

# The Wild West (Texas, that is)

Jaston Williams' one-man show will 'Blame it on Valentine, Texas'  
Humorist's true tales from his own life are stranger than fiction

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# trans LEGAL

Dallas trans attorney opens  
legal clinic for GEAR to assist  
with issues from name changes  
to employment discrimination

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**WALKING ON SUNSHINE** | Participants walk in AIDS Arms' 23rd annual LifeWalk on Sunday, Oct. 6. To view more photos, visit [DallasVoice.com/category/photos](http://DallasVoice.com/category/photos). (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

### HUD files lawsuit on behalf of Seven Points trans woman

The Department of Housing and Urban Development has filed a lawsuit on behalf of Roxanne Joganik and Darlina Anthony against George Toone, the owner of an RV park in Athens.

The couple said this week they were advised not to comment but confirmed that the suit had been filed.

Dallas Voice reported in August about the case that could be a landmark in establishing discrimination based on gender identity, which is already covered under U.S. law as sex discrimination.

HUD gives these reasons as the legal basis for the suit in the court document:

1. It is unlawful to discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection therewith, because of sex.
2. It is unlawful to coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of his having exercised or enjoyed, or on account of his having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of, any right granted or protected by section 804 of the Act.

HUD alleges a number of housing discrimination charges but some are specific to the transgender community:

- prohibiting someone from dressing as a female in the park violates federal fair housing laws.
- requests that the park rules be amended to include protections against sex discrimination were denied.
- park rules included a rule that "Management reserves the right to refuse entrance to the R.V. park to any person for any reason other than for reasons based on race, religion, handicapped, color or national origin." This rule should include sex or familial status, protected classes under the Fair Housing Act.
- park owner did not want complainant to wear female clothing in the park because there are children around the pool and it is "not the type of atmosphere we want to promote on private property." Mr. Toone would rather not have trans-

gender persons in the common areas of the park.  
— David Taffet

### UTSA gives military wife in-state tuition without changing policy

Officials at the University of Texas at San Antonio have decided to offer the wife of an Air Force captain in-state tuition after previously denying her the rate.

Officials wouldn't discuss the reasoning behind their original decision last week, only saying they were looking into it. While the state doesn't recognize same-sex marriage, the federal government does, and Lambda Legal said public universities that receive federal funding were required to offer military members and their families in-state tuition.

UTSA spokesman Joe Izbrand emailed Dallas Voice to explain the spouse would be given in-state tuition.

"After carefully reviewing this matter, it has been determined that the student will be charged resident tuition," he wrote in an email. "Our university is enriched through inclusiveness and diversity. We honor the service of our military personnel and recognize the sacrifices made by their families.

"Because of the complexities involved and the potential conflict between the federal statute and state law, the university will seek additional legal guidance on this issue."

The spouse told Dallas Voice on Monday, Oct. 7, that while the policy hasn't changed, she was informed on Friday that she would be given a \$1,000 scholarship. Since students who are offered scholarships of at least \$1,000 are given in-state tuition, she will now receive in-state tuition.

She said while she's glad the issue was resolved, she hopes the policy is changed to be inclusive, so other same-sex military spouses can receive in-state tuition and she won't worry about not receiving the rate next year if she doesn't receive a scholarship.

"I'm bothered about it personally," she said of the situation. "I'm bothered because it hasn't changed the problem in the future or for next year."

— Anna Waugh



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**PRIVATE PRACTICE** | Katie Sprinkle, who has been practicing law for 20 years, used to be a public defender. She transitioned while saving for her own firm, which recently opened in Dallas. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

# Trans legal

Dallas trans attorney opens legal clinic for GEAR to assist with issues from name changes to employment discrimination

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

Trans attorney Katie Sprinkle knows what it's like to face legal challenges specific to the

transgender community. That's why she's offered to hold a free monthly legal clinic for Resource Center's transgender GEAR program.

Several years ago, Sprinkle was in line to pay at a department store. She was presenting as female but still carried identification that indicated male.

When she handed her credit card to the 18-year-old at the register, the clerk asked for identification.

Sprinkle said her ID at the time "had this horrendous male picture."

The clerk looked at the credit card, looked at Sprinkle, picked up the phone and said in a loud voice, "It's dressed as a woman but all its IDs are male."

The line behind her was getting longer and those in the next line turned to see what was going on.

Sprinkle said the manager was very cool about it.

"He got it," she said and the clerk rang her up. "If that happened to me before I was more out, I would have probably just left and left behind my wallet and credit card."

Later, she sent an email to the store manager and district manager. The apology she received noted the clerk was no longer employed by the store.

"That's one of the fears of being transgender," Sprinkle said. "Not having your identification information match you."

Many trans people simply use cash so they

don't have to pay using a credit card and show ID, she said.

Earlier in October, Sprinkle began a legal clinic to deal with the variety of issues transgender people face. Those range from name and gender marker changes to divorce, child custody, employment or even criminal charges relating to gender identity.

The program is only the second of its type in the country after New York's. Not even San Francisco's LGBT community center offers its trans community legal advice on the variety of issues the community regularly faces.

Because unemployment and underemployment are huge issues in the trans community, many can't afford to hire an attorney.

At the first legal clinic, she talked to people about several name changes, employment issues and custody.

Sprinkle isn't promising miracles, but said in

■ **LEGAL**, Page 9

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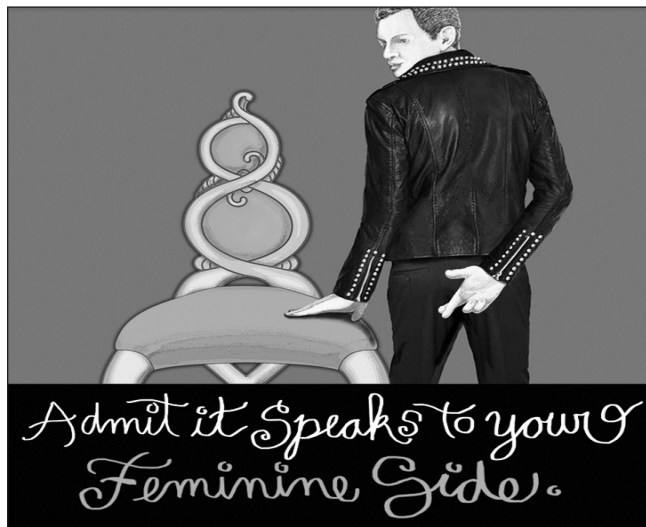
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## deaths



**William Robert DeBrucque**, 84, passed away peacefully on Oct. 3 with loved ones present.

He was predeceased in death by his brother, Phillip DeBrucque Jr. He is survived by his longtime partner, Robert Stewart; daughters, Valerie Freund and spouse Charles, and Natalie Ozier, all of Texas; siblings, Marilyn Vale, Alene Hampton, both of Texas, and Winifred Rountree, of Okla.; other family members, Cheryl Rodgers, of Texas, Collette Stewart, Diane Lien and spouse Buck, Kim Routh, LeeAnn LeBrun and spouse Jack, all of S.D., and Brian Stewart, of Calif.; Four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, all of Texas; his loyal pet Benji.

William was born April 23, 1929, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to parents Phillip and Ruby DeBrucque. He spent his childhood with four siblings in the Tulsa and surrounding area. He served our country as an Army Sergeant 1st Class until 1952.

He completed his Bachelor of Science at The University of Tulsa in 1953, as well as receiving his Doctorate from Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas in 1957. Dr. DeBrucque practiced dentistry in Texas throughout his career. He maintained memberships in many professional organizations and held various positions within these organizations, including lifetime membership with the Texas Dental Association, ADA and the Dallas County Dental Society, to name a few.

He was very active in Alcoholics Anonymous and helped so many through the program. Throughout his life he was recognized as a leader and was well admired for his achievements. His compassion was evident in everything he did and he could always be counted on when needed. William was an avid reader, enjoyed traveling, snow skiing, flying and golf. His favorite pastime was spending time with family and friends.

A celebration of life will be held 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at Cathedral of Hope.

In lieu of flowers, his family has requested donations be made in his name to Hope for Peace and Justice, Resource Center or the Miniature Schnauzer Rescue of North Texas.

**Bill Teel**, 48, died in hospice on Aug. 30.



He was a Texas native and graduated high school in Denton. He lived in Dallas for the past 25 years. Bill loved living in Oak Lawn and his passion was playing poker. A member of the Pocket Rockets Poker League, he often won the weekly tournaments. His favorite poker quote was "On my big blind?"

Bill will be missed by his friends, family and the Pocket Rocket Poker League. He is survived by a sister.

Donations in his name may be made to any AIDS agency.

## pet of the week / DEWEY

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The Adoption Center is open 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday to Saturday and 12 noon until 5 p.m. on Sunday. All adopted pets are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. Standard adoption fees are \$85 for dogs and \$55 for cats. They also offer discounts on adoption fees for pets over 6 years of age, to any senior citizen that adopts a pet, and to anyone adopting more than one pet at a time. For more information, visit [www.DallasAnimalServices.org](http://www.DallasAnimalServices.org), or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices](http://www.facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices). Photo contributed by Judi Burnett.



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■ LEGAL, From Page 6

some cases legal representation can help. But there are legal limitations and companies get away with discrimination all the time. Her friend Leslie McMurray offered a good example.

McMurray was the on-air voice of one of the Dallas area's top-rated radio stations. When she began her transition last year, she was promptly dropped from the station.

The station manager told her they were going in a different direction, even though the other stations owned by that broadcast group all had lower ratings than hers.

McMurray then faced additional problems. Her ID didn't match her presentation and to apply to stations in different markets, she needed to travel.

"Try going through TSA without proper ID," she said.

Sprinkle has been practicing law in Dallas for 20 years. She began her law career as a public defender and worked toward her transition for a number of years. In case she lost her job after finally transitioning, she paid off all of her debt and then began saving.

Even after she began removing her beard and taking hormones two years ago, she decided to go home for Christmas one last time dressed as a man.

"I was terrified," she said, adding that she didn't want to ruin anyone's holidays. "I was thinking this could be my last Christmas with my family."

But she finally told them.

"Everyone was amazingly accepting," she said.

During her transition, she worked for a year and a half opening a public defender's office in Central Texas. When she returned to Dallas earlier this year, she decided to open her own law practice so she wouldn't have to face working for anyone else.

She realized some of the legal hurdles she overcame were even harder for someone not familiar with the system.

In Texas, getting a name change is fairly easy but filing a gender marker change is harder. Sprinkle said many judges in Dallas County will do both, although some won't. A name change is filed in family court, which is usually sympathetic, but a gender marker change is filed in civil district court.

A sympathetic judge who happened to like Sprinkle helped her.

"My driver's license said Kathleen but had an 'M' on it," Sprinkle said. "The judge didn't even know that a driver's license had sex on it."

But when he realized how inconvenient that was, he changed her legal gender and she was able to have her driver's license changed.

One of Sprinkle's goals with the legal clinic is to get rid of bad information that's out there.

She said many people think it's impossible to change gender markers in Texas. It is possible. Sprinkle said Texas actually doesn't have a law on gender markers, just bad opinions by the attorney general.

Many think they have to file name changes and gender marker changes separately. They don't. When filed together, the case goes into the civil district court.

Most rely on old information that they need a surgeon's letter to change social security information. In July, rules changed and now only a doctor's note that the person is receiving necessary medical treatment is needed.

Other legal concerns may seem common but may have special implications for someone who's transitioning. A lot of people divorce, but Sprinkle said it's not uncommon for a spouse to use blackmail as a form of retaliation, threatening to out the trans partner to an employer or family.

While many custody cases are decided against a spouse who has come out as gay or lesbian, more and more judges especially in urban areas are discounting that as a reason to deny custody.

But trans parents are usually painted as unfit or worse in court and often are denied even visitation rights. Many judges don't understand what transgender means and insist the parent only visit dressed as the birth sex.

Sprinkle can't guarantee success, but can certainly help with legal hurdles.

"Criminal history can affect a name change," she said.

She said Texas law forbids a name change if its intent is to defraud or avoid debt. One client of hers had legal problems related to drugs.

The law specifies waiting two years after final disposition of the case before a name change can occur. So she advised her client to file in the spring before completing that part of her transition.

GEAR coordinator Blair High said the new legal clinic — along with the health clinic — is one of the most important things they've offered since GEAR began in 2005.

"Some are scared to death to walk into the courthouse," High said.

She said the clinic was a place to just get answers. And just having someone go to the courthouse who's been through the experience and knows what they're doing will put a lot of people's minds at ease.

"Five or six years ago, you were on your own," High said. "You didn't know what to do about your job, your marriage. I remember just going out buying clothes and coming home crying."

Sprinkle hopes her experience will help a number of people with their transitions. She said something as simple as a name change that they want to file themselves can be even easier when someone hands them the correct form and tells them where to file it.

She said she'll be offering forms and advice without charge at the new legal clinic but will be available to retain for those with ongoing proceedings. ■

*GEAR legal clinic is held the first Wednesday of the month at Resource Center. To make an appointment, call 214-540-4498.*

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# DART's benefit plan was 'long time coming'



**BACK ON TRACK** | Resource Center's Rafael McDonnell, second from right, talks to members of the LGBT community at DART headquarters about the healthcare benefit victory after the final board approval on Tuesday, Oct. 8. The benefits will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2014. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Advocates praise agency for passing healthcare equalization after more than a year of discussion, delays and stunts meant to derail the plan

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

After more than a year of discussions and delays, stalling tactics and rewording to avoid a challenge by the state attorney general, the Dallas Area Rapid Transit board passed domestic partner health benefits this week without further discussion.

Coverage is expected to cost DART \$67,000

out of a total healthcare budget of more than \$34 million. And in order to comply with an opinion from Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, the so-called plus-one plan allows any DART employee to insure one adult living in the same household with commingled financial interests, rather than the original committee-approved plan to cover just same- and opposite-sex partners. Benefits take effect Jan. 1, 2014.

Minutes into the Oct. 8 meeting, DART chairman John Danish called for a motion to pass healthcare equalization.

Dallas DART board representative Jerry Christian made the motion. The resolution passed 10 in favor and three opposed. And without discussion, the board moved on to the next agenda item. Two board members were absent.

Members of the LGBT community who had been attending DART meetings for more than a year were surprised the plan passed so easily after members walked out and broke quorum two weeks ago before the vote.

After all items on the agenda passed, Danish opened the floor for comments.

The first speaker was former City Council candidate Richard Sheridan who came to oppose DP benefits and said he understood the proposal had not passed. When corrected, he began talking about alternative, unapproved treatments for AIDS.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas President Omar Narvaez was the first to speak on behalf of the LGBT community. He thanked the board for passing the new policy.

He called it "the most examined issue in DART history." That included the contentious debate over adding gender identity and expression to the nondiscrimination policy.

In 2010, DART added gender identity and expression after three months of discussion, which included a controversial amendment that would have gutted the proposal. With members of the LGBT community packing the DART board chamber, that amendment was removed at a June board meeting and approved unanimously. Sexual orientation had been part of the policy since 1995.

Fairness Fort Worth President David Mack Henderson also thanked the board for the healthcare plan vote.

"We've been watching with keen regional interest," he said.

The Fort Worth transit system, The T, doesn't offer partner benefits yet. He said he expected the Tarrant County agency to take note of DART's vote.

"Everyone who loves someone hopes to keep them safe and healthy," Henderson said. "The public benefits from this policy."

Trans activist Nell Gaither thanked the board for finally adhering to its own nondiscrimination policy. She said she'd be back to discuss trans health coverage issues.

Rafael McDonnell with Resource Center has attended every board and committee meeting at which the issue was discussed. He also arranged speakers to come to board meetings to appeal for passage of the healthcare coverage.

Many on the board laughed as McDonnell rapidly ticked off a list of ministers, rabbis, former City Council members and representatives of more than 20 LGBT organizations who spoke over the past year.

"It's been a long time coming," McDonnell said. "We were concerned we'd never make it to this point."

The fight for domestic partner benefits began in July 2012 when Andrew Moss, a former DART police officer, asked the agency to allow him to receive benefits through his husband, who is a current DART employee.

Moss and his husband were legally married in California in 2008. Moss is unable to work because of illness and was unable to attend the meeting for the final DART vote.

"My husband goes to work and risks his life for DART and should get the same benefits that his counterparts of a different sexual orientation get," Moss previously told Dallas Voice.

He did not return calls seeking comment on the plan's passage.

In March, the committee-of-the-whole voted to delay any further discussion of a plan approved

# Police mum on Denton trans murder

Lack of answers by investigators, attention by community sparks national upset surrounding the death of Artegas Konyale Madden

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

SAVANNAH, Denton County — Investigators with the Denton County Sheriff's Office have few answers about the death of transgender woman Artegas Konyale Madden.

Madden, 34, was found dead in her home on Hayden Lane in Savannah Estates by friends on Sept. 1. Savannah is a small town east of Denton.

Madden's death was ruled a homicide by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office, which covers Denton County. She was killed in her living room with the cause of death a gunshot wound to the neck.

Investigators are not releasing much information surrounding the incident. No motive or suspect information has been made public. The lead investigator on the case has not returned numerous calls over several weeks.

Denton County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Sandi Brackeen said she didn't know if the case was a hate crime. She said officials are not releasing any information about the case because it is still under investigation.

While Texas' hate crime enhancement law only includes "sexual preference," not gender identity, law enforcement agencies are required to report bias-motivated crimes to the FBI.

Madden grew up in Longview and attended the University of Texas at Arlington, according to her obituary. She attended services at the Potter's House of Dallas regularly.

The Rev. Carmarion Anderson, who is also trans, said she met Madden about 10 years ago through a mutual family member. She said she had a passion for living free and was a spiritual person, often saying that "living her 'truth' was the appropriate way to display the Love of Christ provided to humanity."

Madden's death was heartbreaking for Anderson, who said she was even more upset by the way her death has been handled by authorities.

"I am more challenged regarding how her murder has been handled by the authorities with no active actions being taken for due-justice," she said. "As a transgender individual, activist and minister of the gospel, I am very concerned about the increase in deaths due to violence in the transgender community at-large."

Madden's death was one of four September homicides in the country that affected the female minority transgender community. The unsolved cases have led the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs to call on the LGBT community and law enforcement to take the cases seriously.



Artegas Konyale Madden

NCAVP tracks homicides in the LGBT community.

In a 2012 report, NCAVP found that out of the 25 documented anti-LGBT murders, 73 percent of victims were minorities and 54 percent were transgender women.

Chai Jindasurat, co-director of community organizing and public advocacy at the New York City Anti-Violence Project, said Madden's death is important and police should release information.

"Quite honestly, the sad truth is we're receiving the message that trans lives, particularly trans women of color, they don't matter because when they're killed, we don't see the same level of outcry from local community organizations or from local authorities," he said.

Jindasurat said the LGBT community needs to come together as a community to understand how severe and serious the violence toward minority trans women is and organize around it.

Blair High, coordinator at Resource Center's transgender GEAR program, said many people in the Dallas trans community didn't recognize Madden. There's a trans group in Fort Worth and GEAR in Dallas, but nothing in the Denton area.

High said many trans people find support while they transition and then move on with their lives, something she sees a lot in her group.

"Most people transition and then they're gone, they just blend in and kind of live their life," High said. "You're isolated and repressed so long, you just want to move on."

High said she's not surprised police appear to be blowing off the case because there's little attention to the trans community and crimes that affect it outside of major cities like Dallas and Fort Worth.

Anderson said that the LGBT community will come together to remember Madden and ensure that her murderer is found.

"Until justice is served towards her death and many other trans people who preceded her, we will continue to stand united as a community," she said.

People with information about her death should contact Sgt. Kish at 940-349-1665. ■

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**HOME SWEET HOMO** | This 1927 Spanish Eclectic home in the Dells has a flat roof with a large agave plant on top and is one of a dozen homes on the Oak Cliff fall tour, which is the oldest and gayest home tour in Dallas. (Photo courtesy of Old Oak Cliff Conservation League)

# Cliff dwellers

Old Oak Cliff Conservation League Tour this weekend features 12 houses in the city's oldest and gayest home tour

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

A Big Boy, a bomb shelter and paint-by-number Last Suppers are among the highlights of this year's Old Oak Cliff Fall Home Tour.

Former Old Oak Cliff Conservation League president Michael Amonett said two of his favorites on the tour are a small 1,000-square-foot

house on Ivandell Avenue and a mansion on Colorado Boulevard.

The Ivandell house, owned by Paul Osborn, was built by a contractor in 1927 who built similar, but much larger, versions of the Spanish Eclectic home in the Dells.

Osborn said he's hoping to see lots of people he hasn't seen in a long time during the tour and is planning a two-day party in his home.

Preparing for the tour took quite a bit of work, he said.

"I redid the finishes in the kitchen, landscaping in the front yard and did lots and lots of cleaning," he said.

He called his neighborhood transitional, so he printed up a flier for his neighbors explaining the

extra cars expected on the street through the weekend.

In addition to the architectural features, including a flat roof with a large agave plant on it, the house was chosen for what Osborn calls his "strange collection of art and objects."

That collection includes a variety of paint-by-number Last Suppers and lots of crosses.

Twelve homes are featured in this year's tour sponsored by OOCCL. The tour dispels the myth that everything in Oak Cliff is old or that old means small, cramped or dilapidated. The homes chosen were built between 1917 to 2007. Most are in North Oak Cliff in the Kessler Park area but several highlight some of Oak Cliff's other neighborhoods. One is in Kiestwood, a heavily gay neighborhood south

of Kiest Park off Hampton Road.

A Big Boy statue stands at the door of one of the newer homes on the tour.

The house features an authentic 1950s fallout shelter with self-contained chemical toilet, hand-cranked ventilation system and folding cots for complete comfort. Designed to house a family for up to seven days after a nuclear blast, the owners would emerge safe and sound a week after their neighbors — and everything else in the city — was dust.

The owners call it a monument to paranoia.

Amonett said that house was added last minute.

"We had to have a bomb shelter on the tour," he said.

What makes several of the homes so different than anything found elsewhere in Dallas is how they were built into the terrain. A house on Junior Street in Kessler Park is cantilevered over the hillside of this steeply graded property. One on Cedar Hill Avenue in Kidd Springs built in 1987 is supported by 30-foot pillars installed into the sharp incline.

Also featured on the tour is a Georgian-style mansion on Colorado Boulevard designed by architect Hoke Smith in 1939 as his own home. After Smith died in 1943 at the age of 48, his widow sold the house. Former Dallas County Commissioner Chris Semos lived there from 1969 until 1983.

Smith was known for building more than 100 schools in 30 counties rather than for homes. Among his best-known landmarks was P.C. Cobb Stadium, which stood on Oak Lawn Avenue at Stemmons Freeway on the present Infomart site.

Amonett said after looking at several dozen houses, the committee narrowed down their selection to 12, keeping in mind diverse architectural styles, time periods, furnishings, art, landscaping and neighborhoods.

Parking and access to the houses were also issues since many houses are built into the cliff with limited access, steep stairs or not enough adequate places to park without steep climbs.

The tour is the city's oldest, largest and gayest home tour with the majority of houses usually featured being owned by gay couples. But this year the majority are owned by straight couples. Amonett said he was surprised but complimented the straight couples on their style and contribution to Oak Cliff.

"They're learning," he said.

Money raised during the tour is given to Oak Cliff neighborhood associations and nonprofits. Last year, several of the 33 neighborhood groups received funds to purchase sign toppers. Sidewalk improvements, median landscaping, websites, membership directories and a mural are among the projects funded.

The group has also granted funds to Turner House, a historic home that hosts community events operated by the Oak Cliff Society of Fine Arts, and to other nonprofit organizations. ■

Tickets are available at any home on the tour or at Eighth and Bishop streets in the Bishop Arts District. Oct. 12–13 from noon–6 p.m. \$25 adults. \$15 seniors. For more information, visit OOCCL.org.

■ DART, From Page 10

by the administrative committee until after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on two marriage-equality cases, which were unrelated to domestic partner benefits.

At the next board meeting, McDonnell scheduled several speakers to ask the board to pass healthcare benefits. That continued at the bi-weekly meetings through September.

After the Supreme Court ruled, the board considered a revised plan called plus-one to avoid a challenge by Attorney General Greg Abbott. He claims DP benefits treat same-sex couples as married and violate the constitutional amendment prohibiting marriage.

Passage of the plan stalled during the summer but passed the committee-of-the-whole on Sept. 10.

When the proposal came to the full board on Sept. 24, DART board members Michael Cheney and Randall Chrisman walked out before the scheduled vote. Their absence broke quorum, preventing approval.

This week, both board members voted against the policy along with Marc Enoch, who was absent at the last meeting.

Both Cheney and Enoch represent Garland.

At a Garland City Council meeting on Oct. 2, Mayor Douglas Athas spoke with an LGBT group who addressed the council. He said his objection and that of the Garland DART board members had to do with the broad wording of the plus-one plan that would allow more than same-sex partners to be added.

"Our board members are the most frugal," Athas said.

The plus-one plan allows an employee to put another adult living in the household on the healthcare plan. DART estimates 12 to 19 people will take advantage of the plan, costing the agency \$67,000. In 2012, the net cost of healthcare was \$34.5 million.

The one-month open enrollment period for next year has already begun. Employees who want to enroll must produce documentation proving financial commingling and domestic cohabitation. A valid marriage license is not one of the documents that will be accepted.

Although approval of the plan came in October after open enrollment began, DART Deputy Executive Director Jessie Oliver said plus-one participants would still be given the standard 30 days to enroll.

"Upon approval by the board, an extended open enrollment period will be established," Oliver said.

Also this week, four new DART officers were elected to serve during the upcoming year. Current DART Chairman John Danish is leaving because he was elected to the Irving City Council.

Robert Strauss, a Dallas representative, is the new chair. Faye Moses Wilkins of Plano and Farmers Branch was elected vice chair. Richard Carrizales of Dallas was elected secretary. Gary Slagel of Richardson, Addison and Highland Park was elected assistant secretary. All of the new officers supported the plus-one plan. ■

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# A modern Mansfield

Newly formed Galileo Church is first gay-affirming church in conservative city as organizers hope to change the religious landscape

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

MANSFIELD — As a few dozen people gather in the Rev. Dr. Katie Hays' living room to discuss teachings in the Bible, their passion for Christ and their acceptance of everyone draws them together in worship.

Hays, the founding pastor of the Galileo Church, started the church June 1 with financial backing from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination and donors.

The roughly 40 members connected with the church meet in living rooms in Mansfield and Burleson, as well as in local restaurants for weekly Bible studies. Mansfield is south of Arlington in Tarrant County.

With 20 years in traditional church ministry, Hays, who left a church in Arlington to start the Mansfield church where she lives, said her goal was to create an accepting religious venue for everyone in the area, especially young and LGBT people.

"Our goal here in Mansfield was to form a church community where we're very explicit about saying everyone is welcome and we will name as many different demographics as possible," Hays said.

She said the denomination had made attempts to branch out in Mansfield for years because it's an area that lacks affirming churches.

"There's no affirming church in Mansfield. It's a really conservative place," Hays said, adding that she knows the startup church is a big change for the area. "We are going against the grain of the demographics in a huge way. ... I think in Mansfield there are people who just are not going to walk into the conservative community Bible church where things pretty much look the same for 100 years."

With mainstream churches often shunning certain demographics through their teachings, Hays said she wants Galileo Church's accepting approach to help mend its members' relationships with religious institutions.

"The goal behind it was to seek out spiritual refugees — people for whom church is painful or exclusive or irrelevant or boring, with a specific focus on millennials. ... Some have friends who wouldn't be welcome in their church, they might be LGBT themselves or have LGBT friends."



**GOD SQUAD** | The Rev. Dr. Katie Hays, who is the founding pastor of Galileo Church, leads a Bible study in her Mansfield home. The church's roughly 40 members meet in living rooms and area restaurants, but Hays hopes to rent a worship space in the future. (Photo courtesy of Katie Hays)

Millennials are a missing demographics from mainstream churches, Hays said, and they navigate toward nontraditional services where viewpoints are accepting.

"They just don't want anything to do with an institution that doesn't welcome everybody," Hays said.

She said the church planting concept is part of

a larger movement across the United States and Europe to branch out religiously in order to connect with missing demographics mainstream churches don't welcome.

"It's the idea that mainline Protestant churches have pretty much fallen over a cliff," Hays said. "I mean sociologically speaking, our demographics are terrible. We've lost Gen X, we've lost the

millennials, and they're not coming back."

Galileo Church has a leadership team of five individuals in their 20s, something Hays started to keep younger people involved in shaping the church's growth and mission. Several of the weekly gatherings have nights for parents or young adults to meet the need of various members. And while Hays doesn't plan for the church

to own a building for worship, she said she would like to find a space to rent as its central location.

"A lot of folks have been so burned by church that they're not going to step back inside a traditional church building," Hays said.

While the church has no physical address, its listed on GayChuch.org, where some of its members have discovered it.

Nathan Russell, a student at Brite Divinity School, heard about the church through word of mouth. While he works at a church on Sundays, he said the nontraditional model of the Mansfield church helps him worship in a different way.

"Galileo feels like the place I get to experience church," he said. "Galileo is trying to do more things and meet people's needs. That's the thing I like most about Galileo."

Russell's experience with church has not always been good.

Several years ago he attended a reparative therapy session at an Arlington church at the request of his parents. The pastor there told him his heart condition was God's way of getting his attention for being gay. Since then, Russell said he's become resolute in his belief that he can be gay and a man of God.

"That propelled me even further to be adamant about yes, I am gay, and yes, I am a Christian," he said.

Hays compared the church's concept of acceptance and meeting format to The Church at Mable Peabody's Beauty Parlor and Chainsaw Repair in Denton. She said while the churches aren't affiliated, its members have attended services at the gay bar.

But while LGBT members have discovered the church, others have sought it out as a place for their loved ones to be welcome.

Hays said she had a woman come to her recently to ensure that the church's welcoming views included the LGBT community because her sister is gay. After her sister came out to her, the woman vowed never to attend a church that didn't accept her family.


"Her sister doesn't even live here," Hays said. "It's just the idea that you would spend time among people who would not welcome someone that you love. I have a number of stories like that where the person that I know was not gay but they love someone who is and they want a church that would welcome their loved ones."

Stories like that are what inspire Hays when she looks at where the church is headed in the future, knowing that the need for spiritual acceptance exists in Mansfield.

"I think what our church might be able to do over the long haul is sort of bring out of the shadows a hidden demographic in Mansfield and not only LGBTQ people but the people who love them," she said. "There are a lot of people who are affected in waves by bigotry."

"They're just seeking a community who will take them as they are and think they're great," Hays added. "I mean not just barely accept them, but accept them and celebrate who they are." ■

For more information, visit [GalileoChurch.org](http://GalileoChurch.org).



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# New Supreme Court session may include LGBT cases

Nation's high court rejects two gay-interest cases, but legal analysts expect court to hear others, even one on state marriage bans

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service

The U.S. Supreme Court rejected this week reviews of two lower court decisions of some interest to LGBT legal activists. But some gay-related cases could be on the docket this session, and national legal experts predict a case testing the right of states to ban same-sex marriage is on a fast track to the nation's highest court.

The justices declined to accept review of *McDonald v. Moose*, a case that legal activists were mildly interested in because it concerned Virginia's law against sodomy. The case was not gay-related. It sought to determine whether the state could, post *Lawrence v. Texas*, still enforce its law against sodomy in a case where an adult man solicited sodomy from a minor female. The *Lawrence* decision in 2003 struck down the use of sodomy laws against private consensual sex be-

tween same-sex adults.

The justices also declined to take the appeal of a University of Toledo vice president who was fired for publishing an op-ed in the *Toledo Free Press* complaining about a description of "homosexuals" as "civil rights victims." Crystal Dixon, an African-American, wrote about her distaste for comparisons between civil rights struggles of gay people and those of African-Americans. The Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that, because the university employed Dixon to enforce its policies, Dixon's public speech contradicting those policies wasn't protected.

## Showdown with religion

Meanwhile, there are other gay-related cases with the potential to come before the Supreme Court this session — some in follow up to the marriage equality cases, some within the ongoing clash over whether one can claim a right to discriminate against LGBT people by designating that discrimination is part of one's exercise of religious freedom.

*Elane Photography v. Vanessa Willock* out of New Mexico is one of a growing number of law-



**MARRIAGE MANIA** | Dallas marriage equality supporters celebrate after the U.S. Supreme Court rulings in June. The high court could hear a case this session on state marriage bans. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

suits pitting the constitutional right to free exercise of religion against state laws prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The *Elane* lawsuit challenges the state's ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation. It was brought to the state Supreme Court by a photog-

rapher, Elaine Huguenin, who refused to provide her commercial wedding photography service to a same-sex couple, saying her religious beliefs were in conflict with a same-sex couple's commitment ceremony.

The couple sued, citing the state law against dis-



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crimination based on sexual orientation in public accommodations. Huguein, represented by the Alliance Defending Freedom, said her religious objections to homosexuality should trump the state's interests in eradicating discrimination against LGBT people and that the First Amendment guarantee to freedom of speech should protect her ability to express her bias.

The New Mexico Supreme Court ruled August 22 that the state human rights law doesn't violate the photographer's free speech rights and that businesses that "choose to be public accommodations must comply" with the nondiscrimination law.

"They may ... post a disclaimer on their website or in their studio advertising that they oppose same-sex marriage," the court said, but they must also indicate that they comply with the law.

"This is really a gay-rights case," said Pamela Harris, a law professor at Georgetown University, who moderated a September 16 preview panel of the American Constitutional Society.

Another gay-related case that could soon be seeking Supreme Court review is *Pickup v. Brown*, which tests the constitutionality of California's newly passed law to ban "sexual orientation change efforts" (reparative therapy) for persons under the age of 18.

A lower court judge had granted a preliminary injunction against the law going into effect, but, on

August 29, a three-judge panel of the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals reversed that injunction, saying the law "is neither vague nor overbroad, and does not violate parents' fundamental rights."

Both sides of the case have asked for a review of the Ninth Circuit panel's decision by a larger number of the court's members (en banc), and the briefs have been filed. If the full court review is denied, then opponents of the ban on ex-gay therapy, represented by Liberty Counsel, could petition the U.S. Supreme Court right away.

### The next big marriage cases

After all the excitement around last session's two big decisions concerning same-sex marriage, Supreme Court observers are already looking ahead to the next big one: state bans on marriage for same-sex couples.

Thomas Goldstein, publisher of the *scotusblog.com* site that many legal observers rely on to stay abreast of analysis of pending cases, said a case testing the constitutionality of state bans on same-sex marriage "is coming on a rocket ship."

Public Citizen Litigation Group Director Allison Zieve agreed, adding that she thinks that case will be "more controversial" because it will decide whether the federal constitution requires states to treat married same-sex couples the same as straight couples.

Goldstein and Zieve were on one of several Supreme Court preview panels held in September. Many panelists on those preview forums discussed the historic nature of the Supreme Court's decisions in *U.S. v. Windsor*, which struck down the key provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), and *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, that left intact a federal district court ruling striking down California's ban on same-sex marriage (Proposition 8).

But the Supreme Court's *Perry* case was decided on a technicality. The decision didn't address the question of whether similar state bans — which still exist in 36 states — are constitutional.

Many of the experts on the preview panels said they anticipate the next major case on same-sex marriage will address that constitutional question. And Zieve said she has "a hard time seeing how [the Supreme Court] can write an opinion completely consistent with *Windsor* that doesn't" find those other bans unconstitutional.

As many as 35 lawsuits in 19 states are now challenging those state bans on same-sex marriage, according to Jon Davidson, legal director for Lambda Legal, which is leading five of those lawsuits.

The farthest along and most likely to reach the Supreme Court first is one by Lambda Legal out of Nevada. That case, *Sevcik v. Sandoval*, was

dismissed at the federal district court level but Lambda has an appeal pending before the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and briefing closes one or two weeks after November 18.

A second lawsuit, *Jackson v. Abercrombie*, against Hawaii's ban on same-sex marriage, has final briefs due to the Ninth Circuit on December 23 or two weeks thereafter.

Depending on how quickly the Ninth Circuit moves on the cases, they could potentially be appealed to the Supreme Court this session.

While Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval is defending the law, the court has allowed an anti-marriage equality group, the Coalition for the Protection of Marriage, to participate in the defense as intervenor.

Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie is not defending the Hawaii ban but another state official is, as is the Hawaii Family Forum as intervenor.

The remaining state challenges include the two high-profile lawsuits in Virginia, one with Lambda teamed up with the ACLU, the other with Ted Olson and David Boies teamed up with local attorneys.

"No one knows which case or cases will reach the Supreme Court first," Lambda's Davidson said. "Whichever case or cases it is, what we want most is for it to be a case that has been well-litigated."

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viewpoints

# Gays parents are still parents

Linda Harvey has made it her mission to tell lesbians and gays that they aren't real parents and their sexuality harms their children

Hey, did you hear that former Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro recently became a grandpa? That's nice for him. The end.

At least that's how the story should go, but it doesn't. Why? Because Petro's daughter is a lesbian. And Linda Harvey of Mission: America thinks that God wants her to use this otherwise joyous occasion to call Petro's daughter, and all of the other gay or lesbian parents out there, child abusers who don't love their kids.

And how are gay and lesbian parents abusing their children? Simply by being gay or lesbian.

And don't you go trying any of that "all you need is love" bullshit, either.

"Because if same-sex relationships are all about love, why are people bringing a third, unknown party into a relationship to be the 'father' or 'mother' behind the curtain? When this kind of love means you can never conceive a new human with the person you love, isn't this is a

big clue that things were never supposed to be this way?"

Harvey seems to be forgetting that there is more to a relationship than meeting some kind of sexual reproduction quotas.

In a particularly nasty move, Harvey claims that since Petro's daughter is not the birth mother, Petro isn't really a grandfather. And his daughter certainly isn't a mother.

"[T]he Petros now have a grandson, and they are publicly cooing as most new grandparents do. Ecstatic or not, the reality is, this baby is actually the Petros' adopted grandchild — no blood relation — because their daughter's partner was the birth mother. The father? At the time of this writing, no one has said. Friend? Sperm donor? Who knows?"

I would add "who cares?" to that list of questions. It certainly isn't any of Harvey's business.

But Harvey is determined to make it her business. She is particularly concerned that the Pet-

ros' grandchild is a boy being raised by two women.

She bemoans the lack of an "identifiable father in a boy's life, offering heritage, caretaking, known genetic background, wisdom, financial support, spiritual guidance."

She also claims, "Dadlessness is a significant deficit in a child's life, but to do it deliberately, cavalierly, is close to child abuse. Every child deserves to know mom and dad. Homosexual parenting, deliberately excluding either a mom or dad, does not make sense, child-welfare-wise, and is frankly, cruel."

Is it close to child abuse or is it actually child abuse? Make up your mind, Harvey!

Never mind that reputable studies have proven that having two parents of the same sex does not endanger child welfare. That kind of information isn't useful to Harvey because she clearly shuns any and all data that disrupts her "gay parents are terrible" narrative.

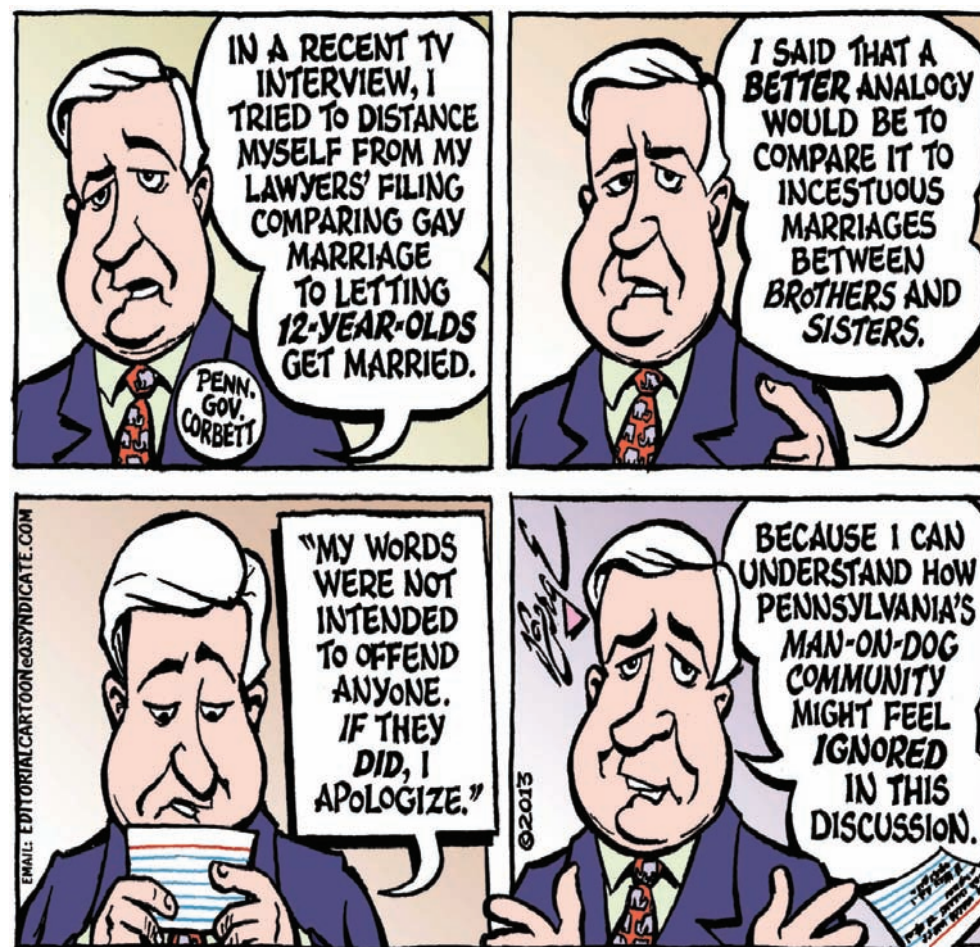
And why do gays and lesbians want children to begin with? Because kids just love parades! Harvey writes, "The adults are the central figures in a play about 'making me happy according to what I think I want today.' The kids are essentially props to be trotted out, sadly, at events like 'pride' parades. Yet at some point, children are not stupid and will figure this out."

That's right. Gays and lesbians are fickle, especially when it comes to children (I mean, just think of how often gays and lesbians have unintended pregnancies). At some point the kids of gay and lesbian parents are going to wise up to their role as fun props promoting the homosexual lifestyle. And then all of these kids are going to march over to Harvey's house to demand asylum. Hope she has some air mattresses.

D'Anne Witkowski has been gay for pay since 2003. She's a freelance writer and poet. When she's not taking on the creeps of the world she reviews rock and roll shows in Detroit with her twin sister and teaches writing at the University of Michigan.



D'Anne Witkowski  
Creep of the Week



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# The t T e x a s t o r n a d o

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

Jaston Williams is back with more tales of Texas life in his one-man show 'Blame It on Valentine'

Anyone who grew up in the dusty plains of West Texas probably has some stories to tell of crazy characters, kooky family and outrageous behavior meant to cut the boredom. Jaston Williams simply is better at telling them.

Of course, he's had a lot of practice. In the *Tuna* plays, which he co-created with Joe Sears and Ed Howard, Williams created the fictional world of Texas' third smallest town, populated by quirky, hilarious people who never really existed. But in his one-man shows — including *Blame It on Valentine, Texas*, which opens this week at the Eisemann Center for a five-performance run — Williams doesn't have to make up anything: He just puts his life out there for all to see.

"Back in those days it was pretty bleak" out in West Texas, Williams recounts on the phone from his home in Lockhart. "It was exactly like *The Last Picture Show*, only a decade later: that kind of town, that kind of atmosphere. But there were amazing people who lived there and grew up there. One boy in our class became a preeminent nuclear scientist!"

And another grew up to be Jaston Williams, one of Texas' shining humorists. And the proof is in the performance.

*Valentine* is a series of monologues, all written by Williams, that tell actual tales from his life, starting in childhood when he became

a star at age 4, and advancing through about a decade ago, as he went to China to adopt his son Song. The fact everything is all true only makes the *Tuna* plays seem tame by comparison.

Not all of the pieces were originally written for this show. Williams is a master short-story writer; his monologues read like David Sedaris with a twang. He grouped this particular set together a few years ago, when he did a fundraiser on Valentine's Day.

"I found that when I put this particular grouping together, it is a stronger [show] — they serve each other better than in their original configuration," he says.

In one of the stories, *A Piece of Chalk*, he discusses being enrolled in ballet class; in another, he explains how his older brother's pet pig nearly ate him alive *a la Hannibal* ... until a ranch hand in his family's employ saved his life. And one of his favorites is about the classmate who taught him to cuss.

"When I was in the fifth grade, I was having a terrible year," he says. "I was being picked on a lot. But there was this big boy — he played football and basketball and always had a scab on his nose or his knee — but had this huge heart. He realized that I was funny — and he was also funny. He hated to see anyone picked on, so he taught me to cuss. I've been trying to stop ever since — but it's fucking hard! You can tell how well it's working from the

text of this interview!"

The two have remained lifelong friends. "It's a piece about two boys who could not be more different but are attracted to certain qualities in each other. He really saved my life."

It's the humanity that oozes through all of Williams' work. In one piece, *Cowboy Noises*, Williams details the day his life changed forever: the night the Beatles first performed on American television.

"My father was slightly less upset at Hitler in May of 1945 than he was by the Beatles — just a little," Williams jokes. "He went berserk and *defied* me to enjoy it. So the next day, my mother took me to a Woolworth's store 20 miles away and bought me a Beatles wig. She was the gas truck at the fire." His mother is a looming presence in Williams' life. In *Killing Mama*, he relates how he was forced to convince his strong-willed, 85-year-old mother to give up driving. It was practically a suicide mission.

"She was a force of nature — people still talk about her in West Texas, Williams asserts, a tough braggadocio bleeding through. "Texans spend a lot of time pretending daddy runs that show, but when mama really decides to be a pain, nothing gets done. I've got a lot of that blood in me — it's still there. My partner, Kevin, who never met my mother, will see me do something and say, 'This must have something to do with her.'"

■ TORNADO, Page 29

#### BLAME IT ON VALENTINE

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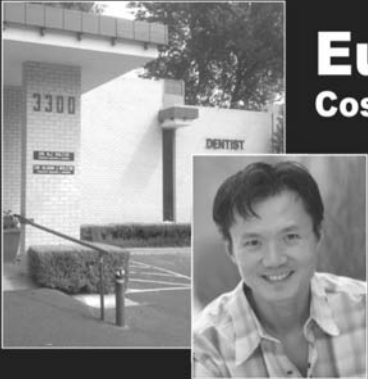
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L+S screen

# Notes on Camp

As Todd Camp steps away from Q Cinema, the gay film fest he founded, he looks toward new adventures in entertainment

**ARNOLD WAYNE JONES**

Life+Style Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

There's a reason why Todd Camp's nickname is the Mayor of Gay Fort Worth.

For 20 years, he's been a fixture of Cowtown's gay scene. Writer for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Queertoologist. Founder of Q Cinema. Thrower of a popular post-Halloween, pre-Christmas party. And then there's all that activism surrounding the Rainbow Lounge raid.

But all things come to an end. Camp hasn't been at the Startlegram for five years. The raid was more than four years ago. And now, he has stepped down from the gay film festival he created 15 years ago.

Worst of all, this will be the last time he throws his party.

"This will be year 20," Camp says. "It'll be nice not to have 200 people in my house."

Camp has earned the right to walk away from all this. Being mayor is a demanding job. But as Q Cinema begins its 15th festival (for the first time, in the fall), Camp is sanguine about everything he has accomplished... and how much more he still wants to do.

Camp's fascination with queer film began when he saw the documentary *The Celluloid Closet*, "which opened my eyes to how Hollywood had whitewashed gay cinema. The Q Cinema film fest had its germ at Texas Christian University, from which Camp matriculated in 1988. "We started Queer Cinema at TCU around '96 or '97," Camp recalls. "Programming was about running [gay] films that weren't widely available then." Then in 1999, he launched the Q Cinema we know today.

So why retire now?

"It was a milestone year — the 15th," he says. "It was time to go out. [My partner] Doug and I



**Q THE EXIT** | Todd Camp stands with his latest endeavor, the reissue of his graphic novel of Herk Harvey's cult film 'Carnival of Souls.' He'll also be reprising his role in Q Live's 'Gay Marriage Plays' this weekend at Q Cinema, which he founded in 1999. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

had a long conversation about it. I never wanted to be in the position where going to the movies was hard work. I wanted to do something else."

Outsiders might not realize how all-encompassing running this kind of nonprofit can be. "It took up every minute of my life," Camp sighs. Even his partner took on the job of operational director, meaning they were both devoting all their free time to it.

But in another way, Camp has merely replaced one obsession with another — maybe more than one. While his involvement in Q Cinema will diminish (he will remain on the board for now), he has many other irons in the fire. Chief among those is Q Live!, the live-performance offshoot of Q Cinema he co-founded with Kyle Trentham.

"I've always had a passion for standup and comedy," he says. "I took improv classes, and

Kyle and I discovered we had natural comic timing together." They started out with sponsoring a weekly open mike night, and Camp discovered he enjoyed "putting on a producer hat."

The standup (which continues with a rotating slate of comics every Tuesday at 10 p.m. at Club Embargo in Fort Worth) comprises only part of the performance aspect of Q Live! The team has also produced stage plays, including shows at WaterTower Theatre's Out of the Loop Fringe Festival for the past two years. The original cast of their last full-scale production — *Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays* — will reunite this Saturday during Q Cinema for an encore performance of the show. (Camp plays the survivor of a recently-departed lover, delivering his eulogy.)

And then there's his comic strip — strips, to be more accurate. For years, Camp has doodled his way through life's ups and downs, writing *The Campus Underground* for TCU's Daily Skiff newspaper for four years (later expanded to *Life Underground* for the gay press), then moved on

to *Rimshot*, a series in the Star-Telegram from 1990 until 1997. That strip attracted national attention ... and not the kind he wanted.

When the American Family Association targeted him for writing about gay stuff and drawing a strip for the "young people" section of a major newspaper, management for the Star-Telegram responded by moving the strip off the pages of the family-friendly *Class Acts* magazine supplement. The Dallas Observer caught wind of the story, and did a piece on it; eventually, so did the New York Times.

"It was a very big embarrassment for the Star-Telegram," he says.

Now, Camp and writer Mike Price have reissued their graphic novelization of the strange cult film *Carnival of Souls* into a new edition (two editions, really — one with color), as well as some other collected strips ... none, though, for the gay press.

But not to worry. That may come eventually. Camp will have a lot of time on his hands ... or at least he likes to think so. ■

#### Q CINEMA

**Rose Marine Theater**, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. Through Sunday. Q Live's presentation of *Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays* performed on Saturday at 8:30 p.m. [QCinema.org](http://QCinema.org).

#### QUEER CLIPS: Q Cinema 15

Q Cinema kicked off with *Southern Baptist Sissies*, but there are hoards of other movies to screen during the weekend of showings: features, shorts, documentaries and live performances. Here are some highlights.

**I Am Divine.** John Waters and his muse-paramour Harris Glen Milstead — known to cult film lovers the world over as the audacious drag queen Divine — toiled in relative obscurity for 15 years with underground classics like *Mondo Trasho*, *Female Trouble* and *Pink Flamingos* (where Divine eats, on camera, a freshly laid dog turd). Then in 1988, they finally seemed to hit it with *Hairspray*, a PG-rated paean to '60s musical and incipient radicalism. It was a surprise hit when it bowed in February; barely a week, Divine died suddenly in his sleep. He was 42. Featuring interviews with Waters, Tab Hunter, Michael Musto



and Divine himself, as well as clips from his films and rare video footage of his live performances, *I Am Divine* shows the tasteful side of the queens of bad taste. It's informative and fun and, always, Divine. (Screens Sunday at 2 p.m.)

**Birthday Cake.** The 2012 short *Groom's Cake* was a mockumentary about two gay guys adopting a baby. Now comes its feature-length sequel, where the same characters — high-pressure TV writer Daniel (director Chad Darnell) and laid-back aspiring actor Stephen (Rib Hillis) plan their daughter's first birthday party while a reality TV crew films it all, from the (unwelcome) arrival of Dan's religious mother and sister to the reality producers' insistence that a hot young stud serve as body double for the men. In the post-*Modern Family* era, this is familiar territory (Dan=Mitch, Stephen=Cam with better pecs), but no less charming and funny for it. The dialogue is witty and naturally delivered by a cast that also includes Peter Paige (*Queer as Folk*) and lesbian icon Helen Shaver (*Desert Hearts*). (Screens Friday at 9 p.m.)

— A.W.J.



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Delaware's historic Rehoboth is a gay haven, from shopping to sunbathing



The unofficial gay and lesbian summer beach resort of the Mid-Atlantic states, charming Rehoboth Beach is situated along a sweeping, sandy stretch of the Delaware shore that's within three-hour drives of Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia. Over the past decade, many of the town's guesthouses, shops and restaurants have received stylish makeovers and this once low-key, largely middle-class town has developed a see-and-be-seen cachet that extends well beyond nearby cities. Prices have risen, too, but Rehoboth largely retains a laid-back, welcoming vibe that makes it a perfect destination for summer fun and a romantic weekend retreat during the quieter spring and fall shoulder seasons.

The town began developing a subtle gay following in the '50s, and gays continued to settle here. Then, in 1980, Glenn Thompson opened a full-scale gay resort, the Renegade, on the western outskirts; soon after, the Blue Moon restaurant and bar opened downtown. Nowadays, Rehoboth (Beach-fun.com for general tourism info; CampRehoboth.com for details on the LGBT scene) teems with gay-owned or -oriented businesses, including cafes, restaurants, bars and about a dozen guesthouses. Although the Renegade was razed in 2002 to make way for condos, the Blue Moon is still a first-rate place to dine and socialize.

Although an increasing number of trendy, urbane businesses have opened here recently, Rehoboth's beachfront is still lined with a bustling, honky-tonk boardwalk of saltwater taffy parlors, video arcades and souvenir shops. Many visitors spend afternoons catching rays at the beach. The largely gay male section, known as Poodle Beach, runs from about St. Lawrence to Penn streets, at the southern tip of the Boardwalk. Women sunbathe here to some extent, but more lesbians and a fair share of gay men flock north of downtown to the beach at Cape Henlopen State Park (aka North Shores, a 20-to-30-minute

walk or 10-minute drive via Ocean Drive).

You can also access other parts of Cape Henlopen State Park by driving 10 miles north (via Route 1 and U.S. Hwy. 9) to the charming and historic town of Lewes, and accessing the park from Dunes Road. Lewes itself is a lovely Dutch colonial town founded in 1631, with a neatly preserved downtown of tony shops and inviting restaurants overlooking a beautiful, narrow yacht harbor — it makes a great little day trip, by car or bike. Top-notch, gay-popular restaurants in Lewes include The Buttery, which occupies a romantic Victorian house with a large veranda, and Café Azafran, a Spanish-inspired tapas bistro open for breakfast, lunch and dinner — there's a branch in Rehoboth, too.

### Shopping and dining

Another popular daytime diversion is shopping. Rehoboth Avenue, the main drag, has plenty of fun shops and galleries. A block over, Baltimore Avenue is the hub of the town's gay scene, home to a few boutiques, home-furnishing emporia, and the small but well-stocked Proud Bookstore, which carries LGBT books and gifts. Delaware has no sales tax, and out on Route 1 you'll discover a bounty of outlet shopping centers. Back in town, take a break from browsing to grab a delicious lunch (maybe the best chicken salad sandwich you'll ever taste) at Lori's Café, or enjoy a snack or a latte at the Coffee Mill, a cheerful coffeehouse.

Rehoboth has an excellent dining scene, and several trendy newcomers seem to open each season. On the high end, the superb Blue Moon — site of the gay bar of the same name — turns out high-caliber contemporary American fare, like Maine lobster spaghetti and stout-brined Berkshire pork chops. Down the street, trendy Aqua Grill serves eclectic and reasonably priced international fare (Thai-mango-chutney burgers, coconut shrimp, pot stickers) and then morphs

**SURF'S UP** | For more than 30 years, Rehoboth Beach has been one of the East Coast's most popular gay resort towns. (Photos courtesy Rehoboth-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce/Beach-fun.com)



into a fantastic gay video and dance bar, with a sprawling patio, as the evening proceeds.

Drag brunches and T-dances are part of the fun on weekends. In the same neighborhood, Mixx is another high-energy, stylish restaurant and bar with a strong LGBT following, excellent food (macadamia-crusted local rockfish, seared scallops) and a see-and-be-seen cocktail scene — there's live music some evenings.

Another hip spot where you'll see plenty of family, Espuma serves contemporary Spanish and Mediterranean fare, including great lobster paella. And don't miss the casual Purple Parrot, a good bet for burgers and diner fare; it's a lively hangout for drinks and conversation, too, with a popular happy hour each day. Other notables include the Seafood Shack, which serves tasty fried-oyster po' boys and tender crab cakes and is known for its live entertainment, which includes piano, female vocalists and acoustic bands.

Dos Locos is a great standby for Mexican food and cocktails. The ornately furnished, Asian-inspired Planet X scores high marks for its creative cocktails and unusual vegetarian and organic fare, from tofu sate with ginger-peanut sauce to grilled ahi fillet with asparagus, scallion herb salad and lemon aioli. Dogfish Head Brewing & Eats is one of the most esteemed craft breweries in the country, and its tasting room is a fun place to sample a flight of unusual beers (Chicory Stout, Positive Contact Wit-style beer, Chateau Jiahu, brewed with rice from an ancient Chinese recipe), and the kitchen serves tasty modern pub fare, too.

For cocktails and entertainment, most folks drop by the lounges at local restaurants to socialize before or after dinner, with the aforementioned Blue Moon, Mixx, Aqua and Seafood Shack among the favorites. Early in the evening, a lot of lesbians and gay guys head to the Frogg Pond tavern for karaoke and conversation, or nearby Rehoboth Ale House, which has live music some evenings and drag brunch on Sundays. If you're into the leather-and-Levi's scene, be sure to check out the Double L Bar, which has a patio, two pool tables and a cruise-y vibe.

### Accommodations

Rehoboth has no shortage of appealing, atmospheric accommodations. Among the top guesthouses, the Lighthouse Inn is an attractive 1904 house that's steps from the beach and has light-filled, nautically themed guest rooms with gas fireplaces, refrigerators and TVs with DVD — the top-floor rooms are especially romantic and roomy and a separate two-story cottage sleeps up to four.

Rehoboth Guest House, which is two blocks from the beach and steps from Baltimore Avenue nightlife and dining, is a vintage three-story inn



with clean, basic rooms, a friendly and helpful innkeeper, and some of the best summer rates in town — the simplest rooms, which share a bathroom, start at just \$120 midweek in high-season, which is a bargain considering the location and lovely grounds and sun decks.

Other good bets include the spacious, spotless and contemporary Cabana Gardens B&B, whose rooftop sundeck is one of the best in town; the Silver Lake Guest House, a large and luxurious property with great views of the lake after which it's named and close proximity to Poodle Beach; and century-old At Melissa's B&B, an inviting six-room inn in a leafy residential neighborhood close to the beach and restaurants — it's a nice option for LGBT families, as one room has a king and bunk bed, and another has two queen beds.

The Royal Rose Inn is right in the heart of Baltimore Avenue's gay scene and has seven charming and attractive rooms, plus a rooftop hot tub and sundeck. But perhaps no property in town draws more praise for its colorful personality (and high camp factor) than the lesbian-owned Bewitched and Bedazzled B&B, a decadent 13-room property that consists of two neighboring houses. One is playfully furnished as a tribute to the '60s TV classic *Bewitched*, and the other pays tribute to the glamour of Hollywood, with dozens of autographed photos of movie stars.

Another romantic option, the Canalside Inn overlooks the historic Lewes-Rehoboth Canal and offers 12 elegantly outfitted rooms done in cheerful, pastel hues. It's a 20-minute walk from the beach, as is the spacious, well-kept Shore Inn, a mostly male 14-room resort popular for its festive pool, deck and hot tub. Guys on the make should try the clothing-optional Ram's Head, which is a 15-minute drive from the beach and caters largely to butch leather-and-Levi's types.

If you're partial to larger, more anonymous mainstream properties, Rehoboth has several chain hotels, including Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn Express and Comfort Inn out on Route 1. But to fully experience the bustle and charm of this increasingly hip and trendy gay getaway, try to book a room in town and spend as much time as possible wandering the boardwalk, beach and quiet residential streets, places where the authentic Rehoboth springs vibrantly to life. ■

— Andrew Collins

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**DAN WOOG** | Contributing Writer  
[outfield@qsynidcate.com](mailto:outfield@qsynidcate.com)

The welcome page of Cason Crane's website asks, "What's your Everest?" He's not being metaphorical. Crane — an adventurer, athlete and activist — has actually *climbed* Mt. Everest.

He's also traveled to over 70 countries on all seven continents and climbed seven of the world's highest mountains. He's rafted through uninhabited jungles, ridden a horse across Mongolia and backpacked through the most remote corners of the world. He has also volunteered at orphanages in China and Ethiopia, helped save elephants in Sri Lanka and interned for non-profits in the Middle East.

The fact that he is just 20 years old — and gay — is just part of his remarkable story.

Crane credits his parents with constantly pushing him to try new things. Growing up near Princeton, N.J., team sports were not his thing, but he was outdoorsy. After climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro with his mom at age 15, Crane realized that achieving a summit (setting a goal, then enjoying the satisfaction and view upon reaching it) suited his personality.

The next year, a very close friend at Choate Rosemary Hall committed suicide. Crane wanted to do something, so he ran Choate's Gay-Straight Alliance. Crane had come out two years earlier, as a freshman. "It never occurred to me not to come out," he says, describing his life after realizing he was gay. "It's a non-story."

Family and friends accepted him warmly. "It wasn't a huge deal. I talked about guys like guys talked about girls," he recalls. A four-year, three-sport varsity athlete (cross country, swimming and track), he had no problems with teammates, though "occasionally in the locker room I felt like Moses parting the Red Sea [when] guys on other teams avoided me as I walked through." He shrugged it off.

As he neared graduation in 2011, Crane realized he could combine his love of mountain climbing with his interest in LGBT youth advocacy. He deferred entrance into Princeton Univer-

sity, concentrating instead on scaling Everest. But attempting to scale the world's most famous mountain wasn't a vanity project — he was raising money and awareness for the Trevor Project.

In March, he flew to Nepal and met his support team. "Trust is very important on a climb like this," he observes. He already knew and trusted one person: his mother. "She trekked in with me. That was really cool."

The two-month expedition involved a series of climbs from the 18,000-foot base camp to adjust to the dangerous altitude. Meanwhile, the group waited for a "good weather window." It arrived in mid-May. At 4 a.m. on May 21, Crane reached the summit of the world's tallest peak.

The feeling was like nothing he'd ever experienced. Four months later, he struggles to describe the moment. "The sun lit up the horizon. It was so beautiful, I cried," he recalls. He watched the spectacle for 45 minutes, trying to remember every image. "Everest symbolizes so much. There I was at 20, on top of the world."

Crane's climb symbolizes the journey many gay people take, he says: one step at a time, reaching their own "Everest." It also had the tangible effect of raising \$135,000 for the Trevor Project, and inspiring people he's never met, all around the world.

This month, Crane comes back to earth. He's returned from halfway around the world, to a college eight minutes from home. With no mountains in New Jersey, he looks forward to studying international relations and Arabic.

Of course, Crane will remain active, too. He plans to return to triathlon competitions. He's signed up for his second Ironman. One day in August, he capped a 20-mile bike ride with a five-mile run — nothing special ... except the day before, he'd returned from a trip to North Korea.

Training hard for a grueling competition is one more Everest-type test. But it's one Cason Crane welcomes.

"As a young gay man, I see people facing challenges every day," he says. "They're proud of what they accomplish. And I'm proud because they're proud."

**REMARKABLE HEIGHTS** | Cason Crane gave new meaning to the phrase 'gay sports summit' when the 20-year-old reached the top of Everest as a fundraiser for the Trevor Project.

# Ask How to do what's wrong right

## Howard

HOWARD LEWIS RUSSELL | Special Contributor  
askhoward@dallasvoice.com

Hey, Howard,

Can you tell me, please, what does "PDA" stand for? My boyfriend keeps griping at me because I won't ever give him any "PDA." I feel like such a confused idiot for not being able to figure this all out, and it's not helping my scorecard much under the sheets with him in the meanwhile. — Timothy

Dear Tim,

You're not alone in your confusion regarding what "PDA" means — trust me; its definitions are both many and mind-boggling.

Let's start with the obvious, though: Seeing as how Dear Howard's advice column is devoted mostly to questions that of a sexual and personal nature, in purely dating/relationship slang, "PDA" stands for "public display of affection," aka, exhibiting sexual contentment with your mate on the street.

However, venturing outside-and-beyond the world of private-life intimacy into, say, the 9-to-5 arena, then "PDA" mainly refers to a "personal digital assistant," aka, one's hand-held, electronic device.

Moving farther away from the obvious, "PDA" equally stands for "patent ductus arteriosus." In medical lingo, the ductus arteriosus is a blood vessel in human embryos that compensates, pre-delivery, for the circulatory system by bypassing a baby's heart until it's born ... at which point the screaming tot's lungs are supposed to take over. Thus, this PDA is a condition usually affecting premature infants.

Venturing *even further still* from the medical into [gasp!] the political, "PDA" is acronymic for "Progressive Democrats of America," which, founded in 2004 during Dubya's exasperatingly disastrous regime, is, by its title, a self-explanatory organization.

Howard is just guessing, here, but his gut tells him the first definition is your boyfriend's complaint. But if your confusion is *still* not cleared up by now, Timothy, regarding the multifarious definition(s) of "PDA," then join the club. My advice: Just hit your unsuspecting boyfriend with every single one of the above definitions, and watch him melt in your very arms when you knock a triple-header home run out of the entire, behind-closed-doors, damned ballpark!



Hi, Howard,

I have a problem with which I hope you can help. I consider myself an average, regular guy. I am middle-aged, masculine and take care of myself by going to the gym, etc. But other regular guys my age don't seem to want anything to do with me. I've noticed the ones who are interested are the very cute, young guys half my age. I've even had several of them call me "Daddy." Ultimately, I am interested in a long-term relationship. I will admit however, several of the twinks

do look appetizing. To complicate matters, in the last six months, I've had four lesbians tell me they'd be interested in dating me. Lesbians? Twinks? Thanks, Howard — **Confounded**

Dear Confounded,

There's a fabulously famous line at the end of *Now, Voyager* — one of Bette Davis' old cockamamie, camp-classic potboilers — in which Bette stares lovingly into Paul Henreid's eyes and coos, "Don't let's ask for the moon. We have the stars!"

Con'd, my weathered space cadet, it's time you face up to countdown reality here: Homosexual males "of a certain age," no matter how glisteningly gym-pumped they remain, simply no longer turn the moonstruck eyes of their fellow, contemporary cronies.

But don't expect anyone to cry for you being attractive only to young, supple studs. Count your galactic blessings, daddy-oh, and just be gratefully thankful that the *worst* earthbound, bedroom problems you've got these days is having to fight off helium-heeled twinks begging you rip their starry-eyed britches down; meanwhile, inform those mooning lesbians your Milky Way is taken. ■

*Twinks are the only guys interested in you?*  
*Don't expect tears from Howard*

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# A hard man is good to find

Steamy and arousing, 'The Hardest Thing' is a thrilling page-turner with a superbly crafted anti-hero



**The Hardest Thing** by James Lear (Cleis Press 2013) \$15.95; 264 pp.

Why is love a complicated mess? Well, in *The Hardest Thing*, the characters might ask, "Why does love have to be so deadly difficult?"

He was angry, but not altogether surprised: Dan Stagg, former major in the U.S. Marine Corps, former bouncer at an East Side club, former soldier in Iraq, was once again unemployed. He couldn't control his temper again and it led to a bar fight. But nobody called Stagg "faggot." Gay, yes. Queer?

Maybe ... but not that.

Guys like Stagg, however — guys with nothing to lose, who know how to get things done — don't stay unemployed for long. Two days after the fight, a movie-star-looking man showed up at his door and made him an appealing offer.

A very wealthy individual who had "enemies" wanted Stagg to

act as bodyguard to his secretary — taking the young man away, out of town and out of danger. There was a considerable amount of money involved for the service and absolute secrecy was of the utmost importance. But when introduced to the kid, Stagg immediately knew two things: 1. Stirling McMahon was a spoiled brat. 2. There was never any dictation involved with this "secretary."

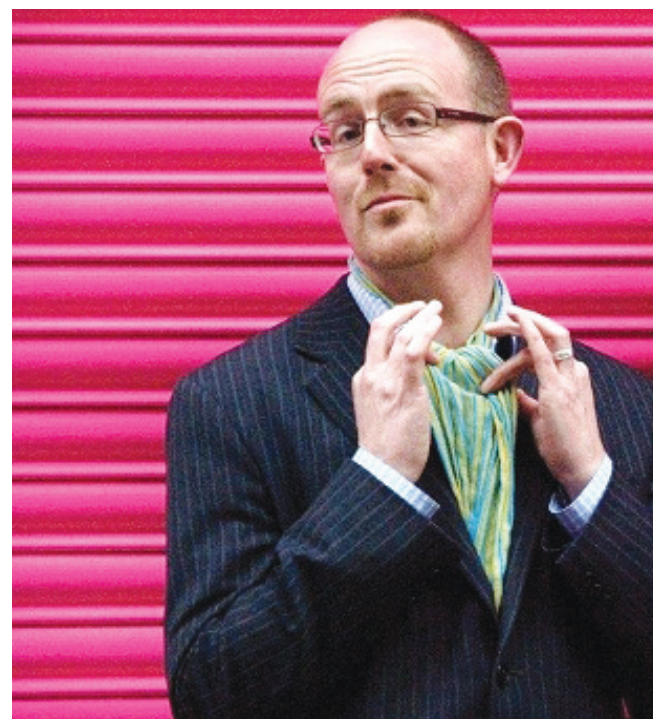
Still, a job was a job, and Stagg intended to do what he'd been hired to do. He never intended to sleep with McMahon ... he just couldn't resist. McMahon, who finally admitted that his name was really Jody Miller, was a delicious little thing with an equally delicious behind.

Stagg knew he was old enough to be Jody's dad. He knew that professionalism was key to getting paid and doing the job right. He knew that there was danger, that somebody wanted Miller dead, that his life was on the line and that he shouldn't take risks.

He also knew that he was falling in love with Miller.

On its own, *The Hardest Thing* is a first-class mystery-thriller. Dan Stagg is a hard-bitten character with a strong sense of duty and an even stronger sense of sarcasm that very much appealed to me. I could've read another 200 pages with Stagg in them.

But then author James Lear gives his readers excitement of a different sort: in between the mystery plot, you'll find lengthy passages of erotica that give Stagg another level of personality — and that give readers a little steam to read. What's nice is that the explicit sex here isn't gratuitous; it fits with the plot and with the



**STAGG PARTY** | James Lear delivers an unlikely combo of erotic potboiler and compelling character study in 'The Hardest Thing.'

character, which is a pleasant surprise in many ways.

This might make a nice change-of-pace for erotica fans and mystery lovers alike, so if you want a book that packs heat, grab this one. *The Hardest Thing* shouldn't be hard to find.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer

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■ **TORNADO**, From Page 20

Take, for instance, Williams' admitted ornery quality — surely inherited from Mama. His mother was an elementary school teacher until age 82, having instructed generations of students. And she wasn't shy about using corporal punishment. Williams thinks we've lost something in that.

"When I was in grade school you could still beat children — a thread in our national fabric that no longer glistens, and I'm all in favor of bringing it back," he says. "I've considered running for school board in Lockhart on a platform of corporal punishment of the parents: Just bring 'em in, get that lesbian gym teacher to swing that doweling rod and I swear to you, little Mimi will get that paper in on time — doubled-spaced and correct!"

With rich characters being a staple of West Texas life, Williams' quick wit must have served him well ... right? Not always.

"I had a teacher who never thought I was funny. I don't know why. One time she said to me, 'Where's that sense of humor gonna get you!?' Well, it got me to Broadway and she's livin' in Amarillo!"



### What's in a (car) name? Maybe a lot

One has to wonder what in hell the Ford Motor Company was thinking when they named their product "the **Probe**." If that's not the gayest car name of all time, it is hard to imagine what is.

Well, there are some others. Obviously Oscar Meyer's **Wienermobile** is not only audibly hysterical, but dresses for fantasy. While the **Pinto** may seem inoffensive to English speakers, that word means "little penis" in several Latin American countries. And what gay man is gonna admit to having a **Mini** (below)?

Which got us thinking: How gay are other car names, past and present (mostly past)?

I enlisted the help of my best (straight) friend to search his crazy brain for a few more. When we put our minds to it, a surprising number of contenders emerged.

**Too much ass.** In schoolyard fashion, we happened upon a lot that use the word (or sound) "ass" in one form or another: Chrysler **Aspen**, Ford **Aspire**, Chevy **Astro**, VW **Passat**, or Pontiac **Aztek** (do automakers really think through this?). While once the most popular car in America, the Oldsmobile **Cutlass** conjures ideas I'm sure few of its drivers ever considered. I wonder if you could do the nasty in a Dodge **Dynasty**.

**Uh-huh.** A newbie might discover his **Newport** by Chrysler or get/give his first **Hummer** (above) in the bed of a Lincoln **Blackwood**. Hopefully, that will keep him from getting blue balls. Wanna take your partner to heaven through a Subaru **Outback**? That might depend on the size of your **Jimmy**.

Anybody up for a **Lancer** — Dodge, Mitsubishi or otherwise? When you're feeling kinky, a long, vibrating Dodge Ramcharger might rock your rump. I would also like to rip the tight satin clothes off of a bull-fighting **Matador**, although I would stay away from anything else from American Motors — it's hard to get sexy with a Gremlin, Pacer or Hornet. A 1970 Dodge **Dart** would be entertaining enough if it didn't also come in a **Swinger** edition. Of course, if you are equal parts top and bottom, there's always declaring yourself **Versa** (by Nissan, that is).

**Queeny.** A real queen would revel in the 1950s-era Dodge **LaFemme**, a Lancer-based glam-mobile painted sapphire white and heather rose. While aimed at women, it would surely find favor with club queens given its rear storage compartment for a girl's compact, cigarette case, lighter and raincoat — don't forget your raincoat.



My all-time favorite could have inspired my favorite lady from my favorite city. The Lady Chablis may have blurred the boundaries between gay man, drag queen and full-on tranny in *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, but she was most famous for hiding her "T," or "Truth." One has to wonder exactly what Ford model her T would most enjoy. Though really, a drag queen should really only drive one car.

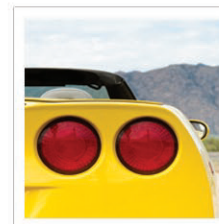
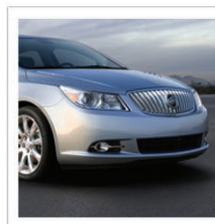
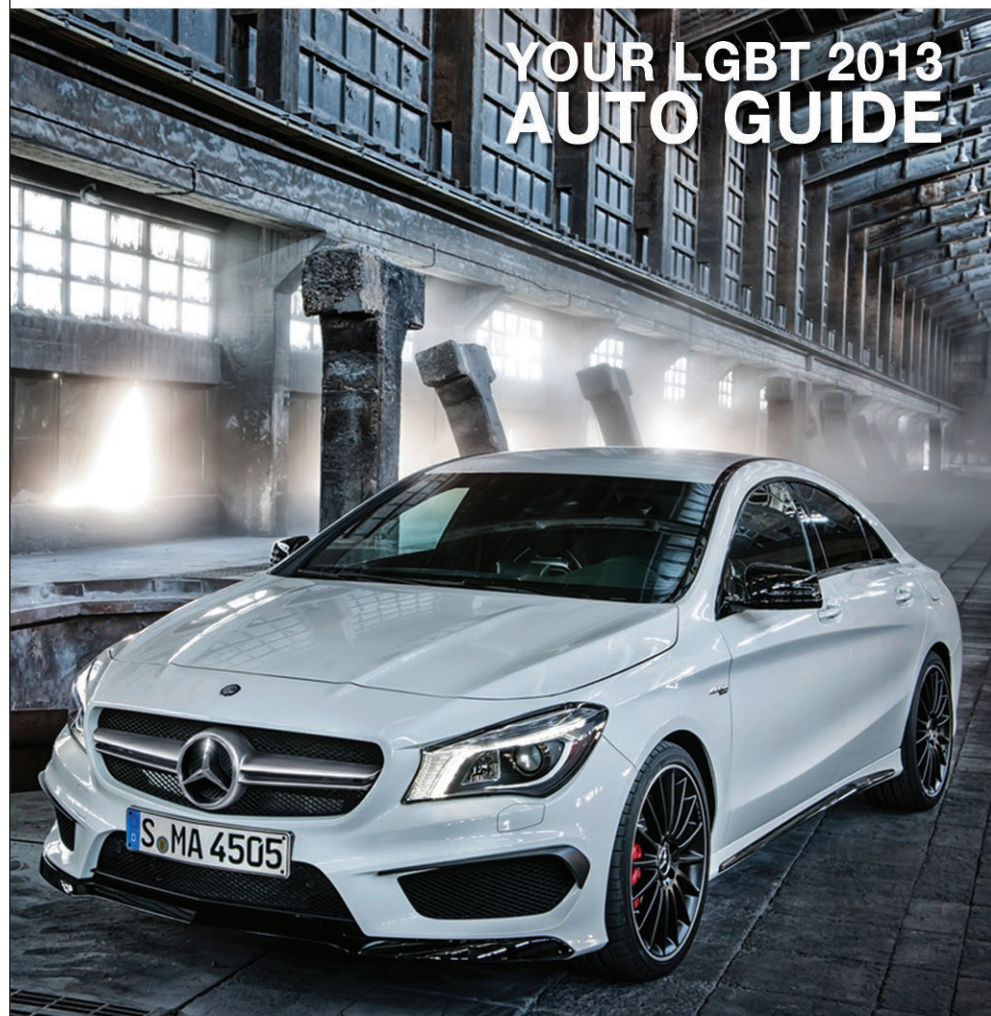
A **Trans Am**, of course.  
— Casey Williams



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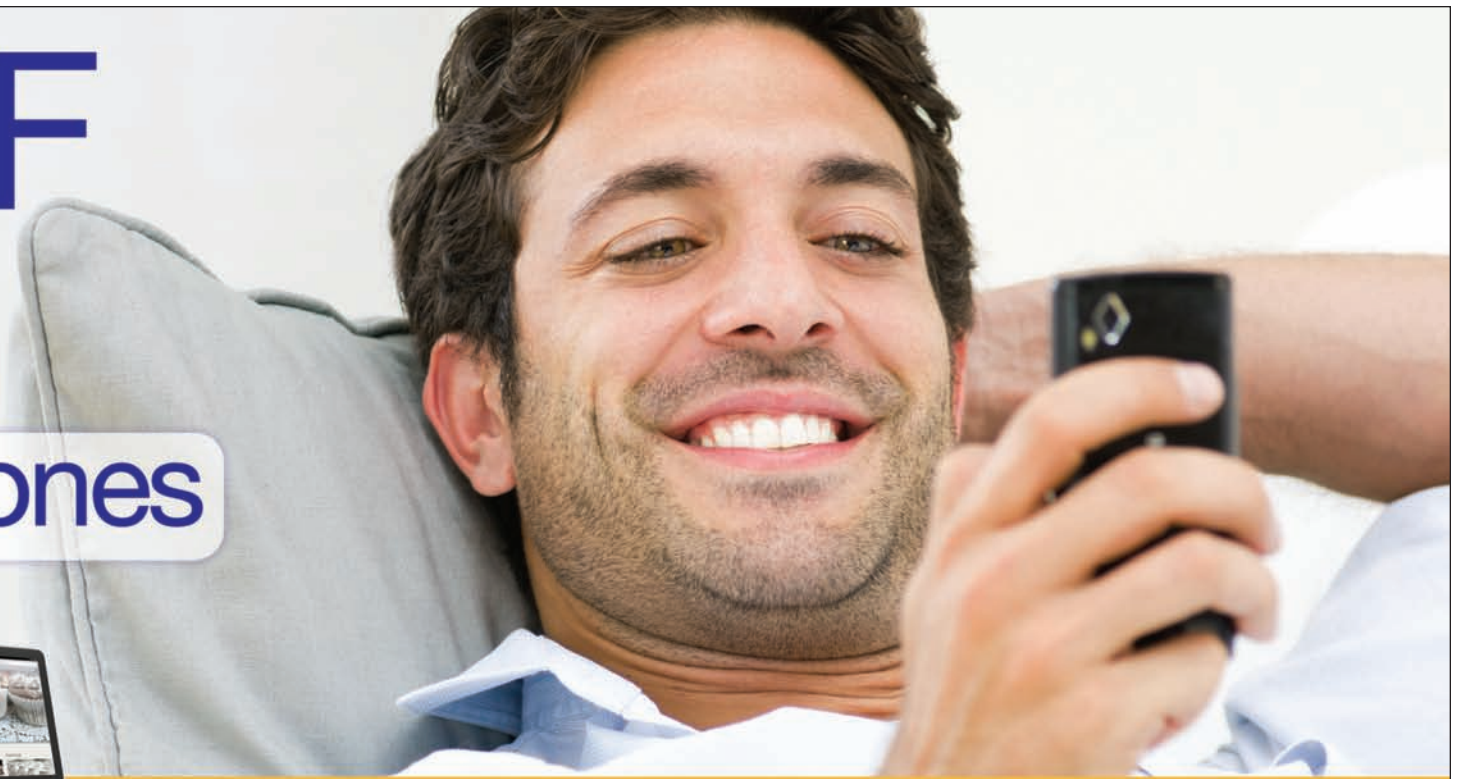
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Sunday 10.13

Don your best Jazz Age garb for AIN's Great Gatsby benefit, Some Like It Hot

The hit summer film *The Great Gatsby* captured the glamour and style of the Jazz Age. Well, Leonardo DiCaprio isn't the only one who can rock a pair of spats — and this weekend is your chance. AIDS Interfaith Network's Great Gatsby-themed party, *Some Like It Hot*, is a benefit for the HIV service organization and a chance for you to step out in style. But even if you don't have your costume ready yet, you can still enjoy the music of the great Hunter Sullivan and tasty bites and delicious sips ... and support a worthy organization.

**DEETS:** The home of Faye C. Briggs, 5909 Desco Drive. 4-7 p.m. \$100. AINGreatGatsby.com.

Saturday 10.12

Jay Maggio opens new show at Craighead Green Gallery

Gay Dallas artist Jay Maggio's work is instantly recognizable for its vivid treescapes and almost pointillistic texture. His colorful pecan trees swimming in a sea of abstract land has earned him his fourth show at Craighead Green Gallery. You can check out his newest works, and meet the artist, at the opening reception along Dragon Street on Saturday.

**DEETS:** Craighead Green Gallery, 1011 Dragon St. Oct. 12-Nov. 16. Opening night reception, 5-8 p.m. Free. CraigheadGreen.com.



Tuesday 10.15

Denise Lee debuts new cabaret act, CD with dinner-theater performance

If you missed seeing Denise Lee perform at *A Gathering* earlier this week, you don't have to wait long to see her sing again — and this time, it will be all her. Lee's new cabaret act, *Divas of American Music*, kicks off its tour on Tuesday with Lee and Kay Agnew teaming up for a dinner-theater performance. You can enjoy food, drink and music, all in support of Lee's new CD (*Divas of American Music, Vol. 1*), which will be on sale as well. Music, drink, food and the personality of the real Big Dee all in one.

**DEETS:** Bridge Bistro, 921 N. Riverfront Blvd. Seating starts at 7 p.m.; concert at 7:45 p.m. \$25-\$50. DeniseLeeOnStage.BrownPaperTickets.com.



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## calendar highlights

### ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

#### THEATER

**Assassins.** Just in time for the 50th anniversary of the Kennedy assassination, Theatre 3 mounts Stephen Sondheim's acclaimed musical about infamous killers, including Oswald. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Oct. 27. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**Detroit.** Two couples, new neighbors, begin a friendship that veers out of control in this dark comedy, presented by Kitchen Dog Theater. The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through Oct. 26. KitchenDogTheater.org.

**Hank Williams: Lost Highway.** A revue about the country-western singer. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Oct. 11–Nov. 13 (in previews through Oct. 12; opening night Oct. 14). WaterTowerTheatre.org.

**Happy Days.** Beckett's bizarre, hilarious two-character dark comedy about a preternaturally perky woman. Bath House Cultral Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Through Oct. 26. WinsSpanTheatre.org.

**The Lion King.** The magnificent Disney production, featuring music by Elton John, returns, courtesy Dallas Summer Musicals. *Reviewed this week.* Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through Oct. 20. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

**Profanity.** Trans playwright Sylvan Oswald's period drama gets its world premiere. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Through Oct. 12. Undermain.org.

**A Raisin in the Sun.** Dallas Theater Center presents the acclaimed classic by lesbian author Lorraine Hansberry about an African-American family striving for the American Dream. Wylie Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Oct. 27. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Clybourne Park.** This racy, unofficial sequel to *A Raisin*

*in the Sun* follows up with the white folks on the other side of the story; Tony winner for best play. Wylie Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Oct. 27. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**The Sunshine Boys.** Neil Simon's classic comedy. Greenville Center for the Arts, 5601 Sears St. *Final weekend.* ContemporaryTheatreOfDallas.com.

#### FINE ART

**Jim Hodges: Give More Than You Take.** A living retrospective of the gay artist's eclectic work. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Jan. 12. Special exhibition fee: \$16. DallasMuseumofArt.org.

**Ai Weiwei: Circle of Animals.** The controversial Chinese artist reimagines zodiac figures of the Chang dynasty. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Free. CrowCollection.org.

#### FILM

**Q Cinema.** The 15th annual gay film festival in Fort Worth continues. Rose Marine Theater, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. Through Sunday. QCinema.org.

**Dallas Video Festival.** The 26th annual celebration of video art opens at a new venue with several gay-interest screenings. Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, 100 S. Central Expressway, Richardson. Through Sunday. VideoFest.org.

### FRIDAY 10.11

#### COMMUNITY

**High Tech Happy Hour.** Monthly mixer. The Social House, 2708 Routh St. 5:30–7:30 p.m.



### It's good to be 'King'

As good as Disney's stage production of **The Lion King** is, every time I see it I think the same thing: Nothing that happens after the first 10 minutes can compare to the excitement and majesty of an amazing spectacle that is the opening number: A sunrise onstage, with African chanting morphing into the Elton John-Tim Rice classic "Circle of Life," as a parade of wild animals — leopards, giraffes, birds, even a seemingly full-sized elephant — march from the audience onto the stage in a shimmering, emotional punch. My companion was crying before the song had even ended, and there was still well more than two hours to go.

But even though nothing's ever quite as good as that opener — certainly not the songs written specifically for the stage by John and Rice, which are forgettable fillers that only serve to prolong the story into two acts — there's a tremendous amount to enjoy in this production. Yes, the new songs are extraneous, but the ones held over from the 1994 ani-

mated film ("Hakuna Matata," "Can You Feel the Love Tonight") are as enjoyable to see here as they were on the big screen.

That's because the director, Julie Taymor, paints on a canvas that goes from the corners of the stage to the feet of her performers and the space above the audience. It's a circus act of stagecraft, from the thrilling stampede to the abstract creation of Mufasa with bits of wood to the joyous puppetry and performances by Nick Cordileone (Timon), Andrew Gorell (Zazu) and especially Brown Lindiwe Mkhize (Rafiki). And is there something wrong about being sexually attracted to dancing hyenas? (I'm OK with it either way.)

The plot has never been its strong suit — a vague rehashing of *Hamlet*, with a meerkat and warhog as stand-ins for Rosencrantz and Guildenstern — but who cares? There are *giraffes* on the stage.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through Oct. 20. DallasSummerMusicals.org.



**State Fair of Texas.** The month-long event continues at Fair Park. Open daily through Oct. 20. BigTex.org.

**Screams.** The Halloween theme park introduces the Hotel of Horror for its annual frightfest. Screams, 2511 FM 66, Waxahachie. Open weekends through Oct. 27. \$27. ScreamsPark.com.

## SATURDAY 10.12

### PARTY

**One Night in Bangkok.** The annual circuit party features DJ Roland Belmares spinning in the main room and DJ Peter Morales in the pavilion. Benefits LifeWalk. 2525 Wycliff Ave. \$20-\$30.

### FINE ARTS

**Jay Maggio.** The artist's new exhibit opens with a reception. Artists Arturo Mallmann and Gary Schafter will also be exhibited. Craighead Green Gallery, 1011 Dragon St. Oct. 12-Nov. 16. Reception, 5-8 p.m. Free. CraigheadGreen.com.



**WARE WITHAL**  
British singer Jessie Ware performs at South Side Music Hall Thursday.

Reception and exhibit, 5-6:30 p.m.; performance 7-9 p.m. Free.

## SUNDAY 10.13

### WORSHIP

**Cathedral of Hope.** Gay-affirming church of the United Church of Christ congregation has two services. 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.

### BENEFIT

**The Great Gatsby: Some Like It Hot.** The annual party benefiting AIN. Home of Faye C. Briggs, 5909 Desco Drive. 4-7 p.m. \$100. AINGreatGatsby.com.

## TUESDAY 10.15

### CABARET

**Denise Lee: Divas of American Music.** Dinner and a show from Dallas' premier vocalist. Bridge Bistro, 921 N. Riverfront Blvd. 7 p.m. \$25-\$50. DeniseLeeOnStage. BrownPaperTickets.com.

## THURSDAY 10.17

### COMMUNITY

**Religion and Faith Symposium.** The Human Rights Campaign sponsors this event at Resource Center, which seeks to speak to gays of faith about topics, such as how to resolve being gay and religious. Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. 6:30-8 p.m. RCDallas.org.

### COMMUNITY

**Outrageous Oral.** The Dallas Way presents volume 9 in the series about Dallas' gay history. The Wills Library on the campus of the University of North Texas.

**Meet Me @ the Library.** A new social outlet for those who do not like the bar scene. Each third Thursday will feature a unique outing. Oak Lawn Branch Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. Free.

### CONCERTS

**Jessie Ware.** Popular British singer performs. South Side Music Hall, 1135 Lamar St. 8 p.m. Ticketmaster.com.

### THEATER

**Dante: Inferno.** Mark-Brian Sonna's fall Halloween show, a revival of his take on Inferno. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Oct. 17-Nov. 3. \$23-\$25. MBSProductions.net.

### this week's solution



browse

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

submit

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

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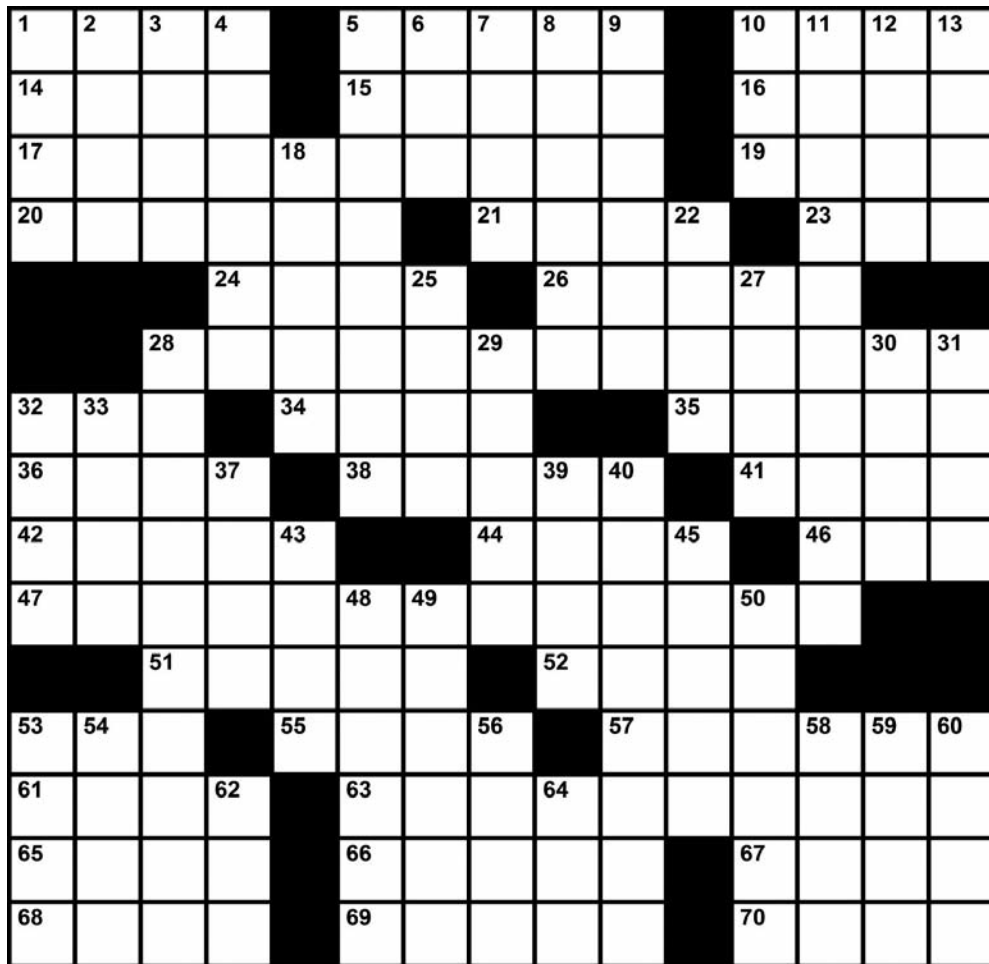
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# Don't Have a Cow

Solution on page 33

**Across**

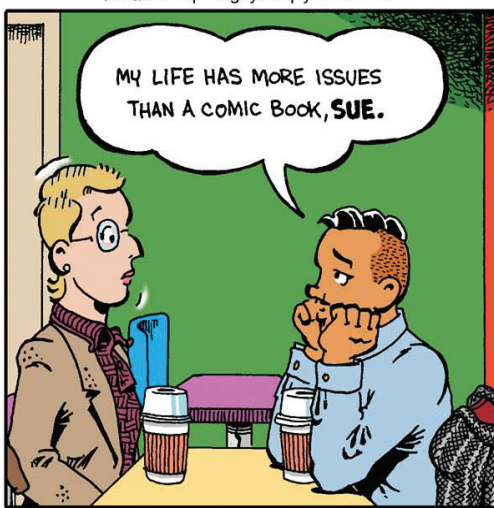
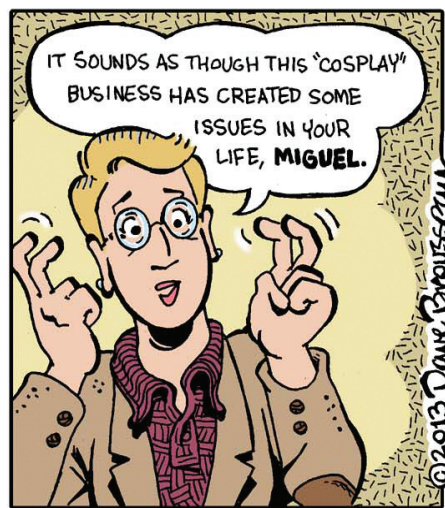
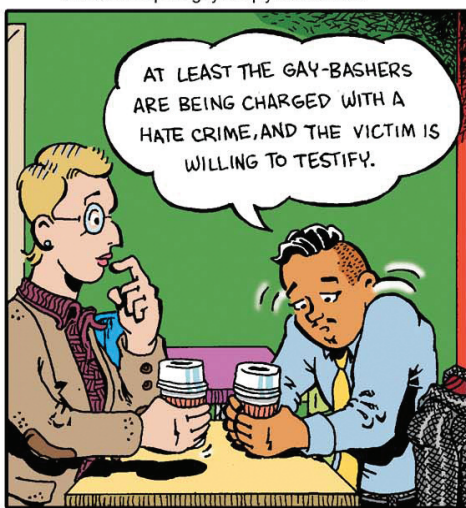
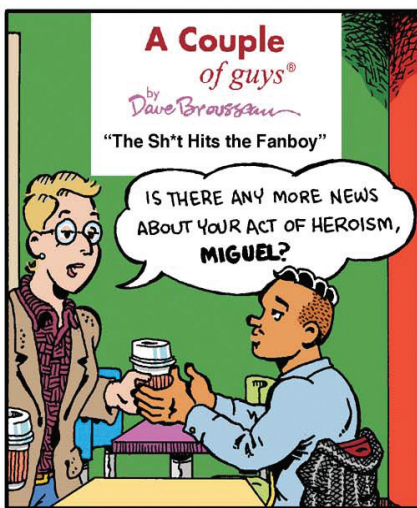
- 1 Caesar's admission of orgasm?
- 5 Big bangs
- 10 *Hamlet* quintet
- 14 Angers
- 15 Annoy during a blow job?
- 16 Peter Pan's foe
- 17 Start of a quip about why lovers who move in no longer have sex
- 19 It comes before date?
- 20 *Margaret Mead Made Me Gay* author Newton
- 21 He did Jackie's clothes
- 23 Holiday's "\_\_\_ Bless the Child"
- 24 Giant table
- 26 Male-on-male kissing target of Bugs
- 28 More of the quip
- 32 Dam agcy.
- 34 Something to build on
- 35 Triangular desert
- 36 Train track
- 38 Streisand's *Prince of Tides* costar
- 41 Poet Teasdale
- 42 Laura of *ER*
- 44 It follows Mardi Gras
- 46 South Beach souvenir

47 More of the quip

- 51 Bridge bid, briefly
- 52 "No \_\_\_, no foul"
- 53 *The Simpsons* storekeeper
- 55 Some of Sappho's vowels
- 57 Firenze's land
- 61 *South Park* composer Shaiman
- 63 End of the quip
- 65 Go, to the dogs
- 66 Lincoln Center's Walter \_\_\_ Theater
- 67 Brother of Jermaine
- 68 Bars for gay chefs
- 69 Cut leaves of grass, marginally
- 70 Obey the red light

**Down**

- 1 Tarzan's transport
- 2 Boy who shoots off arrows
- 3 Candace Gingrich's half-brother
- 4 Atlas strips
- 5 Hairy guy's hide?
- 6 Morsel for a mare
- 7 Guy that goes either way?
- 8 Composer Gustav
- 9 Remington \_\_\_
- 10 Palindromist's exclamation
- 11 Gather at the Cathedral of Hope
- 12 The Tin Man's best friend
- 13 TV listings
- 18 Drag spikes
- 22 FBI workers, slangily
- 25 Memo start
- 27 Some of Mary's lambs
- 28 Principal presentation for Stephen Pyles
- 29 Gent
- 30 Wang in fashion
- 31 Wolfson of Freedom to Marry
- 32 Chi-town's paper
- 33 Weathercock
- 37 Clinton aide Panetta
- 39 Stage crew worker, briefly
- 40 Put into the backside?
- 43 Opponent of Tinkerbell
- 45 Rich cake
- 48 Uncut
- 49 Extended credit
- 50 Contents of a good head
- 53 What guns shoot off
- 54 Dancer Taylor
- 56 Deer guy
- 58 Brest milk
- 59 Keen on
- 60 Opposite a bottom
- 62 Margaret of this puzzle's quip
- 64 It may be Sapphic





Guys' night out at Station 4.



Ben at BJ's NXS!

Danee Phann Productions presents **One Night in Bangkok** at **The Brick** all weekend long. On Oct. 12, DJ **Roland Belmares** is in the **Main Room** with an opening set by DJ **Mickey**. DJ **Peter Morales** spins in the **Pavilion** with an opening set by DJ **Ryan Tiffan**. OK, so maybe it should be called **Two Nights in Bangkok** because the party continues on Oct. 13 with DJ **Mundo** and featuring DJ **Tristan Jaxx**. The weekend benefits **LifeWalk Team Sugar Stix** and **Resource Center**. ... **National Leather Association** holds its monthly club night at **Dallas Eagle** on Oct. 12. **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** candidate shows feature **Selena Whorez** on Oct. 12 and **Louis Kenmar** on Oct. 13. Voting for **Emperor and Empress XXXIX** take place at **The Hidden Door** on Oct. 16 and continue next weekend. ... **Bad Habits** performs at **Alexandre's** on Oct. 11. **Shelia P** and **Infinity** appear on Oct. 12. ... **Texas-OU Weekend** at the **Round-Up Saloon** begins on Oct. 11 at the **Round-Up Pep Rally**. Wear your team colors, sing your school fight song and enjoy the bash before the clash. On Oct. 12, the bar opens an hour early to watch the game on the big screen. **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** presents its annual chili cook-off on Oct. 13 to finish out a festive Texas-OU weekend. ... Kickback on Oct. 11 with **Kickback** at **Sue Ellen's**. On Oct. 12, **Ciao Bella** performs. Then win free CDs at a **Brooke Graham** album release party on Oct. 13. ... The football game's on at **Eden Lounge** on Oct. 12 with specials offered all weekend. ... **Miss, Mr. and Ms. Red Dressed Pageant** takes place at **Garlow's** in Gun Barrel City on Oct. 12. ■

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



Jake and friends at TMC: The Mining Company.



Alissa and Joy at the Vixin Lounge at Sue Ellen's.



Rush and Brittany at Best Friends Club.



Drew and Albert at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Jonathan and Gary at the Tin Room.



Roman and Gustav at The Brick/Joe's.



Robert and Casey at the Round-Up Saloon.



Walkers at the annual LifeWalk fundraiser.



Dan and Randal at the Dallas Eagle.

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Where: The Home of Faye C. Briggs, 5909 Desco Dr., Dallas, TX 75225

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Claiming Our Faith As members of the LGBT Community  
HRC's Religion and Faith Program seeks to engage all faith traditions in a deeper dialogue on questions of fairness and equality for LGBT Americans and our friends. The focus will be a panel discussion, with audience Q&A, seeking to involve local faith communities in an open discussion to build a faith-based movement. The faiths represented in the panel members consist of Jewish, Muslim, Baptist, Mormon, and non-denominational.

Meeting Date  
Date: Thursday, October 17, 2013  
Place: Resource Center  
Time: 6:30 – 8 PM  
For more information, please contact:  
Marketing Committee  
[marketing@hrcdfw.org](mailto:marketing@hrcdfw.org)

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