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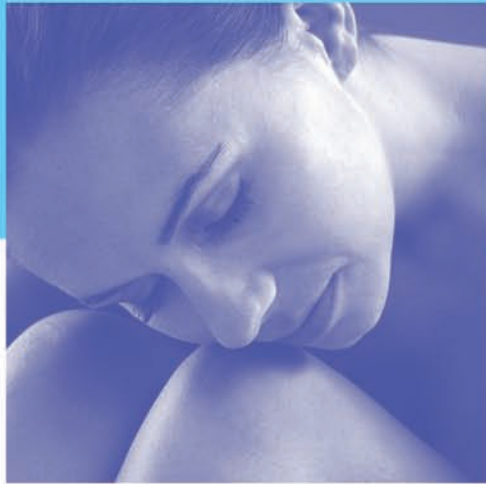
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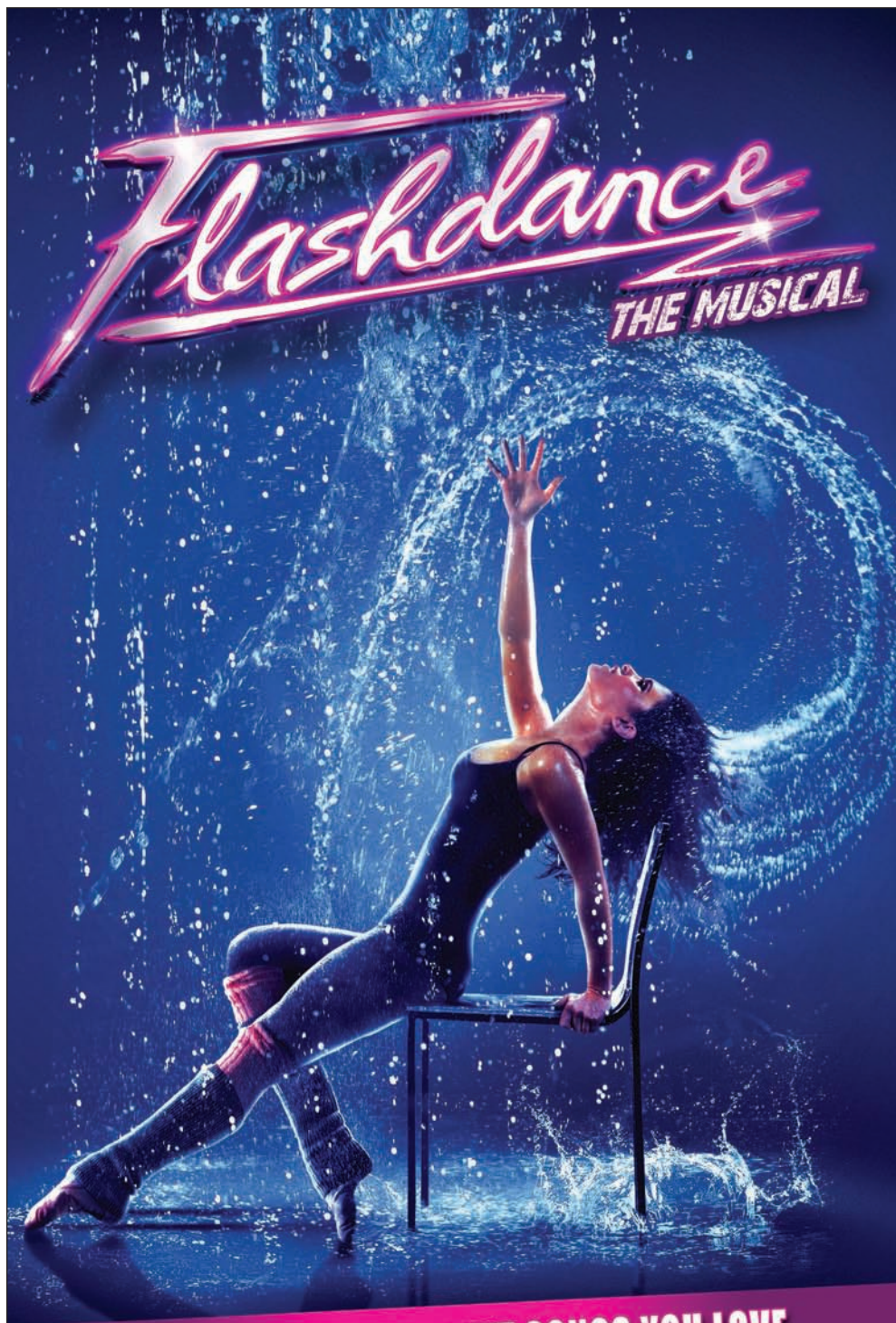
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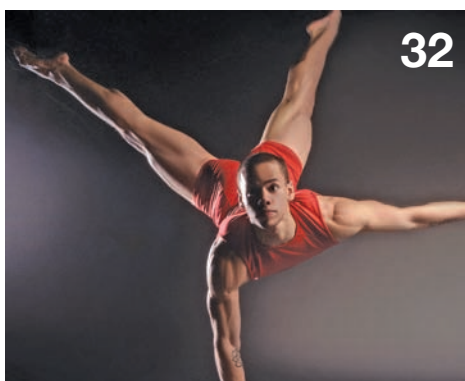


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Dallas County issues first-ever LGBT Pride Month resolution

Dallas County commissioners unanimously passed a resolution Tuesday declaring June LGBT Pride Month.

The resolution is the first of its kind for the county. The Dallas City Council has issued proclamations the past three years recognizing June as LGBT Pride Month.

Commissioner Theresa Daniel presented the resolution, reading it to the room before it passed. Commissioner Mike Cantrell, the only Republican on the five-member court, was absent from the meeting.

"On this special occasion, we must bear in mind that while we have overcome difficult obstacles, tolerance and acceptance is something we must all practice and teach future generations," the resolution reads in part.

After its passage, activist Omar Narvaez then addressed the court with several LGBT supporters standing behind him. He spoke about the importance of the LGBT community showing its Pride during June.

"It's so appropriate that our symbol for the LGBT community is a rainbow because we are every single part, we are every fabric of that rainbow," he said. "We are African-American, we're Latino, we are white, we are Asian, we are Native American."

Narvaez said he was proud of Dallas County for being the first in the state to have both an LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination policy and domestic partner benefits, and now it's the first to have passed a resolution declaring it LGBT Pride Month.

Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia then thanked the activists who attended and recognized gay former Dallas Councilman John Loza for being in attendance. Both Garcia and Loza worked on the city of Dallas' LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination ordinance in 2002 while serving on the City Council together.

County Judge Clay Jenkins thanked those in attendance for their work and patience when the county added transgender protections to its nondiscrimination policy in 2011 after it was left out of the policy, and for working with commissioners last year when domestic partner voucher program passed. He said those things have made the county better and other counties should follow Dallas' lead, adding that half of Fortune 500 companies already have a similar policy and benefits.

"Dallas County is the most progressive county out of 254 because they follow the lead of half of the Fortune 500 companies," Jenkins said. "It's time for the rest of the state to treat our GLBT brothers and sisters like fully equal partners in our society."

Daniel summed up the discussion before other resolutions were considered by the court.

"Very simply put: discrimination any place is wrong," Daniel said. "Thank you very much for all of us doing our part to make this a better place for everybody."

— Anna Waugh



UPDATE: Woman's partner moves out to comply with morality clause

While Page Price has already complied with Collin County Judge John Roach's ruling to move out of her partner's home, an appeal in the case could be filed soon.

Roach ruled in May that Price must move out of the home she and her partner, Carolyn Compton, share after Compton's ex-husband reopened the case, citing the "morality clause" in their divorce papers. The clause doesn't allow anyone who's dating Compton and not related by blood or marriage to stay overnight. Barrett Stern, the attorney representing Compton, said Price has moved out the home, and he is waiting for Roach to issue the written order under his ruling. Stern said he expects that to happen within the next week or so, and he and his client will decide where to go from there. He also said he's waiting on courtroom transcripts before moving forward with any appeal.

After Dallas Voice broke the story about Roach's ruling, Destyn Sublett of California started a MoveOn.org petition, entitled, "Tell Judge John Roach that morality clauses damage families and have no place in America's courtrooms!" She said morality clauses are outdated and harm every community. The petition has garnered more than 62,000 signatures.

"I thought it was very infuriating," Sublett said. "I don't think it was right just because a couple is gay."

Sublett said she knows little can be accomplished from the petition, but she wanted to do something and hopes it has some effect.

"By raising people's awareness sometimes we can get things on a bigger scale to change," she said.

Locally, leaders with the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance have met with Compton about the case and reached out to people who know Roach. They've had little success in contacting him, and he hasn't returned messages seeking comment.

— Anna Waugh

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# Dallas VA launches LGBT program

Nation's 2nd-largest system aims to assist growing number of gay vets after repeal of 'don't ask, don't tell,' applies for funds for trans clinic

**ANNA WAUGH** | News Editor  
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Army veteran Laura Kiewicz came to Texas two years ago to work for the VA North Texas Health Care System.

Kiewicz, a nurse educator, would later become the VA's first employee to transition on the job.

"Because I was the very first, it took lots and lots of education for HR on what I needed to do," Kiewicz said.

Kiewicz joined the VA's LGBT diversity action group late last year after it was created to help foster inclusivity in the aftermath of the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell." The group has grown in interest among employees and veteran patients, and became an official LGBT program with Kiewicz as manager. The VA officially launched an awareness campaign about the program this week for LGBT Pride Month.

"Partly because of the repeal of DADT and changing times, we were seeing more and more LGBT veterans," Kiewicz said. "So this is really a program that we needed."

The program helps create awareness, provides education to employees and veterans, works with care providers and identifies resources. Earlier this year, the VA's 4,700 employees completed inclusively training on specific LGBT care.

Kiewicz said it was important to expand the program's outreach to patients to help them learn about resources and feel confident the VA is welcoming of LGBT veterans. The Dallas VA system is the second-largest in the country, serving roughly 113,000 veterans in 38 Texas counties and two counties in southern Oklahoma, according to its website.

Michael Moore, who was discharged under DADT in 2006 but goes to the Dallas VA for his healthcare, said he's glad there is a local program to help LGBT veterans and show the military's growing inclusion.

"It shows that not only the military but the veteran department is trying to progress with the rest of the country," he said.

Jen Knowlden, a lesbian veteran who served almost eight years in the Army before retirement in 2009, is also a patient at the Dallas VA. She used to live in Kansas City and use the local VA there, which she said didn't have any LGBT outreach, so she is pleased the Dallas hospital has a program.

"I think it's an important resource for LGBT veterans," she said. "I think it's good they're reaching out to LGBT veterans because I'm sure there are



**TRANSFORMING THE VA** | Army vet Laura Kiewicz, left, who manages the LGBT program, became the VA's first employee to transition on the job. Air Force vet Kylie Slaughter, right, a mental health and rehab technician, is also trans and wants to work in the trans clinic if it receives funding. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

those whose don't go to the VA because they're not sure it's an accepting place."

The Dallas VA made headlines in 2011 after a nurse went on an anti-gay rant during a counseling session with lesbian Marine veteran Esther Garatie, who was seeking treatment for possible post-traumatic stress disorder. Garatie filed a complaint for the nurse's behavior and the nurse was later forced to resign over the incident.

While similar incidents haven't occurred since, Kiewicz said the LGBT Program also helps pre-

vent them before they happen because of the training.

Kiewicz said she's never had a negative experience at the center, even after her transition and name change was announced to employees. She said even if some people have negative views of the LGBT community, their job is to work with everyone and treat every veteran the same.

"I've not had one instance of any person being inappropriate," she said. "They have zero tolerance on any type of discrimination."

During her several months as program manager, Kiewicz has helped with training, education and even co-authored a proposal to get a transgender clinic at the hospital. The proposal was presented at the regional level, received a positive response and has been submitted for funding.

If the Dallas VA adds the trans clinic, it would be the third VA in the country to have a trans focus. Boston's VA center has an interdisciplinary transgender treatment team that provides compre-





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## ■ texasnews

■ VA, From Page 8

hensive care for transgender veterans and Minneapolis' VA Medical Center has a program for transgender veterans.

Kiewicz said she pushed for the clinic because of the high volume of trans veterans. It's estimated that there are three times more trans people in the veteran population than in the general population. She said the suicide rate among trans veterans is also higher, as is job and housing discrimination, so those issues also need to be addressed.

"Trans veterans, their care is fragmented, so it takes some specialized training," she said.

Kylie Slaughter, a mental health and rehab technician at the Dallas VA, is trans and wants to work in the trans clinic.

She joined the Air Force in 1989 and spent two decades serving all over the world and receiving the rank of master sergeant. But she says her life really began when she left the military in 2009 when she could transition.

"That's when I retired and I felt when my life was actually mine," Slaughter said.

She said she can relate to trans veteran patients and would like the center to add a trans clinic.

"If they see me, it breaks the ice," she said. "They feel more comfortable."

Former Navy SEAL Kristin Beck's book, *Warrior Princess*, which outlines her transition after leaving the service, has brought national attention

to transgender veterans. Trans people still can't serve openly in the military.

Kiewicz served in Vietnam with the Navy. During her service, she recalled two sailors who were discharged for suspicion of being gay. She feared what would happen to her if she came out as trans.

"I didn't want to get a dishonorable discharge," she said. "I really suppressed it and did all the manly things."

But over time, Kiewicz said being female became more and more part of who she was and she wanted to live authentically. She said many transgender people join the military in an effort to "man-up" and later transition after they leave service.

"A lot of transgender veterans have those same feelings," she said. "I'm proud of who I am. If I see a trans vet, I stop and talk to them."

Kiewicz said she thinks trans people will be able to serve openly one day.

"I think our time is coming," she said.

Kiewicz also wants the VA to cover gender reassignment surgery, something she said they don't cover yet. But she's willing to be patient.

"In the short time since I've been here, we have a committee and now in the process of having a trans clinic," she said, adding that the program will only grow. "People know who I am. In the short amount of time, I've been able to initiate change." ■



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Rex is a male, neutered, red German Shepherd mix, probably about 5 months old. He's very sweet and loves people, but he's been at the shelter since May 26 and he's ready for a home of his own. Please come see him at Dallas Animal Services, 1818 Westmoreland Road. Ask for Rex, #A789546. He will welcome you with open paws. The entire month of June is "Two Fur One" month. Adopt any two animals and pay only one adoption fee.

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**QUEENS OF THE GAYBORHOOD** | Pauline Medrano, left, has represented the west side of the Cedar Springs strip for eight years, while Angela Hunt has represented the east side. They will leave office due to term limits on Monday, June 24, when a new council is sworn in. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

# Staunch allies Hunt, Medrano step aside

Two of council's most outspoken LGBT advocates discuss progress in Oak Lawn and beyond as they prepare to leave office after 8 years

**ANNA WAUGH** | News Editor  
waugh@dallasvoice.com

The Dallas City Council will lose two of its most outspoken and staunch LGBT allies next week when new council members are sworn in to replace Angela Hunt and Pauline Medrano.

The councilwomen share Dallas' gayborhood in Oak Lawn with Medrano's District 2 covering the west half of the Cedar Springs strip and Hunt's District 14 covering its east half. Both have served the four-term limit, but say they will leave behind many improvements in their districts and the LGBT community.

## Safety first

In recent years, the area near the Cedar Springs strip has seen a rapid decrease in violent crime. The area held the No. 2 spot for violent crimes in

2008 when the Dallas police began tracking crime activity in the city's 27 worst hotspots known as Target Area Action Grids.

The Wycliff-Lemmon TAAG, previously known as the Cedar Springs-Wycliff and Maple-Wycliff TAAG, had fallen to the No. 14 spot for violent crime in 2012, but is still No. 10 for overall crime, with high numbers for thefts and burglaries of a motor vehicle.

The TAAG stretches roughly from Maple Avenue to Lemmon Avenue and from Oak Lawn Avenue to Kings Road.

Both Medrano and Hunt attribute the lower crime rates to increased police attention and crime watch groups.

Medrano said she pushed for the most recent TAAG name change to Wycliff-Lemmon because many nonviolent crimes occur east of Maple and it created more awareness for citizens to understand where a lot of the crime was happening.

Hunt said the area's alarming crime rates were "disturbing" and she and Medrano worked with police and citizens to ensure they decreased. The area is in line to receive new technology to help decrease crime even further, with added security

■ **ALLIES**, Page 16



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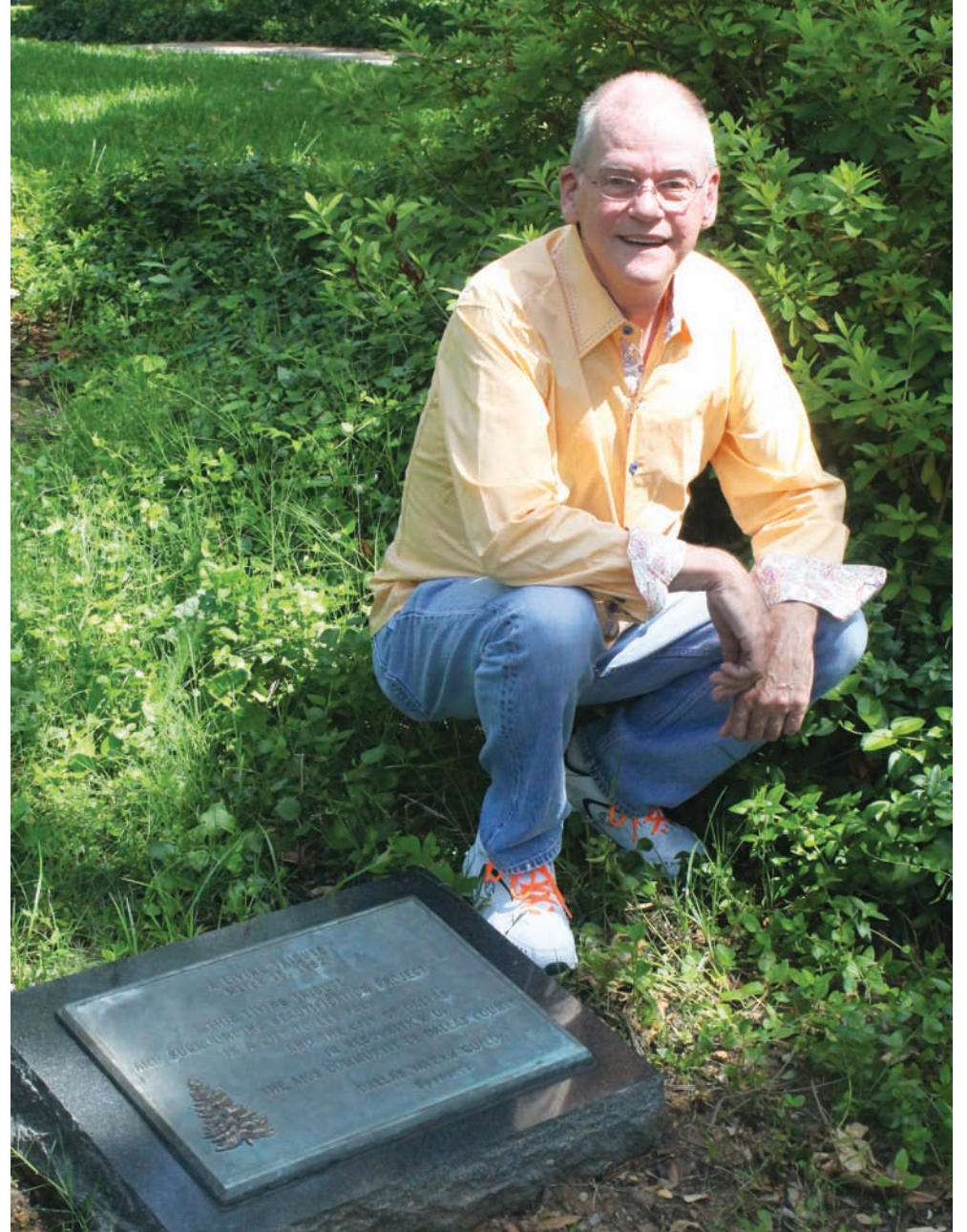
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**'A LIVING TRIBUTE'** | Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Michael Doughman, shown at the new site of the AIDS memorial in Lee Park, called it 'a place of quiet reflection.' (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)



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# AIDS memorial that took fight with city to be rededicated

Organizers hope new location within Lee Park will bring more attention to oft-forgotten monument conceived by Dallas Tavern Guild's Alan Ross

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
[taffet@dallasvoice.com](mailto:taffet@dallasvoice.com)

In 1989, Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Alan Ross began working on an AIDS memorial that he hoped to place in Lee Park. He submitted an application to the city's park board but kept running into obstacles.

In 1990, Dallas Tavern Guild members planted 1,800 daffodils in Lee Park — one for each person in Dallas County who had died of AIDS.

But when Ross tried to place a plaque in the garden, he was blocked.

In July 1990, the park board ruled that the Tavern Guild — an association of gay bars — could erect an AIDS memorial. They just couldn't use the words AIDS, gay or lesbian.

Not until 1992 did the two sides reach a compromise, and the plaque was installed in the garden at Lee Park.

After the original location became part of a new formal garden earlier this year, the plaque was moved. Now, promoters of the often-overlooked

Alan Ross AIDS Memorial in Lee Park hope a rededication ceremony on Saturday, June 22, will bring it new attention.

"It's a place of quiet reflection," said current Tavern Guild Executive Director Michael Doughman, who spearheaded the revitalization of the memorial.

### Park board, others opposed plan

Ross originally wanted the memorial to include a time capsule and a brick walkway with the names of those who died from AIDS etched on the bricks, according to Dallas Morning News archives. The park board blocked those ideas and the fight moved to City Council.

The Dallas Southern Memorial Association argued to the council that Lee Park was not a neighborhood park but a tribute to Robert E. Lee, reports said. The Turtle Creek Association said the park would not be suitable for children with an AIDS memorial.

Park board members said they didn't want to dedicate public land to one specific disease and suggested the memorial be placed at Parkland hospital, the Morning News reported. They said they didn't like the precedent the memorial set.

This was despite the fact that Ross had raised \$20,000 in the LGBT community for the park department to use for upkeep.

The battle continued for years over wording. The park department finally allowed the use of AIDS, and Ross relented on including the words gay and lesbian.

He had the plaque and granite base made and dated March 15, 1992. The dedication took place on March 16.

A tree planted at the time died several years ago and had been already removed from the site when Doughman was approached by the Lee Park Conservancy about moving the memorial to a new location.

The relocated AIDS memorial is along a walk that extends from a new formal entrance to the park at Turtle Creek Boulevard and Lemmon Avenue.

The new cedar elm is placed among older trees and new plantings of azaleas and smaller bushes and flowers. The walk continues across a bridge dating from the 1930s and over a creek that runs through the park. An older stone bench is adjacent to the new garden.

The area was previously an unused portion of the park that was overgrown and inaccessible.

### The man behind the monument

The Rev. Carol West of Celebration Community Church will dedicate the memorial at a ceremony on June 22 at 11 a.m.

"Alan was a gentleman," West said. "He cared about people."

For years, Ross was the driving force behind the Pride parade. She said he was driven to look at every detail, which is why the parade became what it is.

"What an impact he made on our celebration



**MEMORIAL BLOSSOMS** | Former Tavern Guild Executive Director Alan Ross stands next to the 1,800 daffodils that were planted in Lee Park in 1990 — one for each person in Dallas who had died of AIDS. The daffodils were a precursor to a permanent AIDS memorial in the same location.

as a community," she said. "He was driven to bring everyone in."

"This living tribute and surrounding beautification project is a gift to Lee Park and the City of Dallas in recognition of the AIDS community of Dallas County," the plaque reads.

The signature on the plaque is "Dallas Tavern Guild. Sponsors." Ross wanted "lesbian/gay community" listed as the sponsor but the park board preferred the bars to gays and lesbians.

Four teak benches that cost \$600 apiece were added to the garden. The benches were stolen in 1993, although one was found.

Someone spotted one of the benches outside an Oak Cliff apartment. The owner said she bought it for \$20 at a flea market.

Lynn Albright, who was the LGBT police liaison at the time, recovered the bench and returned it to the park. The other three were never found.

Albright remembered Ross with fondness and said she was delighted the new memorial keeps his memory alive. She lives in Austin now and plans to attend the rededication ceremony. She said she has been thinking of Ross lately because her daughter just graduated from high school. In 1995, Albright became a mother, which she called one of the happiest times of her life.

"Two months later it was the worst as Alan passed away," she said. "I was blessed that Alan got to meet her but I know he is still watching over us. He will always be a part of our family."

Ross died from AIDS complications on March 16, 1995, three years to the day after the memorial was dedicated.

In 1995, the Dallas Southern Memorial Association and Turtle Creek Association joined with the Tavern Guild and two other neighborhood groups to create the Lee Park and Arlington Hall Conservancy that now operates the park. ■



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### AIDS memorial rededication

The rededication takes place at the memorial at Lee Park on June 22 at 11 a.m. The memorial is on the walkway near the new formal entrance to the park at Turtle Creek Boulevard and Lemmon Avenue.



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# 'It was like breaking a logjam'

Experts say high court's ruling in *Lawrence v. Texas* — handed down 10 years ago next week — paved way for 2 marriage equality cases

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

When Houston attorney Mitchell Katine received a call in September 1998 about two gay men arrested in one of their homes and charged with sodomy, he thought the caller had it wrong.

No one is charged with sodomy in his own home, Katine said to himself. But the call came from Houston activist Lane Lewis, whose friend was a gay clerk in the court processing the charge.

"I didn't believe it was real," Katine said. "Let me send you the paperwork," Lewis told him.

Katine couldn't believe what he read. Police received a call about "a black male going crazy with a gun" in John Lawrence's apartment. When police broke in, Lawrence and Tyrone Garner were on the couch watching TV, according to Lawrence's account.

According to one of the officer's account, Garner and Lawrence were having sex and didn't stop even after the officers were in the bedroom watching them for several minutes.

"I wasn't in the apartment, so I don't know," Katine said.

Although police found no disturbance going on, they arrested Lawrence and Garner under the state sodomy law.

"Police officers really treated them roughly," Katine said. "They dragged them down the stairs and didn't let them get dressed."

Lawrence and Garner were long-time friends. Garner and his boyfriend, Robert Eubanks, were moving to a new apartment. Lawrence was helping them move furniture. Garner and Eubanks had a fight that evening, and Garner stayed at Lawrence's apartment.

To get back at Garner, Eubanks called the police to report a disturbance. He later spent two weeks in jail for filing a false police report.

Garner and Lawrence initially pleaded not guilty.

"Lawyers knew the significance of what we could do with this," Katine said.

So the two men changed their plea to "no contest" and the case turned into a challenge of the sodomy law.

June 26 marks the 10th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that struck down all remaining sodomy laws in the U.S. And experts say the court's decision in *Lawrence v. Texas* set the stage for challenges to the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8 that will be decided next week,



**FIVE-YEAR FIGHT** | Attorney Mitchell Katine, far right, says he didn't believe it when a Houston activist called in September 1998 and said two men had been arrested in one of their homes and charged with sodomy. Katine is shown a few months later outside the courthouse with his clients, Tyrone Garner, far left, and John Lawrence, center. The Supreme Court finally decided the case in 2003. (Associated Press)

possibly on the same date as Lawrence.

"We wouldn't be at this stage if that case hadn't occurred," Katine said of Lawrence.

In his decision, Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote that Lawrence and Gardner were entitled to respect for their private lives.

"The state cannot demean their existence or

control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime," he wrote. "The Due Process Clause gives them the full right to engage in their conduct without intervention of the government."

*Lawrence v. Texas* struck down *Bowers v. Hardwick*, a similar case decided by the high court 1986 that upheld sodomy laws.

At the time, the Supreme Court chose to hear *Hardwick* rather than a similar case from Dallas. In *Baker v. Wade*, Judge Jerry Buchmeyer struck down 21.06, the Texas sodomy law, in 1982. The *Hardwick* decision reinstated the law until the *Lawrence* case.

While rarely used to arrest anyone, the sodomy law, officially known as the Homosexual Conduct law, did have consequences. Lawrence and Garner were the first people charged with sodomy in years — but 21.06 criminalized all gays and lesbians.

In 1985, Bill Nelson was forced off the Dallas Civil Service Review Adjunct Board after the city attorney told the Dallas City Council that gay members of decision-making boards who did not obey Texas anti-sodomy laws could not serve.

In 1989, Mica England, a lesbian who applied to be a Dallas police officer, was also treated as a criminal. She was disqualified because applicants had to sign an affidavit saying they would violate no Texas laws. England sued and won in 1993, but was denied employment on the DPD for other reasons.

Ken Upton Jr., a supervising senior staff attorney in Lambda Legal's Dallas office, called the *Lawrence* decision freeing for a lot of courts.

"It was like breaking a logjam," he said.

The decision has had broad implications directly leading to marriage equality laws but has been used in many narrower decisions as well. Upton credited the *Lawrence* case for court decisions in employment and custody disputes.

He said the 1995 *Romer v. Evans* case that struck down Colorado's Amendment 2 — which prevented cities and counties from recognizing gays and lesbians as a protected class — laid the groundwork for *Lawrence*. "How do you square that when you're still criminalizing them," he said. "*Lawrence* broke that tension."

Upton said one shortfall of the *Lawrence* decision was that the sodomy laws were so unconstitutional, the court didn't have to do much analysis. There was simply no legitimate purpose served by the sodomy laws. So the decision added little guidance for courts on other matters.

But Upton said the *Lawrence* case led directly to the beginning of marriage equality. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court waited until after the *Lawrence* decision to issue its *Goodridge* decision legalizing same-sex marriage in Massachusetts in 2004.

While the Defense of Marriage Act has been on the books since 1996, Upton believes it reached the Supreme Court rather quickly.

From 1996, when the law was enacted, until 2004, marriage was not legal in any state. Only after Massachusetts began marrying same-sex couples could lawsuits begin.

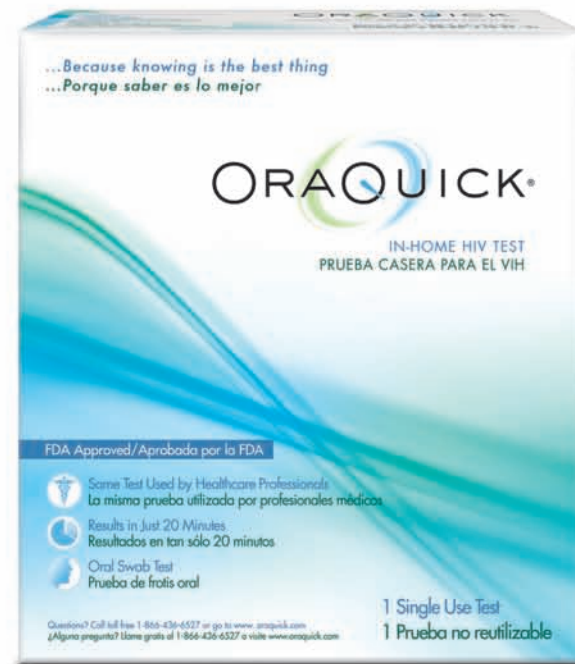
Upton said before reaching a court, cases have

■ LAWRENCE, Page 16



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■ texasnews

■ LAWRENCE, From Page 14

to exhaust all administrative remedies. In a tax case, such as the challenge to DOMA that is expected to be decided by the Supreme Court next week, the IRS ruling would then be challenged in a trial court and appealed to a district court before heading to the Supreme Court.

Katine and Upton both expect positive decisions restoring marriage equality to California and declaring DOMA unconstitutional. And both credit Lawrence with laying the groundwork.

Katine also credits Garner and Lawrence personally. Both became heroes to the LGBT community.

After their arrest, Katine said, they remained angry for quite awhile over how the police treated them. But once the case was decided, they were proud of their contribution.

He said after the Supreme Court ruled, Lawrence and Garner were recognized around town and people often bought them drinks at the bars. He said they never received any hate mail or

threatening phone calls. Police would even congratulate them.

"It made them proud, these non-political, non-activist, working-class gay guys could leave a legacy for the gay community," Katine said.

Despite being declared unconstitutional, 21.06 remains on the books. Rep. Garnet Coleman has introduced legislation to remove the law from the books each session since the 2003 decision. This year, a Senate version of the bill made it out of committee but did not make it to the floor for a vote.

Lambda Legal will celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the decision at its Landmark Dinner on Aug. 10 at Hotel Palomar in Dallas. On June 28, it will host a breakfast in Downtown Houston at the Houston Center Club on Caroline Street.

None of the principles in the case are still alive to mark the anniversary. Eubanks was beaten to death in 2000 at age 42. The case was never solved. Garner died of meningitis in 2006 at age 39. Lawrence died in 2011 at age 68 of a heart condition. ■

■ ALLIES, From Page 11

cameras and bait cars.

"Public safety is the most fundamental service that we expect from our city government," Hunt said. "The Cedar Springs area is a fun entertainment area. It is a vibrant LGBT commercial district and it's an important residential area as well."

Safety concerns arose anew in late 2011 when several pedestrians were struck along the strip — with two being killed. Medrano and Hunt pushed for solutions, which resulted in more crosswalks and flashing lights on the crosswalks. A long-term plan emerged with the passage of a \$1.2 million bond package for street improvement on Cedar Springs Road that Hunt spearheaded. Planning for the improvements is slated to begin in 2014.

"We've made some strides in making improvements there," Hunt said of the crosswalks and flashing lights. "They've been small improvements, they've had a positive impact, but we can take it to the next step, which is some significant infrastructure improvements."

Medrano worked with the LGBT community over the years to replace more than 40 streetlights in Oak Lawn in a Stonewall Young Democrats project. She said she oversaw street improvements near Cathedral of Hope and erosion control behind the predominantly LGBT congregation.

"Ms. Hunt and I worked really well together in bringing some improvement to the life and hopefully vitality of Cedar Springs, making it a little bit more vibrant," she said.

**Standing up for equal rights**

Medrano and Hunt showed they were unwavering on their views of equality during their tenures on the council. In 2011, the councilwomen demanded a review of the more than 50 complaints filed under Dallas' nondiscrimination ordinance that weren't prosecuted by the city in the nine years since its implementation.

"It put the city on notice that the council was shining a light on this, the public was shining light on this and we wanted to ensure that our promise to the LGBT community was kept," Hunt said about their involvement.

When \$325,000 in HIV/AIDS funding was cut from the city's budget in 2009, Hunt proposed to reinstate some of the funding, but it was still cut from the budget. The city found grants to eventually restore some of the funding.

Both Medrano and Hunt faced out challengers at some point. Medrano ran against trans woman Monica Greene in 2005. That same year Hunt faced lesbian Candy Marcum and in 2011, the LGBT community was divided in their support for Hunt and out candidate James Nowlin.

Hunt said she always felt it was important for her to be vocal about her support for the LGBT community in the absence of an out council member. The council hasn't has an out member since 2007.

"The LGBT community deserves as much protection and support and engagement as every other facet of Dallas' population," she said. "It was very important to me without an out council member on the council to try to fill that role to the best of my ability as a straight woman to be a voice for the LGBT community."

For Medrano, she said her support came from her upbringing and she always felt it was important to speak up for equal rights.

"Not only myself, but all my family have been lifelong friends of the LGBT community since the civil rights movement in the '50s and '60s," she said. "Part of representing the city of Dallas is that you represent the people in that district but really you represent the city of Dallas and you try to represent everyone as equally as you can in all instances."

Recently, Medrano, as mayor pro tem, tried to add Councilman Scott Griggs' LGBT equality resolution to the June 12 agenda the Friday before the meeting after Councilwoman Delia Jasso re-



### Inaugural ceremony

Dallas council members-elect Adam Medrano, Philip Kingston, Lee Kleinman, Jennifer Staubach Gates and Rick Callahan will be sworn in at 10 a.m. Monday, June 24, at the Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. Doors open at 9 a.m. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

moved her signature from a memo requiring the item be added to the agenda.

Mayor Mike Rawlings was away on business in Brazil, so Medrano submitted the request as acting mayor to put the item on the agenda. But Rawlings convinced the city attorney's office that because he was still reachable that he wasn't absent and Medrano couldn't place the item on the agenda.

"It was a sad day but also a proud day that the people in our community spoke up, different council members spoke up," Medrano said. "I'll always remember it. That moment will stay with me for a long time. I think the Friday before will stay with me for a long time, too."

Hunt, who was the only council member who spoke out favorably of the resolution during the meeting (Medrano had lost her voice), echoed Medrano's thoughts but said she had hope the future council would pass the resolution.

"It's not the end of the story," she said. "I don't think it's ending on a negative one. I think it's a hopeful one."

### Handing over the reins

As Medrano and Hunt prepare to say goodbye to City Hall June 24 when new council members are sworn in, they are confident their LGBT advocacy will continue in their districts.

Medrano's nephew, Adam Medrano, will replace her in District 2 and Hunt's friend, Philip Kingston, will replace her in District 14. Both have already pledged to be advocates for the LGBT community during their time in office.

Patti Fink, president of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, said District 2 and 14 have been "the bedrock of political Dallas for the LGBT community" even though LGBT Dallasites live in every district. She said Medrano and Hunt have followed in the footsteps of their predecessors and have been excellent advocates for the LGBT community.

"I think that Pauline Medrano and Angela Hunt have been exemplary in supporting LGBT issues," Fink said. "They've been leaders and advocates rather than simply supporters."

Fink said the two will be "terribly missed," but the community is excited to work with Adam Medrano and Kingston.

"It's certainly big shoes to fill for Philip Kingston and Adam Medrano when they take office," she said. "The bar has been set high and it's been set high for a very long time, for decades now. I have great confidence that both of them will rise to their expected responsibilities and actions."

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**UNACCEPTABLE** | Dallas City Councilwoman Vonciel Hill objected to this Greater Than AIDS billboard because she said it 'presents African-American men who are homosexual as acceptable.'

# Protest planned over Hill's anti-gay remarks

Rally set Saturday in S. Dallas after city councilwoman makes national news by objecting to Greater Than AIDS billboard featuring 2 men

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
[taffet@dallasvoice.com](mailto:taffet@dallasvoice.com)

Local activists plan a protest Saturday, June 22, in response to Dallas City Councilwoman Vonciel Hill's homophobic objections this week to a Greater Than AIDS billboard in her district featuring two black men.

In an email to local media, Hill expressed her disapproval of a Greater Than AIDS billboard that appeared in her district. The photo features two black men, one with his arm around the other. The tag line is "Update Your Status."

Hill, the lone city council member who has refused to appear at gay Pride, objected to several messages she said the billboard sends, writing in the email: "Presenting African-American men who are homosexuals as acceptable, engaging in such conduct presents health risks, feel free to continue what you are doing but protect your health."

In 2009, Hill said she won't appear at Dallas Pride because, "there are some acts God doesn't bless."

Dallas City Councilwoman Angela Hunt, a staunch LGBT ally, responded to Hill's statements this week.

"I'm often at a loss for words with statements from Vonciel," Hunt said. "It seems to me she's putting prejudice ahead of public health."

She said statements like Hill's make African-



Vonciel Hill

American men afraid to come out and check their status.

"I don't understand statements like that," she said. "When I saw the statistics, that's exactly the audience you want to reach."

And the statistics are alarming.

Dallas County has the highest HIV infection rate in Texas. Of those new infections, 49 percent are in the African-American community. That rate is four times as high as in the Hispanic community and three times as high as whites.

About three out of four new infections in Dallas County, including in African-Americans, are in men who have sex with men.

That prompted the choice of the photo and placement of the two billboards.

Kirk Myers, founder and CEO of South Dallas AIDS organization Abounding Prosperity, responded to Hill by planning a protest at 11 a.m. Saturday outside his agency along MLK Jr. Blvd.

Fox 4 broke the story about Hill's reaction after she sent the station an email. Myers called the station's coverage biased. Although County Health director Zach Thompson and AIDS Arms CEO John Carlo refuted her take on the billboards, no gay black men were included to tell their own story, Myers said.

Protest organizer Harold Steward said he hopes allies would join the rally in response to Hill.

Myers pointed out that the image in the ad had been used successfully before but he worried the

media coverage focused on Hill's anti-gay message and missed the point of the promotion.

"People are missing the message — update your status," he said.

He said the billboard was placed because June 28 is National HIV Testing Day. His agency and others will be conducting free HIV testing in a number of places throughout the county during the week.

But while people in the LGBT community condemned Hill for her bigotry, Dallas County Health and Human Services Director Zach Thompson thinks her outrage backfired.

"Based on the coverage, I think we got the news out broader than before," Thompson said. "A lot of people didn't know about the infection rate."

He said his department and AIDS agencies around the county need community partners and churches to work together.

"Long term, this is a conversation that's evolved," he said. "The conversation is moving forward."

Kiestwood Neighborhood Association President Raymond Crawford said he took great pleasure in seeing two of the billboards Hill objected to not far from his house. The heavily gay Kiestwood neighborhood is part of the newly redrawn District 3 that Hill will represent on the council that is sworn in next week.

"I'm disappointed she's so out of touch with her new constituents in District 3," Crawford said. "As a civil servant you have to have the ability to listen to your constituents."

He said people in the neighborhood have approached her to talk about a variety of issues.

"It's her ability to respond appropriately that doesn't seem to ever occur," he said.

He doesn't just fault Hill for her inappropriate response, however.

"Shame on the mayor for not getting behind it," he said. "He could have shown some good effective leadership."

Crawford said he hopes some of the ministers in area churches would focus on the importance of getting tested and promote "update your status" to their parishioners. ■

### National HIV Testing Day

National HIV Testing Day is Friday, June 28. Local agencies will offer testing at these locations on the following dates:

- AIDS Interfaith Network at General Mexican Consulate, 1210 Riverbend Drive  
June 28, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Resource Center Dallas at Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic, 4012 Cedar Springs Road  
June 27–28, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
- Dallas County, Abounding Prosperity and AIDS Arms at six area Walgreens, from 3 p.m.–7 p.m. June 27–28, and from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. June 29:

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**HIGHER HIGHS** | Members of Dallas Pride Cheer perform prior to the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade in 2012. Rain brought cooler temps to last year's event, but the average high temperature in September is 88.4 degrees, three degrees below the average in June. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

# Why is Dallas Pride in September?

Recent online poll showed 73% feel organizers should consider moving event to June, but many may not know history of tradition

**MADDOX PRICE** | Contributing Writer  
editor@dallasvoice.com

June is national Pride month in commemoration of the June 29, 1969, Stonewall riots in New York City.

So why is Dallas' Pride celebration in September?

According to the Dallas Tavern Guild's website, DallasPride.com, an unorganized march through downtown Dallas in 1972 marked the first semblance of a gay Pride event, but the first official parade didn't take place until June 1980. Merchants and community leaders ran the celebration.

In 1983, the newly founded Tavern Guild, made up of Oak Lawn area bar owners, assumed all duties and moved the June Pride date back to the third Sunday in September. The move was to honor Judge Jerry Buchmeyer's decision in *Baker v. Wade*, which threw out Texas' sodomy ban. Although the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed Buchmeyer's ruling two years later, the parade remained in September.

According to a recent poll on the Dallas Voice website, 73 percent said it is time for organizers to consider moving Dallas Pride back to June.

Michael Doughman, executive director of the Dallas Tavern Guild, said when Buchmeyer's ruling was overturned, Tavern Guild considered moving Pride back to June, but chose to leave it in September.

"At the time, it was because it was a little bit cooler in September," Doughman said.

The Dallas Gay Alliance took up the issue several years later. William Waybourn, former president of the DGA, said trying to get the parade moved was a "knock-down-drag-out fight."

Waybourn said members of the Tavern Guild agreed that the weather was better in fall and wanted to keep the event in September. However, Waybourn believes their reasons went further than weather conditions.

"It was more of a commercial decision than a political one," Waybourn said.

For one, Waybourn said Frank Caven, who owned many of the gay bars, did not want to have to juggle with Houston's Pride, which is in June and at the time shared some of the same floats. "It was a way to not have resources spread so thinly between the two cities," Waybourn said.

Doughman, who has been with Dallas Tavern Guild since 1999, said since he has been around the float rumor has never been a factor, and today

Lone Star Parade Float Co. makes most of the floats locally.

Doughman said there have been conversations about moving the parade during his tenure but the members of the board have decided it's better to keep it the same. He said they did not want to compete with the other top cities for Pride since many people come in from out of town — or lose local patrons to other city's pride events. Not to mention having to contend with the top cities for special guest and grand marshal appearances.

Waybourn said when arguing for the change the AIDS epidemic was in full swing and their attention turned toward fighting the pandemic and taking care of the ailing community.

"At the time AIDS was devastating the community, and we had to spend most of our time and resources on that," Waybourn said. "They [the Tavern Guild] do a great job running the event, but it's not a community event."

Lesbian activist Cd Kirven is among those who believe Dallas Pride should be moved back to June.

"I would rather celebrate Pride during June only because it is a result of the Stonewall riots," Kirven said. "I feel Pride in its current state is way too commercial and during a pivotal point in LGBT history — upcoming Supreme Court decisions that we expect any day now — we should pay tribute to those who sacrificed for our free-

doms."

But others who commented on the recent DallasVoice.com poll said Pride should be left in September.

"It may help if instead of seeing September as out of step with the world one considers in Dallas we have so much pride we adopted an additional month for a parade," wrote Pamela Curry. "This gives those of other communities an opportunity to visit Dallas and either participate or just spectate. Moving the parade to June would put it smack in the middle of temps that consistently kiss the century mark. The following event at the park would be miserable."

As far as the weather is concerned, temperatures in September and June are "fairly comparable," according to Kent McGregor, associate geography professor and climatologist at the University of North Texas. Comparing data from the National Weather Service between 1981-2010, June's high temperature averages 91.3 degrees and September at 88.4 degrees, he said.

"Given the number of very hot summers since about 1998, averages then are probably slightly higher," McGregor said.

Waybourn said despite all the arguments and rumors, he is just glad Dallas has a successful Pride celebration. "It doesn't matter when it happens just as long as it happens," he said. "If it was up to me, I'd have gay Pride every day." ■



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■ texasnews

## Fitzsimmons says he won't seek 3rd term

Out district clerk who co-founded Dallas Stonewall Democrats to step down after 2014, but says he may run for another position in the future

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor  
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Dallas County District Clerk Gary Fitzsimmons announced this week that he won't seek re-election to a third four-year term next year.

Fitzsimmons, who's openly gay, has been outspoken on county and court issues, as well as LGBT issues.

"I've been somewhat controversial, and I'm proud of that," he said.

He said he decided last year that he wouldn't run for office again, but wanted to decide before June 30 for fundraising reasons.

"It's one of those things where making a decision and taking action are two different things, but I decided summer of last year," he said. "I've never worked harder in my life, and I think after two terms I have really shaken things up around here and I've really been able to change the face of the judicial progress."

Fitzsimmons' signature project since taking office in 2007 has been his implementation of an electronic filing system. He recalled watching people in his office push around court files in old grocery carts and said it was like "stepping back to 1985." Records have now been digitized in the civil, family and criminal sections.

"Other than Travis County, we're the second county to be able to accomplish that in our civil and family courts," he said. "And we're the only county to have all of our criminal case files digitized."

But he's gotten some pushback with criminal judges since the electronic filing system began in 2010, with many claiming the electronic system has led to missing documents and incomplete files.

More recently, after five pages went missing from a court file sent to the Court of Criminal Appeals, District Judge Larry Mitchell was ordered to hold a hearing about the mistake. The hearing became heated and Fitzsimmons later went on a rant on Facebook about Mitchell's inability to adjust to the electronic system.

Fitzsimmons said mistakes happen with any system and that the criminal judges have always resisted the digital change.

"The criminal courts of Dallas County are mired in antiquated processes. It's not just that it's the digital record keeping, it's everything," he



**STANDING FOR EQUALITY** | Dallas County District Clerk Gary Fitzsimmons, first elected in the 2006 Democratic sweep, has been an outspoken advocate on LGBT issues during his time in office.

said. "Those folks just refuse to change."

Fitzsimmons has also been an advocate for change in the LGBT community, urging the

county to add domestic partner benefits, which went into effect in January under the leadership of County Judge Clay Jenkins.

Jenkins said Fitzsimmons would be remembered for his accomplishments in office and was proud to have him as a supporter.

"Gary is the best District Clerk in Texas. He was an early and strong supporter when I ran and a valued ally after I was elected," Jenkins said. "Along with John Warren, he brought the courthouse into the 21st century and led the state on paperless filing."

Warren, Dallas County clerk, said he was saddened to learn that Fitzsimmons will not serve another term and was proud of the work the two have done with the Texas Supreme Court and the Office of Court Administration to develop appropriate rules and guidelines for the electronic filing mandate.

"Gary's knowledge, passion and work ethic as a district clerk is unmatched in the state of Texas," Warren said. "The relationship we've forged in creating efficiencies in Dallas County is one of the best in the country. ... I will miss him as my district clerk. Regardless of where he lands, he will be successful."

Fitzsimmons is a founding member of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas and has remained active in the group, which has strongly supported him in the past.

Omar Narvaez, Stonewall president, said the organization was proud of his work as district clerk and is glad he announced his decision early, which would allow time for qualified candidates to come forward to replace him.

"Although we're disappointed that Gary is not going to run for a third term, we applaud him in the work that he has done. He has really brought the county forward," he said. "We're very proud of him because he is one of the founding members of Stonewall Democrats and we look forward to seeing what his next venture will be."

Fitzsimmons will spend the next year and a half overseeing an e-filing system in civil courts that begins in January, as well as a criminal case management system.


As for a future office run, Fitzsimmons said he doesn't have "any plan to do so, but it would be fun." Any future run would be for a "purely political office," he said, as opposed to his mostly administrative position now.

He lives in state Rep. Roberto Alonzo's House district. Alonzo is a strong LGBT ally, so he wouldn't challenge him and he doesn't want to move out of Oak Cliff.

While he said it'd be nice to give the LGBT community another out representative in Austin, he said he hopes he's made the local LGBT community proud of him for his advocacy in the courts and in the community.

"I think that public service reflects on the community and that's really important to remember that progress is made when we elect gay and lesbian people and they become civic leaders," Fitzsimmons said. "I hope that the initiatives that I've brought, and even the controversies that I've created and what I really stood for, I hope the LGBT community can be proud of that." ■

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**DAY OF DECISION DRAWS NIGH** | Members of the LGBT community gathered at the Legacy of Love Monument in Oak Lawn on the eve of oral arguments in the two marriage equality cases in March. They will do so again at 7 p.m. on the Day of Decision — whichever day the U.S. Supreme Court announces its rulings in the cases, which is expected to be Monday, Wednesday or Thursday of next week. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

# High court to rule in marriage cases

Experts say next Monday, Thursday are most likely days for justices to hand down historic decisions in cases challenging DOMA, Prop 8

**LISA KEEN** | Keen News Service

The U.S. Supreme Court will release decisions any day now in two high-profile cases involving marriage and same-sex couples. Historically, the court has favored releasing its most controversial decisions on the last day of its October through June session. And in past years, the court released four of its last six gay-related decisions on the last day of the session, which in 2013 will be June 26 or June 27.

While most mainstream media are reporting on the cases as if the court will decide whether gay couples can get married, the stakes are really much higher for LGBT people. The bottom line issue in both cases is whether gay people can have equal protection under the law. Whatever the court rules, it will have enormous impact on the legal and political well-being of LGBT people in every arena for decades to come.

The first opinion likely to be released will concern California's Proposition 8 — an amendment

to the state constitution, approved by voters in 2008, to prohibit the state from issuing or recognizing as valid a marriage license for a same-sex couple. The case is *Hollingsworth v. Perry*.

The second opinion, *U.S. v. Windsor*, asks whether the federal Defense of Marriage Act is constitutional.

Most experts predict that, if the court can clamber over some procedural obstacles to both cases, it will strike down both Prop 8 and DOMA. But there are many variations on how all this might play out.

For instance, in the Prop 8 case, it's possible, notes veteran lesbian law activist Nan Hunter (at [HunterOfJustice.com](http://HunterOfJustice.com)), that the court will find that Yes on 8 has standing to bring the appeal but that the court doesn't want to issue an opinion on the constitutionality of Prop 8. If that happened, wrote Hunter, the 9th Circuit appeals court's decision remains intact and is binding on all nine of the states in its jurisdiction.

Georgetown law professor Martin Lederman noted at least four variations of opinions that could come if the high court finds Yes on 8 does have standing. One of those could declare that states, like California and six others, cannot give same-sex couples civil unions and domestic partnerships in lieu of marriage. (The six other states are Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Nevada, New Jer-

sey and Oregon.)

The court could also uphold Prop 8 as constitutional, strike it as unconstitutional in all 37 states which have such bans, or strike it down only in California.

One of the more limited outcomes would likely happen if the court rules Yes on 8 does not have legal standing to appeal the lower court decisions. The California Supreme Court said Yes on 8 did have standing and the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals agreed.

The 9th Circuit court seemed to agree that denying Yes on 8 the right to appeal amounted to giving state officials veto power over voter-approved initiatives, aka the "democratic process." And key justices, including Justice Anthony Kennedy, have been publicly vocal about their preference that the "democratic process" decide hot-button controversies, not the court.

In the DOMA case, the court could rule on the merits of the federal law's constitutionality or it could find some procedural issue that precludes a ruling on merits. If there's no ruling on the merits, the court could allow the 2nd Circuit court's decision striking down DOMA to stand. But it's hard to imagine the court would be comfortable with allowing DOMA to be enforced in some parts of the country and not others (where federal courts have struck it down). It's the Supreme Court's job,

after all, to step in where there's a conflict among the circuits and states. And if the court doesn't rule on *U.S. v. Windsor*, it will almost certainly accept another DOMA case in which to examine the law's constitutionality.

Even if the court sticks to the more limited actions, the result would be a major leap forward for marriage equality. In the Prop 8 case, just adding California to the list of states with marriage equality pushes to 30 percent the nation's population that would be living in marriage equality states — a huge jump from the 18 percent who live in such states now.

Whatever the Supreme Court does, it will do it sometime before Thursday, June 27, the likely last day of the session. (The court's public information office says the last official day has not yet been decided.) And many believe the results will represent among the most important civil rights decisions in Supreme Court history. They most certainly will be among the most important in LGBT history.

"I'm hopeful the Supreme Court will do the right thing," said Evan Wolfson, head of the national Freedom to Marry. "And clearly, the right answer under the constitution, and for the good of same-sex couples and our country, is to end the denial of freedom to marry nationwide and assure that all marriages are respected equally." ■

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## What is STRIBILD?

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

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

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

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

**STRIBILD can cause serious side effects:**

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

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

### Who should not take STRIBILD?

**Do not take STRIBILD if you:**

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

### What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

**Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:**

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

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

### What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

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

**You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

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





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

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## Patient Information

### STRIBILD™ (STRY-bild)

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

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

### What is STRIBILD?

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

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

#### STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

**1. Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take STRIBILD or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

- feel very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat

**2. Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**

- your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
- dark “tea-colored” urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

**You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time.**

**3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection.** If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.

- Do not run out of STRIBILD. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD is all gone

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

### Who should not take STRIBILD?

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

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

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

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

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

### What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

#### STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

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

**The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:**

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

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

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

**What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?**

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

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

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

- STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works.
- Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
  - Hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc)
  - Antacid medicines that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD
  - Medicines to treat depression, organ transplant rejection, or high blood pressure
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Issued: August 2012



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viewpoints

Pole-dancing, pets, politicians and Pride

It's LGBT Pride Month, and what better way to celebrate the diversity of our community than by giving you a small taste of the diversity of opinions that are out there.

In fact, we're gonna go ahead and make this a regular feature called #IMHO (for those who've been living under a rock, the popular hashtag stands for "In My Humble Opinion"). In #IMHO, we'll relay reader questions, comments and concerns from social media, DallasVoice.com and email — as well as our responses, if warranted. So here goes:

• Speaking of new features, earlier this month we debuted "Dancer of the Month," which consists of several photos and a brief bio of a male entertainer from one of the local clubs. Not surprisingly, a few readers weren't thrilled about the idea.

Mark Clark wrote: "Now that's some fine journalism. Let's perpetuate our overly sexual stereotypes. The majority of these 'dancers' are prostitutes stuck in the cycle of sex/money/drugs. Not cute, Dallas Voice."

Eric Ramsey wrote: "REALLY! We have decayed to this smut in the local gay publication? Doesn't this belong more in BlueBoy? I'm revolted by this being representative of the same poor image that we are crucified for in the mainstream. Why not just call it this issue's Top Hustler and have some truth to the article! I'm sincerely disgusted!"

But our favorite comment came from "Brandon Ballin'allthetime," who wrote: "Uhhh I can see his PEE SLIT. This isn't journalism, this is smut. The content of the article could have been tasteful and the article written with more focus on this young man's goals. Instead the Dallas Voice decided to perpetuate gay stereotypes. Thank you Dallas Voice, nothing says 'we want equality' like pee slits and underwear."

Your concerns are duly noted, but keep in mind that this is a once-a-month feature on our Life+Style blog. When you consider there are at least three gay bars in Dallas devoted primarily to male "pole-dancers," we'd argue we're just reflecting the community's interests, for better or worse. We only wish that in the name of gender equity, we could find some LGBT female entertainers to highlight.

• You may have noticed that our Pet of the Week feature, which appears on Page 10, is no longer technically a Pet of the Week. It's more like a "Pet of Whenever We Have an Advertising Sponsor and/or Sufficient Space." It's also possible that you haven't noticed this change at all, but we're glad somebody did.

Linda Porter wrote in an email last week: "Once again, I am disappointed to see no Pet of the Week. It seems there is not enough puppy



ALL SHOOK UP | Some readers said they were disgusted by our online photo feature that debuted in June, 'Dancer of the Month.' (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

love in the heart of the Voice to find a little 3-by-3 spot for a needy pet. Even if there is no sponsor every week, would it really break the bank to run it anyway? There is plenty of room for ads to run classifieds; couldn't a kitty or doggie sneak in there? Your pet-loving readers miss our guaranteed smile every week."

Trust us, Linda, there is plenty of puppy love around here, and that's not even counting our affection for pets. On any given day, you'll find at least one if not two canines roaming the halls of our offices. Still, your point is well taken, and we hereby resolve to resume publishing a Pet of the Week every week no matter what — unless we absolutely need the space for news, in which case we will

make every effort to at least post it online. By the way, do others have strong feelings about the future of our Pet of the Week feature? If so, feel free to drop us a line.

• Needless to say, many were dismayed over the Dallas City Council's recent handling of an LGBT equality resolution, and some placed the blame squarely on the shoulders of Mayor Mike Rawlings.

Carl Smith wrote: "The Mayor says he won't put the resolution on the agenda because it is a misuse of the council time. Well, look how much time the council has spent on this issue due to his failure to put the resolution on the agenda. If he would have done it, it would be done with and over by now. No folks, the reason he won't put it on the agenda is because he doesn't support

equality. It's that simple."

The equality resolution debacle led to calls for certain council members to be uninvited from participating in the Pride parade in September, which became the subject of our poll question (results below) and generated numerous additional barbs:

Alejandro Thompson wrote: "Only if they carry a banner saying: 'Proud hypocrite!'"

John Myroro wrote: "I suggest a good supply of soft tomatoes be on hand if Rawlings is brazen enough to appear at the pride parade."

And Bobby Natale wrote: "Why were they being allowed to in the first place?!!!"

Great question, Bobby. How about another float with dancers instead?

Got something to say? Find us at DallasVoice.com, Facebook.com/DallasVoice and Twitter.com/DallasVoice.

Speak Out poll

CAST YOUR VOTE ONLINE AT DALLASVOICE.COM

If gay couples are granted federal benefits only in marriage-equality states, will you consider moving?

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Should Dallas City Council members who opposed the equality resolution be allowed to ride in the Pride parade?

- Yes: 12 percent
  - No: 84 percent
  - Unsure: 4 percent
- 248 votes cast



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# On their toes

Bruce Wood puts his dancers through their paces — and they love him all the more for it

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

**BODIES IN MOTION** | Albert Drake, a charter dancer with Bruce Wood Dance Project, specializes in executing the choreographer's outrageous requests, knowing they 'are going to hurt like hell at first.' (Photo courtesy Brian Guillaux)

At 6-foot-3 and 200 pounds, redheaded, freckle-faced 22-year-old Harry Nathan Feril isn't what you'd call a "typical" male dancer. And he knows it.

"It's hard to miss me when I'm next to women who are maybe 100 pounds," Feril concedes.

Nevertheless, Feril seems as comfortable in his skin as more predictable dancers — and that's largely because of the influence of Bruce Wood.

Wood's own body is more typical of the ideal male form for modern dance and ballet, but his great talent as a choreographer is creating unique works that surprise. And often those surprises come from his company itself.

"Being a guy dancer and choreographer, my point of view on guys is very different than, say, a female dancer or choreographer," says Wood of his skill at exploring the beauty two men can create onstage together. "For one, guys can't get away with any shit that I haven't tried myself. And they simply deal with the floor differently, and each other differently. It goes on and on. The idea of what most folks think of as a 'male dancer' versus the reality — exemplified by the dance I did a few months ago [*My Brother's Keeper*] — are very different."

In the new production from the Bruce Wood Dance Project — his second this year, following *My Brother's Keeper* in March — Wood revives one of his most popular pieces, *Red*, revisits his ver-

sion of *Rhapsody in Blue* and debuts a world premiere, *White Rabbit*. And once again, his unique pairings imbue dance with a muscular beauty that resonates with gay audiences in particular.

"There are many interesting and eye-catching facets to duet, the fact that the two dancers are of the same gender is not one of them," says Sean J. Smith, a member of Dallas Black Dance Theater since 2010 but a newcomer to BWDP. "But then again, I am from Canada."

Although he only began dancing with Wood a month ago, Smith's appreciation is long-standing.

"[DBDT] did a piece of his called *Smoke* [in 2010] and Bruce came back to add a new section. I grew fond of his beautiful choreography — and magnetic sarcasm — rather quickly. The only question I ask myself of someone's work is, 'Does this connect with people?' It is obvious what the answer is in regards to Bruce's work."

Feril, who is straight (and, he notes, single), takes a nonchalant approach to Wood's gender-bending pairing.

"Partnering with a man or a woman — doesn't really matter to me either way," he says. "When two men partner together, the possibilities are completely different, the testosterone builds up and each man wants to be the one partnering rather than the one being partnered. Both roles are very important and teach each of the partners true trust, strength and caring. If [a duet] has a lot of

grounded movement or shifting of weight from one to the other, I'd rather have another man on the other side of me catching me!"

Like Wood himself, Albert Drake took up dance late; at 22, he's only began dancing for six years, but has been with BWDP since the beginning. Perhaps that newness is what has made Drake fearless in realizing Wood's vision.

"I think my best strength [as a company member] is being able to do a lot of Bruce's outrageous requests when it comes to new choreography," he says. "We know when it's coming. He has this little smirk on his face and says, 'You're gonna hate me, but I need you to ...' It usually requires something that's going to hurt like hell at first, but I can handle it. My smaller stature and strength allows me to be his test dummy for the day."

Feril feels similarly devoted to executing Wood's ideas. He first met Wood while attending Booker T. Washington High School, and says that experience was transformative. "I wanted to dance for Bruce; everything he said just clicked and made perfect sense. I can honestly say that Bruce Wood has shaped me into the man I am today, and without him in my life I wouldn't be the strong male dancer from Grand Prairie that I am proud to say I am."

The dancers are just as moved being in a BWDP production as audiences are seeing it.

"His understanding of phrasing and rhythm is overwhelmingly apparent," Smith says. "The way I feel watching his work is remi-

## BRUCE WOOD: RED+2

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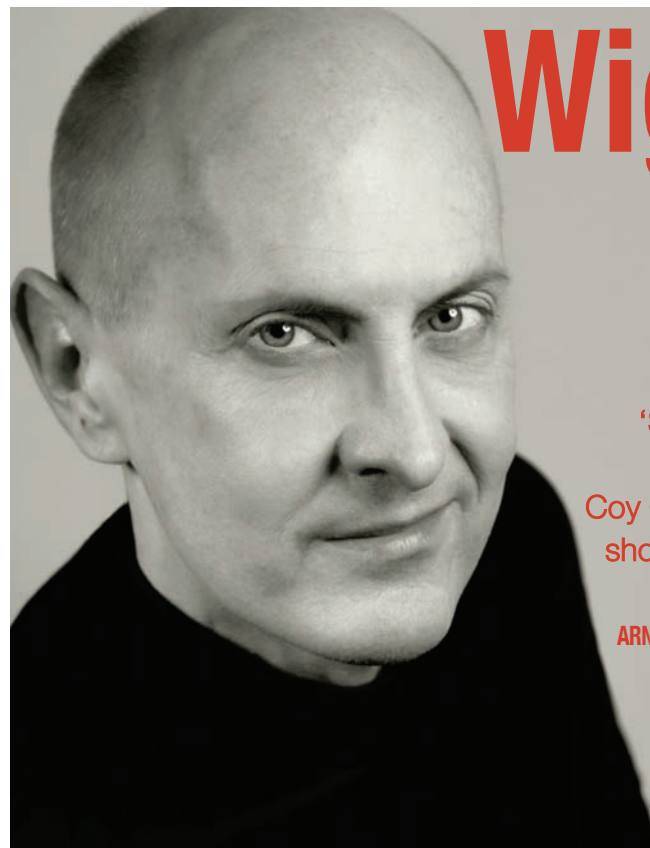
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# Wigging out

As he prepares to direct  
'Songs for a New World,'  
peripatetic theater pro  
Coy Covington reflects on 50  
shows with Uptown Players

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

Coy Covington is a man of many wigs ... er, hats. Virtually no one has a more varied theater career in Dallas.

By day, he's on staff at Dallas Children's Theater, making the stage safe for the young and the fabulous. By night — at least lately — he's directing *Songs for a New World*, the chamber musical for Uptown Players that opens Friday. And that doesn't account for a quarter of what he does in the name of show business.

We caught up with Covington in a rare moment away from the footlights to get the skinny on his peripatetic skills.

**Dallas Voice: How many shows have you directed over the years?**

Covington: Who knows? I don't direct very often anymore.

With my diminishing mental bandwidth, it takes about a year to prepare and a year to recover. My most recent shows have all been with Uptown Players, including the Paul Rudnick comedy *Regrets Only* and a world premiere musical for our inaugural Pride Festival. (I'll be damned. I can't remember the name of it.) I've also directed locally for ICT MainStage, Pegasus Theatre and Contemporary Theatre of Dallas.

**Musicals would seem to be a good fit for you.**

**Any favorites?** Yes, I've directed quite a few, my favorites being *Pageant* and *Zanna, Don't!* — both for Uptown, and both decidedly gay.

**You've mentioned Uptown quite a lot already, but it's not just directing you do for them ...**

I've worn a bunch of bonnets for Uptown: actor, director, wig and hair designer, make-up designer, co-costume designer and stylist and artistic associate (reading and consulting on plays and season selection). I've also been known to scour the occasional restroom. There's something about a really clean toilet that makes you feel good about yourself.

**Uh-huh. That's a long tenure in any rate.** I started with Uptown when I showed up on their doorstep

### SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD

Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636  
Turtle Creek Blvd. June 21–July 7.  
UptownPlayers.org.

determined to be in *Ruthless!* Like an especially viscous STD, I'm tough to shake. *Songs for a New World* is my 50th production with the company.

**Wow! So what are the challenges of directing insofar as they relate to the other functions within theater you've become adept at?**

Directing has so many components. Did you know people ask questions? ... And you're supposed to form thoughtful, intelligent answers to them? One major difference is that as director, it's your vision and you are the one telling people what to do, whereas as an actor, you're being told what to do. With design, you rely on your own creativity but must work in collaboration with the director and other designers. But there are challenges in every spoke of the theatrical wheel. Like last summer, when I was doing wigs for *The Producers*: The rental package we bought supposedly came with wigs. They came, all right — in a congealed morass of hairspray, sweat and other suspect fluids. It took me six hours to transform the wig for Swedish bombshell Ulla into something that did not inspire horror and gagging. In all, there were over 60 wigs in the show. Never again!

Another pitfall of directing: There's always the dreaded chance of being felled by illness. Just as we were going into tech week, I was hit by a vio-

**THE COY** | Covington, above, as he appears out of costume; opposite, the Amanda Bynes-ish Ulla wig as it arrived for 'The Producers' and after, once Covington had worked his magic. (Photos courtesy Mark Orisitano and Coy Covington)



lent bronchitis that devolved into laryngitis. Directing without speech, kinda tough. I ended up having to mime my notes. And everyone hates mime.

**Even by day, you're involved in theater.** Yes, the multiple hat-trick continues with my day job. I work on the executive staff at Dallas Children's and among my wildly eclectic duties is assisting [DCT artistic director] Robyn Flatt. And since she is involved in every aspect of running the theater, she wears all the hats. She's the Mad-Hatter, I just try not to be Tweedle Dum.

**You act, of course, and are best known for your drag roles, like last year's *The Divine Sister*.**

**Any differences in male/female roles?** Acting is acting. The only difference is the shoes.

**Which do you prefer?** I enjoy any role that renders me unrecognizable.

**What drew you to want to direct *Songs for a New World*?** I was attracted to the opportunity to take the expected and imbue some of the songs with a new perspective that I think will resonate with Uptown's audience base. I think I've found creative ways of dusting off Jason Robert Brown's material to make it more relevant and fresh ... and, yes, more gay — but not gratuitously so. And I hit the jackpot with cast, the creative team (including BJ Cleveland as stage manager!), crew and the entire company. It is turning out to be a good, fun and interesting experience. We maintain the musical integrity of the show. Another plus? No wigs!

■ **TOES**, From Page 32

niscent of the way I felt watching Disney's *Fantasia* as a child. It's just the most beautiful visual depiction of the music beyond imagination."

Adds Feril: "What I like most about Bruce's work is that it connects with every living being, and it's a community at work — never one sole individual but a well powered machine."

Drake has his own take on why Wood's choreography engenders such devotion.

"What I like the most about Bruce's work is that I never know what's going to happen!" he says. "His vision is uniquely his own, and therefore, it isn't until the entire work is completed that the veil to his brain is presented. It takes quite a bit of focus to keep up with him. Phrasing is constantly changing; ideas are constantly changing; unnecessary spectacles are tossed out. And when it comes to the end of that process, we're left with this clear represen-



**MAN TO MAN** | Bruce Wood, rear, works out moves with dancers Albert Drake, back, and Ben Needham-Wood, front. (Photo courtesy Brian Guillaux)

tation of human emotions and qualities. I love it." ■



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L+S music



# Deeper shade of 'Pale'

John Grant's sophomore CD  
'Pale Green Ghosts' brilliantly  
speaks to what 40something  
gay men have on their minds



**RICH LOPEZ** | Contributing Writer  
getrichindallas@gmail.com

Some albums you simply listen to; but others need unpacking. Their gratification seeps in by osmosis rather than striking fast, grabbing your ear with a catchy hook. After the unpacking, you sit in silence thinking about what you just heard, rolling it over again and again.

That's the experience John Grant delivers on his second full-length CD, *Pale Green Ghosts*, which may be the greatest gay album of all time.

That's a bold statement, but hard won. Grant's figurative voice is that of a 43-year-old gay man who shuns abstraction, turning instead to brutal honesty. He basks in middle-age, and the wisdom that comes with it. In *Ghosts*, his frankness is mind-blowing — sometimes bitter to swallow but always poetic. He sings about himself but his perspective is on the pulse of what gay men ex-

perience.

Grant's second solo effort is a far cry from his acclaimed *Queen of Denmark*, which was recorded in Texas with Denton band Midlake. But it's still Grant's unique voice. He leans to the electronic a bit with a pulsing texture to the opening title track. The result is a hypnotic beat that earworms in without complaint.

His biographical tale about driving to Denver clubs from his small town is as dark as those late night roads. He goes in for the kill with "Black Belt," which, along with "Sensitive New Age Guy," is the closest bit to a club tune on here. He calls out artificial queens for their shallow 'tudes with *you are supercilious, pretty and ridiculous / you got really good taste / you know how to cut and paste. Oh, snap!* But what makes the song worth every-

**SUPERNATURALLY GOOD** | Gay recording artist John Grant's second album addresses his HIV status as well as other demons in a haunting way.

thing is the rare (if not absolutely unique) use of “Callipygian” in his lyrics. (Look it up.)

Grant admits feelings that can't be easy to put on paper let alone set to music. But he fearlessly reflects much of what likely any gay man has felt at some point. His insecurity in relationships is astonishingly painful when he sings *the knowledge that I can't be what you need / is cutting off my air supply* in “Why Don't You Love Me Anymore?” In “It Doesn't Matter To Him,” Grant can recognize his personal triumphs but they all get trumped when he *got himself evicted / from his heart from one day to the next*. These are potent feelings, and while they might sound like Debbie Downer, the delivery is authentic and not overly sad, playing as philosophical and pensive. Then he has the glorious audacity to compare his troubled relationship to the war in Vietnam. Blasphemous? Perhaps, but also brilliant.

He turns that examination inward in “GMF” (for “Greatest Motherfucker”). Think Simon and Garfunkel with more balls; this dreamy poem straddles the line of tongue in



**PALE GREEN GHOSTS**  
John Grant  
Partisan

cheek and eccentric truth. Grant recognizes he can get full of himself when he sings *I'm usually only waiting / for you to stop talking so that I can / concerning two-way streets / I have to say that I am not a fan*. This is the first of four tracks Sinead O' Connor guests on as backing vocals.

Perhaps *Ghosts'* most poignant revelation comes when Grant opens up about his HIV status. He eschews going weepy—“Philadelphia,” refusing to victimize himself. In “Ernest Borgnine,” he recognizes *you don't need to panic now / you got time to do that later*. And in the breathtaking closer “Glacier,” he rises above judgment and stigma to sing about his silver lining. He even adds a touch of defiance by standing up for himself against a divine piano coda.

Grant burrows deep while working through his own issues in *Pale Green Ghosts*. It reminds why the complete concept album is becoming a lost art. The chapters here have humor, sadness, pain and irreverence that are the same as daily life and the overall package is nothing short of spectacular. Grant didn't just release disc; he gifted up with an instant classic. ■

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### The sacred and the profane Morrison flatlines, Ainsworth glows

American standards and Broadway showtunes have their place in the music continuum, their remarkable virtue being timelessness: Sondheim, Porter, Lerner and Loewe — these guys knew how to write a song. But when they're overdone ...? And boy, are they ever on Matthew Morrison's *Where It All Began* (222 Records).

In this very uninspired disc, the *Glee* star claims to pay tribute to his theater roots with a collection of classics. Only he culled them from the same list everyone else uses. We get *blah* choices like “Luck Be a Lady” (recorded by Dee Snider last year), “The Lady is a Tramp” (recorded by Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga in 2011) and a *West Side Story* medley (as recorded by ... oh, everybody).

Unfortunately, Morrison doesn't possess the personality to match the songs, so when he opens with “Singin' in the Rain,” his voice, while smooth, is also the equivalent of stock photography. (Even his cover art is cheesier than a Wisconsin dairy.)

It becomes painful when his vanilla voice attempts to diversify his track list by covering *The Wiz's* “Ease on Down the Road” with Smokey Robinson. Perhaps it was a show he could never get cast in (I wonder why?), but in what's the most exciting selection of the dozen tracks, it's better served as an instrument of torture. Stick to the Bennetts and Streisands for classic tunes; this only leaves you asking “why?”

Half star

Morrison may be a TV and Broadway vet, but he could get seriously schooled by a local gal. Dallas crooner Laura Ainsworth steps out of the cabaret and back into the recording studio with her delightful new CD, the snazzy and jazzy *Necessary Evil* (Eclectus Records). She can deliver sultry in simple fashion, but the kind that recalls big band clubs in many a black-and-white film airing on TCM. The production value is easy here, but it's magically transporting to an era far gone.



But what matters most here is that Ainsworth sings with heart (one place Morrison could take a lesson from her). She opts for deep cuts like Rodgers and Hammerstein's “The Gentleman is a Dope,” and Johnny Mercer's “Out of this World.” While not obscure tunes, she doesn't go for the obvious (a glorious flip side to Morrison's CD).

For the uninitiated she can be an acquired taste, but for patient listeners, these 12 tracks play like a dream. Even when Ainsworth lacks finesse (as on the awkward “Get Out and Get Under the Moon”) the results are nonetheless charming and genuine. She doesn't sing like a diva, but like a character living in the middle of the music.

Three stars

— R.L.



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# Tasting notes

Disco weekend at the St. Germain, a vegan beer dinner and your chance to show Absolut Pride

**Absolut Vodka** has been holding a nationwide bottle design contest to coincide with Pride Month, though since Dallas Pride isn't until September, a lot of locals don't know about it. That's too bad, since several local artists have works in the running, including ilume Gallerie director **Ronald Radwanski**, **Nick C. Kirk** and **Clint Mordecai**. Mordecai's design is currently No. 7 nationwide, but he (and the others) need your assistance with votes. Log onto [Facebook.com/AbsolutUS](https://www.facebook.com/AbsolutUS) and you can make your voice heard.

The **Hotel St. Germain** — for my money, hands-down the finest restaurant in Dallas — celebrates the disco era with its **'70s Retro Weekend**, starting Friday. You can enjoy special accommodations with its *Hotel California* suite specials all weekend, attend the *French Connection* cocktail and champagne bar on Friday and attend the retro wine dinner from chef **Chad Martin** on Saturday for only \$95/person. Follow that up with a Watergate brunch Sunday

(just \$25). Visit [HotelStGermain.com](http://HotelStGermain.com) for more details.

**Jack's Southern Comfort Food**, restaurateur **Scott Jones'** Lower Greenville eatery, is looking for a new home along Greenville where parking is more plentiful. It hopes to stay but may jog it over to Deep Ellum, the up-and-coming Henderson Avenue or even Downtown. For now, you can enjoy its down-home cookin' in the same place until July 28.

Nearby, the **Libertine Bar** on Greenville will be offering a vegan beer dinner on June 26. Vegetarian dishes will be paired with a variety of brews. The cost is \$55/person.

Wanna eat out, but hate to leave your dog at home? **Mutts**, which opened this week at Cityplace, is the solution: A full-service restaurant and bar combined with a dog park. It'll be open daily from breakfast through dinner. Visit [MuttsCantina.com](http://MuttsCantina.com) for more information.

The June "burger of the month" at **Twisted Root Burger Co.** is "the Italian Job," topped with ricotta and prosciutto. Speaking of beef, the same people who brought us the **North Texas Taco Festival** (including Dallas Voice past contributor Jose Ralat Maldonado) are working their magic again with the inaugural **BurgerFest**. It comes to Deep Ellum on Sept. 21. Learn more about the event at [Burgerfest-Dallas.com](http://Burgerfest-Dallas.com).

— Arnold Wayne Jones



**ABSOLUT PRIDE** | Several local artists, including Clint Mordecai, above, are in the running for a nationwide contest to design the gayest bottle of vodka; newly opened Mutts serves comfort food, left, to dogs and humans.

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# Drive-by tasting

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## Crimson Asian Cuisine

Although it uses the term “Asian” in its official name, Crimson Asian Cuisine — on the stepchild side of the West Village complex, at the northeast corner of McKinney and Blackburn — takes most of its cues from Vietnamese cooking. It specializes in bahn mi (street sandwiches) and offers pho (a traditional rich soup of sprouts and noodles with beef or pork, usually), always identified with Vietnam. But, like its spiritual brothers — the more fast-foody Pei Wei and the more upscale P.F. Chang’s — Crimson magpies together several national dishes (from Korean barbecue to Thai tea) to create its quilt-like cuisine.

But on this particular day, I was in the mood for Chinese, and — still miffed that Lovers Egg Roll had closed its Lemmon location — figured it was time to give Crimson (which launched a new menu for 2013) a shot.

With warm weather upon us, dining on the patio to people-watch seemed like a natural, though the interior is attractive and earthy if not dazzling. But this was lunch, where speed is at least as important as atmosphere.

An app seemed in order. The cherry blossom wontons (\$5) probably derive their name mostly from the glutinous jiggle of sauce that I suspect doubles for the house sweet-and-sour glaze. The wontons themselves are the size of magnolia blooms, four to a serving and browned crisp. What distinguishes these from, say, the similar cheese rangoons is the presence of a bulb of “ground shrimp and pork,” though pork should probably be listed first based on flavor dominance as well as color.

The fried dough is rigid, the wontons large, so

popping one into your mouth in a single bite is out of the question. That mandated pulling them apart like an oyster shell, revealing the pearl of protein at the bottom. I folded back the wings of the blossom to dip them in the cherry-colored sauce, which imparts more moisture than flavor. Still, as a fast-casual app, they are serviceable — at least I ate them all. (I was less impressed by the iced tea, made from green tea leaves and with a flavor less conducive to icing than traditional black tea.)

Before my entree arrived, my waitress, who was always smiling and curious about making sure I was enjoying myself, brought out a bowl of yellowish broth with scallions (and nothing else) floating around in it. “It comes with the meal,” she explained. But not even tofu in it?

It mattered not. The soup was refreshingly savory (perhaps accented by fish oil) and primed the pump for my main course.

The sun-kissed beef (really, just orange beef with a gimmicky name; I’m not sure the idea of meat being left out in the sun makes me more confident in its freshness) was fully flavored with orange rind and peppers, grilled crispy without being overdone. There was some complexity here, with a beautiful dome of white rice on the side.

The portion was generous — perhaps too much so, given the wontons. My waitress didn’t even offer dessert; it was clear I’d had a filling meal. My ticket was delivered and returned in record time, for a quick, satisfying and relaxing stop at the trough. Maybe next time I’ll explore deeper into the Orient. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

**SUN-KISSED DELIGHT** | Ignore Crimson Asian Cuisine’s gimmicky name for orange beef and instead enjoy the heat-and-sweet from the savory recipe. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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# Summer reading

Time to sit by the pool and consume some of these gay-interest titles

## Truth to tell

In *Let's Explore Diabetes With Owls* (Little, Brown 2013), beloved gay humorist and monologist David Sedaris once again employs his specific brand of storytelling to regale the reader with deliriously funny tales from his childhood, adolescence and adulthood.

**Man Up!: Tales of My Delusional Self-Confidence** (Grand Central Publishing 2013) by Ross Mathews, featuring a foreword by Gwyneth Paltrow and an afterword by Chelsea Handler, follows small town gay boy Mathews as he became known as Ross The Intern on *The*



*Tonight Show with Jay Leno* to where he is today, rubbing shoulders with celebs from all walks of life.

Gay metal god Rob Halford of Judas Priest wrote the afterword for **Louder Than Hell: The Definitive Oral History of Metal** (It Books 2013) by Jon Wiederhorn & Kathleen Turman. The lengthy cast of characters in this massive (700 pages) tome includes Sharon and Muzzy Osbourne, Trent Reznor, Cynthia Plastercaster, gay author Chuck Palahniuk, Henry Rollins and David Draiman (of Disturbed), although lesbian metal artist Otep (Shamaya) is conspicuously absent.

Subtitled "A Gay Melodrama in 13 Acts," **A Short Jew in the Body of a Tall W.A.S.P.** (Dog Ear 2013) by Mark Okun and Hillary Brower, follows celeb hair stylist Okun's journey of self-discovery and love as a gay man, beginning in 1960s Syracuse to the present day Fire Island Pines and many stops in between.

From the For Beginners series comes **Gender & Sexuality For Beginners** (For Beginners 2013) by Jaimee Garbacz, with illustrations by Jeffrey Lewis. The eight detailed chapters set out to answer questions about the meaning of "queer," moving beyond "the boundaries of binary descriptions of gender and orientation" and how to approach orientation as gender categories come into question, among other hot topics related to gender and sexuality.



Prolific and award-winning gay writer David Leddick returns with **The Beauty of Men Never Dies** (Terrace Books 2013), a short "autobiographical novel" about being gay and being in love in the 1970s, following the narrator's travels to Montivideo, New York and Paris.

Comedian/actress Julia Sweeney wrote the essays in her delightful and insightful memoir **If It's Not One Thing, It's Your Mother** (Simon & Schuster 2013), while her daughter and husband were away and she was home alone. A humorous and heart-warming book about motherhood, family, friendships (some of Sweeney's queer friends get shout-outs), pets, missing family and "passing through life together in a big, giving, frightening, unpredictable, beautiful, luxurious, breathy world."



## Cravings

The final book under their "common name," **To Eat: A Country Life** (FSG 2013) by Joe Eck and the late Wayne Winterrowd takes readers from the gay couple's garden to the kitchen in a celebration of fruits and vegetables, as well as cows, pigs and old hens.

Addressing "the need for sustenance," **Autobiography of My Hungers** (University of Wisconsin Press 2013) by Rigoberto Gonzalez, author of the acclaimed *Butterfly Boy: Memories of a Chicano Mariposa*, continues flexing his memoir muscles in this slim volume.

Gay comedian/author Frank DeCaro (*A Boy Named Phyllis*) compiled more than 100 (!) appetizers, main courses and desserts in **The Dead Celebrity Cookbook** (Health Communications Inc., 2012). Featuring recipes by deceased celebs that hadn't officially come out of the pantry, including Merv Griffin, Cesar Romero, Katharine Hepburn and Agnes Moorehead, to kitchen queens such as Paul Lynde, Rock Hudson, Roddy McDowall, Wayland Flowers, Peter Allen and Klaus Nomi and numerous others, *The Dead Celebrity Cookbook* is as entertaining as it is appetizing.

## Writers on writers

Gay poet and novelist Glenway Wescott's **A Heaven of Words: Last Journals 1956-1984** (University of Wisconsin 2013), edited and with an introduction by Wescott biographer Jerry Rosco, brings readers to the end of the Wisconsin-born writer's remarkable life. The pages come to vivid life as Wescott and his partner, Monroe Wheeler,

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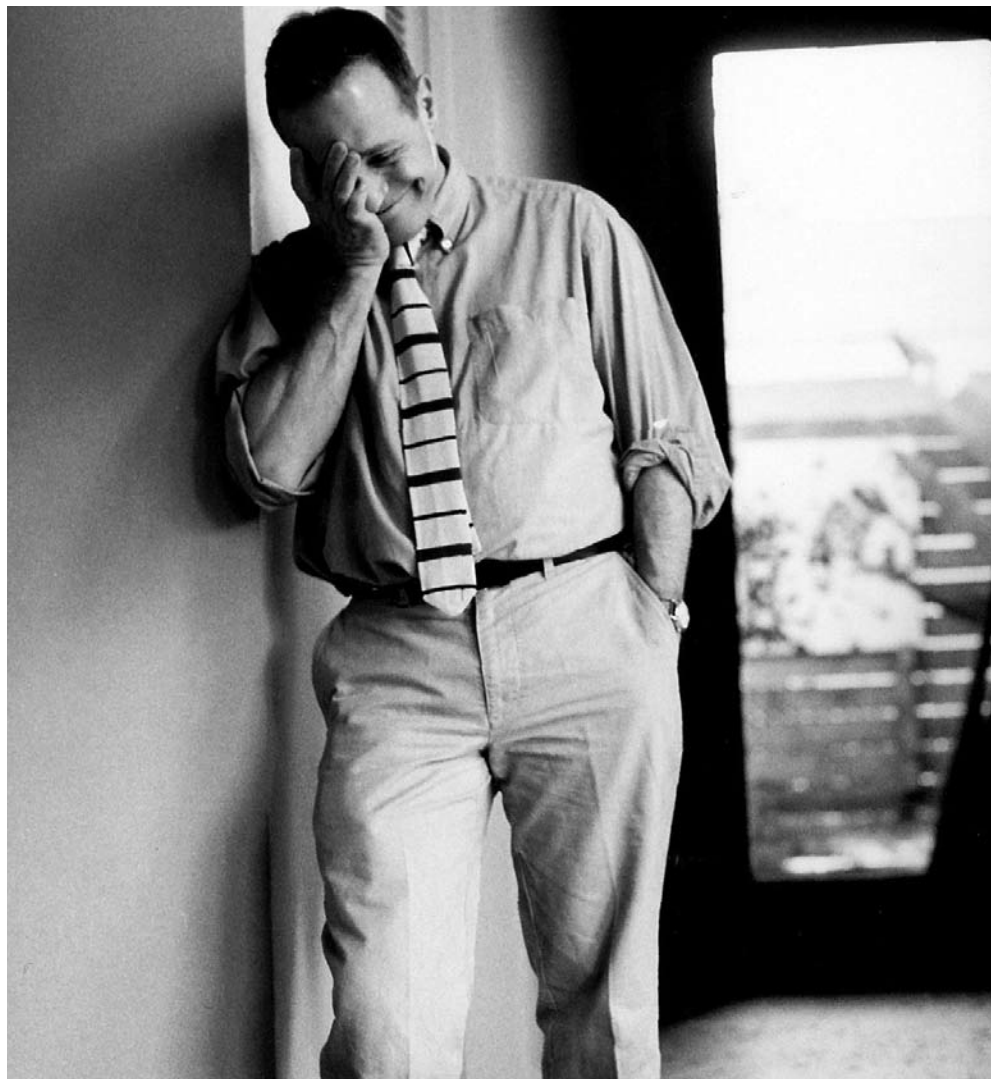
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**SWEET SMELL OF EXCESS** | Queer essayist and professional crank David Sedaris just published his latest comic memoir, 'Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls.'

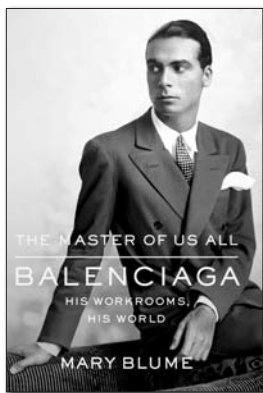
socialized with Christopher Isherwood, Paul Cadmus, George Platt Lynes, Truman Capote, W.H. Auden, Colette, Jean Cocteau and many more influential artists and creative people of the 20th century.

Subtitled "Family, Sexuality and the Cuban Revolution," **Becoming Reinaldo Arenas** (Duke 2013) by Jorge Oliveras examines the life and career of the late gay Cuban writer Arenas (portrayed by Javier Bardem in the film *Before Night Falls*), who endured various hardships, including the Mariel boatlift and an AIDS diagnosis, before dying in 1990.

A new bilingual edition of gay poet Federico Garcia Lorca's **Poet In New York** (FSG 2013), which includes "Ode to Walt Whitman," edited and with an introduction by Lorca scholar Christopher Maurer and translated by Greg Simon and Steven F. White, is the ideal book of poetry for the summer of 2013.

#### Fashion statements

Spanish fashion designer Cristóbal Balenciaga was described by fellow designer Christian Dior as "the master of us all," a term that inspired Mary Blume's fitting (ahem) biography



of the acclaimed couturier, **The Master of Us All: Balenciaga, His Workrooms, His World** (FSG 2013).

Based on her 2010 *Vanity Fair* article "The Suspects Wore Louboutins," the book **The Bling Ring** (!t Books 2013) is also the basis of the upcoming Sofia Coppola movie of the same name.

#### Political action

**Irresistible Revolution: Confronting Race, Class and the Assumptions of LGBT Politics** (Magnus Books 2012), the third book by queer activist and community organizer Urvasi Vaid (who is also the longtime partner of comedian Kate Clinton) is a "strategic and informed argument" regarding "limited political vision" and the purpose of an agenda encompassing and moving beyond equality.

Entrepreneur and public speaker Juan Aho-nen-Jover, Ph.D. is the author of the guidebook **The Gay Agenda 2013: All In** (CreateSpace 2013), which is described as "an indispensable guide for those who want to achieve full legal equality as promised in the United States Constitution."

Based on his experiences at super-conservative Bob Jones University, former U.S. Marine and gay porn star writer Rich Merritt's new novel **Spiritual Probation** (self-published) sets out to set the record straight on religious fundamentalism.

—Gregg Shapiro

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# Mix master

Mikey Nguyen shows off his mixing skills in Palm Springs



Earlier this year, TMC mixologist Mikey Nguyen was the clear favorite in our annual Readers Voice Awards poll in the category best local bartender. Well, turns out he's *not just* the best *local* bartender — he may be the best in the nation.

Nguyen was one of the contestants invited to the Round-Up Saloon in May for the annual Palm Springs Cocktail Challenge, which seeks to find the best beverage in the country — and the best at making it. From the local pool, Nguyen's recipes qualified him to go to the desert oasis late last month to compete against 13 other regional winners for the title. And he won.

"I was No. 4 in the lineup, and I really thought I lost — the other bartenders were amazing!" Nguyen reports.

The grand finale took place at Palm Springs' Hunters Nightclub on May 30. Nguyen offered up a variation of his popular "rainbow shot" (wherein, through the magic of alcoholic alchemy, he pours a range of colorful shots all at once out of a single shaker.

"I made the Palm-Dick-Ulous Pride," Nguyen explains. "The drink has a base flavor of fruit cocktail but each drink has its own unique twist and a different color."

And because showmanship matters as much as taste, he gave them a show. That's what won Nguyen the commemorative martini trophy as well as a basket of goodies from Stoli — in addition to the bragging rights as "grand finale winner."

So what was the hardest part about making the cocktail? Probably not what you think.

"The ice in Palm Springs melts really fast," he says. "I had to keep pouring out the melted ice and refilling the glasses until the judges were ready to see me make the drink. Palm Springs is *really* hot ... beautiful, but *hot!*"

— Arnold Wayne Jones

**POUR MAN** | Mikey Nguyen, right, already Dallas Voice readers' favorite bartender, now is the nation's best with a dazzling 'rainbow' cocktail, left, which he took to a national contest in Palm Springs.



# NATIONAL HIV TESTING DAY

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3) To remind everyone that National HIV Testing Day is as much about reducing stigma as it is about getting tested.

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# Mover & shaker

Lesbian entrepreneur Francey Beall hauls ass — and a whole lot more

If you've moved in Dallas in the past 18 years, you may know Francey Beall. As a former owner of Two Men and a Truck (and now owner of Fantastic Moves), she's hauled a lot of furniture. But in a previous career, she was better known for hauling ass: Beall dove face-first into airbags — *not* in an automobile but as a stuntwoman for a German TV mini-series called *Miller and Mueler*, a *Cagney & Lacey*-esque cop show.

"I was free and single, with no responsibilities — it was a lot of fun," Beall says. "I always loved the movies and this way I got to learn the back side of it." (After a year, she left to protect her own backside.)

Stunt work was just one step in a varied career that included sports (she was a power forward for the Texas A&M women's basketball team, where she was on scholarship) and finance (she worked for Solomon Brothers brokerage firm as an analyst ("I asked why they hired me and they said it was because they knew I was a lesbian and I would liven up the office," she says).

Beall, however, was never happy in heels and hose, stashed behind a desk. So she traded in her

skirt for a shirt that said By George, a popular restaurant on Lower Greenville where she rose to a position as floor manager. As the restaurant blossomed, Beall discovered her own passion: helping people.

After the restaurant closed, Beall channeled her customer service discipline into a new opportunity: Two Men and a Truck.

Initially, she was just supposed to help out "a friend of a friend" with marketing; but one day when a mover didn't show up, she strapped on a support belt and helped out with the move itself.

Beall has been on the move ever since, becoming an owner within three years. And she attributes her success to simple policies.

"We hired nice guys, had nice trucks, paid well and the customers started finding us," she says.

Two years ago, Beall sold her Two Men and a Truck brand to another interest and started a new company, Fantastic Moves.

"The gay community has been instrumental in getting us going because it is the most loyal community you can have," she says. "We tapped into it and we appreciated it and have donated so



**HONORING MOM** | Fantastic Moves owner Francey Beall poses next to the rig named in honor of her mother, Anna Ruth — a distinction she also bestows on many of the drivers for her company.

much back to the community." (Beall contributes her services to silent auctions for the Turtle Creek Chorale, The Women's Chorus of Dallas, the Black Tie Dinner and other nonprofits.) Beall estimates that 30 percent of her business is from gay clientele.

With the transition to Fantastic Moves, one of the first orders of business was to paint the names of the drivers' mothers on the door of

their truck (based on seniority). "These guys are incredible leaders and we wanted to honor them."

As an entrepreneur, Beall has transitioned a passion for helping into a vocation of moving. The first name that went on the first truck? Anna Ruth, Beall's mom. After all, you always open the door for your mom.

— Sarah Denise Morgan



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# Sometimes a GREAT lotion

**SOAKED IN BEAU TYE**  
Tye Shirley makes morning primping a joy. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

Gay entrepreneur Tye Shirley turned his skin sensitivity into a line of organic cosmetics

**J. DENTON BRICKER** | Contributing Writer  
dentonbricker@gmail.com

Gay men love to primp, and Tye Shirley is no exception. And like most average Americans, he used to expose himself to more than 200 chemicals before he walked out the door every morning, from shampoo to deodorant to cologne.

Only Shirley didn't react well to those products, due to sensitive skin allergies. That's why, when he was in college, Shirley started making bar soap for himself, his friends, family and partner Mark.

"I was allergic to pretty much everything available," he says. "I was just a blotchy red mess from all these soap and detergents I was using. Even the products that were hypoallergenic didn't really do anything for me so I started experimenting, trying to create something that would work for my own skin. Having a nerdy interest in science, cooking and beauty, I started doing research and discovered recipes that would work for me."

That was the germ of Beau Tye, Shirley's line of handmade, all-natural cosmetics for sensitive skin. The real jumping off point for the company, however, came when a close friend asked him to create customized soaps for his annual Christmas party. ("He was tired of giving out poinsettias," Shirley notes.) The friend's staff loved them and wanted to know where they could get more.

"[That's when I knew] I needed to take this to the next level," he recalls.

His first foray was selling soaps at farmers' markets, which led to a first production space and expansion of distribution. And while the line has expanded to lotions and other products, soaps are still the core item. The six most popular scents are leather (!?), lemon verbena, lavender, dragon's blood, honey almond oat and eucalyptus mint, but it's what's *not* in the soaps that makes them stand out.

"There is no petroleum in any of our products," Shirley says. "If you look at the top 80 percent of ingredients in most commercial products, most of the ingredients are petroleum-based or synthetic, manmade chemicals. Most of them can be linked to cancer, autoimmune toxicity allergies, skin sensitivity and other ailments and problems."

Three members of Shirley's immediate family have suffered cancer due to of petroleum exposure, so he has an especially strong aversion to such products touching his skin.

"Mineral oil is a byproduct of gasoline production, and often times ends up in the top two ingredients of commercial products," he says. "It is more expensive for petroleum companies to dispose of than to give to the cosmetic industry who use it to bulk up the [formula]."

The base of Beau Tye soaps is 70 percent olive oil — a safe, natural and effective skin moisturizer. Shirley likes to say if you wouldn't consume something, why would you put it on your skin

... though he's not suggesting anyone to take a bite out of his bars.

"Your skin is the largest organ of your body. We use more than 15 types of oils and the reason is because all of the different nut and vegetable oils soak into the skin at contrasting rates. Some have small molecules and soak into the skin rapidly while others take a bit of time. This way some can immediately penetrate and hydrate whereas others serve as a protective barrier," Shirley says.

It was a natural step to expand the line — with all-natural products, it's an easy transition from soaps into lotions, lip balms, body powder and even candles.

"It only made sense to utilize those same ingredients purchased in bulk to create a larger line of products to maximize your beauty regimen: Cleansing, toning, moisturizing, and protecting the skin. You can't just stop at cleansing," he says.

Many items were inspired by Shirley's friends and family. For instance, Save Your Sole foot and heel balm came about from a friend in Chicago who asked him to create an ultra-hydrating product that would protect her feet against the harshness of Midwestern winters; customers who expressed an inability to find a body powder that didn't smell feminine or contain talc triggered the invention of Beau Legged body powder, a neutral, lightweight powder that

wicks away moisture, prevents chafing and absorbs three times its weight (perfect for the avid cyclist or jogger in humid Dallas).

"We don't try to sell things to people — we have customers that try to sell us on what to make for them," Shirley explains. "The natural market is really narrow when it comes to quality products because everyone tries to get away with filler. We're big enough to compete with other soap competitors, but we are small enough to customize and we will take the time to design something unique for you. We've had requests from dude ranches to hotels from Dubai."

Shirley is even able to leverage his day job as a full-time flight attendant for Southwest Airlines to benefit his sideline — and keep his hectic life sane.

"Every time I go on a flight, I take samples and pass them out to passengers, pilots and fellow crew members," he says. "I have discussions with people all across the country about Beau Tye and why I believe in them. I enjoy traveling and find it brings a lot of inspiration to the creative process. For instance, when I go to Charleston and walk down the jasmine-perfumed streets, it can lead to creating a product that reproduces the sensation. A lot of my exposures to different scents, botanicals and herbs come from my travels."

You can see the entire product line by visiting [MyBeauTye.com](http://MyBeauTye.com).

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L+S advice

# Ask How to do what's wrong right Howard

HOWARD LEWIS RUSSELL | Special Contributor  
askhoward@dallasvoice.com

Dear Howard,

Me and my boyfriend have been together for six years. We're supposed to be monogamous, but instead I'd call the current state of our relationship something more like monogamish. I travel a lot, and we're sort of at that stage now of demise where it's, "Ask me no questions and I'll tell you no lies." Oh, and my boyfriend's poz; I'm not. He's strictly bottom; I'm totally a top — or, to be accurate, I'm *only* a top to my boyfriend. My question is: Should I *insist* when I'm out of town for work that my boyfriend be 100 percent faithful to me, Mr. Howard, even though he more or less knows that, when on the road, I'm not being so with him? — Daniel

Dear Dan,

"Me and my boyfriend . . . ?" Seriously, Daniel, *this* is the grammatical-perversion-point which we're starting your question off from?

In any case, just so that "Mr. Howard" here fully understands that *me* and you are, both, on the same page, what you're asking is whether or not it's OK for you to cheat as a *bottom* behind your boyfriend's back whenever you're traveling.

Naturally, my sneaky man, Cardinal Howard here passes no moral judgment. I'm hardly the Pope, after all; nevertheless, to insist your boyfriend stay faithful while you are being plowed out on the road by just anything that squirts, does seem (on paper, at least) a trifle bit, oh, hypocritical. Personally, I think you should probably get tested again yourself for HIV. Secondly, you should be as faithful to your boyfriend as you require him be with you — whatever level of *mutually* agreed upon "monogamish-ness" that may entail.

Dear Howard,

I was at one of the Cedar Springs clubs and the fierce bartender there, who I always buy my drinks from, gave me back the wrong amount of change — big time. I handed him a \$10 bill for my beer, but he gave me change for a Benjamin! Plus, he winked at me! I'm a really shy guy. I remember that I only had \$20 in my pocket on Friday night when I walked in. It wasn't until I even got home later that I figured out what the bartender did. Was he trying to pick me up, you think, or was it probably just an honest mistake? — Ginger Boi Jim

Dear Gingy,

OK, James, first, that your very personal fa-



vorite "fierce" bartender along the strip *winked* when giving your beer change back is great news: A wink *always* implies that one has a very good shot at scoring sex with whomever did the winking; second, bartenders do *not* make mistakes involving monetary transactions — unless, that is, their "mistake" just happens to favor lining their own pockets behind their managers' backs.

Bottom line, Jimbo: Your favorite bartender is *indeed* interested in getting into your pants; regardless, he did not realize he'd given you change back for \$100 instead of for \$10.

So, what should you do? I'm gonna tell you exactly: Simply return the change to your dreamboat bartender for his honest mistake made, and, I can guarantee you, that there will be a little ginger-haired boi getting the fiercest sex of his dreams that very night.

Dear Howard,

Man, here's a tripper: I saw my stepfather at the bathroom the other afternoon. It was lunchtime. A weekday. He saw me, too. We both turned hide the other direction instantly and pretended we were invisible to each other. I'm out of the closet, but he's sure not! I like the dude, Howard. He has always been a nice guy to me. What do I tell my mother? — Brady

Dear Brady,

This is an easy one, son: You tell your mother nothing. Your stepfather will handle all this himself, trust me; meanwhile, like you said, you didn't see him and he didn't see you.

*Do you have a question — about etiquette, love, life or work — that needs an answer? Send your problem to AskHoward@Dallasvoice.com and he may answer it in a future edition!*

# Teenage dream come true

In high school, Hal Heath always wanted to be in color guard. At 29, he finally achieved his goal — by forming ROTC Dallas

**RICH LOPEZ** | Contributing Writer  
getrichindallas@gmail.com

High school seems like a comparative breeze for many gay boys nowadays: They go to prom together, come out at commencement speeches, get named “cutest couple” for senior superlatives and are treated as simply fabulous by their peers.

But for those less than a generation older — indeed, just a few years out of high school — the closet was a place to hide away from the name-calling and bullying. But oh, how those missed

■ **TEENAGE**, Next Page



**FLAG WEVERS** | Hal Heath, center rear, started ROTC Dallas with a lot of help from his friends. (Arnold Wayne Jones/ Dallas Voice)

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■ TEENAGE, From Previous Page

opportunities can still bite.

Hal Heath was in such a place during his high school years in the small town of Azle, Texas. But recently something in him snapped — in a good way — and he decided, at age 29, that the time had come to do what he had always wanted in those teen years. He was finally going to be a member of the color guard.

“I had wanted to do it but never auditioned because I was afraid of being picked on or called gay,” Heath says. “Finally, when I came out in my 20s, I [decided I] shouldn’t be afraid of who I am.”

There were always cheerleading and drill team, but the color guard was a different breed for Heath. An offshoot of the school marching band, the traditionally all-female squad would perform with flags set to the music of the band during halftime performances. How fab is that?

The question for Heath became: How could he incorporate that into the Dallas queer community. Where even to start?

“I wished there was a color guard here,” he says. “Then I found the Oak Lawn Band, and with them being primarily an LGBT organization, I asked if they were interested in doing color guard.”

Heath took it upon himself to start what he dreamed of and soon was born the Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps of Dallas — ROTC Dallas for short.

“Tim Stallman from OLB suggested that, because it’s a name other groups are using in other cities, even though there isn’t an actual national ROTC organization,” Heath explains.

“The band was not able to manage a color guard year-round because of its other musical priorities,” says Stallman, president and drum major of the OLB. “It just made sense to create a stand-alone flag and rifle color guard that could grow and perform throughout the year on its own.”

The second hurdle was slightly more complicated. Because he *had-*

*n’t* done color guard as a kid, he didn’t have any experience to back up his dream. Heath never learned to spin and twirl flags ... and it ain’t easy. So he set up a Facebook page, and members have stepped in as mentors.

With active guard members at eight and 25 friends on Facebook so far, Heath sees a genuine interest in the community. And he was thrilled to meet others with both experience and enthusiasm.

“We have a couple members, like me, who are new and fresh to color guard, but our experienced members have also been so great,” he says. “And I’ve had to pretty much learn all of it: how to spin and hold the flag, how to maintain heavy and light flags. But I’m loving all of it.”

ROTC Dallas made their official debut at Razzle Dazzle’s Main Event earlier this month. With a high-profile start, nerves were abundant, but Heath feels the group made a positive first impression. Now, they are extending their visibility by lining up performances at Houston and Austin Pride events — and of course, Dallas Pride in September. And as with Razzle Dazzle, if they don’t perform with the band, they’ll perform to recorded music.

“We want to be a group that performs with the OLB, but when they have their down time usually in winter, we still want to be out there,” Heath says.

As a new group, he encourages those with even a hint of interest to come check them out — they are open to everybody.

“There is still much we have to do but we plan to have a website where potential members can get info on our page,” he says. “And we’re cool with people watching us rehearse! Or if they wanna help out in any way, that’d be great.”

ROTC Dallas rehearses Sundays at 6 p.m at Reverchon Park, but Heath plans to find an indoor space away from the Texas heat. In addition to his full-time day job, Heath has a lot on his plate to make ROTC Dallas the group he envisions it to be. Then again, dreams are usually worth the work. That’s something he found out already. ■



**BANNER YEAR** | Hal Heath found that he wasn’t the only one interested in living a high school dream of color guard.

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# GO! Athletes, go!

Network of out athletes aims to grow in the heartland

A team finds success only through teamwork. And that's as true off the playing field as on it.

Jay Hayes has earned plenty of success on the volleyball court. A former football, basketball and baseball player in the Chicago suburb of Naperville, he found his favorite sport in high school: volleyball. At New York University, he was a three-year varsity captain. He set three school records ... and then he came out as gay.

That announcement followed several years of soul-searching. At his small Catholic high school, being out and an athlete did not seem "attainable," Hayes says. NYU would be different, he thought. "There, it's almost expected you'll be gay," he laughs.

But even at NYU, gay in sports was still taboo. The "typical conversations" in locker rooms and on bus rides made coming out as a varsity athlete seem daunting. "People who play sports are a little different," he says. "I don't know how it's possible, but a lot of guys on my team weren't friends with gay people."

Hayes came out to his teammates and coaches at the end of sophomore season. He was immediately embraced. And that helped him embrace a new cause.

"I didn't know any other gay athletes," he recalls. "I thought being out was rare. Over time, I realized it wasn't. But there needed to be a place where we could share our stories and resources."

He found a group called simply Our Group. It was formed in January of 2008 by seven LGBT athletes to discuss the special issues and challenges they faced.

With help from ex-NBA player John Amaechi, former University of Massachusetts coach and professor Pat Griffin, sports photographer Jeff Sheng and media activist Ted Rybka, they set out to find others like themselves. They soon changed their name to GO! Athletes — and quickly became a force for what they call High Five Objectives in the LGBT sports world: visibility, education, support, advocacy and leadership.

"It's an amazing network," Hayes says. "It's the first national way in which LGBT student-athletes can be out, and change or enhance the culture of athletic departments."

The GO! Athletes team looks like a bunch of gay all-stars. Executive director Anna Aagenes captained the University of Pennsylvania track and cross country teams, holds three school records and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 2010. Jenelle DeVits played Division I basketball at the University of New Hampshire. Brian Goldthorpe swam at Denison University and



**SPIKING THE BALL** | Jay Hayes founded a group to support out athletes.

was one of the most decorated athletes in school history. Swimmer Sean Smith won multiple Big East titles for Rutgers University. George Washington University's Kye Allums was the first person to openly compete as transgender on a Division I women's basketball team. Becca Lundquist won an NCAA rowing championship at the University of California-Berkeley. Other members of the network have earned other honors, in other sports.

The GO! Athletes network organizes monthly conference calls. Members talk about what's happening at their schools, ask questions, share advice and offer support on effective strategies. After each call, they organize events to spread the word that "gay athlete" is no longer an oxymoron.

Every "Winning Wednesday," members post personal stories on their website. The group's visibility was enhanced recently, when Rutgers men's basketball coach Mike Rice was fired for using homophobic slurs during practices. On a variety of social media platforms, GO! Athletes released a strong statement emphasizing the importance of swift, strong punishment.

■ **SPORTS**, Page 55

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**MASCULIN, FEMININ** | You'll pay dearly for the sting of a Viper, right, but the softer Hyundai Genesis, left, gives speed and style on a budget.



# Butch

## vs.

# Femme



**Viper versus Genesis:**  
Not all sports cars were created equal — but all have their joys

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer  
crwauto@aol.com

**W**ith the possible exception of being ridden by some buff daddy all night, there's nothing more exciting than sliding behind the wheel of a hot sports car. But even the sexy boys have varying personalities — from twink to bear — so you can't judge a queen by his

cover. Nor can you judge a proper sports car without wide expanses of asphalt.

Decide if you would rather be pleased by the butch SRT Viper or the femme Hyundai Genesis 2.0T. Here's a cheat sheet:

#### Named for:

Viper: Named after a venomous snake.  
Genesis: Shares its creed with an '80s pop band?

#### Inspired by:

Viper: Shelby Cobra, a classic beyond compare.  
Genesis: A classic Toyota Supra, the Japanese supercar.

#### Target:

Viper: Meat-ripping muscle boys looking to pound someone.  
Genesis: Your nephew, right before he tells your sister his big news.

#### If seats were underwear:

Viper: Grip your entire package like Zeus' jockstrap.  
Genesis: Think boxer briefs with precision stitching in all the right places.

#### Horsepower:

Viper: 640, or about 300 beyond any drag queen's grasp.  
Genesis: 274, or about 30 more than an '80s Corvette!

#### Cylinder count:

Viper: 8.4-liter V10 — that's 2 more cylinders than Mustang, and 2 less than Ferrari ... and enough to run with those charging Lamborghini bulls.  
Genesis: 2.0-liter 4-cylinder and blowin' with a turbo, but Dawg better stay on the front porch.

#### MPGs:

Viper: Who the flip cares?  
Genesis: Up to 30/Hwy.

#### Sings like:

Viper: The devil hopped on bourbon any morning.  
Genesis: An angel on Sunday morning.

#### Shares its underpinnings with:

Viper: One suspects the Mercedes-Benz SLS Gullwing, but SRT's super serpent raises lots more hell.  
Genesis: Award-winning Genesis sedan, Equus luxury flagship.

#### Favorite color:

Viper: TA Orange, but only 33 Vipers in this hue will be built.  
Genesis: T Sukuba Red — don't know what the hell it

means, but looks ravishing.

#### Sexy asset:

Viper: "Spidey" cross-brace over the engine stays stiff to enhance performance.  
Genesis: Special little curve in its windowline likes to be fondled.

#### Alter ego:

Viper: Hannibal Lecter hunting four-wheeled flesh.  
Genesis: Club princess hunting her next quick trick.

#### Favorite Johnson:

Viper: Magic, a b-ball legend and perhaps the world's coolest dad.  
Genesis: E.J., gurl went full handbag, but mom and dad didn't care.

#### Claim to fame:

Viper: Set Chrysler's shack on fire in the '90s, survived the German invasion and is revered in Turin.  
Genesis: Proves Koreans can have fun, too.

#### Cool feature:

Viper: 2-mode suspension goes from bone-jarring to

jaw-fracturing.

Genesis: Blue Link system for point-of-interest Web searches and voice text messaging.

#### Grumpy Cat's thoughts:

Viper: You're evil. Give me a kiss.  
Genesis: You're nice. Bite me.

#### Born in:

Viper: Detroit! It is as gritty and raw as the place it loves.  
Genesis: Korea — just a short drive from being truly dangerous.

#### Biggest sticker:

Viper: Burning tread from \$99,995 — be sure to drive one before you're dead.  
Genesis: Starting at \$24,250 — maybe betta for so little chedda.

#### Parting thoughts:

Viper: I'm expensive and obstinate, but don't you want to throttle me?  
Genesis: I may be cheap, but I'm still a bundle of fun.

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# Teamwork.



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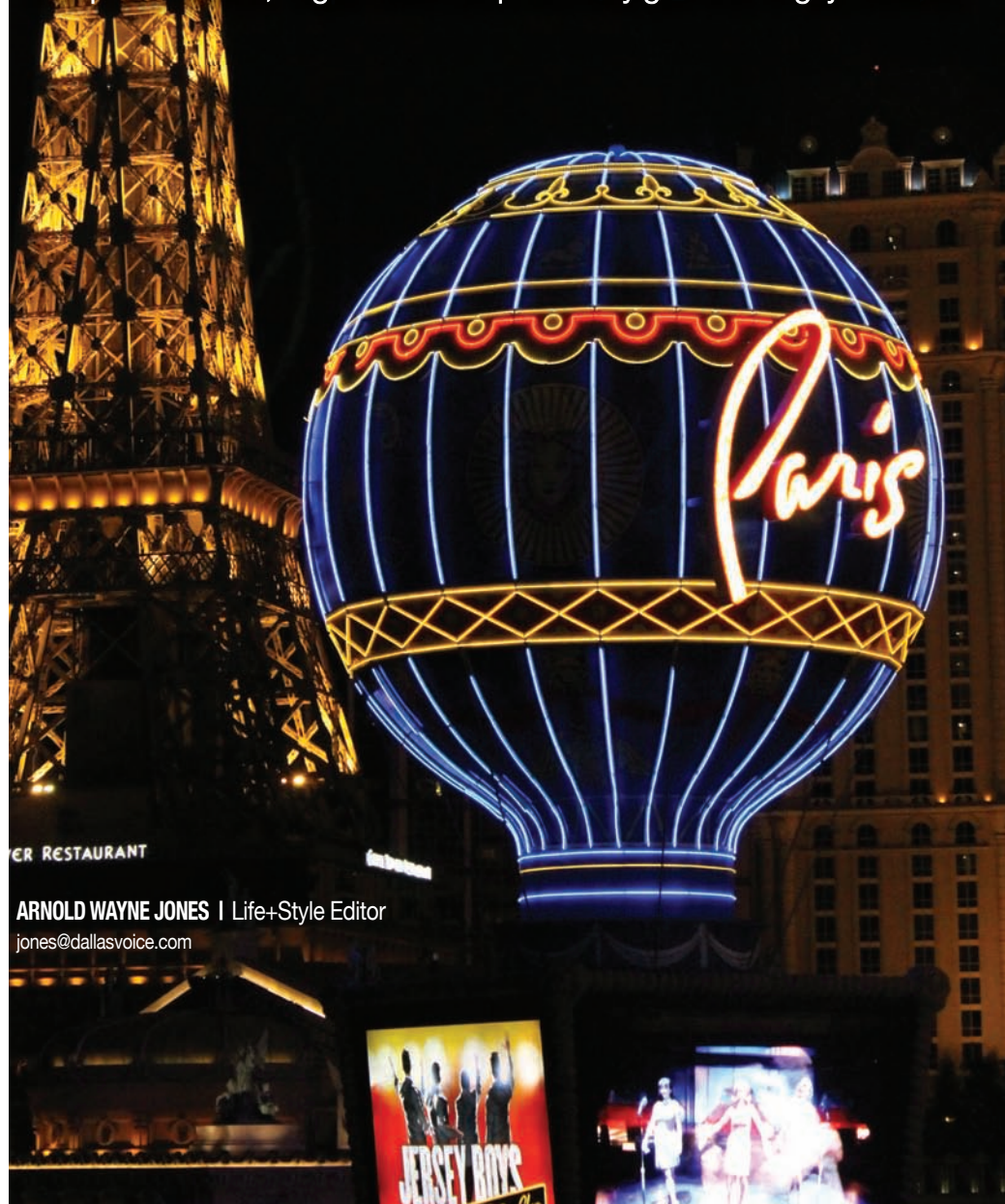
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# Beyond the candelabra

Even post-Liberace, Vegas offers camp and sexy glamour for gay travelers



ER RESTAURANT

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

From the latest *Hangover* film to the recent, acclaimed Liberace biopic *Behind the Candelabra*, Las Vegas continues its campaign as the town where anything can happen. There's a fair case to be made that's true. Vegas is a city built on will: It's in the desert, but boasts water fountains, huge swimming pools and even greenery. It's a haven of sex, gambling and caffeinated beverages, but is surrounded by Mormons. It's known for chorus girls but is also a gay destination point.

And why not be all things? Who says anything has to make sense when food and shopping are involved? Vegas may be the only city outside the Disney Co. constructed entirely to

serve the enjoyment of its visitors.

Remember: This is a town where they put roller coasters atop skyscrapers and have a pyramid shooting a beacon so bright that it can be seen by astronauts. Don't tell them how to behave.

And thus it is not altogether astonishing that this pocket of indulgence in a conservative Western state would seek to distinguish itself with another superlative: The opening last week of the humbly named Krave Massive, touted as the largest gay nightclub on the planet.

What's the advantage of being biggest? If you ask that, well, you don't understand Vegas at all.

Krave Massive is the third iteration of the

# LIFE+STYLE

## travel

club, and when finished out (parts were still under construction on opening night) will offer 84,000 square feet where light shows, loud music, bottle-service cocktails and dancing boys can mingle equally with the patrons. It's located (unlike the previous two) in downtown Vegas near Fremont, which used to be "The Strip" in Sinatra's day. (That sobriquet now refers to Las Vegas Boulevard.)

Fremont is in a renewal period, still buzzy on a Saturday night, and the gays are helping make it that way. About a year ago, Drink & Drag opened (next door to what is now Krave Massive) in the Neonopolis development with a

faboo concept: bowling, billiards, booze and a bar staff mostly populated by drag queens. (On Sundays, they even host a contest, So You Think You're a Drag Queen, where volunteers get blinged out by professional female impersonators, and then compete for a cash prize.)

Closer to the current Strip is the cozier, naughty-feeling Share, a small space with excellent light shows and plenty of go-go boys. You can even get your gay going on The Strip itself, inside some of the casinos. At The Mirage, just walking into Revolution nightclub is a show in itself, with their wild, friendly staff bedecked in costumes and (again) plenty of dancing boys and girls. And not all nightclub activities take place at night here: The Luxor's Oasis Pool becomes Sunday Funday midday with a weekly gay party all summer (culminating in the local Pride festival in September).

And of course, the *real* gay party is currently playing nightly at Caesar's Palace: Celine Dion's show. A rapturous 90-minute visual effect spectacle, the diva is in stunning voice and looks amazing as she performs about two dozen numbers with a full orchestra.

Celine notwithstanding, Cirque du Soleil productions continue to dominate the entertainment landscape, with sexuality served up a la carte at Zumanity (at New York New York) and the Michael Jackson tribute One a singular sensation at Mandalay Bay. The latest creation, Zarkana at the Aria, displays a dark glamour amid a stunning flag-tossing act, a beautiful sand painting segment and cutting-edge multimedia effects.

### Choosing a home base

Visiting Vegas actually poses a tyranny of choices, but many hotels cater to varied markets. Looking for sheer size? None is bigger than the MGM Grand, whose emerald color is inspired by *The Wizard of Oz* (and therefore ideal for Friends of Dorothy). For a smaller, gay-friendly accommodation, Planet Hollywood is adjacent to the Miracle Mile Shops and is more youth-targeted. Plush Bellagio, with its signature Chihuly glass ceiling, even has its own art gallery now exhibiting works by queer artist Andy Warhol.

The Hard Rock Hotel provides an unexpected surprise: luxury. Located near the city's gayborhood, its on-site spa Reliquary is an oasis of relaxing sophistication coupled with a staff trained in diverse massage techniques (their Russian massage feels like pythons furiously squeezing every muscle). Hard Rock is co-ed, unlike



**THE STRIP** | Las Vegas Boulevard — 'The Strip,' opposite — is a sea of neon, but you can see more gay men inside The Colosseum at Caesar's Palace during the Celine Dion show, above. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

■ CANDELABRA, Next Page

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■ CANDELABRA, From Previous Page

the clothing-optional Bathhouse at Mandalay Bay's upscale THEhotel.

The comparatively new Cosmopolitan oozes sex, with elaborate and sensual video displays in the lobby and live music with a retro sound in the impressive Chandelier Bar. (Those in the know will order an off-menu cocktail called the Verbena for a one-of-a-kind beverage experience.) While there, you might wanna come see Comme Ca, specializing in



seafood with a French twist and boasting one of the best views in town.

### Dining life

Speaking of restaurants, if you're not in Vegas to gamble, food can be its own kind of entertainment here. Sage inside Aria is French-Middle Eastern influenced American cuisine from James Beard winning chef Sean McLean, with the foie gras brûlée a virtual foodgasm of richness among lovely muted decor. There's even an absinthe cocktail that won't make you cut your ear off.

What the relatively new Andrea's — straddling The Wynn and Encore — lacks in flash it more than makes up for in execution of its Asian-inspired dishes, excellent service and soothing atmosphere. Nobu continues to turn out exceptional and spicy Japanese flavors with deft brilliance at Caesar's in a gorgeous setting.

Nobu isn't the only branded chef here, either. Just the concourse at Mandalay Bay evinces a who's who of designer restaurants, including lesbian chef Susan Feniger's delightful Mexican cantina Border Grill. Celebrichef Gordon Ramsay has opened three new spots around town in the last year alone. The latest, BurGR, plays off his *Hell's Kitchen* persona but also grills up some of the finest burgers in town, especially the farm burger, topped with duck bacon and a fried egg. The milkshakes double as luxuriant desserts.

For those who want to hang around downtown, Park on Fremont is a quirky cafe with a perverse Victorian sensibility and tons of beer and signature cocktails (including a bloody Mary called the Texas Tuxedo). The gays do brunch here on Sundays, too, and the campy Simon inside The Palms is a great option, with staff dressed in pajamas serving up sushi, prime rib, lox and cotton candy among the diverse and delicious menu.

For the best BLT you'll ever eat, head over to the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada, known locally simply as The Center. Opened in its new digs in East Vegas (affectionately called Q Town) just this April, its Bronze Cafe serves coffee and that heavenly sandwich, the LGBTQumber. You can also admire all the good works they do serving the gay community in the state.

Vegas is not a walking city — whatever you do, carry water always: it is hot here, hotter even than Dallas during the day, if you can believe it, and you'll need to stay hydrated — but it is worth it to hoof it down to The Strip at least a few times just for the people-watching opportunities. From costumed hucksters to zaftig, baritone-throated drag queens, it's a panoply of cultural kookiness. Indeed, it's not unusual to see a shirtless, shoeless surfer dude staggering around tipsy at 7 a.m. What could he have been doing to get that way?

Remember: What happens in Vegas ... is probably a felony anywhere else.



■ BEEF | The farm burger, left, at Gordon Ramsay's new joint BurGR is almost as delectable as the go-go boys at Krave Massive, above. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



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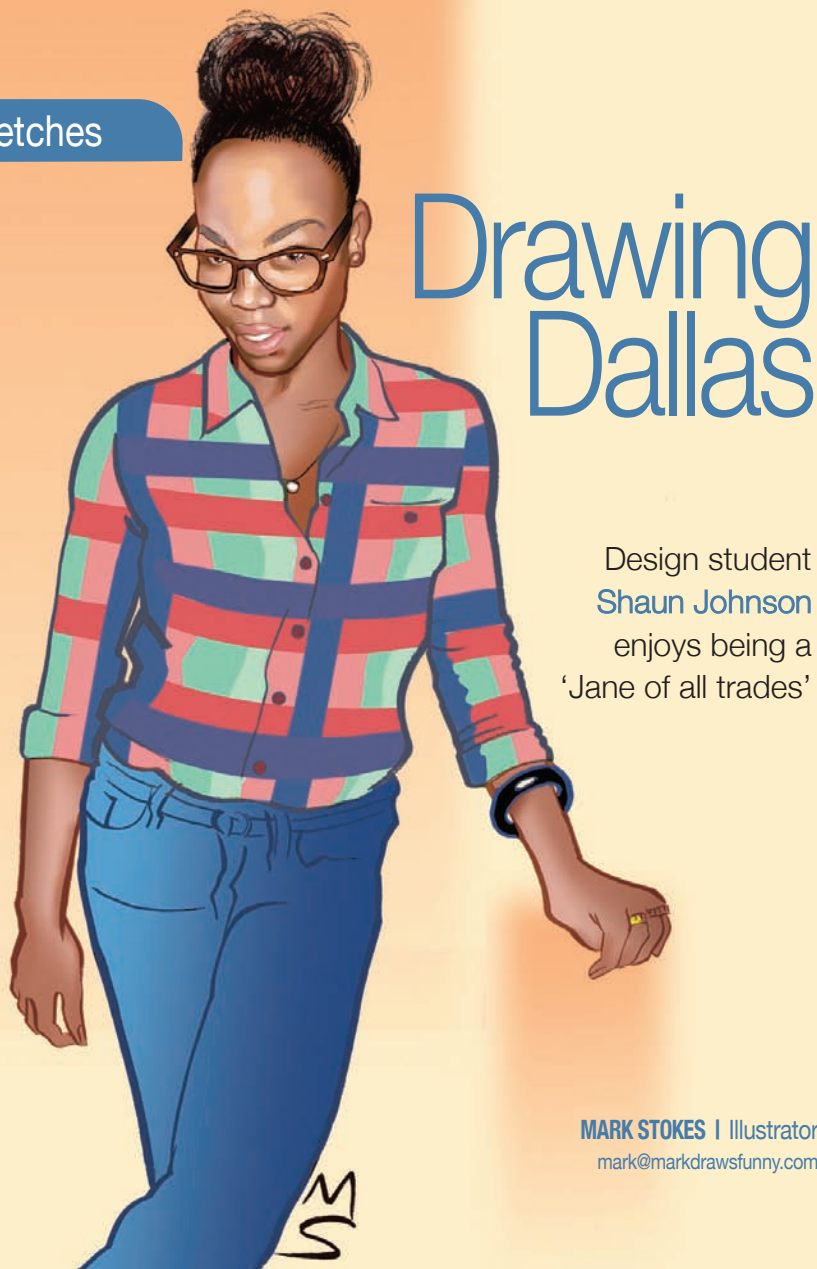
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# Drawing Dallas

Design student  
Shaun Johnson  
enjoys being a  
'Jane of all trades'

MARK STOKES | Illustrator  
mark@markdrawsfunny.com

**Name and age:** Shaundalee Johnson, 24

**Occupation:** Student

**Spotted:** Blackwell and Greenville

Shaun Johnson was born in Minneapolis and moved to Dallas four years ago from Oklahoma City to study fashion and photography. "I came here with a pack of Ramen noodles and \$10," she laughs; "Now I have two packs of Ramen and a six pack of beer." This gregarious Aries is pursuing a bachelor of fine arts degree in fashion design/retail management and photography at the Art Institute of Dallas.

Shaun loves to be the center of attention. In high school she was an admitted "theater nerd" (fave role: The Wicked Witch in *Sleeping Beauty*) and also per-

formed in the school band while excelling in softball and track. Her fashionista talents were apparent even then, as she was voted "Most Uniquely Dressed."

After graduation, Shaun plans to open a boutique, taking old clothes, art and furniture and recycling them in a high fashion way while making them affordable to people "who have two jobs." She'd also like to travel to Paris and Milan.

Shaun is the only female member of Sasha's Dancers, a group orchestrated by a drag queen.

Sassy and affirmative, this modern warrior considers herself a "Renaissance woman" and "Jane of all trades" — but she's keeping it tongue-in-cheek: "They don't call me Shaun Awesome for no reason."

## ■ SPORTS, From Page 49

GO! Athletes has helped jump-start the growth of gay-straight student-athlete groups on colleges across the country. The network's advice — covering everything from how to get coaches and administrators on board, to "have food at every event" — has been integral to this growing collegiate movement. The network has also helped organize (and provided speakers for) panels and discussion groups on college campuses.

Hayes acknowledges that GO! Athletes has been very "East and West Coast-oriented." Members also come from the top tier of colleges. "We're trying to expand to the rest of the coun-

try, and to other schools," he says. "Right now, we're being led by out athletes who are willing to bring our network to their colleges. There are gay athletes at every school, but they're not all open. As we grow, we'd like to go to other campuses and help athletes be out."

GO! Athletes have spoken at high school events, but no high school student-athlete has yet joined the network. "They have less freedom than college athletes," Hayes acknowledges.

But as long as GO! Athletes gets its message out — with videos, on its website, through social media — Hayes is happy. And a lot happier than he was in the years before he knew he could be both gay and a college varsity volleyball star. ■

— Dan Woog

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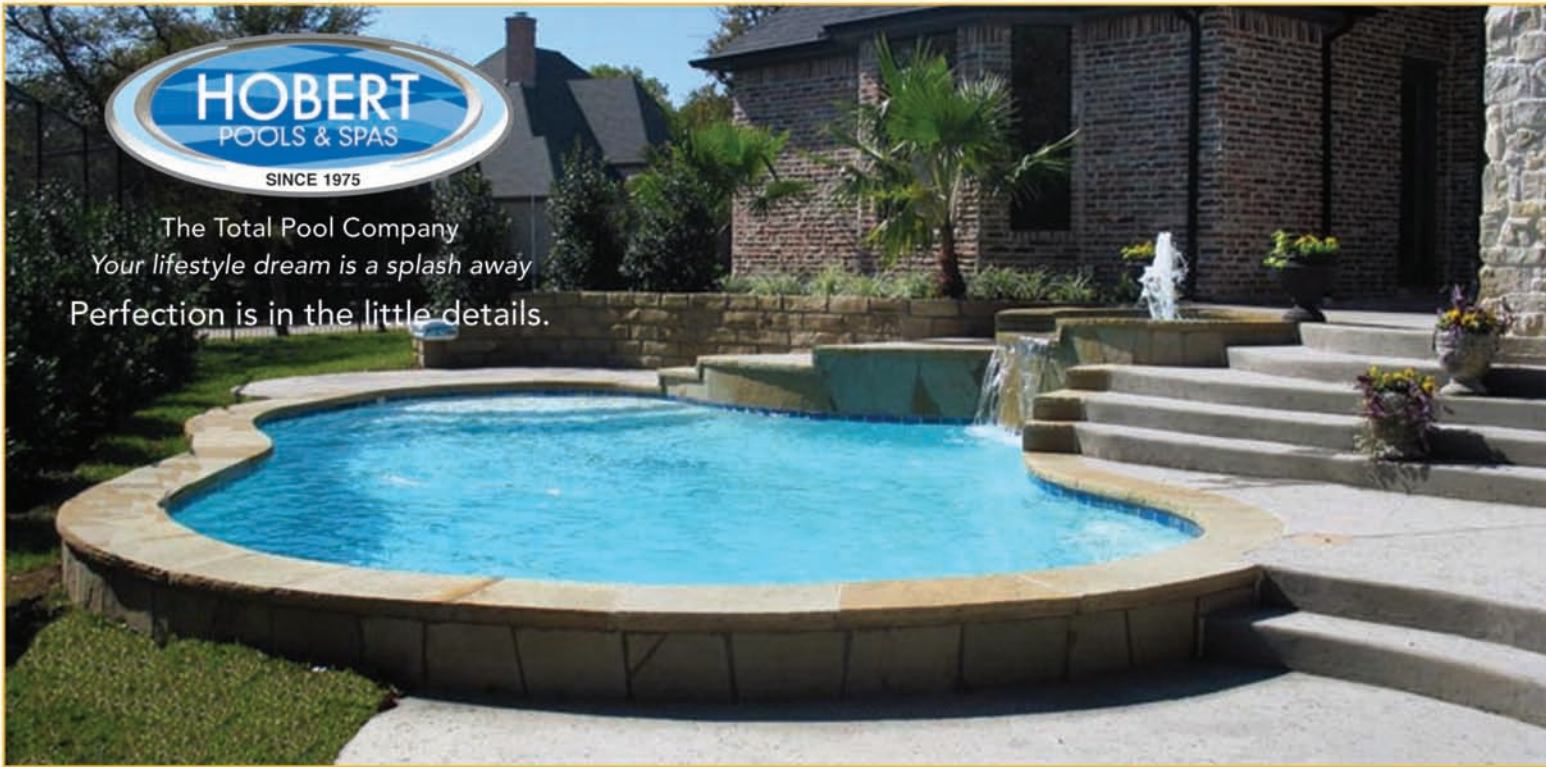
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### Friday 06.21

#### Life is a cabaret at Viva Dallas' Cirque du Burlesque

The teasing sex show Viva Dallas Burlesque has branched off into the big top (I mean, most of the women do have big tops) for the naughty Cirque du Burlesque. This monthly display of modern burlesque talents (including Angela Ryan, pictured) features pin-up girls (and sometimes guys!) performing acrobatics, magic, juggling, bellydancing and more. After all, as anyone who's seen *Gypsy* knows, "ya gotta have a gimmick."

**DEETS:** Lakewood Theater, 1825 Abrams Parkway. Doors open at 8 p.m., curtain at 9 p.m. \$20. VivaDallasBurlesque.com.



### Wednesday 06.26

#### Cyndi gets 'Kinky' at HOB

Cyndi Lauper's had quite a 2013 so far, with her Broadway debut as a composer, the drag comedy *Kinky Boots*, opening to rave reviews and winning her a Tony Award just last week. But it gets even better for her — OK, better for *us* — this week when she performs her She's So Unusual Tour with opening act Hunter Valentine. She probably won't sing any songs from the show, but who needs that when you can hear her classic pop tunes from her Grammy Award-winning debut album ("Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," "Time After Time," "She Bop") as well as her queer anthem "True Colors."

**DEETS:** House of Blues, 2200 Lamar St. Doors at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. \$35-\$75. HouseOfBlues.com.



### Tuesday 06.25

#### What a feeling to see 'Flashdance' onstage

Dallas Summer Musicals' season so far has looked more like a movie listing than a Playbill: *Sister Act*, *Mary Poppins*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and now the iconic '80s hit *Flashdance* — now a musical with songs from the movie as well as original numbers. This national tour stops at Fair Park for two weeks for its run-up to an expected Broadway opening later this year.

**DEETS:** Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. June 25-July 7. DallasSummerMusicals.org.





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## calendar highlights



**THIN ALBERT** | Theatre Britain returns with a summer treat, the comedy 'Albert's Anthology.'

### ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING THEATER

**Festival of Independent Theatres.** The annual festival of plays by small indie companies returns. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. *Final weekend.* For a complete lineup, visit [FestivalOfIndependentTheatres.org](http://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](http://MBSProductions.net).

**Albert's Anthology.** Theatre Britain presents a rare summer show with this Munchhausen-esque series of adventure stories. Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Ave., Plano. June 21–July 7. [Theatre-Britain.com](http://Theatre-Britain.com).

**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](http://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. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Circle. *Final weekend.* [WaterTowerTheatre.org](http://WaterTowerTheatre.org).

**City of Angels.** The Tony Award-winning movie-within-a-musical comedy goes into previews at Theatre 3. 2900 Routh St. inside the Quadrangle. Through July 13. \$10–\$50. [Theatre3Dallas.com](http://Theatre3Dallas.com).

**The Music Man.** Lyric Stage ends its season with a full-orchestra staging of this American classic. Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. McArthur Blvd., Irving. *Final weekend.* [LyricStage.org](http://LyricStage.org).

**The Odd Couple.** A 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. *Final weekend.* 214-821-1860. [PocketSandwich.com](http://PocketSandwich.com).

**Se Llama Cristina.** A drama by Octavio Solis, staged as part of the New Works Festival. *Final weekend.* [KitchenDogTheater.org](http://KitchenDogTheater.org).

**Songs for a New World.** Song cycle presented by Uptown Players. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. June 21–July 7. [UptownPlayers.org](http://UptownPlayers.org)

**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. *Final weekend.* \$20. Reservations at [TheTimekeepersEventbrite.com](http://TheTimekeepersEventbrite.com).

**Sister Act.** Continues its North Texas run at Bass Hall, 325 Commerce St., Fort Worth. *Final weekend.* [BassHall.com](http://BassHall.com).

**The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs.** Dallas Children's Theater presents a musical for the entire family. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. June 21–July 14. [DCT.org](http://DCT.org).

**Traces.** Montreal-based troupe 7 Fingers puts on this modern circus that melds a street performance style with dazzling acrobatics. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. *Final weekend.* \$25–\$150. [ATTPAC.org](http://ATTPAC.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://OldRed.org).

 browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvevents](http://Tinyurl.com/dvevents).

 submit

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit](http://Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit).

**Alex Remington: Architectura.** Views of iconic Dallas buildings by gay photographer Alex Remington. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. *Final weekend.* ilumegallerie.com.

AIDS Arms' big event in the fall. The Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. \$7 suggested donation at the door; reserved seating \$17.

## FRIDAY 06.21

### COMMUNITY

**Dick's Night Out: Summer Kick-Off.** It's officially summer today, and the gay mixer celebrates with a happy hour at the W Dallas Victory Hotel with DJ Ryan Kenney spinning and no cover. 2440 Victory Park Lane, 33rd Floor. 6-10 p.m. Free, but RSVP to DNOsko.eventbrite.com.

## TUESDAY 06.25

### THEATER

**Flashdance.** The musical based on the hit movie, comes to Fair Park, courtesy Dallas Summer Musicals. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. June 25-July 7. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

### this week's solution

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## SATURDAY 06.22

### THEATER

**Cirque Musica.** Two shows only on Saturday of this cirque act with Dallas Pops Orchestra accompanying at the Dr. Pepper Arena in Frisco. Ticketmaster.com.

### COMMUNITY

**GLAAD It's Summer.** Dallas Voice is one of the sponsors of this cocktail party (sponsored by Ketel One Vodka) hosted by the GLAAD DFW Leadership Council. The House, 2200 Victory Ave. 2-6 p.m. RSVP at GLAAD.org/events/glaaditssummer.

## SUNDAY 06.23

### COMMUNITY

**Miss LifeWalk Pageant.** The 10th annual fundraiser for

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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY



**Lana Wachowski** turns 48 on Friday. The co-director of *The Matrix* films, as well as the recent *Cloud Atlas*, was born Larry Wachowski, but underwent gender reassignment surgery around 2008. Her first public appearance as Lana was in a YouTube video in 2012.

**CANCER: Jun 21—Jul 20**

Without oversimplifying things, everything comes down to realizing that you don't want to get stuck here. This is no time for your security issues and your fears to be wagging the dog, or telling you that you'll lose everything if you go for what's behind the curtain.

**LEO: Jul 21—Aug 20**

Backing off now could take the form of work/study events that take you away long enough to recalibrate your sense of self. When you get a clearer picture of who you want to be, you'll see that you've over romanticized something that has turned out to be more of a hostage crisis than a fairy tale.

**VIRGO: Aug 21—Sep 20**

Instead of obsessing about where all this is heading, stay alert to your situation and hold enough faith to believe in what you know to be true; it is the truth that wins out in this situation.

**LIBRA: Sep 21—Oct 20**

I sense you'll soon get reacquainted with more than just your memories. Keep a candle burning in the window; old ghosts, flames and partners-in-crime will be back to remind you that it's what money can't buy that gets us through the night.

**SCORPIO: Oct 21—Nov 20**

Something is being cracked open, and the seed that holds your spirit is at a point where it needs to birth something new in order to grow. Check in with where you were headed about seven years ago; how far have you come? Or are things still bubbling in the same old stew?

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21—Dec 20**

It makes no sense to keep abandoning one thing after another. This includes the people who have come to care about you. Don't be insensitive to the fact that others are a factor in this equation.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 21—Jan 20**

Standing up to what could either be an inquest into your business affairs or an attempt to undermine your position will go smoother if you have your ducks lined up clearly enough to derail those who want to knock you off your perch.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21—Feb 20**

Whatever you've achieved in terms of stability can be used to further things that could make a difference for you and for others. It's time to reevaluate your purpose without needing to limit your sense of what's possible for you at this stage of the game.

**PISCES: Feb 21—Mar 20**

In order to save yourself from having to face the consequences of your actions, you need to take a good look at what happens to anyone who winds up aligning themselves with the wrong people. You don't have to go down with this ship.

**ARIES: Mar 21—Apr 20**

Others are there to show you how life plays tricks on all of us. Every stranger on the path is a brother in arms. At this point, their stories are enough like your own to make you wish you knew how to save both your heart, and theirs, from the past.

**TAURUS: Apr 21—May 20**

Things have gotten to the point where you could use some time and enough distance to return to yourself. Lots of things have shifted in the last few months. What matters now looks a lot different than it did before things got so intense.

**GEMINI: May 21—Jun 20**

What comes out of this period will give you the opportunity to learn a few things from those who know more than you. Any chance to learn should be seen as you getting set up to take this one step further.

JANE'S WORLD



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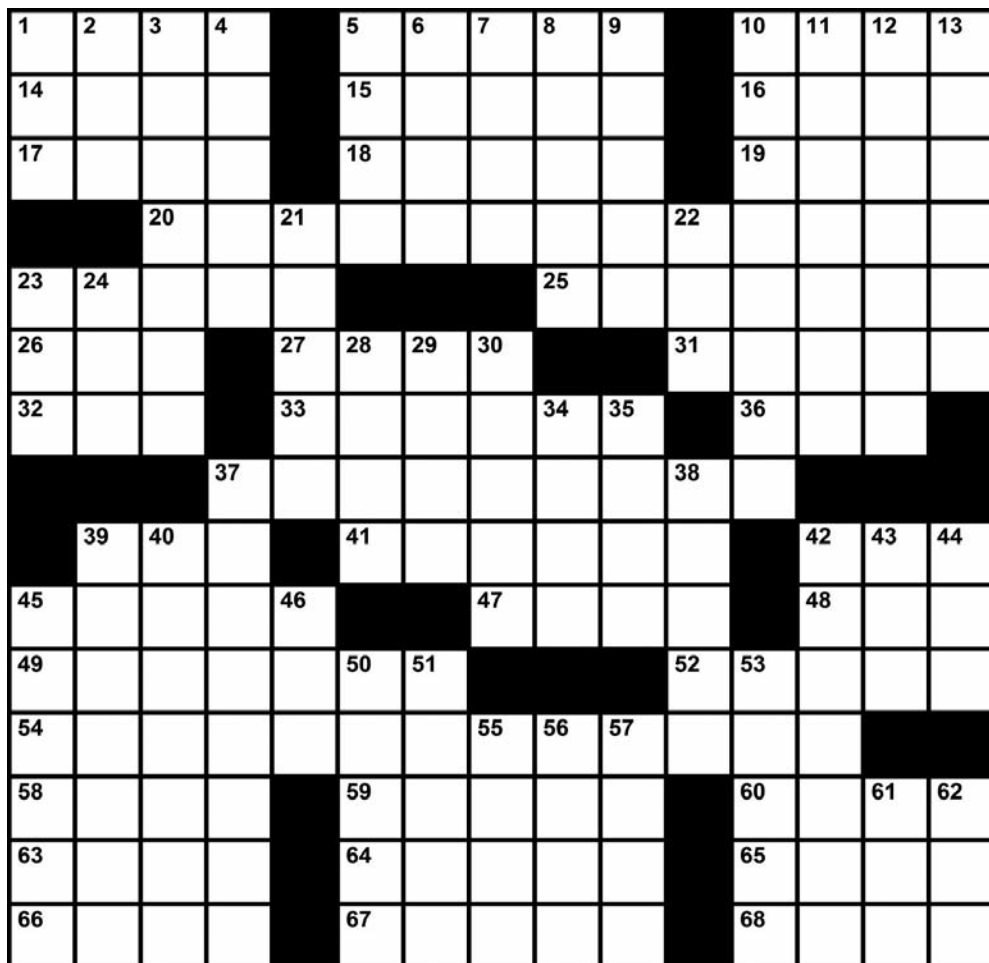
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# Fostering Understanding

Solution on page 59

**Across**

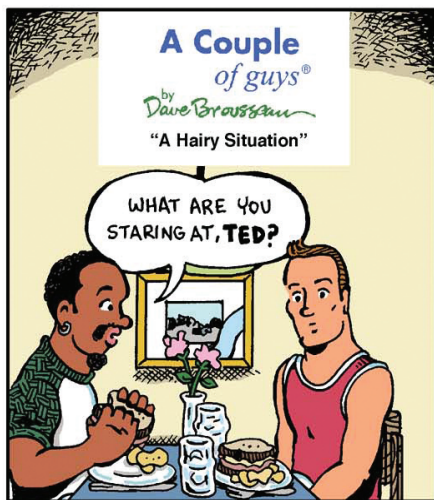
- 1 With 68-Across, she plays Stef in *The Fosters*
- 5 Michael Musto's tidbits
- 10 British carbine
- 14 Russian John
- 15 Male counterpart to a Seattle Storm player
- 16 Estimate ending
- 17 Mary's pet
- 18 Bruce Willis, to pals
- 19 "Puttin' on the \_\_\_"
- 20 Producer of 2013 TV series *The Fosters*
- 23 Bara of the silents
- 25 Ho, in Vegas
- 26 Enjoy Stephen Pyles
- 27 Gay couples often meet in them
- 31 Come slowly closer
- 32 TV spots
- 33 One with a gifted tongue
- 36 Poet who inspired *Cats*, initially
- 37 Network of *The Fosters*
- 39 TV monitor, in a way
- 41 Layers that got laid a long time ago
- 42 Part of BYOB
- 45 Benjamin Britten's Peter
- 47 Flat-bottomed receptacle
- 48 Bottom's date

49 Condenses on a surface

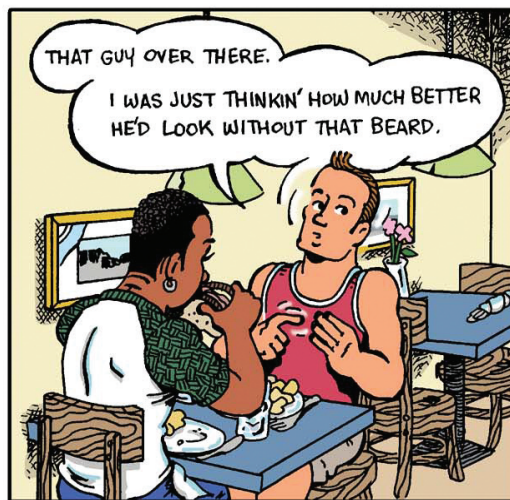
- 52 One who asks "Bride or bride?" at a wedding?
- 54 Partners, in *The Fosters*
- 58 Diva's piece
- 59 Inn offerings
- 60 With 40-Down, Jackie's designer
- 63 Taboo word for optimists
- 64 Bert's longtime companion
- 65 Spread out on the breakfast table
- 66 Larry Kramer and peers
- 67 Fender bender scars
- 68 See 1-Across

**Down**

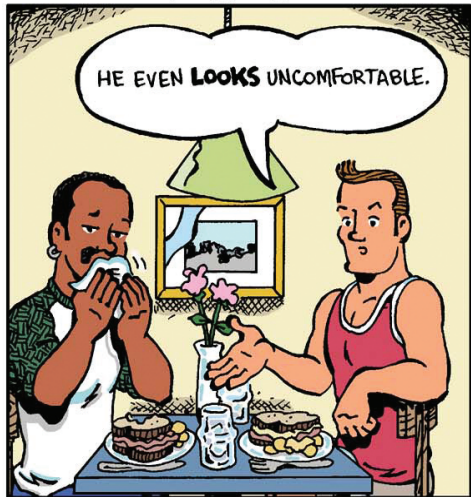
- 1 Word in a store-hours sign
- 2 Madonna's Peron role
- 3 Some plane engines
- 4 Where some may lie
- 5 A number of books
- 6 Spelling of *Trick*
- 7 "No mo'!" to Gomer
- 8 Sal of *Exodus*
- 9 Contempt
- 10 Alpha Chi Upsilon, for example
- 11 "Third leg" guys
- 12 Getty of *The Golden Girls*
- 13 Hose part
- 21 One with a big bag of money
- 22 Article written by Frida
- 23 Bagged brew
- 24 Made a fool of
- 28 They aren't straight
- 29 Boat that's often blown up
- 30 Get the ball rolling
- 34 Barbra's *Funny Girl* guy
- 35 \_\_\_ Mae Brown
- 37 They may take a tumble
- 38 Rim job?
- 39 Kind of case or court
- 40 See 60-Across
- 42 Moor drama
- 43 Misfortune
- 44 Listener-sponsored org.
- 45 Digs for the queen
- 46 Mysore Mr.
- 50 Like the cheeks of one who streaks
- 51 Make noise in bed
- 53 "John B." of song
- 55 Neighbor of Mass.
- 56 Skip past
- 57 Treats as a sexual object
- 61 Long, slippery one
- 62 Sticky stuff



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Jose and Angel at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Dancers at Station 4.



Parker and Ramsey at the Tin Room/



Girls' night out at Best Friends Club.



Bibiane, Candace and Ashley at the Round-Up Saloon.



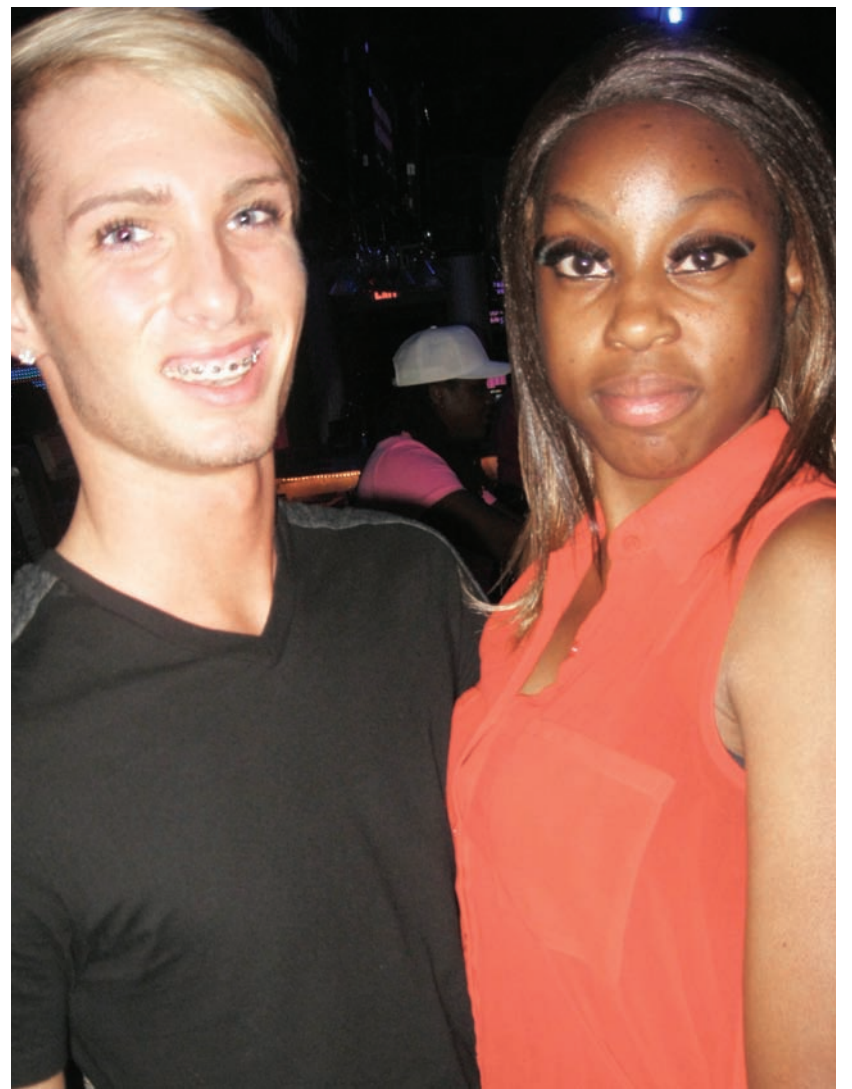
Chip at the Hidden Door.

Catch the **Voice of Pride** competition this week at **Woody's Sports and Video Bar** on June 23, the **Round-Up Saloon** on June 24, **JR.'s Bar & Grill** on June 26 and **Kallente** on June 27. The final preliminary round competition is on June 30 at the **Rose Room**. Eliminations begin in July. ... **Guys & Dolls** presents the **Miss LifeWalk Pageant at S4** on June 23 hosted by **Ima Lush** and **Victoria Weston** and **Miss LifeWalk 2012 Heather Thomas**. ... **Outrageous Oral** returns to the **Rose Room** with an evening of stories from Dallas' LGBT community by **Rodd Gray**, **Harryette Ehrhardt**, **Paul J. Williams**, **Kay Wilkinson** and **Ann Brown**. ... The **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** presents **A.B.C. Show** hosted by **Anna Conda** at the **Dallas Eagle** on June 22 followed by **DFW Pups Meet & Greet** hosted by **Lee Novy**. On June 23, the **Gulf Coast Leather Family** hosts **Scumdown at Sundown**, a **Dallas Diablos** bachelor auction. Come and bid on some hot ruckers. ... Free beginner dance lessons, couples and line dance, with **Juanita** take place at the **Round-Up Saloon** every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. Bring a partner or they'll find one for you. ... Celebrate **Dannee's** birthday at a tea dance at the **Brick** on June 23 with **DJ Michael James**, **DJ Mndo** and **DL Brandon Moses**. All tips go to Oklahoma tornado disaster relief through the Red Cross. ... **Mojo Dolls** perform at **Sue Ellen's** on June 21. **Jumi Rayne** appears on June 22 and the **Jason Huff Band** finishes out the weekend's entertainment on June 23. Then on June 27, there's a movie release party for **20 Feet from Stardom** featuring **Bruce Springsteen**, **Mick Jagger**, **Stevie Wonder** and **Bette Midler** that opens June 28. Win movie passes while supplies last. ... **Anton Shaw** and **Bad Habits** appear at **Eden Lounge** on June 23. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to [DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos](http://DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos).



Reez and Daxx at BJs NXS!



Cris and Sta at the Brick.



Friends at Alexandre's.



Alyssa and Kate at Sue Ellen's.

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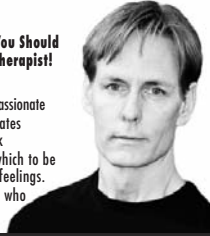
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Sat, Nov. 23, 8:00 pm



The King's Singers  
*Christmas*  
Tue, Dec. 3, 7:30 pm



The Ten Tenors  
*On Broadway*  
Sat, Jan. 25, 8:00 pm



*Celtic Nights -*  
*Journey of Hope*  
Fri, Feb. 28, 8:00 pm



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*Two Man Group*  
Sat, Mar. 1, 8:00 pm



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Fri, Apr. 25, 8:00 pm

## Theatre Comedy Series



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Six Performances: Feb. 13-16, 2014



*They Call Me Mr. Fry*  
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## Methodist Richardson Medical Center Family Theatre Series



*Angelina Ballerina The Musical*  
Sun, Oct. 20, 2:30 pm



*Diary of a Worm, a Spider*  
*and a Fly*  
Sun, Nov. 10, 2:30 pm



*Going on a Bear Hunt*  
Sun, Feb. 16, 2:30 pm



*Circo Comedia*  
Sun, Mar. 1, 2:30 pm



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