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■ HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE, Page 21



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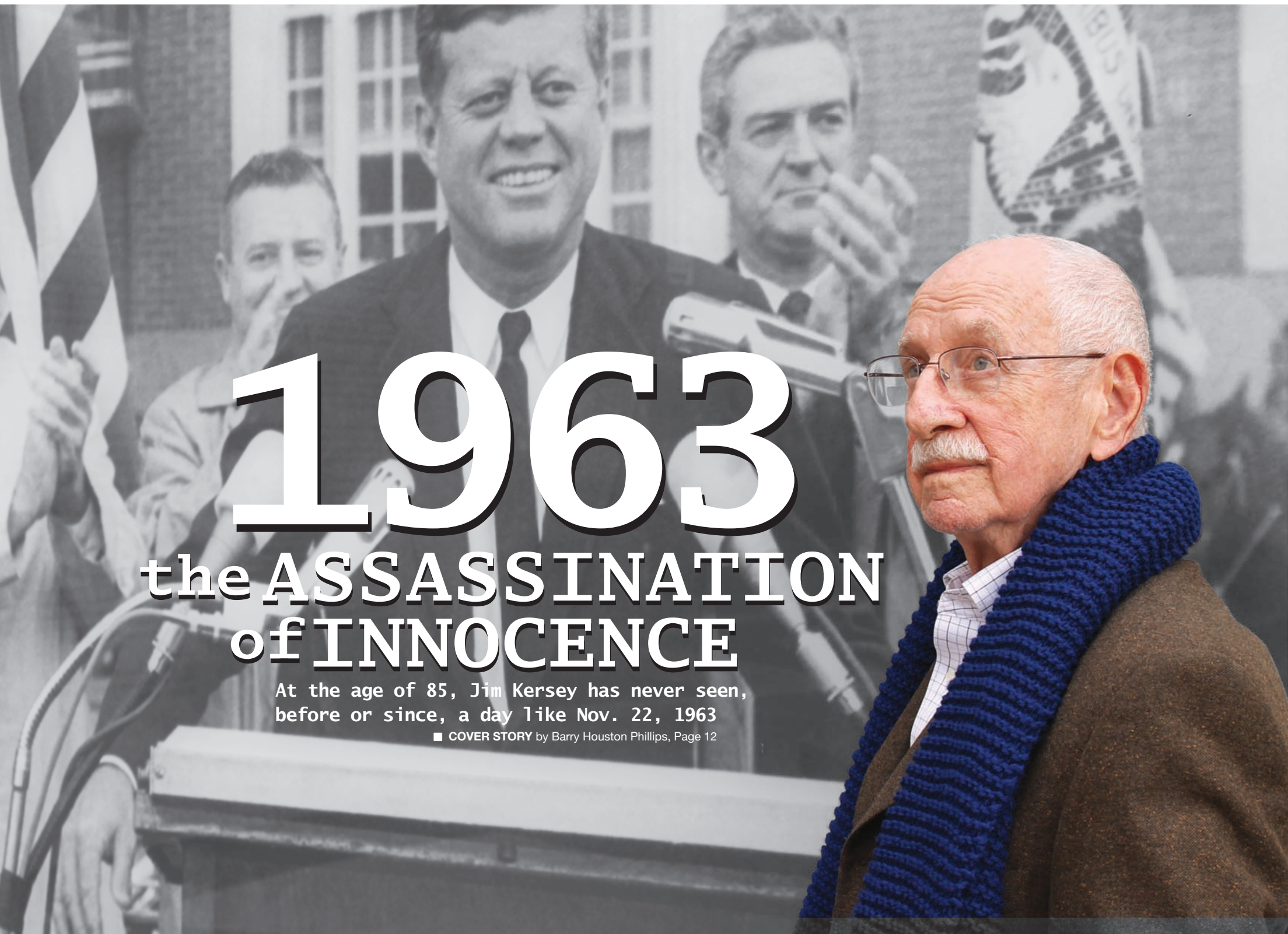
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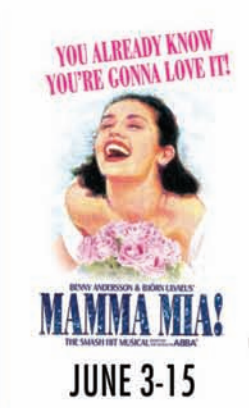
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IN OUR HEARTS | People hold up candles during Dallas' Transgender Day of Remembrance service at Cathedral of Hope on Sunday, Nov. 17. For more photos, visit DallasVoice.com/category/photos. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Houston begins offering partner benefits, but Parker won't qualify

Houston Mayor Annise Parker announced Wednesday that the city of Houston will begin offering benefits to all legally married spouses of city employees. Those in civil unions and domestic partnerships will not qualify.

Janice Evans, the mayor's spokeswoman, said Parker's partner Kathy Hubbard doesn't qualify. The couple has been together for 23 years and have raised three children, but they haven't legally married in a marriage-equality state.

An announcement may come soon, though. "They're always talking about it," Evans said. The decision to offer benefits is based on a city legal department interpretation of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in June that declared parts of the federal Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional.

Houston didn't offer benefits previously because of a city charter amendment that prohibits offering partner benefits. However, the amendment specifically allows benefits for "legal spouses."

Evans said since the Supreme Court decision, the city has been watching how it's been implemented elsewhere. "We started seeing things change across the country," she said.

She said the city is simply following actions already taken by a number of federal agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service, which announced in August that all legally married same-sex couples will be recognized as married for fed-

eral tax purposes, even if those couples reside in states that do not recognize same-sex marriage.

"Based on the right to equal protection under the law, it is unconstitutional for the city to continue to deny benefits to the same-sex spouses of our employees who are legally married," Parker said in a statement. "This change is not only the legal thing to do, it is the right, just and fair thing to do."

— David Taffet

S. Texas school says it will allow trans teen's tuxedo photo to run in yearbook

Trans student Jeydon Loredo will now be remembered in his senior yearbook for the way he wants to be remembered after his school district consented late last week to allow his photo to run in the book.

The La Feria Independent School District

previously told Loredo his photo wouldn't run because he needed to be pictured wearing feminine clothing. He appealed the decision to the school board last Monday.

And the Southern Poverty Law Center, joined by the Human Rights Campaign, intervened on his behalf, threatening legal action if the district didn't run the photo.

The decision was reversed on Nov. 15 when attorneys with the district and SPLC met to ensure Loredo would be included in the yearbook.

In addition to agreeing to run the picture, the district will have the superintendent apologize to Loredo for the treatment he received and have the school board discuss adding gender expression to its nondiscrimination policies.

"We are very pleased that the school district has recognized Jeydon for who he is and will allow his photo in the yearbook along with all his classmates," SPLC staff attorney Alesdair Ittelson said in a statement. "This is as a signal to other school districts that transgender students should be recognized as important members of their communities rather than ostracized and subjected to discrimination. We applaud Jeydon's courage in standing up for his rights."

HRC President Chad Griffin applauded the decision.

"We're thrilled Jeydon will be getting the justice he deserves," Griffin said in a statement. "It's a shame that it took a threat of legal action for the school board to make the right decision, but we're grateful that, in the end, Jeydon's photo will be included in the yearbook. Discrimination has no place in our society — especially our schools."

— Anna Waugh

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Fort Worth outranks Dallas again in HRC report

Survey identifies various strengths and deficiencies in 16 Texas cities' approach to LGBT equality issues

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

While many people still view Dallas as the most LGBT-friendly city in the Metroplex, Fort Worth still outranks the city on the Human Rights Campaign's 2013 Municipal Equality Index released this week.

The report surveys LGBT-inclusive city policies and practices over the course of a year.

Fort Worth — which ranked higher than Dallas last year in the report's first year — jumped 2 points this year, bringing it to 91, for equivalent family leave, which was left off last year.

Dallas, however, saw a 9-point increase for items the city didn't receive credit for last year, bringing its score from a 76 last year to an 85. But HRC originally gave Dallas a 78 on an initial draft.

Pam Gerber, a member of the city's LGBT Task Force, said a committee formed after the draft came back with a 78 score. Its goal was to evaluate ways in which the city could improve its score with a goal of a 10 percent increase. The committee included people from the city manager's office and throughout City Hall.

"This was not just a gay endeavor. This was a city endeavor," she said. "We put together a team of people and made a very compelling argument to up that score."

Several things over the past year seemed to contribute to the likelihood of a lower score for Dallas this year after a failed equality resolution at City Hall that was blocked by the mayor.

Councilman Scott Griggs' resolution, which aimed to show the City Council's support for marriage equality and statewide job protections for LGBT people, failed to go before the council for a June vote because former Councilwoman Delia Jasso pulled her support from a petition requiring a vote. Former Mayor Pro Tem Pauline Medrano then tried to get the resolution on the agenda last minute as acting mayor since Mayor Mike Rawlings was out of the country on business. But Rawlings intervened from abroad to block the item from moving forward.

Dallas' increase came from various things left off from last year and a few bonus points. The city's contractor equal benefits ordinance was added this year, in addition to the city receiving bonus points for providing services to LGBT seniors and youth. McDonnell said the city's Office of Cultural Affairs gives money to the Women's Chorus of Dallas and the Turtle Creek Choral.

As for the relationship with the LGBT community, Dallas earned 3 points for leadership's public

position on LGBT equality, compared to 2 points last year. It also gained 2 points for leadership's pro-equality legislative or policy efforts, which brought the city zero points last year.

Gerber said having the score accurately reflect the city's efforts was important because "we're using it as a tool to improve services to the LGBT community."

Resource Center spokesman Rafael McDonnell said Dallas' score is at its highest unless the city does something more, like add equivalent family leave or comprehensive transgender healthcare coverage for city employees or change the public's perception of leadership's views.

"We didn't do anything new, but we got credit for stuff we have been doing," McDonnell said. "An 85 should be looked at as our ceiling until we do something better. If we want to grow the score next year, we're going to have to do some things."

He said the scores from this year's index set the standard among suburban cities for the years to come and the work for LGBT advocates.

"This sets a benchmark for some of the suburban cities," McDonnell said. "The big takeaway is that equality doesn't stop at a city line. The fight for it stretches across city lines."

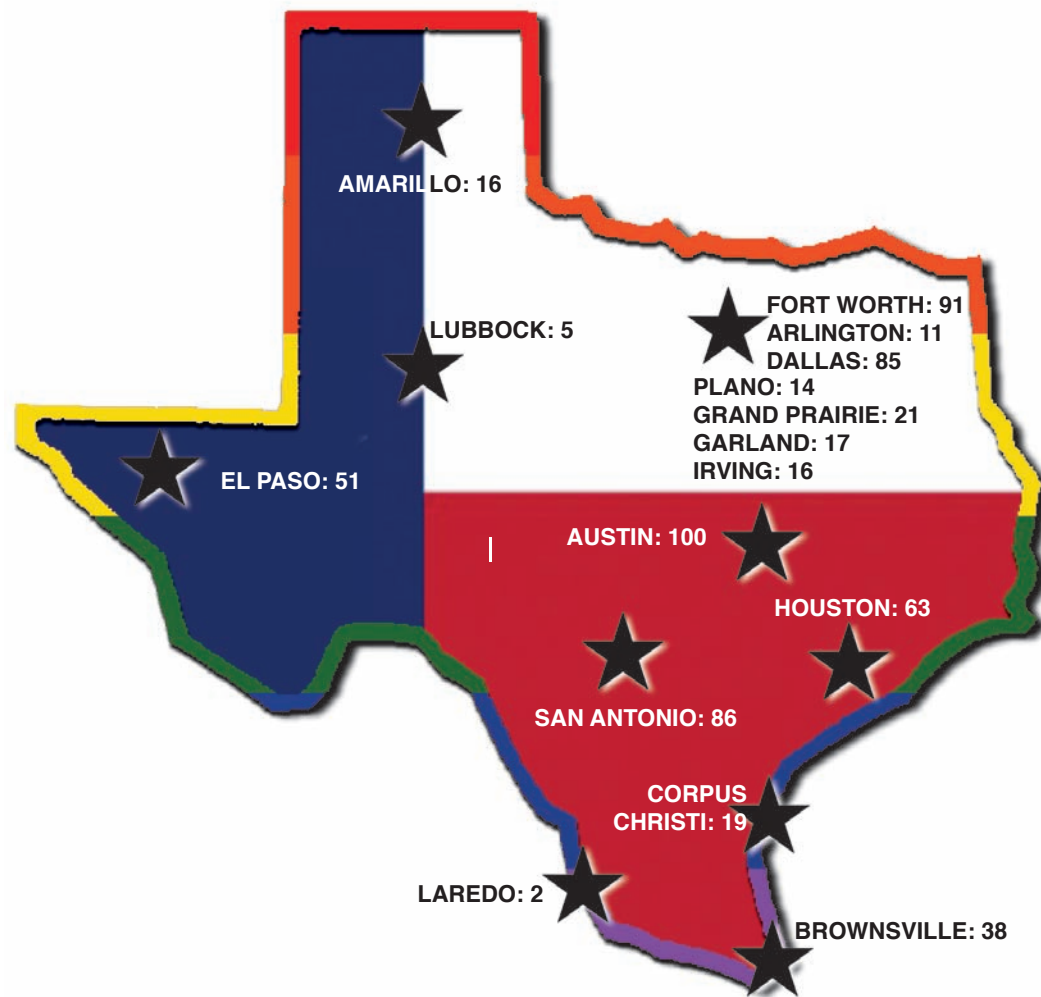
The new report ranked 16 Texas cities, compared to seven last year. Dallas, Fort Worth, El Paso, Houston and San Antonio saw a score increase, while Arlington saw a 5-point decrease. But the big surprises came with the number of suburban cities like Plano, Garland and Grand Prairie that were ranked.

LGBT advocates said this week the scores of those cities show the impact years of advocacy has produced.

McDonnell said what impressed him was Grand Prairie's score of 21. He said the city's leaders quietly adopted a nondiscrimination policy for city employees in 2008 that includes sexual orientation and later implemented Dallas Independent School District's LGBT-inclusive anti-bullying policy in 2011. The city also received credit for reporting hate crime statistics to the FBI.

"It shows that the quest for equality isn't just a city of Dallas or a county or quasi-governmental issue," he said. "There's a lot of work that's available to be done throughout the area."

David Mack Henderson, president of Fairness



(Kevin Thomas/Dallas Voice)

Fort Worth, said Grand Prairie's progress was "enlightening", and he hoped the city would continue to add protections for its LGBT employees and citizens.

"What happened with Grand Prairie speaks to the proof for all the hard work LGBT advocates have done for years," Henderson said. "Sometimes good things happen, and we find out after the fact."

Arlington lost 5 points, bringing it to a score of 11, for not protecting against discrimination based on sexual orientation in city employment, which it was credited for last year. While sexual orientation is listed among the diversity the city values on the city's workforce services webpage, the city's Equal Employment Opportunity Policy doesn't include sexual orientation.

Henderson said despite the policy not officially covering LGBT employees, Arlington leaders are still striving toward equal protections.

"Arlington is working very hard to be an inclusive city, and I think they're making inroads to do that," Henderson said.

Garland scored a 17 for having a Human Rights Commission and reporting hate crimes. LGBT ad-

vocates recently attended a Garland City Council meeting and worked with area residents to try to encourage the council to pass a citywide nondiscrimination ordinance. The push for the ordinance came after a Garland Dallas Area Rapid Transit appointee, who is appointed by the City Council, voted against adding domestic partner benefits for the transit agency earlier this year.

Irving received 16 points for hate crime reporting and for the county protecting sexual orientation and gender identity. But Dallas County doesn't have a countywide nondiscrimination policy, just one for the county's employees.

In Collin County, Plano brought in a 14, with 10 for reporting hate crimes, 2 points for the city's engagement with the LGBT community and 2 points for city leadership's public position on LGBT equality.

Former Plano Mayor Phil Dyer was an honorary co-chair of North Texas Pride earlier this year. Current Mayor Harry LaRosiere has long supported the LGBT advocacy group Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance, now GALA

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■ texasnews

■ MEI, From Page 6

NTX, and considers himself an ally.

Jeanne Rubin, vice president of Gay and Lesbian Alliance of North Texas, said the work began in Plano more than 10 years ago with the organization, of which many members were from Plano.

"Just the fact that it's even included is a step forward," she said. "It speaks to the fact that there are so many LGBT people in the DFW suburbs that we're making a difference even if it's just because we're becoming more visible and people know that we're here."

Rubin said she expects other DFW suburbs to be included in future years, spurring more advocacy and change.

"I think we should keep an eye on North Texas because obviously change is coming to the whole state, but I think North Texas is a good barometer to watch," Rubin said.

The report ranked 291 U.S. cities this year, compared to 137 cities in the first-ever survey last year. The cities included state capitals, each states' three largest cities, cities with the largest public university and 75 cities with high proportions of same-sex couples.

Cities were evaluated for equality policies and practices on 47 criteria in five categories of nondiscrimination laws, relationship recognition, city employee benefits, city services, law enforcement and relationship with the LGBT commu-

nity. Bonus points were again offered in most sections, but cities could receive only a maximum score of 100.

Cathryn Oakley, the primary author of the MEI, said Texas' scores showed improvement and were impressive overall.

"I think a lot of cities have good intentions, and they may feel much more inclusive than their score reflects," she said. "What we're rating are the cities' laws and policies, which are objective."

With such a big state and so many cities rated, Oakley said the response from cities was important, some of which pointed out things to help improve their scores, showing how seriously they took the report last year.

"It's great to be able to point out cities that are doing important things for the LGBT community," she said.

Outside the Metroplex, San Antonio received an 86 score, jumping from a 48 score last year, despite the controversy this summer over a nondiscrimination ordinance.

Austin, which received a 91 last year, was the only score to reach a 100 this year. It gained points for mayoral and police LGBT liaisons.

Other cities and their scores included: Houston, 63; El Paso, 51; Brownsville, 38; Corpus Christi, 19; Amarillo, 16; Lubbock, 5; and Laredo, 2.

For more info about Texas scores, visit DallasVoice.com. For more info about the 2013 MEI, visit TinyURL.com/2013MEI.



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TX National Guard digs in heels on same-sex benefits

Unit won't process housing benefits for lesbian couple; National Guard Bureau says it expects Texas to comply with federal orders

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
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The Texas National Guard is still defying the federal government, ignoring a mandate that all state bases must process and issue benefits to married same-sex couples — despite state marriage amendments.

Alicia Butler was denied a spousal ID card at Camp Mabry in Austin back in September because the Guard refused to issue them to same-sex partners.

Another Austin couple was denied benefits this week when a base refused to process a housing allowance request granted to married opposite-sex couples.

Cassandra StJohn, the member's spouse, declined a request to be interviewed because of her wife's rank and career.

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced last month he was instructing the National Guard Bureau to work with all state Guards not following his August directive to process benefits for same-sex spouses after the U.S. Supreme Court's June ruling that found the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional. The National Guard said this week it had reached out to Texas and expected its units to comply with the Department of Defense's orders.

Chris Rowzee, spokeswoman for American Military Partner Association, a group that supports LGBT military members and their families, said the couple recently married in New Mexico and while there registered at a federal military base in Albuquerque in order to get around having to travel when they returned back to Texas.

But then the couple returned and applied for the housing allowance "with a dependant rate." Rowzee said the Guard is refusing to recognize the marriage for state or federal purposes. The benefit is a federal one that married military members are legally entitled to.

"It's a federal benefit," Rowzee said. "It has absolutely nothing to do with the state. Their denying it is discriminatory and illegal."

Texas Military Forces said this week it was directing all same-sex couples to register for all benefits on federal bases. In a statement to Dallas Voice, a TMF representative said after the ID card was issued through the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, "all local Texas National Guard facilities and personnel will process Base Allowance for Housing (BAH) and other federal benefits to which they are entitled."

"To reiterate, we are not denying any benefits to military members and spouses who are entitled to them, to include BAH," the representative wrote in an email, adding that leaders are working to issue benefits, despite the state's law conflicting with the federal mandate. "Despite the legal conflict, the organization remains committed to ensuring military personnel and their families receive the benefits to which they are entitled."

Rowzee said the denial is "even more serious" than not processing a spouse's application for an ID card. She said the refusal to give the couple the benefit contradicts what the Texas National Guard has said before, that it wouldn't issue IDs to gay couples because of the state marriage amendment, but it would still honor federal benefits for those couples.

"This is completely contradictory to their earlier claims that no one was being 'denied' benefits, that it was just an 'inconvenience' to have to go enroll at a federal facility," she said.

When the Department of Defense's orders that same-sex spouses would receive all of the same benefits as opposite-sex spouses went into effect in September, Texas refused to register same-sex partners at that time and directed them to federal facilities. Several other states followed Texas' lead, including Louisiana, Florida, Georgia, West Virginia, Mississippi, Oklahoma and South Carolina.

After two months of inaction and members of Congress calling on Hagel to act, he said he will fight the battle to provide equal access to all National Guard families, regardless of sexual orientation.

"All spouses of service members are entitled to DoD ID cards, and the benefits that come with them," Hagel said last month.

Hagel also instructed National Guard Bureau Gen. Frank Grass, "to take immediate action to remedy this situation."

National Guard Bureau spokesman Major Gary Arasin told Dallas Voice this week Grass has met with generals in the states refusing to comply, addressing concerns about state constitutional amendments barring the recognition of same-sex marriage.

"Soldiers, Airmen, and their family members who serve their nation deserve the full complement of benefits they have earned through their service and sacrifice," Arasin wrote in an email. "Nothing less than 100 percent compliance is acceptable."

DoD spokesman Nathan Christensen said the IDs and benefits are all federal issues and the National Guard Bureau is handling the situation. He declined to speculate on further action from the Pentagon to force Texas to obey Hagel.

"These are federal ID cards paid for with federal funding to provide federally mandated benefits," Christensen said. "We're not going to speculate on legal options at this time." ■



Peter A. Schulte
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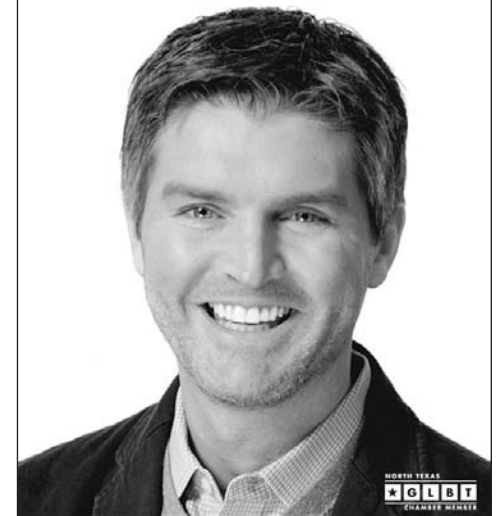
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Center's rebranding raises concern about clinic's legacy



HOLDING ON TO THEIR LEGACY | The storefront of the Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic on Cedar Springs Road still honors its namesakes, Bill Nelson and Terry Tebedo. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Community worries Nelson-Tebedo Clinic will drop longtime activists' names, but CEO says that's not true

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Recent rebranding efforts by Dallas' LGBT community center, Resource Center, has angered community members who fear the names of legendary Dallas activists Bill Nelson and Terry Tebedo will be removed from the center's clinic.

While the center announced a rebranding effort with a new logo in September for its 30th anniversary, new materials including stationary letterhead and fliers list the clinic as Resource Center Clinic or just clinic.

But the center's leadership told Dallas Voice this week the official name of the clinic wasn't changing and all materials would eventually reflect the correct name.

Don Maison, president and CEO of AIDS Services of Dallas, said a resident brought the issue to

him in October and then mentioned it to the agency's board of directors at a meeting on Nov. 9. Since then, the perception from the local LGBT community has started to think the names would be dropped from the clinic.

"It saddens me to think we may be losing our history, and if that's the case, it's a tragedy," Maison said.

Bill Nelson and Terry Tebedo, the Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic's namesakes, were founders of the original AIDS Resource Center and the Dallas Gay Alliance. They also started the center's food pantry as a shelf in their store, Crossroads Market, that quickly grew with the community's involvement. Nelson was also the first openly gay person to run for Dallas City Council.

"As far as I'm concerned, the clinic has already branded," he said. "It's named after our two Harvey Milks."

Bruce Monroe, former president of Dallas Gay Alliance, was one of the founders of the clinic and helped push for it to reflect the names of Nelson and Tebedo.

"Bill had the big vision of a community service

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The Assassination of Innocence

At the age of 85, Jim Kersey has never seen, before or since, a day like Nov. 22, 1963; he remembers that day and the 50 years of change and growth that was set in motion during the thousand days of the administration of President John F. Kennedy

BARRY HOUSTON PHILLIPS | Contributing Writer

Dallas Voice: Ok, take me to November, 1963 and where you were in your life and your career.

Jim Kersey: In 1963, I was 35 years old. I had already gone to college and graduate school and had lived in Dallas for about three years and was at Southwestern Medical School. I worked there in the department of psychiatry but had been offered a job in Fort Worth as director of the Mental Health Association.

I had not particularly wanted to come to Fort Worth because people who lived in Dallas thought of Fort Worth at the time as a “jumping off place” and I, too, had that impression of it. I really began to like it though, and in the spring of 1963, I bought a house in Fort Worth, which I am still in to this day. I can always remember when I bought the house because it was the year of the Kennedy assassination.

November 22nd. In the third week of November, I went to Washington to a meeting. On Thursday, I walked over to the White House to take a tour because in those days, you could just walk up and say, “I want to come in,” and they let you in. While we were in one of the rooms on the tour, we suddenly heard all this commotion in the hallway. We asked what it was all about, and one of our guides said the president was leaving, and a helicopter was coming to pick him up because he was on his way to Texas.

The conference ended the next day, the 22nd, and I was wanting to take some time off so I got on a train to go to New York City. The train left late morning and when we stopped in Philadelphia, the conductor walked down the aisle announcing that the president had been shot. Of course, we all wanted to know more, but no one knew anything more at that point.

We found a man in one of the coaches who had a portable radio, so we were all hovering over him trying to hear any news at all. He turned it up as loud as it would go, but being on a train, we could hardly hear anything. But while listening to that radio, they did, in fact, announce that Kennedy had died. It was another hour and a half from Philadelphia to New York, so during that time, we

knew nothing. But when we arrived in Penn Station, they already had extra-edition newspapers out.

It was all very strange. It was the first and only time that I had been in New York, and the city was literally entirely shut down. Broadway was closed. All the theaters were closed. What people you saw were wandering around dazed and stunned.

Were you hesitant to return home? No, not at all. I wanted to return home. I just wanted to get out of New York. I remember going into a Delta Airlines reservation office. I told the airline agent I wanted to change my reservation, and he wanted to know where I was going and I said “Dallas,” and he just went off ranting and raving about Dallas.

When you got off the plane at Love Field, did you sense any change? Well, what I did sense was the extreme grief with everyone, everywhere. Curiously, I remember some people saying, “Well, what did you expect in Dallas? They spit on Adlai Stevenson.”

At the time, did you regret you were not at home for the president's visit to Dallas? No, after it was all over, I felt a real closeness to the president having been in the White House the day before he died. Actually, too, when he was running for president, he came to Fort Worth, and I made a point of it to go see him then.

Kennedy's death was only about five-and-a-half years before Stonewall, which is credited generally for bringing the agenda of the gay rights movement to the forefront of the consciousness of the late 60's generation. But in the early '60's, was there any awareness of any gay rights agenda at the time? The term gay rights I don't think had even been coined, at least not to my knowledge. We certainly knew the term “civil rights,” and I remember very vividly we were all in the efforts for black people. It was all very obvious that they were being denied their rights. The people really took to the streets and held marches. I remember joining marches here in Fort Worth that went down Main Street.

Then, civil rights primarily pertained only to racial equality. Right. I don't think it ever occurred to anyone that gay rights were being overlooked as well. There wasn't any such thing that I was aware of. I think in those days you just simply accepted the fact there were gay people around, but it was never discussed, at least not openly. I never ever heard the word “gay” used in public or in the media in that sense. It was all very “hush-hush”. I remember as early as about 1950, someone did ask me if someone was gay. I honestly had no idea what they were talking about.

So, how would you have referred to some-

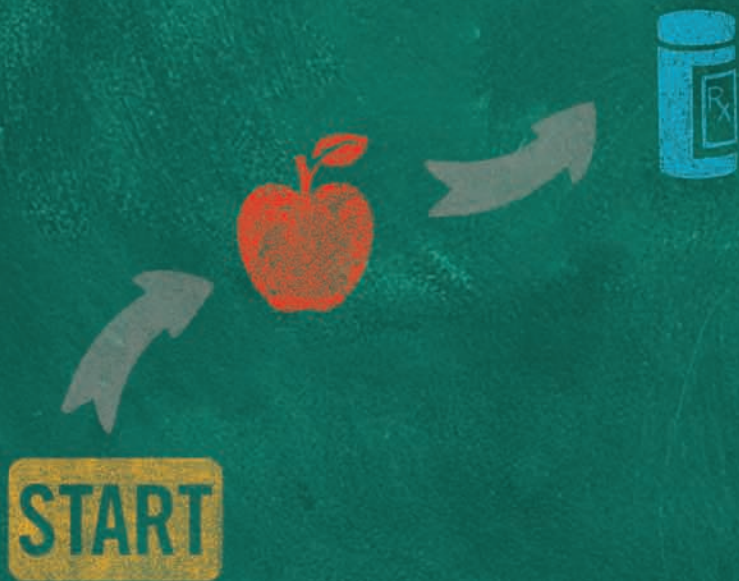


REMEMBERING | Dallas Voice Fort Worth resident Jim Kersey took a White House tour on Nov. 21, 1963, the day President Kennedy left for Texas. Standing at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Plaza in Fort Worth, Kersey recalls Nov. 22, 1963, and the 50 years after it. (Barry Phillips/Dallas Voice)

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BACK IN THE DAY | Gay rights weren't on the radar when Jim Kersey was a young man living in Dallas and Fort Worth. After 1963, the social revolutions ignited as gays, blacks and women fought for equality. (Courtesy Photo)

■ **INNOCENCE**, From Page 12

one's gay sexual orientation? Well, we would say, "Does he know Dorothy?" or another term, "Is he a ribbon clerk?" or "Does he have lace curtains?" And all of this was strictly underground. None of it was discussed openly.

Did Dallas at the time have any attitudes toward sexual orientation that were different from other major cities in the U.S.? Possibly, Dallas being much more conservative and in the center of the Bible Belt was certainly different from San Francisco and New York. But then, even San Francisco was never referred to as a "gay" city, but New York was known to have its own gay area, Greenwich Village. Even Dallas' Oak Lawn in the late 1950's was not a gay area. It didn't become that until later.

Homosexuality was illegal at the time, correct?

Oh yes, there were sodomy laws in Texas. Ironically, I was called for jury duty once in about 1958, and the first case that came up was a sodomy case, which was a felony. However, I was not allowed on the jury because I did not own property in Dallas. Also, women could not serve on juries if they were not married. Homosexuality was never, ever discussed because just to be associated with it could mean you would lose your job and be disgraced.

Did you ever see that happen first hand? Well, yes, probably. But mainly I would read about it in the newspaper. When I was a teenager, I remember the term that they would use in newspapers was "perversion", and I didn't know what that meant. So, I got a dictionary to look it up. I was so naïve.

With Kennedy coming on the scene with so much energy and determination to take a stand for racial civil rights, did that give you a glimmer of hope that it would also set in motion a stand for gay rights as well? No, I don't think I did actually. You just accepted being gay as a fact that would never be talked about. The thing, though, that struck a chord with me was his interest in mental health. He proposed a lot of mental health legislation. Today, we have a lot of mental health centers that did not exist before Kennedy.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) that recently passed [the Senate] was originally championed in 1996 by the late Sen. Ted Kennedy. Would you say that perhaps President Kennedy had some posthumous influence on his brother in the passage of this bill? Well it's entirely possible. There is no question that Jack had quite an influence on his brother, Ted, as well as Bobby, in every respect. Being like-minded, the Kennedys were devoted to public service, and many of their contributions were of a liberal leaning.

How much do you feel that the spirit of Martin Luther King with the march on Washington in 1963 influenced any movement toward gay rights, if any? Well, what comes to mind is that he was a member of the clergy. Years ago, when I taught at UTA, I had a student who wrote about AIDS and people with AIDS. She did her research at Methodist Hospital in Dallas. What she concluded in her thesis was that the demographic with the most negative attitude toward gays was the clergy. So, I'm not so sure that even though he was a crusader for human/civil rights that he would have been in favor of gay rights. To my knowledge, he never addressed publicly anything to do with gay rights.

With so much of what we are talking about right now, you have to transport yourself back to the era of which we are speaking. You have to call it for what it was then even though things are very obviously different now. It's a whole different vocabulary now.

What did you and your generation lose on Nov. 22? Actually, I think it renewed history for us. We can read about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and think about it what it was like. But, you haven't really lived through anything quite like a president being assassinated until it happens in your own time. I think it will always have a profound effect on me.

In your 85 years, did you ever think you would see some of the things you have as far as the advancement of gay rights? No, never, never! What is going on today, I didn't dare dream of 50 years ago. It's just amazing what has happened in 50 years. To think that we have a black man in the White House today? Why, when I was growing up in the 1930's and 40's, that would have been absolutely unheard of. And gay marriage? When we couldn't even say the word gay publicly? And now, we have what, 16 states recognizing gay marriage? It is just astounding, and I'm glad I've lived this long to see it. ■

Barry Houston Phillips is a two-time Emmy-winning designer and art director. He can be reached at bphillips66@flash.net.

■ **CLINIC**, From Page 10

center," Monroe said. "And Terry was right there with him every step of the way."

The Resource Center has had many names changes over its three decades in Dallas, most recently dropping "Dallas" from its title Resource Center Dallas earlier this year.

The actual center is named the John Thomas Gay & Lesbian Community Center, but the center's various youth, senior and food services fall under the Resource Center umbrella. While there used to be a sign with Thomas' name out by the street at the center's building on Reagan Street, two benefactors who paid for the building, are still listed by the front door.

The clinic's original name was Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic for AIDS Research, but it since changed to Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic. It provides dental, HIV and STD prevention and testing, and transgender health services among its services.

The name-change controversy reached a peak last week with Resource Center posting a statement from CEO Cece Cox on its Facebook page, explaining that the rebranding process wasn't complete, and the goal was to have the many programs under one uniform name.

"Resource Center honors the legacy of John Thomas, Bill Nelson, Terry Tebedo and so many others," the statement read in part. "Without their vision, passion and tireless efforts, we would not exist today nor have the privilege of serving our community. As we complete the changes to our facilities, you will note signage, photos and artifacts of John, Bill, Terry and others that remind us all of their tireless efforts to ensure excellent healthcare services for those living with HIV/AIDS."

Some, like Monroe, worried the signage on the clinic's building on Cedar Springs Road would change and only memorial plaques would hang on the walls with Nelson and Tebedo's names. But what angered Monroe was that there has "been no clear answer."

But Cox said this week that the rebranding process is a lengthy one that would continue into the next year.

"We're in a long rebranding process," she said. "It's been a thoughtful process."

She said removing Nelson and Tebedo's names had "never been our intention and that's not what's happening." While the current logo refers to it as Resource Center Clinic, Cox said that is just the primary logo and the next logo will include the names, as well as the letterhead, as part of the center rolling out the rebranding efforts.

"We've always intended to honor the legacy, and the clinic is going to reflect the names of Nelson-Tebedo, along with the new logo," Cox said. "That was always the intention, and that's what we're going to do."

In the meantime, the community will have to wait for the names to reappear in connection with the clinic. But they still worry they've lost them.

"The community names buildings and structures after visionaries and leaders. Now their names are missing," Monroe said. ■



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viewpoints

Dallas missed an opportunity

Instead of showcasing the city's evolution into a cultural center since the 1963 assassination, it's showing off its paranoia

Every Dallas hotel room should have been booked this week for a celebration of the life of President John F. Kennedy on the 50th anniversary of his assassination in Dealey Plaza.

Instead, the city has perpetuated the idea of Dallas as the City of Paranoia.

People from around the world should have been invited to come to visit the Sixth Floor Museum to learn about history. Instead, on the anniversary, the museum will be closed. Our editor was allowed into the museum earlier this week after preregistering for an invitation-only press event, and photography was only allowed on the seventh floor.

The main focus, however, should have been a week of events celebrating JFK and commemorating the event that defined Dallas. Cultural events should have filled the city's calendar.

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Turtle Creek Choral could have mounted a production of *Mass*.

Jacqueline Kennedy commissioned Leonard Bernstein to compose the piece in honor of the president. Stephen Schwartz wrote the lyrics

for the work for the grand opening of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. in 1971.

The Dallas Opera could have filled the Winspear with visitors to the city by staging, well, any classic opera in its repertoire. City Performance Hall and the Wyly Theatre should have had two or three performances scheduled each day through this weekend — dance, music and lectures.

Local choreographer Bruce Wood might have been commissioned to create a new piece, while Ballet Folklórico and Dallas Black Dance Theater could have staged some of their classic works. TITAS might have brought in a nationally known dance troupe.

Local music groups like the Dallas Wind Ensemble should be performing. Name entertainment should have been booked in every venue from the Meyerson to the American Airlines Center. Lyric Stage that specializes in staging Broadway musicals with orchestrations restored to their original glory should have mounted a production of *Camelot*.

Every museum should be part of the commemoration. Sure, photo exhibits about the

life of Kennedy should be there, but maybe the Nasher would focus a gallery on sculpture from the 1960s and the Dallas Museum of Art would feature artists who came of age during Kennedy's 1,000 days in office.

While collaboration with Fort Worth is something that still horrifies most people in Dallas, this would have been the perfect time to do so.

The Kimbell Art Museum is opening a building next week. The new Piano Pavilion almost doubles display space and adds a beautiful new auditorium to Fort Worth's cultural map. With coordination, that city could have timed the opening to this week's commemoration and dedicated the unveiling to the memory of JFK giving his last speech in Fort Worth the morning of Nov. 22 before traveling to Dallas.

Instead, Dallas has gone from the City of Hate to the City of Paranoia. The only people allowed near Dealey Plaza on Friday have gone through complete background checks. They will be bused in from American Airlines Center or the Winspear. Even though it's supposed to rain, no umbrellas will be allowed. They won't be allowed to carry anything to the site with them.

Dallas County offices near Dealey Plaza are closed for the day. The Sixth Floor Museum is closed for the day. Two DART lines will stop running for a few hours because they run over the Triple Underpass and wrap around the Sixth Floor Museum's parking lot by the pergola where the second shooter stood.

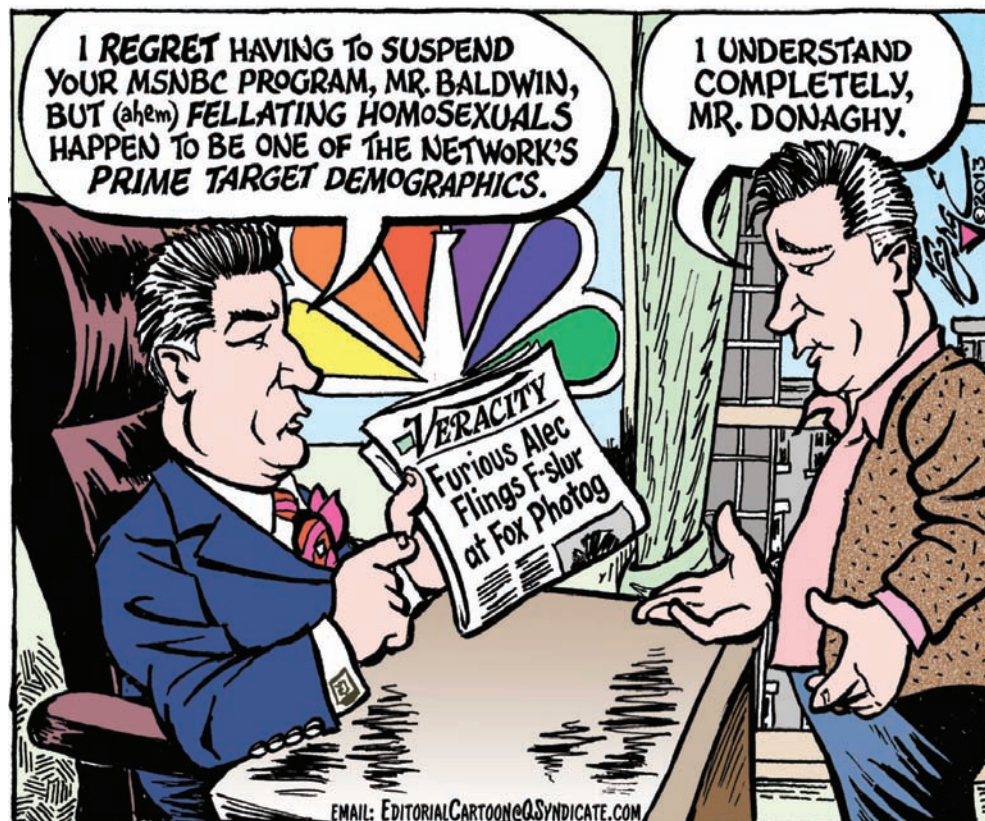
Everyone is being told to stay away. The "X" marking the spot where Kennedy was hit was removed last week.

In the national press, Dallas looks ridiculous.

David Taffet was in the fifth grade in Yonkers, N.Y., when President Kennedy was assassinated. He can be reached at taffet@dallasvoice.com



David Taffet
Staff Writer



Speak Out poll

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Do you think Dallas' JFK commemoration was appropriate?

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Jingle Bell

LIFE+STYLE

music

Erasure's out frontman Andy Bell on the group's new CD, his love of carols and campy holiday albums



'GLOBE' TROTTERS | Together professionally since 1985, Andy Bell and Vince Clarke have reunited again as Erasure, including their new Christmas-music CD 'Snow Globe,' yet both still pursue solo projects.

Two years after their last studio effort, 2011's *Tomorrow's World*, synthpop icons Erasure have returned with a first holiday-themed album, *Snow Globe* (Mute Records). A mix of classics and original ditties, *Snow Globe* features keyboard whiz Vince Clarke in a restrained yet tech-forward mode, while frontman Andy Bell's vocals are mellifluous and harmony-layered.

Out now in CD form, *Snow Globe* is also available in a special three-disc box set containing a Christmas bauble, calendar, signed Christmas card and more, while the superb Tim Burton-esque stop-motion animation music video for "Gaudete" is online.

Openly HIV-positive since 2004, London-based Bell joined his Florida-based boyfriend, Stephen Moss, in a British civil partnership in January and splits his time between their respective cities.

"I just moved to a new area called Limehouse in East London," Bell says. "I went to the local gay pub and there's an 80-year-old drag queen there. Her name is Maisie Trollette, and she used to be in a trio called The Trollettes. They were funny and extremely filthy."

Bell talked about *Snow Globe*, the campiest holiday album ever, and whether he would have blurred lines like Miley Cyrus did at the VMAs.

— Lawrence Ferber

Dallas Voice: Have you always been a fan of holiday and Christmas albums?

Andy Bell: Not particularly. It depended on what your parents had around. When we were kids, we listened to those by Elvis Presley and Jim Reeves, which is where "Silver Bells" came from. For myself, I really loved the Phil Spector Christmas record, Barbra Streisand's *A Christmas Album*, which she did in 1967. That's where we took Erasure's version of "Ave Maria" [on the 2003 *Solsbury Hill* EP] from. I wouldn't say I'm a huge fan of Christmas music, but I do love the carols.

What is the gayest holiday album or TV special you've ever seen? It was probably one of Stanley Baxter's Christmas Specials they used to show here in the 1970s on the BBC. He was a very masculine, handsome Scottish actor who did a magnificent Judy Garland impersonation even with a large nose. Erasure starred in one of the campiest TV shows ever, called *Camp Christmas*, for U.K. Channel 4 in about 1996. And the best camp Christmas album has to be *Christmas in the Stars: the Star Wars Christmas Album*.

In a recent Billboard interview about *Snow Globe*, Vince said, 'We thought it would be more interesting to look into the darker side of the season. For a lot of people, Christmas is not a happy time.' How dark do the holidays get, do you feel? To me, I think it depends on where you're at, because I had quite a few Christmases where, especially when my previous partner [Paul Hickey, who passed away in 2011] was really ill. I hate that feeling of when you have to be somewhere. You don't want to be there but have to. It's nice once in a while to have your schedule clear and do what you like without feeling obliged during holidays. At the same time you do have to think of other people. It sounds terrible.

You've been alternating solo albums with Erasure efforts for some time. Is it easy to snap back into Erasure mode? Yes. We always get nervous before we meet again, me and Vince. It's like meeting your ex-wife or something, and once we've been together for a half hour it's fine again and back to normal. All the solo stuff is still ongoing and hopefully some time next year more will come out.

What is the story behind the original tune, "Blood on the Snow?" That's inspired by the story of the Little Tin Soldier. He blew up the mantelpiece and flew out of the house and got caught in the rain, went down the drain, got eaten by a fish, and the fish got caught and he was found inside. It's based on that, really. A sad Christmas story. It's beautiful, though!

There are no Hanukkah ditties? For shame! I don't really know any Hanukkah songs, even though my new hubby is half-Jewish, half-Lebanese. I suppose I will learn some one of these days!

Regardless, it's a beautiful album. I love the album. It's really quiet, and I think the song "Silver Bells" at the end really reminds me of the film *It's A Wonderful Life*. It's very snowy, and it's like a black and white album in some ways, I don't know why.

On to non-holiday related topics, what are your thoughts about the will-it-ever-go-away Miley Cyrus VMA hot mess? I thought it was quite unnecessary, all the stuff she did. But she's very young and very naïve. Unfortunately, people these days, the more sexy and explicit and outrageous you can be corresponds to record sales. Young kids get a thrill from watching their heroes like that. But I was really appreciative of Sinead O'Connor's letter to her.

I was surprised that sparked off a war! Yeah, yeah. I think once Miley gets older, she'll realize that was a really sweet thing of Sinead to do. It wasn't to cause trouble or anything; it was because she cared. And it's true. The music business is exploiting women.

You've been provocative and flamboyant in concert. Do you think, were you Miley's age today, you might do something like she did? Well, maybe. I feel like I might be a bit of a frustrated porno star! So if I was younger, I probably might be tempted to go off and do something like that, but I'm glad we came out when we did because it was a very different climate. There's a huge amount of pressure on young people to become sexualized now.

The HIV drug Truvada is being used now by HIV-negative people to lower the chance of HIV infection. It's been controversial. Some feel it encourages less responsible behavior while others feel it is a new tool to prevent HIV. Your thoughts? I would much rather take the least amount of pills as possible. Of course safe sex [is best]. If there was a cure for HIV, I would take it tomorrow!

Do you feel a bit like a U.S. citizen now that you married a Floridian, and will you get married there, too, once it's legal? I know it sounds funny, but you really do live out of a suitcase. I'd eventually like to settle down with Steve and Angel, our Dobie, but for now I love my trips to Florida and the U.S. because I do feel truly embraced there. I can leave my baggage elsewhere, if you get my drift!

Snow job

We go a-caroling with new holiday music from Erasure, Kelly Clarkson, Matthew Morrison and DFW Actors Give Back

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

Erasure, *Snow Globe*. Let's face it: The problem with most Christmas albums is that they either contain all the same, boring carols ("Silent Night," "The Christmas Song") or obscure medieval songs or — *gasp!* — "new" songs written specifically for the album.

Snow Globe does all those things. And it's great.

Both "Silent Night" and "The Christmas Song" are on here, plus "A Midnight Clear," "White Christmas" and "Silver Bells," but they become Erasure songs, through-and-through. You won't even recognize *Chestnuts roasting on an open fire* from the opening chords, with the synth-pop duo's catchy, rhythmic syncopation, which sounds like the background score for Super Mario Bros. but blossoms into a full-orchestrated carol anchored by Andy Bell's strong vocals.

On that, and many other tracks, there are definite Erasure signatures. But they also show themselves capable of evolving. On "Silent Night," Bell's voice recalls Art Garfunkle's breathy mystery, but the baseline develops *a la* TransSiberian Orchestra to a somber track, perfectly at home closing out a Christmas Eve of hot buttered rum and warming toes by the fire.

"Gaudete," the first single from the album (and the second track), is a 16th century hymn first re-imagined as a modern electronica piece in 1973 by British folk group Steeleye Span, and the arrangement by Bell and Vince

Clarke both conveys sacred respectfulness and contemporary energy. If you're gonna go obscure, go full-bore with Latin lyrics and a mix that could just as easily be a dance tune.

The dancefloor style goes Erasure-classic on "There'll Be No Tomorrow", which could be a forgotten recording from Erasure's early days in the mid-1980s, from the echo-chamber refrain to the plucked synthesizer notes on the chorus. I'm not sure exactly what it's doing on a Christmas



HAPPY HOLIDAYS | Clarkson's holiday CD conjures Phil Spector's Wall of Sound technique.

album, but fans of the band will enjoy it for what it is: Electropop of the booggiest kind. No reason you can't get down with Santa.

Kelly Clarkson, *Wrapped in Red*. Leave it to North Texas' favorite chart goddess, Kelly Clarkson, to reinvent the holiday album with new songs that manage to conjure the past. The first two tracks on her *Wrapped in Red* CD — the title number and "Underneath the Tree" — were co-written by Clarkson, but produced in the Wall of Sound style, with a reverberant acoustic-electric mix and her voice piercing through. You might mistake either song for a forgotten Darlene Love follow-up to "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)."

It's not all a Phil Spector tribute album, but it is almost all good. "Winter Dreams" suggested the WofS with a hint of Duffy thrown in; on "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," permanently



Kelly Clarkson wrapped in Red

■ SNOW, Next Page



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WE'RE THE BEST! 



DFW ACTORS GIVE BACK | The board of the local theater charity that produced this year's 'Holidazzle: Encore!', the third in a series of benefit albums of Christmas music.

■ **SNOW**, From Previous Page

ingrained in the gay psyche by Judy, Kelly adds only a trace of the vocal runs that characterize modern pop, and lets the glorious richness of this sentimental masterpiece shine through; and "Run, Run Rudolph" employs the brassy, blues-rock orchestrations the song was designed for. Clarkson's vocals are never less than phenomenal (she really is one of pop's best beltors), though on a track like "Every Christmas" she almost seems to put in more than the song calls for, and it's all but impossible to sing "Blue Christmas" without inviting comparisons to The King. But with 16 songs covering more than 50 minutes of music, from country to classics, sacred to novelty, there's plenty here to enjoy for seasons to come.

Matthew Morrison, A Classic Christmas. Before he was Mr. Shoe on *Glee*, theater queens knew Matthew Morrison as the silken-voiced stud of B'way shows like *The Light in the Piazza* and *South Pacific*. Morrison has continued to record (not always with great results) as well as



act on TV, and his latest, an EP of holiday carols, probably won't do much to extend his music career. Bit of free advice: Keep your day job.

There's nothing wrong with Morrison's

singing, *per se*. He has clear tone and pitch, but this six-song collection (running under 20 minutes) has less edge than a butter knife. Christmas albums don't need to be dark, but to stand out it wouldn't hurt to have something other than a Vanilla Records slate of safe, familiar songs: "Jingle Bell Rock," "Let It Snow," "O Holy Night." I sing more interesting songs in the shower on Christmas Eve.

And good tone doesn't equate to creative

phrasing or richness. On "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" (the blandest of carols popularized by that blandest of singers, Andy Williams), Morrison actually make his voice spooky for the line *scary ghost stories*; it's like he's singing to kindergarteners. Bah, humbug.

Various artists, Holidazzle: Encore! "Most Wonderful Time of the Year" also kicks off this, the third Christmas album from the ad hoc non-profit collective DFW Actors Give Back. But not only is it better produced, it's followed by 16 more numbers, dense with engaging arrangements. Like previous incarnations (in 2009 and 2011) of *Holidazzle*, this one benefits a local children's charity from sales of the CD throughout the Metroplex during the holiday season. And like the others, it's a reminder of how much talent the North Texas has on its stages — and in its recording studios.

Once more produced by K. Doug Miller and Bob Hess, *Encore!* has a campy sensibility, such as the inclusion of "The Island of Misfit Toys" and the Jerry Herman anthem "We Need a Little Christmas."

That toggles to Gary Floyd's lilting tenor on Joni Mitchell's "River" (a melancholy stunner of a song in any context) and Liz Mikel dueting with John Venable on an earthy "Merry Christmas, Baby," then transitioning into the layered harmonies on the mash-up of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "Angels We Have Heard On High." There's literally a sound for every taste — making the CD ideas for any nog-sloshing holiday party. (And unlike most CDs, there's actually a chance the artists on the album could be *at* your party.) ■

One hundred percent of all sales of *Holidazzle: Encore!* benefit the Children's Cancer Fund in honor of Libby Serber and her parents.



HOLIDAY

GIFT **GUIDE**
two thousand thirteen



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CLEAN, COOL AND HOT!

We admit it! We have been seduced by the design and styling of Dyson products! (Hey, we are gay.) Functional and sculptural, they are the perfect way to impress someone in your life. But you don't need to go top-of-the-line vacuum to do it. The DC44 hand vac has the powerful suction of a Dyson in a convenient size, with an extending wand to use like a full-size or to reach cobwebs in corners. And if you've ever been wooed by Dyson's famed blade-less fan, you have to check out the AM05 Air Multiplier, which not only has a cooling oscillating fan, but converts effortlessly into a space heater, all while looking like a piece of desktop art. Each retail for \$399.99.

Available at major retailers across the Metroplex and at Dyson.com.



GETTING IN DUTCH

So, you spent three month's salary on that new stove, and you want to put what on it? Oh, no, no. Plant some herbs in that old beleaguered pot and put it outside the kitchen door and replace it with this All-Clad Dutch oven from Sur La Table. No one would turn his nose up at your goulash when it's simmering in this made-in-the-USA cookery jewel. Did we mention you'll see your glowing reflection in the shiny finish? You'll want two. \$274.95.

Available at Sur La Table
4527 Travis St.
214-219-4404.
SurLaTable.com.

MIXING IT UP

Here's the downside of giving someone a KitchenAid mixer as a present: It's such an iconic piece of equipment — readily identifiable with its brushed stainless bowl and muscular mixing arm in a parade of snazzy colors — that you will be instantly jealous of whoever you give it to. So here's a suggestion: Take in someone you'll want to spend a lot of time with. He or she can make you cookies every night, and you still get to be in its presence (and someone else will be responsible for clean-up). Problem solved. \$430.

Available at KitchenAid.com.



BIRD ON A WIRE

The holidays don't have to be for the birds, but we kinda don't mind, when the birds are these elegant sculptures from Dulce. This desktop sculpture puts four aluminum winged creatures on a metal branch, mounted to a wooden base. It's a charming tchotchke for the art collector, birder or just anyone who enjoys a conversation piece. \$45.

Available at Dulce
2914 Oak Lawn Ave.
214-219-5656.



BE A MAD MAN

It doesn't take a TV junkie to know how Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams came up with the name of their Draper Chair: The elegant retro lines and eye-catching, silky lime upholstery call to mind Don Draper's 1960s office on *Mad Men*. But this timeless piece will be a joy long after the TV show has hit syndication. \$1,025.

Available at Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams
4519 McKinney Ave.
214-753-8700.
MGBWDallas.com.



COLOR SPLASH

Combining functionality, style and fun in one gift is the giver's magic bullet, and kitchen and tabletop products from Zak! Designs fits the bill. With bursts of pastels in interesting patterns like Bubbles nesting bowls for the coziest kitchen, these products will bring a smile to anyone's face Christmas morning.



Available at Zak.com.



PUT SOME ZEST IN THEIR LIVES

The foodie on your list will really appreciate the Salad Zinger, which makes creating one's own custom dressing a snap. Merely place fresh ingredients (herbs, fruits, spices) in the bottom compartment of the cruet, close the chopping-mechanism lid, and add olive oil and vinegar, and boom! You've infused your dressing with the flavors you choose. \$24.95

Available at Brookstone stores and at ZingAnything.com.

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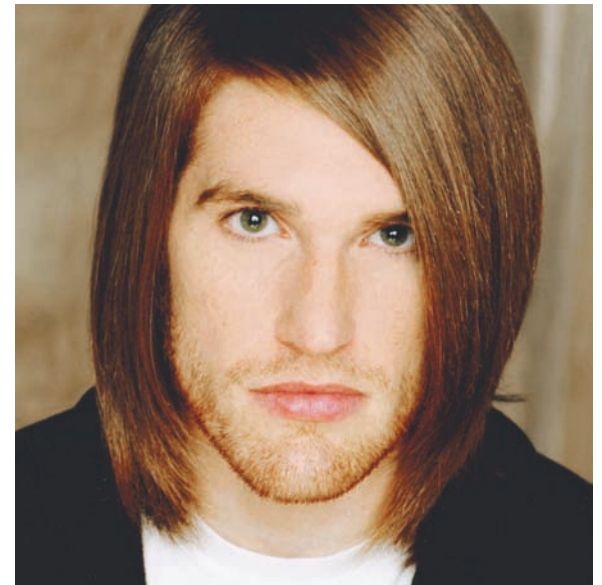




GIVE THE GIFT OF BROADWAY

We thought last season's slate of Dallas Summer Musicals shows was gay, but baby, they outdid themselves for 2014, with musicals based on the music of Queen (*We Will Rock You*, pictured), Disney features (*The Little Mermaid* from gay Dallas playwright Doug Wright), and Gershwin (*Nice Work If You Can Get It*, also written by a gay guy, Joe DiPietro). So many gays in musical theater ... do you think it's a trend? Anyway, season tickets are the gift that keeps giving, January through September. Season tickets from \$133.

DallasSummerMusicals.org.



STAGING A SCENE

What better way to celebrate the holidays than with a night of theater — whether your giftee is a Santa or a Scrooge. Most of America first learned of David Sedaris through his radio essay *The Santaland Diaries* about his days working as an elf at Macy's. WaterTower Theatre is bringing back the popular stage adaptation of this hilarious one-man show with Garrett Storms portraying the hapless Crumpet and Kelsey Ervi directing. It's an ideal gift to share with the curmudgeon on your list who could use a laugh between mall trips. For the person in your life who loves the corny delights of the holidays, the classic *Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*, flies into the Majestic Theater for a monthly run.

WaterTower Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. Runs Dec. 13–29. Tickets from \$22. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm St. Runs Nov. 29–Dec. 29. Tickets from \$20. ATTPAC.org.

A DIAMOND IS FOREVER

You don't need to worry about carats to give the gift of a diamond — assuming it's the Monster Diamond Tears headphones from Apple. These decorative audio earphones are as blinged out in an oh-so-fashionable diamond pattern, while delivering the high-quality listening experience of Monster Sound technology. And for the nerd in your life who'd marry his iPad if he could, the fact it's from Apple seals the deal. \$299.

Available at the Apple Store at NorthPark Center 8687 N. Central Expressway and at Apple.com.



LOVELY TO LOOK AT

Max Jones is known widely as a furniture entrepreneur — he of Jones Walker Furniture in the Design District — but he's just as talented for what his clients hang on the walls. As a painter, Jones' abstract acrylics range from a gamut of colors, styles and sizes that not only fit any décor but also bring beauty to any room in their own right. From \$150.

Available at Jones Walker Furniture 1531 Dragon St. 469-916-5500. JonesWalkerHome.com.



RAISE THE LANTERN

The State Fair is over, but the Chinese Lantern Festival isn't — and lucky for you. No need to fight Fair traffic to check out this illuminating experience, a breathtaking display at night. Dozens of silk-strewn items glow with the beauty of Asia in this captivating display of color and shape. If you're looking for an impressive lights display, this is unbeatable. Tickets \$11-\$22 (based on age).

Fair Park. Open most evenings, 5:30-10:30 p.m., through Jan. 5.
ChineseLanternFestival.com.



CAN'T BE BEAT

With a pair of Beats Solo headphones, you'll clearly hear Adele's deep rumbling lows and Mariah's for dogs'-ears-only vocal aerobics. Made of super-durable, flexible material and reinforced with a metal strip, the clear-coat finish will match that of the Aston Martin you've driven in your dreams. A built-in mic lets you switch between songs and incoming calls. With two speakers in each earpiece, it's like Mariah is right there in your head. Better if it were Nick Cannon.

Available at Brookstone NorthPark Center
8687 N. Central Expressway, 214-368-0473.

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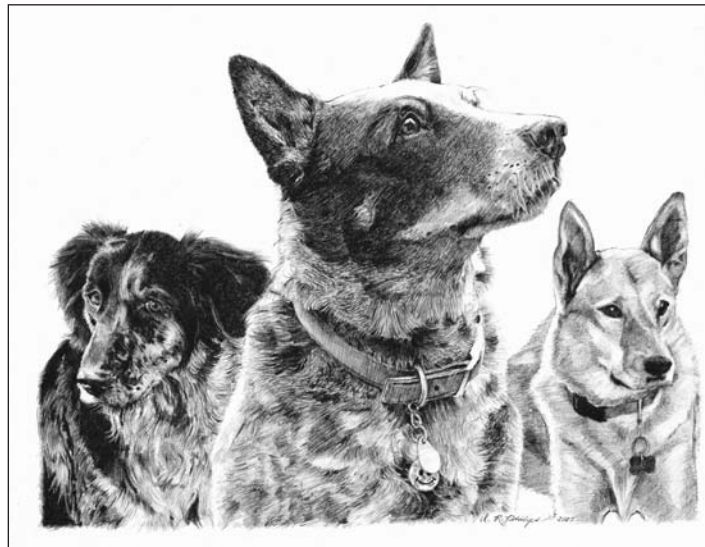
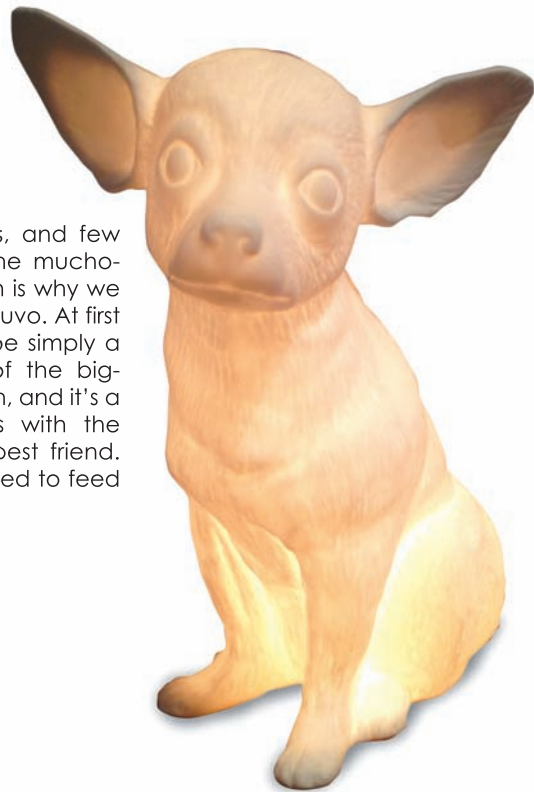
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AN ENLIGHTENING IDEA

We gays love our pets, and few pets are gayer than the mucho-prissy Chihuahua, which is why we love this product from Nuvo. At first glance, it appears to be simply a knickknack statuette of the big-eared dog, but turn it on, and it's a desk lamp that glows with the sweet face of man's best friend. Best of all: You don't need to feed him. \$135.

Available at Nuvo
2911 Oak Lawn Ave.
214-522-6886.
NuvoDallas.com.



PORTRAIT FROM THE ARTIST

Leonardo isn't around to capture your teasing Mona Lisa smile, but David Philips is — and Leo never painted pets! You and your furry companion will feel like a royal as the portrait artist takes you through the process that produces a work worthy of a gallery showing. David works from photographs he takes, with wardrobe, lighting and mood all considered to capture your ethereal charm. For only \$200, you can get a 6x8-inch portrait; for you larger-than-life divas, go for the 9x12 or 11x14 portraits.

Available from David Philips.
214-498-6273.
DRPhilips.net.



COLLAR ME

Keep your dog in line while still showing off the fashion sense of its gay owner with a Petmate collar and leash from Petropolitan. These stylish leads, which you can mix and match in a variety of colors and patterns, make a statement — and even your dog likes to look good while sniffing butts. (He learned from the best.) \$3.99–\$12.99.

Available at The Petropolitan
408 N. Harwood St.
214-741-4100.
ThePetropolitanDallas.com.

WOOF INDEED

We debated whether to include this bit of jewelry from Harper and Hound in the human-gift section or the one for our four-legged friends. After all, the word "Hound" is in the retailer's name, and it does say "Woof!" And while this jewelry is more for bears than pups — and when we say bears, we ain't talkin' zoo creatures — since it's also available in a pet version, we have it here! The pewter with silver plating pending is an inch in diameter and comes with a braided leather cord to secure it on your leash. Uh, neck — we meant neck. Whatever. \$38.

Available at
HarperAndHound.com.



SIAMESE IF YOU PLEASE

We all know love is the greatest gift of all, but you can't buy love ... or can you? You can certainly try with the Texas Siamese Rescue, which places these elegant, fun pets in caring homes. Adopt a Meezer (or Meezer Mix) and you'll have done something great not only for your giftee, but for your gift. \$75–\$200.

Texas Siamese Rescue,
1123 N. Corinth St., Corinth.
940-497-2717.
Tx.SiameseRescue.org.



CATWALK? NO DOGWALK

The paparazzi will go mad when Daphne walks down the strip in her holiday frock. And the tartan print? Perfect for that weekend stay with William and Kate at Balmoral. The royal corgis will be smitten by the red velvet bodice and black velvet bow, and the queen is sure to notice the silver threading glittering throughout the piece. The price is perfect for the commoner's budget. Fits pooches under 25 pounds — sorry, Lassie. \$20

Available at Dee's Doggie Den
6444 E. Mockingbird Lane.
214-823-1441.
DeesDoggieDen.com.



THE WRIST OF THE STORY

If time is money, then it certainly ought to be displayed in a fetching frame. With a watch from Fashion Optical on your wrist, you'll have that gorgeous stranger across the room sliding up to you to ask for the time. Coily hold up your hand-made piece and tell him you have all the time in the world. \$85.

Available at Fashion Optical
3430 Oak Lawn Ave.
214-526-6006.
FashionOpticalDallas.com.

WHO DO VOODOO? YOU DO

Keying your ex's car is so 2012. What's the point of getting that tacky red paint on your pretty key? And it can also be used as evidence at the trial. No, no. For safe revenge, get yourself a Dammit Doll, and the next time you don't get your way, grab it by the legs and beat it against the wall while screaming, "Dammit!" They come in various sizes and colors, but you'll need to hurry and buy one. We hear Speaker John Boehner ordered two dozen. \$13.95-\$29.95.

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4628 Oak Lawn Ave.
214-521-6763.
ImageEyeWear.com.



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New York Times

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PUT SOME CRUNCH IN SOMEONE'S CHRISTMAS

It's easy to eat tons-o'-crap during the holidays, so a little health food (especially for the health-food nut on your list) can really keep the waistband in check. Locally-produced White Rock Granola makes small-batch trail mixes in four delightful flavors: orange-maple, C4 (cranberry, cashew, cayenne and cinamon), choco-almond and the latest invention, Oh, Snap! (ginger, nutmeg, clove, pumpkin seeds and molasses — pictured). Girl, you know you like to snap!

Available at area Central Market stores (10 oz. bag for \$7.99) and at WhiteRockGranola.com (5 oz. bags, 3/\$10).



SO LONG, MUFFINTOP

CoolSculpting is the latest non-surgical way to lose love handles and trim the fat. This revolutionary technology targets and cools unwanted fat cells in the selected area to induce a noticeable, natural-looking reduction in bulges. Unlike most other methods of fat reduction, it involves no needles, surgery or downtime. It's safe, FDA-cleared and effective. Results look natural and can be seen as early as three weeks following treatment, with the most dramatic results after one to three months. \$700/area (discounts for multiple areas).

Available at De Novo
2603 Oak Lawn Ave.
214-219-4100.
DeNovoSpa.com.



CHASTITY BONUS

In days of yore, knights would ensure the loyalty of their women with a chastity belt, designed to Ummm "impede" access to her nether regions. But how is the modern gay man to do the same with his partner while away? This novelty gift from Alternatives at New Fine Arts may have the solution. The Curve is designed to fit over your BF's member, and only you have the key! Of course, putting it on and taking it off together is part of the fun! \$149.95.

Available at Alternatives at New Fine Arts
1720 W. Mockingbird Lane.
214-638-0765.



WINE LIKE YOU MEAN IT

Your face might not be the one that launched a thousand ships — yet — but it could be on the bottle that launches a ship. With a personalized label (make it of yourself and your significant other, your cat or whatever), that glass jug of Three Buck Chuck is transformed into a bottle of Chateau LaTour. The order is printed quickly, giving you plenty of time to touch up your face so it matches the glamour shot we know you'll use on the labels. Go with the profile and diffused lens. \$20-\$27.

2 Corks & A Bottle
2800 Routh St., Suite 120.
214-871-9463.
TwoCorksandaBottle.com.



SWEATER WEATHER

On first glance, this knit sweater from Outlines looks like just another campy holiday jumper. Look closer, and you'll see the naughty detail that makes it ideal for your friend with a cold metabolism but a warm sense of humor. This tipsy piece of winter wear combines the clever with the practical in a variety of styles and images. \$74.

Available at
Outlines Men's Wear,
3906 Cedar Springs Road,
214-528-1955.



CUCKOO FOR COCO

No one does fragrance like Chanel, and we're especially entranced by the scene for Bleu: Fresh, clean and sensual for today's man. You can treat your sweetie to the large format 5.0 (\$115), or for the guy on the go, the slim travel-sized version can be put in an airline carry-on and sail through the TSA line. It even comes with two refills! (\$59)

Available at Dillards at
NorthPark Center,
8687 N. Central Expressway
and at Chanel.com.

SOCIAL LUBRICANT

Lets face it: The holidays are about relationships, and there's no clearer way to make your intentions known than with a bottle of lube from Spunk. Available in a variety of styles and sizes, Spunk provides silken smoothness and long-lasting moisture in silicone and hybrid styles. It's always nice to have this handy after a glass of eggnog. \$8-\$40.

Available at
SpunkLube.com.




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Blake Little, whose photography book *The Company of Men* hit the shelves with great success 2 years ago, is back in Dallas to introduce his new book

MANIFEST

his long-awaited new collection of photographs. Blake will be at **NUVO** for a book-signing on **Friday, November 29th, 7-9pm** Meet Blake, along with some of his photography subjects, during this private, after-hours event.

join us!

NUVO 3311 Oak Lawn Avenue

Complimentary parking is available in the parking lot located just behind the back entrance of NUVO. Enter the lot through the arch on Oak Lawn or from Hall Street.





A CLOSE SHAVE

For the traveler on your list who never remembers to bring a charger, or who goes internationally and can't figure out adapters, ShaveTech has the solution. Its new electric razor is designed to give a close trim with a built-in charger — but not a two-pronged AC/DC charger, but a USB port. Yep, you can replenish your power by hooking it up to your laptop, so there's never an excuse not to go into a meeting with smooth skin. Heck, you can even shave during the meeting! \$29.99.

Available at ShaveTech.com.



GET YOUR KICKS

It's almost time to get warm by the fire and enjoy our version of winter, and a pair of relaxed-fit Naven-Spencer shoes from Skechers are a great way to feel comfortable. Roomy in the toes, in casual styles with memory foam insoles, they're ideal for cozing up on the couch.

Available at
Skechers NorthPark Center
8687 N. Central Expressway
or online at Skechers.com.

BEAUTIFY THE WORLD

A thing of beauty is a joy forever — and why shouldn't that apply to someone in your life? ESPA, the new high-end day spa at The Joule Hotel, is an ideal way to give your friend (and yourself) a day of luxury and relaxation (especially when the bustle of the holidays takes its toll). The elegant, all-new facilities include men's and women's wet areas, plus a co-ed pool, as well as an excellent menu of treatments, from full-body massages to refreshing facials. And after you get a rub-down, spend the remainder of your day lounging in the soothing, calm and beautifully appointed facilities (the fresh cookies are a nice touch, too).

ESPA, 1530 Main St.
ESPA at the Joule
TheJouleDallas.com/espa.





WORD UP

The holidays are a great time to give someone a book, but rather than guess his taste in the latest best-seller, why not find a coffee-table topic your special someone will really appreciate? New titles this season (from DK Press) for the nerd in your life include the new *Doctor Who Character Encyclopedia* and *Marvel Year By Year: A Visual Chronicle*, that puts fanboy heroes at the fore. If you're giftee is slightly more rough-and-tumble, how about *World Beer*, a compendium of outstanding brewskis from the four corners of earth. Range from \$16.99 up.

Available at Amazon.com and other booksellers.

PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN

If you're going to kick ass, you're going to need some kick-ass shoes. You just zip up and go to town in the Coltrane shoe. The laceless design offers a casual look, but in this day of wearing sneakers with black tie, they'll work anywhere with anything. The soft inside lining will keep you comfortable during those long walks down the red carpet or during the hours posing at the stand-and-model bars. Don't say you don't. Switch it up between red, black and blue, each for \$55.

Available at GBXShoe.com.



TURN 'MERRY CHRISTMAS' INTO 'I DO'

With marriage equality expanding like wildfire, you've run out of excuses not to propose to your significant other. Why not do it over the holidays? These matching, masculine Triton wedding bands from Fuller's Jewelry represent a beautiful way to turn the holidays into an anniversary. In tungsten silver with single or multiple diamonds. \$550-\$850.

Available at Fuller's Jewelry, 15164 Marsh Lane. 972-484-7581. FullersJewelry.com.

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David has lied to pretty much everyone around him, and it's bound to explode in his face when his family gathers at his apartment to celebrate Chanukah. Will David's Gentile boyfriend succeed at pretending to be Jewish? And will David reveal to his family the truth of his relationship?



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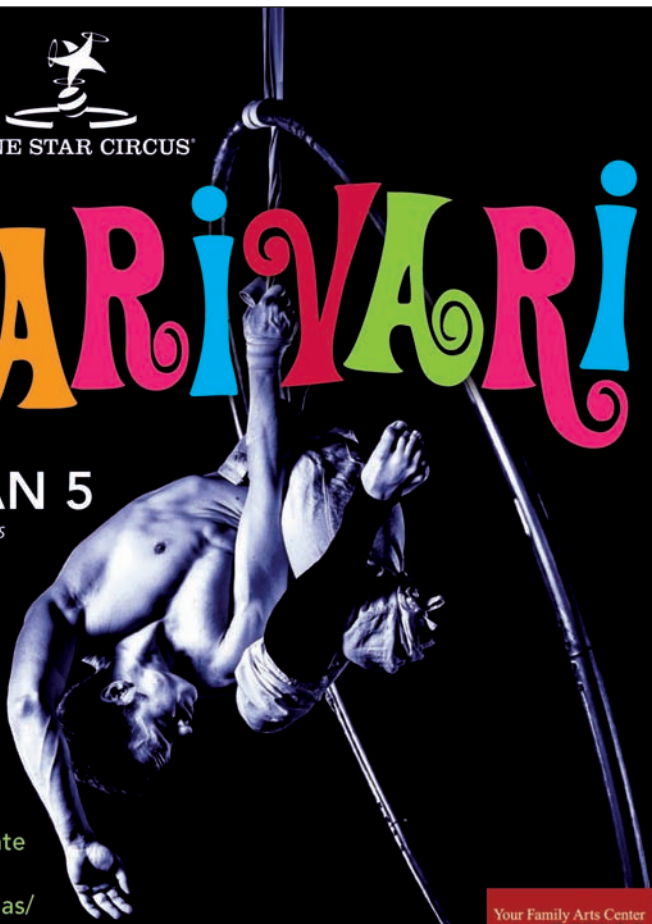
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Sunday 11.24

TGRA hosts underwear auction at Dallas Eagle

We admit it: They had us at “underwear auction.” Add to that the words “Texas Gay Rodeo Association” and we’re definitely headed in the right direction. This annual fundraiser is being presented by Scott Thompson, pictured, and Liquor First, the Mr. and Miss TGRA candidates for their 2015 titles. Emcee Christopher Wilson and auctioneer Steve Waldren promise celebrity appearances, plus a chance to mingle with the underwear models before you bid.

DEETS: Dallas Eagle, 8740 Maple Ave. Meet-and-greet at 6 p.m., auction at 7 p.m.



Friday 11.22



LIFE+STYLE

best bets

Scrap•Arts•Music combines music and movement at Winspear

TITAS has been moving to more dance-centric programming, but somehow, Scrap•Arts•Music seems to bridge the space between music and movement with its unique blend of handmade musical instruments and focus on movement for its entertaining show of sight and sound.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.

Friday 11.22 Sunday 11.24

COH stages landmark AIDS play, Larry Kramer’s ‘The Normal Heart’

It took decades to get Larry Kramer’s play *The Normal Heart* on Broadway, which it did two seasons ago. Now, it’s everywhere — including two productions in Dallas within the next month. The first will be presented by the Cathedral of Hope’s theater ministry for a free performance of the play that tackled head-on the political reaction to the AIDS crisis of the early 1980s. The show will get two performances: Friday night and again Sunday.

DEETS: The Sanctuary at the Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 24 at 7 p.m. Free. CathedralOfHope.com.



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calendar highlights



LET IT 'RAIN' | 'Rain,' a tribute show to the music of the Beatles, plays for two performances this weekend at Fair Park, courtesy of Dallas Summer Musicals.

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. *Final weekend.* Theatre3Dallas.com.

Race. David Mamet's controversial play gets its local premiere from Kitchen Dog Theater. (*Reviewed this week.*) The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through Dec. 14. KitchenDogTheater.org.

Other Desert Cities. Gay playwright Jon Robin Baitz's domestic comedy-drama gets its regional premiere. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. Through Dec. 15 (in previews through Nov. 24). Theatre3Dallas.com.

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical. The stage musical of the beloved children's book and TV special comes to Bass Hall, courtesy of Performing Arts Fort Worth. 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. *Final weekend.* 24. BassHall.com.

A Christmas Carol. For the first time since moving into the Wyly, the Dallas Theater Center returns to the Arts District with an all-new production of their seasonal staple, adapted and directed by Kevin Moriarty. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Dec. 24 (in previews through Dec. 5). DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles. This two-night only show is a special presentation of Dallas Summer Musicals. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Nov. 23-24 only. DallasSummerMusicals.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, stoneware and furnishings from Korea's storied past. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through Aug. 24. Free. CrowCollection.org.

Living in Limbo: Lesbian Families in the Deep South. Photographs portraying same-sex couples and often their children. African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave. Through Feb. 28. AAMDallas.org.

JFK/The '60s. Featured artist Kat will have 25 paintings on display in time to mark the 50th anniversary of the Kennedy Assassination. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. Through Dec. 14. ilumeGallerie.com.

QUEER CLIP: 'Philomena'

As her son's 50th birthday approaches, devout Irish Catholic Philomena (Judi Dench, in one of those performances people talk about all year) begins to feel melancholy. She doesn't know her son, it seems, as she was one of the Magdalene Girls, the indentured teens put into



service by convent nuns who used their labor and, it turns out, sold their children to rich Americans. By chance, Philomena meets up with Martin Sixsmith (Steve Coogan, who also co-wrote the screenplay), a cynical, disgraced BBC reporter looking for a project to distract him. He agrees to take on this human interest story — what he calls journalism written for “vulnerable, ignorant people” — and to his surprise, and ours, is transformed by it.

Philomena is one of the slickest movies of the year, one that lulls you into expecting a dopey family charmer and forces you to cry, gasp and shake your fist in anger. Director Stephen Frears specializes in outsider stories that take a jaundiced look at powerful institutions, and he's done a masterful job here, modulating the perpetually unexpected turns the screenplay takes without becoming saccharine. (It's a road movie with elements of *Chinatown* thrown in, if you can believe it.)

The gay subplot comes as a surprise, but it's just one of many in *Philomena* that keep you constantly off-balance. Oh, and it *is* a charmer as well. Well played.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Four stars. Opens Wednesday at Landmark's Magnolia Theater.

REVIEW: David Mamet's 'Race' at KDT

"Do you know what you can say to a black man on the question of race?" African-American lawyer Henry Brown (Jamal Gibran Sterling) asks his client (Cameron Cobb). "Nothing," the (white) client replies. "Absolutely correct." And yet, that's exactly what (white) playwright David Mamet takes on in his play *Race*, getting its local premiere from Kitchen Dog. The billionaire client has hired Brown — and his white law partner, Jack Lawson (Hax Hartman), — to defend him from charges he raped a black woman in his hotel room (shades of the Dominique Strauss-Kahn case in 2011). Did the client do it? And even if he did, should the partners and their young, black, female associate Susan (Jaquai Wade) step into the murk of defending him?

It's been about five years since Mamet became bat-shit crazy, rejecting his prior existence as a "brain-dead liberal" with a hard swing to the right, but truth be told, he's always been a strange apple in the fruit cart. Always fighting claims of misogyny, his provocative play *Oleanna* all but made out all women to be shrill defenders of victimhood at the cost of male dignity. I pretty much expected *Race* to do the same, but the fact is, the play has lost its ability to shock — not because Mamet isn't poking the hornet's nest, but because what he's invented for the dramatic stage can't compete with what's really going on in today's politics. When op-ed writers like Richard Cohen gamely take to the pages of *The Washington Post* to declare that interracial relationships and multicultural families churn the stomachs of people with "conventional views." If that's what so-called "intellectuals of the right" think on the issue of race, we're all doomed. It's not that Mamet's right; it's that he hasn't gone far enough.

And still, he's gone *too* far. Mamet reaches into a



tattered bag of dramaturgical tricks to sell his point, from making an obscure college thesis readily handy to constructing darkly cynical scenarios for his characters to follow with more attention to the writer's own agenda than to the characters' reality. But despite its flaws, this production of *Race* is actually a dandy little exercise in closed-door proselytizing. The tight cast is outstanding, the pacing brisk, the tone thoughtful and brash without being stentorian. It may not change any minds, but it may get some working that haven't lately. Maybe Richard Cohen should see it.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through Dec. 15. KitchenDogTheater.org.

FRIDAY 11.22

CONCERTS

Scrap•Arts•Music. TITAS presents this performance-art piece that mixes hand-crafted music with movement. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.

FOOD

Beaujolais and Beyond Wine Festival. The traditional launch weekend for Beaujolais Nouveau returns, as always, to the Metroplex for its 30th anniversary, courtesy the French-American Chamber of Commerce of Dallas. Dozens of wines and food from local chefs will be featured at the massive pre-Thanksgiving celebration. Irving Convention Center, 500 W. Colinas Blvd., Irving. \$60–\$70. FACCDDallas.com.

SUNDAY 11.24

FUNDRAISER

TGRA Underwear Auction. This fundraiser for the Dallas Chapter of the Texas Gay Rodeo Association includes a meet-and-greet with the models. Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. 6 p.m.

MONDAY 11.25

COMMUNITY

Are You Smarter Than a Drag Queen? The sassy game show is back, with more games and a cash prize. Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. 9 p.m.

browse

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

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THURSDAY 11.28 THANKSGIVING DAY

COMMUNITY

Turkey Trot. The annual 8-mile run and YMCA fundraiser returns for the 46th year. The start/end spot is at City Hall Plaza on Field Street. 9 a.m. TheTrot.org.

FRIDAY 11.29

BOOK SIGNING

Blake Little, *Manifest*. Gay photographer Blake Little, who previously released *The Company of Men*, will sign copies of his new limited-edition photobook, *Manifest*, as well as prints of his sexy snapshots of men. Nuvo, 3311 Oak Lawn Ave. 7–10 p.m.

this week's solution



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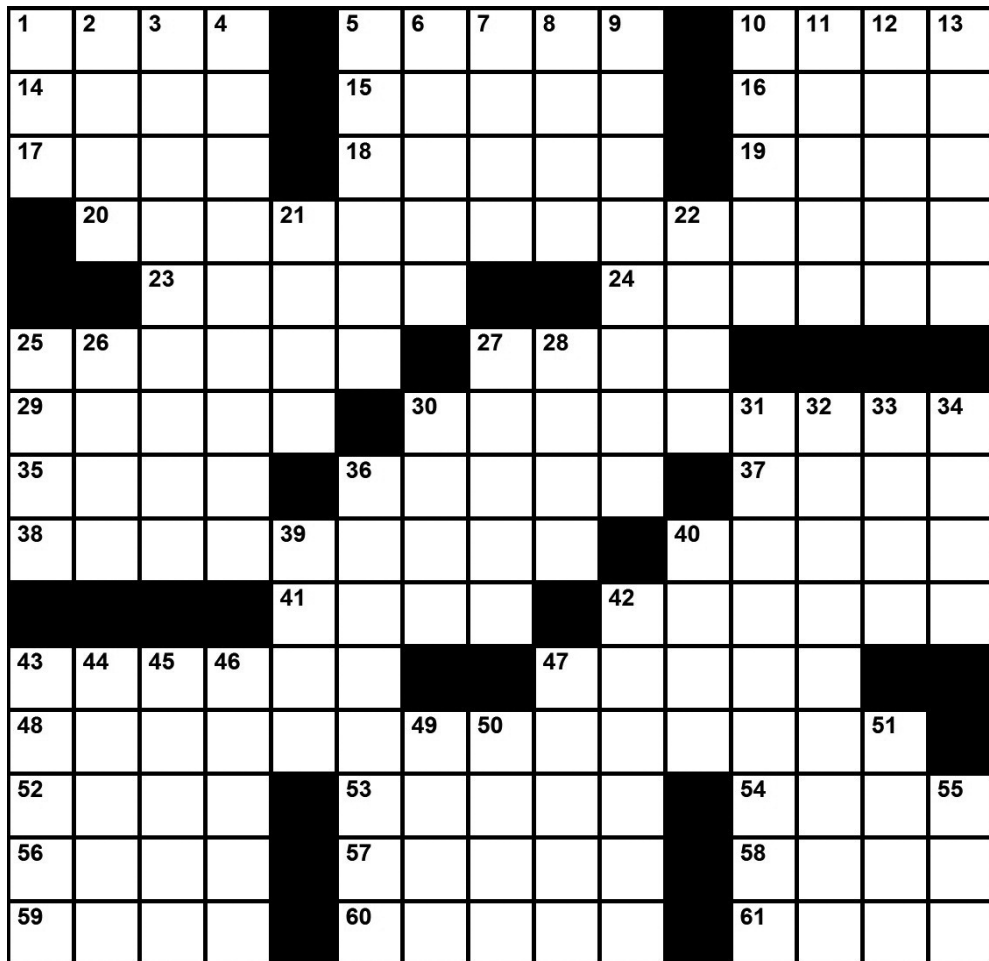
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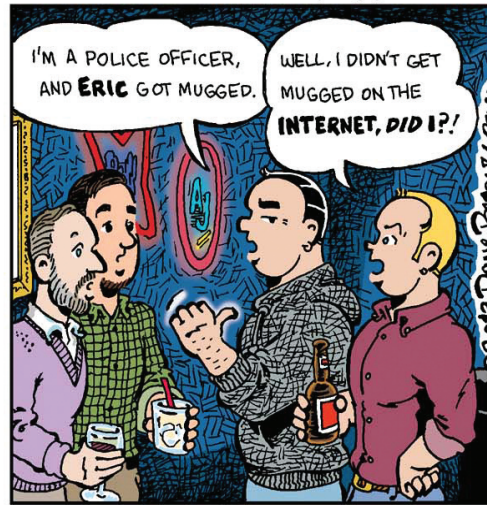
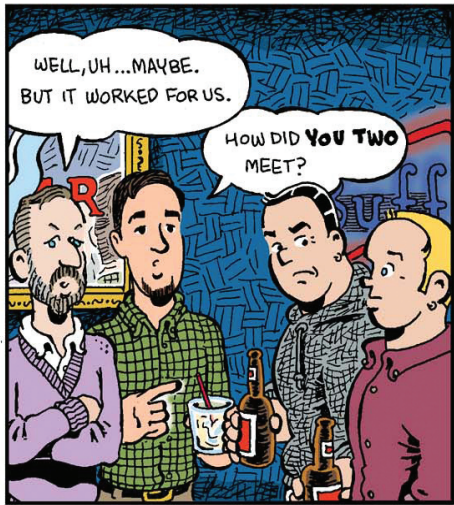
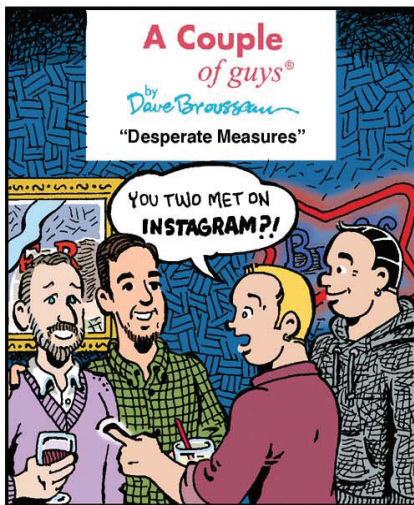
Solution on page 38

Across

- 1 Lance once of 'N Sync
- 5 Impotence confession
- 10 Mush
- 14 Madeline of *Young Frankenstein*
- 15 Jewish scripture
- 16 "___ that dares not speak its name"
- 17 Where a cobbler puts the tongue
- 18 Blow job, when you're not in the mood
- 19 Tributes in verse
- 20 He did a spoof on the horrors of ENDA
- 23 Where Patty Sheehan putts it
- 24 Tricks
- 25 Lands in the lake
- 27 Worker at the bottom
- 29 Sticky-tongued critters
- 30 With 38-Across, one of the horrors of ENDA
- 35 *Born Free* lioness
- 36 Subject to random chance
- 37 Prefix with peein'?
- 38 See 30-Across
- 40 Enjoyed a cologne queen, old-style
- 41 The color purple and more
- 42 There are a lot in a lot

Down

- 43 Tool of Emma Stebbins
- 47 "Fabool!"
- 48 Word in the spooof for a mermaid that can't be fired because of ENDA
- 52 Bite it
- 53 Rifles
- 54 Lincoln-Douglas debates subject Scott
- 56 Hit on the head
- 57 You must remember this
- 58 Morales of *NYPD Blue*
- 59 Spanking spot
- 60 Aden is its capital
- 61 Feudal slave





Jake, Randy and Scott at Woody's Sports & Video Bar.



Paul and Lee at TMC: The Mining Company.

Rainbow Lounge holds a masquerade ball birthday party for **Veronica Reyes** on Nov. 27. ... **Meech Movement** presents **Bring It To The Floor** hosted by **Prodigy Davenport** at **The Brick** on Nov. 22. Free admission until 10 p.m. Cash prize for best vogue. Music by **DJ Unique** and **DJ Rudeboy**. ... **Randy's Club Cherries** welcomes back the awesome **Wayne Smith** on Nov. 23 and a second show was added on Nov. 24. Call the club to reserve a table. ... At **Best Friends Club** on Nov. 23, proceeds from **Janie "Mom" Stanton's** sixth annual **Friends Helping Friends Show** will be used to purchase a Christmas gift for residents of the home where Mom works, people who would not receive a gift otherwise. ... **Bad Habits** appears at Sue Ellen's on Nov. 22. **Sheelah P and Infinity** perform on Nov. 23. Then it's **Mi Diva Loca** at the mike on Nov. 24. ... Doors open at 9 p.m. for the **S4 pre-Thanksgiving party** on Nov. 27. ... **JR.'s Bar & Grill's Potluck** includes **Edna Jean, Onyx, Alana, Jimmy and Sally** on Nov. 26. ... **The DFW Sisters** and **Leather Knights** present **Sleigh Ride** on Nov. 23 at the **Dallas Eagle**. **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** holds an underwear auction on Nov. 24. ... The **North Texas Council of Clubs** presents the third annual **Fall Frolick** on Nov. 23. Registration at the **Round-Up Saloon** takes place all afternoon. Lunch is served 1-4 p.m. and the **Mr. & Miss Fall Frolick 2013 Contest** takes place that evening. ... Nov. 22 is karaoke night at **Eden Lounge**. **DJ La** spins all night at the Nov. 23 rooftop party. Then on Nov. 24 **Kathy, Bella & Darla** perform with special guests at the toy drive for **Children's Medical Center** benefiting kids with cancer. Bring new, unwrapped toys or gift cards. ... Have a happy Thanksgiving and a merry Hanukah. ■

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



Joe Michael at BJ's NXS!



Wade at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Mindy at Alexandre's.



Matthew and David at Zippers.



Cory at S4.



Super Mario and Edward at TMC: The Mining Company.



Dade at the Round-Up Saloon.



David at The Brick.



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