

City's trans health coverage still unclear

Activist, city officials spar over what is covered for Dallas employees
LGBT Task Force makes comprehensive trans healthcare a priority

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Photo by Myriam Santos



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STRIKE OUT | North Texans bowl on Aug. 18 at HRC's annual Fruit Bowl fundraiser in Richardson. For more photos, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos. (Patrick Hoffman/Dallas Voice)

2 club-goers attacked near Rainbow Lounge in Fort Worth

Two club-goers were attacked over the weekend near Fort Worth's gay clubs on South Jennings Avenue.

Cpl. Tracey Knight, LGBT liaison for the Fort Worth police, said two men reported being attacked near the Rainbow Lounge at 651 S. Jennings Ave. and Club Reflections, 604 S. Jennings Ave. on Friday, Aug. 16.

Knight said the men were approached by four to five black men between the ages of 20 and 25 while walking to or leaving the clubs at 2:30 a.m. on Friday morning and the other at 10:45 p.m. that night.

During one assault, the men tried to take the man's cell phone. Both suffered cuts and bruises with one requiring stitches.

Knight said there isn't evidence of the attacks being hate crimes, but police have added extra patrol around the area and are still investigating them.

"The Fort Worth Police Department is taking precautions to keep citizens safe, as well as making bar staff and patrons aware of these incidents," Knight said.

Knight said she has already spoken to Fort Worth police Chief Jeffrey Halstead about the attacks, as well as openly gay Fort Worth Councilman Joel Burns, whose district includes the area. She said people should remain aware of their surroundings when going out.

"As always, people should be aware of their surroundings, park in well lit areas and walk in groups or pairs," Knight said. "Personal safety should always be taken seriously but especially so when you are in a known LGBT area, unfortunately this is the world we live in."

Anyone with information regarding these incidents should contact Knight at tracey.knight@fortworthtexas.gov.

— Anna Waugh

Austin ISD reveals plan to offer same-sex partner benefits

Austin Independent School District revealed its "plus one" employee benefits plan this week that will go into effect in the fall.

AISD announced in March that the district would offer domestic partner benefits to its employees next school year. But legislation was later introduced in Austin to cut state funding for school districts that offered DP benefits. The legislation never made it to the House floor for a vote.

AISD Superintendent Meria Carstarphen announced Wednesday that the district's "plus one" plan will provide benefits to a "qualifying individual," according to a release from Equality Texas.

The eligibility criteria will allow for the inclusion of same-sex partners of district employees.

Equality Texas has been working with the Austin district on this issue since May, following Attorney General Greg Abbott's opinion that DP benefits violate the state's constitutional marriage amendment.

"Equality Texas is proud to have been a resource to the Austin ISD," Equality Texas Executive Director Chuck Smith said in a statement. "These plans are a simple way for employers to offer competitive benefits while also treating their employees fairly and remaining in compliance with the laws and constitution of the state."

Meanwhile in Dallas, where DART has continued to delay discussion on its proposed benefits plan for same-sex partners, DART's administrative committee will resume discussion on the topic on Aug. 27.

— Anna Waugh

Former Dallasite 'Prison Break' star Wentworth Miller comes out

When the TV show *Prison Break* was filming in North Texas for two seasons, I had the opportunity to meet and interview the show's star, Wentworth Miller, on three occasions for TV Guide. And on each occasion, my gaydar went off. So when I read Thursday that Miller had come out as gay to protest the treatment of gays in Russia, I can't say it came as a shock. But it delighted me nonetheless.

Miller hasn't been much in evidence in recent years as an actor, though he has a hand as a writer for the recent art-house film *Stoker*. He's just the latest person this month to come out for political reasons.

I'm happy for Miller. But I'm even happier my gaydar wasn't off.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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City's trans health coverage still unclear

City of Dallas officials dispute differences in coverage, while LGBT Task Force makes comprehensive trans healthcare a group priority

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

It's been several months since transgender activist Nell Gaither was assured by Dallas officials that the city's healthcare plan covered everything except surgeries for its trans employees. But Gaither is still finding out that the coverage doesn't cover as much as it should.

Gaither, president of Trans Pride Initiative, launched a campaign last fall to have the city offer comprehensive transgender health coverage for its employees, including hormone therapy, counseling, wellness exams and gender reassignment surgery.

After meeting with former City Manager Mary Suhm and representatives from Human Resources and UnitedHealthcare earlier this year, she said she was told again that the city's insurance plan covers everything except gender reassignment surgery — and the city wasn't likely to cover surgery anytime soon.

She said she thought the city was at least covering everything else and she turned her efforts to education about the need to expand the coverage. But then she found more issues and uncertainties in coverage.

The city's LGBT Task Force added trans healthcare to its list of priorities this week and will tackle the issue in the coming months, offering Gaither more help with City Hall.

Gaither, who worked for the city for years until last year when she quit to dedicate more time to her nonprofit, is on the city's COBRA coverage. When she went for an annual checkup in March, she had lab tests to check her estrogen and testosterone levels, which should've been covered 100 percent under wellness. But they weren't.

Gaither fought the charges for months, contacting the city, who directed her to UnitedHealthcare. The insurance company said they were legally prohibited from covering the lab tests under wellness because the tests weren't listed in their guidelines under wellness coverage. When Gaither again contacted the city, they told her the tests were covered by the negotiated insurance rate, but not under wellness, and therefore not at 100 percent.

"The city said they cover this. My experience is what I was told was covered wasn't covered," Gaither said. "So I think that we don't know what's covered and what's not."

Representatives with Dallas' Public Informa-



NOT TRANSPARENT | Trans Pride Initiative President Nell Gaither has disputed discrepancies in transgender healthcare coverage with city officials before, but she said they're still occurring and need to be addressed before more employees are denied coverage for necessary services and tests. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

tion Office, Human Resources and interim City Manager A.C. Gonzalez's office did not return calls or emails seeking comment.

The discrepancy has brought questions about what else isn't covered under the wellness umbrella for the city's coverage and how they will communicate the coverage to trans employees before they get stuck with a bill that they thought they wouldn't have.

"My health is good so I'm limited to what I can try to cover," Gaither said about knowing for sure what the city covers.

The city's insurance coverage has allegedly

covered everything for its trans employees minus surgery since 2009, Gaither said, but she and other employees have had trouble getting their hormones covered on the plan for years.

UnitedHealthcare's prescription drug plan is separate. Gaither said her hormones were sometimes covered based on the prescription provider. CVS/Caremark is the current provider and currently covers her hormones. But she said she hasn't ever met her deductible for hormones, so she's unsure if the coverage really does cover them after meeting the deductible. CVS/Caremark doesn't list hormone replacement therapy

in its exclusions.

Gaither wants the city to explain its trans coverage in writing and publish it online or in print in Human Resources so employees know what is and isn't covered. That way, when people have issues with coverage, they can prove that a test or service should be covered if they have it in writing.

"They don't have any statement from the city to back them up," Gaither said.

And she'd like the city to eventually create a how-to guide for employees who want to transition on the job to know how the city will handle it

Residents fight DHA zoning change for Oak Lawn land



NOT BACKING DOWN | Mike Harper, left, and Leslie Maturin petition to deny a rezoning request by Dallas Housing Authority to build denser housing on its Oak Lawn property. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Cedar Springs Place would be more than double the size of any Dallas Housing Authority project if city allows zoning change for property

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Oak Lawn residents are petitioning the City Council to block rezoning that would allow the Dallas Housing Authority to build a high-density complex on their Cedar Springs Place property.

A 200-unit development stood on the Hartford Street property between Kings Road and Hawthorne Avenue. Like many older apartments in Oak Lawn, it was torn down for redevelopment. Now, the DHA would like to do what other Oak Lawn developers are doing — replace it with higher density housing.

The proposed rezoning would allow DHA to build 400 units and waive standard parking requirements. More than 300 people have signed a petition to stop the rezoning.

Oak Lawn resident Ronnie Marr said he is concerned about crime in the area.

"A few years ago they were torn down and there seemed to be a dramatic reduction in crime and panhandling," he said.

Leslie Maturin lives in the neighborhood and is among the organizers of the Rezoning DHA Action Committee, which is leading the efforts to stop the rezoning. She said she's just trying to get information out so neighbors can make their own opinions. Her preference is for the new property

to house the same number of people as the former development.

She'd like to see a mix of incomes, limit residents' time at the property and do background checks to keep criminals out of the development.

She said she's concerned about property values in the neighborhood. She's a Realtor and spoke to her broker who estimates the property would lower prices on the new condos going up on Kings Road and others surrounding the project by 10 to 15 percent.

"Let's work together to make this work for the whole neighborhood," she said.

The project manager from DHA did not return calls seeking comment.

Although the rezoning request will be discussed by the Dallas Plan Commission, the final decision is made by the City Council. In most cases, the council relies on the opinion of the council member who represents the district in which the rezoning will occur. Councilman Adam Medrano represents District 2 where Cedar Springs Place is located.

Briefed on it last week, Medrano said he was considering the best needs of DHA residents and the neighborhood.

"I'm looking at both sides," Medrano said.

He said he asked for an update from DHA and then hopes to meet with both sides to come up with a solution acceptable to everyone.

Kings Road resident Mike Harper said when the property was torn down, the housing authority intended to sell it. Instead, they decided to keep it to build the largest public housing development in the city.

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localbriefs

Lambda Weekly celebrates 30 years

Listeners of 89.3 KNON-FM are invited to the KNON studio on Aug. 24 at 11 a.m. to celebrate Lambda Weekly's 30th anniversary on the air with a party honoring former Councilwoman Angela Hunt.

Hunt, who served on the Dallas City Council for eight years representing District 14, which includes much of Oak Lawn, will be in the studio discussing her time on the council.

Philip Kingston, who replaced Hunt on the council, will also be in the studio.

Listeners may make on-air comments and ask Hunt and Kingston questions. After the show, lunch will be catered by Thairrific.

The event is a fundraiser for KNON, a non-commercial station that relies on events and listener donations for its funding. A donation of \$25 or more is requested to participate.

Lambda Weekly is one of KNON's few remaining shows that began in August 1983 when the station first signed on the air. Bill Nelson, the show's original host, left to run for City Council. KNON is at 5353 Maple Ave. Parking and studio entrance are in the back of the building.

For more information, visit KNON.org

Lone Star Ride goes bowling

Supporters of Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS will meet for the Lone Star Ride Fun Bowl on Aug.

24 at USA Bowl, 10920 Composite Drive. Registration begins at 1 p.m. Bowling starts at 2 p.m.

Pledge forms will be available at registration so friends and family can donate to team members.

The donation to participate is \$20 for three games. Each \$20 donation will be split with \$14 going to the team, rider or crew of the players' choice with \$6 deducted to cover the cost of bowling.

There will be prize opportunities for novice and experienced bowlers. Raffle tickets for a seven-day cruise and Casino Party tickets will also be available.

For more information, visit LoneStarRide.org.

RCD announces 5 Factor honorees

The Resource Center Dallas has selected its honorees for its fifth annual 5 Factor, which will honor five people who have been valuable partners of the center.

The awards are given in five categories. They are commerce: Tony Vemma, president and CEO, North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce; culinary: Janice Provost, co-owner & executive chef, Parigi Restaurant; government: Pauline Medrano, former Dallas mayor pro tem; Media: Philip Wier, president, Philip Wier Films & Mantra Communications; and philanthropy: The Dallas Bears, Wayne Davis, president.

The event takes place at 7 for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd. on Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50. For more information, go to RCDallas.org.

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Cathedral of Hope, former pastor Hudson both move on



NEW MISSION | The Rev. James Mitulski, Cathedral of Hope's interim senior pastor, said he wants to focus on the church's history to help the congregation establish its future. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

While the Rev. Jo Hudson begins a new job, her former congregation selects an interim pastor who sees a bright future ahead for the church

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Four months after Cathedral of Hope was thrown into turmoil with the sudden resignation of Senior Pastor Jo Hudson, the church is on a steady course with an interim pastor and Hudson has begun a new job.

Hudson said change is hard but good things can come of it. She said that was a message she's preached for years.

"Be open to where God is taking us," she said.

And good things have happened for both Hudson, who began a new job this week, and for Cathedral of Hope, now under the leadership of a new, dynamic interim pastor, the Rev. James Mitulski.

After Hudson announced her resignation at a Sunday service in April, the board moved quickly. They set in motion a plan to replace the senior pastor based on United Church of Christ's election procedure that included bringing in an interim pastor for a year while searching for a permanent successor. Mitulski is not eligible to apply for the permanent position.

Although hiring the temporary pastor took longer than originally hoped, Mitulski moved to Dallas from California to begin work at the church on Aug. 1. He said he expected to remain in Dallas up to 18 months.

Meanwhile, Brite Divinity School Dean Joretta Marshall announced last week that Hudson

would begin work as an adjunct professor at the school for the fall semester as part of the Carpenter Initiative in Gender, Sexuality and Justice. She began teaching a class with the Rev. Steve Sprinkle this week entitled, "The Church's Mission and the Minister's Vocation." In the spring she said she'll be teaching a class in congregational leadership.

Marshall said Hudson would be preaching in chapel this fall and said she was excited to have Hudson on her faculty.

In addition, Hudson's working with the national office of UCC as the gathering pastor for the virtual community ExtravaganceUCC.

"Every major mainline Christian denomination is looking into this," she said.

Weekends, Hudson has been kept busy preaching at churches around the state. She filled in for a friend in Fort Worth who was away, spoke at a church in Bryan/College Station last week and will be at Cosmopolitan UCC in Carrollton this weekend.

"I'm busier than I ever expected to be," she said.

Hudson said she's known Mitulski for years.

"I'm thrilled about Jim Mitulski being the interim pastor at Cathedral of Hope," she said. "I have great respect for his leadership."

Ordained in UCC, Metropolitan Community Churches and Disciples of Christ, Mitulski set up an interim pastor program for MCC and has taken several of those positions over the years. He spent 15 years at an MCC church in San Francisco during the height of the AIDS crisis and still calls Oakland, Calif., home.

While still getting to know his way around Cathedral of Hope, he's no stranger to the congregation, counting both Hudson and her predecessor the Rev. Michael Piazza as friends.

Even so, he said he's amazed by the breadth of services, classes, groups and social opportunities

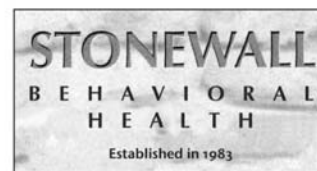
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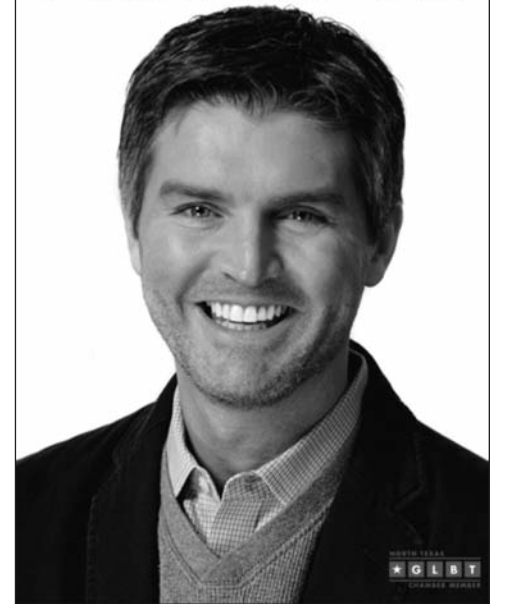
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STITCHIN' ON | Leo Argueta opened Quilter's Stash in Hurst with his late partner in 1999. He's now expanded his business to Southlake and plans to open a Dallas location within the next year. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

Entrepreneur who started quilt shop 14 years ago with late partner now looking to grow franchise by expanding to Dallas

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

SOUTHLAKE — Leo Argueta still mends his own clothes and sews the quilting samples he dis-

plays in his business by hand.

He discovered the joy of sewing after his grandfather taught him how to tailor when he was a child, and has cherished the skill ever since.

"That was when I was a kid and I never forgot," he said.

Years later, Argueta met his late partner, who had also grown up with a needle and thread after his grandmother had taught him how to sew. The two bonded over a love of sewing, exchanging expertise on quilting and tailoring.

"He taught me how to quilt and I taught him

how to tailor, and we just clicked," he said.

In 1999, the couple turned their passion into profit by opening Quilter's Stash in Hurst. The store specializes in designer fabrics, specialty sewing books, as well as classes in sewing, quilting and embroidery.

Argueta said that he and his partner also wanted to open a business that was more wholesome than the traditional gay-owned businesses like bars, so they decided to spread the love of quilting that was instilled in them as children to a new generation.

"I've always had a very entrepreneurial spirit," Argueta said. "My late partner and I sewed and we both were very particular about perfection and we wanted to open a business that's good for the community and is wholesome."

When Argueta's partner became ill several years ago, he said they discussed the store's success in the hospital and what Argueta would do. His partner encouraged him to follow his dream of making the store a franchise. After his passing three years ago, he said he began to think about how to grow the business, deciding to open a Southlake location in 2011.

"I mourned and then decided I'd go for it and opened the second store," Argueta said.

The Southlake store has become a success like the Hurst location. Argueta was even asked to make a presentation before the Southlake City Council last fall when word about his close-knit staff and quilting expertise began to spread. His speech was recorded and posted online, formally introducing him to the Southlake business community.

"They were interested in my business because they hadn't had a quilt store in Southlake at all," Argueta said. "They wanted to introduce me to the community and help me make a splash."

City officials asked him to create a line of fabric for the city's dragon mascot to display and use for Southlake school and city events. He said he's been asked by companies to design fabric before, but is still working on the Southlake fabric, adding that he was just honored to be asked to give back to the community.

"Southlake is really proud of their town," Argueta said.

With continued success of the two locations, Argueta is now planning to expand to Dallas. He's been scouting locations and plans to have a place selected in about a year.

"They're doing really well and I want to expand and open it up to franchise," he said.

Even after more than a decade as owner, Argueta still prides himself on being hands-on with his business. He still sews all the samples he displays in his stores, and knows his regular customers not only by their names, but by the common things they are often looking for when they visit.

"The people that quilt, quilt for life," he said. "We build a long-lasting relationship with customers that's passed down for generations and keeps the quilting tradition going."

While quilting is often passed from generation to generation, Argueta said the style of quilts is changing. He's seen the patterns become more modern with edgier cuts, brighter colors and bolder prints.

The changes have made quilting more hip and appealing to youth, who often frequent his shops and classes as the face of quilting also changes.

"It's evolving," he said. "It's an art like many arts that evolves into something new and exciting."

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■ TRANS, From Page 6

from prescriptions to changing a gender marker on city records.

Gaither brought the issue to former Councilwoman Delia Jasso's LGBT Task Force in February to discuss adding gender reassignment surgery to the city's healthcare coverage and to work on how to better communicate the current everything-but-surgery coverage to employees.

"I wanted it to be a collective effort," she said.

Although the Task Force discussed trans healthcare, nothing was worked on because things were on hold until after the May election. Things were on hold again after Jasso lost her seat to Councilman Scott Griggs since redistricting placed them in the same district.

But Councilman Adam Medrano was recently appointed by Mayor Mike Rawlings as the Task Force's new chair. At a meeting this week, members outlined several priorities for the next few months, including trans healthcare.

Medrano is planning several meetings with members and city departments over the next month to discuss issues with the interim City Manager A.C. Gonzalez and the city attorney's office, among others.

He told Dallas Voice that while comprehensive trans healthcare is a priority of the group going forward, he's unsure if it will make it onto the budget in the next two months. Council members can recommend budget items before voting on the final budget.

Medrano said a few council members have already expressed support for adding gender reassignment surgery to the insurance coverage and

he would continue to push for it.

"It is a priority," Medrano said. "I will push for it."

Meanwhile in Fort Worth, the city's Aetna plan specifically excludes any coverage for trans employees. Comprehensive trans healthcare has been on hold since 2009, when it was the only outstanding recommendation of 21 suggestions from the city's Diversity Task Force that was created in response to the raid on the Rainbow Lounge.

Fairness Fort Worth leaders met with city officials earlier this year and are waiting for a follow-up meeting to see when, or if, the city will add some coverage for trans employees or complete coverage that includes surgery.

"We're working on having a meeting with city representatives but it hasn't happened quite yet," FFW President David Mack Henderson said.

Leaders previously said their strategy was to get the coverage added without a vote by City Council on the issue because there wasn't enough support. That route would likely take place with the city manager.

Fort Worth City Manager Tom Higgins did not respond to requests for comment on the possibility of the city adding the coverage.

Even if Dallas can't add the surgery to the coverage this budget cycle, Gaither said the Task Force can continue to educate city and community leaders on the importance of full coverage for medically necessary procedures.

"That needs to be part of this. This won't be a done deal until that is included," Gaither said, adding that she thinks it can be accomplished with the renewed efforts. "I think we're on our way. It's just a matter of time."

■ ZONING, From Page 7

Harper said he is not objecting to the land being used for public housing. His objection is to the density and to Oak Lawn having the largest DHA development in the city.

DHA runs about 30 public housing apartment complexes in Dallas. The largest is Estell Village in South Dallas with 291 units.

A 182-unit division of Cedar Springs Place lies adjacent to the vacant property. The existing Cedar Springs Place units were not torn down because they are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The rezoning would allow 410 units on the Hartford Street property. Together, the area would have almost 600 apartments.

In addition to Estell, only five other properties have more than 200 units. Eleven have fewer than 100 units.

Harper is also concerned about the request for a waiver of minimum parking. With the number of new high-density complexes already being built in Oak Lawn, he is worried about traffic and congestion on the streets surrounding Cedar Springs Place, especially if residents and their guests do not have enough on-site places to park.

Nearby residents said the housing authority based its request on lower car ownership among its residents than among other higher-income

apartment residents. But Maturin thinks it's insulting to the residents to expect they won't have cars and won't have friends and relatives with cars come and visit them.

Harper would like the housing authority to be more transparent to the neighborhood about rental rates. Although some public housing is rented at full market value, DHA is not saying what percentage, if any, of these would be at full market value and what percentage under market the other units would be.

Harper is also concerned about management of the property. He said it was mismanaged with half the proposed units.

The current Cedar Springs Place "has closed down their gym as they allowed the residents and guests to tear it up versus manage the property in a manner in which this would not be tolerated," he said.

When he spoke to Cedar Springs Place management, he suggested a neighborhood project to buy gift cards for residents to use at local nurseries to add landscaping to the barren Cedar Springs Place property.

He was told that residents aren't allowed to do any planting and management didn't plan to.

The Plan Commission will discuss the project at a Sept. 10 meeting. After that, there will be a public hearing before it is voted on by the City Council.

■ CATHEDRAL, From Page 9

the church offers.

"The scale is unusual and impressive," he said.

Congregations in all three of the denominations in which Mitulski maintains ordinations are usually much smaller than Cathedral of Hope, which counts several thousand members. He said it was unusual for a UCC congregation to fill multiple Sunday services and offer communion weekly.



The Rev. Jo Hudson

Before jumping into the process of finding a permanent pastor to serve the congregation for a number of years, Mitulski would like to spend time during the upcoming year celebrating the church's history. That involves bringing back previous pastors like Don Eastman.

Eastman was Piazza's predecessor who served in the 1980s and set the congregation on the path toward phenomenal growth while still residing on Reagan Street in the building now owned by Resource Center Dallas. "This church evolved in a unique way," Mitulski said. "It innovated."

And he wants current members to understand that history before deciding what the church will look like in the future.

"Then we can elect a minister to take us where we want to go next," he said.

Mitulski said some denominations with more formal hierarchies address a pastor's departure by appointing someone new. He said UCC requires participation by the congregation to elect the church's new leader.

Among the surprises Mitulski found at the church was the vibrant Congregacion Latina, which he sees as an opportunity for growth that he hopes can be given the same resources and supported to the same extent as the English congregation.

"This is a year to experiment," he said. "To take risks and give people a chance to reflect."

He said COH was still doing what God brought it into being to do — to provide a religious home for a diversity of people and actively work for social justice.


While the LGBT community has come a long way, he said there's still a long way to go. But he said the church and community need to take stands on racism, immigrant's rights and women's reproductive rights. He sees them all working hand-in-hand.

He said right-wing churches that were never against contraception have been aligning themselves with those who are. Churches that traditionally championed immigrant's rights recently have turned their backs. And that racism and homophobia too often go hand-in-hand.

Mitulski said he was excited about living in Dallas. Now that he's here, he sees a church that still has some healing to do but is in great shape overall.

"I'm ready to throw myself into it," he said. ■

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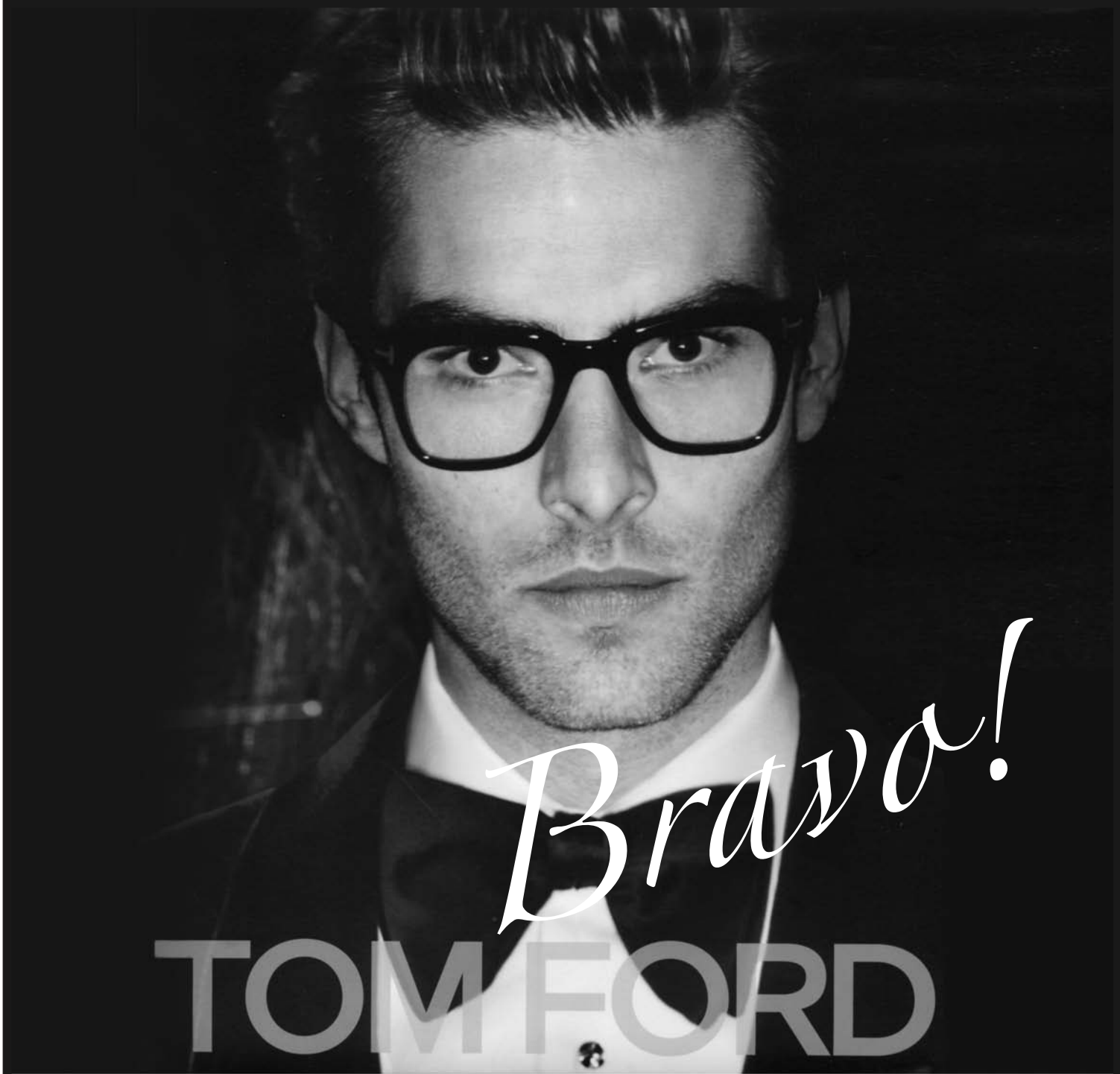
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What is STRIBILD?

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, pimozone, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revatio®), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John's wort.
- **For a list of brand names for these medicines,** please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.
- **Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection,** or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:

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

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

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

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

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

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





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

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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 (Ergorate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor®, Altoprev®, Mevacor®)
- oral midazolam
- pimozone (Orap®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®), when used for treating lung problems
- simvastatin (Simcor®, Vytorin®, Zocor®)
- triazolam (Halcion®)
- the herb St. John’s wort

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

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

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

What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

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

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

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

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

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?**Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:**

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

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

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

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- estazolam
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- flurazepam
- fluticasone (Flovent[®], Flonase[®], Flovent[®] Diskus, Flovent[®] HFA, Veramyst[®])
- itraconazole (Sporanox[®])
- ketoconazole (Nizoral[®])
- lidocaine (Xylocaine[®])
- mexiletine
- oxcarbazepine (Trileptal[®])
- perphenazine
- phenobarbital (Luminal[®])
- phenytoin (Dilantin[®], Phenytek[®])
- propafenone (Rythmol[®])
- quinidine (Neudexta[®])
- rifabutin (Mycobutin[®])
- rifapentine (Priftin[®])
- risperidone (Risperdal[®], Risperdal Consta[®])
- salmeterol (Serevent[®]) or salmeterol when taken in combination with fluticasone (Advair Diskus[®], Advair HFA[®])
- sildenafil (Viagra[®]), tadalafil (Cialis[®]) or vardenafil (Levitra[®], Staxyn[®]), for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED). If you get dizzy or faint (low blood pressure), have vision changes or have an erection that last longer than 4 hours, call your healthcare provider or get medical help right away.
- tadalafil (Adcirca[®]), for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension
- telithromycin (Ketek[®])
- thioridazine
- voriconazole (Vfend[®])
- warfarin (Coumadin[®], Jantoven[®])
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Issued: August 2012



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SA activists call for councilwoman's resignation

Homophobic rant casts shadow over city ordinance's progress, but LGBT leaders say they have the votes needed to pass it Sept. 5

SAM SANCHEZ | Contributing Writer
editor@dallasvoice.com

SAN ANTONIO — LGBT activists called for San Antonio Councilwoman Elisa Chan's resignation this week after a secret recording of her homophobic comments was made public.

Chan made the comments during a secretly recorded staff meeting in May made headlines across the country since they were released late last week.

The recording, which was posted online by the San Antonio Express-News, was made by former aide James Stevens. In the recording, Chan said gay people are "disgusting," that same-sex couples should not adopt children and that gender identity is a matter of choice.

Chan also discussed how to oppose the nondiscrimination ordinance without sounding anti-gay.

The measure would ban discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations based on sexual orientation, gender identity and veteran status. Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin and Houston have similar ordinances.

In response to Chan's remarks, GetEQUAL TX issued a travel advisory this week for tourists and visitors to San Antonio, warning them of possible discrimination in public accommodations and advising them to eat and stay at LGBT-friendly businesses. The advisory is scheduled to end Sept. 6 — the day after the expected vote on the ordinance.

The Citizens Alliance for a United San Antonio (CAUSA), the coalition of LGBT groups and allies promoting the nondiscrimination ordinance, called for Chan's resignation during a press conference at City Hall on Aug. 16.

CAUSA co-chair Dan Graney said Chan's remarks "clearly reflect her ignorance on just who we are."

"We cannot know who the real council member is when we hear what she says behind closed doors," he said. "Because of the clear animus she holds against a segment of her constituency, she is no longer fit to remain in office. CAUSA therefore demands that she resign immediately."

Chan later said in a statement that her comments were her "personal opinions" and she was guaranteed her right to express her beliefs under the First Amendment. In a hastily called press conference on Aug. 20, Chan offered no apology for the comments, saying instead that "political correctness will not win the day." In a show of defiance, Chan said she did not share the views of the LGBT community and she would not change her personal values for political gain.



CALLING OUT CHAN | David Ewell, executive director of the San Antonio AIDS Foundation and a resident of Chan's district, speaks out against her comments about gay parents, holding a sign that reads, 'I'm a great gay parent. My son is not confused' at a rally a City Hall on Aug. 16. (Photo courtesy of Sam Sanchez)

Chan's anti-gay rant has begun to overshadow positive developments in the upcoming vote on the city's nondiscrimination ordinance.

Mayor Julian Castro, a vocal supporter of the ordinance, called Chan's comments "hurtful and misinformed." He also spoke out against GetEQUAL's travel advisory, saying the city has always been welcoming.

"This advisory unnecessarily stands to hurt the city," Castro told the Express-News. "The fact is that San Antonio always has been and remains welcoming to all."

San Antonio added domestic partners of city employees in 2011. The city also added sexual orientation to city's Equal Employment Opportunity policy in 2007.

The Express-News editorial board called for Chan to step down on Wednesday, writing "Bigotry and intolerance might define Chan's personal view on homosexuality and gender identity. But they have no place in public representation. Elisa Chan should resign from City Council."

A Facebook page titled, "Elisa Chan Should Resign" went up this week and had 268 likes as of press time.

For organizers at CAUSA, Chan's rants have been more of a distraction than a setback. One positive result from all the publicity over her comments was that Councilman Ron Nirenberg, who was undecided on the ordinance, came out publicly to endorse the measure.

Nirenberg issued a statement of support of the

measure, explaining that "after months of deliberation and refinement" he was announcing his support for "the latest draft of the nondiscrimination ordinance. Every San Antonian deserves equal protection under the law, and I look forward to casting my vote to ensure it."

"We need to heal our divisions as a community, and we can only achieve that by revealing them and addressing them together," Nirenberg added.

Nirenberg joins Castro, Council members Diego Bernal, Shirley Gonzales, Rey Saldana, Cris Medina and Ray Lopez in supporting the ordinance. Those seven votes, if they stand, will assure passage of the ordinance.

Still undecided are Councilwomen Ivy Taylor and Rebecca Viagran. Many political observers are saying that at least one of these two will most likely vote yes. Passage of the ordinance with eight votes would make it effective immediately.

There are two definite no votes: Chan and Councilman Carlton Soules, who said he sees no "empirical evidence" that a nondiscrimination ordinance is needed.

Meanwhile, CAUSA is continuing its advocacy full force, holding rallies and encouraging the LGBT community to speak before the City Council. On Wednesday, it hosted another City Hall press conference that included speakers from the religious, veterans and business communities.

CAUSA co-chair DeeDee Belmares said at the press conference that the "ordinance will ensure that all citizens and visitors will be treated fairly

and equally. "We are confident that the ordinance will pass in September."

The likelihood that the ordinance will pass has not silenced the opposition.

State Rep. Dan Branch, R-Dallas, who represents part of Oak Lawn, sent a letter to Castro asking him to pull the ordinance from the council's consideration. Branch has an issue with people of faith not being able to discriminate based on religious beliefs.

"The proposed ordinance itself discriminates — against people of faith," Branch wrote. "The proposed city ordinance would exclude citizens from being appointed to city office ... if they believe — as millions of people of faith do — in the traditional institution of marriage."

TV evangelist John Hagee of the Cornerstone Church, who on Aug. 12 said he no longer opposed the ordinance, did a flip-flop after meeting on Aug. 19 with 200 civic and religious leaders who oppose to the measure.

"While the most egregious violation of the First Amendment has been removed, I oppose the ordinance," Hagee said. "The group agreed that the ordinance violates both the First Amendment of the Constitution and the Texas Religious Freedom Act. We will work together to ensure the voice of San Antonio's religious community is heard, and our ability to abide by God's commandments is not abridged."

The final vote on the nondiscrimination ordinance is scheduled for the morning of Sept. 5. ■

LGBT youth groups in Denton, Collin counties team up for programming

As GALA Youth becomes independent of Youth First and OUTreach Denton expands, they plan future collaborations

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

DENTON— OUTreach Denton and GALA North Texas are partnering on future endeavors, beginning with a joint volunteer training for adults interested in working with their youth programs.

Pam Wat, minister at the Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, said now that the Collin County youth group is no longer part of Youth First Texas, it was an opportunity for her group to work closer with them.

OUTreach Denton runs a youth drop-in night every Friday at the Denton UU church. Volunteers will assist with programming.

"Speakers come in representing different identities," Wat said. "Some kids have never met adults who are out."

She said they act as role models by talking about what life is like as an out adult.

"Middle and high school youth are often unable to travel to Dallas where resources are concentrated, and they are often the population that needs us the most," GALA North Texas President Bob Shimmin said.

The all-day training on Aug. 24 will teach volunteers how to interact with youth, including rules, boundaries and sensitivity training. Discussions include what teens could be going through while coming out or understanding their sexual orientation or gender identity.

"We want to help teens make good choices through the coming out process," Wat said.

If teens are coming to the program in crisis, volunteers will be equipped with local and national mental health resources, names of experts in family counseling and information about bullying and

prevention.

Wat said that originally, teens who attended were from her own church, but as word of mouth spread, some came from difficult situations.

She described one particular success story.

One youth was from a family that wasn't accepting and had attempted suicide. His mother drove him to the youth group.

"I don't believe this is right, but I don't want him to die," Wat said the mother told her.

Over the next few months, she began to embrace it all, Wat said. When her son got a boyfriend, she celebrated that, too.

"To have unaccepting parents is such a horrific place to be," she said.

She said OUTreach has been talking to social service providers in Denton about providing service to teens who are homeless because parents threw them out of the house.

To reach more teens, Wat said she is in touch with gay-straight alliance advisers from local high schools.

On Sept. 13, OUTreach Denton kicks off the new school year with a dance. Work in Progress, a local band of Denton high schoolers, will perform.


GALA Youth meet in Allen. For joint programming, the two groups are working with a church in Carrollton as a midway point.

"We'd like to expand outside of just youth services," Wat said.

For that, she said she also hopes to partner with the Collin County group. She mentioned the business leadership group as something they'd like to emulate in Denton.

OUTreach Denton is for teens ages 13 to 18. Older Denton County youth are welcomed in the University of North Texas LGBT group GLAD, even if they are not students at the school.

Training for OUTreach Denton and GALA Youth takes place on Saturday, Aug. 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1111 Cordell St., Denton. For more information, visit TinyURL.com/OUTreachDenton.



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The Citi Pride Network with Citibank presented a \$7,500 check to Resource Center Dallas at Gaybingo on Aug. 17. Jeffrey Gorczyński with Citi Pride, center, presented the check to RCD's Johnny Humphrey, left, and Rafael McDonnell.

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■ **viewpoints**

Is One of You the Man...?

Friends still ask who's the man and who's the woman in lesbian relationships even if they know better

It happened again. Friends asked my partner, Traci, and me, "Is one of you, like, more the man in the relationship?" This doesn't piss me off, but it's still puzzling. After all, I've always thought Traci and I were pretty much on the same spot on the gender continuum and yet people keep scratching their heads about it.

Here's what prompted it this time:

I posted pictures of us at a hoity-toity fundraiser on Facebook. Traci wore a print dress and I wore black, shiny cigarette pants and a tailored blouse. We both wore makeup and heels, though if we're nitpicking, mine were only kitten heels.

There are any number of reasons why I wasn't wearing a dress beyond the basic fact that my outfit rocked. Among them: I'm deathly white and L'Eggs in suntan went out of style (if they were ever in style) in the '80s; I have a nasty scar on my shin from walking into a broken flower pot; and dresses give my rather cylindrical body a chintz-draped pink column look. Not in-

cluded on this list is anything having to do with gender roles.

In fairness to my friends, they didn't ask just because of that photo. They'd noticed that most of the time they see Traci she's in makeup and clothes straight from the dry cleaner, while I'm usually in jeans and wearing nothing more on my skin than sun block and maybe lipstick if I'm leaving the house. It's not so off the wall for them to wonder if there was something more to this than fashion.

But what's funny is that they are as much flouters of traditional roles as we are — which is one of the things we love about them. They are a straight couple bonded by Comic-Con geekitude and scholarly understanding of the entire action movie oeuvre. Hell, their wedding cake was a copy of the Millennium Falcon (from *Star Wars*, you ignoramus). The only time I could imagine them in full gender conformity is if she dressed up as Wonder Woman and he as Superman, or whomever Wonder

Woman is dating these days. Although I'd eagerly pay to see this, they wouldn't need that much encouragement.

What I get from this is a reminder of just how deeply worn our gender expectation grooves are even if real life has much more room for variety. To me, more obvious ques-

tions about Traci and my sartorial choices might be, "Abby, are you a lazy ADD-addled slug in the morning?" or "Abby, do you not accept the fact that you are a grown-up now and should probably dress like one?" I would have to answer yes to both questions.

OK, for the sake of argument, let's say that there's something to this question about Traci and my gender roles. After all, we're not immune to those expectations any more than my friends are. It's the model we all grew up with in some way or another about how couples are expected to interact. Is one of us more like a typical man or woman than the other? Honestly, I'd have to say yes.

It looks like this: When it comes to heaving bags of fertilizer to the backyard and grumbling afterwards about how she shouldn't have done that to her back, Traci's the man. When it comes to wiring a stereo or fixing the computer, I'm the man and Traci is the woman making endless suggestions over my shoulder that I try to ignore. When it comes to making charts of finances and household numbers, Traci's the man and I'm definitely the ditz platinum blonde. When it comes to picking up old socks and underpants from the floor and wondering if Traci even notices, I'm very much the woman. When it comes to being patient with a curling iron and mascara, Traci's the total woman, and I'm the man forever striving to bring my morning grooming ritual in under two minutes. And when it comes to emotional communication, Traci's the monosyllabic man and I'm the harrumphing woman — but Traci's still got big girlie delicate feelings.

Does that answer the question? ■

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



Abby Dees
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Doug Wright is a Texas boy at heart, and relished the chance to focus on his home state with a new musical — even if it didn't resonate with NYC audiences.

Dallas native Doug Wright is Broadway's go-to guy for book musicals. He turned his sights on Texas — for the first time — with 'Hands on a Hard Body'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Applause Editor

Doug Wright still vividly recalls his youth growing up in University Park.

"My friend Bruce and I used to sneak out after dark and go to the clubs," he recalls. "We were living the wild life on Cedar Springs."

But that was decades ago, and today Doug Wright is a responsible, happily partnered and incredibly successful playwright. But he still has a dangerous side: Working in the Broadway theater.

It's not a joke. In the cutthroat and stressful world of NYC, having a show in a B'way theater is the pinnacle of achievement. And so far, Wright has had four.

It doesn't stop there, as we'll talk about. But what's remarkable is that Wright has done it mostly in musical theater, which Jeff Whitty — who wrote *Avenue Q* and *Bring It On!* — described as too much hard work. If that's true, why does Wright keep coming back to them?

"That is kind of true — they are really, really challenging. But when you're writing a play, you are flying solo; when you are writing a musical, there are many more people to blame," Wright jokes. "And working in the theater happily is different than working in film because you retain copyright of your own material. If you have good collaborators, and I have been good in that regard."

He sure has. Wright's resume includes collaborations with Alan Menken (*The Little Mermaid*, which will finally open in Dallas in February), Amanda Green (daughter of legendary songwriter Adolph Green and actress Phyllis Newman), Trey Anastasio of Phish fame, and will be re-teaming with his Grey Gardens cohorts, Michael Korie and Scott Frankel, for a new (still hush-hush) musical "for David Stone, the producer for a modest little show he did called *Wicked*." (Expect it to open within the next three B'way seasons.) He's even teaming up with his husband, songwriter David Clement, for a musical about the Weather Underground.

A big hand for a 'Hard Body'

Even before that, Wright "just wrote a new show for the Rockettes — this Texas boy getting to write for the old school spectacle with the leggy and beautiful Rockettes?" He beams.

But right now, he can't stop thinking about *Hands on a Hard Body*.

Sure, every theater artist always says his favorite show is "the one I'm currently working on," but when Wright says it, he's dead serious. It has a special place in his heart.

Hands on a Hard Body "was one of the first times I've written about my home state, and I wanted to write about it in a way that felt compassionate and accurate," he says.

It's based on the 1996 documentary film of the same name, about an actual contest in Longview where a car dealership donates a pickup and the winner succeeds merely by holding his or her hand physically in contact with the car longer than anyone else (we're talking days, not hours).

"I was really struck by the documentary, and the metaphor for the American dream — all these diverse backgrounds coming together to compete," he says. But only Wright would see the potential to turn that set-up into a musical.

"Absolutely I felt it could be musicalized," he says, almost puzzled by the suggestion it would be strange. "Idiosyncratic subjects make for great musicals — who thought a show about a homicidal 19th century barber or 20th street gangs would work? I thought the static nature could be reinvented without violating the fundamental rules of the competition. And it poses a thrilling opportunity for a director and choreographer. That's what theater should do — take static things and make them fly. You can have people gasping ... and you don't need giant Animatec creatures to do it. You have to speak to you about common aspects of the human experience. I thought that about *Hands*. You just have to keep trying."

Of course, this is also the man who thought a one-person play about a transsexual German refugee made for a good play — and he was cor-

rect. *I Am My Own Wife* won the University Park native a Tony and the Pulitzer Prize for drama.

"Just fancy hardware," he says dismissively of the accolades; his real pride comes from making theater that touches people. He does feel a twinge of sadness, though, that *Hard Body* didn't enjoy a more successful run.

"We got some lovely, lovely notices, but New York City is its own rarefied world, particular the theater world, and a lot of New Yorkers didn't expect to see themselves reflected in hard-scrabble East Texans," he opines. "Expecting a Blue State audience to see a show about residents of a Red State was challenging, but we did find it to be a universal story. It speaks to the fractured country we live in — there are so many divisive issues, and then you do a musical about economic inequality? You [produce a show] about the have nots coming to an event sponsored by the haves, and people have to spend \$150 to see it?" He sighs.

"We were profoundly disappointing that we didn't last longer on Broadway, but I'm cautiously optimistic that it will have a life beyond that initial production."

That optimism is borne of something unusual in the current market: An original cast recording of a musical most would call a flop. Some more successful shows haven't done that — for instance, 2008's *Cry-Baby* enjoyed twice as many performances as *Hands on a Hard Body* and did not get a cast recording.

"[Cast albums] are essential for marketing shows and getting those musical theater fans out there to develop a hunger for a show," he says, recalling his own days as a gay boy in Dallas listening to LPs of favorite shows. "Trey and Amanda had a passion and a real interest in the album. It was a moving day when we recorded it — we knew it was the last time we'd see each other as a company. We had this top-notch band and veteran performers who have sung these songs 60, 70, 100 times in front of a live audience.

●●● WRIGHT, Page S15

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Country is back in Houston!

The Texas diva

North Texas native (and marriage equality advocate) Betty Buckley has been a Broadway powerhouse for more than 40 years. This month, she returns to the New York stage, but she's still a Texas girl at heart

MARK LOWRY | Special Contributor

Betty Lynn Buckley at the Pantages Theater in Los Angeles. Photo courtesy Myriam Santos.

Many Americans whose opinions about marriage equality have evolved into the “for” column can credit being effected by a gay family member. But for Broadway star Betty Buckley, it goes back to before her brother Norman and his partner, artist Davyd Whaley, wed in California in 2008. It even goes back before her early days as a star of the Broadway stage, in the 1970s and '80s, when the AIDS crisis decimated the community of people she worked with and loved.

It starts when Buckley was a teenager in Fort Worth, when she regularly performed at Casa Mañana and studied dance from a couple, Ed Holleman and Larry Howard.

“Back then I didn't have a definition system for it,” Buckley says in a phone call from her ranch west of Fort Worth, just before taking off to New York, where she's rehearsing the Horton Foote play *The Old Friends* for the Signature Theatre. “They were my first dance teachers, they were my mentors and friends. When I went

to New York City and got my first job on the first day in town [as Martha Jefferson in *1776*], they had me ready for that. I studied with them since I was 11. Those two guys are two of the brightest lights in my life.”

Holleman and Howard were just part of the equation that created one of the great musical theater talents of the latter half of the 20th century. Buckley certainly owes much to voice and acting coaches, too, and to the gods for that heavenly mezzo soprano voice that can go from whisper-soft to roof-shaking belt in a split second.

That talent has led to an illustrious career on the screen, from her turns in the original *Carrie* (a remake is due out in the fall) and *Tender Mercies* to her last big feature film, a cameo in M. Night Shyamalan's *The Happening*. On TV, a whole generation remembers Buckley for her role as the mom in *Eight is Enough*, as well as frequent guest spots, most recently in ABC Family's *Pretty Little*

Liars, on which her brother Norman is a lead director.

But of course the stage is where she feels most at home, from her Tony Award-winning run in Broadway's *Cats* to her acclaimed Norma Desmond in *Sunset Boulevard*, through her recent London turn in a revival of Jerry Herman's forgotten musical *Dear World*. (She does non-singing roles, too, such as her 2011 performance with Tovah Feldshuh in the Dallas Theater Center's *Arsenic and Old Lace* and her current project, *The Old Friends*, which co-stars Lois Smith and the author's daughter, Hallie Foote.)

With *The Old Friends*, she returns to working on a Horton Foote project (Foote died in 2009, and his play was never produced, until now), who won an Oscar for his screenplays of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Tender Mercies*. In fact, Buckley was Foote's choice as a performer whenever he was being honored somewhere or accepting an award. He always requested her to sing the hymn “Amaz-

●●● BUCKLEY, Page S15

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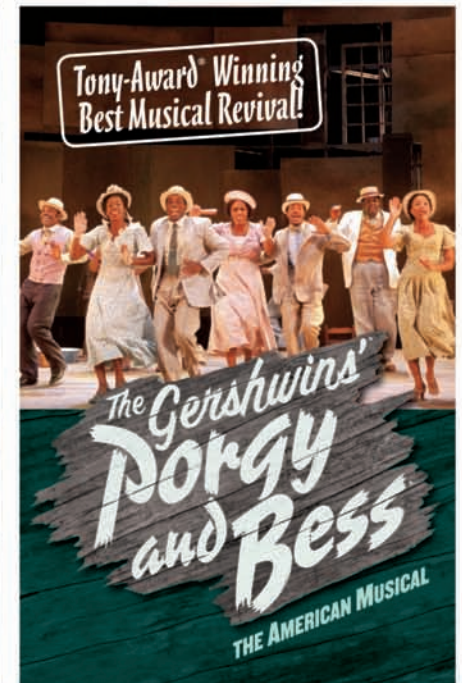
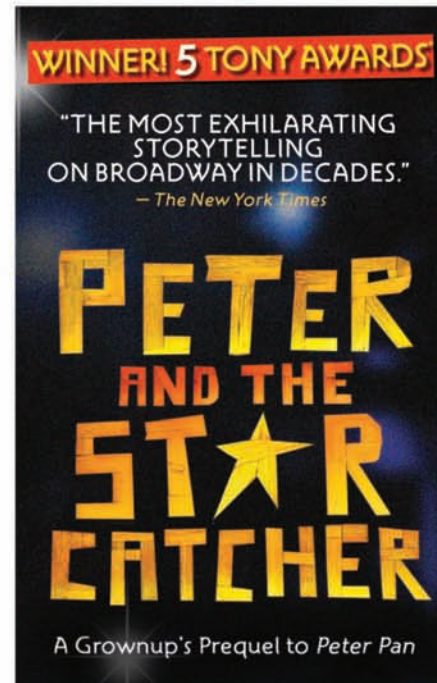
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The Center's founders were determined to combat the prejudice that members of the community faced every day from work, family, places of worship, the legal system and other social institutions.

Even after thirty years, our work remains relevant in working against prejudice and improving the health of the LGBT community. The Center's strength and stability is reflected in programs for youth, seniors, families, persons living with HIV and our effective advocacy. As a community, and as the Center, there is much to be thankful for and to celebrate.

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City of art

Nasher Sculpture Center launches ambitious project to turn all of North Texas into an outdoor museum

ANNA WAUGH | Contributing Writer

As the Nasher Sculpture Center nears its 10th anniversary in October, the landscape of Dallas' art scene will change dramatically ... and literally.

The center's dynamic art exhibit, Nasher XChange, will feature 10 different public, outdoor works commissioned from different international artists, with installations in areas throughout North Texas. The official opening, set for October 19, will conclude the center's yearlong project marking its decade in Dallas.

"[Public art] has generally been on the minds of the Dallas arts world for a while," says Jed Morse, the Nasher's curator, of the center's desire to orchestrate this massive artistic and community-wide undertaking, which seeks to engage every community in Dallas, while offering diverse and insightful interpretations of contemporary sculpture. "We wanted to contribute to the greater conversation of public art in general and it was a way to get beyond the walls of the sculpture center and engage the broader community in public conversation."

The citywide, museum-organized public art exhibition is the first of its kind in the nation.

"As the only institution in the world exclusively dedicated to collecting, exhibiting and researching modern and contemporary sculpture, the Nasher Sculpture Center is uniquely positioned to investigate this growing aspect of practice of sculpture in the public realm," adds Jeremy Strick, the director of the Nasher.

The projects and the artists represent a range of sculptural practices in contemporary sculpture locally, nationally and internationally to create diverse and engaging pieces, says Morse. Among the artists invited to participate in the exhibit are Denton-based Good/Bad Art Collective, Lara Almarcegui, Rachel Harrison, Alfredo Jaar, Liz Larner, Charles Long, Rick Lowe, Vicki Meek, Ruben Ochoa and Ugo Rondinone. Those names have been known for months.

But in keeping with the drama associated with all good art, project names, descriptions and locations have been doled out throughout

the summer. The seventh release, announced just this week, identified artist Charles Long's piece *Fountainhead*, which will be placed at NorthPark Center. (NorthPark Center was founded by the late Raymond Nasher, who also started the museum named after him.)

The Long installation virtually performs every function a traditional fountain does. Kiosks topped with iPads will surround the form and visitors can donate money to designated charities. After a donation, visitors can toss a virtual coin on the iPad screen toward the form, resulting in a splash.

Other projects include a wooden pier by Ugo Rondinone on the shores of West Dallas' Fish Trap Lake, a site owned by the Dallas Housing Authority. Another, *Trans.lation* by Rick Lowe, will enable the Vickery Meadow neighborhood — a three square-mile area that makes up one of the most culturally diverse sections of Dallas — to share their artistic talents and cultural traditions with each other and the greater Dallas community.

Another project, entitled *Curtains*, will be exhibited at the Bryan Tower office building in Downtown Dallas. Created by Good/Bad Art Collective, the project will be part one-night event, part exhibition and part television broadcast exploring notions of viewership and interaction.

Liz Larner's work will be *X*, a mirror-polished stainless steel sculpture, that will be placed in the courtyard of the new Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology Building at The University of Texas at Dallas.

While all the projects have different techniques and approaches by the artist, Morse says the works have universal themes that will resonate with every Dallasite.

"I think a lot of these projects will speak to everybody," he says.

Nasher XChange sculptures and installations will be on display throughout North Texas from Oct. 19 through Feb. 24. For more information about the XChange project and upcoming exhibits at the Nasher, visit NasherSculptureCenter.org.

Among the outdoor exhibits planned by the Nasher citywide are installations by Ruben Ochoa, above, and Ugo Rondinone, below.



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Sat, Nov. 23, 8:00 pm



The King's Singers
Joy to the World Tour
Tue, Dec. 3, 7:30 pm



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



Celtic Nights - The Emigrant Bridge... A Journey of Hope
Fri, Feb. 28, 8:00 pm



Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood:
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Sun, Nov. 10, 2:30 pm



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



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Sun, Mar. 1, 2:30 pm



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Sun, Apr. 6, 2:30 pm

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'Tis the season

Planning your year in entertainment: North Texas arts groups kick off their seasons, and there's plenty of gay to go around

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Applause Editor

Theater seasons traditionally start in the fall, though in the modern era, it's often a year-round consideration. Still, many arts groups (including dance, music and opera) will begin their seasons between now and December.

To help you plan your season subscriptions, as well as your vacations, we offer this comprehensive directory (even pointing out the gay stuff!) for the major arts organizations in North Texas, in order of their season launches:

Theater

Theatre 3: The Uptown troupe actually starts its season every year mid-summer; it's now run-

ning *So Help Me God!* as its inaugural show of its current season. It will follow that with a spate of gayish shows, including *Assassins* by Stephen Sondheim (Sept. 26–Oct. 27), *Other Desert Cities* by gay playwright Jon Robin Baitz (Nov. 21–Dec. 15), *On the Eve* (Jan. 16–Feb. 9), *Less Than Kind* by gay writer Terrence Rattigan (March 6–30), *Seminar* by *Smash* creator Theresa Rebeck (April 24–May 18), and *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (June 19–July 13). Theatre3Dallas.com.

Lexus Broadway Series: The series began just this week with *The Book of Mormon* (running through Sept. 1), and will be followed by *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Sept. 17–29), *Porgy and Bess*



If you didn't get enough of Peter Pan with DTC's recent 'Fly,' there's plenty more — courtesy of the Lexus Broadway Series' Tony-winning juggernaut 'Peter and the Starcatcher,' above, opening in September.

(Dec. 12–22), *Godspell* (Feb. 18–March 2) and *Beauty and the Beast* (April 15–27). ATTPAC.org.

Lyric Stage: North Texas' most aggressive producer of musicals returns in three weeks, launching its season with *The Sound of Music* (Sept. 6–15) at the Irving Arts Center. It will then move down to the Dallas City Performance Hall for the limited-run production of *Nine* (Nov. 8–9), followed by a concert version of *The Desert Song* (Jan. 23–26, back in Irving), the world premiere of *Blue Roses* (Feb. 7–23), and concluding with Jerry Herman's bombastic treat *Mame* (June 12–33). LyricStage.org.

Undermain Theatre: The Deep Ellum troupe starts off with *Profanity* by trans playwright Sylvan Oswald (Sept. 10–Oct. 12), followed by Abraham Zobell's *Home Movie: Final Reel* (Jan. 15–Feb. 1), *We Are Proud to Present a Presentation...* (March 19–April 19) and an as-yet-unnamed spring production, as well as its 30th anniversary gala on April 7. Undermain.org.

Dallas Theater Center: The gay-run DTC begins its season with the classic by lesbian playwright Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun* (Sept. 13–Oct. 27), which will play in repertory with the unofficial sequel to *Raisin*, the Tony-winning *Clybourne Park*. *Oedipus el Rey* (Jan. 16–March 2), *The Fortress of Solitude* (March 7–April 6) from gay composer Michael Freeman, *Sherlock Holmes: A Final Adventure* (April 25–May 25), and closes with *Les Miserables* (June 27–Aug. 10). The annual holiday show *A Christmas Carol* will return to the Arts District for the first time in nearly a decade, with an all-new adaptation (Nov. 21–Dec. 24). DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Theatre Arlington. This company's unexpectedly gay-friendly 41st season begins with the musical *Altar Boyz* (Sept. 13–Oct. 6), followed by *Of Mice and Men* (Oct. 25–Nov. 10), *A Tuna Christmas* (Dec. 6–22), *Enchanted April* (Jan. 17–Feb. 2), the gay drama *Doubt* (March 28–April 13), *Nunsense* (May. 9–June 1), *The Three Musketeers* (July 11–20) and finally *The Nerd* (Aug. 8–24). TheatreArlington.com

Kitchen Dog Theater: The Uptown troupe's season starts a bit late this year, with the timely titled *Detroit* in the lead-off spot (Sept. 27–Oct. 26). It will be quickly followed by David Mamet's controversial *Race* (Nov. 14–Dec. 14),

The Motherfucker with the Hat (Feb. 14–March 15), *Gideon's Knot*, which deals with bullying (March 28–April 26) and concluding with its New Works Fest (May 23–June 21). KitchenDogTheater.org.

WaterTower Theatre: The gay-run company in Addison launches with *Hank Williams: Lost Highway* (Oct. 11–Nov. 3), followed by the Sherlock Holmes romp *The Game's Afoot* (Dec. 13–Jan. 5), *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Jan. 24–Feb. 12), *Spunk* (April 11–May 4) by gay director/playwright George C. Wolfe, *Good People* (June 6–29) and the new musical *Dogfight* (July 25–Aug. 17) by gay composer Benj Pasek. A bonus holiday production in the Studio Theatre will be the very gay *Santaland Diaries* (Dec. 13–29). In March, the company will also stage the 11-day Out of the Loop Fringe Festival, which always has a lot of queer content. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

MBS Productions: Gay-centric MBS begins its 10th season, as always, with a creepy production just in time for Halloween. This year is the return of *Dante: Inferno* (Oct. 17–Nov. 3), a sexy tour through hell. That will be followed (once again, per tradition) with the equally gay Xmas show *The Beaulaville Baptist Book Club Presents: A Burlesque-Q Nutcracker!* (Nov. 23–Dec. 29), then a series of premieres and company revivals: *Marianla* (Feb. 6–22), *Stainless* (Apr. 3–26), *John XII* (May 29–June 29) and *The Straight Guy* (July 17–Aug. 10). MBSProductions.net.

Broadway at the Bass. The Forth Worth tour series includes *Dr Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* (Nov. 19–24) as its only fall show, then starts 2014 with *Ghost the Musical* (Feb. 11–16), *I Love Lucy Live Onstage* (March 11–16), *Stomp* (Apr. 8–13), *Jersey Boys* (June 3–15), and the recent Broadway hit *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Sept. 16–21), penned by gay Tony winner Joe DiPietro (*Memphis*). In addition, its specialized series will include *Tony n' Tina's Wedding* (Oct. 23–27), a one-night-only performances of *American Idiot* (March 19) and *Forbidden Broadway* (March 27). BassHall.com.

Dallas Summer Musicals: It's recently-announced season begins just in time for the holidays with *White Christmas* (Dec. 17–29), followed in 2014 by *Ghost The Musical* (Jan. 28–Feb. 9), *The Little Mermaid* — written by Dallas' own Doug Wright (see story on Page S2) (Feb. 13–March 2),



North Texans get several opportunities to see 'Swan Lake' this season: either a traditional version by Texas Ballet Theater, or via the cross-dressing comedic sensibility of The Trocks, above, through TITAS.

We Will Rock You (March 4–16), *The Wizard of Oz*, featuring new songs by Webber and Rice (March 18–30), *Evita* (April 15–27), *Mamma Mia!* (June 3–15), and it will beat Bass to the punch by two weeks with *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Sept. 2–14). It will also produce two bonus shows this fall: *The Lord of the Rings In Concert* (Nov. 8–10) and *Rain* (Nov. 23–24). DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Some companies follow a calendar-year season. Here are some of the highlights of those — which are pretty gay.

Uptown Players: Its just-announced 2014 season brings them back to the Kalita Humphreys Theater in 2014 — with no planned detour to the Rose Room. The season will include the regional premiere of the recent Tony Award winner for best play, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (Feb. 14–March 9), followed by a revival of their hit *Pageant* (March 28–April 13), the comedy-drama *The Lyons* (May 2–18) and the regional premiere of the musical *The Boy from Oz* (July 25–Aug. 10). The season kicks off with the bonus fundraiser, *Broadway Our Way* (Jan. 17–26), and the Pride Performing Arts Festival will move from Dallas Pride in September to June, coinciding with National Pride Month, with *Soho Cinders* as its mainstage production (June 13–22). It will also co-produce, with the TCC, a concert version of *Sweeney Todd* (see below). UptownPlayers.org.

Contemporary Theatre of Dallas: It starts Jan. 24 with the musical *Working*, directed by Michael Serrecchia. That's followed by *The Diviners* directed by Rene Moreno (April 4–27), *Noises Off* directed by Robin Armstrong (June. 6–29), *Sweet Sue* directed by Sharon Bengé (Aug. 15–Sept. 7) and concluding with *Little Women*, with Serrecchia again directing (Oct. 10–Nov. 2). ContemporaryTheatreOfDallas.com.

Ballet and Dance

TITAS: It begins its dance-centric season next month with Jessica Lang Dance (Sept. 14), followed by: Scrap•Arts•Music (Nov. 22), Pilobolus (Jan. 17–18), Alonso King LINES Ballet (Jan. 25), Kibbutz Contemporary Dance (March 1), the very gay Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carol (April 4–5), Motionhouse (April 12–13), Mark Morris Dance Group (May 10) and Shen Wei Dance Arts (June 19). In addition will be the annual Command Performance Gala (May 3). ATTPAC.org.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre: Kicks off its season — its final with founder Ann Williams at the helm — with DanceAfrica, Oct. 4–5. It will conclude with the spring celebration May 16–17, 2014. DBDT.com.

Texas Ballet Theater: Once again, the Fort Worth-based troupe will spend most of its time at Bass Hall, with certain performances of *The Nutcracker* also at the Winspear. It starts with *Romeo & Juliet* (Oct. 18–20) before the holiday fave *The Nutcracker* (Nov. 29–Dec. 27) as well as the campy *The Nutty Nutcracker* (Dec. 20), *Serenade & Gloria* (Feb. 28–March 2) and finally *Swan Lake* (May 30–June 1). TexasBalletTheater.org.

Music and Opera

Dallas Symphony Orchestra: The DSO



One of North Texas' busiest (and most acclaimed) directors, Rene Moreno, will helm four local productions this season: 'A Winter's Tale' at Shakespeare Dallas next month, followed by shows at Amphibian, Contemporary and WaterTower.

breaks down its season into several series: Classical, pops, family and chamber. Its inaugural concert will be classical, with Tchaikovsky's Fifth (Sept. 19–22), followed by the pops on Oct. 4 (An Evening of Gershwin), family (Oct. 27, with a Halloween theme) and chamber next spring. DallasSymphony.com.

Turtle Creek Chorale: Dallas' gay men's chorus kicks off its 34th season with gay cabaret regular (and Sirius XM star) Seth Rudetsky doing his Deconstructing Broadway show, where he looks into the making of a showtune (Oct. 20). That's followed in December by the one-two punch of the traditional holiday concert in repertory with the "naughty and nice" version (Dec. 12–21). In the spring, Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* will be mounted in concert with Uptown Players (April 24–26), followed by Divas Gone ... But Not Forgotten (June 20–22). In addition, the TCC Chamber Chorus will perform Remembering JFK, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the president's assassination in Dealey Plaza (Nov. 10). TurtleCreek.org.

Dallas Opera: The full four-opera season, tagged with the theme By Love Transformed, doesn't even include all the additional shows and community interactions the company has planned. It begins with Bizet's *Carmen* (Oct. 25–Nov. 10), which was to be directed by gay stage director Bliss Hebert; he withdrew for personal reasons last month. But never fear: The role of Remendado will be played by out tenor Chris Alexander. Also up: *Death and the Powers* by modernist composer Tod Machover (Feb. 2–16) and directed by recent Tony winner Diane Paulus; *Die Tot Stadt* by Erich Wolfgang Korngold (March 21–April 6); and *The Barber of Seville*, based on an original production by gay stage director John Copley. (March 28–April 13). DallasOpera.org

TITAS: Its only music offering this year, as it transitions into more dance-centric programming, is an evening of the music of Philip Glass (Feb. 24). ATTPAC.org.

The Women's Chorus of Dallas: See season and anniversary preview, Page S16.

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ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Applause Editor

At least part of the enjoyment of theater is reclining into a comfortable seat in a cool, dark theater and being taken to another place for a few hours. And "comfortable" is a key phrase.

Not all theater seats are created equal. Here is our run-down of some of the more bottom-friendly places to hunker down ... and the ones that should only be occupied for short stints. (For ease, we rated them on a scale of one to four buns).

 **Wyly Theatre.** When the Wyly opened, the first thing everyone remarked on was the eye-popping design; the second thing was the ass-destroying seats. The DTC spends a fortune adding pillow-tops to the lime green bun warmers, but the Wyly is still among the least comfortable places to rest a weary ass; shows are best when the intermission comes no more than an hour in. (The production of *King Lear* nearly killed us.) **One bun**

 **Winspear Opera House.** Built at the same time as the Wyly by different architects, the Winspear's ergonomic tush cushions are spongy but firm — the perfect blend of support and comfort. Still, when settling in for a four-hour opera, even comfortable seats begin to take their toll. **Three-and-a-half buns**



you approach but which contain just enough padding to make an evening of dance or music enjoyable. **Three buns.**



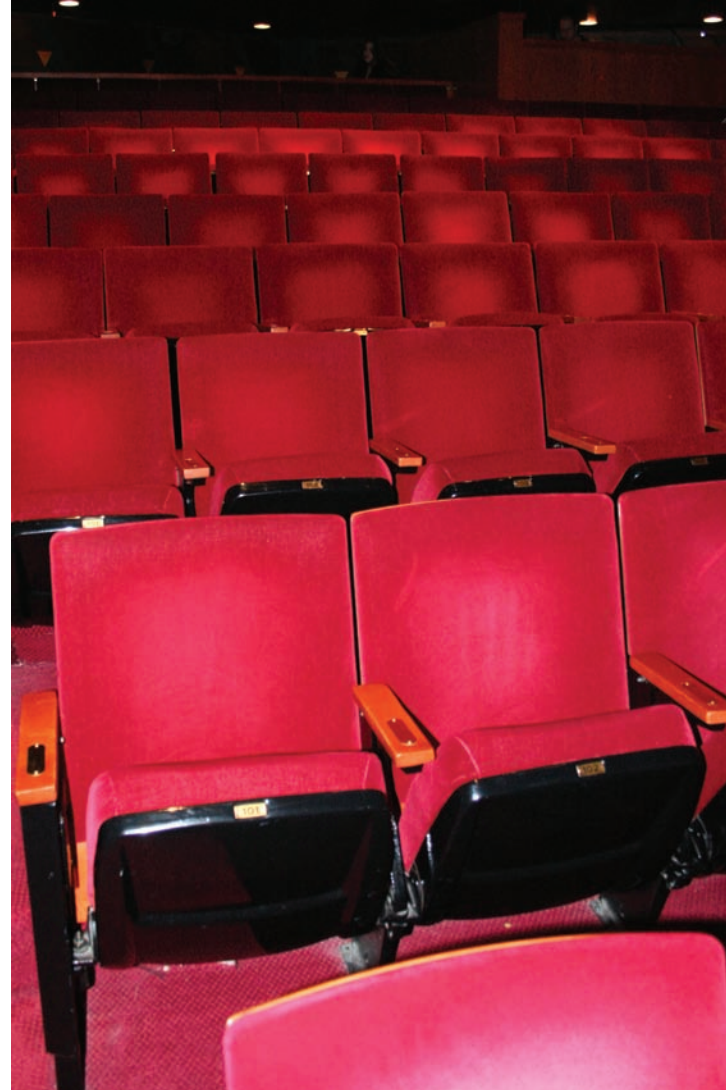
Meyerson Symphony Center. Depending on if you're in the orchestra or the loge, you're get a different underside experience, but either place, the seating at this acoustical marvel, aside from being too cramped, cradles your backside. **Three buns.**



Kalita Humphreys Theater. The Kalita's crushed red velvet chairs exude old-school Broadway without the threadbare look of most things in New York. Deep set with more-than-adequate leg room and a foamy bottom, it's easy to sink into these chairs and enjoy any show — they're the best seats in North Texas. **Four buns.**

City Performance Hall. Dallas' newest performance venue offers fairly comfortable and attractive seats that look to be hard wood as

●●● SEATS, Page 42



The classic red velvet chairs in the Kalita Humphreys Theater may still offer the best seats in any house — literally.

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Re-Kimbell'd

Cowtown museum gets new digs courtesy of architect Renzo Piano

DAVID TAFFET | Contributing Writer

For years, the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth has played with ways to expand its exhibit space while staying true to architect Louis Kahn's iconic 1972 building. But any alteration of that structure — considered a 20th century architectural masterpiece and one of Kahn's towering achievements — was summarily dismissed as heresy.

But Renzo Piano found a way to expand the collection and stay true to purists.

Piano, the architect who designed the Nasher Sculpture Center's main building, has been at work on a new pavilion, which opens Nov. 27 with a free exhibit of the museum's permanent collection. His addition reflects Kahn's original in height, emphasis on natural light and use of concrete as its primary material. "Close enough for a conversation, not too close and not too far away," Piano says of his building, situated a mere 65 feet west of the original.

During the pavilion's planned opening festivities, the Kahn wing will feature iconic works by Picasso and Matisse from the Art Institute of Chicago that are rarely sent out on loan. The first traveling show in the Piano building will be

Samurai: Armor from the Ann and Gabriel Barbier-Mueller Collection, starting in February. Museum spokesperson Jessica Brandrup says "gorgeous textiles and fabrics" will accompany the 17th century armor.

Keeping with the trend on environmental sustainability, the addition will be heated and cooled by 36 geothermal wells dug 450 feet into the ground. Energy use will be half that of the Kahn building. And like that on the Nasher, the new Kimbell building features a signature Renzo Piano roof: functional as well as a work of art in its own right. This one is glass with a scrim system that's highly engineered to optimize light levels and contribute back to the energy system with photovoltaic cells

Expect Cowtown to treasure its new Piano masterpiece and respect the investment the Kim-

bell has made in the building — that is to say, don't look for tall buildings with highly reflective glass popping up across the street destroying the artwork inside.



The Piano Pavilion's roof — a layered glass and wood roofing system (from outside, above, and inside, right) — is a Renzo Piano signature. (Photos courtesy Robert LaPrelle/Kimbell Art Museum)



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A fenced off safe space will be created in Lee Park on the opposite side of Arlington Hall from the Festival in Lee Park. Security professionals will staff our two balloon arched entrances. Entrance fees are \$5 for adults and children under 13 are free. No coolers, no alcohol and proper attire will be listed among other house rules.

The Family PRIDE Zone will include food provided by Chili's, entertainment, games, vendor booths and much more.

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For more info, visit: dallasprideparade.com.

If you have questions, call Leo Cusimano 214.754.8710 ext. 114

Family PRIDE Zone Co-chairs: Leo Cusimano | Tempest Redding
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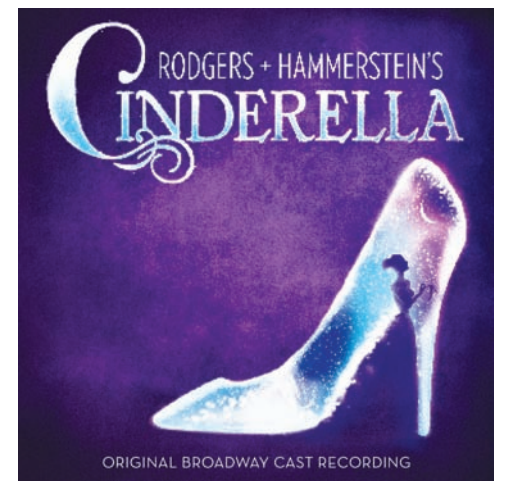
New cast recordings of 'Pippin,' 'Cinderella,' 'Dogfight' bring out an inner theater queen

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Applause Editor

We recently reviewed the "it" musical of 2013, *Kinky Boots* — which won composer Cyndi Lauper her first Tony Award — but there are several other shows with new cast recordings — all available on Ghostlight Records — you should check out. (See also our review of *Hands on a Hard Body*, Page S15.)

As *Kinky Boots* was racking up awards and notices as the best new musical of 2013 Broadway season, the stealth hit was a revival: Stephen Schwartz's 1973 historicomedy about the Holy Roman Empire, *Pippin*, just in stores. (The original production co-starred Fort Worth native Betty Buckley — see story on Page S4.)

The current production has been acclaimed for its *Cirque du Soleil*-like energy, but it's the



ble" and "Ten Minutes Ago," you're excited to be listening to a musical again. Hammerstein's lyrics are as infectious as Rodgers' buoyant melodies, all given life by a vocally adept cast, including Laura Osnes, Santino Fontana and Victoria Clark.

Is the style somewhat old-fashioned? Yeah, so what's your point? This is the kind of music that *made* Broadway. It ages like fine wine.

The least well-known of the recent cast albums is definitely *Dogfight*; it played off-Broadway last year (and comes to WaterTower next summer), winning a Lucille Lortel Award for best musical.

Set in the late 1960s as the Vietnam War is heating up, it's the bittersweet tale of a soldier who brings a plain girl to a dance hoping to win the "dogfight" among his peers.

The score, by up-and-coming team of Benj



songs, many theater classics, that sells the CD: "Magic to Do," "Corner of the Sky," "Spread a Little Sunshine," "No Time at All." Schwartz's lyrics were always in service of character and cleverness, and he gets some good 'uns here, especially on the aforementioned "No Time at All."

The production values on the disc are high, capturing the scale of the orchestrations while maintaining the intimacy of the show. And the inclusion at the end of four sing-alongs with actual B'way audiences gives the disc an interactive quality that every theater queen will appreciate.

Schwartz is great and all — we love his score to *Wicked* especially — but when it comes to Broadway musicals, there's Rodgers + Hammerstein, and then there's everyone else. In a collaboration that lasted fewer than 20 years, they turned out 10 musicals, including the film *State Fair* and the TV special *Cinderella*. It's the latter, recently re-adapted for the stage by Douglas Carter Beane (who adds a distinctive camp sensibility), that is thrilling ears right now. From the pomp of the overture, where familiar chords to songs like "In My Own Little Corner," "Impossi-



Pasek (gay) and Justin Paul (straight), initially taps into wistful sound reminiscent of *Spring Awakening*, then reveals itself to have a diverse musical pedigree without becoming mere nostalgia songs a *la Jersey Boys* or *Hairspray*. It's both tuneful and poignant, even when the lyrics reveal dark ideas, or as an aura of doom wafts over you as the soliders carelessly harmonize about heading to war. *Dogfight* is an existential musical masquerading as a romance. That's quite a feat.

It was a very emotional day, very profound."

That was made more so because Wright has nothing but raves about his cast, especially its name star, Keith Carradine.

"When I was a teenager, I thought he was the sexiest thing on the planet," Wright gushes. "At 65, he's still fine looking. And he's one of the most collaborative and gifted actors I've ever worked with."

And Wright is all about the collaborative process of theater.

"It's pretty intimate writing a musical," he says. "A lot of time, if we're thinking of a song, I'll write a monologue and the composer and lyricist will turn it into one. Or sometimes [the composer] will say, 'That scene you wrote? It actually would work better as a duet.' I've had composers and lyricists steal my funniest lines and I've stolen lyrics and turned them into punchlines. It always happens."

But even with all of his musicals currently in the works, Wright is actually excited about his first non-musical productions in a long time: A screenplay about singer Peggy Lee and a straight dramatic play about, of all people, Henrik Ibsen.

"I'm eager to get back to write a serious play — I have a commission from the Atlantic Theater to do that," he says. "There is something glorious about being in a room alone with your demons."

ing Grace."

"[Foote] was a lovely, lovely guy," she says, "a sweet human being."

When she first got to know Foote, it was on the set of *Tender Mercies*, which filmed in Waxahachie. That's where she suggested her brother, who had recently graduated from film school and had stayed with her at the Chateau Marmont in L.A. (where she lived during *Eight is Enough*, and incidentally, rescued a young Rufus Wainwright from drowning in the pool), to be an assistant editor.

It was around that time that Norman started his coming out process. He fell in love with one of Betty's *Cats* co-stars, Timothy Scott (he played Mr. Mistoffelees), and then slowly came out to their mother, Betty Bob Buckley, and their other siblings, twin brothers who still live in Texas.

"I think of all my siblings, Norman is the most happily married," Buckley says. "I admire [Norman and Dayvd's] love and support of one another, they have a wonderful relationship."

For her, marriage equality has always been a no-brainer.

"I don't think it's anyone else's business who marries whom," says Buckley, who was married, for about eight years in her 20s. "The fact that people think it's their business is absurd to me."

Something else she doesn't see as other people's business is the perception of her, or any woman stage star, as someone who has the reputation of a "diva," in whatever context people use that term.

"A diva means, to me, a woman who can go onstage who can sing and act at — to use a Janis Joplin expression — a full tilt boogie," she explains. "I can do that. But

my job is not necessarily who I am. It's fine with me to be called a 'diva,' it's basically the first lady of a musical or opera.

"Projection is really none of my business," she adds. "For every independent, intelligent, talented, strong woman in our culture, regardless of whether she's in show business or any kind of business, there's a lot of projection on that. It's a very patriarchal system and women with power, we've historically been taught that there's something scary about that. It's just absurd. I'm not responsible for other people's projection or gossip; and no one who is successful in this business is exempt. It happens to everyone."

That certainly hasn't stopped her keeping her career going strong. In addition to work on stage in musicals and plays, she has built a healthy oeuvre of albums, most recently with last year's divine recording of her concert *Ah, Men! The Boys of Broadway*, in which she sings songs written for men to sing on stage. Her follow-up stage show, *The Vixens of Broadway*, has been a hit in New York and on the touring circuit, including in Fort Worth in April.

In 2014, her new album, the T. Bone Burnett-produced *Ghostlight*, will be released. There's no word on the tracks yet, but considering her feelings about marriage equality, being labeled a diva and other topics (don't get her started on the current Texas battle for women's reproductive rights), maybe she should consider a cover of an American classic made famous by Billie Holiday: "Taint Nobody's Business If I Do."

The Old Friends by Horton Foote with Betty Buckley, Lois Smith and Hallie Foote, Signature Theatre in New York City. In previews through Sept. 11, full run Sept. 12–Oct. 20. SignatureTheatre.org.

REVIEW: 'HANDS ON A HARD BODY' ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING

Any musical with a song called "Born in Laredo" has a leg-up with Texas theater queens, but *Hands on a Hard Body* has a whole lot more Lone Star bona fides going for it than just that. This Longview-set musical — based on the documentary about a contest where 10 people compete to win a pickup truck — captures in its lyrics something special about the Texas spirit and lifestyle. "If I Had This Truck" explains the unique position a four-by-four holds in country culture; "If She Don't Sleep" recalls Texans' famed braggadocio (a couple crows about their A/C unit which used to cool a Kmart that went bust in Abilene / It cools our house to 12 below). I can relate, especially in August.

The music has a casual honkytonk/gospel feel (steel guitars and boot-worn twang) that marks it as something other than the latest London import or jukebox retread — it recalls the film *Nashville* (which, like this play, starred Keith Carradine). There's an honest sentiment that comes through despite a large cast of singing roles. *Hands On a Hard Body* may not have wowed New Yorkers, but Texans will get it. (Available Aug. 27.)

—A.W.J.



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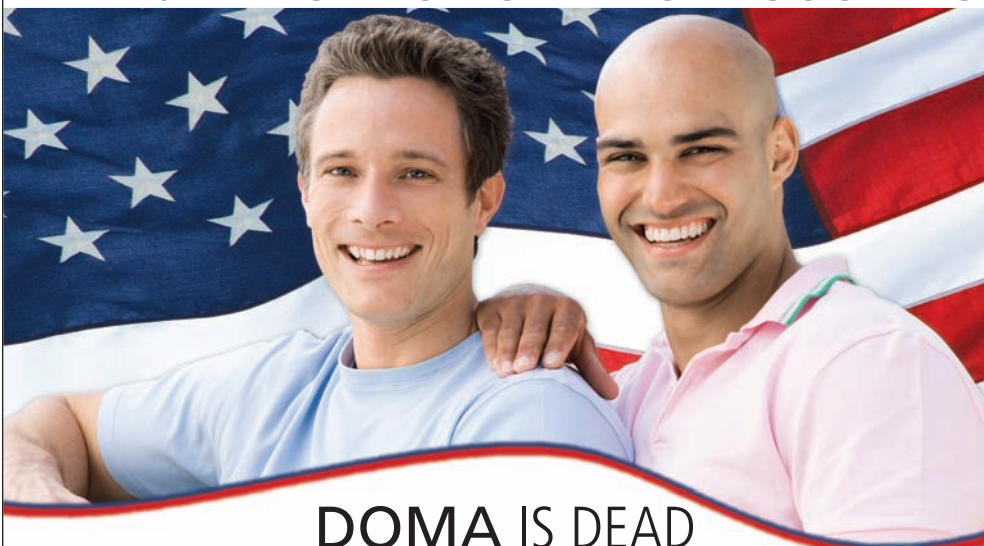
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Women's world

The Women's Chorus of Dallas ramps up for historic 25th anniversary season

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Applause Editor

It was back in the fall of 1989 when a new group calling itself the Women's Chorus of Dallas joined up with the Turtle Creek Chorale and took to the stage of Dallas to sing as a unit.

"It was mostly songs more suited to musical theater," smiles Melinda Imthurn, the chorus' artistic director for nearly eight seasons.

Imthurn knows exactly what was sung at that first concert, and keeping with the chorus' sense of history, she plans to revive some of those numbers this September, when TWCD's launches its landmark 25th season.

"The music is selected and we're ready to go!" Imthurn says. She has planned a vibrant series of concerts, starting with a party and alumna concert next month to commemorate the anniversary.

"We're starting with what I call a mini-concert," says Imthurn about the kick-off party in the Rose Room on Sept. 28. Alumna have been invited to return as guests (and may even be tapped to join in a sing-along) while a smaller group of singers perform showtunes.

From there, Imthurn has mapped out a diverse slate.

The Christmas concert (Dec. 14 at City Performance Hall), built around the theme "Baby, It's Warm Outside," will be divided in half: First fun, joyful holiday numbers in a tropical setting (expect leis, pina colodas and grass skirts along with Santa). The second act turning more solemn, and will highlight the chorus' commitment to unusual and challenging choral arrangements.

GAY PLAYWRIGHT COMES TO DALLAS

Guillermo Reyes, the author of the scathing monologue-driven play *Men on the Verge of a Hispanic Breakdown*, will be in town this weekend to attend two performances of the show, currently being staged by Theater New West in the Teatro Dallas space. In addition to attending the performances and audience "talk-backs" after the Aug. 23 and 24 shows, a reception in honor of Reyes will be held at the Latino Cultural Center at 2600 Live Oak St. on Aug. 24 from 2-4 p.m.

Teatro Dallas, 1331 Record Crossing Road. Talk-backs with Reyes Aug. 23 and 24 at 8 p.m. Show runs through Aug. 31. 214-443-8181.

— A.W.J.



Melinda Imthurn kicks off her seventh full season as artistic director of TWCD with a combo concert, party and reunion.

"All of the numbers will be accompanied by a string quartet," says Imthurn, who says numbers will be performed in Swedish, Finnish and Hebrew. "The hardest numbers usually end up being the members' favorites," she says.

In March, the concert will coincide with International Women's Day (March 8) with a concert at the Interfaith Peace Chapel on the campus of the Cathedral of Hope. This concert will feature music by female singer-songwriters.

TWCD concludes its season, as has become a tradition, with its Mother's Day concert at the Discovery Gardens on May 11.

"The first half will be influenced by Latin culture," Imthurn promises, and the second half, of course, "will be all about the moms." They'll even provide tissue, since crying is common.

Another development in the chorus' progression is the growing role of its chamber chorus, called Vivacious.

"We're amping it up this season," she says. "This year, they will be doing one outreach concert every month." It benefits both artists and audiences, Imthurn says. "Schools don't have the budget anymore for music [appreciation and concerts]," she laments.

It's not too late to *join* the chorus, either. There will be one more open audition call on Aug. 26. It's a normal rehearsal for current members, but also gives women interested in participating an orientation and chance to meet members and see an actual rehearsal.

And shows that more than two decades later, TWCD doesn't have to share a stage — these singers have made the stage their own.

TWCD will be holding an open rehearsal, new singer orientation and informational session at the Sammons Center, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., Aug. 26 at 6:30 p.m. To register or for more information, visit TheWomensChorusOfDallas.org.

Not just a hole in the ground

ANDREW COLLINS | Contributing Writer
outoftown@qsyndicate.com

Touring the monumental Grand Canyon is an excellent trip for the outdoorsy

The Grand Canyon has been showered with accolades as much as any of America's many spectacular national parks, yet few who visit this 300-mile-long gorge leave disappointed — it's one natural attraction that truly lives up to its (considerable) reputation.

If you enjoy the outdoors and want to spend some quality time at the Grand Canyon, consider approaching from the South Rim and staying at one of its lodges (grandcanyon-lodges.com), such as the famous and historic El Tovar, with its elegantly rustic rooms and atmospheric, old-fashioned dining room.

Many of the park's LGBT visitors combine their adventure with either a stay in rollicking Las Vegas, or the groovy New Age town of Sedona. But logistically, it's best to use Flagstaff (which we recently wrote about) as a base for exploring the Grand Canyon (nps.gov/grca) on a daytrip. The town is just 75 minutes via U.S. 180 to the park's South Rim. This makes it possible to drive up for the day, check out a number of vantage points, embark on one or two short hikes along the rim, explore the visitor centers, and enjoy lunch and perhaps even dinner, while still being able to make it back to Flagstaff by late evening. For many visitors, especially those just passing through northern Arizona, this option makes good sense.

It's easier to get a room with a true view of the canyon at the modern and extremely comfortable Kachina or Thunderbird Lodges, and next door at the 1935 Bright Angel Lodge &

Cabins. For a room inside the park, especially at one of the properties near the canyon rim, reserve as far ahead as possible (up to 13 months in advance). And don't assume all of the lodges nearest the rim are especially expensive; a standard room with a shared bath at Bright Angel Lodge costs under \$100 nightly.

Another good strategy is staying 60 miles due south of the Grand Canyon's South Rim in little Williams, a rustic and friendly slice of Old West Americana conveniently situated along I-40, just 35 miles west of Flagstaff. The town is the terminus of the historic Grand Canyon Railway (thetrain.com), and its adjacent historic hotel. Parts of the 297-room property date to 1908, and an on-site pub and café provide sustenance, as well as plenty of character. You can make the hotel your base camp and visit the Grand Canyon during the day by way of the vintage railway, which uses historic Pullman coaches, as well as a variety of sleek first-class parlor and dome cars; trains leave in the morning and return by early evening. Or take the train to the park and spend a night or two there.

North Rim

Visiting the North Rim of the Grand Canyon offers tremendous rewards to those who make the considerable extra effort to go. The views are even better (it's at an elevation of 8,800 feet, nearly 2,000 feet higher than the South Rim), there are less crowds and the ambience is less commercial, but this section of the park is open

mid-May through mid-October, weather permitting.

The beautiful drive from Flagstaff takes four to five hours and begins on U.S. 89 and passes through a landscape marked by frequent and dramatic changes in scenery. Along the way, you can make a small side trip to Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument, a nearly 1,000-year-old volcano — hiking trails loop around but not actually inside the crater. U.S. 89 then curves up around the east side of the Grand Canyon. About 60 miles after passing through historic Cameron Trading Post (a good stop for a casual lunch or to shop for Native American collectibles), you bear left onto U.S. 89 and then cross over a narrow gorge of the Colorado River, called Marble Canyon, which has a small visitor center and makes for a nice roadside break.

You'll drive alongside Vermilion Cliffs Monument and then up into the Kaibab National Forest, rapidly gaining a few thousand feet in elevation, before turning onto Highway 67 (the North Rim Parkway), which winds some 50 miles south through stands of evergreens to the North Rim.

The facilities at the North Rim are limited, but there is a wonderfully rustic old hotel, the Grand Canyon Lodge; the dining room inside the lodge is a mesmerizing setting for a meal, whose massive windows afford tremendous canyon views. From the lodge, you can drive to several trails, which lead to some of the most breathtakingly beautiful overlooks in the Southwest. ■

Reclaim.

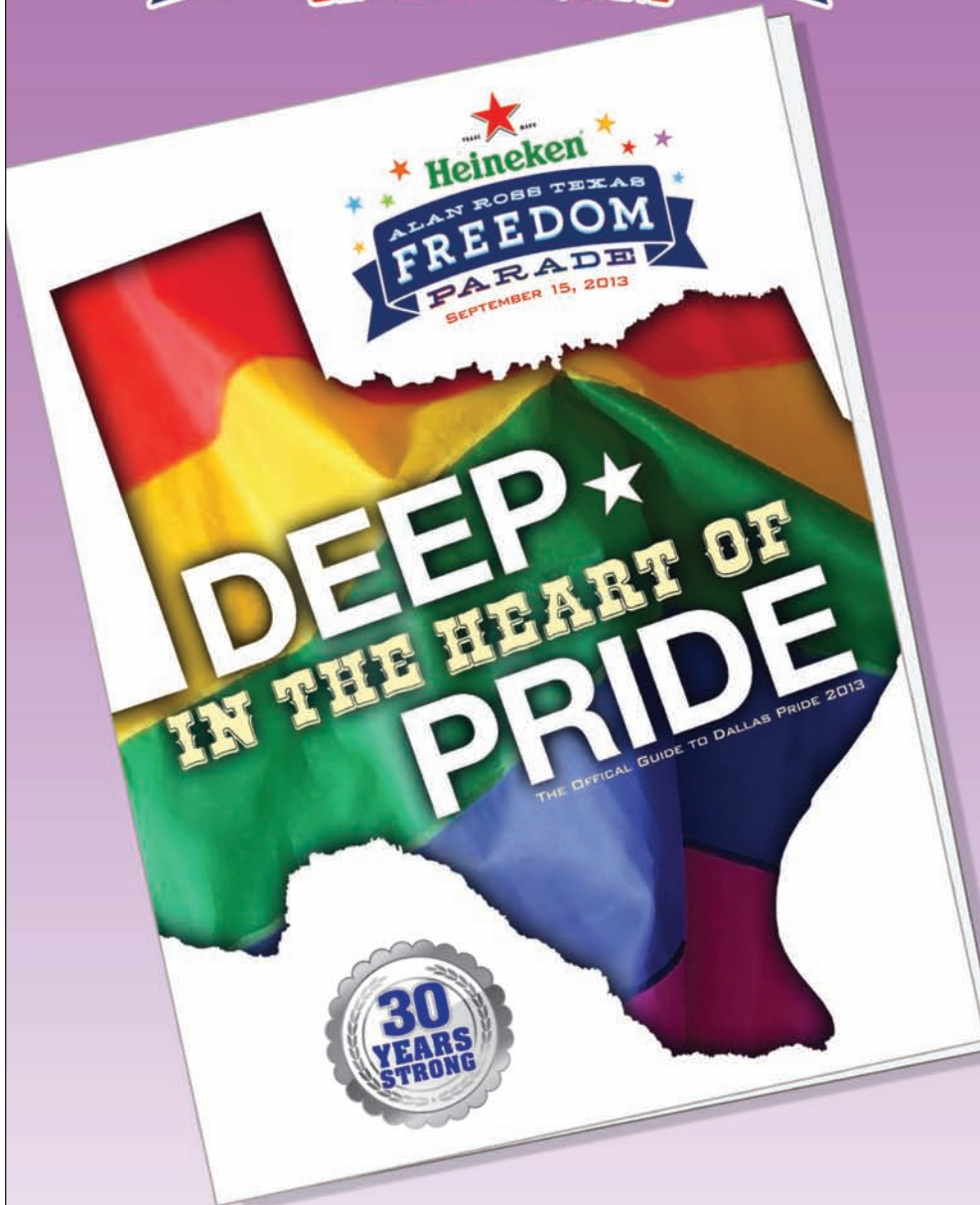


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PEAK PERFORMANCE | A hiker takes a break from a descent into the canyon via the scenic Bright Angel Trail. (Photo courtesy Andrew Collins)



Pride Guide

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L+S stage

Give 'em hell

Molly Ivins lives at WaterTower, secrets rend siblings in a forest 'Dark & Deep'



FOREST GUMPTION | A sister (Heather Henry) and brother (Jeremy Schwartz) roil up long-suppressed feelings in Neil LaBute's latest cynical look the American psyche. (Photo courtesy Karen Almond)

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

Neil LaBute rolls around like a pig in slop in topics most playwrights won't touch on a dare. He revels in the awfulness of humanity, casting a cynical, jaundiced eye at our motivations and desires. And while he sometimes exaggerates, you can't really say he gets stuff wrong.

It's his creepy laser-pointedness that makes plays, including his latest, *In a Forest Dark and Deep* from Second Thought Theatre, unnervingly brilliant.

College professor Betty (Heather Henry) has invited her estranged brother Bobby (Jeremy Schwartz) to a remote cabin she rents out to grad students. On the surface, the meeting is merely a packing-up party, removing the belongings of a tenant who bailed out on rent. But Bobby suspects darker motives at work. Is he right? Or is it just deep-seeded sibling rivalry rearing itself? And does *he*, perhaps, have fouler motives for helping out big sis?

This is fertile ground for LaBute, as well as for Regan Adair, who directed, designed and decorated this production. Adair — long one of our best actors — has proven himself an equally adept director, as he did with *Red Light Winter* two seasons ago: Another stormy, raw tale of perverse interpersonal relations. With two characters (and a boffo rustic set so brilliantly detailed it's practically a character in itself), Adair teases out the truth in bitter, venomous spasms.

It's as breathlessly suspenseful as a locked-door mystery, made all the more explosive with the actors.

Bobby, like most men in LaBute's world, is arrogant and confrontational ... and often pretty spot-on perceptive. Schwartz gives him a brooding, angry moralism that forces you to respect him even when he's being a dick.

If men are dicks for LaBute, women are manipulative liars, and the show largely relies on Henry nurturing our ambivalence about Betty. Her complication, ethically ambiguous Betty moves from superficially carefree to troubled woman to, ultimately, something terrible. It's a chilling performance, where self-deception and secrets conspire to create a tragedy of classic scale — Albee's *Zoo Story* comes to mind. It's a haunting portrayal, in an equally haunting drama.

There's less heaviness but no less anger in *Red Hot Patriot*, a one-woman hootenanny about the most indefatigable, irascible, hilarious tart-tongued Texas tornado, Molly Ivins. Ivins, who died in 2007 of breast cancer, was — along with Ann Richards — the quintessential spirited Western woman: Hard-drinking, hard-living, whip-smart and enviably witty. She's the woman who saddled George W. with the nickname "Shrub," the one who, in the pages of countless newspapers, doffed off such scathing rebukes of moronic lawmakers as, "If he loses

HELL, Page 42

IN A FOREST DARK & DEEP

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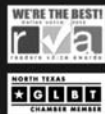
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L+S stage



IVINS THE TERRIFIC | Irrepressible Molly Ivins (Georgia Clinton) speaks truth to power in 'Red Hot Patriot,' which debuted this spring at Stage West and is not at Addison's WaterTower Theatre.

HELL, From Page 40

one more IQ point, we'll have to water him."

It's not an overstatement to say Ivins was the last century's Mark Twain. Republicans bristled at her razor-wire turns-of-phrase. "Next time I tell you someone from Texas should not be President of the United States, please pay attention" was her I-told-you-so, satire by a thousand cuts approach to politics: An unabashed liberal brainiac among a sea of dumb-asses. (Her ire wasn't limited to the GOP; she targeted corrupt Democrats as well, and railed about all forms of hypocrisy and ignorance, of which there seemed to be an endless supply in the Texas statehouse.)

With little more than a desk, a stuffed armadillo, an AP wire and a pair of cowboy boots, Georgia Clinton plays Ivins in this 70-minute show, reminding us of her brittle brilliance, the likes of which we will probably never see again. She was a champion of progressive causes in a state that turned redder than a tomato since the late 1960s. "There's no gay-bashing in Midland," she quotes one politician as saying, "because no gay will come out of the closet for fear he'll be thought a Democrat."

True or not, you can't help but howl with appreciative, nodding agreement, even though the

play, structurally, is a bit scattershot and predictable. But Clinton and director Dana Schultes have looked beyond the play itself, instead choosing to embody the woman and her ideals. By the end, it feels less like a play than a tent-revival, a powerful, emotionally raw leftist rally-cry for sanity and compassion in a world increasingly bereft of both. During the curtain call, I wasn't sure whether to applaud or raise up my hands and shout, "Amen!"

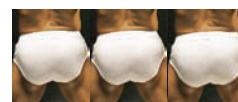
I wanted to raise my hands a lot during **All the Rage**, too — well, not "raise" so much as "throw up in frustration." The Theater on the Edge production, onstage in the Irving Studio space through this week-end, is a convoluted, poorly written

RED HOT PATRIOT

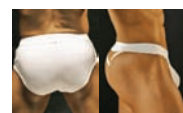
Addison Theatre Centre, 15650
Addison Road. Through Sept. 29.
WaterTowerTheatre.org.

melodrama but I think is trying to be a farcical comedy. The problem is, it takes fully a half-hour before you actually laugh, when Angel Velasco, as the bitchy, mentally unstable boyfriend of a corporate lawyer, actually finds the humor and gets it across. He and Van Quattro are about the only ones who emerge unscathed in this amateurish, poorly directed and technically disastrous show. I'm all for theater on the edge; this one jumps over the cliff early on, and writhes on the jagged rocks below.

SEATS, From Page S12



The Undermain Theatre. The theater housed in the basement of a Deep Ellum condo actually bought the *old* Kalita seats and had to re-upholster them consistent with Frank Lloyd Wright's original design. The downside: maneuvering the rickety risers on which the chairs are perched. **Three buns.**



The McKinney Avenue Contemporary. Two auditoria occupy this space — the Black Box with its rigid metal-frame-and-plastic seats and the Heldt-Hall with its converted movie the-

ater chairs. The plastic seats are never comfortable, but it's a lottery in Heldt-Hall: some of the seats lean forward so much they practically spill you into the patron in front of you. Neither enhances the experience. **One-and-a-half buns**



Addison Theatre Centre. Like the Wyly, Addison's theater space is mobile so the seat configuration changes show to show. What doesn't change is how close they are with orthopedically challenging leg room. The chairs themselves recall office furniture from Staples — not exactly torture devises, but getting comfortable requires work. **Two buns.**



Saturday 08.24

Jujubee to raise money for LifeWalk

She was one of the most popular contestants ever on RuPaul's Drag Race with her fierceness and her rockin' bod, and if you've ever wanted to see her perform, you can do it this weekend and help raise money for LifeWalk at the same time. The Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund's Night of Stars comes to The Brick Saturday, with Jujubee headlining. Proceeds benefit the Metro LifeWalk team.

DEETS: Joe's/The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. Tickets available at the door for \$20. Doors at 6 p.m., performance at 8 p.m.

Friday 08.23

'Red White & Tuna' waves a flag in Cowtown

No theater event more reflects Texans than the Tuna plays, and none of those says summer like *Red, White & Tuna*. This cross-dressing farce returns to Casa Manana for one weekend, with the terrific David Coffee and Jonathan Reed playing more than a dozen characters in small-town Texas.

DEETS: Casa Manana Theatre, 3101 W. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth. Through Sunday. \$41-\$66. CasaManana.org.



Tuesday 08.27

Bisexual Dallas poet James Rodehaver reads from his new collection

When you're a 30-year-old disabled bisexual in Dallas, you do what you, of course, should do: You write poetry. James Barrett Rodehaver is a prolific poet, and he gets the chance to show off those skills at his first-ever book signing and poetry reading this weekend in Oak Cliff.

DEETS: Lucky Dog Books, 633 W. Davis St. 7:30 p.m. Free. LuckyDogBooks.com.



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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING THEATER

The Book of Mormon. The uber-gay, hugely popular musical from the creators of South Park, as Mormon missionaries confront apathy (and gay Mormons) while trying to convert the natives. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Sept. 1. ATPAC.org.

A Bronx Tale. Actor Chazz Palminteri wrote this one-man show (in which he plays 18 characters) about his difficult childhood. Palminteri will perform it this weekend, marking the 20th anniversary of its premiere in 1993. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Aug. 23-24. ATPAC.org.

Red, White and Tuna. Third play in the Tuna series, set over the Fourth of July and performed by men in drag — in this case, David Coffee and Jonathan Reed. Casa Manana Theatre, 3101 W. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth *Final weekend.* \$41-\$66. CasaManana.org.

Red Hot Patriot. Actress Georgia Clinton portrays Texas firebrand Molly Ivins in this one-woman show. Water Tower Theatre presents this revival production, which originated at Stage West in Fort Worth, in their Studio Theatre. *Reviewed this week.* Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Sept. 29. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

In A Forest, Dark and Deep. Regan Adair returns to Dallas to direct this Neil LaBute play for Second Thought Theatre. *Reviewed this week.* Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Aug. 31. 2TT.co.

The Foreigner. Theatre Arlington presents this modern farce about a painfully shy man on vacation, with the company's former artistic director, BJ Cleveland, returning to its stage. 305 W. Main St., Arlington. *Final weekend.* TheatreArlington.org.

Thank You, Jeeves! Stage West concludes its 2013 season with this classic farce, once again featuring Jim



A SUMMER'S TALE | Men in skirts — and tied to chairs — are the source of farce in the revenge comedy 'Exit, Pursued By a Bear' at Circle Theatre.

Couvalet as the harried gentleman's gentleman. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 29. StageWest.org.

Men on the Verge of a His-Panic Breakdown. A series of comedic monologues about gay Latinos. Playwright Guillermo Reyes will be in town for a talk-back following the Aug. 24 and 25 performances. Presented by Theatre New West. Teatro Dallas, 1331 Record Crossing Road. Through Aug. 31. \$18-\$20. 214-443-8181.

Jailbait. Two teenaged girls, two middle-aged men, one night of clubbing ... what can go wrong? World premiere. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Through Aug. 31. \$20. DallasActorsLab.org.

Exit, Pursued by a Bear. A man in a girl's cheerleader uniform? That's what happens in this revenge farce. Presented by Circle Theatre. 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 14. CircleTheatre.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.

Going Postal. An art exhibit featuring diverse postal art in various media by four artists, including gay Irish multimedia artist Gary Farrelly. RE Gallery, 1717 Gould St. Through Sept. 14. ReGalleryStudio.com.

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.

Biennial: Origins in Geometry. A juried competition of emerging visual artists. Museum of Geometric and MADI Art, 3109 Carlisle St. Through Oct. 6. GeometricMadiMuseum.org.

Icons. A juried group exhibition featuring images of



MORE MORMONS | The other Mormon musical — 'Facing East,' produced by Nathan Gardner — plays for one night on Wednesday as a benefit for Resource Center Dallas.

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FRIDAY 08.23

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to 29. ilume, 4123
Cedar Springs Road,
Suite 2367. 2-8 p.m.
DFWFuse.com.



KARAOKE FOR A CAUSE | DFW Actors Give Back holds a fundraising karaoke event on Sunday in anticipation of their latest disc of seasonal carols.

Every week at Havana Lounge, 4006 Cedar Springs Road. 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Ministry. Weekly Sunday tea-dance-and-more gay mixer with a new DJ each week. LeVu, 2505 Pacific Ave. 6 p.m. Cover 21+: \$5 before 7 p.m. (free with flier), \$10 after 7 p.m.; cover 18-20: \$15.

FUNDRAISER

Karaoke for a Cause. The nonprofit group DFW Actors Give Back will be releasing its third CD collection of Christmas carols, *Holidazzle Encore!*, later this year and will host a karaoke night of singing, prizes and noshes. Gables Room of the Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. 6-10 p.m. \$10 donation at the door.

MONDAY 08.26

COMMUNITY

The Women's Chorus of Dallas holds its usual rehearsal, but also hosts an open house and orientation for prospective new members. Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. 6:30-10 p.m. 214-520-7828.

WEDNESDAY 08.28

THEATER

Facing East. A new musical about the effects of homophobia on a Mormon family. Cast includes local actors Julie Johnson, Max Swamer, Peter DeCesare. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St., Grand Prairie. Aug. 27 at 8 p.m. \$16-\$21. FacingEastTheMusical.com.

COMMUNITY

Dallas FrontRunners fun run for runners and walkers at all levels. Meet at the statute of Robert E. Lee at Lee Park at 7 p.m. Dinner to follow. FronrunnersDallas.org.

this week's solution

S	C	R	A	M	S	A	D	R	I	E	N	N	E	
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SATURDAY 08.24

BOOK SIGNING

James Barrett Rodehaver. The bisexual Dallas-based poet has his first-ever reading and signing in Oak Cliff of his collection *Strangely Wonderful*. Lucky Dog Books, 633 W. Davis St. 7:30 p.m. Free. LuckyDogBooks.com.

CONCERTS

Nobody's Hart: Diana Sheehan Sings the Lyrics of Lorenz Hart. A CD release party and concert by the local actress and singer. Rebecca Low Sculptural Metal Gallery and Studio, 7608 Camp Bowie Road, Fort Worth. 5-7 p.m. \$25 (includes a copy of the CD). NobodysHart.eventbrite.com.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. In-studio fundraiser for 89.3 KNON-FM honoring Angela Hunt. Philip Kingston also appears. Lunch catered by Thairrific. 11a.m - 1pm. LambdaWeekly.com.

COMMUNITY

Jujubee and the Night of Stars. The Drag Racer comes to Dallas for a fundraiser for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund's LifeWalk Team. Joe's/The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. Doors at 6 p.m., performance at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY 08.25

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.

Breath of Life Interfaith Mindfulness Fellowship. LGBT-friendly "meditation and more" event. Inspired by Buddhist spirituality, all faiths welcome. Deaf interpretation provided. Dallas Meditation Center, 727 S. Floyd Road, Richardson. 5 p.m. Donations accepted. InterMindful.com.

CONCERTS

Midnight Red. The twinkly boy band performs at House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. Doors at 4 p.m., show at 5 p.m. \$25. HouseOfBlues.com.

COMMUNITY

Mimosas and Music: Sunday Soul Food Brunch.

browse

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

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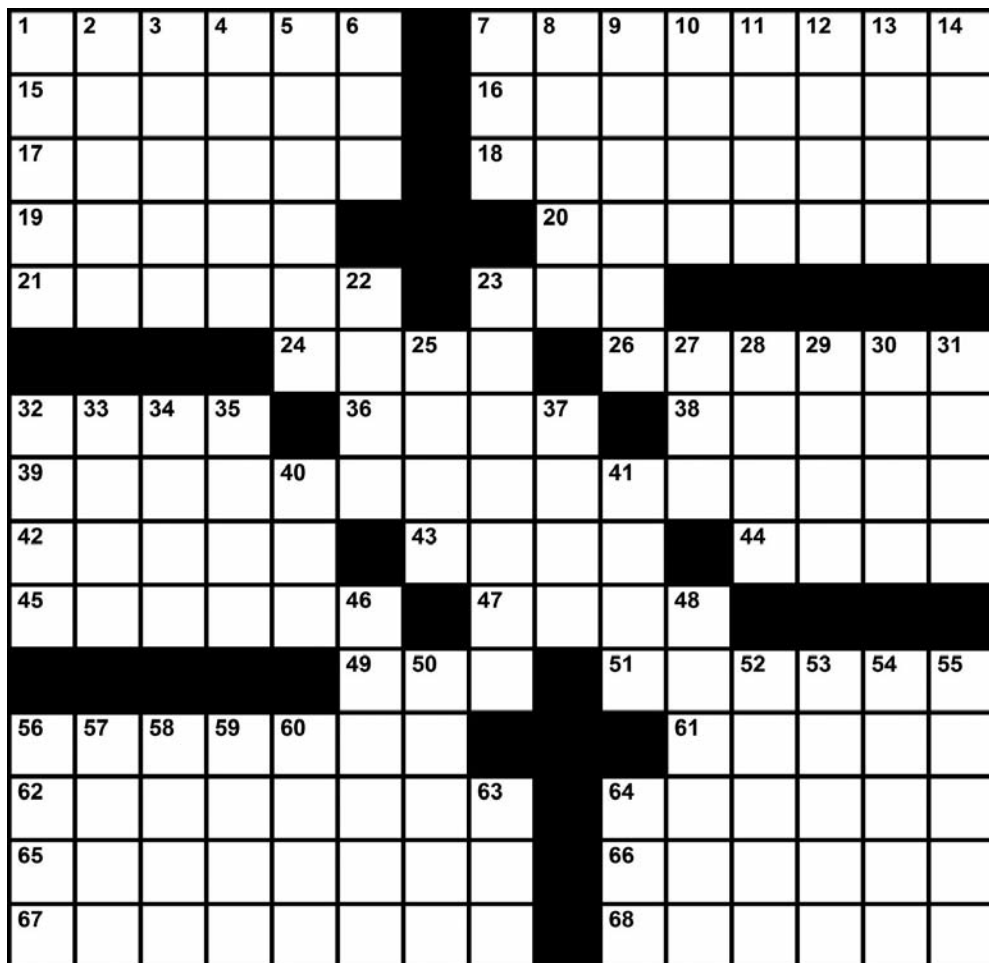
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Going to the Mat for Family

Solution on page 45

Across

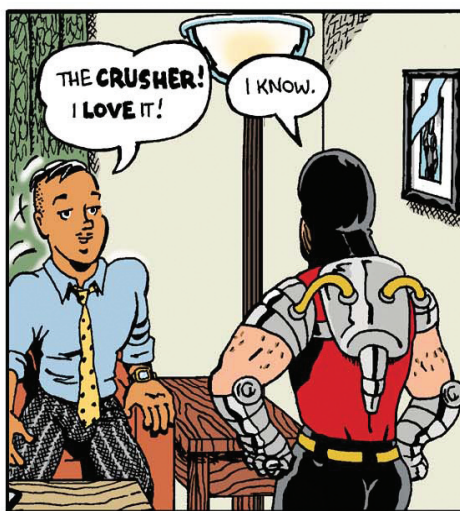
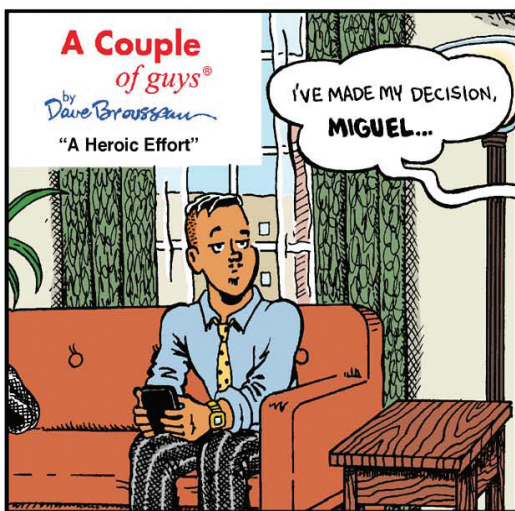
- 1 Hauls ass
- 7 Beach's partner Monnier
- 15 Bitches
- 16 Bargain hunter's goal
- 17 "A Taste of Honey" trumpeter
- 18 Freud's specialty
- 19 Darren, who recently came out in an interview at an airport
- 20 What Darren does professionally
- 21 Snow White's dwarfs, e.g.
- 23 Fair grade
- 24 Clash of heavyweights
- 26 Sprints at the Gay Games
- 32 Cannon in films
- 36 t.A.T.u., e.g.
- 38 Go down on a hill
- 39 Darren's comment on coming out
- 42 Takes off
- 43 Coupling device
- 44 Box material in *Six Feet Under*
- 45 *The Wizard of Oz* scorer Arlen
- 47 Portion (out)
- 49 Binges, briefly
- 51 Doghouse warnings

Down

- 56 Issues you haven't dealt with
- 61 With 56-Across, airport area where Darren came out, ironically
- 62 Adapts musically
- 64 Rivera portrayer, in *Frida*
- 65 Top athletes
- 66 Rubber
- 67 Iona and others
- 68 Can't stand

Down

- 1 Goes either way
- 2 Sevigny of *Boys Don't Cry*
- 3 Turn into confetti
- 4 In regard to
- 5 Comes together
- 6 Boom source of old
- 7 Turkish title of honor
- 8 "___ now our gay apparel ..."
- 9 Sounded like a pride of lions
- 10 *Spamalot* writer Eric
- 11 Maker of some fruity flavors
- 12 Jay's house
- 13 Get in the sack
- 14 *Showboat's* "Nobody ___ But Me"
- 22 Biggest brass instrument
- 23 "No glove, no love" subjects
- 25 More than enough
- 27 Essen exclamation
- 28 Billy Crystal played gay on this sitcom
- 29 Drag queen ___ Phace
- 30 Where to see sweaty men
- 31 Eyelid ailment
- 32 Rooftop fixture
- 33 Village People hit
- 34 Petri dish gel
- 35 Cold war defense assn.
- 37 Where the little Dutch girl stuck her finger?
- 40 Big initials in fashion
- 41 Subway Series team
- 46 Determined
- 48 "More!" on Broadway
- 50 Mower maker
- 52 ___ once (like simultaneous orgasm)
- 53 Make erect
- 54 Thespians should know them
- 55 *Designing Women* co-star Jean
- 56 Black Party, for example
- 57 Johnson of "Laugh-In" fame
- 58 Snatch
- 59 Teri of *Tootsie*
- 60 Thesis start
- 63 Snake sound
- 64 Dose of AZT, e.g.

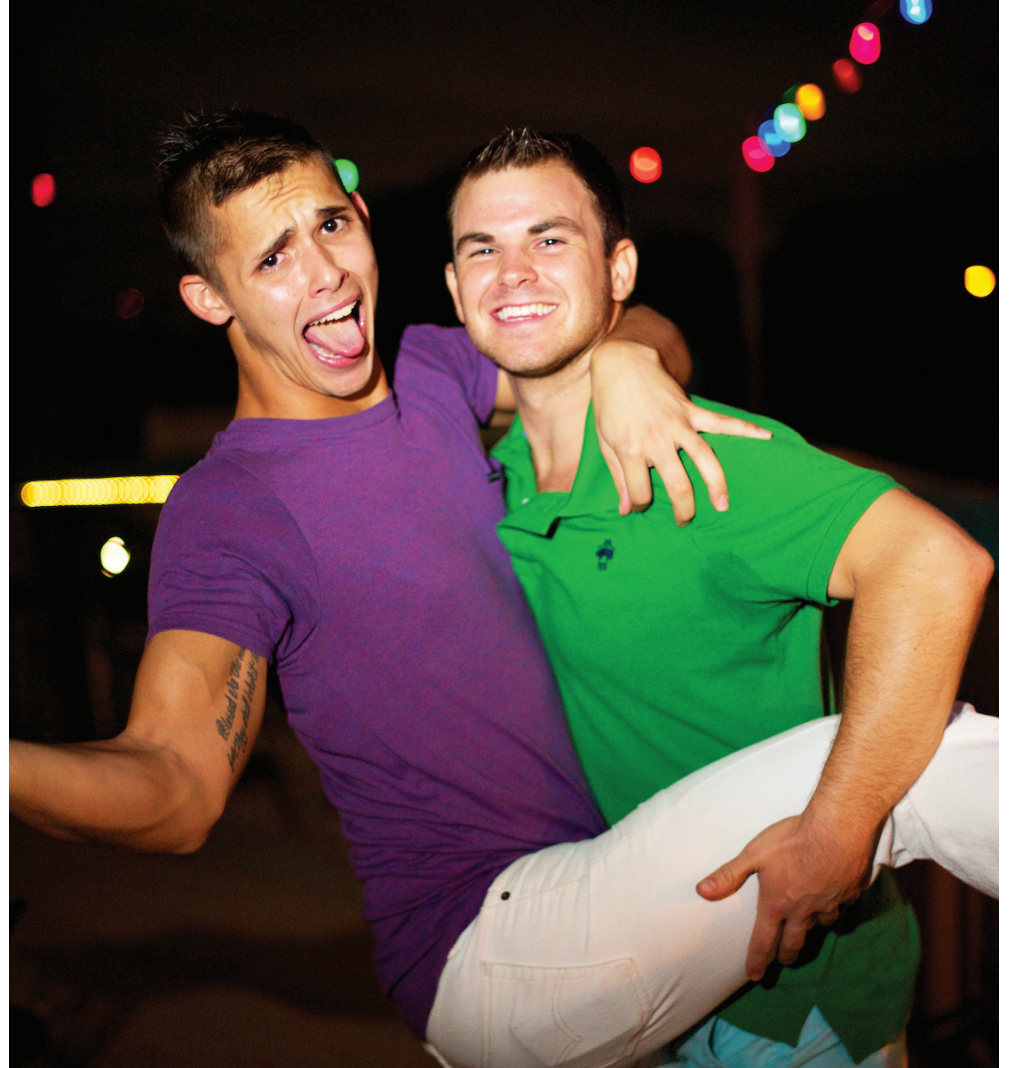




Kristen and David at Station 4.

The Greg Dolgener Memorial AIDS Fund presents **Team Metro Night of Stars for LifeWalk with RuPaul All-Star Jubee** at **The Brick** on Aug. 24. **Sable Alexandre**, **Sienna Silver** and **Linze Serell** also appear. ... Bring your swimsuits to **Rainbow Lounge** on Aug. 23 and 24 for the **Wet & Wild Foam Party**. ... Come to **Cherries** dressed as your favorite character from **The Wizard of Oz** for **A Night in the Emerald City** on Aug. 24. ... **Boys to Bearish Underwear Auction** takes place at **The Round-Up Saloon** on Aug. 25 to raise money for the **Dallas Bears**. **Texas Hold'Em Poker Finals Night** is Aug. 26. The winners from the five prelims return to battle it out for cool prizes. ... **Kickback** performs at **Sue Ellen's** on Aug. 23 then **Barefoot Hippies** plays for **Kathy Corbin's** birthday on Aug. 24. A single release party for **Bonnie McKee's** single hit **American Girl** takes place on Aug. 27. Free single CDs while supplies last. ... **Miss Platinum Dallas Finest Female Illusionist**, a prelim to **Miss Platinum Texas FFI**, begins at 10 p.m. on Aug. 25 in the **Rose Room**. ... **Carlos Saenz** performs at **Alexandre's** on Aug. 23, **Bad Habits** on Aug. 24, **Anton Shaw** on Aug. 28 and **Alicia Silex** on Aug. 29. ... The **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** presents **No Show! Show!** on Aug. 23 at **Dallas Eagle** hosted by **Grand Duke to Reign 38**, **Rob Hickman** benefiting **Youth First**. On Aug. 24, the **United Court** presents **Knights of the Round Table** hosted by **Christopher Garrett**, **Messy Panocha** and **Larry Harrell** benefiting **Legacy Founders Cottage**. **International Leather Sir/boy** and **International Community Bootblack Weekend** begins on Aug 29 and runs through Labor Day weekend. ... **Eden Lounge** welcomes **Coles Whalen** for a CD release party on Aug. 24. **SOLID** hosts a mixer on Aug. 25 with **Bella & Darla** performing. On Aug. 29, **Lone Star Ride** holds a social. ■

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



Dillon and Cody at the Round-Up Saloon.



Mesha, Kela and Melissa at Sue Ellen's.

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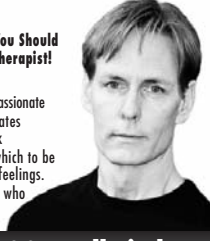
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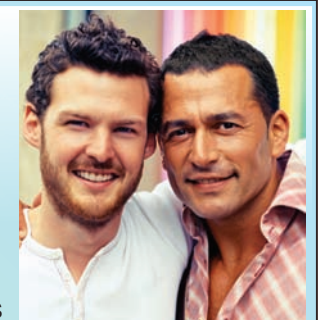
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