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■ COMEDY, Page 20



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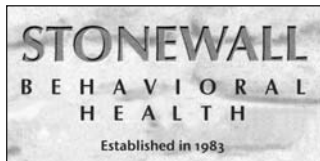
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FRIGHT NIGHT | Attendees at the Halloween Block Party on Cedar Springs Road pose for a picture on Oct. 26. To view more photos, visit DallasVoice.com/category/photos. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

Keller teen who has fought bullying suspended from school

Isaiah Smith hasn't handled bullying in school the way other teens do. He's petitioned his mayor and city council, started a gay-straight alliance and contacted media.

This week, he was suspended from school, so he didn't handle that the way most teens do, either. He called Dallas Voice as well as TV news stations.

Smith is attending Birdville High School his senior year. As a member of band and a retired teen court attorney and police explorer, he's never been suspended or in trouble before.

He said he's been bullied in school and told he can't be Christian and gay.

"The Bible is a beautiful thing," Smith said. "It's not a bullying tool."

So he began carrying the Bible to school with him, and this week, when he was taunted for a line in Leviticus, he tore that book out of his Bible.

"The assistant principal called me into the office," he said and told him, "You can bring it to school but can't rip it."

The assistant principal told him he couldn't create a disruption in class. He said the administrator asked him how Muslims would feel if he ripped up the Koran. The difference is Smith is a Christian tearing his own religion's book.

Smith was given a three-day suspension.

Last year, Smith petitioned the Keller City Council to add a nondiscrimination ordinance after collecting about 1,200 signatures of voters and 800 youth signatures.

Although the council didn't act on the petition, the mayor complimented Smith on his passion and allowed him to speak beyond the usually allotted three minutes.

Smith has political ambitions, created a Facebook page to promote human rights, and when he asked the Council on Foreign Relations a question, they answered on their website.

He should be graduating from school this year and plans to go to college — hopefully in someplace like Massachusetts.

— David Taffet

Food stamp cuts, holidays will put pressure on food pantry

FedEx came to the aid of the Resource Center Food Pantry this week with 65 bags of groceries collected at a company food drive.

Resource Center spokesman Rafael McDonnell said more canned goods are coming from the North Texas Food Bank now that the government is reopened.

But despite continued support from the community, Resource Center is bracing for upcoming cuts in food stamp programs while preparing for the holidays.

Thanksgiving is approaching and with it comes special needs.

Daniel Sanchez, who runs the hot meals program and the food pantry, said he needs 14 turkeys for holiday meals. He wants to make sure clients can take food home for the long weekend. He said there's plenty of room in the freezers to store the turkeys. He said he hoped a few groups, companies or individuals would each buy a couple of birds for the holiday meal.

In addition, he needs extra volunteers to prepare, set up, cook and serve on Nov. 25–27. Anyone interested should call him at 972-786-5685.

McDonnell suggested another way to support the pantry was for a group, company or individual to sponsor a shelf. They'd make sure the pantry was constantly stocked with a particular item by either purchasing it themselves or with a steady cash donation.

Sanchez suggested groups could sponsor a lunch for the meals program anytime. He said a chicken fried steak lunch for about 50 people would cost \$200, a taco bar for \$150 or a ham casserole for \$50.

McDonnell said he's bracing for two upcoming cuts to food funding from the federal government. The 2009 Recovery Act ends Friday, meaning cuts to the Food Stamp program. The average decrease in benefits is \$11 per person.

He pointed out that each cut puts further pressure on the food pantry. Most food pantry clients receive food stamps.

— David Taffet



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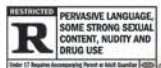


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Plano couple files lawsuit challenging marriage ban

Austin couple joins as co-plaintiffs in federal case Lambda Legal says could be the case to bring marriage equality to the Lone Star State

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

PLANO — Mark Phariss and Vic Holmes have been through a lot in the more than 16 years they've been together, from hiding their relationships under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" to commuting long-distance to see each other for 11 years.

The two first met in San Antonio at a mutual friend's birthday party.

"For me, it was love at first sight," Phariss said.

But Holmes, who was in the Air Force, was seeing someone at the time. The two became friends until Holmes was available.

"I immediately asked him out on a date," Phariss recalled, "and we've been together ever since."

The couple is one of two same-sex couples who are plaintiffs in a federal lawsuit filed this week that challenges Texas' 2005 constitutional amendment that prohibits same-sex couples from marrying. The lawsuit, one of many lawsuits in states across the country, claims the Texas constitution violates protections of the United States Constitution, such as the right to equal protection under the law.

"We love each other, and we think it's discriminatory that gays and lesbians can't marry and receive all the benefits and the burdens that go with being married," Phariss said.

'A solid case'

The couple started meeting with lawyers to file the suit about a month and a half ago.

Barry Chasnoff is the lawyer representing the couples pro bono on behalf of the San Antonio law firm Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. He said he agreed to take the case when someone in the firm brought it to his attention.

The firm has been a supporter of LGBT issues, having filed an amicus brief in *U.S. v. Windsor*, a case that led to the U.S. Supreme Court striking down a part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act in June. But Chasnoff said he wanted to be a bigger part of a civil rights case.

"I wanted an opportunity to do something on a civil rights issue that I view is important," he said.

Chasnoff said he plans to file a motion for preliminary injunction to prevent state officials from enforcing the marriage ban and hopes the case moves along quickly.

"I think we're correct on the legal issues," he said.

Gov. Rick Perry and Attorney General Greg Abbott are listed as defendants in the case.

Perry spokeswoman Lucy Nashed said "The



WAITING TO WED | Vic Holmes, left, and Mark Phariss have been together for more than 16 years, of which they spent 11 years commuting while Holmes was in the Air Force. (Photo courtesy of Mark Phariss)

governor agrees with the majority of Texans who voted to define marriage in the Texas Constitution as between one man and one woman."

Abbott spokeswoman Lauren Bean said the attorney general will defend "the Texas Constitution in this case just as we do in all cases where state laws are challenged in court.

"The U.S. Supreme Court was clear that states have independent authority to establish their marriage laws," Bean wrote in an email. "Texans adopted a constitutional amendment defining marriage. We will defend that amendment."

Ken Upton, senior staff attorney at Lambda Legal's Dallas office, said he was aware the case would be filed.

"It's one of many," he said about the pending lawsuits across the country.

This is the second federal lawsuit filed in Texas this year. A Galveston man filed a case challenging the state marriage ban in July but later withdrew the suit after seeking legal advice. Upton said that while the man was trying to help bring equality to Texas, he didn't have any plans to marry, so the San Antonio case has a better chance of moving forward because of the plaintiffs and their strong stories.

"It's a solid case," Upton said. "If they're lucky enough to get in front of a court that will listen to them, their arguments are all correct. ...It's going to be a tough road to get as far as they need to get, but they're certainly good attorneys, so, who knows, this could be the case."

Changing Texas

Austin couple Cleopatra DeLeon and Nicole Dimetman are the other couple listed in the suit.

Dimetman used to work for the law firm representing them, and the two met in San Antonio in 2001. They started a family last year and now have a 1-year-old son. While the decision to join the suit wasn't an easy one, she said it was the right decision.

"It wasn't an easy decision to get involved with the lawsuit," she said. "But we have to do everything we can to make sure we're treated like everybody else in Texas."

DeLeon said she's left and returned to Texas a number of times, and while the couple did marry in Massachusetts in 2009, they want to marry and have it recognized in their home state.

"I love Texas," DeLeon said. "Texas is my home, and I feel like I have to change it."

Dallas couple Mark "Major" Jiminez and Beau Chandler, who were arrested last year for trespassing after refusing to leave the Dallas County clerk's office without a marriage license, have recently considered filing their own lawsuit.

"The idea to file is still under consideration," Jiminez said this week.

But his focus in the upcoming months is beating County Clerk John Warren in the Democratic Primary.

"I would like to be in that position when marriage equality comes to Texas, so I could issue the licenses," he said.

If he doesn't win in the primary, he said the idea of the lawsuit would likely come back up.

Meanwhile on a state level, the Texas Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments in two same-sex divorce cases on Nov. 5.

One case involves an Austin couple who were granted a divorce in 2010, but Attorney General Greg Abbott appealed the decision. The other couple is from Dallas and is fighting to have their divorce granted after Abbott intervened to block it that same year.

Lambda's Upton has filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the cases. He said he's not sure what the court will do, but hopes they ask what purpose it serves to not let married same-sex couples get a divorce in the state. Instead, he said attention will likely focus on the state's marriage amendment.

"I just don't know what the court's going to do," Upton said. "I suspect that there's going to be a lot of pressure for the court to be deferential to the constitutional amendment and the fact that the public voted for it."

Fighting for everyone

With the fate of same-sex marriage and divorce at the state and federal level to be determined, Phariss said he and Holmes are focused on how their story can help others.

And while they'll likely have years to wait before they can legally wed in Texas, they've come a

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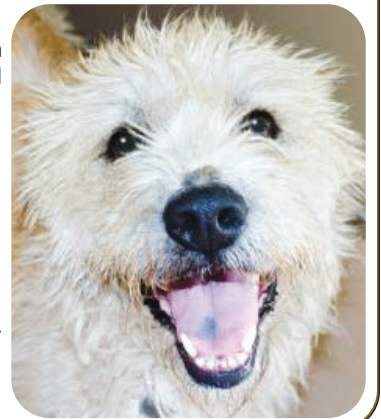
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Lone Star Ride distributed \$85,000 in proceeds from the 100-mile, one-day bike ride through the Metroplex held in September. Pictured at the Wrap Party and check presentation, from left, are AIDS Outreach Executive Director Shannon Hilgart, Jackie Jones, AIDS Services of Dallas President and CEO Don Maison, Michael Matthews and Resource Center CEO Cece Cox. (Photo courtesy David Satterfield)

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Jiminez to run for Dallas County Clerk

Marriage advocate twice arrested for trespassing in County Records Building seeks election to office that handles marriage licenses

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Mark "Major" Jiminez recently announced he's running for Dallas County Clerk, an office with which he's had previous dealings.

When Jiminez and his partner, Beau Chandler, applied for a marriage license in 2012, they were arrested when they refused to leave the County Records Building without their certificate.

"I told them I'd be back," Jiminez said.

The couple tried to get a marriage license three times in 2012 and once earlier this year. They were denied the license each time. Through that process, Chandler was arrested once and Jiminez twice. Both were sentenced to community service, which they successfully completed. Chandler lost his job as a result of the national publicity surrounding the arrest, but he and Jiminez became symbols of the fight for marriage equality in red states.

Although the couple were prevented from getting married, Jiminez vowed to continue the fight. Now, he wants to fight from within the system, and he'll challenge incumbent John Warren for the nomination in the Democratic primary.

Jiminez explained that, if elected, he doesn't plan to issue himself a marriage license. Instead, he believes that just working in an office that can't issue him a license would bring awareness to marriage inequality in Texas.

Jiminez said he began thinking about running for the office after his last attempt to get a marriage license in July. He asked for a letter from the county clerk explaining why the office would not issue a license to a same-sex couple. He said he was promised the letter, and, after being told to pick it up, he was kept waiting five hours. He was then again threatened with arrest at the end of the day when the building closed. He waited downstairs, and, finally, the letter was handed to him.

He said that on its website, the county clerk's office defines its mission as giving exceptional customer service.

"What we got wasn't anything like good customer service," he said. "Actually giving good customer service would be my goal as county clerk."

Jiminez said he understood Warren's office could not legally issue the license.

"But he should be out there fighting for our rights," he said.

Jiminez said Warren instead told him he believed marriage was between a man and a woman.

Jiminez began collecting signatures this week to get his name on the ballot and named a campaign treasurer.



Mark Jiminez

He said marriage equality is not the only thing that attracted him to running for the office. He has a master's degree in education, and the county clerk works with the truancy court to enforce disposition of court orders.

After teaching in Broward County, Fla., Jiminez returned to Dallas in 2005. In Florida, he worked with the school district on a program to study literacy rates and find where education was failing. He said bullying was a major cause of truancy and dropouts.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas President Omar Narvaez advised Jiminez to research the job and learn the policies and procedures of the department.

"Know the state constitution and how it applies to the position," he said. "Know what you can and cannot do."

He said his advice is the same to anyone running for office for the first time.

"Sit down and speak to leaders," he said. "Get to know key players, clubs and organizations. If he wins the primary, the party will fall behind him."

Resource Center spokesman Rafael McDonnell said when more people are involved in the political process, it gives voters more choices.

"People who have been front-line activists like Bill Nelson have been candidates," he said. Nelson was an LGBT activist and the first openly gay man to run for Dallas City Council.

McDonnell also said candidates are more successful when they are more than one-issue candidates. He cited Fort Worth City Councilman Joel Burns who is popular in the LGBT community but also is a transportation expert and Harvey Milk who won as an openly gay candidate but focused on community quality of life and union issues.

He said he thought Jiminez might be competitive because this was a low-profile, down-ballot race.

Narvaez expects high voter turnout for the Democratic primary in March.

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Zach Wahls selected for Black Tie honor



SCOUT'S HONOR | Zach Wahls, 22, helped change the Boy Scouts of America policy to include gay Scouts by convincing companies to pull funding. (Photo courtesy of Wahls)

The youngest Elizabeth Birch Award winner has a list of credentials that would make any activist proud

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer

taffet@dallasvoice.com

At age 19, Zach Wahls spoke in front of the Iowa Legislature where he said, "I was raised by two women." A video of his speech has been viewed 18 million times.

He spoke at the 2012 Democratic convention. He's been on *Ellen* and *The Daily Show* and wrote a book titled *My Two Moms* that has a quote from Jon Stewart on the cover.

He's an Eagle Scout who started Scouts for Equality, an organization that was instrumental in ending the ban on gay Scouts — but not before he caused the Boy Scouts to lose almost \$1 million in funding.

His list of accomplishments by age 22 so impressed the Black Tie Dinner board that Wahls will be in Dallas this weekend to receive the Elizabeth Birch Equality Award. The award is given to an individual, organization or company that has made a significant contribution of national scope to the LGBT community. Wahls is the youngest person to receive it.

Board member Miller Crowe was impressed by the way Wahls defended his mothers in front of the Legislature.

"He's been straight forward about who his family is," Crowe said.

That wasn't always the case, though.

"Being different can be dangerous," Wahls said.

In elementary school, there were times when he hid the fact he was raised by two moms, and he was bullied. When he was in Cub Scouts, one of his moms served as an interim Cubmaster.

"There were probably a couple of parents who raised an eyebrow or two," he said.

Today he doesn't call himself an LGBT ally. He's part of a growing segment the community without a letter to add to the mix — children of gays and lesbians, and he's become an advocate for the community by talking about his family.

"I don't talk about having gay parents," he said. "I talk about having my parents."

Just as parents can champion for their gay and lesbian children by talking about loving them, children of gay parents are becoming advocates by talking about their stable, loving families.

Several experiences Wahls had as a child shaped his views on the treatment of gays and lesbians. He wrote in his book that when one of his moms was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, his other mom was treated at the hospital as just the person who drove her in.

In the book, Wahls also devotes space to reviewing each of the Boy Scouts of America's 12 values and how his moms instilled those values in him.

After he earned the rank of Eagle Scout, Wahls realized excluding gay Scouts and LGBT adult leaders from the organization contradicted the organization's values.

Mark Anthony Dingbaum, communications manager at Change.org, worked with Wahls on the campaign to change the Boy Scout policy.

"When Zach Wahls founded Scouts for Equality and pledged to end discrimination in BSA, there were many who doubted that the decade-old policy of banning gay members, a policy defended by the United States Supreme Court, could be crushed at the hands of this young Eagle Scout," Dingbaum said.

He said critics claimed online petitions couldn't translate to true movement-building or create real, systemic change.

"But 13 months, 124 petitions and more than 1.8 million Change.org petition signatures later, Zach proved the naysayers wrong, successfully mobilizing Scouts, Scout leaders and Scouting families across the country to officially end the

■ ZACH, Page 15



DAVID TAFFET

The staff of Dallas Voice, past and present, congratulate our colleague, David Taffet, the recipient of the 2013 Kuchling Humanitarian Award, presented by Black Tie Dinner in recognition of his diligent dedication in giving a voice to the LGBT community.



Please join us in honoring David at the Black Tie Dinner "One Voice" November 2, 2013

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Kuchling recipient is 'irreplaceable' part of Dallas LGBT community



LOUD MOUTH | David Taffet has worked on the local LGBT radio show Lambda Weekly on KNON-FM 89.3 for more than two decades and is now a co-host. (Photo courtesy of David Taffet)

Longtime activist David Taffet has spent decades fighting for equality, overseeing change in various organizations throughout the years

STEVE RAMOS | Senior Editor
 ramos@dallasvoice.com

He's here. He's there. He's everywhere. At any time, David Taffet has so many balls in the air, they appear to be a blur, and you might wonder where he gets the energy to keep them in orbit. Fortunately for the LGBT community, he seems to have an inexhaustible supply of it.

As the 2013 recipient of the Kuchling Humanitarian Award, Taffet will take an evening off from his many occupations to attend the Black Tie Dinner on Saturday as a community acknowledges his decades of work that can be summed up succinctly: to treat each person with dignity.

"David's service in the community has been broad and diverse and is always done for the right reason," Resource Center CEO Cece Cox said. "He doesn't do anything for the limelight. He just has a heart for service."

Cox is a past recipient of the Kuchling Award, and she nominated Taffet this year.

"I can't take all the credit for him getting it," she said. "I talked to other people about the nomination, and I just pushed the send button."

So involved has Taffet been in the myriad organizations and movements that have kept LGBT causes unyielding in the face of opposition, his partner, Brian Cross, said he learns more about Taffet each time they attend an event.

"Every time he [Taffet] introduces me to someone, that person starts telling me about things David has done," Cross said. "He's done so much and has been involved in so many things in the community that the stories don't seem to stop. We were in Austin for his birthday, and we went to see a play. It was about a cause that David was in-

involved in — the hate crimes bill."

Cross is referring to the James Byrd Hate Crimes Act, which Taffet worked on for about eight years with other members of the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby, now known as Equality Texas.

Cross isn't the only who doesn't know everything about the multi-faceted Taffet.

"That's because he's humble," Cox said. "He doesn't talk about himself."

It's not that Taffet is taciturn or unwilling to talk about who he is and what he does. He was simply raised in a home where accomplishments were applauded but still given the significance of, say, breathing. In Taffet's home, populated with achievers, success wasn't the result of pressure to do well but of the belief that you should just want to do well.

Taffet's home environment wasn't polluted with racism, either. As a Jew growing up in Yonkers, N.Y., a New York City suburb, Taffet surprisingly didn't have a clue about discrimination.

"I remember when Martin Luther King gave his famous speech," Taffet said. "I was 10 years old, and I had to ask my mother what it was all about. She didn't completely explain it, but she said people discriminate against others because of the way they look."

Still, Taffet, uninitiated in the tactics some people use to subjugate others, didn't understand the ugliness of the civil rights opposition.

"My mother said some people treat others badly because of the way they look, so I was concerned about a boy in my class," Taffet said. "He was blonde and pale, unlike the rest of us who were much darker because we were Jewish, Italian or black. He was the only one in our class with blonde hair. I never understood discrimination, and even when it was explained to me, it always seemed stupid. I didn't realize we were the ones who were more likely to face discrimination, not my blonde classmate."

The energy some people waste treading on other's rights was, instead, used in the Taffet family to push forward as each generation added a layer

of accomplishments upon the preceding one.

Taffet's maternal grandmother graduated from Hunter College in 1909 and was an early suffragist. His mother was involved in pro-choice work long before Roe v. Wade, and his 90-year-old grandfather planted seeds of activism in Taffet's soul.

"There was my grandfather in his European accent saying, 'You should cut school and go to that anti-war rally,'" Taffet said. "And I did. It was incredible. Bryant Park was packed with tens of thousands of people. Dustin Hoffman and Joan Baez were there. The energy was phenomenal."

Taffet's mother pursued a career not considered suitable for a woman in those days and became a bacteriologist.

"Jonas Salk was my mother's lab assistant," Taffet said, "so she was instrumental in the development of the polio vaccine. She worked on it for 10 years."

Taffet's father also put his mark on the research and development of technology that would change the world. During World War II, he worked on perfecting radar, which at that time was a newly emerging science.

Taffet's home was a petri dish for creating an activist. With that DNA and those genes, set during the turbulent Vietnam and civil rights years, the makings of a man emerged whose work would not only ease the suffering for who knows how many people but would change laws and practices that affect those people.

For years, Taffet volunteered with organizations that fought the AIDS epidemic, and he remembers a poignant turning point.

"One evening, Dennis Vercher, Tammye Nash and I were working on putting together an issue of Dallas Voice," he said. "It must have been around 1998. Dennis asked me where were the obits. I didn't have any. So we asked Tammye, and she said she didn't have any. None of us had any obits. When that realization sunk in, that after years of printing obits, we had reached a point where there were no deaths to report, the three of us just broke down and cried."

It's that compassion and years of work that landed Taffet an award that recognizes "individuals who have made extraordinary gifts of their time and talents on behalf of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community." Name an organization or activity, and Taffet has had some involvement in it. He co-hosts an LGBT radio show on KNON-FM along with his position at Dallas Voice. He's active in his synagogue, Beth El Binah, and he once co-hosted a television show.

His radio show co-host, Lerone Landis, said there's not a LGBT person who is not affected by some work Taffet has done.

"He's irreplaceable," Landis said. "If we didn't have David, the LGBT community wouldn't be where it is. We'd be behind."

So, on Saturday, as Taffet receives the Kuchling Award in honor of his years of work, the applause won't come just from the 3,000 Black Tie attendees but from a chorus of those who have passed but were once recipients of his kindness.

"David embodies the meaning of this award," Cox said. "We are a more compassionate community because of him. We are a community because of him." ■

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■ spirituality

Equality and social justice continue to be cornerstones of North Dallas church's work

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Midway Hills Christian Church has always been a small congregation with an outsized reputation. That's mostly because of all the social justice work that's come out of the church.

Earlier this year, when a church in Kentucky proposed a resolution for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to become "a people of grace and welcome to all," Midway Hills was the first in the country to become a co-signatory. The only regret might have been not being its author. At the denomination's national convention this summer, Midway Hills fought to pass what opponents called "the gay resolution."

The church on Midway Road just north of Royal Lane has been welcoming the LGBT community for decades. P-FLAG Dallas started there in the early '90s. More than 10 years before that, the church was the first home of the Turtle Creek Chorale.

And a year ago, when the Rev. Arthur Stewart became the church's new pastor, he said he might have gotten a bigger response had he told the congregation he was left-handed than when he told them he was gay.

"It was a non-reaction," he said.

The Rev. Steve Sprinkle, one of Stewart's professors at Brite Divinity School, called him "a breath of fresh air."

He said Stewart, 29, is exactly what the church needed to revitalize the congregation. Stewart describes his congregation as a little quirky but passionate on social issues.

"We're a wonderful anomaly," Stewart said. "We're the liberal uncle no one talks about."

In the 1950s, the church helped desegregate Dallas schools and hosted Martin Luther King. It was one of the oldest integrated congregations in the city.

"In the '70s we had more women in leadership than was thought to be appropriate by mainline standards," he said.

He laughed at the idea of any devoted members not being considered appropriate leaders.

At some point in its history, gays and lesbians were given full membership, considered a radical step by most churches decades ago.

"We were open and affirming before it was a thing," he said.

By the time it was a thing, Midway Hills was actually late in officially getting the designation, but leaders decided it was important to display it on the website for potential members looking for a church.

Roger Wedell, who serves on the Midway Hills board of elders and maintains standing ordination in the denomination, attended the denomination's



MORE THAN OPEN | The Rev. Arthur Stewart said he would've gotten a bigger reaction had he told his congregation he was left-handed than when he told them he was gay. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

meeting that considered the "gay resolution."

"There's a subtlety to the resolution," Wedell said.

He called it "a position of the assembly" and said that in a question-and-answer addendum, it takes the position, "This resolution is not an 'Open & Affirming' declaration."

Those opposed to it threatened a schism in the church. Stewart said leaders understood how divisive it was within the church and scheduled prayers before and after the vote.

Wedell said the position adopted is not binding on any congregation but shows where the denomination is moving. He said each region is independently incorporated and individual churches have autonomy, so no proclamation could be forced on any congregation.

But Stewart said the resolution has significance.

"We decided to switch the status quo from closed and denying to gracefully welcoming," Stewart said.

He said it changes the default to a more hospitable position and summed it up simply.

"All means all," he said.

Stewart said when the final vote was taken, it passed by three-fourths. And while it may not be binding on any congregation, he said it will cause conversations among even the most conservative in the denomination.

Since joining Midway Hills, Stewart has kept up the church's tradition of remaining somewhere ahead of the mainstream.

Earlier this year, he participated in the science textbook hearings in Austin. As a pastor who believes in science, he said he's comfortable balancing his religious beliefs with scientific fact. Those views were not particularly welcome by the committee.

Instead of using the Bible to deny science, he prefers to use biblical teachings to focus on caring for those in need.

"I think it would be really neat if we could make sure every person in our zip code has a coat," he said.

And he'd like to see everyone with enough food — so he's starting a monthly food drive.

Currently, members volunteer regularly at Austin Street Shelter and partner with North Dallas Shared Ministries, which runs one of the city's largest food pantries.

Twice a month, about 60 quilters meet at the church for Project Linus to make quilts for every child in a Dallas hospital. Stewart joked it was the church's sweat shop but called the work they do amazing.

When he was interviewed for his position, he asked about their commitment to feeding the poor.

"Are you OK if we need to sell the building so we can feed the poor?" he asked.

When the board didn't object, he knew he had found his dream job.

And the young pastor is attracting younger members. When the church opened a nursery, there were five infants for the first time in a long time. And the church is planning its first baptism in several years.

He said the monthly jazz service is attracting new members. That service, held the fourth Sunday of the month at 5 p.m., features the Dallas Jazz Quartet, made up of five members.

Stewart appreciates how special his congregation is. While other LGBT pastors have to hide their sexual orientation, about 40 members of Midway Hills — more straight than gay — marched with him in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

He quoted a colleague whose philosophy he wishes more pastors would embrace.

"If you want to look at a member of the LGBT community and tell him Jesus Christ doesn't love you, you may need to re-evaluate what you're doing," he said. ■

■ ZACH, From Page 10

Boy Scouts of America's ban on gay youth," Dingbaum said.

After those signatures were delivered to BSA headquarters in Irving, and the organization continued to resist change, Wahls hit them in their pocketbook. He began contacting corporate donors, pointing out to a number of them that their donations to the Boy Scouts violated their own policies. His first success was Intel, which had given the Boy Scouts \$700,000 the previous year.

Intel agreed Boy Scout policy violated its corporate giving policy. UPS quickly followed and cut off its \$167,000 donation to the group.

"The UPS Foundation seeks to support organizations that are in alignment with our focus areas, guidelines, and non-discrimination policy," the company wrote in its press release about its decision to end Boy Scout funding. That policy includes sexual orientation and gender identity.

Wahls said he targeted both Intel and UPS because of their 100-percent rating with the Human Rights Campaign. Two other large companies, Merck and Caterpillar, also pulled their donations from the Scouts as a result of Wahls' queries.

As the money started evaporating, the Boy Scouts proposed a local-option plan. Local councils could decide whether to extend membership to gay Scouts and allow LGBT Scout leaders. Instead of doing that, however, at an annual meeting in Grapevine in May, more than 60 percent of the Scouts' 1,400-member National Council voted to allow gay youth membership in the Scouts until age 18, but not to allow LGBT leaders.

"That was a hard day because of my moms," Wahls said, "but we had a nationwide policy that would affect kids the same everywhere."

He calls the new policy illogical. "One day a Scout can be honored as an Eagle Scout, and the next day when he turns 18, he's thrown out," he said.

Since the policy change in May, Wahls said his Scouts for Equality has been undergoing restructuring.

"We were campaign-heavy, and we're becoming a watchdog," he said.

He said his volunteer base remains strong and enthusiastic.

For the past two years, Wahls has been involved full time in advocacy work for equality. This fall he returned to the University of Iowa to finish his engineering degree and hopes to graduate in the spring. He said he expects changes at the Boy Scouts to be more gradual than the one earlier this year.

"We're seeing the loudest advocates against us are joining a spinoff organization," he said.

He thinks that as those opponents leave the Scouts, change will come more easily to the organization.

That's just fine for him. There is plenty of discrimination out there for him to tackle.

Wahls will attend Black Tie Dinner on Nov. 2 with his two moms. ■

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■ texasnews



WEDDED BLISS | Austin couple Cleopatra DeLeon, left, and Nicole Dimetman married in Massachusetts in 2009, but joined the lawsuit so Texas will recognize it. (Photo courtesy of DeLeon)

■ **LAWSUIT**, From Page 6

long way since their love story began 16 years ago.

During their relationship, Holmes, an Air Force major, was stationed in San Diego, Mississippi, Arkansas and eventually Wichita Falls. Phariss later moved to North Texas for his job, but the years of commuting long-distance continued, with them going several weeks without seeing each other at times due to travel arrangements.

But with "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" still being enforced in the military, the two had to keep their relationship secret. Phariss said Holmes was often asked why a man was calling him all the time and what was in San Antonio and Dallas when he'd visit Phariss. So the two decided to list Phariss under one of their female friend's names as Holmes' fiancé, so her name and picture would show up when he called Holmes.

"It was just a way of hiding who we were," Phariss said.

When Holmes retired from the Air Force in 2010, they were finally able to live together and be honest about their relationship. They've thought about marrying for years, but the timing hasn't been right because they want to wed in Texas.

"We talked about it off and on over the years, but it's just not been an option," Phariss said.

The couple flew to San Antonio earlier this year on Oct. 3 to try to obtain a marriage license from the Bexar County clerk's office, but was denied. At the time, they'd decided to file a lawsuit and wanted their lawyers to be present as witnesses.

"We just wanted to see about getting a license," Phariss said. "We didn't anticipate they would give it to us, but if they would, we wanted to plan a wedding."

When marriage equality comes to Texas, Phariss said they would likely marry in Dallas, having often talked about making it official at the Dallas Aquarium. But he said the lawsuit isn't just for their fairy tale to have a happy ending.

"I just want it to be remembered it's more than about the four plaintiffs," Phariss said about the suit. "It's about enabling all gays and lesbians in Texas and this area to be able to marry." ■

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Putin: No discrimination against gays at Olympics

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOCHI, Russia — President Vladimir Putin promised Monday that gay athletes and guests at the Winter Olympics in Sochi will feel at ease, seeking to assuage fears fueled by a recent Russian law banning gay “propaganda.”

Speaking at a meeting with heads of Russian winter sports federations, which also was attended by visiting IOC President Thomas Bach, Putin said Sochi would be fully tolerant.

“On my own and on your behalf, I have assured Mr. President (Bach) that we will do our best, and our athletes and fans will do their best too, so that both participants and guests feel themselves comfortable at Sochi Olympics regardless of their ethnicity, race or sexual orientation,” Putin said. “I would like to underline that.”

Preparations for the Sochi Olympics have been overshadowed by international criticism of a recently enacted Russian law outlawing “propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations among minors.”

The IOC has said it received assurances from the Russian government that it will respect the Olympic Charter, which prohibits discrimination of any kind at the games. Gay rights groups have accused the IOC of not doing enough to pressure Russia on the issue.

Human Rights Watch on Monday urged the IOC to call on Russia to repeal the law.

“The Sochi Olympics risk being remembered as the anti-gay games, unless the IOC is willing to stand up and defend the principles of its own Olympic Charter,” Jane Buchanan, associate director for Europe and Central Asia at Human Rights Watch, said in a statement.

The advocacy group also wants Bach to pressure Russia to end alleged abuses linked to Russia’s preparations for the games, including illegal detentions and deportations of migrant workers involved in Olympic construction, harassment of journalists critical of the government’s policies in Sochi and evictions of some Sochi homeowners and their families without proper compensation.

Bach, who also had a one-on-one meeting with Putin on Monday, voiced confidence that Russia will deliver a successful games.

Making his first trip to Sochi since being elected head of the IOC last month, Bach told Putin he was deeply impressed with the amount of work Russia has done to prepare for the Feb. 7–23 games. Bach said he expects the games will be held on a “magnificent level.”

Bach asked if there would be enough snow for the games. The city of Sochi is a balmy, palm-lined Black Sea resort, while the snow events will be



Vladimir Putin

held in the nearby Krasnaya Polyana Mountains.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Kozak, who is in charge of preparations for the Olympics, said organizers have stored 24.7 million cubic feet of snow as a contingency in case of lack of snowfall.

“And more will come we hope,” Putin said.

Putin and Bach opened a new railway station in Sochi that will serve as an important transit hub during the Olympics, linking the coastal zone with the mountain venues.

Russia is spending more than \$50 billion on the Olympics, Putin’s pet project. He said Monday the Olympic construction is largely complete, with only some details remaining to be completed.

Meanwhile, Russian gay activists say the new president of the International Olympic Committee refused to meet with them while visiting the 2014 Winter Games city of Sochi.

Many activists are worried the gay propaganda law may apply to gay athletes and visitors.

LGBT Network said in a statement Wednesday that Thomas Bach turned down their invitation to sit with activists, offering to meet at an unspecified date in Lausanne, Switzerland, instead. Activists say they have been asking for a meeting for more than two weeks.

IOC spokesman Mark Adams said in a statement that they can meet in the coming days at IOC headquarters in Lausanne and “we look forward to welcoming them.” ■

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viewpoints

Wicked 'Game'

Protesting a movie like 'Ender's Game' just because of the author's politics doesn't make much sense

Today, the film *Ender's Game* opens on 3,350 screens across North America. It's a sci-fi extravaganza with two Oscar winners and more than half-a-dozen more nominations among its principal cast and director, Gavin Hood. You'd normally expect to see me write about it a few pages further in Dallas Voice than I am this week.

But I'm not reviewing it. I don't even care that much about it. And I encourage everyone else to do the same. But subtly.

The film is based on a novel — well-received when it was published in 1985 — by Orson Scott Card, whose anti-gay rhetoric, dating back to at least 1990, has been exhaustively documented. He's even been on the board of directors for the National Organization for Marriage. Gay rights activists opposed Card often — just this year, they were in a furor about Card being hired to write a new Superman comic book. DC Comics responded by hiring someone else to do it.

But films are different. The time to protest a comic book was before it was written, and the time to protest a film is before photography starts.

But most activists waited until the film was being promoted at San Diego's Comic-Con this summer to call for a boycott with full-throated frenzy. That's when the website SkipEndersGame.com was launched, and the studios, Lionsgate and Summit Entertainment, kept Card away from the convention.

The problem is, all this did was get people talking about *Ender's Game* three months before the ad campaign ramped up and well after it was slated for release. "Any publicity is good publicity" isn't just a cliché; it may well be a tenet of marketing.

Boycotts tend to be polarizing anyway. When gays boycotted Chick-fil-A, right wingers (including Sarah Palin and Glenn Beck) went out of their way to patronize Chick-fil-A in counter-protest. To us, they looked like the 2013 equivalents of racists standing outside Little Rock schoolhouses in 1957. But they actually ginned up more business for the company.

Actively railing against *Ender's Game* — especially before anyone has really seen it (I skipped the press screening) — makes people look closed-minded and rash. How can you hate something you haven't even seen? That's a text-



The best reason not to patronize a movie like 'Ender's Game' is that, despite all the Oscar-power onscreen and behind it, the film simply doesn't look very interesting. (Photo courtesy Summit Entertainment)

book definition of prejudice — something gays have fought for ages. And frankly, the film just doesn't look that good to me. Why not let it collapse on the weight of its own (ir)relevance?

There are recent precedents where letting the chips fall does wonders. WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange openly attacked actor Benedict Cumberbatch, who plays Assange in *The Fifth Estate*, to denounce that film. That ended up being an esoteric protest at best, one reported more on Sunday morning punditfests than on frantic local newscasts. But it was unnecessary. *The Fifth Estate* had the worst wide-release opening weekend of 2013 and was both a commercial and a critical flop. The movie simply didn't touch a chord with audiences or reviewers; protests were superfluous.

And what are we protesting, anyway? Even SkipEndersGame.com says, "[we] can't retroactively affect the pay of the film's cast and crew," and admits, "*Ender's Game* is not an anti-gay story and does not reflect Card's hateful beliefs." Then what's the point? Wagner was an anti-Semite; Martin Sheen and Jack Nicholson — vocal liberals both — have stated categorically their opposition to abortion; Walt Disney was a red-baiting union-basher. Should progressives also avoid *The Lion King* and *Parsifal* and *The West Wing* to show them how we feel?

Boycotts, especially those involving free-speech issues, always give me the willies anyway. I haven't bought a drop of gas from Exxon in 25 years, based initially on their handling of the Valdez disaster, but that hasn't stopped them from becoming the wealthiest corporation in the history of the universe. I do it for myself, not for anyone else. Personally, I went to see

David Cronenberg's *Crash* precisely because Ted Turner said it was garbage and should be banned. Thing is, Turner was right: *Crash* was terrible. I regret spending my money to see it ... money I probably never would have spent if there wasn't such a hubbub around it.

Boycotting *Ender's Game* seems like it will make precious little difference in Card's politics. Hectoring others to avoid it only draws attention. So how 'bout this: Don't go see it. Or do, but maybe go mid-week, after the reviews have come out, and when its opening weekend tallies will be a thing of the past. But a film, unlike, say, the conduct of a politician, can't be changed by yelling at it. Orson Scott Card simply isn't worth your breath.

Arnold Wayne Jones is Life+Style editor at Dallas Voice. He can be contacted at jones@dallasvoice.com.

speaK **out** poll

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Are you boycotting *Ender's Game*?

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Which state do you think will be next to have marriage equality?

- New Mexico: 41 percent
 - Hawaii: 40 percent
 - Illinois: 15 percent
 - Other: 4 percent
- 111 votes cast**



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Four of Sicks

The Kinsey Sicks, 'America's Favorite Dragapella Beauty Shop Quartet,' wants to show Dallas a good time — and vice versa

JEFTINGLEY | Contributing Writer
lifestyle@dallasvoice.com

Long before the kids from *Glee* were busting out to “Don’t Stop Believin’” in four-part harmony for the pop charts, there was a group of gay friends who attended a 1993 Bette Midler concert dressed as The Andrews Sisters. They were subsequently asked if they all sang, and realizing they each had a knack for it, broke into song one day. Thus The Kinsey Sicks, nicknamed “America’s Favorite Dragapella Beauty Shop Quartet,” was born.

Among the hotshot ladies who comprise the group (and who make for even hotter guys) you’ll find Winnie (Irwin Keller), Rachel (Ben Schatz), Trixie (Jeff Manabat) and Trampolina (Spencer Brown). So why the Sicks (six) when there are four of them? It’s not because they are bad at math — well, not entirely.

“[It] comes from Alfred Kinsey’s scale, from zero to six, where zero means exclusively heterosexual and six means exclusively homosexual. And since math is hard, and there are only four of us in the group, we thought it was easier to identify as Sick,” explains Trampolina.

For the past 20 years, the San Francisco-based quartet has toured the world with shows in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe, Australia, as well as off-Broadway and at an extended run in Las Vegas. They delight audiences with spoofy send ups like “Rent a Homo,” “Everything’s Coming Up Noses,” “We Arm The World,” and “BP Is Creepy.” The songs parody on pop culture, but also shine the light on real-life issues. The group attributes this savvy score to “chief lyricist” Rachel, a Harvard Law School graduate who started the first national AIDS legal program.

While they’ve been to North Texas before, this time the Sicks are bringing a whole new show for their Nov. 8 performance at the Majestic Theater. Set in a jungle, “America’s Next Top Bachelor Housewife Celebrity Hoarder Makeover Star Gone Wild!” blends together their unique mix of camp and political wit while also highlighting their own brush with reality TV show fame: performing on Season 3 of *America’s*



Got Talent.

“It was performance that brought standing ovations from the audience and gushing praise from both Sharon Osbourne and Piers Morgan — the only thing they agreed on that year,” says Trampolina. “And the new show has wicked parodies, objectionable originals and some brilliant new songs about the ethics of stardom.”

Although from the liberal coast, The Sicks were quick to point out all the things they like to do while in Texas.

“Dallas has many fine museums worth visiting, and a walk through the arboretum makes for a lovely afternoon,” says Trixie. “But you’ll never find me at Love’s Travel Stop on Highway 20 between midnight and 4 a.m. Nope. That’s not me. Never heard of the place.”

And they have some love as well for local charities. Their per-

formance (“America’s Next Top...!” as Trixie calls it), will benefit DFW Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and Legacy Counseling Center.

“One of the lovely sisters, Sister Bertha Sinn, had the bad taste and questionable judgment to contact us [about it],” says Trampolina. “We’re so excited to take our show to the country of Texas.”

And if they had it all to do over again, how do the foursome think they would have met?

“We [would have] attended a Miley Cyrus concert dressed as Sarah Palin, Michele Bachmann, Elizabeth Hasselbeck and Ann Coulter.” Trixie speculates. “Of course we would have publicly condemned her and her music, but on the car ride home we’d fondly recalled her outrageous stage antics while singing her songs in glorious four-part harmony.”

Now that’s like the beginnings of a whole new show. ■

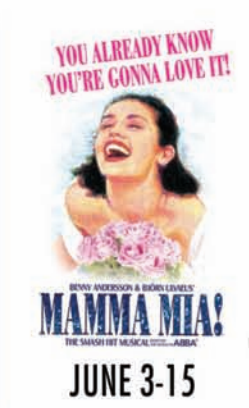
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MUSICAL SCALES | The current cast of The Kinsey Sicks includes co-founder Ben Schatz (Rachel), Spencer Brown (Trampolina), Jeff Manabat (Trixie) co-founder Irwin Keller (Winnie).



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Polyphonic

RICH LOPEZ | Contributing Writer
getrichindallas@gmail.com

Halloween may be over, but the horror isn't totally gone. Grandiose local "vocal group The Polyphonic Spree bring their trippy and uplifting touch to of the camp classic *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, performing songs at their Halloween Hootenanny. But for band member Bach Wilder, the Spree's openly LGBT member, the show is another chapter in what already appears to be one hell of a dream job.

"We'll be out there in fishnets, and [founder] Tim DeLaughter will perform as Dr. Frank-N-Furter," Wilder says. "There are a lot of people in the band who play different characters, so that'll be a lot of fun. And it's a great way to spotlight the talent of the different individuals."

Wilder holds down the piano parts for the show as he does in the band and will contribute to backing vocals and harmonies. He calls it a "supporting role," but in the Spree that's a curious term. As part of a 20-member collective, the Spree is less of a band or even a symphony and more of a living organism that almost seems to serve a bigger musical purpose.

Wilder wants to be sure that people don't misunderstand that — particularly his queer community. Identifying as pansexual, Wilder points out that despite the white robes and feel-good music, the Spree isn't some proselytizing sect of musicians. Quite the opposite.

"When you identify as queer, what that means is a lot of people want to judge you in a negative way, but what we do is find joy in a community and embrace terms like that as a badge of pride," Wilder says. "That underlying positivity is ingrained in this music is undeniable, and if you let yourself feel what we're giving you, let yourself feel that joy, makes you want to give it back."

Proof of that comes from a particular show while on tour in Europe recently. With a crowd getting too excited, Wilder says DeLaughter had to stop the show to calm people down.

"He told the audience, 'We're gonna take care of each other,' and the energy just changed. Instead of the mosh it was becoming, 4,000 people were in their seats jumping in unison! It reminded everybody that we are a community," he says.

A relative newbie to the Spree — he joined in March — Wilder admits to being on a thrill ride

IT'S JUST A JUMP TO THE LEFT | ... and then a step to the ri-i-right for Bach Wilder, the newest member

LIFE+STYLE concerts



'Horror'

Dallas' symphonic vocal group takes on the sassy, cross-dressing camp of 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show'

from the get-go. He has toured in Europe, Australia and Asia and across the country in support of their newest CD, *Yes, It's True*. And with his degree in bass, performing as the keyboardist provides an empowering kick for the multi-instrumentalist. His short tenure has provided a series of firsts — touring on an actual bus, having his own bunk, performing for a 10,000-plus crowd, played Bonnaroo and visiting different parts of the world. But he's also realized something about himself: That it's OK to be open about who he is.

"This is the first time I've talked to the press about this. I had to think about doing this interview before talking about it, but it's a step," he admits. "I feel like I've come to that place and made peace with any negative influences and have forgiven those people. Now I just want to repay that with love. I'm grateful to have that pansexual perspective. There are so many degrees of gender and sexual identity out there, but no one should ever be ashamed."

Where some confuse bisexuality with bisexuality, Wilder explains as a pan, his attraction isn't split among demographics.

"I can understand shortcuts to narrow down to just men or women or whatever. I mean, we're on this earth for a limited time, but I like to think that I'm open to 100 percent men, 100 percent women, 100 percent trans, 100 percent androgynous. I'm just open to love," he says.

Wilder brims with enthusiasm for the upcoming performance. "Hearing what we do with those songs, I feel that we're gonna rock it a little harder," he says. "Our band is a wonderful

bridge between symphonic and rock, and this will be an amazing and special night. This isn't something we're going to do forever."

The Rocky Horror songs will be followed by a set of Spree fa-

vorites, then culminates with the theater's usual midnight screening of the film.

"The energy in that room when you fill it with people and the Polyphonic Spree onstage will be unlike anything else," he promises. "With the sheer magnitude of what's going on, we break down that fourth wall between the audience and the band so it's an amazing thing to see it live."

And Wilder seems to have gotten how to add a bit of — wait for it — anticipation. ■

POLYPHONIC SPREE

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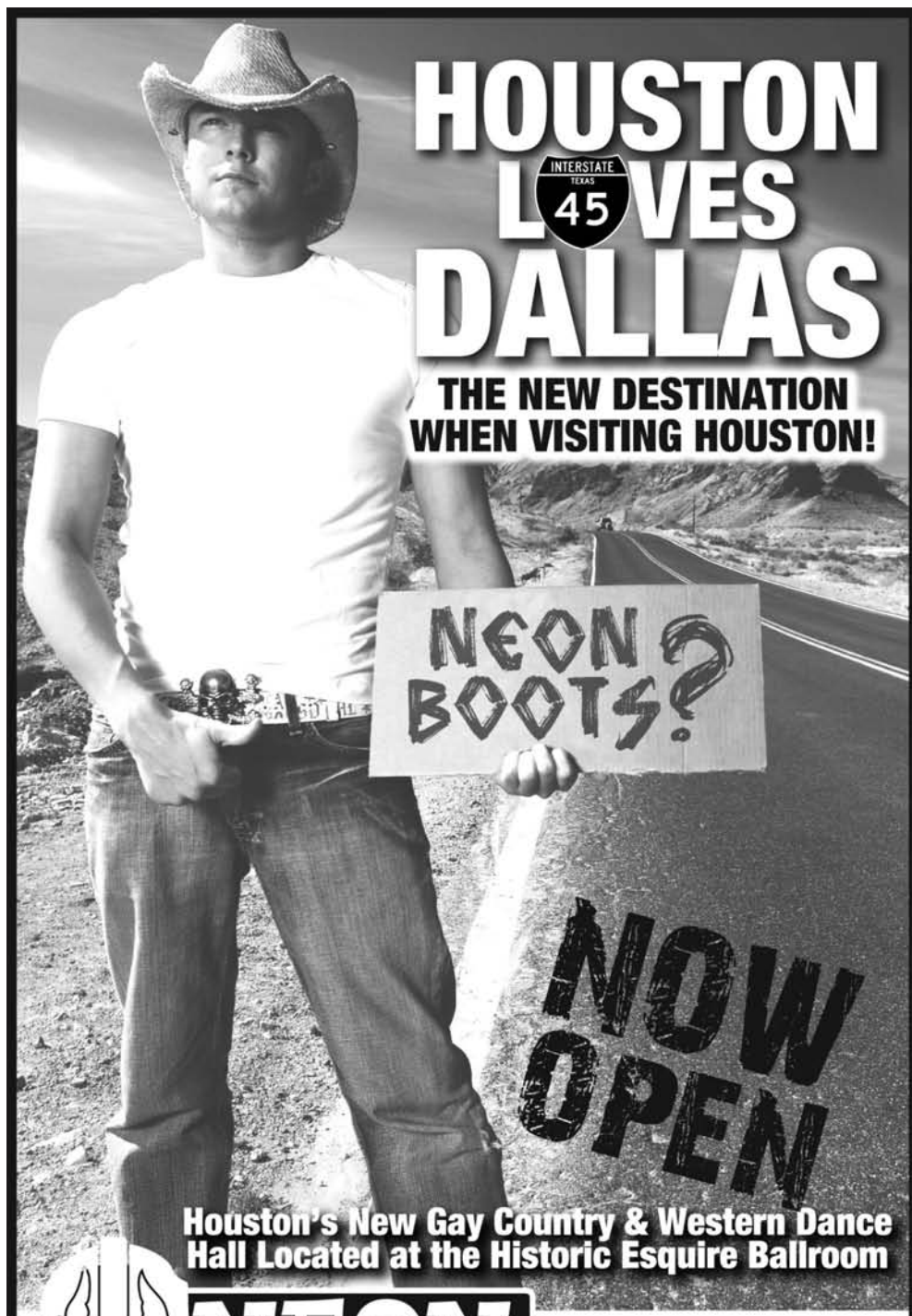
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L+S cover story

Divorce, American style

Coming out, romantic split just a new beginning for celebrity pair Fran Drescher and Peter Marc Jacobsen

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

The TV Land sitcom *Happily Divorced* revolves around a couple (Fran and Peter) who divorce when Peter realizes he's gay. That's also the real-life story of Fran Drescher and Peter Marc Jacobsen. And it's not a coincidence.

Drescher, an actress immediately identifiable by her nasally Noo Yawk accent, was a huge TV star with *The Nanny*, which she created with Jacobsen. *The Nanny* was a hit with gays, in part because of its gay-friendly jokes.

"We had one scene where Miss Fine went to the supermarket with the little one. And she says, 'If you see a handsome man with a sweater knotted around his neck shopping for pesto, save yourself the pain,'" Drescher recalls.

It's easy to laugh at the line now; at the time, not so much.

"Unlike on [*Happily Divorced*], Peter did not want a divorce — I wanted it," she says. "It was only after that he was free to explore his authentic self. Prior to that he was very much in denial. For me, I felt suffocated in an unhappy marriage."

"I was devastated," Jacobsen concurs. "[After we split], we didn't talk for a year. It wasn't until she was diagnosed with cancer that the anger went immediately away. That's when you realize the fragility in life."

Still, turning those hard experiences into the grist of sitcom humor worked.

"We love to be able to use our lives and find the comedy in it that people relate to," Drescher says. "We used our great love and affection for each other to reinvent the much happier relationship we have today. It's kind of therapeutic for us, too, to be able to get it out in a funny way."

Becoming active in the gay community was somewhat new to both of them.

"It was really, really scary," says Jacobsen. "I moved to New York and started to put my life back together from scratch — everything from buying furniture to planning a party to sleeping with men ... though maybe not in that order."

Drescher, for her part, became an activist for gay rights, choosing marriage equality as a cause



THE HAPPY NO-LONGER-A-COUPLE | Drescher and Jacobsen will receive this year's Media Award.

in an ACLU campaign.

"The ACLU was hoping I would identify my celebrity with the right to choose, I said, 'this is important within my community because I have a lot of gay friends. And my husband is gay. So I wanted to bring focus to that,'" she says. (Just recently, Drescher was asked by the ACLU to host an event furthering marriage equality.)

"The amazing accomplishments toward equality that the gay community has managed to [forge] in just a few years is really a testament to their tenacity," she says. "It shows the side of right and good and fair and how ultimately the American story prevails. It's a work in progress, but at the end of the day we live in a country where this kind of a thing can happen. It's a very exciting time in the historic arc of the gay community in this country."

Jacobsen agrees with all that — "now that marriage equality is beginning to happen, people are really able to live their lives" he says — but he's also got other things on his mind.

"Fran started dating a lovely man recently, and I'm so happy for her. But now I wanna meet someone, too!"

There'll be 3,000 gay men at the Sheraton Saturday, I mention to Jacobsen — as good a time as any to start looking. ■

SHOW VS. MOHS SHOWS

Among those who will be entertaining us this weekend at Dallas' Black Tie Dinner will be two entertainment icons with very different backgrounds: R&B legend Patti LaBelle and Oscar-winning screenwriter Dustin Lance Black. But each in his or her way has had a significant impact on the gay community.

So for this special edition of Show vs. Show, we decided to figure out what they will bring to the table during their appearances: LaBelle as the featured entertainment, and Black at the featured speaker.

— Rich Lopez



Patti LaBelle



Dustin Lance Black

Black Tie guest speaker/performer

Gay rights activism

- Served on boards and with organizations including National Minority AIDS Council, African-American and Hispanic Leadership Conference on HIV/AIDS, and many other campaigns

- Advocates for LGBT equality as a founding member of the American Foundation for Equal Rights, active with marriage equality and The Trevor Project.

How bright does this star shine?

- Rolling Stone named LaBelle in its 100 Greatest Singers list (at No. 95).

- The Advocate named DLB it its 40 Under 40 list of influential gays (at No. 1).

Career arc

- "Lady Marmalade" by her band LaBelle released in 1974.

- DLB was born in 1974.

Awards cred

- Won 1992 Grammy for best female R&B vocal performance for *Burnin'*.

- Won 2008 Oscar for best original screenplay for *Milk*.

Stage presence

- Appeared on Broadway with *Your Arms Too Short to Box with God* and *Fela!*

- Wrote the celebrity-filled play 8, about the trial to overturn California's Proposition 8.

What about their closets?

- As a true diva, Patti has a fabulous closet.

- Wrote about closeted FBI director in 2011 film *J. Edgar*.

Deets

- Featured entertainment at Black Tie Dinner on Saturday.

- Featured speaker at the Black Tie Dinner on Saturday.

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

Where is the best place in Dallas to get a 9-inch wiener? Some would say the ilume pool on the Sunday following a gay porn convention. But those who don't have a perverted mindset need only head southeast along Cedar Springs and hang a right. About a half-mile down Oak Lawn, you'll find Samson's Gourmet Hot Dogs. "9 inches of fun in a bun" Samson's proudly proclaims on its T-shirts, fully aware of the double entendre (and, I assume, fully aware of their location within the gayborhood).

But a dog at Samson's isn't all about the meat; it's not even about the inches. (If you're not a size queen, it offers Teenie-Weenies, bite-size mini-dogs for your pleasure.) Like all good places that claim the word "gourmet", Samson's is as much about the details — the experience — as it is about the final product.

The first step after you sidle up to the counter is choosing a bun: pretzel, lobster roll (basically a bánh mì-style mini-baguette) or a gluten-free. Next comes the dog (each are \$4; toppings are about \$1 each). There are at least four options available each day: a bratwurst, an all-beef dog, a traditional beef-pork blend and a vegan version; a fifth, a German brat soaking in Lakewood stout, is also on the menu now. (The franks are cased at Kuby's to a recipe by Samson himself — chef-owner Troy Gardner, whose dreads hint at his nickname — but the bread is made in-house daily.)

Upon these fundamentals the meal is composed as it would be at a frozen yogurt stand or sandwich shop. Bun-to-frankfurter ratio is smart: The bread merely cradles the center of the wiener, serving mostly as a handle or platform on which the fixin's can perform their function. And what a perform-

TOP DOG | The proprietary franks, housemade pretzel dough buns and inventive toppings from chef-owner Troy Gardner give Samson's its strength. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

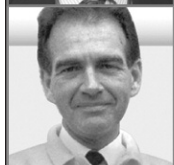
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ances it is.

The chipotle Texas chili (without beans) is spiced and rich, but the interesting and unexpected complexity of the chicken chili salsa was the first topping to win me over; a third option, a vegan chili, is also delicious. There's a spicy hummus, curried mushrooms, the creamiest mashed potatoes I've ever tried, plus the usual suspects: 'kraut, cheese, mustard. It's all toasted before they bring it out to you.

A meal at Samson's typically arrives in a cardboard boat with wax-paper lining. Do not be alarmed: This is still good food, based on the salivatory production scale. The pretzel bun is hearty but not overwhelming, and the toppings ooze over the wiener, which sticks out end-to-end like a giant sleeping in a child's bed. It is filling and tasty and since made to your specifications, you only have yourself to blame if you don't like it — all of the components are solid.

We went ahead and tried the truffle-parmesan fries (\$4.50). White truffle oil is an overused faux-foodie accent that usually dominates more delicate flavors (and let's face it: *All* flavors are more delicate than its imposing profile), but we're talking potatoes here. A little foo-foo is OK. The balance worked well enough. But the chili cheese fries (\$5) *really* get it right: the taters serve only as a chili delivery device, with sour cream, guac, quinoa-lentil salsa and whatever else you damn well want. Indulgence is *de rigueur*.

But you know you're in foodie heaven when a 9-inch wiener is *not* the best thing you put in your mouth. The banana foster bread pudding at Samson's looks like a sad pile of fried green tomatoes when you glance over the counter, but when it's readied for presentation, it blossoms like a star-gazer lily.

Made of leftover day-old buns, it's a house-made concoction that includes bourbon (imparting an apple-like aroma and texture — ask for extra; it's the secret weapon of the kitchen), vanilla, brown sugar, caramelized bananas and cinnamon. My dining companion and I were both instantly gobsmacked by the first mouthful.

It was, without exaggeration, the best bread pudding either of us had ever had ... and quite possibly the best-realized dessert we've eaten anywhere. Cordon Bleu pastry grads could learn a thing or two from this dessert.

And many sandwich, taco and 'dog stands could learn something as well. From the retro-artisan fountain drinks (Mexicane cola! Vanilla crème soda!) to the friendly atmosphere to the infectious enthusiasm (it's barely a month old, so of course they're energetic), Samson's is the kind of place you're delighted to discover, and even more delighted to return to. It elevates the idea of fast-casual dining to a higher plane. ■

OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

Samson's Gourmet Hot Dogs, 2615 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 103A. Open daily for lunch and dinner (late-night weekends). SamsonsHotDogs.com.



A great wiener, no doubt, but it's the finish to the frank and the indescribably good bread pudding that elevates it.

- Food: ★★★★★
- Atmosphere: ★★★★★
- Service: ★★★★★
- Price: Inexpensive

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Animal cruelty goes beyond disciplining a family cat or dog. The criminal offense can lead to hefty fines and/or years of imprisonment. Named for a puppy called Loco whose eyes were intentionally gouged out, "Loco's Law" went into effect September 1, 2001, and made animal cruelty a felony punishable by a \$10,000 fine and up to two years in jail. Today, animal cruelty convictions can be classified as either a felony or misdemeanor. Texas law recognizes a number of abuses against animals as cruel, including killing, seriously injuring or poisoning an animal.

The DA's Office believes there is a clear link between those who abuse people and animals. The DA's Animal Cruelty Unit, a first for Dallas County and North Texas, is dedicated to protecting animals from neglect and mistreatment. By being a voice for the voiceless, the unit ensures justice and

safety for all Dallas County citizens, including those with four legs and bushy tails. The unit's first victory led to a 36-year-old man being convicted of animal cruelty for throwing his girlfriend's kitten from a second-story window last year. The man was apparently arguing with his girlfriend before he grabbed her cat named Kisses by the tail, swung her over his head, and then threw her out the window. "The case really showed how human cases can overlap with animal cruelty," Assistant District Attorney over the unit David Alex said. "If you ignore this type of abuse, you're allowing stuff like this to potentially happen to humans."

If you are worried about an animal being abused in your area, submit your concerns online to Dallas Animal Services department. Learn more about the DA's Animal Cruelty unit here.



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Friday 10.25

'Carmen' swaps out Don Jose for rest of run

No, you're not seeing double. Yes, we made *Carmen* a Best Bet last week, too, but it's here again because — aside from the fact the production is simply stellar — it is in some ways a whole new show. Two Don Joses were cast for the production, and on Saturday, sexy Portuguese tenor Bruno Ribeiro, right, takes over the part for the remainder of the run. Hubba-hubba all over again.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Nov. 2 and 8 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 10 at 2 p.m. DallasOpera.org.



Thursday 11.07

Lone Star Film Fest kicks off with gay movie by Texas filmmaker

Q Cinema is barely a memory, and already Fort Worth's second film fest of the season, the 7th annual Lone Star Film Festival, is getting underway. More than 20 features and countless shorts will screening during its four days, and it all kicks off Thursday with a showing of Austin filmmaker PJ Raval's documentary *Before You Know It*, about the struggles (and joys) of ageing within the gay community. Several other gay-interest movies will also premiere, and there will be a gala party as well.

DEETS: AMC Palace Theater at Sundance Square, Fort Worth. Nov. 7–10. LoneStarFilmFestival.com.

Thursday 10.31

You can go to hell & back (in costume!) with MBS' 'Inferno'

You know it's officially the holiday season not just because children were ringing your doorbell demanding candy this week, but because DIFFA Dallas brought back its Holiday Wreath Auction. The annual fundraiser features dozens of decorative wreaths — traditional, edgy and just plain weird — to raise money for HIV/AIDS research. Celebs and designers including Timothy Oulton, Lisa Garza, Moët Hennessey and others craft door hangings that will be put up for silent auction while you mingle and enjoy champagne and canapes. You can also learn more about the spring collection, House of DIFFA: Masquerade. After all, right after Halloween is a perfect time to keep a masquerade in mind.

DEETS: Dallas Market Hall, 2200 Stemmons Freeway (east entrance). 6–9 p.m. \$75. DIFFADallas.org.



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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Avenue Q. The foul-mouthed, gayish musical returns to Theatre Too, with most of the original Dallas cast intact. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Nov. 24. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Dante: Inferno. Mark-Brian Sonna's fall Halloween show, a revival of his take on Inferno. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Nov. 9 (extended). \$23-\$25. MBSProductions.net.

True West. Sam Shepard's comedy-drama about rival brothers. KD Studio Theater at the Trinity River Arts Center, 2800 Steemons Freeway. Through Nov. 17.

Hank Williams: Lost Highway. A revue about the singer. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. *Final weekend.* WaterTowerTheatre.org.

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. Through March 2. Free. CrowCollection.org.

The Jerry Lee Musslewhite Collection of Korean Art. The late docent at the Crow, also a devoted collector of Korean art, left behind this exquisite collection of pottery,



B4 BLACK | DJ Patrick Kuzara spins at the pre-Black Tie Dinner auction preview on Friday night at the Sheraton.

stoneware and furnishings from Korea's storied past. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through Aug. 24. Free. CrowCollection.org.

Jay Maggio. The artist's new exhibit is alongside artists Arturo Mallmann and Gary Schafter. Craighead Green Gallery, 1011 Dragon St. Through Nov. 16. Free. CraigheadGreen.com

FRIDAY 11.01

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Film review: 'Blue is the Warmest Color'

If you've ever wondered what a lesbian porn epic would look like, **Blue is the Warmest Color** is pretty damn close. But truly, it's not pornographic: The film does include sex — lots of it — to titillate, but to provide context for what truly is an epic story of romantic love.

Adele (Adele Exarchapoulos, left) is a pretty teenager happily in her clique, talking about boys and school, when her eye catches Emma (Lea Seydoux), a blue-haired bohemian, on the street. Adele dates a boy, even has sex with him, but she fantasizes about Emma from just that momentary glance.

Months later, Adele spies Emma walking into a gay bar, follows her in, and they begin a deep relationship full of explicit sex, prosaic domestic life, family interaction (Emma is out to hers, Adele is not) and blossoming into their careers and, ultimately, the

twists most relationships eventually take.

At three hours, *Blue is the Warmest Color* does push the limit of how long a movie like this *should* be, but the truth is — although it probably could drop 20 (even 40) minutes and still be excellent — director Abdellatif Kechiche has crafted a beautiful, literary and metaphor-rich portrait of love that has rarely been rivaled in scope. The length owes to him allowing the scenes to play out fully, luxuriating in the pain, anguish, confusion and woozy excitement of coming out and learning to love.

In that sense, it's a "lesbian movie" only in a technical sense: You become so involved in these characters' lives, made even more intimate by Kechiche's close-ups of Exarchapoulos' bee-stung lips and the faces of his cast, that you can't look away.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Now playing at Landmark's Magnolia and Angelika Plano.

start bidding for items at the Black Tie Dinner on Saturday with this preview party, open even to those who don't have tickets to the dinner itself. DJ Patrick Kuzara will provide the entertainment, with cocktails from Grey Goose Vodka. Sheraton Dallas Hotel, 400 N. Olive St. 8-10 p.m. BlackTie.org.

SATURDAY 11.02

OPERA

Carmen. Bizet's masterpiece kicks off the Dallas' Opera's new season, dubbed By Love Transformed. Portuguese tenor Bruno Rubeiro takes over as Don Jose. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Nov. 2 and Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 10 at 2 p.m. DallasOpera.org.

CONCERTS

Polyphonic Spree performs The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Dallas' symphonic vocal group puts their hands on their hips, and pulls their knees in tight. Lakewood Theater, 1825 Abrams Parkway. Doors at 7:30 p.m. \$25. LakewoodTheater.com.

COMMUNITY

Black Tie Dinner. Annual fundraiser for HRC and local gay nonprofits. Sheraton Hotel Dallas, 400 N. Olive St. 6 p.m. BlackTie.org.

COMEDY

Uh Yeah Dude. The popular comedy podcast comes to the Texas Theater for a live show featuring Seth Romatelli and Jonathan Larroquette. Texas Theater, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. 8 p.m. \$20-\$25.

SUNDAY 11.03

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.

FOOD

Chefs for Farmers. The second annual celebration of loavore foodie culture presented by local chefs. Lee Park. 1-5 p.m. ChefsForFarmers.com.

WEDNESDAY 11.06

TELEVISION

American Horror Story: Coven. Glee creator Ryan Murphy's third run at the series, featuring, as always, gay content (as well as a lesbian star in Sarah Paulson). FX at 9 p.m.



WITCHY WOMAN | Jessica Lange stars as the head witch ruling over a school for young sorceresses in the hit FX series 'American Horror Story: Coven,' airing Wednesdays.

THURSDAY 11.07

FILM

Lone Star Film Festival. The seventh annual event kicks off with a screening of the gay-themed documentary *Before You Know It* at 9 p.m. AMC Palace Theater at Sundance Square, Fort Worth. For a complete schedule and passes, visit LoneStarFilmFestival.com.

COMMUNITY

DIFFA Dallas Wreath Collection. The annual fundraiser featuring designer wreaths, entertainment and adult refreshments. Dallas Market Hall, 2200 Stemmons Freeway (east entrance). 6-9 p.m. \$75. DIFFADallas.org.

FINE ART

Dallas International Art, Antique and Jewelry Show. The five-day event returns, with luxury items from top designers. Dallas Market Hall, 2200 Stemmons Freeway. Thursday, 6-9 p.m. (with DIFFA), \$75; Friday-Monday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. \$20. DallasFallShow.com.

FOOD

19th Annual Hoedown. A fundraiser that benefits Dallas Farmers Market with local chefs making food and local bands making music. Food and Fiber Pavilion at Fair Park, 1233 S. Washington Ave. 6:30-10 p.m. \$50-\$75. DFMFriends.org.

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NEW TEXAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — P.O. Box 190137, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x101); nts.org.

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE — P.O. Box 190137, 75219, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x 101); turtlecreek.org.

WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS — 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., #210, Dallas 75219; 214-520-7828; twc@office@twcd.org; twcd.org.

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DALLAS TAVERN GUILD — 214-571-1073; michaeldoughman@sbcglobal.net; dallastavernguild.org.

***JOHN THOMAS GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER** — 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-528-9254; Phil Johnson Historical Archives and Library; 214-540-4451.

GAY AND LESBIAN FUND FOR DALLAS — 3818 Cedar Springs Rd. 101, #371, Dallas 75219; glfd.org; 214-421-8177; volunteers@glfd.org.

GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD — 214-528-0022; rcdallas.org/glc.c.html.

HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE OF NORTH TEXAS — 214-855-0520; info@hrionline.org; hrionline.org.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND, SOUTHWEST REGION — 3500 Oak Lawn, #500, Dallas 75219; 214-219-8585; lambdalegal.org.

LEGACY OF SUCCESS FOUNDATION, INC. — P.O. Box 700072, Dallas 75370; heritagecelebrationdfw.org.

TARRANT COUNTY GAY PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION — P.O. Box 3459, Fort Worth 76113; info@tcgpwa.org; tcgpwa.org.

TRIANGLE FOUNDATION — P.O. Box 306, Frisco 75034; 972-200-9411 (Phone), 501-643-0327 (Fax); collinequality.org.

■ SOCIAL

BATTALION MOTORCYCLE CORPS — P.O. Box 190603, Dallas 75219; commander@battalionmcc.com; battalionmcc.com.

BITCHNBRUNCH — bitchnbrunch.org; bitchnbrunch@yahoo.com.

CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB — P.O. Box 225463, Dallas 75222; 214-446-0606; information@classicchassis.com; classicchassis.com.

COUPLES METRO DALLAS — P.O. Box 192116, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1764); couplesmetro.dallas.com.

DAMN — DAMNmen.org; P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1739); oaklwguy@hotmail.com.

DALLAS BEARS — P.O. Box 191223, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x2943); dallasbears.org.

DFW FUSE — 214-540-4435; dfwfuse.com; fuse@rcdallas.org.

DISCIPLINE CORPS — P.O. Box 190838, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1731); webmaster@disciplinecorps.com; disciplinecorps.com.

FIRE DANCERS — mikejkeith@cs.com; fire dancers.org.

FRISCO PRIDE — P.O. Box 1533, Frisco 75034; 469-324-4123; friscopride.com.

GAYMSTERS BRIDGE CLUB — P.O. Box 190856, Dallas 75219; 214-946-6464; gaymasters@yahoo.com; gaymasters.org.

GRAY PRIDE — (At Resource Center Dallas); GLBT Aging Interest Network, educational & social organization for GLBT seniors; 2701 Reagan St., Dallas; 214-528-0144; RCDallas.org.

GROUP SOCIAL LATINO — 2701 Reagan; 214-540-4446.

JEWEL — 214-540-GIRL; jewel@rcdallas.org; rcdallas.org.

KHUSH TEXAS — http://groups.yahoo.com/group/khush.texas.

LATE BLOOMERS — La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon; 903-887-7371.

LEATHER KNIGHTS — P.O. Box 190334, Dallas 75219; 214-395-8460; leatherknights.org.

LVL/PWA CAMPOUT — Rick; campout@lvpwa.com; lvpwa.com.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER — P.O. Box 190611, Dallas 75219; 214-521-4765; groups.yahoo.com/group.mactdallas.

NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION-DALLAS — P.O. Box 190432, Dallas 75219; info@nla-dallas.org; nla-dallas.org.

NORTH TEXAS RADICAL FAERIES — groups.yahoo.com/group/ntrdrafae.

ONCE IN A BLUE MOON — 10675 East Northwest Hwy., #2600B, Dallas 75238; 972-264-3381; cschepps@sbcglobal.net; once-in-a-blue-moon.org.

ORANGE CLUB — groups.yahoo.com/group/orange-club.

OUT TAKES DALLAS — 3818 Cedar Springs #101-405 Dallas 75219; 972-988-6333 (Phone), 866-753-9431 (Fax); outtakesdallas.org.

POZ DALLAS — pozdallas@gmail.com; pozdallas.org.

PROJECT TAG (TYLER AREA GAYS) — 5701 Old Bullard Rd. #96; Tyler 75703; 903-372-7753; tylerareagays.com.

PRIME TIMERS OF DALLAS-FORT WORTH — PO Box 191101, Dallas 75219; 972-504-8866; information@primetimers-dfw.org; primetimers-dfw.org.

RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB — P.O. Box 226811, Dallas 75222; 214-941-8114; info@rainbowgardendclub.com; rainbowgardendclub.com.

SAVVY SINGLES NEWS DFW — http://singles.meetup.com/2049.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS DALLAS/FORT WORTH — groups.yahoo.com/group/sindallasfortworth; dalmusl@yahoo.com.

UNITED COURT OF THE LONE STAR EMPIRE — PO Box 190865, Dallas 75219; dallascourt.org.

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION — dallasfamily.org.

■ SPIRITUALITY

AGAPE MCC — 4615 E. California Pkwy., (SE Loop 820), Fort Worth 76119; 817-535-5002; agapemcc.com.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH — 4230 Buckingham Rd., Garland 75042; 972-276-0023; alc1@airmail.net; ascensiontexas.org.

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — 4523 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75235; 214-528-4084; bethanypresby@sbcglobal.net; bethany.presbychurch.org.

***CATHEDRAL OF HOPE** — 5910 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75235; 214-351-1901 (Local); 800-501-HOPE (Toll free); cathedralofhope.com.

CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT — 2040 N. Denton Dr., Carrollton 75006; 972-245-6520; info@colight.org; colight.org.

***CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH** — 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth 76104; 817-335-3222; celebration@celebrationtx.com; celebration-community-church.com.

CELEBRATION ON THE LAKE — 9120 S Hwy. 198; Maybank TX, 75147; 903-451-2302; cotlchurch.org.

CHURCH IN THE CLIFF — Kessler Theatre 1230 W. Davis St., Dallas, 75208; 214-233-4605; www.churchintheciff.org.

***COMMUNITY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH** — 2875 E. Parker Rd., Plano 75074; 972-424-8989; uuplano.org.

CONGREGATION BETH EL BINAH — 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 191188, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5342 (x1784); diane@bethelbinah.org; bethelbinah.org.

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH — 2800 Routh at Howell, Dallas 75201; 214-520-9090; info@crossroadscommunitychurch.us; crossroadscommunitychurch.us.

EAST DALLAS CHRISTIAN CHURCH — P.O. Box 710329, Dallas 75371 (Mailing); 629 North Peak, Dallas 75246 (Physical); 214-824-8185; info@edccc.org; edccc.org.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE — 6525 Inwood Rd., Dallas 75209; 214-352-0410 (Phone), 214-352-3103 (Fax); doubtertomet@aol.com; thedoubter.org.

FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH CHURCH — 901 Bonnie Brae, Fort Worth 76111; 817-921-5683; folochurch.org.

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GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — 4105 Junius at Haskell, Dallas 75246; 214-824-2533 (Phone), 214-824-2279 (Fax); gumc@graceumcdallas.org; graceumcdallas.org.

GREENLAND HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — 5835 Penrose ave., Dallas 75206; 214-826-2020; greenlandhills.org.

HARVEST MCC — 725 North Elm St Ste 18. denton, TX 76201; 940-484-6159 (Phone), 940-484-6159 (Fax); harvest@harvestmcc.org; harvestmcc.org.

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INTEGRITY — 214-521-5342 (x1742).

INTERFAITH MINDFUL MINISTRIES — P.O. Box 863961, Plano 75086; chising@intermindful.com; intermindful.com/about.htm.

KESSLER PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — 1215 Turner Ave., Dallas, TX 75208; 214-942-0098; kpumc.org.

LESBIAN & GAY UNITARIANS — 214-691-4300.

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LIVING FAITH COVENANT CHURCH — 2527 W. Colorado Blvd., Dallas 75211 (Share Building with Promise MCC); 972-546-0543; livingfaithdfw.org.

LIFE CENTER, THE — 509 Green Oaks Ct, Arlington 76006, 817-633-3766.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED — 6411 LBJ Fwy; 214-855-4998; lknorthtexas@lcna.org; lcna.org; reconcilingworks.org.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GREATER DALLAS — 1840 Hutton Dr., #100, Carrollton, TX 75006; 972-243-0761 (Phone), 972-243-6024 (Fax); mcccgd.org.

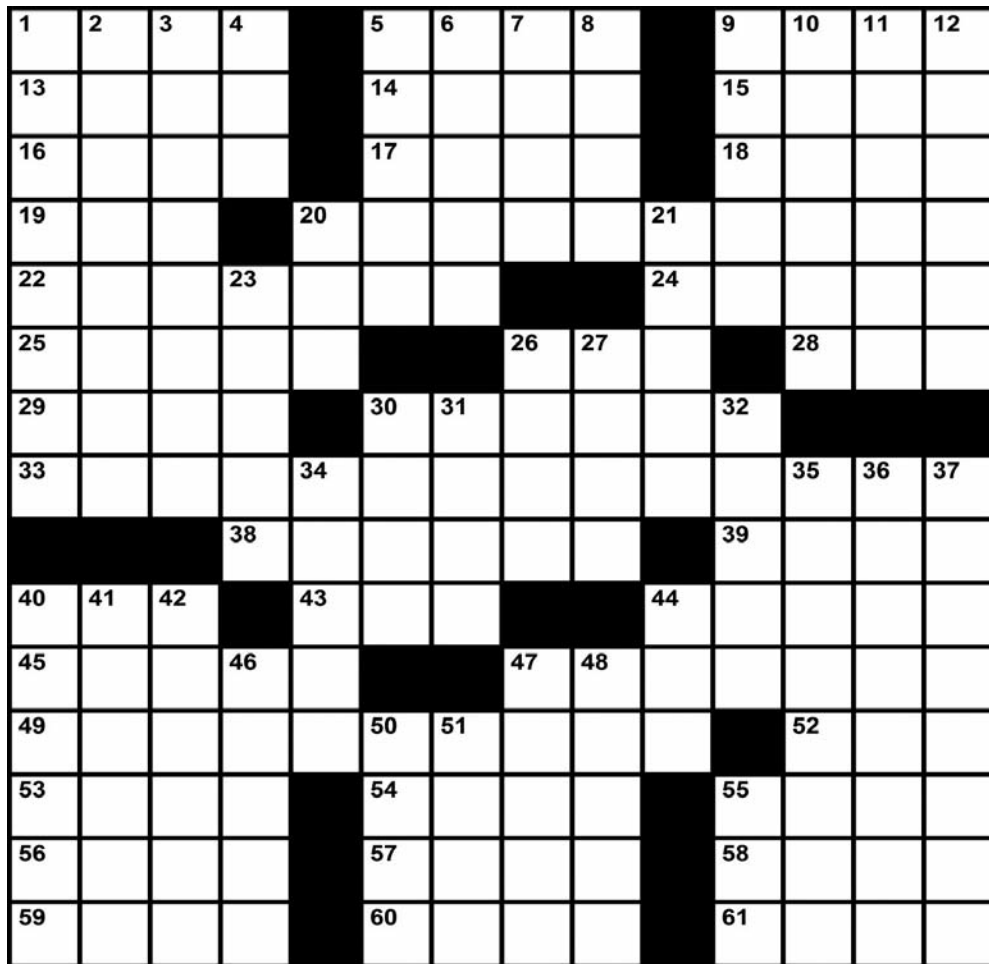
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The Stork Flies Over the Rainbow

Solution on page 33

Across

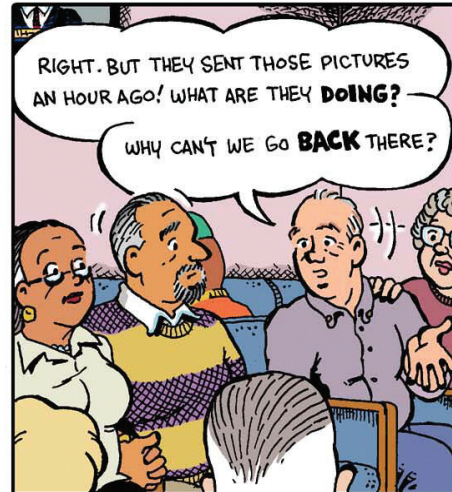
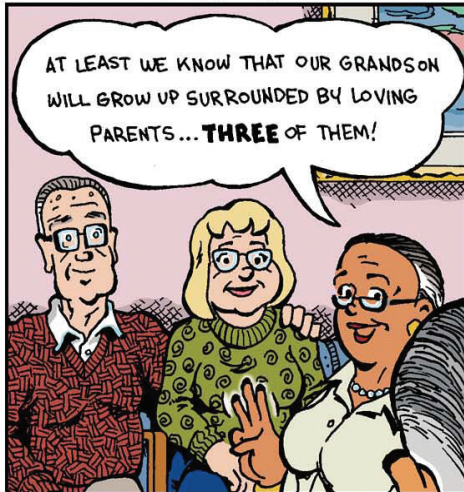
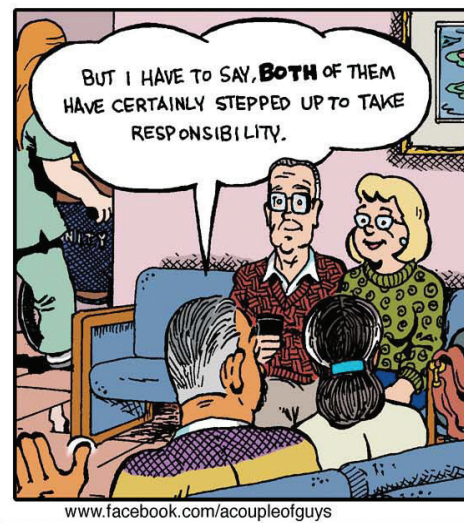
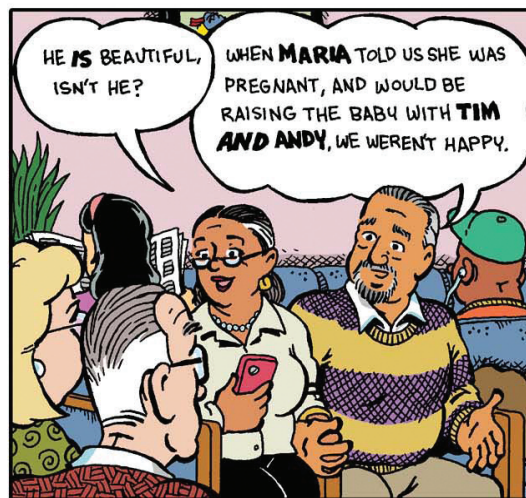
- 1 It comes before sex and marriage
- 5 Techie workplaces, often
- 9 Zipper problem
- 13 Rainbow, to some
- 14 Buck heroine
- 15 Hair of a stallion
- 16 Sunday service
- 17 Caesar's last question
- 18 Coffee containers
- 19 Stalling sounds
- 20 Start of a Judy Garland quote
- 22 Ranch house
- 24 Dossier about Uranus?
- 25 Wolf's warning
- 26 *Chicago* director Marshall
- 28 It may be kissed
- 29 Novel conclusion
- 30 Don, as a nightie
- 33 More of the quote
- 38 Bartenders' servings
- 39 Two queens, e.g.
- 40 Pierce's rank on *M*A*S*H*
- 43 Giant Mel

44 He gives gifts in stockings

- 45 Veronica of *Sotto, Sotto*
- 47 Fuel used in heating
- 49 End of the quote
- 52 Texas sch.
- 53 Seasoning for Rick Rodgers
- 54 Star of *There's Something About Mary*
- 55 Begin to wake up
- 56 Arab head
- 57 Harold's problem in *The Boys in the Band*
- 58 Fine-tune
- 59 Grace, or will to be diplomatic
- 60 Uses the mouth casually
- 61 They may be split

Down

- 1 *Of Human Bondage* author Maugham
- 2 Plant cultivated for food or flowers
- 3 Sailor's dinner companion
- 4 Tennessee Williams twosome
- 5 *My Fair Lady* composer
- 6 Place for vows
- 7 Bean and Burke waved theirs around
- 8 Give the cold shoulder
- 9 Shirtless guy in hot pants
- 10 Realm of C.S. Lewis
- 11 Records of anal historians?
- 12 Beaux ___ (noble deeds)
- 20 Not in the pink
- 21 U-shaped river bend
- 23 Communion offering at Metropolitan Community Church
- 26 Diplomacy breakdown
- 27 Makes a selection
- 30 A gentleman might pull one out for his date
- 31 Hit high, like Billie Jean's balls
- 32 Mt. Everest locale
- 34 One who handles your horse
- 35 "*The Weary Blues*" poet Hughes
- 36 Milk fortifier
- 37 Evidence of rubber usage
- 40 Many are out of it
- 41 ColŪn locale
- 42 Like Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*
- 44 Was in session
- 46 Not potent
- 47 Sound of metal on metal
- 48 Comes out slowly
- 50 Aussie greeting
- 51 Flaky mineral
- 55 Brown's *Murder*, ___ *Meowed*





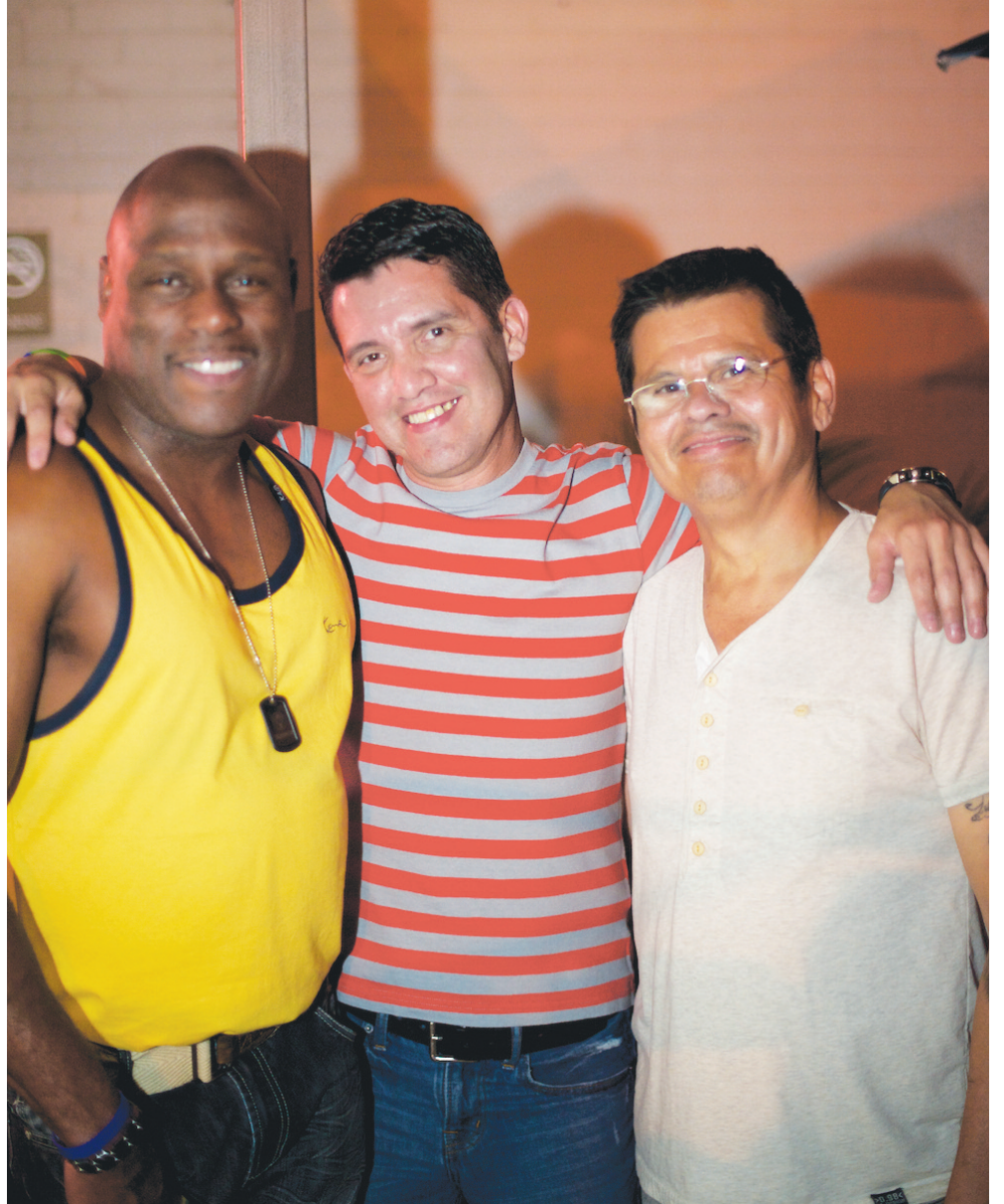
Jinks Monsoon at Gaybingo at the Rose Room.

The Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Dallas presents the 10th annual **Texas Sweetheart Ball** in memory of **Empress XXI Taylor Vaughn** on Nov. 2 at **Best Friends Club**. Proceeds benefit the children's charities of the court. ... **Pit Bull Warrior** presents **Rock-A-Bully 3** benefiting pit bull rescues in the DFW area at **Sue Ellen's** on Nov. 3. **Shorty Rossi** and **Hercules** from **Animal Planet's Pit Boss** appear. **Sybil Summers** hosts. **Mojo Dolls**, **Bandmates**, **Kickback**, **Bad Habits** and **Barefoot Hippies** perform. ... **Station 4** holds an EP release party on Nov. 1 for **The Movement** from rising pop star **Betty Who** featuring the hit single **Somebody Loves You**. ... **Alexandre's** celebrates **Girl's Night Out with Peggy Honea** on Nov. 1. **Andrea Dawson** performs on Nov. 2. ... **Dallas Eagle Employee Turn-about Show** on Nov. 2 hosted by **Miss Wanda** and **Linda Hand** benefits the **Resource Center Food Pantry**. That night is club night for **Leather Knights** and **Dallas Bears**. **Dallas Girls of Leather** holds its monthly meeting on Nov. 3. **Miss Wanda** hosts **Eagle Amateur Talent Night** on Nov. 5. Come show off your talent. ... **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** meets at **Changes** on Nov. 5. ... **North Texas Council of Clubs** has a barbecue at **Reflections** on Nov. 3. ... The models of the **Boyish to Bearish 2014 Calendar** will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at the **Round-Up Saloon** on Nov. 3. Bid on some great packages to support **Home for the Holidays**. ... Watch the **Minnesota Vikings** play the **Dallas Cowboys** in HD at **Woody's Sports and Video Bar** on Nov. 3 at noon. ... **Eden Lounge** holds a food drive for the **Resource Center Food Pantry** on Nov. 3 to help stock the pantry for Thanksgiving. ... **Garlow's** Halloween party is Nov. 2. Cash prizes for best costume. **Trixie & Friends** presents a show at 9 p.m. with proceeds benefiting **AIDS Interfaith Network**. ■

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



Larry, Blake, Jevin and Lee at The Brick/Joe's.



Geno, Johnny and Paul at TMC: The Mining Company.



Alfredo, Damon and Carlos at the Round-Up Saloon.



Halloween Block Party on Cedar Springs.



Halloween Block Party on Cedar Springs.



Halloween Block Party on Cedar Springs.



Ash at BJ's NXS!



J.B. at Station 4.



Wilson, Dick, Lindsey and Daniel at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Kobie, Brad, Justin and Scott at Woody's Sports & Video Bar.

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H

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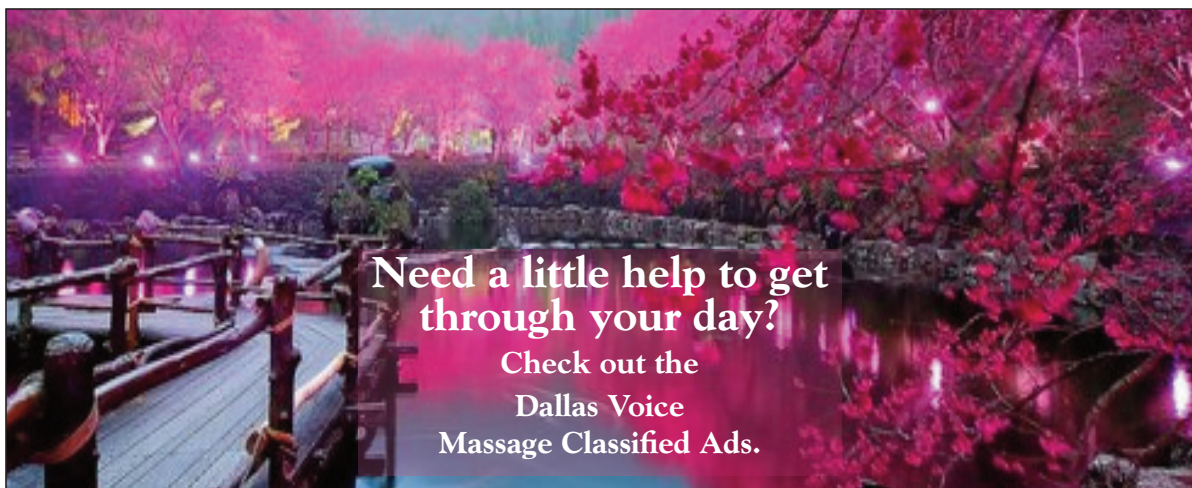
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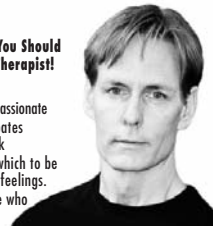
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