last October, but for Rayne, it was a lucky break that upped her game from struggling musician to ... well, to a struggling musician with *more* name recognition. And that can be invaluable.

"To be able to say I have a song in a movie is just awesome," she beams. "It all stemmed from a video I posted on YouTube and it was about a year ago that we talked and I just happened to be what they were looking for."

She recorded a quick hook on her phone at their request and sent it over; it was a match. That gave her the chance to work with Stax soul artist and fellow Dallasite N'Dambi, who co-wrote "What Happens When."

"It was a neat experience," she says.

Rayne intends to keep the momentum going. She just wrapped on her video for "What Happens When," and has signed with a manage-

■ JURNI Page 22

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L+S music

Vic-torious

Vicci Martinez proves her mettle (with help from Cee-Lo) on ‘Vicci’

Little did you know, but a movement is under way in pop music — likely unintentional, but a movement nonetheless.

The landscape is being chipped away by, of all things, lesbians. With Tegan and Sara’s recent *Heartthrob* and Sia’s last few forays into dance via megastars David Guetta and Flo Rida, ladies who love ladies are embracing their girly side outside of the grittier Etheridges and Carliles.

Vicci Martinez joins the movement with a batch of heartfelt tunes in *Vicci*, and signifies that pop goes the lesbian.

If the name is familiar, Martinez was on Cee-Lo Green’s team on one season of *The Voice*, coming in third. Although not her debut album, *Vicci* is a strong start for the singer. The album is borne out of strong emotions from her father’s death (to whom she dedicates the album), her brother (who almost died of AIDS) and a fledgling music identity and simply being true to herself. All that comes together in stellar fashion.

Cee-Lo guests on opening track “Come Along,” a slow-burner with the haunting feel of a Danger Mouse production. Green’s touch is subtle giving Martinez center stage. The song beckons the listener to follow her story through the rest of the 11 tracks.

With a lot to say, Martinez focuses on the roller coaster effects of relationships from the beginning in the bluesy bar song “I Want Your Kiss” to that blissful high in the rock-tinged “Not Washing You Off Of Me.” And when she hurts, that brings out the best.

Martinez displays strong vocal range in the declarative “I Can Love,” driving her lyrics against a pounding beat. Delicate words like *and the light is on and it’s in my soul and I’m here for you* stood against an epic pop/rock sledgehammer is both ironic and brilliant. *Project Runway* designers who say they like to play with hard and soft



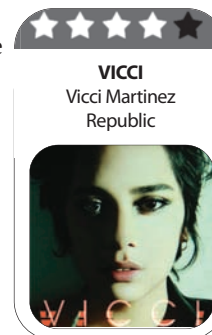
should hear this song to figure out what they actually mean.

She refreshes retro pop in “Run Run Run,” recalling the buoyant likes of Kim Wylde or Debbie Gibson. The song trusts the simplicity of its structure and the result is a beautiful track that is alive with some killer high notes by Martinez.

The most emotional moment of *Vicci* comes in the ballad “Let Go.” Likely channeling her father’s memory, the song resonates on every level imaginable — even the loss of a pet if you want it to. She doesn’t break your heart, she rips it open and devours it while you watch. It’s shattering and because of that, ultimately wonderful.

In the liner notes, Martinez discusses her journey to this album’s release, noting that her father financed the independently released *Sleep to Dream* in 2003. With several minor releases since then, Martinez seems she still needs to prove something to audiences. She closes *Vicci* with “Little Faith,” that again beckons the listener to stick around, only this time for her future. With a grander stage, and a little help from her now A-list friends and label, *Vicci* assures that pop has a strong, new(ish) voice that just so happens to be gay.

— Rich Lopez



■ JURNI From Page 20

ment team for proper representation, something she’s been doing on her own. And after SolJazz, she continues booking gigs while continuing her weekly gig on Wednesday karaoke nights at Randy’s Club Cherries. Rayne has plans to resurrect her Sweet Tea Sundays, an afternoon event that’s a favorite among her LGBT fans, and which is indicative of her choice of venues.

“I’m notorious for making sure my venues are safe spaces for my gay fans to be comfortable, whether it’s J. Pepe’s for Sweet Tea Sundays or at

the Holiday Inn for SolJazz,” she says.

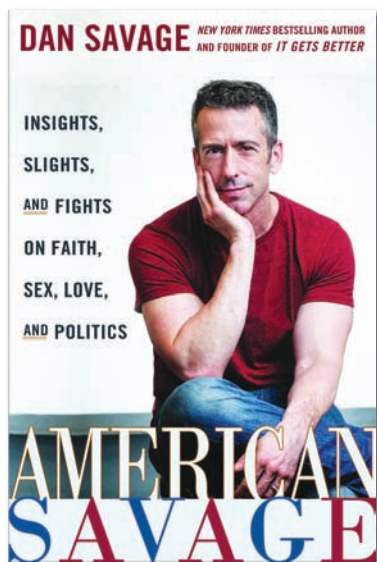
When she performs at SolJazz — or anywhere, really — Rayne isn’t just defined by her labels: lesbian, African-American, woman. She’s defined by her music. She sings about life, love and all that anybody experiences.

“Music is universal in that we all can relate to the human experience. We’re all in love, all finding our way,” she says. “I may not wave a gay flag, but it’s also important to be who I am because there may be someone in the audience who looks just like me who is afraid to be who they are. In the end, we can all support each other.”

L+S books

Noble Savage

Dan Savage's new memoir slash advice book pushes all the right hot-buttons



American Savage by Dan Savage (Dutton 2013); \$26.95; 301 pp

You've got this sticky issue, a little problem, a *thing* you need help with but you aren't sure you can trust anybody. Your sister is a big-mouth, your mom won't understand, and your BFF, well ... *no*. You need some independent advice—straight-up, no bull, all honest.

And in **American Savage**, the new memoir-advice book by Dan Savage, that's exactly what you get.

As a young boy growing up in Chicago, Dan Savage was steeped in Catholicism. His cop father was an ordained permanent *diaconate*; his mother was a lay minister. Savage himself was an altar boy for a while, but when he realized he was gay—and that the Church had a few things to say about it (none positive)—he left the fold. Still, he says: "I was never abused by a priest. I was saved by one."

That priest came out to Savage's mother on his behalf, to calm her fears for her son. And though the Church "got sex wrong," and though he's an "agnosththeist," Savage says he aches for the loss of religious comfort.

But that's not all he has on his mind in this book.

As the creator of Savage Love, his syndicated sex-and-relationship column, Savage is fierce about making sure his readers get sensible advice. He opines that cheating, for instance, isn't OK *except* when it is. He advocates being

"monogamish," and being willing to at least *try* something before condemning it as "too kinky."

Speaking of condemning, Savage takes on politicians, especially those on the right, the conservative, the Christian; in particular, he quotes evidence to dispute the anti-gay bigotry that often comes from that side of politics. As a married "different kind of fag" and the father of a teen who "came out ... a few years ago—as straight," Savage has a stake in quashing that kind of hate.

Savage also writes about adoption, Halloween (the straight people's version of Pride parades), basic civil rights and respecting older gay men. As co-founder with his partner Terry of the It Gets Better Project, he goes to bat for LGBT teens. He also writes about a certain politician's "Google problem" and he offers a challenge to those who believe being gay is a choice.

Want a book that's going to make you say, "Heck, yes!" just about every third page? Yep, that pretty well describes *American Savage*.

It'll be hard to remain seated while you're reading, in fact, because Savage makes you want to stand and applaud at his common-sense words. Savage rants—but he's hilarious while he's doing so, which will make you want to phone friends so you can share. He's profound and profane, thoughtful and thought-provoking, and his personal stories will bring tears to your eyes.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer

SAVAGE LOVE | The co-founder of the It Gets Better Project opines about right-wing homophobes, closet cases and the church in his 'hell, yeah!' new book.

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Oscar winner Dukakis is no stranger to gay causes, as she proves again

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
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Imagine a career where you get to steal scenes with Cher (and win an Oscar for your efforts), play a transgender landlady, a lesbian looking to marry her partner and just get the biggest laughs in one of the iconic gay movies.

Olympia Dukakis doesn't have to imagine; she's done it.

"It is amazing how that happened," Dukakis agrees during a telephone interview.

She first burst on the national scene playing mother to Cher in *Moonstruck*, and went on to camp it up in *Steel Magnolias*, as well as tackle the mysterious Anna Madrigal ("a man and a girl") in the TV miniseries *Tales of the City* and its two sequels. Lately, she's even gone lesbian — in the indie film *Cloudburst* (opposite fellow Oscar winner Brenda Fricker) and offered her participation in the upcoming Dallas-based documentary *Yankee Restraint*. It's the latter that brings her to Big

D this week.

"I came to work on [*Yankee Restraint*] because I know the director, Harry Mavromichalis," she says. "We'd talked about his life as a gay man and this documentary [came up]. It has a lot of Harry in it."

The film documents the life of a gay Dallas couple, Craig and Philip, who have been together more than 30 years. "They enjoyed a lot of success before the financial crisis. Then they faced mortgage foreclosure and setbacks that put them in a place where you don't know if they will be able to hold onto their relationship," Dukakis recounts. "The film documents

their struggle and how they reinvent themselves — funny, dark-humored Craig and calm Philip. And it resonates for all of us — gay or straight. And I think it really encourages stories being told in Dallas, stories of human resilience."

Dukakis herself is one of the more resilient of personalities. She celebrates her 82nd birthday later this month, and shows no sign of slowing

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MRS. MADRIGAL IN DALLAS | 82-year-old Olympia Dukakis has an unlikely history as a gay icon, from faves like 'Moonstruck' and 'Steel Magnolias' to gay parts in 'Tales of the City' and 'Cloudburst.' She arrives in town Monday to host a fundraiser for her latest foray into queer cinema, the Dallas-filmed documentary 'Yankee Restraint.'

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down. Following her Dallas appearance, she heads to a festival in Lennox, Mass., where she will perform in Brecht's masterpiece *Mother Courage... And Her Children* — a role she has tackled four times before (the last 20 years ago).

"It's a lot of fun [to revisit a role]," she says. "You're not so insecure, you take more chances. And anyway, I like to keep busy and do what I'm doing."

Still, she knows she will be forever identified with *Moonstruck*, *Steel Magnolias* and *Tales of the City*. And she's fine with that.

"Anna Madrigal is one of my favorite roles," she says, and opened the door to her gay-rights activism. "I haven't played that many [LGBT parts] really, but because I did that, I did fundraisers. It was a very important part for me. I felt that the dilemma, the conflict that character has was very viable and really worthy of our attention."

And of course there's Clairee, the sassy small-town socialite in *Steel Magnolias* who recounts one of gaydom's favorite anecdotes: "All gay men have track lightin', and all gay men are named Mark, Rick or Steve."

"Those lines get thrown to me on the street all the time!" she laughs. "From [*Steel Magnolias*] and from *Moonstruck*."

So, does that get annoying?

"No, it's really funny, I appreciate it," Dukakis insists. "It's not like they make me stop — they just yell at me and keep going." ■

IN BRIEF: 'White Frog'

Nick Young (Boo-boo Stewart), a Chinese-American teen with Asperger's, idolizes his big brother Chaz (*Glee*'s Harry Shum Jr.). Chaz is a popular kid who usually makes time for Nick, though not enough as it turns out: Chaz is killed in a traffic accident, leaving Nick to the demands of his Tiger Father (B.D. Wong) and his sensitive but ineffectual mother (Joan Chen). Nick takes refuge in Chaz's friends, including Randy (Gregg Sulkin) and Doug (Tyler Posey, pictured right with Stewart). But hanging out with the older boys reveals something about Chaz that shocks Nick — and eventually, his parents.

The fact *White Frog* (which is available this week via Video on Demand and hits DVD shelves next month) is a Wolfe Video release and is directed by Quentin Lee (*The People I've Slept With*) should give you a clue about what the Big Secret is, although the script plays it close to the vest for a majority of the movie.

Or maybe it just appears to. Although only 90 minutes long, *White Frog* has the languid, almost glacial pacing that makes it feel much longer. That may be because Stewart, who plays Nick's dissoci-



ateness full-bore, never engages the viewer. It's hard to play autism *and* connect with an audience (which is probably why Dustin Hoffman won an Oscar for *Rain Man*), but Stewart doesn't seem to have the chops to find that thread to draw you in. That leaves the heavy lifting to the supporting cast.

Wong and Chen are experienced pros who delve into what could be two-dimensional characters with conviction, and Shum has the charisma that makes you believe in his appeal to both Nick and everyone else (he reappears even after Chaz dies video a crucial via diary).

This is an unusual piece for Lee, who typically writes his own films (he's the director-for-hire here), but he touches on the emotional content well.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

***White Frog*. Two-and-a-half stars. Now available on Video on Demand; on DVD from Wolfe Video July 16.**



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L+S dining



Gone fishin'

John Tesar hits his stride with Spoon, Dallas' best seafood

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

"Spoon" is a peculiar name for a restaurant in which eating with a spoon is more the exception than the rule; it wasn't until my second visit to this Preston Center eatery that I actually consumed a dish *with* a spoon, and that was about three courses in. But anyone who has followed John Tesar's career knows that he's not about doing things easily.

He arrived in Dallas to head the kitchen at The Mansion on Turtle Creek (a turbulent tenure best remembered for his fine cooking) then ventured into more casual concepts: developing the menu at The Cedars Social, and opening his now-shuttered burger joint, The Commissary, in One Arts Plaza. Then there was — just prior to Spoon's opening last December — his stint on *Top Chef*, where he became viewers' (and his fellow contestants') love-to-hate guy.

He must be aware of his rep. I assume he doesn't care. ("Write what you want to about me," Tesar whispered to me recently, "but you can't say I don't work hard.")

True that. On most days at Spoon, you can observe Tesar in the open kitchen toiling alongside his sous and line cooks with methodical, intense attention. He primps each dish like a teenager on prom night, sending out plated art meant to be as eye-catching as it is mouth-watering. And you can't say he doesn't know his stuff.

Doing a seafood restaurant in America's largest city not on a navigable waterway may seem like a fool's errand, but that's 20th century thinking. We live in an era of overnight delivery and cell phones, where trawlers can literally call chefs and ask them if they have a need for a fresh halibut still flopping around on the deck.

(Kent Rathbun of Abacus is an inveterate employer of that tactic.) We don't need to be by an ocean to get great seafood, and Tesar is certainly filling a need. Along with authentic high-end Northern Italian cuisine, Dallas has long been a desert when it comes to exclusively seafood restaurants. Spoon not only delivers, it surpasses expectations. (In January, I named it one of my top 3 new restaurants.)

The first thing you notice walking in is what you do *not* notice: The aroma of fish. Next *not* noticed: Kitschy nautical décor — at least not much, save whimsical abstract fish art on one wall and a seafoam palette that conjures rather than shouts "ahoy!" This isn't Red Lobster; it's fine dining with a finned flourish.

True, fish is the principal protein on site (the menu, which declares "we are a seafood restaurant," begrudgingly offers land-based meats for the less adventuresome — probably not a bad idea in beef country). But really, the fish dishes are framed by classic techniques on more universal themes. Take the lobster agnolotti, a kind of ravioli ensconcing the delicate flavors of lobster knuckles, augmented lobster-infused butter. At \$39, it ain't cheap, but it demonstrates Tesar's mastery at fusing seafood with pasta. He does similarly (though not quite as successfully) with the housemade penne — curled trumpets of pasta trapping in the tomato sauce as a whole prawn balances on top.

If you're looking for economy, look elsewhere, although at \$125, the chef's tasting menu — six courses (plus an amuse and a dessert) — is a decent route to the full experience, treating diners to the highlights from the kitchen, and well

PRAWN SHOP | Trumpets of housemade penne entwine tomato sauce while a jumbo shrimp provides the protein in one of the impressive dishes at John Tesar's Spoon. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



Chef/owner John Tesar in the kitchen at Spoon.

worth the price.

The menu changes seasonally, so items will vary, as will preparations. The white sturgeon, aside from being slightly over-salty, was a phenomenal piece of flesh: firm but tender, and grounded with the faint vegetal touch of celery root puree. Octopus poached in red wine also combines a terrestrial element with the addition of a bone marrow side.

Remarkably, desserts are also impressive (I enjoyed a lemon tart shaved with gold filigree), while the wine and cocktail menu shows depth behind the bar.

There's a fair amount of bluster in the description of the items as well as a twee sensibility — "lobster coral and milk foam;" "compressed Fuji apples" — but that's par for the course these days. The truth is, details are what distinguish a fine-dining establishment, from the array of craft salts to the beautiful dishware.

The high-end aspects of service have always been top-notch (the greeting, the professionalism, the knowledge, the politeness). What has been hit-or-miss is the follow-through: Drinks have languished unrefilled, and for the new lunch menu our waiter simply forgot to bring the *de rigueur* complimentary basket of bread to our table (everyone else seemed to get one). At least errors are expediently remedied.

Then there's that puzzling name again. Well, not puzzling, really. Tesar isn't referring to utensil — he's referencing that intimacy when you're comfortably in love and can't wait to get closer to someone. We get it. We spoon Spoon, too. ■

OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

Spoon Bar & Kitchen, 8220 Westchester Drive. Open for lunch and dinner, Tuesday–Sunday. 214-368-2220. SpoonBarAndKitchen.com.

Excellent seafood, including a raw bar of succulent oysters, met in an upscale but unpretentious setting.



Food: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★
Service: ★★★★★
Price: Expensive

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L+S stage

Beane there, done that

Douglas Beane brings his queer sense back to Texas. Say amen, 'Sister'

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

To see a show on Broadway lately is to probably see something Douglas Carter Beane had a hand in. Since 2007 he's received five Tony Award nominations (including his latest, for *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*; he'll find out if he's won on Sunday) — four of them for shoehorning his distinctive voice into pre-existing materials of some sort. It's almost as if he's become the theater version of Hollywood's script doctor.

"I just rack it up — I don't create art anymore!" he laughs heartily about being so prolific. "I have two shows on Broadway right now, and between them 14 Tony nominations. I'm in a place now where I write things and they happen more often than they don't. At least one-third of my output is [getting produced]. It's a really remarkable time."

Beane has been well-represented in North Texas during that time as well. His play *Little Dog Laughed* has been produced locally (as well as numerous productions of *As Bees in Honey Drown*); he launched his musical *Lysistrata Jones* (then called *Give It Up!*) at the Dallas Theater Center two years ago, taking local fave Liz Mikel with it to B'way; next month, WaterTower Theatre will mount another production of his camp hit *Xanadu* (which both Level Ground and Dallas Summer Musicals have already done).

But his real one-two punch is with *Sister Act*, which continues its run at Fair Park until June 16, only to open at Bass Hall in Fort Worth for a weeklong run starting June 18.

"I know baby — it's huge!" he gasps about his success. "My sensibility clicks so well in Dallas. [My partner] Lewis [Flinn] and I spent a lovely time in Dallas doing *Lysistrata Jones*, and it got me a Tony nomination. And [DSM's production of] *Xanadu* did so well financially and in terms of audience response. I'm sure [*Sister Act*] will do very well in both venues. It's a feel-good, big-hearted show."

A musical adaptation of the hit Whoopi Goldberg movie comedy, Beane was actually brought in to clean up the previous script before it opened on Broadway in 2011. And he didn't even want to do it.

"I got roped into it," he jokes, "because Whoopi Goldberg called me, and when Whoopi Goldberg calls, you do it. You never leave a room going, 'I wonder what Whoopi meant?' Even when she's wrong, she's firm about it. She had the initial notion of doing *Sister Act* as a Broadway musical and was instrumental in putting a



Douglas Carter Beane 'gayed up' 'Sister Act' for Whoopi.

love interest in it. She's a truly great lady."

Originally, Goldberg and the show's director, Jerry Zaks, solicited Beane to "look at the movie and listen to the soundtrack — the original cast recording," he recalls. "I said, 'Can I read what was written before?' and Jerry said, 'No, cuz if you do, you'll leave the show.'" Beane stayed on, scoring one of his Tony nods.

That puts Beane's musical collaborations in a strange netherworld: From Rodgers & Hammerstein to his own partner, to Alan Menken and Jeff Lynne of the Electric Light Orchestra.

"I've worked with the living, the dead and the disinterested," Beane quips. "I have to tell you right now, Jeff Lynne and John Farrar couldn't have cared less about an adaptation of *Xanadu*. I'm one of the most amiable dudes in the world, but I think I said 'I'm sorry' more time on *Xanadu* than any other show ... and I don't think I meant it once."

As a rule, though, he insists that working in theater is entirely rewarding. "It's not like *Smash* — it's the real world. No one would dare be that rude to someone — they would be ostracized for life."

And he's sincere about his love for *Sister Act*. "*Sister Act* being on the road is a joyful thing for me. I got to see it in Paris, where they love it. And this is my third big show to hit Dallas. So we love you guys."

The feeling is mutual. ■

SISTER ACT

Fair Park Music Hall,
901 First Ave. Through June 16.
Bass Hall, 435 Commerce St.,
Fort Worth. June 18–23.

Daddy issues

Father-son matters resonate onstage & off for Stan Graner

Stan Graner knows from experience that experience puts you in the know.

When Graner first started performing in theater, he was entirely dedicated to musical comedy roles. After 20 years of that, however, he began to worry.

"I didn't want to become the aging chorus boy," he recounts. About 10 years ago, he started honing his acting craft, studying the Meisner Method with director/coach Terry Martin and exploring opportunities in non-musical theater.

And the effort has paid off. Graner has become a go-to guy for middle-aged character parts — and the occasional leading man, which he tackles in the current production at WaterTower Theatre, A.R. Gurney's *Black Tie*.

"I am thrilled that straight plays — if you'll forgive the expression — have a place for me. Even though this a light comedy, I like the mechanics of the humanity [it portrays], the interactions of the people," he says. "It's clever in the best sense."

In *Black Tie*, Graner plays Curtis, a father preparing for his adult son's wedding, when

suddenly his own father shows up — ordinarily nothing remarkable, except his dad has been dead for 10 years. And his ghost has some advice.

Gay men typically have complicated relationships with their fathers, and Graner is no exception, something that fueled his interpretation.

"The show resonates in my own life," Graner says. His mother passed away last year, and he has recently begun to manage finances for his own 87-year-old father. When he came out to his parents in the 1980s, after the initial shock, they became wholly accepting. So he likes the fact his

character in *Black Tie* is empowered to deal with his dead dad from a position of added understanding.

"Curtis is ready to listen to his father and let him help do things right," he says. "[The reappearance of his father] allows his subconscious to say things his normal conscious mind would never acknowledge."

He credits the show's director, Rene Moreno, with helping him plumb different levels of his character as well.

"I could just make this an advertisement for

BLACK TIE

Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through June 23. WaterTowerTheatre.org.



GHOST DAD | Father-son issues in 'Black Tie' resonate in the personal life of actor Stan Graner, right. (Photo courtesy Mark Oristano)

Rene," he says about his affection for Moreno. "He's so collaborative. But in general, I am at a place where every director I get to work with is

at the top of his or her game." Just another benefit that comes with age. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Friday 06.07

Thelma Houston razzles, dazzles at MetroBall

For disco diva Thelma Houston, gay activism came as naturally as a driving dance rhythm. But the “Don’t Leave Me This Way” singer won’t be lecturing, she’ll be singing as the headliner for the MetroBall, the annual fundraiser for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Foundation at Station 4. She’s just part of the exciting events planned for Razzle Dazzle Dallas this weekend — and the easiest one to dance to.

DEETS: Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 7 p.m. \$25–\$30. GDMAF.org.



Thursday 06.13

Betty Buckley performs Vixens of Broadway

Betty Buckley knows something about what makes a good showtune — she’s sung some of the biggest, including her Tony-winning rendition of “Memory” from *Cats*. Betty will sing many more in her new one-woman cabaret, *Vixens of Broadway*, starting June 13 with a follow-up on June 15 at Cowtown’s Modern Art Museum.

DEETS: Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. June 13 and 15 at 7:30 p.m. 866-499-2787.




Tuesday 06.11

‘Traces’ circus comes to Winspear

What do you get when you combine the daring indoor acrobatics of a Cirque du Soleil performance with the streetwise, hip energy of Stomp? The answer might be Traces, the latest entry in the Lexus Broadway Series at the Winspear. This bare-bones production focuses on the remarkable abilities of the performers rather than the pomp of an elaborate staging as they fly through the air and balance on chairs — and their own fingers. It’s sure to impress.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. June 11–23. \$25–\$150. ATTPAC.org.





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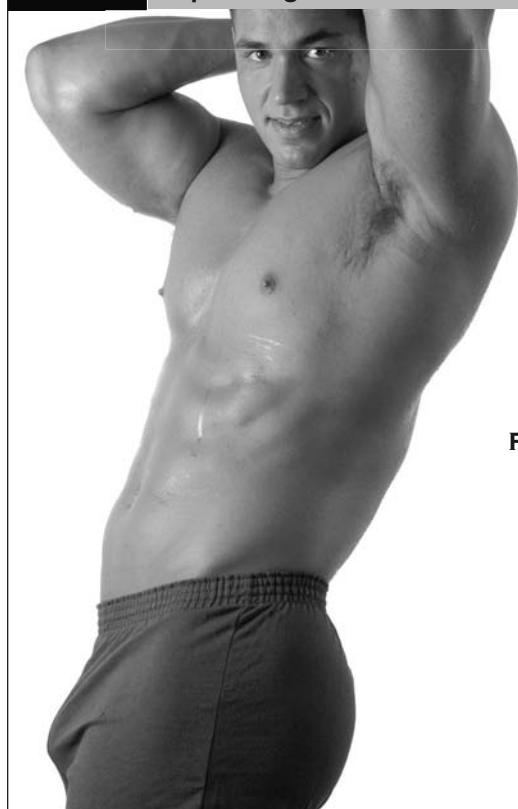
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calendar highlights



SING IT, CHILD | Theatre 3 continues its open-ended run of 'Avenue Q' in its downstairs space with a special sing-along edition on June 7. (Photo courtesy Jeffrey Schmidt)

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING THEATER

Festival of Independent Theatres. The annual festival of plays by small indie companies returns — this year, a month earlier than usual (to coincide with the upcoming Theater Communications Group conference next week). Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Through June 22. For a complete lineup, visit FestivalOfIndependentTheatres.org.

Adam and Eve in the Garden of Delights. A revival of local playwright Alejandro de la Costa's wicked comedy about sex — and how it began. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Circle. Through June 29. 214-477-4942. MBSProductions.net.

Avenue Q. Theatre 3's hit from last summer and fall returns for an unlimited run in its Theatre Too space. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Open-ended run. \$10–\$40. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Black Tie. A comedy by A.R. Gurney about a man whose spirit returns to haunt his son during a family wedding. Directed by Rene Moreno. (Reviewed this week.) Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Circle. Through June 22. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

In the Heights. Local troupe premiere of the Tony winner. Artes de la Rose, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. Final weekend. 817-624-8333. ArtesDeLaRosa.org.

Knock Me a Kiss. The 1928 marriage of African-American activist W.E.B. DuBois' daughter to Harlem Renaissance poet Countee Cullen was the social event of the decade ... until Cullen scandalized the community with his revelation. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through June 16. \$10–\$25. 817-338-4411.

The Odd Couple. Gender-bending adaptation of the comedy classic, with Florence and Olive replacing Oscar and Felix in the story of mismatched roommates. Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 Mockingbird Lane, Suite 119. Through June 22. 214-821-1860. PocketSandwich.com.

Proof. Lon Barrera directs this Pulitzer and Tony Award-winning play about family and madness. 2809 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. Through June 16. 817-354-6444. OnStageInBedford.com.

One. Man. Show. A cabaret performance written by and starring Tim Johnson, staged as part of Kitchen Dog Theater's annual New Works Festival. The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through June 12. KitchenDogTheater.org.

Se Llama Cristina. A drama by Octavio Solis, staged as part of the New Works Festival. Through June 22. KitchenDogTheater.org.

Sister Act. The musical based on the hit movie comes to Fair Park, courtesy Dallas Summer Musicals. (Reviewed this week.) Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through June 16. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

FINE ART

The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece: Masterworks from the British Museum. A collection of marbles and pottery and bronzework from Greek antiquity focusing on the human form, especially the male nude. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Oct. 6. Special exhibition fee: \$16. DallasMuseumofArt.org.

Cindy Sherman. Massive collection of massive photographs from the influential artist are on display. Dallas Museum of Art. 1717 Harwood St. Final weekend. 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.

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.

Alex Remington: Architecture. Views of iconic Dallas buildings by gay photographer Alex Remington. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. Through June 22. ilumegallerie.com.

Ruben Nieto: Shadow Paintings. Dallas-based abstract artist hosts a solo show. Cris Worley Fine Arts. 1415 Slocum St., Suite 104. Through June 22. CrisWorley.com.

FRIDAY 06.07

BURLESQUE

Viva Dallas Burlesque. The monthly celebration of the art of burlesque features its Comedy Show for June, including headliner Ursula Undress and local fave Lillith Grey. Lakewood Theater, 1825 Abrams Parkway. Doors at 8 p.m., curtain at 9 p.m. VivaDallasBurlesque.com.

COMMUNITY

MetroBall. Thelma Houston headlines this Razzle



HELLLLOOOO ... JERRY | Comedian Jerry Seinfeld performs two shows of his standup routine at the Winspear on Saturday.

Dazzle event at Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 7 p.m. \$25-\$30. GDMAF.org.

modern circus that melds a street performance style with dazzling acrobatics. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. June 11-23. \$25-\$150. ATPAC.org.

SATURDAY 06.08

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly radio show addressing LGBT issues. This week's guests are the cast members from *The Timekeepers*, a play opening this week at the Dallas Holocaust Museum. 89.3 KNON-FM at 11 a.m.

COMEDY

Jerry Seinfeld. The Emmy Award-winning comedy legend performs two shows. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 7 and 9:30 p.m. From \$69. ATPAC.org.

PRIDE

GETEQUAL TX March and Rally. Gay activists gather at City Hall at 6 p.m. with a march to Main Street Garden from 6:30-7 p.m., followed by a rally.

Razzle Dazzle Main Event. Main Street Garden (transportation to event from The Strip, The Brick and Market Center Station). 7 p.m.-midnight.

SUNDAY 06.09

WORSHIP

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

MONDAY 06.10

FUNDRAISER

Yankee Restraint with Olympia Dukakis. The Oscar winner hosts a benefit for a new documentary about a gay Dallas couple. The Bright Group in the Dallas Design Center, 1025 N. Stemmons Freeway. 6:30 p.m. RSVP to YankeeRestraint@gmail.com.

TUESDAY 06.11

THEATER

Traces. Montreal-based troupe 7 Fingers puts on this

WEDNESDAY 06.12

THEATER

The Timekeepers. The Dallas Holocaust Museum and Theatre New West present this live production of a play about the interaction of two men in Nazi Germany — one Jewish, one gay. Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St. June 12-22 (in previews until June 13). \$20. Reservations at TheTimekeepersEventbrite.com.

THURSDAY 06.13

CONCERTS

Betty Buckley: Vixens of Broadway. The Tony Award-winning Fort Worth native sings some of her favorite songs. Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St. Fort Worth. June 13 and 15 at 7:30 p.m. 866-499-2787.

THEATER

City of Angels. The Tony Award-winning movie-within-a-musical comedy goes into previews at Theatre 3. 2900 Routh St. inside the Quadrangle. June 13-July 13 (opening night June 17). \$10-\$50. Theatre3Dallas.com.

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.

this week's solution

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

Michael Cera turns 25 on Friday. He's been a stable of youth comedies (like *Superbad* and *Juno*) since 2007, but got his big break a decade ago as the insecure, cousin-obsessed George Michael Bluth on the TV show *Arrested Development*, which was recently revived on Netflix.



GEMINI: May 21—Jun 20

You're being seen for who you are and your efforts will give way to rewards that will take the form of whatever you want. Seriously. Maybe it's time to turn off the merry-go-round just long enough to review your intentions and your life.

CANCER: Jun 21—Jul 20

Getting into some kind of balance will call you to look at yourself honestly. There's no need to stop being who you are, but you definitely need to start working on the puzzle that will show you how to take better care of yourself.

LEO: Jul 21—Aug 20

If you're wringing your hands over anything, take Cher's advice in *Moonstruck*: "Snap out of it!" Open your heart to the beauty of your situation, knowing that you came here to turn this craziness into a miracle.

VIRGO: Aug 21—Sep 20

There's a lot going on that looks bad or good, depending on what motivated you to do it in the first place. Maybe it's time to back up, back off or move in a new direction, because wherever you're going, you can't get there from here.

LIBRA: Sept 21—Oct 20

Life is strange. While you were so busy sweating things out, you didn't realize that the experience would change you! Sliding into the homestretch of whatever's going on, how you really feel about things has changed. Have no fear.

SCORPIO: Oct 21—Nov 20

The next week will give you time to look at what needs to happen next, unencumbered by distractions and the opinions of those whose two cents you don't need. Rest up; you will need your strength again soon enough.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21—Dec 20

As with everything you do, it pays to stay flexible enough to see whether things are working or not. You are at the point where the need to actualize your purpose has to take precedence over "the plan," your picture and anything else that keeps you from connecting with your deeper truth.

CAPRICORN: Dec 21—Jan 20

Part of you is worried about hurting people and another part is more concerned with the truth. What you seem to forget is that sometimes the truth hurts. It's not your job to babysit other people's emotional responses; especially now when their behavior seems to be at the heart of what's holding things back.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21—Feb 20

It makes no sense to go down the old and tired route because you're afraid that if you don't, you will miss out on the chance to succeed or be fulfilled. To know when life loses its meaning, you have to step out of line.

PISCES: Feb 21—Mar 20

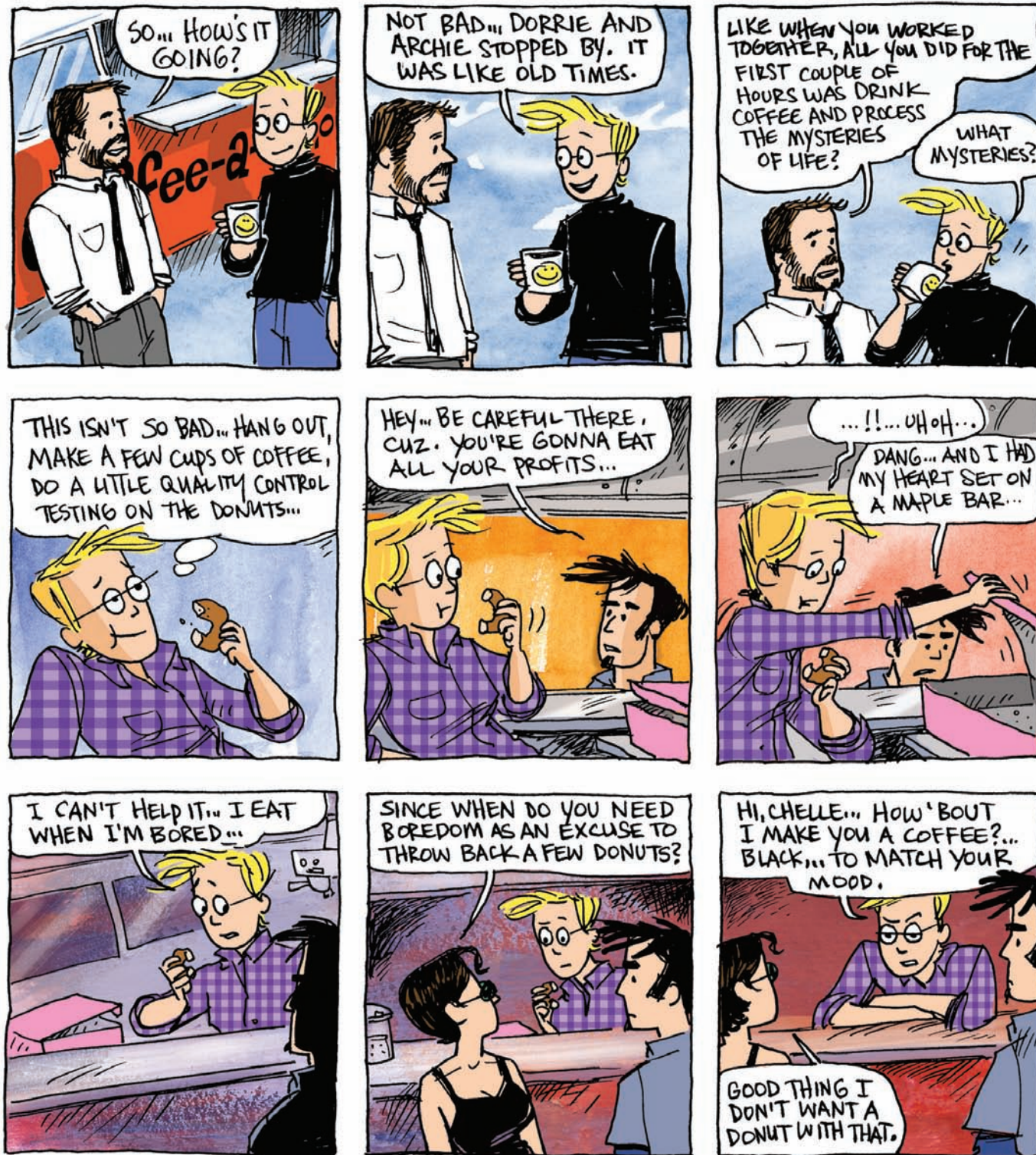
Instead of hanging around wondering if you can fix things, you might want to take a look at what it will take to save yourself from whatever you've done in the name of [fill in the blank]. It's too late to make things be the way you want them to be.

ARIES: Mar 21—Apr 20

You are on the hot seat right now, which is your favorite place to be. If you're on top of things, they are smoking. If your ass is getting burnt by one thing or another, find out what purpose it serves and get up and get on with the show.

TAURUS: Apr 21—May 20

Your message seems to be about putting your head down and doing it without looking around to see if you're getting applauded for it. The next miracle will be born out of loving what you do and pouring your heart into that work.



Jane's World © Paige Braddock 2013

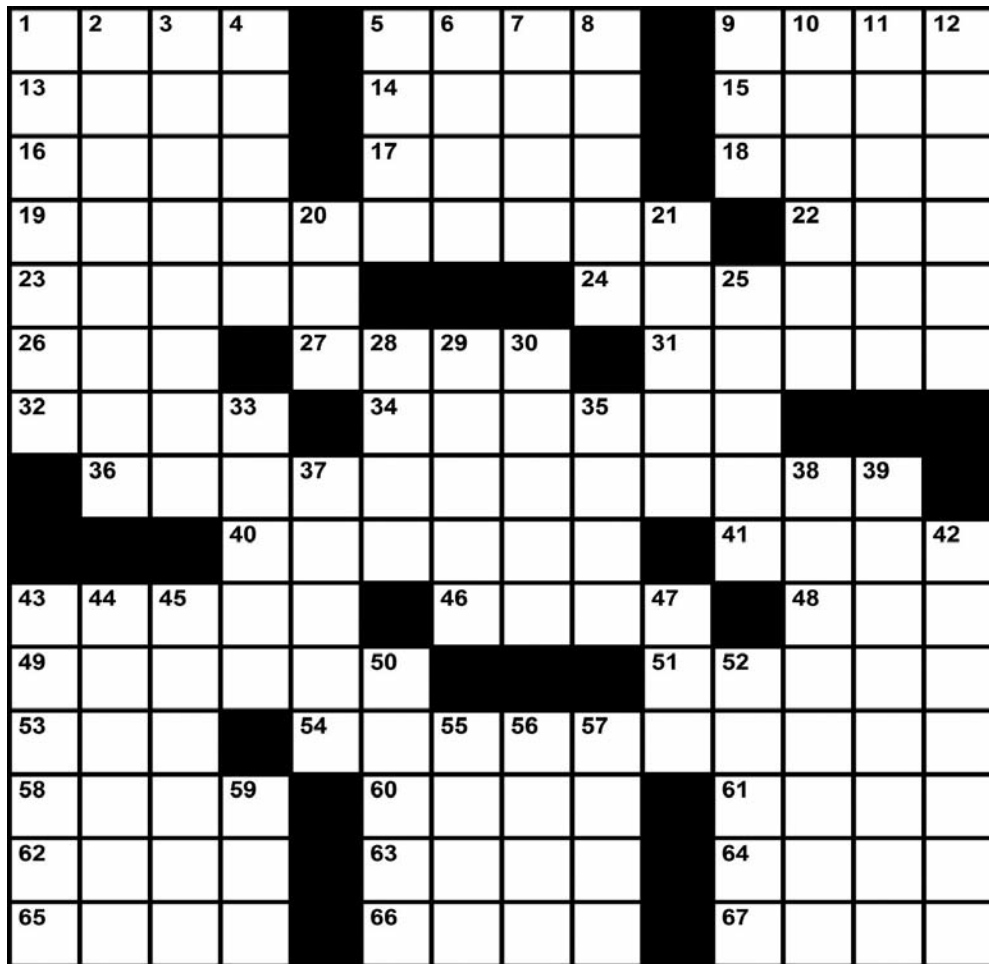
bitter girl



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Flaming Star in the Galaxy

Solution on page 33

Across

- 1 Memo start
- 5 Three-men-in-a-tub event
- 9 Sex toy for the butt
- 13 Prince's purple precipitation
- 14 Kazan, whose desire was a streetcar
- 15 Glinda portrayer in *The Wiz*
- 16 Help with the heist
- 17 Trust, with "on"
- 18 Mournful cry
- 19 City of the team of 36-Across
- 22 Vardalos of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*
- 23 R.E.M. frontman Michael
- 24 Riddler of old
- 26 Fabric name ending
- 27 Wet hole
- 31 McDowall of *Planet of the Apes*
- 32 Wolfe or Woolf, e.g. (abbr.)
- 34 Fiddle around with it
- 36 The first active openly gay male athlete to compete in a U.S. professional team sport
- 40 Tea or glory hole cry?
- 41 Himalayan legend
- 43 Traps for suckers

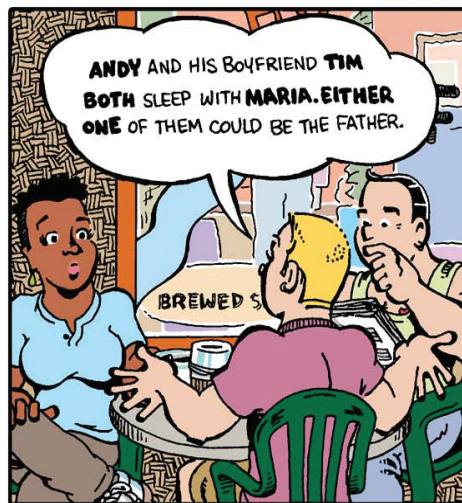
- 46 Org. that has never been to Uranus
- 48 Seminary subject
- 49 Eton alum
- 51 Erected
- 53 Unmannerly man
- 54 Position of 36-Across
- 58 "Ta ta!"
- 60 Marsh material
- 61 Skirt for Nureyev's partner
- 62 Woman's name embraced by hermaphrodites?
- 63 "She" to Rimbaud
- 64 *Peanuts* oath
- 65 Silence for Bernstein
- 66 It may be grand, to Glenn Burke
- 67 Scores

Down

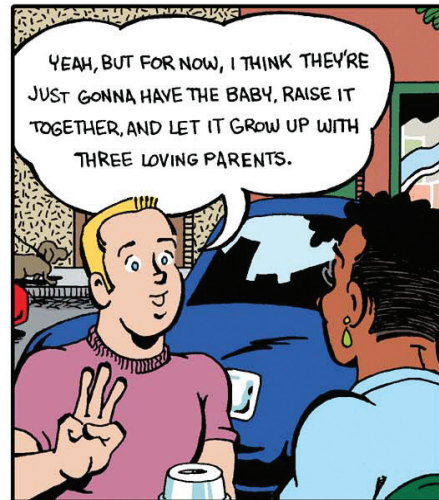
- 1 Shrinking Asian body
- 2 One who may screw with your equipment
- 3 Connects with
- 4 Coming soon
- 5 It made people go down on the Titanic
- 6 On the calm side
- 7 Cash cache
- 8 Sean of *Will & Grace*
- 9 Try to seduce (with liquor, e.g.)
- 10 Soviet leader Brezhnev
- 11 Relax after a hard day
- 12 Team of 36-Across
- 20 Just out
- 21 Shoot off a larger branch
- 25 Hive product
- 28 Like some twins
- 29 Rest atop
- 30 Doone of fiction
- 33 Mushroom source?
- 35 Woody pile
- 37 It's a bust
- 38 Lingering
- 39 Drag queen's high heel, perhaps
- 42 Under guardianship
- 43 Sport of 36-Across
- 44 Trisha Todd's ___ of the Moon
- 45 Role played by a man named Julia
- 47 Follower of Jim Buchanan
- 50 "Blow me down!"
- 52 Part of UHF
- 55 Woody valley
- 56 Eleanor's pooch
- 57 Bit from Michael Musto
- 59 Granola lesbian's bit



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Cat and Moises at Station 4.



Jeremy and Lo at Club Reflection.



John and Todd at TMC: The Mining Company.



Friends at Alexandre's.

All weekend long it's **Razzle Dazzle Dallas**. ... Start your weekend off with the **MetroBall** on June 7 at Station 4. **Thelma Houston** headlines the benefit for the **Greg Dolgener Memorial AIDS Fund**. ... **The Main Event** takes place at **Main Street Garden** with **Edna Jean Robinson** as MC on the Main Stage. **The Bright** headlines. Buses run from Market Center Station park and ride to Main Street Garden from 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. ... **Girl's Night Out with Peggy Honea** is June 7 and **Shelia P and Infinity** set the night ablaze performing at **Alexandre's** on June 8. ... **The Imperial Court de' Fort Worth/Arlington** proclaims that you should join them for the **16th Annual Crown Jewel Ball at Best Friends Club** on June 9. ... Get frisky with **Ryan** at **BJ's NXS** on June 7 as he hosts **Frisky Friday**. ... If you're a fan of **James Dean**, be sure to go to **JR.'s Bar and Grill** for the chance to win a copy of **A Portrait of James Dean: Joshua Tree** on June 10 and **Glee** fans, if you want the opportunity to win a copy of **Matthew Morrison's** debut album, make sure you're there on June 11. ... Hit **Sue Ellen's** up for the experience that is **Bad Habits** June 9. ... Join **Rob Hickman** as he hosts **Keep the Dreams Alive** with the **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** benefiting **Youth First Texas** on June 8 at **The Dallas Eagle**. ... **HRC Calcutta** is having a **Rooftop Event** at **Eden Lounge** on June 7. Then on June 8, enjoy the **Razzle Dazzle Dallas After Party** on the Deep Ellum rooftop. ■

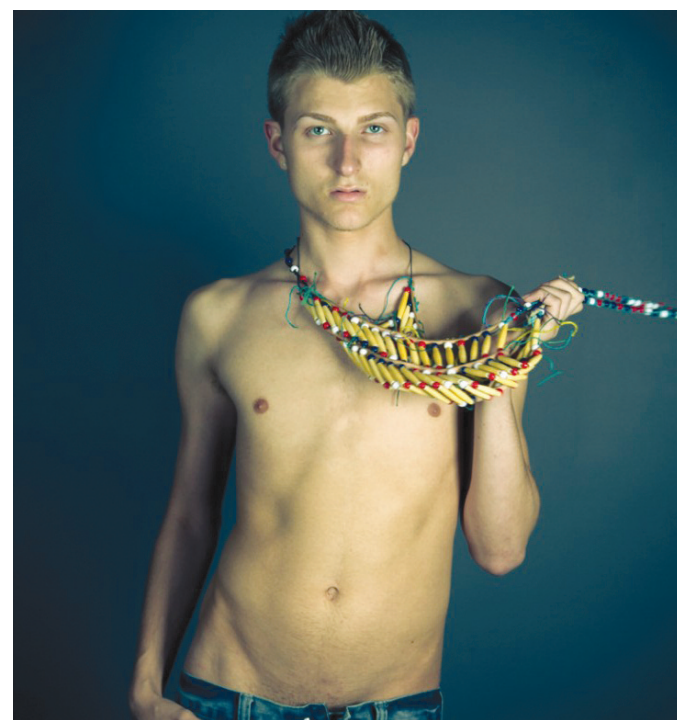
To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos.



Brent, Amanda and Lauren at Sue Ellen's.



Shawn and Chanel at the Round-Up Saloon.



Trey Aaron of BJ's NXS! and Rainbow Lounge, our June Dancer of the Month. For more photos of Trey, visit DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos.

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index » 06.7.13

Real Estate	38
Realtors	38
For Sale	38
For Rent	38
To Share	39
Movers	39
Employment	39
Business Opportunity	39
Job Wanted	39
Insurance	40
Services	40
Computer Services	40
Home Services	41
General	41
Air Conditioning/Heating	41
Plumbing	41
Cleaning	41
Pets	42
Personal Care	42
Spirituality/Religion	42
Psychotherapists	42
Massage	42
Announcements	43

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