

# The sounds of summer

Our picks for best music of the year — so far  
Tegan and Sara, pictured, among the standouts of 2013

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Experts say marriage ban will make state less competitive after DOMA ruling, and some local couples have already decided to leave ■ COVER STORY, Page 6

# THE BIG GAY TEXAS BRAIN BRAIN

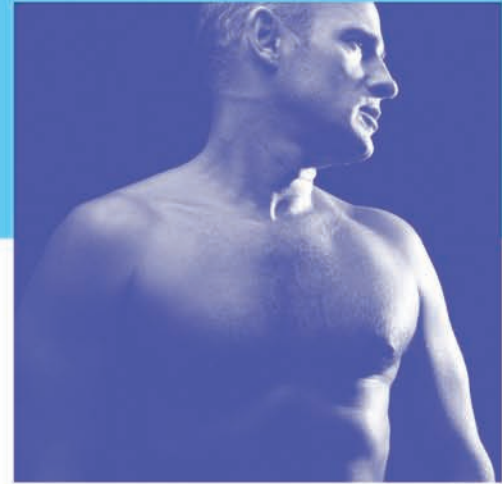
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### TX marriage-equality bill, lawsuit filed; polls show record support

It didn't take long for the fallout to begin in Texas from the Supreme Court's June 26 decision to strike down a section of the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

A state lawmaker filed a bill to legalize same-sex marriage in Texas this week, and a Galveston man filed a federal lawsuit challenging the state's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. Neither the bill nor the lawsuit appeared to have much chance of success, but they are signs the high court's ruling marked the beginning of a renewed struggle in Texas and the 36 other states where same-sex marriage isn't recognized.

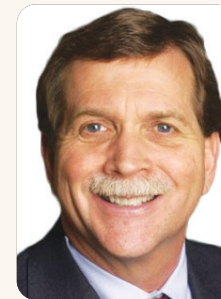
Meanwhile, results from a University of Texas/Texas Tribune poll conducted just prior to the DOMA ruling showed record high support for marriage equality in Texas — at 39 percent.

As the Texas Legislature convened for a second special session — and what was expected to be round 2 of an abortion rights fight — Rep. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, quietly filed HB 20, which would legalize same-sex marriage in Texas if the state's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage is first repealed. Burnam announced his plan to file the bill on the day of the Supreme Court's ruling striking down Section 3 of DOMA.

"The Supreme Court found today that the federal government acted to 'impose a disadvantage, a separate status, and so a stigma upon all who enter into same-sex marriages.' I can assure you the Texas Legislature did the same. As such, it is time to renounce our homophobic state laws and usher in marriage equality in Texas," Burnam said. "I call on Governor Perry to add marriage equality to the special session call. Clearly granting equal rights to all Texans is more urgent than imposing restrictions on women's health and liberty based on junk science and sham medical research."

The bill is identical to one Burnam filed during the regular session in February, which never received a committee hearing. HB 20 would remove provisions in the Texas Family Code from 2003 that deny same-sex couples the ability to marry in the state. It would also allow Texas to recognize same-sex marriages and civil unions from other states.

However, the bill could only take effect after Texas' 2005 constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage is repealed. Repealing the amendment would require a two-thirds majority of both houses of the Legislature, as well as a major-



Rep. Lon Burnam

ity popular vote.

Thanks to the DOMA ruling, the chances of a legislative victory on marriage equality in Texas now appear less likely than a federal court and/or the high court itself striking down state marriage bans as unconstitutional.

And 60-year-old Domenico Nuckols, a retired nuclear engineer from Galveston, isn't wasting any time pressing the matter in court.

Nuckols filed suit in federal district court this week challenging Texas' marriage amendment, which defines marriage as between one man and one woman.

Nuckols is representing himself and has asked the court to waive his filing fees.

He says he was inspired to file the lawsuit after the DOMA ruling because of the deportation of his partner in 1986.

"It's going to be an uphill battle, but I fired the first shot," Nuckols said.

While we'll undoubtedly see more lawsuits like Nuckols' challenging the marriage amendment in the wake of the DOMA ruling, LGBT advocates generally discourage them unless there's a clear legal strategy because they can do more harm than good by creating negative legal precedent.

Regardless of the outcome of Burnam's bill or Nuckols' lawsuit, public opinion in Texas and across the country is clearly shifting in favor of marriage equality.

A new USA Today poll shows that a record number of Americans, 55 percent, support marriage equality in the wake of the Supreme Court's decisions. That's the highest level of support nationwide since Gallup began asking the question in 1996, when only 27 percent of Americans supported marriage equality.

Meanwhile, a University of Texas/Texas Tribune poll conducted in June prior to the Supreme Court decisions also showed record support for marriage equality in the Lone Star State — at 39 percent. That's up from 29 percent in Texas who said they supported marriage equality in 2009. An additional 30 percent in Texas said they support civil unions, with 26 percent opposing any form of relationship recognition for same-sex couples and 5 percent saying they were unsure.

— John Wright

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# The big gay Texas brain drain

Experts say marriage ban will hurt state's economy after DOMA ruling as LGBT workers flock to places where they can get federal benefits

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

In the wake of two historic victories for same-sex marriage at the U.S. Supreme Court, national attention has returned to the growing divide among states on LGBT equality.

Although same-sex couples legally married in other states may receive some federal benefits if they live in Texas, they won't receive as many federal benefits as couples living in marriage-equality states.

And because it could be anywhere from a few years to a decade or more before Texas recognizes same-sex marriages, some experts believe the talent pool for employers will shrink as LGBT Texans leave the state and others opt against relocating here.

Bob Witeck, president of the Washington, D.C.-based LGBT marketing company Witeck Communications Inc., first analyzed the concept of "gay brain drain" in 2004 when Massachusetts began allowing same-sex marriage. Now, 13 states allow same-sex marriage, covering a third of the nation's population, and the playing field has put marriage-equality states ahead.

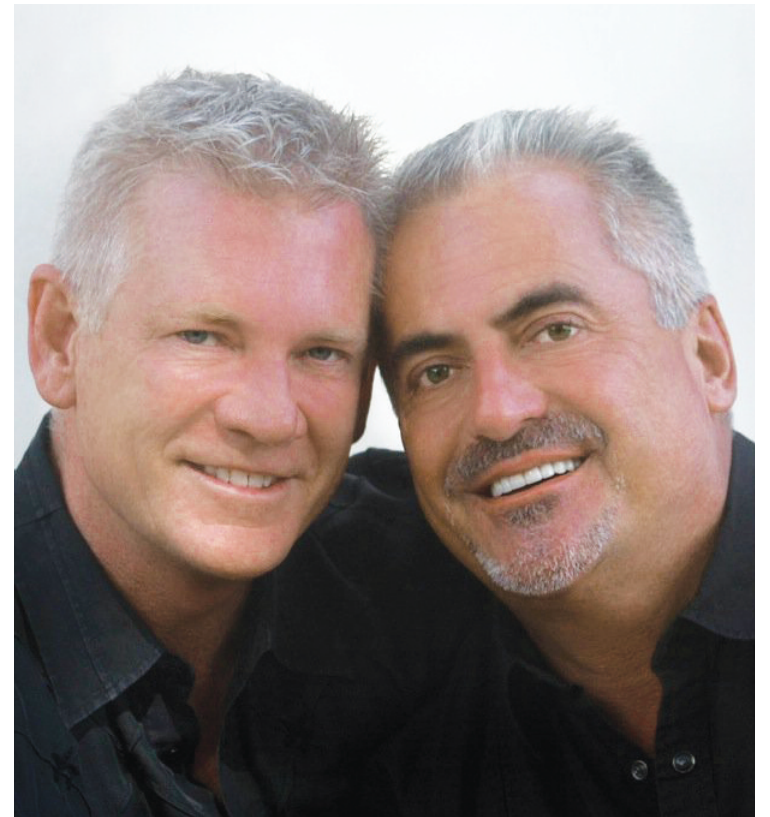
Places with marriage equality like New York, Washington, D.C. and California that also have a lot of talent compete with states like Texas and Illinois for employees and companies to boost state revenue. But unlike Illinois, which is in line to have marriage equality, Witeck said Texas is lagging behind strong business states because of its focus on social issues.

"They're going to be reluctant to move to a state where their family isn't recognized under the law," Witeck said of LGBT employees, adding that others will move away.

Gov. Rick Perry has become known for his business recruiting trips to blue states, touting Texas' low regulations and taxes, but some say the effectiveness of those trips has been overshadowed by his anti-gay, anti-women political views. Witeck said GOP politicians in Texas haven't caught up to conservative business leaders — many of them also Republicans — who value the economic opportunity from LGBT equality and same-sex marriage.

"It deepens the challenges in corporate America to speak to these inequities," he said. "It's going to create the impression that [marriage-

■ **ECONOMY**, Page 8



**CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'** | Claudia Kramer and Terry Samford plan to leave Texas for California. Mark Reed and Dante Walkup are considering the Golden State.

## Couples debate whether to stay or go

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Claudia Kramer and Terry Samford are planning to move to California.

"We've talked about leaving Texas for awhile," Kramer said.

With the Supreme Court rulings on Prop 8 and the Defense of Marriage Act, the couple is thinking about it even more seriously.

Samford was born and raised in Texas. Kramer has lived here for 40 years. In addition to their jobs, a few things are keeping the couple in the Lone Star State for now.

Kramer's mother has been ill and they can't move her. And the couple's son will graduate next year. She said if their son gets a scholarship, that'll relieve much of the financial burden of moving.

Samford visited Vandenberg Air Force Base in California for work last year and said that area is where she'd love to settle. Kramer said she and her partner are both in IT and don't expect finding jobs in California will be difficult.

Kramer went back to school and will be finished in September.

"We were going to go to Disney World in Florida to celebrate," she said.

Instead, they decided to go to California to get married.

Kramer and Samford are among many local same-sex couples who are re-evaluating their decision to live in Texas in the wake of the rulings.

Experts say it's too soon to determine which federal benefits gay couples who are legally married in other states will be eligible for in Texas.

As federal agencies issue more guidance about taxes and benefits, couples can determine if they should head to another state to get married and return to Texas — or if they'd be better off residing somewhere else.

Evan Wolfson, executive director of the national group Freedom to Marry, said even couples in Texas will have some new protections. He called the decision to marry a very personal one.

"Likewise, decisions about where to live are also very personal," he said. "Certainly it's true

people in Texas will experience discrimination they won't experience in other parts of the country."

He said from an advocacy standpoint, both staying in Texas to fight for equality and leaving the state send important messages.

Wolfson said he expects to see progress in several more states this year. New Jersey, Illinois, Hawaii and Nevada may upgrade from civil unions to marriage. But he doesn't expect any ballot initiatives to overturn anti-marriage amendments in 2013.

Ken Upton, Lambda Legal supervising senior staff attorney, said some benefits flow from where couples are married and others from where they live.

While the Defense Department already announced that same-sex couples will get all the housing, medical and other family benefits heterosexual couples do, veterans may not. Benefits that flow through the Department of Veterans Affairs are controlled by law and are determined by state

■ **COUPLES**, Page 9





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## coverstory

■ **ECONOMY**, From Page 6

equality states are] forward thinkers and the others are not."

Perry may soon find the reasons companies aren't bringing their businesses to Texas. He signed HB 2482 in June that will create a study to determine why major companies have chosen to invest or relocate to other states after considering Texas.

Representatives from Perry's office didn't return calls seeking comment for this story.

Jim Henson, director of the Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas at Austin, said while a gay brain drain is possible, the full effect of the high court's rulings may not be felt for a few years.

"I think there will be some danger of something like that happening," Henson said. "It's too early to tell. ...What we're more likely to see than a brain drain is a reluctance of people who want marriage equality to move here in the short term."

Henson said Republican lawmakers' views are lagging behind public opinion.

A June UT/Texas tribune poll shows 39 percent of Texans support gay marriage and 30 percent support civil unions.

"The real leader is going to be political opinion," he said. "It's changing rapidly, but it's changing less rapidly among Republicans."

A November study by the Williams Institute, a prominent LGBT think tank at UCLA, estimated

that Texas would generate \$182.5 million in revenue in the first three years if it legalized same-sex marriage. The estimate was based on 2010 Census data for same-sex couples who live together if 50 percent married.

Tony Vedda, president of the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce, said Perry's efforts are pointless if he and other Republican leaders don't see the benefits of an inclusive workforce. He said businesses should stop viewing marriage equality as a gay issue because it affects society as a whole.

"Economic development groups, chambers of commerce and the governor's office continue their efforts to attract businesses to Texas while shooting themselves in the foot with the state's lack of equality," he said. "Intentional or not, some businesses will certainly move to Texas; but I'm willing to bet that a good deal of them will not."

Chuck Smith, executive director of the statewide LGBT advocacy group Equality Texas, said most major companies already offer competitive benefits to LGBT employees and "we're reaching a point where Texas is less competitive among other states."

"I think it will be increasingly important for Texas to address policies that treat a component of the labor force unfairly," Smith said.

For places like Dallas, Austin and Houston where companies and cities have LGBT-inclusive polices, officials and employers are concerned about losing talent and being able to recruit future

## pet of the week / HUNNY

**Hunny** is a 1½-year-old chiweenie mix with an angelic, cuddle-up disposition. She is heartworm positive but her treatment will be provided by Dallas Animal Services upon adoption. This doe-eyed sweetie has been at the shelter since May 20 and because she needs to find a home very soon, her adoption fee has been waived. Please visit her at Dallas Animal Services, 1818 Westmoreland Road. Ask for Hunny, #A788480.

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talent. Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings said he's concerned about LGBT people leaving the city and avoiding moving to Texas altogether.

"My goal has always been to attract young, smart people to Dallas and this ruling could make our city less attractive for the LGBT community," Rawlings said this week.

John Cramer, CEO of AT&T's LGBT resource group LEAGUE, said management at Dallas-based AT&T has already discussed the possibility of being able to retain and attract LGBT employees and have begun brainstorming on how to remain competitive.

"AT&T is looking into this issue and met with folks inside and outside the network to see what other companies are doing," Cramer said.

AT&T is among companies that have consistently received a perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index. Deena Fidas, deputy director of the HRC's Workplace Project, said business engagement is a part of the organization's strategy to achieve equality in conservative states like Texas.

She said businesses can help fight for equality by having equal policies and benefits and lobbying state Legislatures for inclusive laws.

"They on their own can offer protections above and beyond what's offered at a state and federal level," Fidas said. "Businesses are not going to be bystanders in the fight for full 50-state equality for all."

Sam McClure, spokesman for the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, said major corporations have had concerns about recruitment and retention long before last week's rulings. He added that the decisions only increase pressure for states and NCLCC and other business leaders across the country would continue their work to end inequity in every state.

"If a household headed by a same-sex couple can organize and protect their family, their wealth and assets more effectively in one state more than another, then it stands to reason that's a choice they will consider," McClure said. "For states that want to have a strong economy, keeping laws on the books that effectively bar certain segments of the population from fully participating in the economy is simply counter-productive." ■

#### ■ COUPLES, From Page 6

of residence.

Social Security and Medicare also look at place of residence for some benefits, Upton said.

"If the only reason you're moving is to get benefits, it should be substantial benefits," Upton said.

Before moving, he suggested taking into account state income taxes in other states as well as the higher cost of living in the Northeast and on the West Coast. But he said he believes some people will ultimately move because of how they're treated.

Upton said two groups are more likely to move than others — those who are young and just starting a career and those who are retiring.

Those beginning careers may search for opportunities in marriage equality states. Those retiring might prefer to live in places where their long-term relationships are respected, especially in case they need to deal with assisted living and other healthcare concerns.

"What the IRS does has a lot of implications," he said.

He expects the IRS to begin making rulings this year on issues such as whether domestic partner benefits should be taxed if a couple is married.

For those who plan to stay in Texas, Upton warned against marrying in another state as an emotional reaction to the Supreme Court rulings. Divorce options are limited, and it's unclear what the benefits will be.

"By the fall, we'll have worked through much of the guidance," he said. "There's little justification for hurrying."

Meanwhile, a number of Dallas-area couples are deciding

whether they have a future in Texas.

Chris Green and his husband were married in Washington, D.C., last year and are looking to move there or nearby marriage-equality states Delaware or Maryland next year. They made their decision as they began doing some estate planning.

"Seeing stories of what people in Texas have gone through helped us decide," Green said.

They've put their house on the market and plan to live in an apartment to save some money before their move.

After the high court rulings, Mark Reed and Dante Walkup spent the weekend in San Francisco. Reed said he and his husband have thought seriously of moving.

"Especially after celebrating with all those happy people," Reed said.

Reed and Walkup were married in Washington, D.C. Reed is a former GetEQUAL board member and he and Walkup convinced the Dallas Morning News to begin publishing same-sex wedding announcements a few years ago.

Their LED lighting company is web-based, so they could relocate. The company's signature projects, Reunion Tower and Davis Building in Dallas, were targeted and they could approach building owners wherever they lived.

"But we go back and forth," he said. "We also think we should stay and fight."

But even if the couple decides to stay, Reed said they're planning to retire in five years and if they haven't moved by then, they'll probably relocate to San Diego or San Francisco.

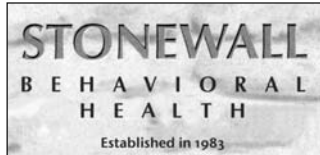
"It's frustrating when you live in a state with an anti-gay governor and a city with a mayor who doesn't put his mouth where his mouth is," he said. ■

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viewpoints

# An epic win for families

DOMA ruling a boon to same-sex parents, whose children are cited repeatedly in Justice Kennedy's opinion, but we still have work to do

My 10-year-old son throws around the word "epic" on a daily basis. His newest Pokémon card? Epic. His latest zombie-defeating battle in Minecraft, his favorite online game? Epic. The word seemed in danger of losing its original clout — and then the U.S. Supreme Court struck down part of the Defense of Marriage Act. That, I told him, was epic. It's felt like a party at our house all week as the ramifications sunk in — most notably, that our son will no longer have to wonder why his country (a country I want him to love and respect) was also treating his family as second class.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing the majority opinion, indicated that the interests of children were much on the mind of the court, too. He wrote, "DOMA ... humiliates tens of thousands of children now being raised by same-sex couples. ... The law in question makes it even more difficult for the children to understand the integrity and closeness of their own family and its concord with other families in their community and in their daily lives."

I couldn't have said it better. But there is one big caution that same-sex parents and prospective parents should still keep in mind, no matter what state we live in: *Second-parent adoptions (or court orders of parentage) are still necessary.*

Here's why: Even if you live in a state with marriage equality or civil unions and can put both parents on a child's birth certificate, your ability to do so rests on the state's recognition of the adults' relationship to each other. States that don't recognize that relationship may not recog-

nize the second parent's right to be on the birth certificate — and that could be a problem for families that move or travel.

Remember, it is still unconstitutional in 29 states for same-sex couples to wed. Section 2 of DOMA, which says states do not have to recognize marriages of same-sex couples from other states, still stands.

LGBT family law expert Nancy Polikoff, a professor at American University Washington College of Law, explained in an email, however, that the lack of interstate recognition for same-sex marriages goes beyond just Section 2 of DOMA. "It is traditional family law that states don't need to recognize marriages that are against their strong public policy," she said. "Since states DO have to give full faith and credit to court judgments of adoption or parentage, parents should get such judgments to guarantee that all states recognize the parentage of their children."

That's one more reason we cannot rest now. It is still insulting that a same-sex spouse must adopt a child (and go through the expense and hassle of a home study) in circumstances when opposite-sex ones need not. And joint adoption of children should be equally possible for all couples everywhere, too. Full marriage recognition in every state would help shift this — but we should remember that opposite-sex couples do not have to be married in order for both people to be recognized as parents, and neither should same-sex ones.

Despite this caution, the DOMA ruling will still have immediate positive, practical impacts on our families, beyond the warm and fuzzy emotional aspects. As Justice Kennedy wrote, "DOMA also brings financial harm to children of same-sex couples. ... And it denies or reduces benefits allowed to families upon the loss of a spouse and parent, benefits that are an integral part of family security."



Dana Rudolph  
Contributing Columnist

## Feedback

### Don't hate on our dancers

It's always hard to be the first one. When BJ's got the call from Dallas Voice about participating in the first online "Dancer of the Month" feature, we were excited. That excitement and enthusiasm died with the Voice's June 21 National Pride issue — and quickly turned to anger and a feeling of exploitation.

We like the online feature of Trey Aaron (the monthly item is a great idea), but the #IMHO feature in Viewpoints is a forum for people to be mean and nasty. Everyone is a critic.

The reality is that a large number of the young men who work at BJ's are in school and have career aspirations. To print absurd and hurtful public remarks that a

majority of dancers are prostitutes, or pole dancers, and the business is about sex, money and drugs may not accurately portray a featured dancer or the business.

Whether a person's work wardrobe is a suit and tie, skirt or underwear, all people deserve respect and kindness. Whether a person's profession is saving lives on a police beat, governing at City Hall, teaching in the classroom, or dancing — every person deserves the right to earn a living in their chosen profession.

We call for the Dallas Voice editors to consider the messengers and the message when publishing the reader comments. Writers may be calling you to task, but the underlying homophobic message creates sensational headlines and drama.

In our humble opinion (#IMHO),

Ron Adams, BJ's owner  
Kathy Jack, BJ's general manager  
Juan Lucero, BJ's assistant manager/dance manager

Imara Jones, who writes about economic justice for Colorlines.com, said on the day of the decision that the ruling was "a major victory for the economic justice of LGBT Americans of color." He explained, "That's because LGBT couples of color have higher rates of poverty and are more likely to have children in their household than white LGBT couples. Consequently, LGBT couples need the financial shot in the arm that the legal recognition of marriage can give."

And the benefits for some families are even more immediate. Minutes after the decision, a New York City immigration judge stopped deportation proceedings for a Colombian man married to a gay U.S. citizen. Other members of binational couples, including ones with children, are now receiving green cards so they can stay together.

Similarly, the military has said it will immediately begin the process of issuing military identification cards to same-sex spouses and to provide the spouses with equal benefits, including medical coverage, housing and interment at Arlington National Cemetery — all moves that will benefit couples with and without children.

We have the momentum to keep pushing for marriage equality everywhere, along with protections against employment discrimination — but we may still feel some insecurity knowing the Supreme Court also just struck down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 — a measure that had been designed to prevent racial discrimination and voter suppression. The arc of the moral universe will bend, but it may oscillate first.

We have far to go before all in this country are truly equal in law and people's perception. But the marriage victories show change is possible — and that gives me hope that we will someday achieve justice for all. That would be, as my son has said, the "epic-est" outcome of all. ■

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of Mombian (mombian.com), an award-winning blog and resource directory for LGBT parents.

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How long before we have marriage equality nationwide?

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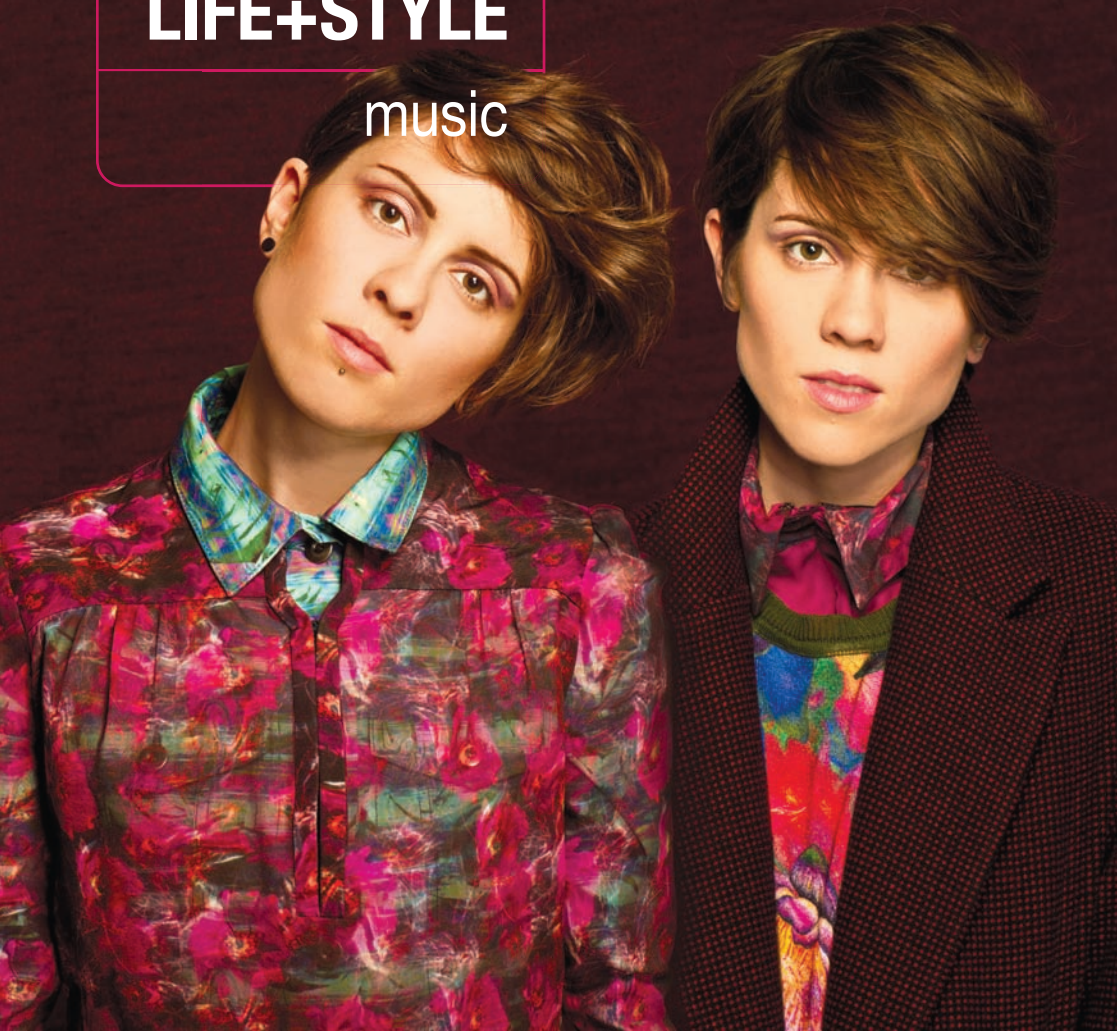


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**GIRLS GONE WILD** | Queer twins Tegan & Sara revamped their sound for their new CD, and the resulting disc is one of the best of the year.

It's the Fourth of July long weekend, you have beer busts and pool parties to attend, and you haven't kept up with the music scene while overtaxing yourself at the gym to get into bikini weather. So just how is 2013 shaping up?

Not to worry. We've compiled the list of the best albums of the year to date. Download these and you'll have some of the hottest (and best) CDs for summer.

— Chris Azzopardi

**10. Yeah Yeah Yeahs, *Mosquito*.** Karen O howls on "Sacrilege" as the sound revs with electric fury and the divine intervention of a gospel



choir. "Buried Alive" features rap persona Dr. Octagon in what sounds like overhead music for an S&M dungeon. The title track is really about a mosquito. "He'll suck your blood," sings Karen O, even buzzing like one of them bugs. The album's raucous absurdity is a complete mess. And what a glorious mess it is.

**9. Jessie Ware, *Devotion*.** It was "Wildest Moments" that had everyone talking about the remarkable chords, classy style and Sade-like smoothness of Jessie Ware. She was the '90s of the new millennium. A minty breath in a room full of stale stench. And her debut is full of "moments": The funk-soul "Running" struts, "If You're Never Gonna Move" grooves and "Taking in Water," for her gay brother, inspires.

**8. Holly Williams, *The Highway*.** With her sinewy drawl and doleful suitcase of songs, Holly Williams — from the Hank lineage — has become Nashville's unsung hero. Rooted in the American sound that marked her previous release, *The Highway* brims with the undressed, reflective and often-heavyhearted songwriting of Williams' career. The acoustic "Waiting on June," an achingly beautiful true tale of her grandparents' long life together (the wedding, the babies, their deaths), will wreck you.

**7. James Blake, *Overgrown*.** An electro hypnosis, James Blake's *Overgrown* is so quietly staged it permeates the subconscious first, unfurling its layers over time. With graceful simplicity and the allure of his otherworldly — and

# The year in music (so far)

What sounds are standouts? Our mid-year roundup ranks the best CDs

sometimes even sexy (the sensational "Life Round Here" will tingle you) — baritone, this work is a breathtaking spectacle where songs subtly loop, morph and swell into sonic splendor.

**6. Vampire Weekend, *Modern Vampires of the City*.** The dainty gents of Vampire Weekend know a good hook. "Diane Young" is delirious, drum-punched pop with wonky pitch-shifting, crunching and fizzing; it makes for one of the most infectious moments in music this year. They get into your head with the wistfulness of the horn-y, Celtic-kissed "Unbelievers," Paul Simon-ed "Everlasting Arms" and eerie "Hudson." Much credit to Ezra Koenig for that voice. It's heaven.

**5. The National, *Trouble Will Find Me*.** The Cincinnati quintet's reliably strong catalog of melancholic mellowness got another noble release with *Trouble Will Find Me*, the understated sixth LP from a band as modest as their sound. The staggering opening trifecta — "Don't Swallow the Cap" stands out most — is graceful and emphatic, with Matt Berninger's achy Bono-like baritone taking center stage. But the closers are just as stunning, especially the conjured dream state of tenderhearted coda "Hard to Find."

**4. Tegan and Sara, *Heartthrob*.** Pop music doesn't get much better than ... Tegan and Sara's latest? Stripping the grittiness of the sisters' indie-rock-and-sometimes-folky sound for something more '90s-boom-box-made was a bold move — and a move that notches the best album of their career. The songwriting still aches (see "How Come You Don't Want Me"), the harmonies still intoxicate ("Now I'm All Messed Up" comes to a beautiful yin-yang close) ... and



the new sound (produced by pop go-to Greg Kurstin) throbs with heart.

**3. Kacey Musgraves, *Same Trailer Different Park*.** On "Merry Go 'Round," Kacey Musgraves admitted something few in country music ever do: small-town life kind of sucks. Then came "Follow Your Arrow," about staying true to yourself — even if you're gay, and even if you like getting high. The rest of her major-label debut is equally unconventional, fresh-spirited and ballsy: The deceiving lullaby sparsity of "It Is What It Is" almost masks the suggestion of casual sex, and "Blowin' Smoke" is a witty portrayal of a dead-end waitressing job. "I'm out here going broke," she laments. Not for long.

**2. Daft Punk, *Random Access Memories*.** Nothing about Daft Punk's disco-dipped futuristic fantasia is obvious, but then again, Daft Punk hasn't just always gone outside the box musically — they've evaded the box altogether. They're on the outer edge again with *Random Access Memories*, an already-ubiquitous game changer for the "One More Time" duo. This is a dazzling bravura of ambitious head trips, from the magic of "Contact" and "Instant Crush" to "Get Lucky" and its vintage feel-good vibes.

**1. Patty Griffin, *American Kid*.** The profoundness of Patty Griffin goes back to her 1996 debut, but now, nearly 20 years later, this new pinnacle surely aligns her with other singer-songwriter greats like Bruce Springsteen and Joni Mitchell. That's because her thematic LP *American Kid*, inspired by her father's death, is an American classic. It's an elegy so viscerally and spiritually powerful, marked by poignancy, razor-sharp storytelling and a voice as rich as they come — that this enlightened work is Patty Griffin's golden ticket to the pantheon of music legends. ■





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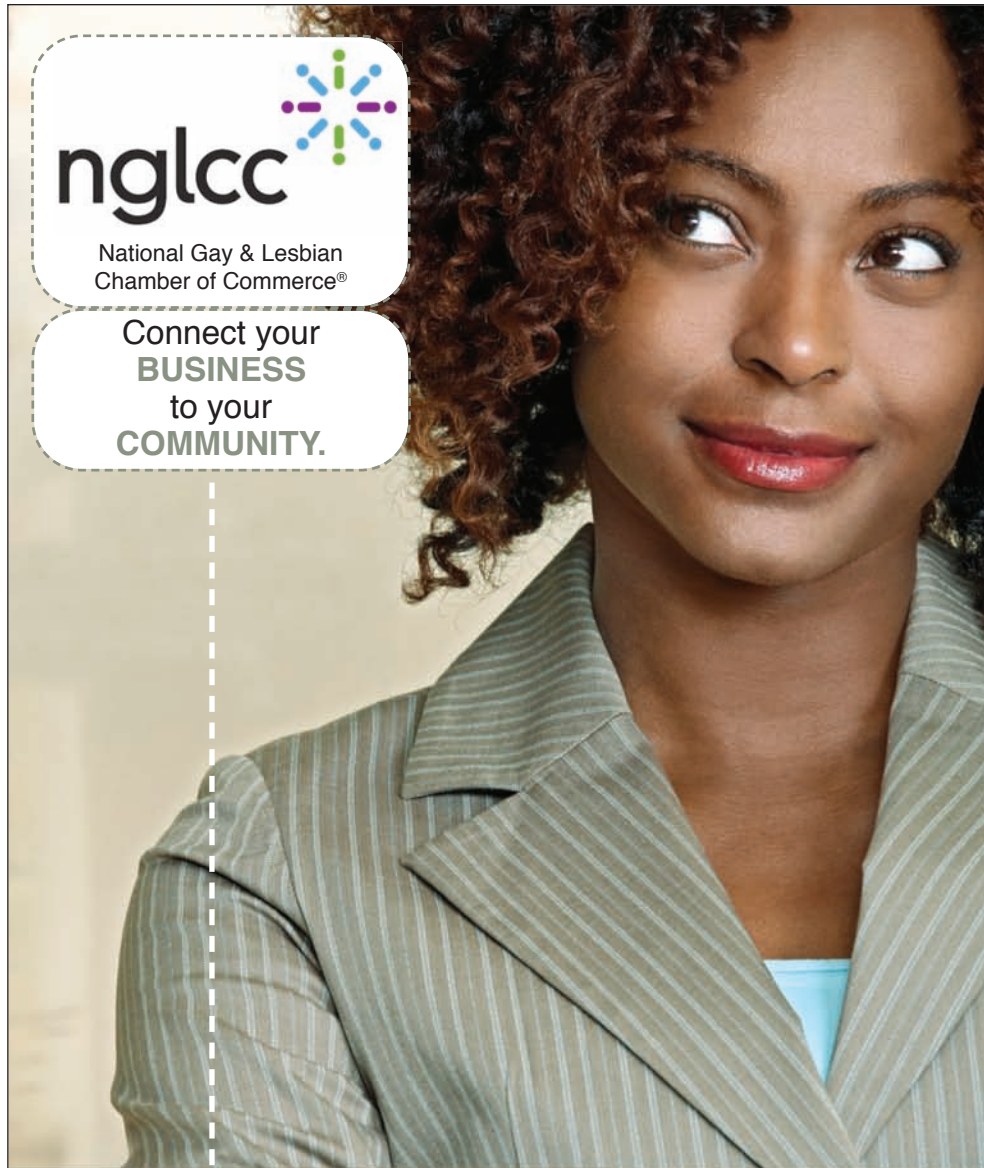
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Male-dominated sports still ignore pioneering women like Griner



Brittney Griner

When Jason Collins came out earlier this year, Helen Carroll was furious.

The longtime sports project director at the National Center for Lesbian Rights had nothing against the 7-foot basketball center, who became the first still-active male athlete in a major American team sport to say "I'm gay." But Carroll couldn't help thinking about something that happened just a couple of weeks earlier.

Brittney Griner — the top women's college basketball player of 2013, No. 1 WNBA draft pick and quite possibly the best female hoops player of all time — also came out as a lesbian.

Collins' announcement was a major media event. He made the cover of Sports Illustrated. He was on the network evening news. President Obama phoned with congratulations. Griner's coming-out merited far less fanfare. There were few headlines. Talk shows ignored the news. The president never called. Carroll attributes the non-reaction to Griner to "the reality of sexism in this country. Men control everything."

Part of the difference in reactions may arise from the polar-opposite stereotypes surrounding men and women in sports. For years, it was "assumed" that many female athletes were lesbians. At the same time, most Americans would not believe any male athlete could possibly be gay.

According to Pat Griffin, a former coach and social justice professor at the University of Massachusetts who now directs Changing the Game: The GLSEN Sports Project, those assumptions are not only wrong, they're dangerous.

"The implication that it was somehow 'easier' for Brittney to come out, because she's in women's sports, worries me," Griffin says. "Yes, there are more women out as athletes and coaches. But there are still plenty who are not. There's still negative recruiting at the college level. The relative silence around Brittney's coming out makes some people assume we've won the war. Well, we haven't."

Griffin salutes the way in which Griner came out. "She just subtly said it. That's a great model for future athletes. It took so much courage for her to do this at the beginning of her professional career. I don't want that courage to get lost."

Griffin agrees with Carroll that the disparity in coverage of the two events has roots in male control. "The mainstream media has never really been interested in women's sports," Griffin says. "And when the conversation began about gay athletes, the media was fascinated by the 'gay men in sports' story. The overall coverage of women's sports in general is abysmal. The as-

sumption that there are lots of lesbians in sport is a double whammy."

It is true that female athletes have been out longer, and in more sports, than males. Mariah Burton Nelson, a Stanford University basketball player, came out in 1976. She played professionally and has written six books about gender and sports. Nearly four decades later, though, "being out takes courage," Nelson says. She commends Griner for living courageously as a role model.

Nelson cites interviews with espnW, Associated Press and USA Today as evidence that the sports world is not ignoring Griner. In fact, Nelson says, "It would seem prurient if the Washington Post, for instance, after routinely ignoring women's college basketball, suddenly shouted Griner's sexual orientation from the front page."

Griffin does not spare the gay media, and the gay sports movement, from criticism. "I've seen panels about gay sports, and it's only gay men talking about gay athletes," she says. "Can the media focus on both gay men and lesbians? Probably not. But LGBT sports people can. We need to keep the spotlight on this issue, from every angle."

Griffin would also like to see the focus move beyond professional sports. "College and high school is where athletes — male and female — are most vulnerable," she says. "I would hate to see this conversation driven solely by 'the first male pro athlete to come out.'"

Nelson would like to see gay college coaches included in the conversation. "When they start being openly 'who they are,' that will be newsworthy." In the future, "who's gay, who's straight, who's bisexual or even transgender will not be a big deal. That's my goal, anyway: to create a world where human diversity is appreciated but not surprising."

Which brings us back to Carroll's reaction. "Brittney has been to the White House. She's met President Obama. But she didn't get a call. That infuriated me." A day later, she says, "I was feeling, well, every person should be celebrated for coming out. Brittney and Jason should both get their day in the sun."

— Dan Woog





#### QUEER CLIPS: 'Way Back,' 'Despicable'

**The Way, Way, Back.** Nat Faxon and Jim Rash may seem like goofy familiar sitcom faces (Faxon on the canceled *Ben and Kate*, Rash a regular on *Community*) but they have fast become the secret weapons of bittersweet comedy in Hollywood. Together with Alexander Payne, they won an Oscar writing the George Clooney movie *The Descendants*, and now write (and direct) *The Way, Way Back*. Once again they tackle the complexities of youth, but *Way Back's* heart elevates it above trite rom-coms or revenge fantasies of the John Hughes variety.

Duncan (Liam James) is at a dicey age even if he weren't forced to spend a stressful summer with his mom's new boyfriend Trent (Steve Carell), a manipulative bully bent on humiliating Duncan. He finds relief in a free-spirited hippie (Sam Rockwell, pictured above right with James), who hires him to work at a waterpark. From there, Duncan comes into his own even without excessively mawkish moments.

Following a brilliantly uncomfortable station wagon confrontation with Carell, the film kicks off with huge laughs, courtesy a breathless monologue by Allison Janney that sets the tone for the level of humor; it never abates, save character-driven emotional moments. Rash and Faxon have supporting roles — Rash is especially funny as nebbishy towel jockey who is the son of two gay dads — but this is an ensemble piece where everyone shines. Adults will recognize slivers of their own family vacations in the awkward silences and stolen kisses.

**Four stars**

**Despicable Me 2.** An animated film that ends with a character dressed as the leather daddy from The Village People singing "YMCA" is not to be dismissed out-of-hand, even if most of the kids in the audience won't get the innuendo. But the second Steve Carell movie to open this week (see above) also rests on parent-child relationships for its dramatic impetus.

*Despicable Me 2* is even more misnamed than its predecessor, as the "villain," Gru (Carell) is an old softy bent not on world domination but responsible parenting, but you can't fault it for having a winsome appeal. The animation is distinctive, the gags clever and the plot? ... Well, the gags are clever. That's enough.

**Two-and-a-half stars**

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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L+S dining

# Thai one on

Oak Lawn's newest eatery, Si Lom, serves reliable Thai cuisine

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES

Life+Style Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

When it moved into the grotto-like quasi-underground Oak Lawn space long occupied by Daniele, Si Lom wasn't just trying something new — it was changing the tone in several respects.

When it was Daniele, the space in the lower terrace of 3300 Oak Lawn Ave. oozed a kind of New York East Village hideaway, with Old World style and culinary sophistication. Si

Lom goes for a much more casual vibe. There's still a bar, but the venue feels more open, more accessible; light cascades in, though direct sunlight doesn't blind you. It more resembles a Lower East Side sushi bar, with clean lines and bright surfaces.

Another major change is the flavor profile, moving from Italian to what they call "Thai Asian fusion." I'm not sure what the "fusion" is, but the Thai elements shine through.

Thai cuisine has always blended a variety of Asian foods, with an emphasis on spices, stir-fried vegetables and noodles. (Arguably its signature dish, pad Thai — made of rice noodles, eggs, peanuts and sprouts in a tamarind sauce — originated in Vietnam.) Si Lom offers most of the usual suspects you'd find in Thai cooking: pad see ew, pad kee mow, glass noodles, assorted curries. Sometimes, they deliver something unexpected.

The salad roll (\$9.95) is an example. We've had this style of roll before: thin, elastic rice paper stretched around greens tighter than a Joan Rivers facelift, enclosing free vegetables with a side dish of peanut sauce. This one — which is



**CURRYING FLAVOR** | Yellow noodles provide a colorful, filling take on traditional curry, with rice noodles replacing the typical rice. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

also available with shrimp for an extra dollar — had a fresh, vegetal flavor, but something seemed missing. It truly was a *salad* inside a translucent wrap. It mattered little: Ultimately, the dish is best enjoyed as a peanut-sauce delivery device.

We also enjoyed the syrupy drizzle that accompanied the corn patties (\$6.95), adding sweetness and moisture to the well-fried disc of corn. (There were five patties, easy to share with a large group or filling and reasonably priced on their own.)

The tom kha soup was also a great deal: \$3.95 for a good-sized bowl. Creamy and colorful, with a tang from lemongrass and Chinese parsley, it might seem too warm a dish with summer here, but really, it just proved soothing.

Prices are excellent any time of day on all the dishes. The yellow noodles (\$9.95 at lunch, \$11.95 at dinner) is similar to pad see ew, with yellow curry replacing the traditional soy glaze. The addition of beef made for a hearty, enjoyable portion, but the curry was comparatively mild compared to what we came prepared for at a Thai restaurant. The so-called "ginger ginger" stir fry had a noticeable though not definite ginger aroma (despite its name), and the fried tofu was too chewy.

Service was pleasant if not entirely spot-on. We asked if we could substitute one item for another and were initially told yes; when it came down to ordering, though, we couldn't. Miscommunication aside, the staff is pleasant and efficient.

Si Lom isn't the heat-monster that Thai-Riffic can be, but it turns out reliable Southeast Asian specialties with care if not fanfare.

### OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

**Si Lom Thai Asian Fusion**, 3300 Oak Lawn Ave.  
Open Daily at 11 a.m. [SiLomDallas.com](http://SiLomDallas.com).

Curries, rolls and peanut sauces all deliver solid flavor without fuss or flair.

**Food:** ★★★★★

**Atmosphere:** ★★★★★

**Service:** ★★★★★

**Price:** Inexpensive



## LIFE+STYLE

best bets



## Saturday 07.06

### Artist and model celebrate the male form with demo

If you had Heath Billups' body, pictured right, you'd probably let people paint you, too. And we don't just mean pose at a sitting, but actually have an artist apply paint to his body. OK, maybe *you* wouldn't, but Billups will at an unusual demonstration and art exhibit Saturday. Local artist Anja Yamanji-Lawson will decorate Billups' form with paints, then another artist, Rolando Diaz, will take his inspiration from that body to instantly create a new work of art. The Deep Ellum pop-up art event will have wine as well as art for sale — including previous works inspired by Billups.

**DEETS:** Event space: 2650 Main St. 8–11 p.m. Free.



## Friday 07.05

### CTD opens 'Children of a Lesser God'

Before Marlee Matlin played a lesbian on *The L Word*, she won an Oscar playing a deaf woman in the film version of *Children of a Lesser God*. The Tony Award-winning play gets a rare revival this week, opening right after the Fourth of July. Local actors Ashley Wood and Marianne Galloway (the latter of whom truly is hearing-impaired) star ... and they've been practicing American Sign Language for months.

**DEETS:** Greenville Center for the Arts, 5601 Sears St. July 5–28. ContemporaryTheatreOfDallas.com.



## Thursday 07.11

### Asian Film Festival kicks off

Dallas' 12th annual Asian Film Festival begins its 10-day celebration not only of films about Asians, but also by Asians ... and as has become the custom, there are some gay-themed features, including *Before You Know It*, a documentary (set partly in Texas) about gay retirees and *Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?*, a poignant comedy about coming out late in life. But there are many more good films worth watching as the fest moves from the Magnolia to its new digs at the Angelika Film Center.

**DEETS:** Angelika Film Center, 5600 Mockingbird Lane. July 11–21. For a full schedule, visit AsianFilmDallas.com.

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## calendar highlights

### ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING THEATER

**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. *Final weekend.* 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.

**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.

**Fly.** A new retelling of the Peter Pan story goes into previews (through July 11), courtesy of Dallas Theater Center. Directed by Tony Award-winning producer Jeffrey Seller. Wylie Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Aug. 18. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Songs for a New World.** Song cycle presented by Uptown Players. *Reviewed this week.* Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. *Final weekend.* UptownPlayers.org

**Children of a Lesser God.** Tony Award-winning play about a hearing man and a deaf woman. Greenville Center for the Arts, 5601 Sears St. July 5-28. ContemporaryTheatreofDallas.com

**Flashdance: The Musical.** The hit film from the 1980s becomes a stage musical. *Reviewed this week.* Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. *Final weekend.* DallasSummerMusicals.org.

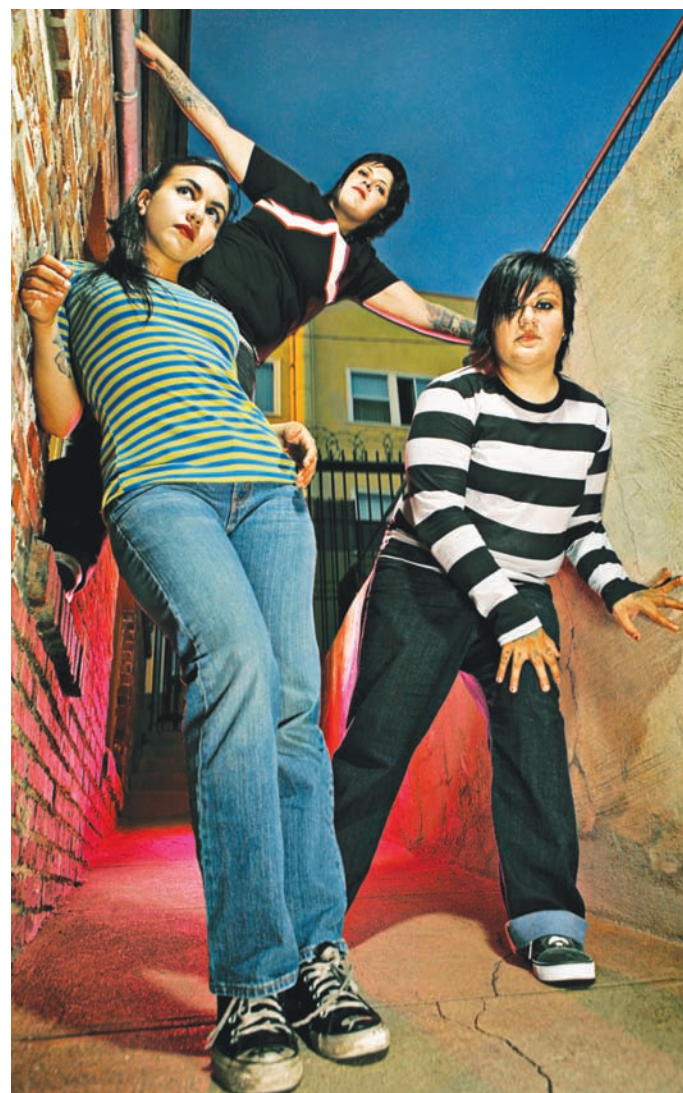
**The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs.** Dallas Children's Theater presents a musical for the entire family. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through July 14. DCT.org.

### 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.

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

**Gold on Black: Japanese Lacquer from the Jacqueline Lavant Collection.** The beauty of lacquered finishes is highlighted. Crow Collection of



**COMA, CHAMELEONS** | The queer trio Girl in a Coma performs Thursday in Arlington.

Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through Sept. 15. Free. CrowCollection.org.

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

**Focus: The Great Trinity Forest and Trinity River.** This group show features photography from several nature photographers. Sun to Moon Gallery, 1515 Levee St. 214-745-1199.

**Antonio Diaz Cortes: The Art of Printmaking.** ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. Through July 27. ilumeGallerie.com.

## SATURDAY 07.06

### CONCERTS

**Beyonce.** Performs at American Airlines Center, 2500 Victory Ave. 8 p.m. AmericanAirlinesCenter.com.

## SUNDAY 07.07

### WORSHIP

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

**The ONE Church,** 5427 Philip Ave. Services 6 p.m. Dallas1Church.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).



**COMMUNITY**

**SPCA of Texas Pet Grief Counseling** monthly program helps those who have lost an animal cope with their loss. Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center at 2400 Lone Star Drive. 1 p.m. 214-651-9611.

**Dallas Girls of Leather.** Month meeting. Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. 5-7 p.m.

**Ministry.** Grand opening of the new Sunday night dance party from the folks who do Dick's Night Out, with DJ Drew spinning. LEVU, 2505 Pacific Ave. Doors open at 9 p.m. \$5 in advance/\$10 at the door. MinistrySundays.com.

**MONDAY 07.08**

**COMMUNITY**

**Stonewall Democrats of Tarrant County.** Group meets at The Pour House, 272 S.W. 7th St., Fort Worth. TarrantCountyStonewallDemocrats.org.

**PFLAG Mesquite.** St. Stephen United Methodist Church. 2520 Oates Drive, Mesquite. 7 p.m. 972-279-3112.

**TUESDAY 07.09**

**COMMUNITY**

**Late Bloomers,** social support group for women who came out later in life. La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon Ave. 6 p.m. 903-778-4446.

**Lambda Pride Toastmasters.** Regular meeting for improving communication and leadership skills. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. LambdaPride.FreeToastHost.us.

**THURSDAY 07.11**

**CONCERTS**

**Girl in a Coma.** The queer trio performs at Levitt Pavilion, 100 W. Abrams St., Arlington. 7 p.m. GirlInAComa.com.

**FILM**

**Asian Film Festival of Dallas.** The 12th annual event kicks off at its new location at the Angelikca Film Center. For schedule, visit AsianFilmDallas.org.

**COMMUNITY**

**Chick Happy Hour.** Monthly lesbian mixer. JR.'s Bar & Grill, 3923 Cedar Springs Road. 6-9 p.m.

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**CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY**



**Douglas Sills** turns 52 on Friday. The openly gay Broadway star was a Tony Award nominee for *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, and was seen on Dallas stages last year as Gomez in the national tour of *The Addams Family* at Dallas Summer Musicals' State Fair musical.

**CANCER: Jun 21–Jul 20**

I have a feeling that your dream come true isn't as much fun to live with as it is to look at, and this other thing is a big question mark but something tells me you'd be nuts to pass it up.

**LEO: Jul 21–Aug 20**

Along with the idea that it's safe to make plans, and that others might even want to go along with them, is giving you hope that the next phase of your life will include a clearer sense of what love is all about.

**VIRGO: Aug 21–Sep 20**

Don't wig out about doing the right thing — you're not even in touch with what you want anymore. Doing the right thing is about knowing how to do what's best for everyone without allowing your inner voice to go silent or out of integrity.

**LIBRA: Sep 21–Oct 20**

Being stuck is pointless, and that's where's you'll wind up if you can't take a novel approach or if you are unwilling to get over yourself in any way. The good news is, the minute you drop all your fears, your situation will improve.

**SCORPIO: October 21–Nov 20**

You don't need to be involved in anything unless you are asked. Those close to you don't necessarily need your input at the moment. If you're smart, you'll forget about needing to hold their lives together and keep reminding yourself that it isn't your job to be there when they call.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21–Dec 20**

All any of us are here for is to give and receive love. You can't let the blood on the tracks ruin a potentially incredible thing. And you can't let your pictures put too small a frame around anything that involves your heart.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 21–Jan 20**

For many of you, the issue is more about having everything a person could want and wondering if this is really it. Try not to overanalyze yourself or wonder what's missing. You'll be way better off if you can open your heart to what's in front of you and re-discover the joy in it.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21–Feb 20**

You're going to have to put out a little extra effort or fake-it-'til-you-make-it in situations where others could very well be playing on your sympathies. You don't want to be overly skeptical about their motives, but you've been burned and exploited enough times to deserve to be doubtful in this situation.

**PISCES: Feb 21– Mar 20**

This has to be a clean break, so finish things up, get as much closure as you can and know that you are moving on to something that will totally open up the realm of possibilities. It's your turn to have it just the way you want it.

**ARIES: Mar 21–Apr 20**

In between the realization that you really are on the right track and feelings of immense gratitude, you might want to think about where this is all going to end up, and prepare the ground for whatever it takes to make it better.

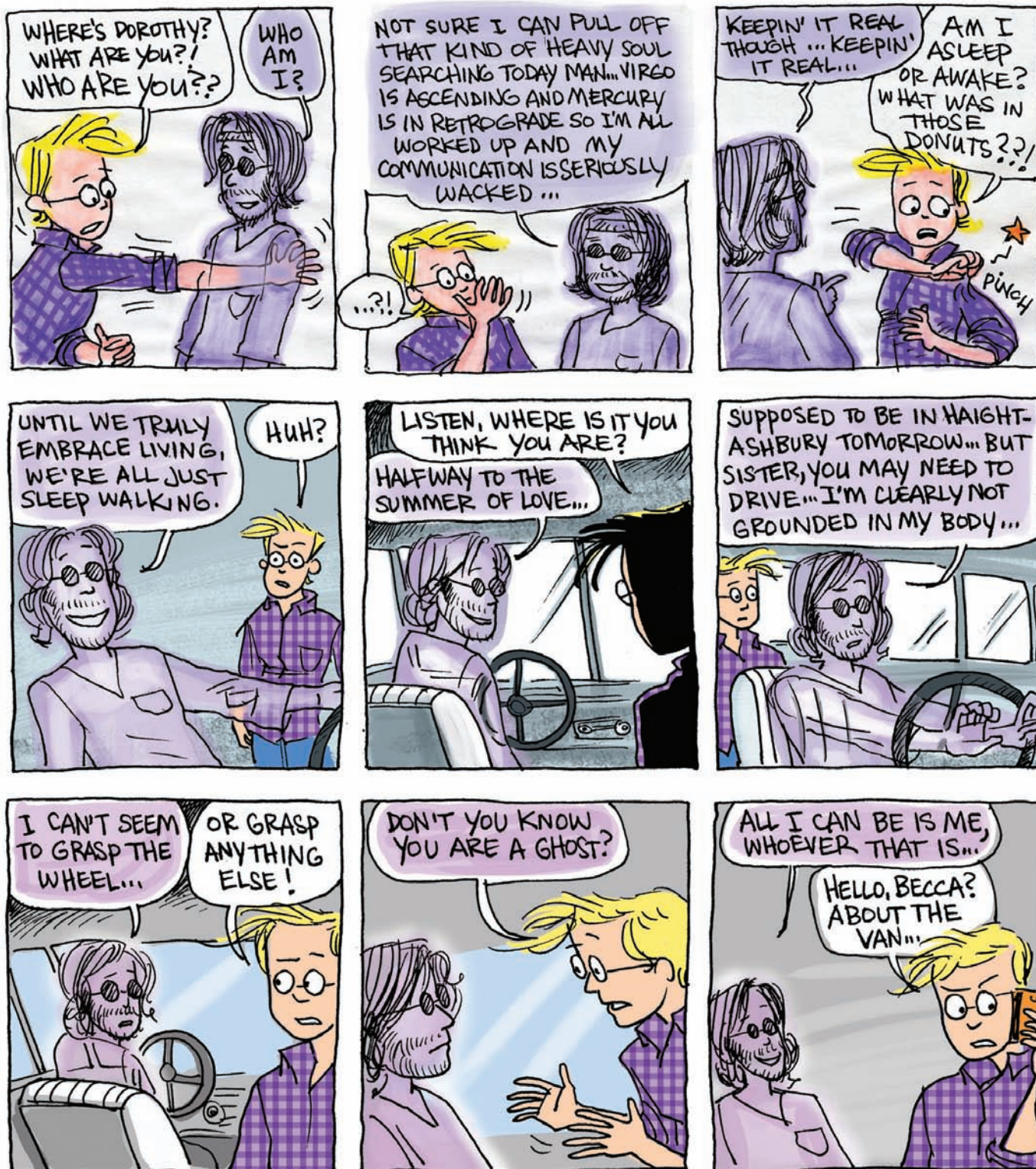
**TAURUS: Apr 21–May 20**

The martial arts experts tell us the best defense is to offer no resistance. In this situation, that suggests to win is to let it go. If your pride is too wounded to see that, trust me; the need to defend yourself or seek revenge will only make things worse.

**GEMINI: May 21–Jun 20**

If anyone criticizes you for breaking the rules, let them know that you didn't come here to go along with the program. You may have your share of shit to sort out, but you're no fool and you know better than anyone what it takes to make this work.

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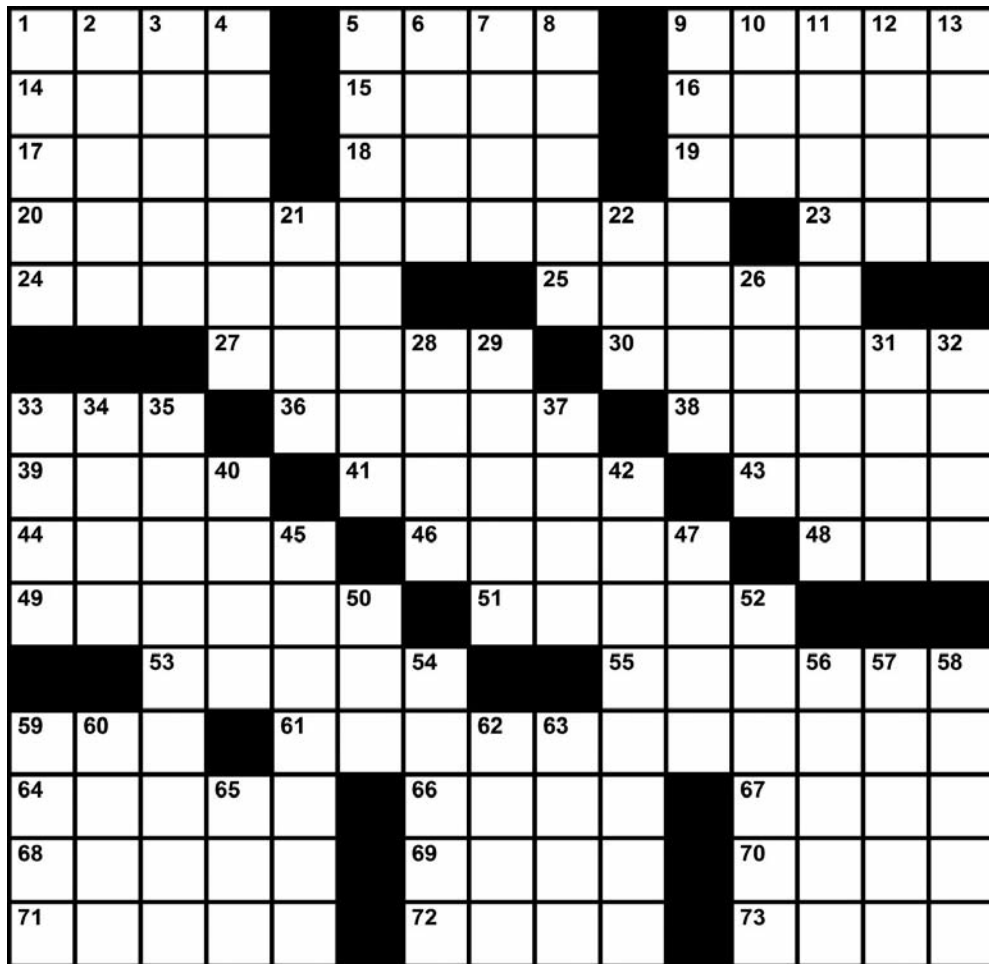


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# Mad Persons

Solution on page 21

**Across**

- 1 Poppycock
- 5 Pinball wizard foul
- 9 Old infantry spears
- 14 Stud fee?
- 15 Nurse Jackie star Falco
- 16 Shake in bed?
- 17 Biweekly tide
- 18 Bottom priority of a top
- 19 Type of sex you have on the phone
- 20 Gay *Mad Men* character who said "Your boyfriend) doesn't own your vagina"
- 23 Up to, for short
- 24 Enticing words at Barney's
- 25 Utopia and Shangri-la
- 27 Adds color
- 30 Works of Tennessee Williams
- 33 They prosecute perps
- 36 Needed some BenGay
- 38 Enliven, with "up"
- 39 Writer Dinesen
- 41 Current coins of Amsterdam
- 43 Gillette brand
- 44 *Terminal Bar* playwright Paul
- 46 Sometime poisonous plant
- 48 Line of dresses
- 49 Lambda Literary Award winner Greene

51 "Let's make it a threesome!"

- 53 Way to serve your meat
- 55 Committed to penetration?
- 59 Scenery chewer
- 61 Closeted bisexual *Mad Men* character
- 64 He recently praised the Supreme Court's ruling on same-sex marriage
- 66 Taylor or Boulanger
- 67 Popeye's \_\_\_'pea
- 68 Like a rambling sentence
- 69 Anticipatory nights
- 70 Puts on the dog?
- 71 Brought up the rear?
- 72 Silence for Copland
- 73 You don't want them in your pants

**Down**

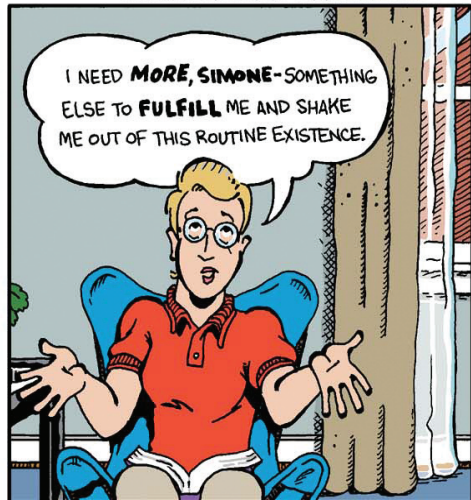
- 1 Instrument strummed in "*Mame*"
- 2 "There's a single runner" to *Billy Bean*
- 3 Has more than a one-night stand
- 4 Swinger of old
- 5 Playwright McNally
- 6 It comes out of your head
- 7 Neeson of *Kinsey*
- 8 Closemouthed
- 9 Petitions of Jane Spahr
- 10 Debtor's letters
- 11 Gay *Mad Men* character from Germany
- 12 Morales of *Resurrection Blvd.*
- 13 Bear market order
- 21 *East of Eden* director Kazan
- 22 Teaching deg.
- 26 Wine region south of the Russian River
- 28 Like so
- 29 Vital fluid
- 31 A lot, maybe
- 32 Fashion line?
- 33 Star Canyon serving
- 34 On *The Love Boat*, perhaps
- 35 Gay *Mad Men* character caught sleeping with a bellboy
- 37 Rounded top
- 40 Brick oven
- 42 Wilde, for example
- 45 *Me and My Shadows* subject Judy
- 47 Neighbor of Mass.
- 50 "Science Guy" of PBS
- 52 Black Sea port
- 54 Lurer of phallic fish
- 56 Field Marshal Rommel
- 57 Force out
- 58 Use a steam iron
- 59 \_\_\_ d'oeuvres
- 60 Lie alongside
- 62 "Hand it over!"
- 63 Britten's pub potables
- 65 Utterance at a gay rodeo



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Gary, Larry and Rob at Station 4.



Hunter of the Tin Room, our July Dancer of the Month. For more photos of Hunter, visit [DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos](http://DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos).



Girls' night out at JR.'s Bar & Grill.

Layla LaRue and USofA Productions present Triple Crowning Dallas USofA 2013 in the Rose Room on July 11. Miss Dallas, Mr. Dallas and Miss Dallas Metroplex will all be named. More than \$1,000 in cash and prizes are awarded. Xavi Mathews, Sasha Lauren, Kandy Kane, Skye O'Hara Paige, Asia O'Hara and Nikko Andrews all appear. Register at 3 p.m. Interview at 4 p.m. and showtime at 11 p.m. ... Dallas Bears and Leather Knights hold first Friday club night at Dallas Eagle on July 5. The United Court of the Lone Star Empire's annual Diva/Divo contest and show hosted by Craig Bolson and Marshall Styers benefiting the Sharon St. Cyr Fund takes place July 6. Girls of Leather meet on July 7. ... Chick Happy Hour comes to JR.'s Bar & Grill on July 11 at 6 p.m. ... July 5 is Girls Night Out with Peggy Honea at Alexandre's. Crystal Ramon appears on July 6 and Alicia Silex on July 11. ... Marisela the Voice performs at Eden Lounge on July 7. ... The Rainbow Lounge holds its annual Black Light Party on July 5 and 6. Come glow on the new patio. ... Voice of Pride eliminations take place this week on July 8 at the Brick/Joe's, on July 10 at Woody's Sports & Video Bar and July 11 at Peker's. ... Win copies of Grammy winner India.Arie's new CD Songversation featuring the soulful singles Cocoa Butter and Just Do You at an album release party on July 11 at Sue Ellen's. Holiday weekend entertainment at the bar begins with Burlesque on July 5, continues with Marisela the Voice on July 6 and wraps up with Mi Diva Loca on July 7. ■

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



Jay, Waleed and Marcus at BJ's NXS!



Friends at Sue Ellen's.



Richard and Cody at the Dallas Eagle.





Derrick and John at the Grapevine Bar.



Heather at 1851 Club.



Friends at Havana.



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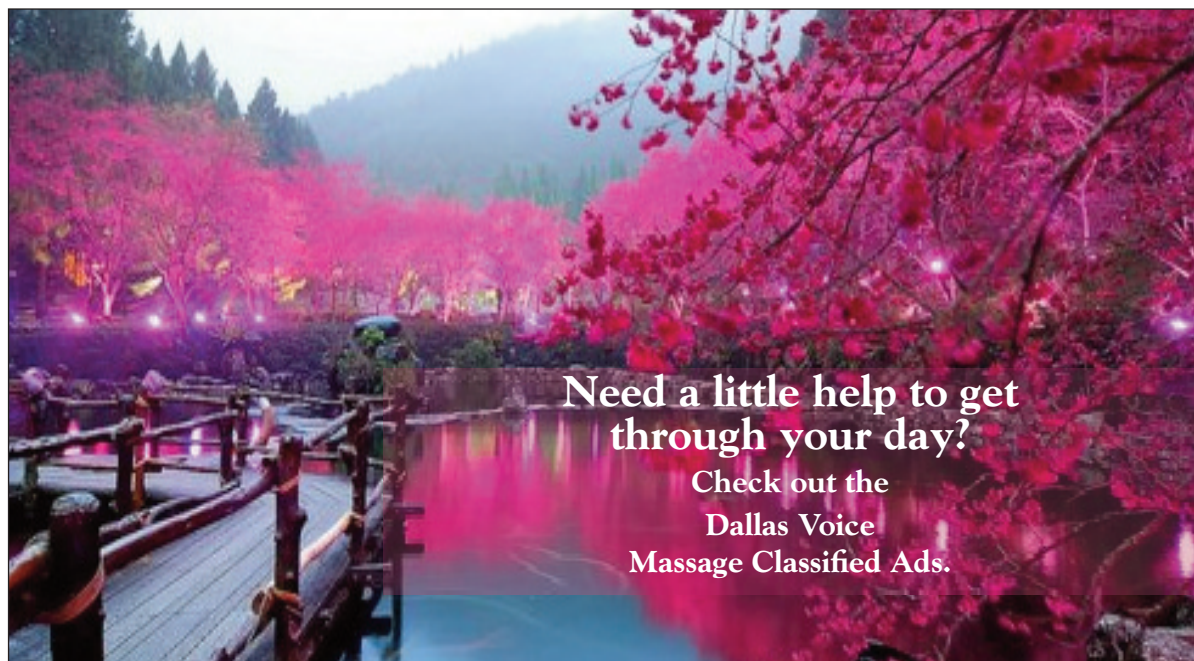
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