

Lesbian moms take on TX National Guard

Iraq vet's wife turned away for benefits despite Pentagon directive

Commander says unit can't process application due to state marriage amendment

■ TEXAS NEWS, Page 10



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Till DEATH do us part?

DOMA decision was a double-edged sword for gay couples seeking divorces in Texas, and experts don't expect the state Supreme Court to provide any relief

■ COVER STORY, Page 6

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9

headlines

TEXAS NEWS

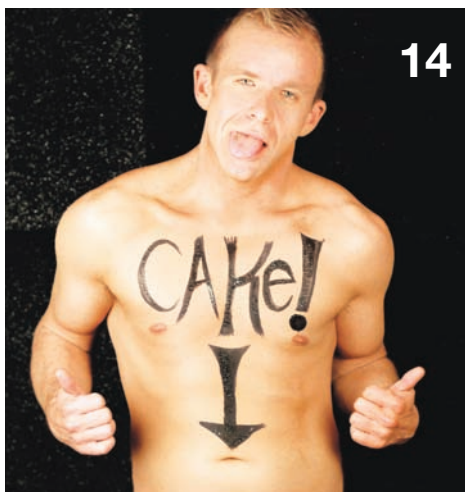
- 6 TX high court to weigh gay divorce
- 9 Resource Center rebrands at 30
- 10 National Guard snubs gay couples

LIFE+STYLE

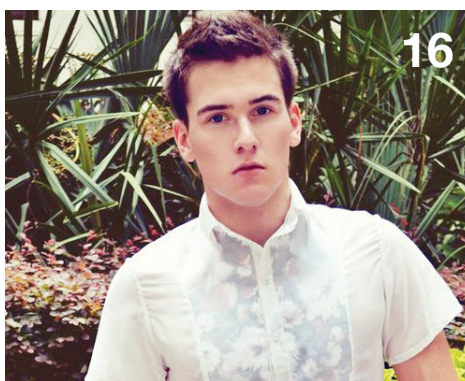
- 14 Sexy gay author Mark Rosenberg
- 16 Designer Jim Duran's 2014 collection
- 17 Drive-by tasting: Primebar
- 18 Uptown Players' Pride Fest lineup

ON THE COVER

Design by Kevin Thomas



14



16

departments

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|-------------|
| 6 | Texas News | 14 | Life+Style |
| 8 | Pet of the Week | 19 | Calendar |
| 8 | Death | 24 | Scene |
| 12 | Viewpoints | 26 | Classifieds |

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BIG RED LETTER DAY | Supporters celebrate outside San Antonio City Council Chambers after passage of the nondiscrimination ordinance on Thursday, Sept. 5. (Antonia Padilla/QSanAntonio)

San Antonio council passes nondiscrimination ordinance

Despite loud and vocal opposition from Christian extremists, the San Antonio City Council on Sept. 5 passed a nondiscrimination ordinance that includes protections for LGBT citizens and veterans. The vote was eight in favor and three against.

The newly passed ordinance amends sections of the city code that cover public accommodations, fair housing, city employment, city contracts and appointments to city boards and commissions. The language in the code now includes sexual orientation and gender identity, and veteran status as protected classes. The changes will take effect immediately.

"It has been a long, hard struggle, but we are happy that truth, justice, fairness and equality have prevailed and that San Antonio has joined the 180 other cities across the country who treat their LGBT residents with dignity and respect. Now the time for healing has begun and we invite those who opposed this ordinance to meet with us in the spirit of forgiveness, reconciliation and mutual education," said Dan Graney, co-chair of CAUSA, the coalition of LGBT groups and allies that was promoting the nondiscrimination ordinance.

Voting yes on the ordinance were Mayor Julian Castro and council members Shirley Gonzales, Rey Saldana, Diego Bernal, Ray Lopez, Ron Nirenberg, Cris Medina and Rebecca Viagran. As expected, no votes came from Elisa Chan and Carlton Soules. Ivy Taylor, who was previously undecided, also voted no.

Councilwoman Chan said she was disappointed that the ordinance was a "triumph of politics over policy, that political correctness prevailed over freedom of speech." She made a motion to have the ordinance tabled — which failed.

Taylor, the only black member of the council, earlier in the week was quoted in the San Antonio Express-News as saying that she thought being gay was a lifestyle choice, something that earned her considerable criticism in the local press and in the LGBT community. In her remarks from the dais, Taylor said that all human beings deserved respect without harassment but said she was unable to cast a vote in favor of the ordinance because she could not promote anything that "goes against our basic religious beliefs."

"I really wanted to vote yes," said Taylor, "but I know my heart. I am not a coward, I am not igno-

rant and I am not a bigot."

Soules, who would not even meet with his constituents over the measure, for the most part nit-picked the details of the ordinance with City Attorney Michael Bernard.

In voicing his support for the ordinance, Mayor Julian Castro said: "San Antonio is a prosperous, fast-growing city. This ordinance is about ensuring whether you are white or black, Christian or Jew, straight or gay, this city belongs to you."

There was considerable doubt and anxiety for LGBT activists in the days leading up to the passage of the ordinance — not so much because they feared its failure but because of language that was added to the draft on Aug. 21 that made it permissible to deny use of public restrooms to transgender citizens.

The text of the new edit read, "Nothing heron shall be construed as directing any policy or practice regarding the use of restrooms, shower rooms, or similar facilities which have been designated for use by persons of the opposite sex."

CAUSA held an emergency phone conference shortly after the new language was added to the ordinance draft. In that meeting, they decided to ask City Councilman Diego Bernal, who was leading the effort to enact the ordinance changes, to reconsider the new language.

Opponents of the ordinance were unhappy with the language as well. Soules and Chan said the new language did not go far enough in clarifying who could use public restrooms.

Rumors swirled that the language might be changed. However, because of the Labor Day holiday, the city was not able to post a copy of the new draft in time for proper public review. So no one knew what changes, if any, would be adopted.

In the end, Councilman Rey Saldana made a "friendly amendment" that addressed the bathroom issue with the following language: "Nothing in Division 5 shall be construed as allowing any person to access any sex-segregated place for any unlawful purpose."

On the night before the vote, at the Citizens to be Heard session, more than 700 people spoke before the City Council.

The meeting, which began at 6 p.m., did not conclude until about 1:30 a.m. the next morning. On the day of the vote, more than 120 people spoke prior to the item being open for council discussion and approval.

— Sam Sanchez

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Gay exes in Texas

The state Supreme Court is scheduled to hear its first LGBT-related cases in recent history, but that's not necessarily a good thing

JOHN WRIGHT | Senior Editor
editor@dallasvoice.com

The Internal Revenue Service's announcement last week that it will recognize all same-sex marriages for tax purposes was hailed as a major victory for LGBT equality.

But for same-sex couples seeking divorces in Texas, the new IRS rules may only compound their problems.

Because the state's attorney general has sought to block the couples from dissolving the marriages they legally entered in Massachusetts, they will be required to file federal income tax returns as married — even if they've long since split up.

"If you don't even know where your ex is, let alone what his life circumstances are, how are you going to do that?" said Ken Upton, Dallas-based supervising senior staff attorney at Lambda Legal, the LGBT civil rights group. "Literally, they're trapped."

Lambda Legal, in conjunction with the American Civil Liberties Union, filed a friend-of-the-court brief this week calling on the Texas Supreme Court to allow gay couples to divorce here, and arguing that such a narrow ruling wouldn't run afoul of the state's bans on same-sex marriage.

The court has set oral arguments for early November in two pending same-sex divorce cases — nearly five years after the first uncontested petition was filed in Dallas County. Republican AG Greg Abbott intervened in both cases, arguing Texas judges can't grant divorces to same-sex couples because the state doesn't recognize their marriages — and resulting in conflicting opinions from appeals courts in Austin and Dallas.

Upton said according to Lambda Legal's research, it will be the first time in recent history, perhaps ever, that the Texas Supreme Court has heard a gay-rights case, and he's concerned about the prospect of having the all-Republican body whose justices face reelection every six years weigh in on an LGBT issue.

In fact, despite Lambda Legal's filing this week, Upton remained outspoken in questioning the couples' attorneys' decision to pursue the divorce cases — saying a negative ruling from the state Supreme Court would create a bad precedent that could influence other judges in Texas and beyond.

"It's the nature of the court game that a lot of people don't get if they're not lawyers," Upton said. "Every bad decision tips the scale a little on that side. It makes it harder to win in places you should have a good chance when you're piling up losses in states where you never really had a chance. I think it's a case that's filed in a court I'd rather not have deciding the issue right now. There are plenty of other places where we have better chances."

The attorneys representing the same-sex couples seeking divorces counter that the needs of their clients trump what may be perceived as best for LGBT equality.



UN-DIVORCED?

Angelique Naylor, pictured, was granted a divorce from her ex-wife, Sabina Daly, by a state district judge in Austin in 2010. But if Attorney General Greg Abbott has his way, their divorce will be overturned by the Texas Supreme Court. (Associated Press)

"Our position all along has been that this is not about a movement," said Jason Steed, a Dallas attorney who's representing the couples pro bono on appeal. "We've got two couples that wanted to get divorced. I think certainly no one's looking to hurt the movement, but that's not the primary concern. The primary concern is that the clients are trying to move on with their lives."

Steed's co-counsel, James "Jody" Scheske of Austin, said he's advised their clients not to discuss the cases with the media.

Pete Schulte of Dallas, the originating attorney in one of the divorce cases, said he was excited to learn that the Texas Supreme Court will hear them.

Schulte said the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in June striking down a portion of the Defense of Marriage Act raises issues concerning equal protection under the law for gay couples residing in states that don't recognize their marriages — as well as questions related to the principle of full faith and credit between states.

While out-of-state same-sex marriages may not have meant much legally for Texas couples five years ago, they're now recognized by nearly half of all states as well as the federal government — and the latter has bestowed many benefits regardless of where couples live, including joint tax filing.

"It's not an issue that's going to go away," Schulte said. "Either the courts are going to have to do something or the Legislature's going to have to do something. This issue's only going to get worse."

In the wake of the Supreme Court's ruling striking down DOMA as unconstitutional, the Texas Supreme Court requested a new round of briefs from the two sides in the divorce cases to address the ruling's impact.

In their supplemental brief, Steed and Scheske reiterated that the cases are about divorce, not marriage, so the DOMA ruling shouldn't necessarily apply.

But they also argued that if the Texas Supreme Court opts to consider the legality of the state's marriage bans, justices should strike them down as unconstitutional under the DOMA ruling in *United States v. Windsor*.

In the wake of *Windsor*, national LGBT advocacy groups have said they hope to return to the U.S. Supreme Court within five years with a case that will allow justices to throw out marriage bans in Texas and roughly 30 other states.

"This could be *the* case," said Schulte, who's gay and called it "my stake in the civil rights movement of our era."

"This is the same thing people thought about *Brown v. Board of Education* — it doesn't have a chance," Schulte said. "And look what *Brown* did — it ended segregation. If we only did things we thought were going to make good law, I don't think we'd have half the decisions the Supreme Court has made that have benefited civil rights through the ages."

Upton, on the other hand, said he believes it's unlikely the U.S. Supreme Court would take the divorce cases unless the Texas Supreme Court were to strike down the state's marriage bans on federal constitutional grounds — a seemingly remote possibility.

But even though they disagree about the wisdom of pursuing the cases, Lambda Legal and attorneys for the couples agree that Abbott's effort to keep them married flies in the face of reason.

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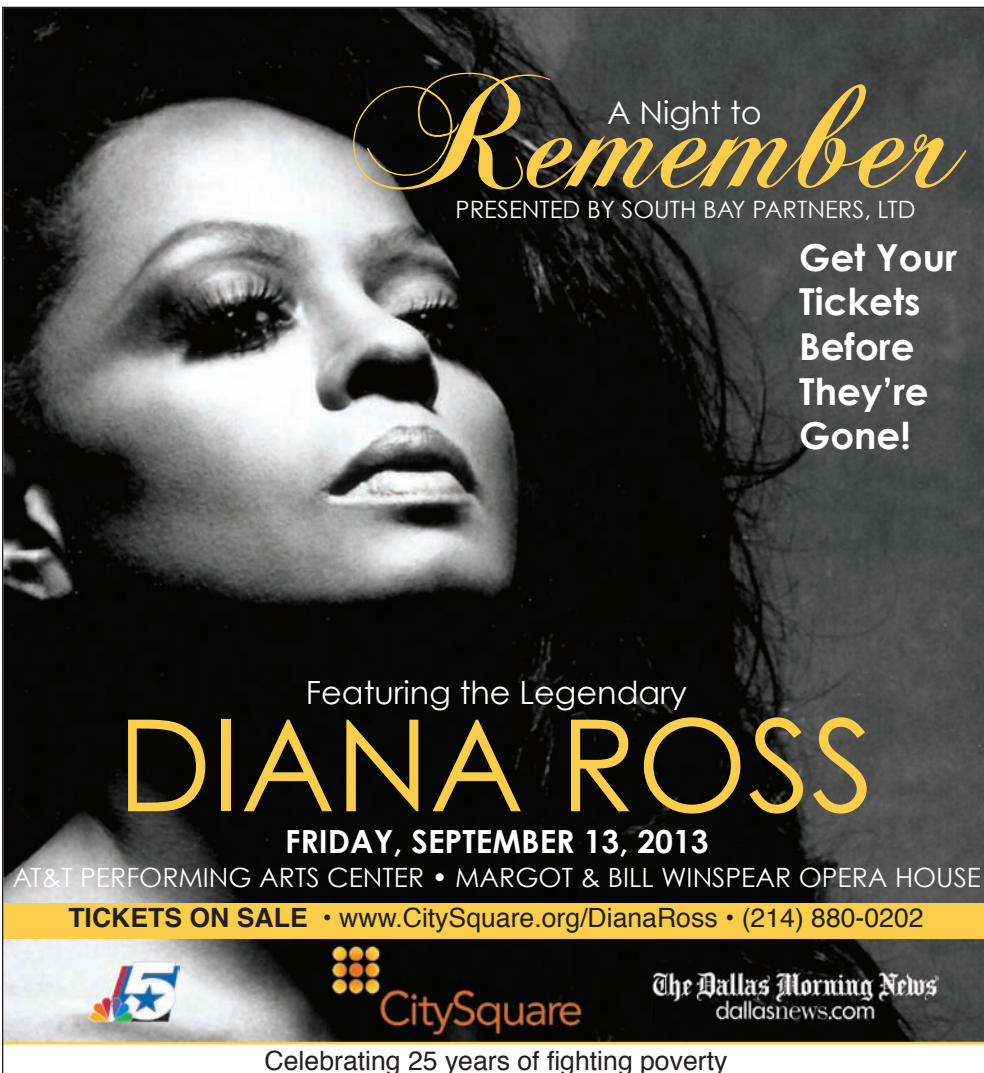
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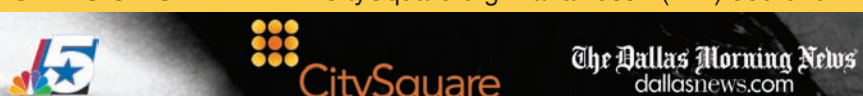


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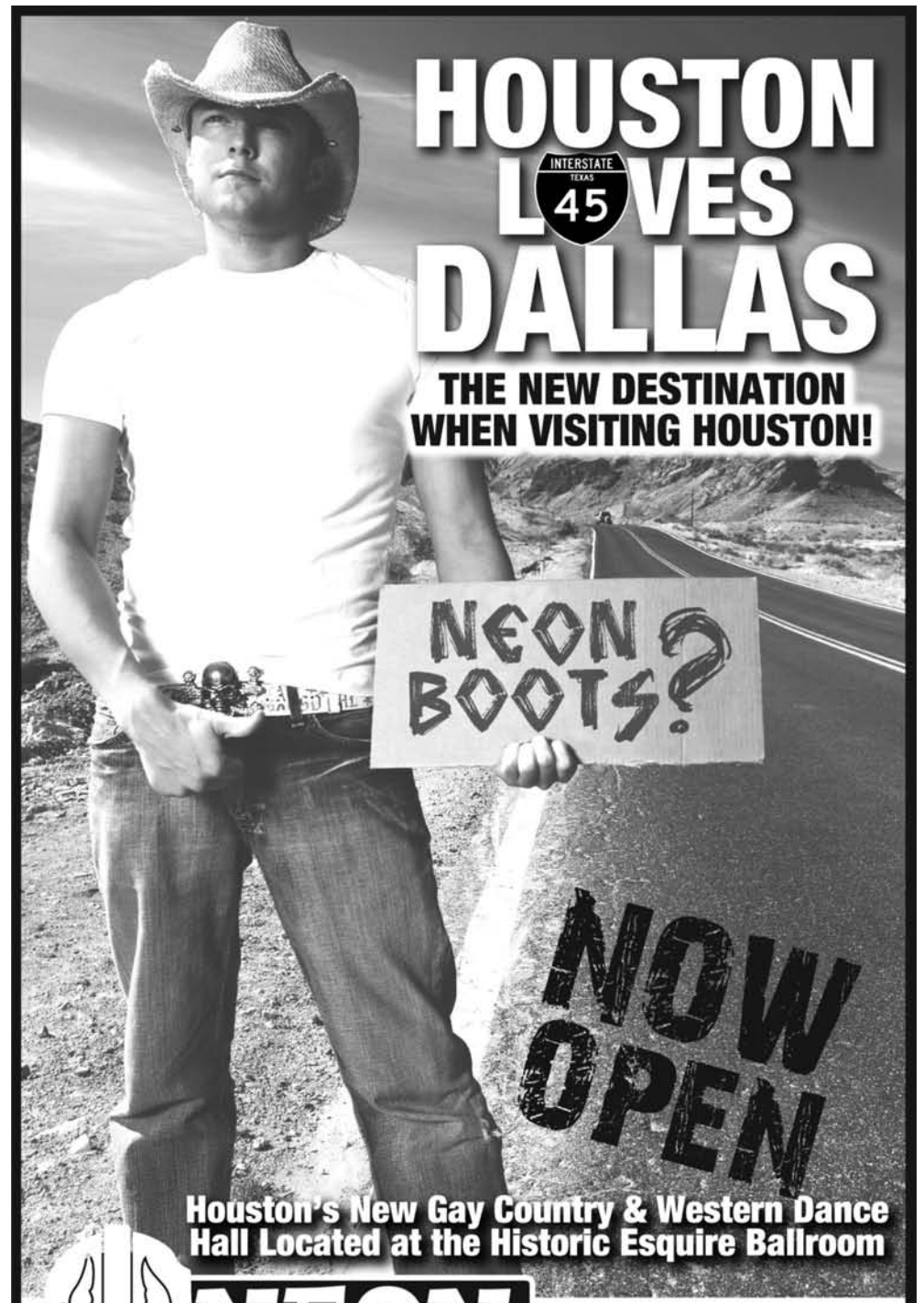
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localbriefs

Gray Pride hosts 2nd annual gay Pride event, variety show at S4

Resource Center Dallas' Gray Pride program will host its second annual "Gray Pride for Gay Pride" in The Rose Room at S4 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 13.

This year's event will be a Gray Pride variety show produced and directed by Sean Baugh, associate director of worship at Cathedral of Hope and associate director of Turtle Creek Chorale.

The show will feature local stars Patty Breckenridge, Amy Stevenson, Jason Huff, Chris Wadley and Michael A. Smith, as well as other musicians and entertainers from TCC and COH's music ministry. They will provide an eclectic mix of



Shelley Hamilton

music standards and Broadway tunes, accompanied by a lounge band.

Jerry Calumn, local comedian and entertainer, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Food will be provided, and a cash bar will be available. There is no cover charge, but donations to support the Gray Pride program will be accepted.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Shelley Hamilton at shamilton@rcdallas.org or 214-540-4418.

Death

William "Bill" John Blair III, 61, passed away at his home on Aug. 29, 2013.

Bill was born on Feb. 23, 1952, in Dallas. He attended Richardson High School.

Bill was a longtime employee of Frank Caven and Caven Enterprises, working in a variety of positions — including bartender, club lighting and office man-



ager.

Bill was kind and courageous and had a wicked sense of humor. A brilliant storyteller, Bill's tales could always elicit a laugh.

Bill was preceded in death by his father, William Blair II, and his mother, Pearl Buck Bogadis.

In the last decades of his life, Bill had a Fellowship grow up about him, and he is survived by a host of friends and his brother, Jack Curtis Blair.

Bill had begun to know a new freedom and a new happiness. He has now entered the realm of the spirit and knows peace. "I know that's right!"

pet of the week / ANGELO

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Resource Center rebrands for 30th

New name, logo to be unveiled at anniversary events reflect expanded mission that includes Youth First, Gray Pride, family programming



resourcecenter

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Three decades ago, a group of Dallas activists came together to start a community center for the LGBT community. They had no idea that a year later they'd be using the center to save lives.

The center started when the Dallas Gay Alliance, now the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, rented space on Cedar Springs in 1983. It was intended to educate and serve the community, and help achieve equality.

William Waybourn, a co-founder of the center, said that same year the DGA created the Foundation for Human Understanding as an umbrella term for the effort with a name where people could give a tax-deductible donation without the word gay being mentioned.

"It's not like it is today," he said. "There were a lot of people in the closet. If you had AIDS or were gay, you were likely to lose your job. There were no protections."

But when HIV/AIDS hit North Texas a year later, the educational focus shifted to activism and outreach, leading to the AIDS Resource Center in 1985 and the Nelson-Tebedo Clinic in 1988.

"People preferred that we go away," Waybourn said. "AIDS blew the hinges off the closet door and it changed society. Not originally but eventually."

Waybourn said local activists tried to get the city and county to provide medical treatment to AIDS patients, but there was little government support and no clinical trials. The center's leadership created the AIDS Financial Assistance Fund and found doctors to write prescriptions for patients and nurses to administer the medication.

"The dialogue back then was controversial," Waybourn recalled. "We were told 'If you stay back, we'll take care of you' and of course that was a joke. We wanted the same services that everyone else had."

"We had to come up with a plan, which was to deliver our own treatment, deliver our own medication and deliver our own food and funding," he added.

The center's humble beginnings led to a movement in Dallas that united the LGBT community, who came together to help and support their own. That support is still offered to members of

DALLAS AND BEYOND | As shown in its new logo, Resource Center has dropped 'Dallas' from its name to reflect its reach outside the city.

the LGBT community who seek help from the center now, 30 years later.

Cece Cox, CEO of Resource Center Dallas, remembers the early days of the AIDS crisis and how the center offered life-saving support and services to patients. While the center still offers various HIV/AIDS treatments and services, its mission has expanded to cover more of the community's needs.

Over the past year, the center examined how to grow its programs and services. Cox said youth, senior and family programs needed to expand, leading to the creation of the center's Gray Pride program and its acquisition of Youth First Texas, now Youth First, as a program of the center. She said family programming will begin in 2014.

"We're still here for the community, based in the community and helping the community, but the needs change," Cox said.

Part of that change is a new rebranding effort that will be unveiled at 30th anniversary events in September, including an anniversary edition of the 5 Factor to honor five individuals with long ties to the center, an open house and a special edition of Gaybingo.

The rebranding will include a new multicolored logo for a more unified look to the center's materials and buildings, as well as a name change to Resource Center. Cox said the rebranding is intended to help the community recognize all of the services provided by the center.

In 1998, the Foundation for Human Understanding organization was changed to Resource Center of Dallas, encompassing the center, clinic and food pantry, both of which still remain on Cedar Springs Road while the center moved to the former Metropolitan Community Church site on Reagan Street after a fire in 1989. The name later changed to Resource Center Dallas, but Cox said the new change to drop Dallas is to help emphasize the center's reach to areas outside the city.

"The imprint that we have and demographics

■ RESOURCE CENTER, Page 11



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TX National Guard snubs gay spouses

Unit turns away Iraq veteran's wife, says it won't process applications for benefits due to amendment banning same-sex marriage

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Judith Chedville served in Iraq and Kuwait with the Texas Air National Guard. After her tour of duty was complete, she left but decided last year to re-enlist and now serves in the Army National Guard.

"People who want to do that kind of service have a certain drive to do that," says Chedville's wife, Alicia Butler.

Butler and Chedville married in California in 2008, a month before Prop 8 passed. Earlier this year they had a baby.

When the Department of Defense began offering benefits to same-sex couples on Sept. 3, Butler went to Camp Mabry, near their house in Austin where Chedville serves, to get an ID for access to the base.

She was turned away.

Texas Military Forces, which is over the Texas National Guard, announced that despite a Pentagon directive, it won't process applications for benefits from same-sex spouses, due to the state's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. Texas Military Forces spokeswoman Laura Lopez said in an email to Dallas Voice that same-sex military spouses will still be offered benefits, but they must sign up at a federal military base.

"We fully support same-sex families enrolling for benefits at the nearest federal installation," Lopez wrote.

Butler, an attorney who represents plaintiffs in civil cases, thinks a negotiated settlement is in everyone's best interests. Military families in Texas are going to get the same benefits as in every other state. And Texas would avoid a court battle directly challenging the state law that contradicts federal policy — which is based on a Supreme Court ruling, she said.

Although she expects to receive federal benefits soon, the nearest federal installation to her Austin home is in San Antonio, 70 miles south, or Fort Hood, 70 miles north. Other federal facilities registering same-sex partners are at least three hours away. Butler is caring for Jordan, the couple's 5 1/2-month-old baby. Either she'll have to take Jordan in the car several hours or Chedville will have to take time off.

Since Chedville's civilian nursing job provides the family with health insurance, that wasn't Butler's main concern with Texas' refusal to recognize her relationship.

"If she gets activated for state action, would Texas deny me benefits, if she lost her life serving



ACCESS DENIED | Alicia Butler, left, was denied an ID for access to the base where her wife, National Guard member Judith Chedville, is stationed. Butler and Chedville have a 5 1/2-month-old daughter, Jordan.

the state?" Butler said. That action could be during a hurricane or a disaster like the West explosion when National Guard troops are normally called by the governor.

But her other concern was a more practical, everyday one. Chedville was pumping breast milk for their infant and left a piece of the pump at home. Butler ran it to the base but was denied access. So they had to meet off-base, wasting time and taking Chedville away from her job.

Without the ID card, "there are just extra hoops to jump through," Butler said.

Lambda Legal Supervising Senior Staff Attorney Ken Upton said there's no justification for Texas to be the only state not participating.

"Texans are not going to be denied benefits," he said.

He said the state is just adding undue burden to apply for them.

"What's really shameful is that other states who

should be leading the way are not doing it," he said. "The real story is the states not doing this to people — like Oklahoma."

Col. Max Moss, spokesman for the Oklahoma National Guard, said his state would process applications for same-sex couples the same as it would for opposite-sex couples.

Mississippi and Louisiana later joined Texas in refusing to accept applications at state offices but is accepting them at other facilities.

Upton also questioned the relationship between Texas and federal government relating to the guard and wondered if Texas was doing something illegal.

Both the president and governor have the right to call up the guard. Texas receives equipment as well as money from the federal government for maintaining the Guard. Because of those ties, he wondered how Texas could justify placing state law over federal.

Even if the federal government doesn't force the state into processing the IDs, Upton suggested, as a courtesy Texas could take the applications and forward them to the federal government.

To accommodate troops stationed in places that won't marry same-sex couples, the Department of Defense is giving service members who have to travel more than 100 miles to a state that will marry them seven-day leaves. Those who have to travel overseas may take up to 10 days off to marry.

In addition, the Department of Veteran's Affairs announced on Sept. 4 it will follow the lead of the Department of Defense, extending veterans benefits to same-sex couples.

"The administration will no longer enforce statutory language governing the Veterans Administration (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) that restricts the awarding of spousal benefits to opposite-sex marriages only," a White House press release said.

So Butler will receive her benefits as the wife of an active duty soldier and later as the wife of a veteran. But after being denied enrollment at Camp Mabry, she filed a complaint with the Army Office of the Inspector General.

"The Department of Defense could step in and tell them to stop being silly about this," Butler said, hoping to help military spouses apply in the future.

She said she made her appointment to submit her application at Fort Hood on Sept. 17.

"Hopefully that's the end of it," she said.

And after all the fuss Texas made, that ID issued at Fort Hood should gain her access to Camp Mabry, she said. Guards at the base would have no way to know which cards were issued to same-sex spouses and which ones were issued to opposite-sex spouses.

"Unless they put a pink triangle on it," she said.

Or keep lists of suspected same-sex spouses at the gate. ■

■ **RESOURCE CENTER**, From Page 9

that we serve are beyond Dallas," she said. "I think it's just a more accurate representation of what we do."

The center has been planning an expansion to a new center since it purchased a 1.75-acre site at 5714 Cedar Springs Road from Cathedral of Hope in 2008.

The new facility is expected to double the center's current place and house the center, Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic and the AIDS food pantry under one roof.

Last year the center hosted a demolition event to demolish the vacant strip mall on the property, which was the first major step in the center's future home.

While leadership expected to break ground on the new center in 2014, Cox said the fundraising has only met the halfway mark of the \$8.7 million capital campaign goal with \$4.3 million raised. She said the center must have three-fourths of the money raised before breaking ground, which is still expected sometime in 2014.

"We hope people will want to invest in the community because of the work of the center and our 30-year history," Cox said.

Gary Olsen, co-chair of the capital campaign, said the goal last spring during the demolition was to raise \$12 million for the new facility.

Working with the architects and a consulting firm, he said the cost was lowered to \$10 million and then \$8.7 million by decreasing the size of the building and cutting other things to make it less

30th anniversary events

An anniversary edition of the 5 Factor on Sept. 6 will honor five people who exemplify the generosity of Dallas' future. A community open house on Sept. 14 will celebrate the center's anniversary in the center's parking lot and will feature food trucks, live entertainment and more. A special edition of Gaybingo Dallas on Sept. 21 will celebrate the history of the center. For more info, visit RCDallas.org/30anniversary.

expensive.

He said the plan is to still break ground sometime in 2014 and builders will allow space for possible additions to the facility in the future.

"We want to go ahead and get it built," Olsen said.

The center will roll out the building revisions and a new vision for the capital campaign in the coming months. Olsen said with the addition of the senior and youth programs, the increased fundraising efforts will focus on where the center has come and where it's headed in the future. Those fundraising efforts will expand to explore monetary sources outside of the LGBT community.

"We would like to have a community center," Olsen said. "We're focused on this concept of the community center, so we'd like the whole community to be involved, not just the LGBT community but we want any other part of the community to be a part of it, too." ■

■ **DIVORCE**, From Page 6

purpose of Texas law, to not have same-sex marriage in Texas," Steed said. "If you allow these divorces, you have two fewer same-sex marriages in Texas."

Upton said Abbott is attempting to make "the most illogical argument in the world, and if the attorney general can't figure out how to make that argument, then it's clear that this case is about punishing people that you don't like."

Abbott is running for governor in 2014, and LGBT advocates have long suggested that his involvement in the cases is politically motivated.

Other Republican elected officials have also filed briefs opposing same-sex divorce, including Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples, who's running for lieutenant governor in 2014, and state Rep. Dan Branch of Highland Park, who's seeking to replace Abbott as attorney general.

"I think the highest motive is probably pandering to a base," said Chuck Smith, executive director of Equality Texas, the statewide LGBT advocacy group. "It's a political decision based on a belief that somehow preventing people from getting a divorce is furthering restrictions on marriage. I think the gut or the gist of the case is whether or not that's a correct statement."

A spokesman for the AG's office said Abbott isn't commenting on the cases beyond briefs that have been filed.



5-YEAR FIGHT | Dallas resident 'J.B.' is seeking a divorce from his Massachusetts marriage to 'H.B.' Their petition was originally filed in January 2009.

seeking comment for this story.

When asked how much taxpayer money has been spent to litigate the cases, the AG's spokesman said, "The attorneys work here anyway. If they didn't work on these cases, they'd be working on something else."

Dallas Voice filed a request this week under the Freedom of Information Act seeking a record of all costs incurred by the AG's office to fight gay divorce.

Oral arguments are set for 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5 in Austin. Each side has been allotted 25 minutes. ■

"It speaks volumes in the briefs," the spokesman said.

Three years ago, at the appeals court in Dallas, Abbott's office allowed attorneys from the right-wing Liberty Institute to do the talking when they staged a press conference following oral arguments. Jonathan Saenz, executive director of Texas Values (formerly the Liberty Institute), didn't return a phone call

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viewpoints

Gray is the new black

Taking positions on LGBT topics, from the Sochi Games to Netflix series about women's prison, isn't always black and white these days

When the deadline for this column loomed, I panicked. I have absolutely no clear opinions about anything this week, aside from my continued disgust about the status of LGBT civil rights around the world.

Being disgusted by something, however, doesn't immediately translate into having something interesting to say about it.

Those leaders who are supporting everything from involuntary "corrective" therapy (Russia) to "corrective" rape (South Africa) for LGBT people need to be strung up by their toes. I don't really have a middle ground to discuss. Moral people must take a stand, regardless of their opinions about — I dunno — same-sex marriage or teaching LGBT history to school kids.

But aside from such clear assaults on our humanity, I'm currently at a loss about what to think about the issues being discussed this week.

Let's start with the Sochi Olympics. Like I said, Russia is on my s\$#t list and in some weird reverse aging process where they're going all 1950s on LGBT rights.

Now, what do we do about the Winter Games there? After I read British actor and writer Stephen Fry's impassioned call for a change of venue to some place mellow, like Canada, I had to agree. The scape-goating and harassment of LGBT people in Russia right now looks eerily like the early treatment of Jews around the time of the 1936 Munich Olympics. Seemed clear to me that reasonable people couldn't possibly support the Sochi Olympics.

But then Greg Louganis, the out Olympian diver, publicly opposed such a move, or any boycott of the games, because, he argued, it would hurt the wrong people. Going to the games as planned will give LGBT athletes an opportunity to show the world what LGBT strength and dignity looks like, and keep Putin from being able to act like a martyr for antiquated social policies in Russia. Oh well, that makes sense, too. Hmm. I guess I'm against the boycott now.

Now let's look at the ex-ex-gays — you know, the former Exodus leaders who have publicly apologized for the all the damage they've done trying to make people straight. Last month I wrote in this column that I forgave these guys, even though I could understand why other people wouldn't be so willing to. After a

week, the only comment I got accused me of blaming the victim. OK, I get it. Maybe it wasn't up to me to forgive. After all, I've never been to gay conversion therapy. I don't know what it's

like to have the whole Clockwork Orange number done on my sexual psyche. I'm not quite willing to concede my right to forgive, but I can understand how this issue is more fraught than perhaps I originally suggested.

Let's now move to pop culture — because our community certainly does love its high pop (and I will stand by this assertion no matter what anyone says). If you have broadband Internet, then you have by now binge-watched *Orange is the New Black*, a fabulous lez-poz spin on the old prison cliché.

Not only is *Orange* clever, it deftly explores the myriad of human sexuality, with no one type of relationship being more healthy or "normal" than the other — of course, within the context that prison makes everything bizarre.

Here I was, appreciating our progress in this respect, thinking that GLAAD should be so happy about *Orange*, when this morning I read a compelling commentary on the invisibility of bisexual identity in the show. Never mind that the main character is fairly obviously bisexual, no one ever calls her that. I see the problem. Damn, and I like the show so much.

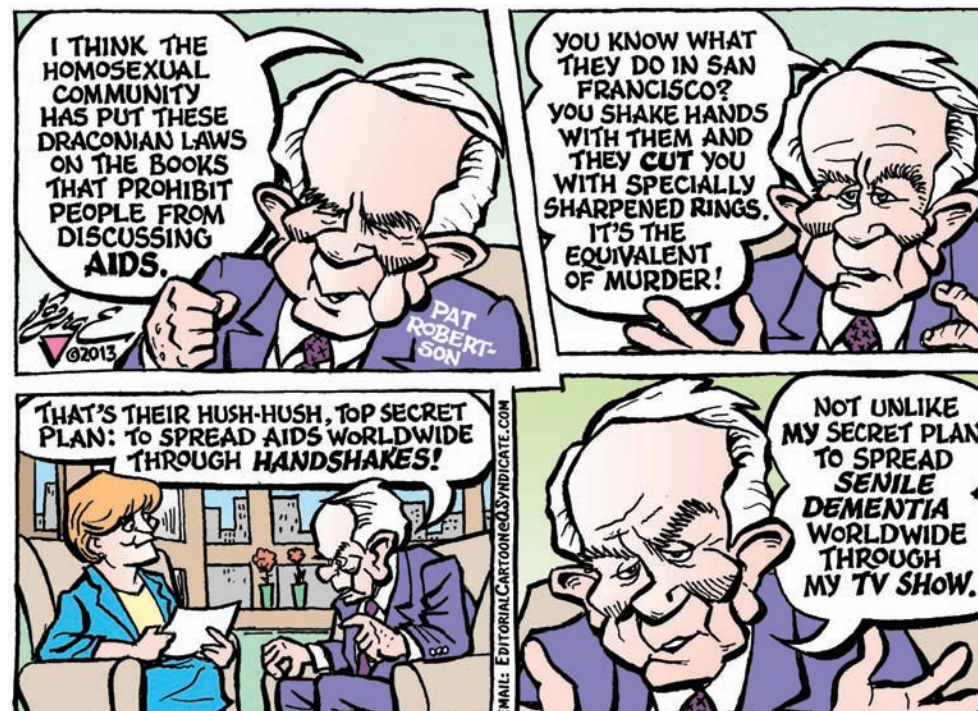
Have I become wussy and uncertain in my opinions or has our community dialog become way more sophisticated?

Back in the day, it seemed like we just pushed back. That's not enough now. We have progressed to the point where we have choices. We have strategies to formulate. Everyone has a potential media presence to consider. I'll go out on a limb and say that it's not me, things are more complicated now. Please cut me some slack and I promise I'll keep trying to figure out what I think about it all.

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



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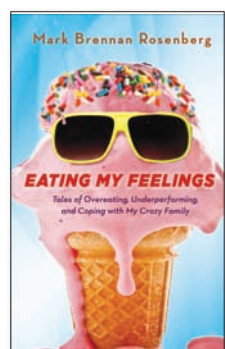
books

Chubby-gay-kid-cum-sexy-author Mark Brennan Rosenberg turned his food obsession into a fitness mantra — and a memoir

When Mark Brennan Rosenberg was growing up in suburban D.C., he was a fat, nerdy, unpopular gay kid. But just look at him now. Still gay — very gay — but a hot gym rat with a popular blog about gay life in NYC, and his second book, out less than a month: *Eating My Feelings: Tales of Overeating, Underperforming and Coping with My Crazy Family*. In it, Rosenberg recounts in a gossipy, fabulous way growing up in a dysfunctional brood (half Jewish, half Catholic) and his progression from butterball to beefcake. He takes no prisoners in this uber-gay memoir, including himself.

Rosenberg brings those stories and his hot self to Dallas for a reading Tuesday, but before he got here, we asked him to tell us about his stylistic influences, his foul-mouthed past (and present) and what he loves about Dallas.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



Dallas Voice: Your writing style is fun and dishy. Who are your literary influences? Rosenberg: I have really been influenced by people like David Sedaris, Chelsea Handler and Augusten Burroughs. When I read their books in the past, I realized they were no-holds-barred, which is basically how I am in real life. I figured if they could get away with it, then I should be able to.

You portray yourself as a disrespectful, foul-mouthed, and vaguely racist. Were you really calling your stepmonster a bitch to her face? I don't know why, but when I was a child, I had a worse mouth than a sailor — and not much has changed. So as far as language goes, I'm not taking much artistic licensing in that department. My stepmother and I always exchanged harsh words. Whether or not I called her a bitch to her face, I cannot recall exactly, but knowing me, I most likely did.

Your mom is now your BFF, but she's not always portrayed sympathetically. (Then again, neither are you.) How have members of your family reacted to their portrayals — or for that matter, finding out the sordid deeds of your sex life? My family is so supportive. My mother has forever been my champion and continues to do so. Everything that I have written about is in the past so we can all look back on it with a laugh. I will tell you that during a book reading for *Eating My Feelings* in D.C., my father discovered that I lost my virginity to one of his clients in front of at least 10 of his colleagues. That was hilarious. I wish that had been filmed.

You say early on something like, "If you're not gay or a teenaged girl, why are you reading this book?" Is that just knowing your audience, or are you daring readers to go somewhere they shouldn't? I do think there is something for everyone in this book. We all have issues with our body image and I believe what we see in the mirror every

morning is different that what others see when they look at us from the outside. I don't know if I would go as far as saying I am stereotypical: I like what I like, and some of the things that I happen to enjoy are things that other gay men my age enjoy a great deal as well.

Your book touches on a lot of issues relevant to gay men's experiences growing up. What changes do you see since then? This country has made great strides in accepting LGBTQ culture as a whole, which is wonderful. It is certainly different than when I was an adolescent. [Popular culture has] opened the eyes of many to see that we are all the same regardless of who we like to sleep with. However, there will always be bullying: Gay, straight, black, white, fat, skinny — it doesn't matter. Teenagers are fucking horrible to each other and it's a very unfortunate part of growing up. It's one of the hardest parts of life. But hopefully kids these days understand that if they try hard to overcome the things that are said to them, they'll realize that they will grow up and have an amazing life because of it.

And the person that called them fat, ugly or gay will most likely grow up and have shit for brains and work at a gas station.

What's your experience with Texas? I was in

Texas last year promoting my first book, *Blackouts and Breakdowns*. I went to Austin, Houston and Dallas and loved all three — and I met some really wonderful people along the way, whom I cannot wait to see again this time around. I really loved Dallas. Any town that has a gay bar named JR.'s and a lesbian bar named Sue Ellen's is a good place in my book.

You mention on your dust jacket that you're single. Do you find it more or less difficult to date if your prospects read your blog or books? I'm actually



FROM OVEREATER TO HEALTH NUT | Mark Rosenberg recounts his path from fatty to fab in 'Eating My Feelings.'

no longer single. I don't know how it happened, but I have the most wonderful, kind-hearted boyfriend an asshole like me could ever hope for. He hates giving high-fives (which is one of my favorite things behind teamwork, taking showers and Sno-Cones), but we're working on it. When I was single, however, the blogging, articles and books certainly got

in the way. People are very quick to Google you when they find out who you are and it is very easy to discover my work online. Having said that, I have found someone now who doesn't care much about it so it works. What you see is what you get with me whether it be a book or an article — it's 100 percent genuine Mark.



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L+S fashion

Back in Black Line

Gay menswear designer Jim Duran returns with a splash for Collection 2.0

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES

Life+Style Editor
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When Jim Duran launched his inaugural menswear label, BLKLN (Black Line), last fall, the palette of his collection truly reflected its name: Blacks, whites, silvers and shades of gray in fashion-forward cuts.

"That was a more stoic collection," Duran says of the industrial, hipster look. It was also designed for the winter.

What a difference a season makes. Duran is back with his second edition of BLKLN, and the first thing you notice is, he's not in Kansas anymore: Like Dorothy's arrival in Oz, BLKLN 2.0 abounds in color. But it's still the same line.

"I was inspired by the textiles," Duran says of the floral fabrics that form the backbone of this spring-summer collection, which he will debut at the A Loft Hotel on Sept. 12. And the textiles are exploding with color.

But, Duran insists, it's still the same aesthetic: Interesting cuts, tailored shirts, slim, flattering lines — the kind Duran thinks can make fashionable Dallas guys (and gays) cutting-edge.

"Men want fabrics to breathe," he says, explaining the predominance of linens, cotton jersey and cotton-silk in this collection. And the prints draw you in with their vibrancy — not so much that it seems fey or feminine, though.

"These prints are more illustrative, more impressionistic, which makes it more masculine," says Christopher W. Cordell, BLKLN's director of operations. There are scooped necks and arched, bare midriffs on some of the shirts, while the slacks convey a



SPRING HAS SPRUNG | Jim Duran's new collection for 2014 features floral patterns with a masculine, cutting-edge style.

dressed-down coastal-city elegance. In total, Duran hopes to feature "15 to 20 looks" at the runway show. And though he hasn't slept much gearing up to the event, he wouldn't have it any other way.

"The first collection was a big feat for me," Duran says. "Returning with another collection and turning it into a business" points to something more: a desire for longevity.

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ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
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Primebar

Last year, I reviewed Primebar, noting at the time that it didn't quite know if it wanted to be a bubba-friendly sports bar or gay-boy brunch hang: "What is Primebar?" I asked. "Ecumenical Uptown eatery? Sports bar-cum-gastropub? Meta-gay bar with cool hetero clientele? I haven't figured it out yet. I doubt it has, either." I suggested giving it time to work it out.

Well, a year has passed. So it was time for a drive-by tasting to see if its personality has come through.

I'm happy to say that, at brunch at least, it seems more gay than ever. The boys were out in force on a recent Sunday, and despite golf and Formula 1 racing flickering on the TVs, the blaring soundtrack was pure disco and dance-club hip-hop.

Brunch is a convenient time to check out any restaurant: Usually there's the full menu available plus the house specialties offered only on the weekend.

That's certainly true of Primebar's exquisite bottomless mimosas, which run \$8 for a full four hours of imbibing — do it right, and they can average about 50 cents a glass. (But proving its gay credibility, the mimosas may be bottomless, but not the clientele.) I felt comfortably at home.

The menu has also changed. The crispy calamari — which I described last year as "crisp as a corporal's dress shirt with a flavorful lemon aioli and spicy cocktail sauce" — is different now. Those spicy sides have been replaced by an orange glaze *a la* Chinese restaurant, with blanched cilantro verde on the side. The flavors are nice, though the heart has been replaced by sweetness, completely altering the flavor profile. Also, since you don't dip the calamari, it soggy up the breading slightly.

They still stack some of their burgers with patties rather than attempt single thick-cut burgers. But the kitchen seems to be trying something heartier: on the Primeburger (which comes with a slice of gouda), the patties double up, while the basic burger suffices with one big patty and vivid fresh tomatoes. Both come with thick, deeply browned fries; I prefer the crispiness of shoestring juliennes, which tend to be less greasy, but these pack in taste.

The wedge salad is a refreshing culinary diversion on a summer day, and the unusual gumbo Benedict slathers on a rich shrimp ragout over toasted English muffins — still a unique

take on a traditional brunch item.

The personable men's room attendant is a welcome treat in a casual eatery, but service remains problematic: Our waitress was friendly, but had to be reminded of orders more than once. And "bottomless" is only truly bottomless when you refill the carafes as fast as we can drink them.

We're gay men at brunch, folks — keep the liquor rolling. ■

BACK TO BRUNCH | Primebar has had a year to polish its style, and the classic cheeseburger, served with thick-cut fries on a brioche bun with fresh tomato, shows skill.



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PrideFest lineup

Gay theater festival continues with a notable vacancy — and a new comedy

Uptown Players knew exactly what its third annual Pride Performing Arts Festival was going to look like. And then the unthinkable happened.

Uptown was producing three of the six shows; among those being mounted by producing partners was *Pageant Play*, a four-actor comedy put on by Our Productions Theatre Company (formerly Flower Mound Performing Arts Theatre). Then, soon after the lineup announcement, Ryan Roach, one of the actors in *Pageant Play*, suddenly passed away.

But as theaterfolk know, the show must go on! The Pride Fest will continue, sans *Pageant Play* — but the bigger hole will be felt in the hearts of Roach's friends.

The remaining shows (including a new production with Paul J. Williams) will be performed in the upstairs Frank's Place space of the Kalita Humphreys Theater, and are a mix of wacky comedies and dark dramas.

Uptown Players collaborates with other companies because of the demands of mounting even a small production. And it often looks to

shows that ran in other venues to supplement its content.

"Much of our base doesn't go to Flower Mound or the Bath House Cultural Center," Craig Lynch, co-founder of Uptown Players, says.

The mini-revivals change as well — as Roach's passing showed. *The Time Keepers*, which had a run at the Dallas Holocaust museum this spring, will arrive with a new actor in one of the lead roles, for instance.

It all started Thursday night with the cabaret by entertainers Amy and Freddy. Here's the rundown.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

PRIDE PERFORMING FEST

Kalita Humphreys Theater,
3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Sept. 6–14.
Tickets for individual shows \$10–\$15;
festival pass for \$55.
UptownPlayers.org.

Good Boys and True (presented by Uptown Players). Hot gay playwright Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa (*Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*) wrote this combustible story set in the hothouse atmosphere of a boys' boarding school. (Sept. 6 at 8 p.m., Sept. 8 at 7:45 p.m., Sept. 12 at 7:45 p.m., Sept. 14 at 4 p.m.)

The Time Keepers (presented by Theatre New



THE SHOW MUST GO ON | The sudden death in July of actor Ryan Roach, left, derailed the fest's schedule, but performer Paul J. Williams, right, graciously stepped in with his solo show, 'Dishing It Out.'

West). The relationship between a Jew and a homosexual serving time as watch repairers in a WWII concentration camp is both disturbing and entertaining. (Sept. 7 at 2 p.m., Sept. 8 at 4 p.m., Sept. 13 at 8 p.m.)

Dishing It Out (presented by Uptown Players). Paul J. Williams performs his one-man show set in a Southern cafeteria, in which he plays six characters. (Sept. 7 at 4 p.m., Sept. 11 at 8 p.m., Sept. 14 at 2 p.m.)

Made in Heaven (presented by Uptown Players). Kevin Moore directs this farce about twins conjoined at the nether regions. Everything seems to be OK until one brother announces he's gay ... and wants to date.



(Sept. 7 at 6 p.m., Sept. 10 at 8 p.m., Sept. 14 at 6:45 p.m.)

Five Lesbians Eating a Quiche (presented by Uptown Players). A saucy comedy about the 1856 meeting of the secret lesbian organization the Susan B. Anthony Society for the Sisters of Gertrude Stein ... OK, maybe not so secret. Marisa Diotalevi stars. (Sept. 7 at 8 p.m., Sept. 8 at 6 p.m., Sept. 14 at 8:30 p.m.)

Cock (presented by Second Thought Theatre). A staged reading of the recent off-Broadway hit about a gay man who meets and falls for a woman. (Sept. 8 at 2 p.m., Sept. 9 at 8 p.m.)

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Thursday 09.12

Diana Sheehan sings the songs of Lorenz Hart

Diana Sheehan is one of our finest musical actresses, and she puts the emphasis on musical this week with the return of her award-winning cabaret show, where she sings lyrics written by legendary gay songwriter Lorenz Hart. The music itself is by Richard Rodgers, so not a bad duo. But Sheehan makes each number her own. That's where the acting comes in.

DEETS: Amphibian Stage, 120 S. Main St., Fort Worth. Sept. 12–15. Thursday–Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. \$20–\$25. AmphibianStageProductions.org.

LIFE+STYLE

best bets

Friday 09.06

'Dysfunctional Divas' returns

Steven Jay Crabtree scored some indie movie cred starring in the comic short *Martini: The Movie*, but he's back on familiar territory — the Pocket Sandwich stage — for the return of his one-man tour of schizophrenia, *Dysfunctional Divas*, where he plays a slate of interesting women, including *Martini Glass* and *Wonder Woman*.

DEETS: Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. Sept. 6 and 7 at 11:15 p.m. \$12.



Friday 09.06

TacoCon (Cerveza) rolls into West Dallas for inaugural festival

From the folks who brought us the first-ever North Texas Taco Festival in Deep Ellum earlier this year comes another delicious celebration of the quintessential Mexican street food — only its not just South of the Border that excels at these delights. Several food trucks specializing in tacos will be on hand for this inaugural festival, which also features the craft brews of local beer-maker Four Corners Brewing. Arrive hungry.

DEETS: Four Corners Brewing Co., 423 Singleton Ave. 6–10 p.m. RSVP at TacoConCerveza.eventbrite.com.



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calendar highlights



HOW DO YOU SOLVE A PROBLEM LIKE MARIA? | You get Cheryl Denson to direct Lyric Stage's full-orchestra production of 'The Sound of Music,' opening this weekend.

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Pride Performing Arts Festival. Collection of one-act plays relating to gay themes. Presented by Uptown Players. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Sept. 14. (See story on Page 18 for a complete schedule of showtimes.) UptownPlayers.org.

Red Hot Patriot. Actress Georgia Clinton portrays Texas firebrand Molly Ivins in this one-woman show. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Sept. 29. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

The Sound of Music. Cheryl Denson directs the Lyric Stage production based on the original Broadway orchestrations. Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. Through Sept. 15. LyricStage.org.

Thank You, Jeeves! Stage West concludes its 2013 season with this classic farce, once again featuring Jim Couvalt as the harried gentleman's gentleman. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 29. StageWest.org.

Exit, Pursued by a Bear. A comedy presented by Circle Theatre. 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 14. CircleTheatre.org.

FINE ART

Objects of Desire III. The return of the exhibit of art work with lustful appeal. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, suite 107. Sept. 6–Oct. 5. Artists' reception Sept. 6, 6–10 p.m. ilumeGallerie.com.

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 iconic toys and games. Mary Tomas Gallery, 1110 Dragon St. *Final weekend.* MaryTomasGallery.com.

FRIDAY 09.06

COMEDY

Dysfunctional Divas. Steven Jay Crabtree returns with his one-man show of quirky female characters. Pocket Sandwich Theater, 5400 Mockingbird Lane. Sept 6 at 7 at 11:15 p.m. \$12.

DINING

TacoCon (Cerveza), a festival of taco trucks and local craft beer. Four Corners Brewing, 423 Singleton Ave. 6–10 p.m. RSVP at TacoConCerveza.eventbrite.com.

COMMUNITY

5 Factor. Resource Center Dallas celebrates five community leaders in the fifth annual event. Honorees are Tony Vedda (commerce), Janice Provost (culinary), Pauline Medrano (government), Philip Weir (media) and Dallas Bears' president Wayne Davis (philanthropy). 7 for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd., suite 107. 7–9 p.m. \$50. RCDallas.org.

SATURDAY 09.07

FINE ARTS

Rusty Scruby: He Sells Seashells. A solo exhibit of the Dallas artist's experiments in photography.

Cris Worley Fine Arts, 1415 Slocum St.
Sept. 7–Oct. 5. Artist's reception on opening
night, 6–8 p.m. CrisWorley.com.

SUNDAY 09.08

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.

SPORTS

Dallas Pride Volleyball Tournament. This
tourney, benefiting Resource Center Dallas
and AIDS Arms, will feature hundreds of
teams and players, as well as live music,
refreshments and more. Volley Ranch,
1850 E. Beltline Road, Coppell.
Gates at 9 p.m., play at noon.
\$10 admission.

THEATER

Victims of Circumstance. A one-time-only
presentation of real life stories of HIV/AIDS, struggle
and triumph. Presented by Artists for Action Theater
Group. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road.
6 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. 817-919-5369.

COMMUNITY

Mimosas and Music: Sunday Soul Food Brunch.
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.

TUESDAY 09.10

THEATER

Profanity. A play by transgender playwright Sylvan
Oswald. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St.
Sept. 10–Oct. 12 (in previews through Sept. 11).
Undermain.org.

BOOK SIGNING

Eating My Feelings. Author Mark Brennan Rosenberg
reads and signs his comic queer memoirs at the SMU
Bookstore. 3060 Mockingbird Lane. 7 p.m. Free.

CONCERTS

Cliburn at the Bass: Vadym Kholodenko. The gold
medal winner at the 14th Van Cliburn competition will
play. Bass Hall, 435 Commerce St., Fort Worth.
7:30 p.m. \$20–\$90. Cliburn.org.

WEDNESDAY 09.11

COMMUNITY

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



DALLAS PRIDE VOLLEYBALL TOURNEY | This fundraiser
for Resource Center Dallas and AIDS Arms takes place all day
at Volley Ranch in Coppell, with music, food, drinks and more in
addition to game play.

THURSDAY 09.12

COMMUNITY

Fort Worth Transgender. Group meets the second
Thursday of each month at 908 Pennsylvania Ave.
For more info, contact Nicole Taylor at 214-881-7472
or admin@fortworth-transgender.org.
FortWorth.Transgender.org.

FASHION

BLKLN Collection '14. Gay Dallas menswear designer
Jim Duran hosts a fashion show of his 2014
spring/summer collection. A Loft Hotel, 1033 Young St.
7-9 p.m. Free. BLKLNclothing.com.

CABARET

Diana Sheehan Sings the Lyrics of Lorenz Hart.
The talented chanteuse performs songs by the gay
lyricist. Amphibian Stage Productions, 120 S. Main St.,
Fort Worth. Sept. 12–15. Thursday–Saturday at 8 p.m.,
Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. \$20–\$25.
AmphibianStageProductions.org.

DINING

Grapefest. Grapevine's 27th annual wine tasting event
(the largest in the Southwest) brings beers, wine, foods
and more to the downtown historic city center.
Sept. 12–15. Open daily at 10 a.m. (11 a.m. Sunday).
\$8–\$23. GrapevineTexasUSA.com/grapefest.

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

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

For more information visit our website: dallasprideparade.com.
Questions call Leo Cusimano or Tempest Redding at 214.754.8710 x 114
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Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade Sunday, September 15th - 2pm
The Festival in Lee Park Sunday, September 15th - 11am to 8pm



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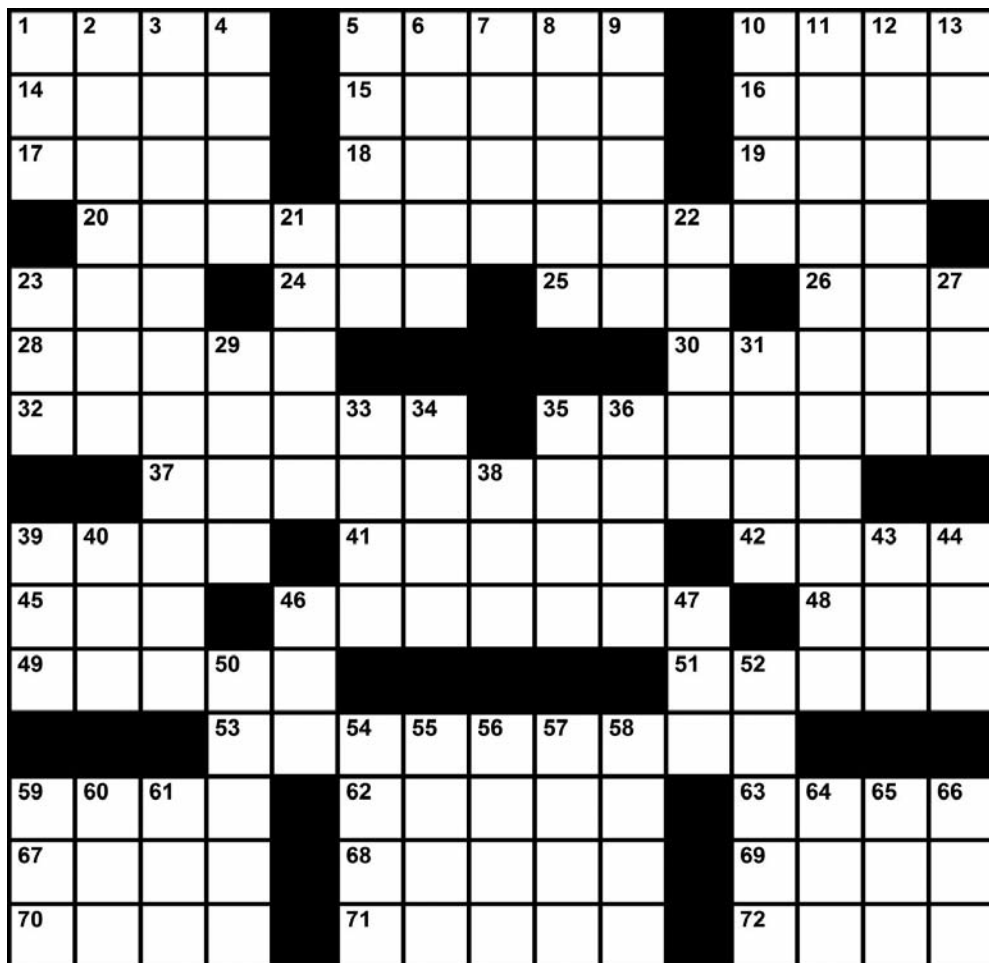
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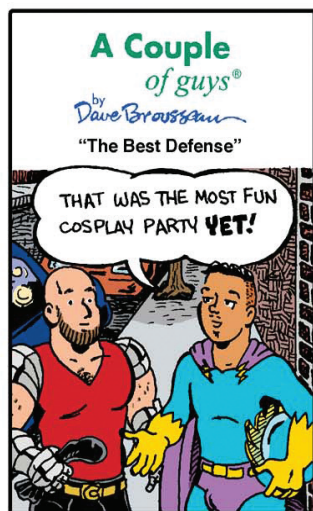
Solution on page 21

Across

- 1 Partners of bottoms
- 5 Vidal's *Visit to a ___ Planet*
- 10 Words before delighted
- 14 Final Foursome org.?
- 15 Café con ___
- 16 Go down
- 17 Hudson and Day pillow activity
- 18 Spear of Minnesota
- 19 Sultry Horne
- 20 Tom Cruise danced in his briefs in this flick
- 23 Storage spot
- 24 Eavesdropping org.
- 25 Folk singer DiFranco
- 26 Elbow-bender
- 28 Excessive
- 30 Still in the closet, perhaps
- 32 Some cracks are full of it
- 35 They shoot up when they shoot off
- 37 With 46-Across, song to which Cruise danced
- 39 Coloratura Gluck
- 41 *West Side Story* girl
- 42 Decorated man, maybe
- 45 Born in Boulogne
- 46 See 37-Across
- 48 *Breakfast on Pluto* actor Stephen

Down

- 49 Beat (out)
 - 51 "Not to worry"
 - 53 Singer of the song
 - 59 Positive sign
 - 62 Response to an on-line personal
 - 63 Nick Adams character Johnny
 - 67 Actress Skye
 - 68 Rimbaud's turf
 - 69 Ditch school for the day
 - 70 Hockey thug
 - 71 Trojan beauty
 - 72 Just your type?
- Down**
- 1 Explosive stick
 - 2 Ovate wind instrument
 - 3 Air an aria, avid diva
 - 4 Fifth Avenue store
 - 5 Puts in stitches, like Kate Clinton
 - 6 Moore of *Hair*
 - 7 Rights-defending org.
 - 8 Tibetan capital
 - 9 Big dictator in the land of Peter the Great
 - 10 *Spamalot* writer Eric
 - 11 They cover the knees of drag queens
 - 12 Yves' evening utterance
 - 13 Ecology org.
 - 21 Work with the hands
 - 22 Big bang cause, briefly
 - 23 It picks people up who eventually get off
 - 27 QB feats
 - 29 Home of the Bruins
 - 31 Problem for skin
 - 33 Gay-dog owner of *South Park*
 - 34 Object to
 - 35 "Get ___ the Church on Time"
 - 36 By mouth
 - 38 Russian commune
 - 39 Bannon of '50s lesbian pulp fiction
 - 40 Bloom of *The Producers*
 - 43 ___ Speedwagon
 - 44 Hard woody one
 - 46 Busy activity
 - 47 Tell a tall tale
 - 50 *The Wizard of Oz* dropout Buddy
 - 52 No-tell motel meeting
 - 54 Aleph follower
 - 55 Nemesis of Tinkerbell
 - 56 Banjoist Scruggs
 - 57 Wilde country
 - 58 One side of Ed Wood
 - 59 Party in a fairy tale threesome
 - 60 Elton's john
 - 61 One, to Frida
 - 64 Ho's instrument
 - 65 Be social
 - 66 Rent unit (abbr.)



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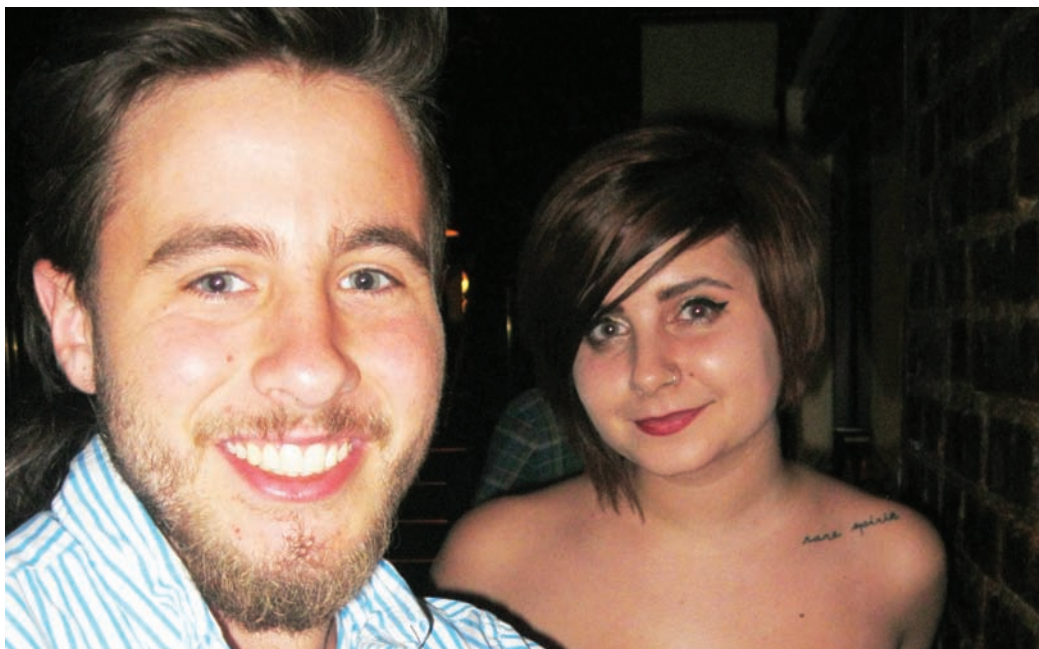


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Coner and Teri at JR.'s Bar & Grill.

Pride Week kicks off with **Dallas Does Denim** at the Round-Up Saloon on Sept. 8 with live music from Chaz Marie. The evening features a barbecue dinner, prizes and cash balloon drop. ... Singer, rapper and truth teller Wendy Ho has a one-night stand on Sept. 8 in **The Rose Room**. Some of her hits include **Bitch I Stole Yo Purse**, **Gurl**, **Putchu Tampon In** and **Yes, I Am a Ho**. ... Miss Gay Dallas County USofA at Large and Miss Gay Dallas Metroplex USofA at Large will be crowned on Sept. 7 at **Randy's Club Cherries**. Valerie Paris, Kelexis Davenport, Sasha Lauren and Sebastian D. Anthony will all be on hand for the double crowning. ... The **Needle Prick Project** holds a fundraiser at **Alexandre's** on Sept. 6 with music from **Onya Stereo** followed by **Girls Night Out with Peggy Honea**. **Andrea Dawson** performs on Sept. 7. Then **Lil Chalupa** ends the weekend with karaoke on Sept. 8. ... **DJ Stevie's House Party** turns the beat up to bring down the house at **BJ's NXSI** on Sept. 7. ... **Sue Ellen's** hosts **Burlesque** on Sept. 7. **Sweet Pain** performs on Sept. 8 then indulge your **Bad Habits** on Sept. 9. **Bella & Darla** are in the house on Sept. 11. ... **Dallas Bears** and **Leather Knights** host **First Friday Club Night** at **Dallas Eagle** on Sept. 6. The **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** presents the **Grand Duke and Duchess Show** on Sept. 7 with host **Rob Hickman**. ... **Mr. and Miss Charity America** present **Combustion: A Night of Hot Song Hits** benefiting **Home for the Holidays** on Sept. 7 at **Garlows** on Cedar Creek Lake. ... **Trinity River Bears** meets at **Club Reflection** on Sept. 8 at 2:30 p.m. followed by a cookout. That evening is a **PWLA benefit show**. ... Watch **the Giants vs. the Cowboys** in HD at **Woody's Sports & Video Bar** on Sept. 8. ... **Cowtown Leathermen** meet at **Changes on Lancaster** on Sept. 9. ... **The Isis Project Showcase** takes place at **Eden Lounge** on Sept. 6. **The Isis Project's Party Under the Stars** begins at 10 p.m. on Sept. 7. ■

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



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Real Estate	26
Realtors	26
For Sale	26
For Rent	27
To Share	27
Movers	27
Employment	27
Business Opportunity	27
Job Wanted	27
Insurance	28
Services	28
Computer Services	28
Home Services	29
General	29
Air Conditioning/Heating	29
Plumbing	29
Cleaning	29
Pets	30
Personal Care	30
Psychotherapists	30
Massage	30
Travel	30
Announcements	31

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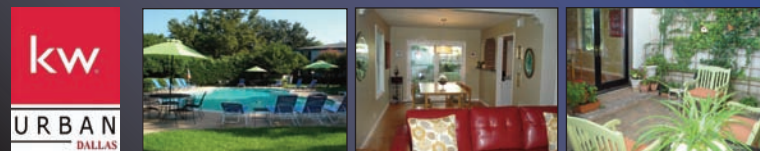
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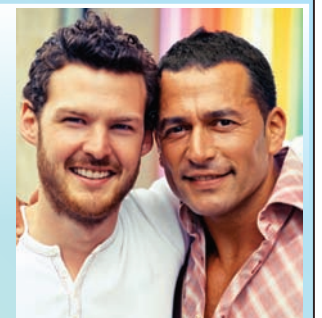
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