

Dallas pastor to perform gay weddings

Northaven's Bill McElvaney faces possible trial for defying Methodist Church

George Harris and Jack Evans, together 53 years, plan to be among the first couples married in coming months

■ NORTHAVEN, Page 5



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Established 1984 | Volume 30 | Issue 37

FREE | Friday, January 24, 2014

Greetings from

HAWAII

Gay marriage comes home!

Hawaii's 20-year journey toward marriage equality
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■ COVERAGE BEGINS ON PAGE 6

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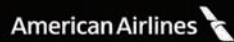
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Photos by Arnold Wayne Jones and Llevellyn Lightsey, Light Sea Images
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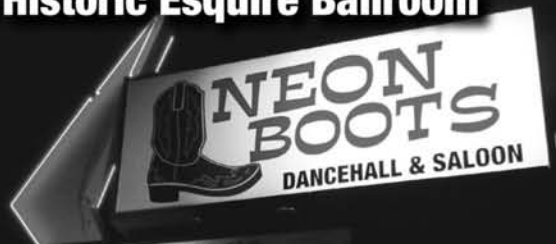
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Virginia gay marriage ban unconstitutional, Attorney General Mark Herring says



Mark Herring

Virginia's attorney general has concluded that the state's ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional, and he will no longer defend it in federal lawsuits

challenging it, his office said Thursday, The Associated Press reported.

In an email to The Associated Press, Michael Kelly, a spokesman for Attorney General Mark Herring, said the state will instead side with the plaintiffs who are seeking to have the ban struck down.

Herring planned to file a brief Thursday morning with the federal court in Norfolk, where one of the lawsuits is being heard, notifying the court of the state's change in position in the case, Kelly said.

The attorney general decided the ban was unconstitutional after a thorough legal review of the matter, Kelly said.

Virginia has emerged as a critical state in the nationwide fight for gay marriage. The state's shift comes on the heels of recent court rulings in which federal judges struck down gay marriage bans in Utah and Oklahoma.

With the election of Gov. Terry McAuliffe and Herring as attorney general, Virginia made a hairpin turn away from the socially conservative officeholders they succeeded, particularly Republican Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli, an activist on social issues such as abortion and gay marriage.

Herring had campaigned, in part, on marriage equality, and McAuliffe issued an executive order on inauguration day prohibiting discrimination against state employees who are gay.

Virginia voters approved the same-sex marriage ban 57 percent to 43 percent in 2006. But a Quinnipiac University poll in July found that 50 percent of registered Virginia voters support same-sex marriage, while 43 percent oppose it. The survey's margin of error was plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.

—Steve Ramos

Did state Rep. Jonathan Stickland support same-sex marriage?

State Rep. Jonathan Stickland, R-Bedford, is being accused of supporting same-sex marriage by Andy Cargile, his opponent in the Republican Primary. Cargile's campaign is circulating



Jonathan Stickland

Facebook comment from Stickland's page that tout his support

for same-sex marriage.

In an August 2011 post, Stickland comments, "I am pro-union rights, and I am pro-gay marriage." Screenshots of the posts were sent to the Texas Tribune.

Family Values is listed on Stickland's campaign website under issues.

"The family is the foundation of every society and I believe it is under attack," his website states. "I believe marriage is between a man, a woman and God."

Stickland's office did not immediately respond for requests for comment.

But Stickland spokesman Luke Macias told the Tribune via email: "HAHA. Gay marriage really?????" He added that Stickland "is one of the biggest advocates for traditional marriage in Texas. Jonathan believes marriage is between a man and woman and has a voting record to back it up."

Stickland scored a 14 on Equality Texas' Legislative Scorecard last year. He co-authored HB 1568, authored by state Rep. Drew Springer, R-Muenster, aimed to cut state funding for school districts that offer domestic partner benefits after Pflugerville ISD announced it would offer DP benefits. The bill was left pending in committee.

Statewide advocacy group Equality Texas released a statement disputing the claims that Stickland has a voting record on marriage.

"The issue of marriage equality simply did not come up for a vote during Stickland's single term in the Legislature," Equality Texas Legislative Specialist Daniel Williams said. "It's bad enough to actually have an anti-marriage voting record, but to lie and claim to have one when none exists is truly bizarre."

—Anna Waugh

Texas Equity PAC to give \$1K to pro-LGBT state House candidate

A state House candidate endorsed by Equality Texas will be the lucky winner of a \$1,000 donation based on the number of votes they receive in the Texas Equity PAC Challenge through Feb. 1.

The five candidates' are state Rep. Alma Allen, D-Houston, state Rep. Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, openly LGBT state Rep. Mary Gonzalez, D-El Paso, lesbian House District 50 candidate Celia Israel and state Rep. Sarah Davis, R-Houston.

This is the first time Equality Texas has endorsed a Republican. Davis, who's attracted a right-wing challenger in the primary, is considered an LGBT ally and spoke at Log Cabin Republicans' conference last year. She faced lesbian attorney Ann Johnson in the General Election in 2012. Equality Texas didn't endorse in the race that year. She scored the highest among Republicans on the Equality Texas Legislative Scorecard last year with a 71.

While the list is of pro-LGBT people, Equality Texas said these five have been identified as races in which they could use a little extra help.

"This is a list of pro-LGBT candidates that we believe are in races where a little bit of support, a push from the LGBT community and our allies, could make the difference between advancing the cause of equality, or falling behind," Equality Texas states in a press release.

Whichever candidate receives the most votes in the form of donations will receive \$1,000 from Texas Equity PAC.

For more information, visit EqualityTexas.org.

—Anna Waugh

Retired Northaven pastor stands in solidarity with LGBTs

The Rev. Bill McElvaney will soon marry longtime couple Jack Evans and George Harris, despite facing consequences from the church

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

At first glance, retired Methodist pastor the Rev. Bill McElvaney appears to be a soft-spoken, genial man of faith.

But at 85, McElvaney has had enough with the United Methodist Church's anti-gay teachings, so he decided to speak out about the injustices the church teaches with a declaration from Northaven's United Methodist Church's pulpit Sunday.

McElvaney, Northaven's emeritus pastor, stood before the congregation and told them he "would consider it a privilege to officiate at a same-sex wedding."

"To be a friend is to become an advocate, one who by word and deed translates heartbreak into pastoral and prophetic action," he said during the sermon.

The announcement earned him a five-minute standing ovation. But the act is against the church's beliefs, which considers homosexuality "incompatible with Christian teaching." Pastors who have defied the church have faced severe consequences. In December, Pennsylvania Methodist pastor the Rev. Frank Schaefer was defrocked for presiding over his gay son's Massachusetts wedding.

Northaven has a long history of supporting LGBT equality. In the late '80s, the church began welcoming LGBT people and became the first local reconciling church in the 90s. Now there are four reconciling churches in the area.

McElvaney, who grew up attending Highland Park Methodist Church, was baptized in the church, ordained by the church and is well aware of the action the church could take against him. The church could convene a trial and defrock him when he performs a same-sex wedding — but he doesn't care at this point in his life.

"All of those vulnerabilities kind of pale to standing in solidarity with our GLBT friends," he said.

Many LGBT couples he's known in the church and throughout his life have impacted him to take a stance on same-sex marriage.

"They have taught me a lot," he said, adding that he took a public stand when the time was right for him. "You have to grow into a position over time and have the Holy Spirit guide you to take a position."

One of the LGBT couples at Northaven who inspired McElvaney are Jack Evans and George Harris, who heard his announcement on their 53rd anniversary. They've been active in the church for 20 years and were called on stage and recognized



TWO OF A KIND | The Rev. Bill McElvaney, Northaven United Methodist Church's emeritus pastor, right, plans to officiate at same-sex weddings. And Eric Folkerth, Northaven's current pastor, said he will likely do so in the future as well. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

Sunday as a longtime couple.

Evans said they've seriously discussed going and getting married in another state but have wanted to wait to legally wed in Texas.

"I don't know if we'll live that long," Evans said.

Although the marriage performed by McElvaney wouldn't be legal in Texas, the couple said they've decided to have him marry them. They're just waiting on logistics.

"We're waiting to hear from the pastor and Rev. Bill about when it could take place," Evans said. "It's possible that something will come very quickly."

The service won't take place at Northaven. Eric Folkerth, the current pastor, said he's not ready to break the church's rules yet by performing same-sex weddings himself or allowing them to take place in the church. However, he's worked with two area churches close to Northaven, Midway Hills Christian Church and Central Congregation Church, that have agreed to host his congregation's services.

Folkerth said same-sex marriage is the "most

gut-wrenching decision about my ministry." A recent survey of the church discovered that 14 couples had been married outside the state, with seven of those taking place in the past year.

"That tells me something as a pastor," he said. "Same-sex marriage is becoming an issue in this church that we need to pay attention to as a pastoral issue and as a justice issue."

Jim Lovell and Bill Stoner are one of the 14 couples who've already married. They made a day trip in August 2010 to Iowa to make their union legal.

They attended Northaven several years ago before moving to France. But they come back once a year to visit friends and attend church. They happened to pick the Sunday when McElvaney made his announcement.

"We didn't know there was a big announcement until we were at church," Lovell said.

Stoner said it caught them by surprise.

"I literally gasped, and I think the reason I gasped was to keep from crying," Stoner said.

Having known McElvaney for years, though, Stoner said they know the work he's done for so-

cial justice and are proud he made a bold statement.

"He's been fighting for a lot of people that he'll never meet," Stoner said. "With this announcement, for him to come out at this point in his life in his 80s and face possible charges by the church, we just admire this man so completely for what he's done."

In the future, Folkerth said he'd "very likely at some point" be willing to officiate a same-sex union in his church, but he doesn't want to face the consequences of doing so at this time.

"Right now it's a choice between my GLBT family and my own family," he said. "There will come a time when I will, but now is not that time."

Evans and Harris support Folkerth's decision and are glad to have the option of being married by someone in the Northaven family.

"We would certainly love for it to have been in the church, in our own church, and our own pastor, but that's not a possibility," Evans said. "He's not in a position to do it at all. We welcome the

Hawaii's marriage equality fight carries lessons for Texas

The 1st court victory was in Hawaii, but marriage equality took 20 years to come to the state, taught advocates value of persistence

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Hawaii appeared to be the perfect place to begin the marriage equality battle — a liberal state where more than half of all marriages are interracial. The battle appeared to be won after a state Supreme Court ruled in 1993 that excluding same-sex couples from marriage was discriminatory.

The state's large Mormon community, along with other religious conservatives, organized opposition with money that poured in from around the country to stop the growing push toward marriage equality.

The battle began in 1991 when three same-sex couples sued the Hawaii Director of Health to force him to issue them marriage licenses. The trial court dismissed the case, so they appealed to the Hawaii Supreme Court. In the 1993 ruling, the state Supreme Court put the burden of proof on the state to justify discrimination when it sent the case back to the trial court.

The trial court judge rejected the state's argu-

ments in its 1996 decision and ruled Hawaii had no reason to keep same-sex couples from marrying. The state appealed to the same Supreme Court that ruled in favor of marriage equality three years earlier.

However, before the state Supreme Court could affirm its earlier decision and establish marriage equality in Hawaii, voters passed a constitutional amendment in 1998 allowing the Legislature to define marriage as between one man and one woman, prolonging the battle in the state for another 15 years.

The fight for marriage equality heated up again in 2010 with passage of a civil union bill, which Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle, the state's first Republican governor, vetoed.

"I have been open and consistent in my opposition to same-gender marriage," Lingle said at a news conference that year, "and find that House Bill 444 is essentially marriage by another name."

Soon after being sworn into office in 2011, Democratic Gov. Neil Abercrombie signed a civil union bill into law.

After the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June 2013 that Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional and federal agencies began granting equal rights to married couples, the civil unions



■ HAWAII, Next Page



HISTORY OF MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Marriage equality states
CALIFORNIA Legalized: May 15, 2008 Effective: June 16, 2008 By court ruling on hold Nov. 2008–June 28, 2013 due to Prop. 8. June 26, 2013 Supreme Court ruling
CONNECTICUT Legalized: Oct. 10, 2008 Effective: Nov. 12, 2008 By court ruling
DELAWARE Legalized: May 7, 2013 Effective: July 1, 2013 Legislature
MARYLAND Legalized: Nov. 6, 2012 Effective: Jan. 1, 2013 Legislature
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Legalized: Dec. 18, 2009 Effective: March 9, 2010 City council
HAWAII Legalized: Nov. 13, 2013 Effective: Dec. 2, 2013 Legislature

ILLINOIS Legalized: Nov. 20, 2013 Effective: June 1, 2014 Legislature
IOWA Legalized: April 3, 2009 Effective: April 27, 2009 By court ruling
MASSACHUSETTS Legalized: Nov. 18, 2003 Effective: May 17, 2004 By court ruling
MAINE Legalized: Nov. 6, 2012 Effective: Dec. 29, 2012 Voters
MINNESOTA Legalized: May 14, 2013 Effective: Aug. 1, 2013 Legislature
NEW JERSEY Legalized: Sept. 27, 2013 Effective: Oct. 21, 2013 By court ruling
NEW HAMPSHIRE Legalized: June 3, 2009 Effective: Jan. 1, 2010 Legislature



NEW MEXICO Legalized: Dec. 19, 2013 Effective: Dec. 19, 2013 By court ruling. 8 counties began issuing licenses in Aug. 2013
NEW YORK Legalized: June 24, 2011 Effective: July 24, 2011 Legislature
RHODE ISLAND Legalized: May 2, 2013 Effective: Aug. 1, 2013 Legislature
VERMONT Legalized: April 7, 2009 Effective: Sept. 1, 2009 Legislature
WASHINGTON Legalized: Nov. 6, 2012 Effective: Dec. 6, 2012 Legislature
Other status
OHIO recognizes marriages for death certificates only

OKLAHOMA Started: Jan. 14, 2014 Stayed: Jan. 14, 2014 By court ruling. No marriages were performed in the state as a result of the ruling, however several couple married on Indian reservations
OREGON recognizes marriages performed elsewhere
UTAH Started: Dec. 20, 2013 Stayed: Jan. 6, 2014 By court ruling. More than 1,300 couples married before ruling was stayed
Other marriage equality countries
ARGENTINA, BELGIUM BRAZIL, CANADA DENMARK, FRANCE, ICELAND MEXICO (marriages performed in Federal District and Quintana Roo and recognized nationwide) NETHERLANDS (including Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten) NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY PORTUGAL, SOUTH AFRICA SPAIN, SWEDEN, URUGUAY
Marriage equality to begin in 2014:
UNITED KINGDOM: ENGLAND AND WALES
Marriage performed elsewhere recognized:
ISRAEL

Lone Star Ride calls it quits after 13 years

Decreasing returns prompted the LSRFA board to end the event, but its members maintain the fight against HIV/AIDS isn't over

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
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An email sent to previous participants and sponsors of the Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS from board chair Jacque Borel was received across the community with sadness.

Lone Star Ride was a fundraiser for three AIDS agencies — AIDS Services of Dallas, Resource Center and AIDS Outreach Center. For the past two years, however, the ride has fallen short of its goal and this year returned only \$28,000 to each agency.

Borel said the ride had bad luck with weather over the past three years and had a dwindling volunteer base. Sponsorships were harder to get.

"There didn't seem to be the same interest as there once was," he said. "And the returns weren't meeting expectations."

He said the board was concerned with being a good steward of people's money, so it voted to suspend the ride.

"As a result of this analysis by the Board, the Board has reached the conclusion that Lone Star Ride Fighting AIDS is no longer an effective vehicle to raise monies for our beneficiaries," Borel wrote in a letter to participants and sponsors.

Closing the ride is a loss being felt by community members who contributed in a number of ways.

Every year, Roger Lippert photographed the ride.

"I was very sad to hear it's ending but so thankful for all the wonderful friends I made and all of the great memories," he said.

He said getting together for the ride each year



LAST RIDE | Rides such as the one pictured above, will no longer be held, the LSRFA board recently decided. Beneficiaries hope other donors will fill the financial hole. (File photo)

was like a family reunion.

The loss also was felt among those supplying services to the ride.

"Ambient Stage Lighting was honored to be a part of the ride every year," Ambient Vice President Sylvia Salazar King wrote on Facebook. "It's sad to know it will not be anymore. We made great friends and great memories. We will miss all of them."

The beneficiaries will have to find ways to make up for the lost funding.

"We will certainly regret the loss of the event in our community and the loss of funding to serve our HIV-positive clients," Resource Center CEO Cece Cox said.

Her agency was one of the beneficiaries of Lone Star Ride along with AIDS Services Dallas and AIDS Outreach Center.

Cox said Resource Center's budget is planned for the year, and the loss of the ride creates a hole. She hoped Lone Star riders, crew and sponsors as well as other community members would step in and help fill the gap in funding.

Janie Bush was the director of the Lone Star Ride for its first five years.

"This makes me very sad," he said.

Bush was pledge drive office manager for the Tanqueray Texas AIDS Ride that predated the Lone Star Ride and was hired to create the new Lone Star Ride.

The Tanqueray ride, a four-day bike ride from Houston to Dallas, was expensive to produce and brought little return to its beneficiary agencies.

She said the heart and soul of the Tanqueray ride was what she tried to incorporate in the Lone Star Ride.

"The event was supportive, encouraging and uplifting," she said. "The camaraderie of participating in the fundraising and training struggles. Watching someone who was told years before that they had a death sentence with HIV now succeeding. Watching someone who's overweight make it to each pit stop. There was an incredible sense of community."

While the Tanqueray ride failed to raise money, Lone Star Ride succeeded. Since 2000, the organization donated more than \$2 million to its three beneficiaries.

Expenses for the Lone Star Ride were very low. A ride director was the only salaried staff, and that cost was covered by a grant. Volunteers did the bulk of the work rather than paid staff with the Tanqueray ride. Goods and services were donated.

AIDS Services of Dallas used its connections with restaurants to have snacks for pit stops and meals donated. One Lone Star Ride board member worked for Starbucks, and he arranged for his company to provide the coffee. Trucks that hauled equipment to the pit stops and campsites were donated for the weekend rather than rented. Rider and crew shirts were donated.

Bush said she hopes Lone Star riders continue to contribute to the beneficiaries. She suggested riders and crew might continue to fundraise among their friends to contribute to the agencies or help make their other fundraising events bigger.

"I think rather than reinvent the wheel, pick something with a good track record," Bush said. "Put your energy into LifeWalk or Black Tie Dinner or No Tie Dinner or volunteer for one of the organizations." ■

■ HAWAII, From Previous Page

Hawaii was issuing were useless in gaining federal benefits. Abercrombie called a special session of the Legislature in October to change the law.

Since the constitutional amendment allowed the Legislature to define marriage, lawmakers changed the definition and after a battle that began in 1991, marriage equality came to the state in 2013.

Evan Wolfson, the original co-council in the Hawaii marriage case, is founder and president of the national organization Freedom to Marry.

He said after Hawaii's Legislature passed marriage equality, he decided to go to the bill's signing.

"I wanted to honor the history," he said. "So many lawmakers who had done the wrong thing years ago, were part of doing the right thing."

He said he saw two paths to bringing marriage equality to Texas. One is by working within the state to overturn the constitutional amendment, passed in 2005, in the courts or on the ballot. The other is through a national campaign to which Texas must contribute.

Wolfson said following the Roadmap to Victory laid out on the Freedom to Marry website, Texas will see marriage equality within years rather than in another decade. That plan includes adding more states until a majority of people live in marriage-equality states, increasing public support for marriage equality and then bringing a complete end to federal marriage equality.

He said it's important for Texans to hear the voices they may not have expected to hear stand up for LGBT equality, such as Republican allies. He encourages Texans to use their shared values, such as personal freedoms and limited govern-

ment, to make the case for same-sex marriage.

He also said he'd like to elevate Latino voices so people can hear about diverse LGBT families.

"It's powerful when federal judges, even in Utah and Oklahoma, are willing to uphold the Constitution," Wolfson said.

He encouraged everyone to continue telling their stories of love and commitment, as well as how they've experienced discrimination.

Brian Silva, executive director of Marriage Equality USA, said the Hawaii fight taught the LGBT community persistence. He said that lesson is the key to winning marriage equality in conservative states like Texas.

"It's going to take a lot of individuals doing grassroots work to change hearts and minds in the state," Silva said.

He called the marriage equality court decisions in Utah and Oklahoma important mile-

stones.

"When the courts in states with a history of less equality rule that way, there's a message rights for LGBT people aren't up to the whims of the region," he said.

Silva called the judge in the Utah case, who had been nominated by Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, "clearly conservative."

The movement toward marriage equality isn't a fight for same-sex marriage in blue states, he said. The goal isn't to move to a two-tier system where gays and lesbians are second-class citizens in some places.

More than 40 marriage cases are pending around the country, including three in Texas. Silva said some cases around the country may be stronger than others but some may surprise us. No one expected the next marriage equality state after Hawaii to be Utah. ■

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Deaths



Robert "Robby" Wade Holmes, 40, was born March 8, 1973, in Garland and passed away Wednesday, Jan. 15, in Dallas after a monthlong battle with pneumonia.

He is survived by his life partner of 14 years, Larry Simmons; parents, Robert "Reb" and Deborah Holmes; older sister, Carrie Bullock and husband Mark; younger sister, Missy Whittington; nieces Mallory and Emma; a great niece, MyLeigh; and numerous family and friends.

Robby was a 1992 graduate of Cushing High School in Cushing, Texas, and attended Angelina College in Lufkin, Texas.

He was employed for 16 years as a phlebotomist with Laboratory Corporation of America. He worked in many healthcare settings, the latest being Uptown Physicians Group. He graced the lives of so many over the years with a warm smile and a kind word. He loved to laugh, he loved to travel, and he loved his dogs, Rusty, Gandy and Chuy.

He led an adventurous life and was an aspiring actor appearing last season on two episodes of the hit TV show *Dallas*. He loved all things Dolly Parton and traveled frequently to the Great Smoky Mountains and Dollywood.

Robby inspired so many people, and his humbleness and amazing spirit were something to be admired. His time on earth was far too short, but his 40 years of life left a great impression and memories that will last forever.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, Jan. 25, at 2:30 p.m. at Restland Memorial Chapel located at 13005 Greenville Ave., Dallas. In lieu of flowers the family has asked that donations be made in Robby's memory to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library online at ImaginationLibrary.com. Donations can also be mailed to The Dollywood Foundation, 2700 Dollywood Parks Blvd., Pigeon Forge, Tenn. 37863.

Ray James Camargo, 56, passed quietly and peacefully from this world on Jan. 17 at home with John Combs, his partner of 20 years, at his bedside.

Ray was born July 20, 1957, in Lompoc, Calif. He moved to Las Vegas and then to Dallas in 1980.

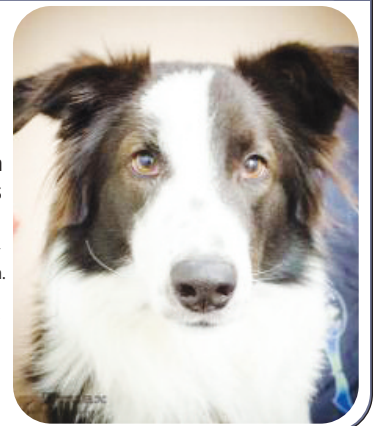
He will be remembered in different ways by the many people who knew him, such as his zest for life, generosity to the downtrodden and homeless, and his passion — caring for the many dogs which he took in and gave a home.

Though no service is planned, it was Ray's wish that remembrances of him be made as contributions to these agencies that were a great help to him and John during his illness — Community Hospice of Texas, AIDS Arms, Resource Center and White Rock Community Church. ■

pet of the week / APACHE

Apache is very handsome 3-year-old Border Collie mix who was transferred from a south central Texas Humane Society. Apache is a very loving dog and will make an awesome friend for a very active household. Apache has lots of experience being around young children and absolutely loves them! While he was fostered, he lived with a 2-year-old and they were the best of friends. If you are looking for a dog with lots of energy and a great personality, come meet Apache and give him the loving home he deserves. You can visit with Apache at the Operation Kindness Shelter located in Carrollton. Or you can visit with him at OperationKindness.org.

Apache and other pets are available for adoption from Operation Kindness, 3201 Earhart Drive, Carrollton. The no-kill shelter is open six days: Monday, 3-8 p.m.; closed Tuesday; Wednesday, 3-8 p.m.; Thursday, noon-8 p.m.; Friday, noon-5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. The cost is \$110 for cats, \$135 for kittens, \$150 for dogs over 1 year, and \$175 for puppies. The cost includes the spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, vaccinations, heartworm test for dogs, leukemia and FIV test for cats, and more. Those who adopt two pets at the same time receive a \$20 discount.



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Dallas librarian chairs Stonewall Literary Awards

Peter Coyl spent most of 2013 reading the best of LGBT literature

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

After the Stonewall Book Awards are announced Jan. 26, Dallas librarian Peter Coyl plans to catch up on some TV and read a few non-LGBT books.

Since May, Coyl has spent at least five hours every Monday — the day his branch is closed — and two hours every night before bed reading more than 230 books. That's at least one book a day.

"I've always been a fast reader," he said.

But he isn't a speed reader. He takes some time to savor the best books that have been submitted.

Coyl served on the American Library Association's Stonewall Book Awards committee in 2012 and in 2013 became its chair. The committee is made up of nine librarians from across the U.S. and Canada.

He said he prefers a hard copy book over e-books.

"I'm a visual person," he said. "I remember the cover."

Once he's read a book, he comments in an online discussion board with his committee. Then he places the book in one of several piles — those he's considering for one of the three awards the committee grants and a pile for those he's not considering.

Coyl said he reads each of the books submitted for consideration.

"At least I've attempted to read every book," he said.

A few, he admitted, he just couldn't get into, and about 60 of the books were in the children's and young adult category, so they were short or fast reads.

The committee has narrowed its selection down to a final five in adult fiction, nonfiction and children's and young adult literature. On Jan. 25, they'll meet in Philadelphia at the national ALA convention. Winners in the two adult categories will be announced the evening of Jan. 26. The children's and young adult winner will be named on Jan. 27 along with winners of the Caldecott, Newbery, Printz and several other awards.

While Coyl said each of the winners and hon-



Peter Coyl

orable mentions is named because of its merits, he said not every book is for every reader.

Once Coyl returns to Dallas after the ALA meeting, he'll schedule presentations at several libraries to talk about the award winners and honorees. He'll also make a presentation at the Texas Library Association meeting in San Antonio and sit on a panel with author David Levithan who wrote the coming-of-age novel *Boy Meets Boy* aimed at teens.

He'll also clear out his house by donating most of the books he read over the last year to the Dallas Public Library.

"Most will go to Oak Lawn," he said.

Oak Lawn branch manager Angie Bartula will go through the collection, keep what she needs to flesh out her LGBT stacks and pass along duplicates to the North Oak Cliff branch.

Coyl pointed out he's not the only local librarian working with a national ALA LGBT committee. Grand Prairie librarian Christie Gibrich chairs the Rainbow Book List committee. That group compiles reading lists of LGBT children's and young adult books. Coyl said the ALA's adult LGBT list is called the Over the Rainbow List.

While Coyl's position as chair of an ALA committee brings a measure of prestige to the Dallas Library system, his travel is not funded by the city. Instead, Friends of the Audelia Road Branch, a private, volunteer group, funded his trips. ■

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Living healthy from ‘Roots’ to tip

Getting rid of the build up of energy-zapping sludge in your body is key to functioning at top level

TYLER CURRY | Contributing Writer

Anyone trying to live a healthy lifestyle knows how we duck and dive through the holidays, doing our best to avoid the dietary land mines. Whether it’s an office kitchen full of cakes and pies or a holiday party stocked with cream cheese and mayonnaise dips, even the most militant health nut is bound to crack. And as we all know, once you start, you can’t stop. A few pastries here and a small slice of cake there often lead to midnight kitchen raids with not a vegetable in sight.

Although we’re conscious of the effects those shame foods have on our waistlines, we rarely mention the impact a poor diet can have on our mental health. While a fatty, carb-rich diet is extremely taxing on our digestive system, it also will have our minds working as sluggishly as our bodies.

You know what I’m talking about. The afternoon “sleepy eyes,” the foggy-headed feeling you get at your desk or the sloth-like exit from your house in the morning. Those aren’t solely the effects of late nights, long hours and not being 22 years old anymore. If you’re looking for something to blame for your lethargy, it may be as easy as taking a look at the nutrient-devoid plate sitting in front of you.

Not only will a healthy diet strengthened with fruits and vegetables restore the body to fighting shape, it also will release our minds from the sugar and carb sludge it has been mired in. No matter how many vitamins you take or how long you torture yourself on a treadmill, nothing can replace the benefits of a diet that is consistently topped with fruits and veggies.

Sometimes, though, it can seem impossible to fill your plate daily with a rainbow of fruits and vegetables. Or maybe a giant kale salad every morning, noon and night feels more like torture than healthy living. Brent Rodgers, out owner of Dallas-based Roots Juices, understands that quandry.

When Rodgers was working as a stockbroker in Los Angeles, Calif., the juicing trend had become popular there, and he noticed its benefits. Unhappy with his corporate job, he quit and took off for a year-long vacation filled with travel, culture and — juice.

Rodgers found that people in other countries had embraced the use of juicing as a way to gain essential nutrients and cleanse the body of the toxins that are rampant in today’s foods. Inspired, he returned to his parents’ home in the Dallas suburbs in 2012 and started his company out of their garage.



Brent Rodgers

Roots Juices started to grow. The company quickly moved from the suburbs to the city, and the online delivery orders came rolling in. Shortly after, popular gyms like Equinox began carrying the juices and Rodgers recently opened up his store front on Oak Lawn Avenue.

When I learned about Roots Juices three-day cleanse, I was interested and intimidated. Rodgers described the cleansing process to be like pressing the reset button on your body. Since you aren’t eating, your body is able to absorb the nutrients directly into the blood stream, and your digestive system gets a rest. At six juices a day, your body is taking in 18 pounds of fruits and vegetables and pushing out toxins.

Although I considered myself to be a relatively

healthy eater, holiday temptations turned me into a certified sugar addict. When I wasn’t craving sugar, I was stuffing my face with some fried salty delicacy. I was out of control, and, although wary of a fast, I was in need of sugar rehab.

During day one, I didn’t experience any negative side effects except for hunger. The juices were delicious, and the idea of the process was exciting. So what if I could only think of cheese steak, I was committed.

By day two, I no longer was battling my hunger. I was surprised how fast my body adapted to the fluids-only diet. But I was most definitely battling something else — a big, pounding headache due to a lack of caffeine. Did I mention this was an alcohol and caffeine detox

as well? As a four-cup-a-day kind of guy, this was my biggest challenge.

Day three was met with a rush of energy that, to my surprise, came without cream and sugar. My mind felt sharp and my body felt light. It was then that I realized just how badly my previous food habits were affecting me, both mentally and physically. Most importantly, I was no longer craving sugar.

Whether you want to dive into a cleanse or just introduce a daily juice into your diet, the impact of micro nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables is irrefutable. In a city known for its variety of incredible restaurants, decadent foods and Southern fried culture, Roots Juices is a welcome addition to the line-up. ■



WEDDING BELLS | George Harris, left, and Jack Evans, who celebrated their 53rd anniversary Sunday, have attended Northaven for 20 years. They plan to have McElvaney marry them as soon as possible.

■ **NORTHAVEN**, From Page 5

opportunity to be married by [McElvaney]. [Folkerth] has too much to lose. We would not encourage him at all."

Both McElvaney and Folkerth think the Methodist Church will be forced to accept LGBT clergy and perform same-sex weddings as more and more Methodist leaders take stands for equality.

"This issue needs to be addressed," McElvaney said. "The American United Methodist Church needs to get a grip. They're so behind the times it's pathetic."

Folkerth said the response from the Northaven congregation has been 100 percent positive, further proof of how far attitudes have come.

"I think that tells us something," he said. "I think people are very ready for this church to move forward on this and understand why we need to."

The earliest a vote to change the church's stance on homosexuality in the Book of Discipline is the General Conference in 2016. Folkerth said the majority of American Methodists would vote to change the views, but the international Methodist community would prevent the church from moving forward.

In the meantime, Folkerth said he wishes the church would change how it handles rule breakers, like McElvaney will soon be, and not defrock them for a social stance.

"There's no way the church can bring all these people to trial," McElvaney added. "We can't go on this way without extensive bleeding on all sides."

And while McElvaney is appreciative of what the Methodist Church has given him in the four decades he's preached and taught seminary classes, he said he can't continue to follow its outdated teachings blindly instead of doing what he feels is right.

"I owe the Methodist church a lot, but what I do not owe the Methodist Church is my soul," he said. ■

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What is STRIBILD?

STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. It combines 4 medicines into 1 pill to be taken once a day with food. STRIBILD is a complete single-tablet regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.

STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking STRIBILD. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects:

- **Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include feeling very weak or tired, unusual (not normal) muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain with nausea or vomiting, feeling cold especially in your arms and legs, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.
- **Serious liver problems.** The liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and fatty (steatosis). Symptoms of liver problems include your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored bowel movements (stools), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach pain.
- **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems** if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time. In some cases, these serious conditions have led to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any symptoms of these conditions.

- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you also have HBV and stop taking STRIBILD, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. STRIBILD is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you:

- **Take a medicine that contains:** alfuzosin, dihydroergotamine, ergotamine, methylergonovine, cisapride, lovastatin, simvastatin, pimozide, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revatio®), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John’s wort.
- **For a list of brand names for these medicines,** please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.
- **Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection,** or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:

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

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

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

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

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

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





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

I started my personal revolution

Talk to your healthcare provider about starting treatment.

STRIBILD is a complete HIV-1 treatment in **1 pill**, once a day.

Ask if it's right for you.

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Patient Information

STRIBILD™ (STRY-bild)

(elvitegravir 150 mg/cobicistat 150 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

Brief summary of full Prescribing Information. For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

What is STRIBILD?

- **STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before.** STRIBILD is a complete regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.
- **STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.** You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.
- **Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing HIV-1 to others.** Do not share or reuse needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

1. Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take STRIBILD or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

- feel very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat

2. Severe liver problems. Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**

- your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
- dark “tea-colored” urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time.

3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection. If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.

- Do not run out of STRIBILD. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD is all gone

- Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider
- If you stop taking STRIBILD, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking STRIBILD

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you also take a medicine that contains:

- adefovir (Hepsera®)
- alfuzosin hydrochloride (Uroxatral®)
- cisapride (Propulsid®, Propulsid Quicksolv®)
- ergot-containing medicines, including: dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Migranal®), ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot®, Ergostat®, Medihaler Ergotamine®, Wigraine®, Wigrettes®), and methylergonovine maleate (Ergotrate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor®, Altoprev®, Mevacor®)
- oral midazolam
- pimozone (Orap®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®), when used for treating lung problems
- simvastatin (Simcor®, Vytorin®, Zocor®)
- triazolam (Halcion®)
- the herb St. John’s wort

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

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

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

What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

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

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

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

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

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:

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

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

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

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

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

Keep STRIBILD and all medicines out of reach of children.

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about STRIBILD. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can also ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about STRIBILD that is written for health professionals, or call 1-800-445-3235 or go to www.STRIBILD.com.

Issued: August 2012



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LGBT advocates expect runoff win for Celia Israel

After coming out on top among 3 Dems in special election, Austin real estate agent could be elected Texas' 2nd openly LGBT rep next week

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

AUSTIN — Celia Israel may have come out on top as the Democrat in the special election to replace former state Rep. Mark Strama, but she's not taking her lead from November for granted while campaigning this week for the Jan. 28 runoff.

"We take nothing for granted," she said about her campaign. "We're running like we're behind."

Strama, a Democrat who held the House District 50 seat in Austin since 2005, resigned from office last summer. The special election is to fill the remainder of his term.

Israel, who's openly gay, won 32 percent of the vote in November, compared to businesswoman Jade Chang Sheppard's 16 percent and former Travis County Assistant District Attorney Rico Reyes' 13 percent among Democrats. Mike VanDeWalle, the only Republican who filed for the



Celia Israel

seat, brought in 39 percent of the vote.

Even coming out on top, being endorsed by her fellow Democrats and labeled the leader in the race, she said it's been hard campaigning during the holidays and she's not taking her lead in election for granted in

the runoff.

"Being the lead Democrat, coming out strong is important," she said.

A real estate agent and longtime resident in the district, Israel launched her political career when she worked as an aide to former Gov. Ann Richards. She's focused on helping expand education, healthcare and equality in her platform.

No matter the winner next week, both Israel and

VanDeWalle will face each other again in November for a run at a full term. They are running unopposed in their primaries.

Gay Republican Michael Cargill once planned to run for the seat but later decided not to run and endorsed VanDeWalle.

VanDeWalle did not respond to requests for an interview.

Israel has been endorsed by statewide advocacy group Equality Texas and Washington-D.C.-based Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. If elected, she'd be the second openly LGBT state representative in the Legislature, joining pansexual state Rep. Mary Gonzalez, D-El Paso.

Chuck Smith, executive director of Equality Texas, said the challenge of a special election is always getting people to the polls. But early voting has been hindered in this runoff since Monday was a holiday and there's no early voting this weekend. He said he's confident Israel could win next week.

"It's like any election, it comes down to get out the vote," Smith said, adding that his organization has sent out information about voting, as have other organizations backing her. "It's a special election, unless you know about it, you have to put it on people's radar to get them out to vote, so

that's a challenge."

Smith also said a win for Israel in the runoff would help her with a victory in November because she'd be the incumbent.

"Being an incumbent certainly helps in giving them the advantage of name recognition," he said.

While Israel said November feels "so far away in political terms," she doesn't plan to stop campaigning after the runoff.

"We intend on winning in November," Israel said. "We're making sure the voters know that we want to be a voice for progress. And I think there is a mainstream voice in Texas that is not being heard."

Even with most of Strama's unexpired term more than halfway through, there's still work to be done in the Legislature's interim. Interim duties and studies will be announced next week, and Israel said if elected, she'd jump right in to start working for the district.

"A lot of work gets done during the interim," Israel said. "I intend on finding a niche and serving in the interim to the extent that I can, as well as just taking care of our constituent needs. We haven't had a representative since last summer."

The runoff is Tuesday, Jan. 28. ■

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viewpoints

Outgrowing the Lone Star State

I'm proud to be from Texas, but I'm also proud to have left behind some of the insanity that goes with it

I am an out gay man born in Texas the year after Stonewall. My mom was a wacky matriarch who assumed Auntie Mame offered a blueprint for childrearing and that disco could save the world. She raised me to believe that nothing was frightening, impure or impossible. Heady stuff for a little boy who knew from early on he was never going to live easy in the land of chiggers and chewing tobacco.

I grew up in a very accepting home surrounded by a funky tribe that congealed around the loving dementia of my family. I had marched in gay Pride parades from a young age. Still, the tolerance I enjoyed at home slammed up against some horrifying prejudice and biblical violence that raised no eyebrows I could see.

In a lot of ways Texas sees itself as a sovereign nation. Houston in the '70s and '80s oil boom rode a high fence between tacky sophistication and rural narrowness. For many years, it also had one of the largest LGBT populations per capita, second only to San Francisco.

As the Gulf prospered and Dallas dominated primetime, a whole bunch of gay folks started to express themselves in fabulous ways. Now, because my family lived in town, the gay community centers and clubs and bookstores gave me a place to stretch my wings. Because we also kept a ranch out in hell-and-gone, I knew exactly how deep a chasm divided the "gay lib" movement from the rest of America.

I remember sitting in high school chemistry back in 1980-whatever. A bunch of hot jocks who knew

and loved me as the "crazy party guy" invited me to go to Montrose, the gay strip that had become the center of Houston's "edgy" nightlife. They were going to go rowing, they said, and they had a truck with six oars. "Yee-haw." I didn't follow at first. Then my buddies explained that they'd been cruising for queers on Westheimer each weekend, sitting in the flatbed and using the oars to literally split skulls. "So funny," they assured me.

I declined.

Thing is, we'd all gone to the same schmancy prep school together our entire lives. We had gone to sleepovers and played softball together. As a teenager, I'd repeatedly had [not particularly good] sex with two of those meatheads. I knew the way peer pressure and bravado could turn a dozen closed-head injuries into a fun Saturday night outing.

I also knew they didn't think of those faggots" as humans, in the same way they didn't think of "wet-backs" or "bitches" as humans. They weren't evil even if they were trying to be. They were just dumb guys who I'd grown up with — or at least I'd grown up while they'd grown down.

As soon as I could, I escaped. I got snapped up by an Ivy League school and got the hell out of Dodge, as far from those oafs and their oars as I could. I met my amazing partner and started my life as a professional storyteller. Years later, one of those "rowers" came out to me at a reunion, a 280-pound star linebacker who I'd never dreamed was gay.

Like me, this big bubba had been too afraid to speak up and fight the tide, ashamed of shadows and rumors. Unlike me, he'd gone rowing plenty of times and hated himself for it. Unlike me, he went home to a place where his father whipped him bloody with a belt for wearing an earring. So every weekend, in defiance, that closeted linebacker re-punched the hole for his figurative pride

flag and went out partying with a bloody lobe, defiant as he dared to be.

Back when I was a teenager, my crazy, beautiful mom swore that same-sex marriage would be legal within her lifetime, and I scoffed. Shows what the hell I knew. Stonewall kicked off a decade of free expression and tolerance, but AIDS and the Reagan years clamped down on the free-wheeling exploration of gender roles and sexuality.

I'm here to tell you, that super-sucked for the entire country. The world has cooled considerably since then. PFLAG, GLAAD and HRC have wrested an unlikely victory that helps LGBT and "straight" people, both.

Now, the Internet has opened up the entire world for good, and anxious teens can access LGBT young adult fiction (and more) in libraries, and minority characters are more than clowns and foils. Nothing needs to be a shameful secret anymore.

When people ask me how I survived growing up in Texas, I always admit that it sucked, but I wouldn't trade places with anyone. Hell, my family loved and supported me without restraint, or sanity at times. I earned every one of those scary and stupid and sexy experiences, and they shaped me as a writer and a man.

I also remind them that all those stubborn right-wingers believe rules don't apply to them, that Texas is its own country, and any Yankee who doesn't like it better bring a shotgun.

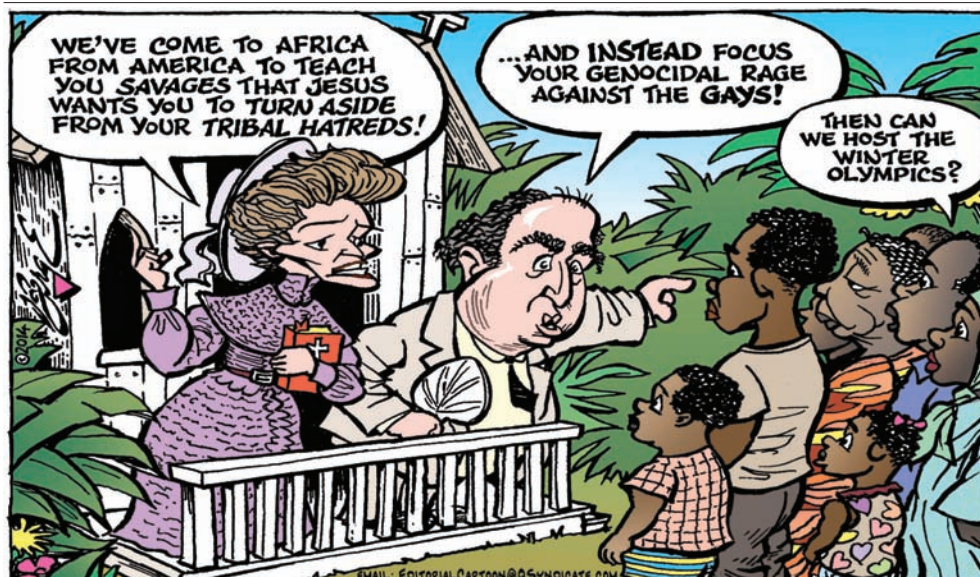
The same fierce tenacity, independence and pride that sent a bunch of goons out rowing in a pickup truck gave me the cojones to cut bait and haul my butt to NYC at 16 and then London and a whole mess of other places I'd never expected to live. I'm proud of growing up there, and for outgrowing it as well.

Damon Suede, a Texas native, is a New York-based author of the new book *Bad Idea* and his previous novel, *Hot Head*, was No. 1 in the gay romance genre on Amazon. He can be contacted through his website: DamonSuede.com.



Damon Suede

Contributing Writer



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Do you think it's hard to grow up gay in Texas?

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Are you comfortable going to a bar with a gay/straight mix?

- Very: 63 percent
- Some: 30 percent
- Not at all: 7 percent

202 votes cast

An Aloha state of mind

There's a reason for Hawaii's gay-friendliness that has nothing to do with being Obama's native state — paradise welcomes everyone

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor

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When the islands call, West Coasters typically visit Hawaii and East Coasters Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands, but where does that leave Texans? Well, Hawaii helped make that decision for gays last month, when it became the 14th state (plus D.C.) to start performing same-sex marriages. Game, set and match-made-in-heaven to the 50th state.

Hawaii has always had a reputation for being a welcoming place. As well it should. The islands have no indigenous peoples — this archipelago of eight principal islands emerged from volcanoes under the sea over millions of years, and has been populated by newcomers ever since: First the Polynesians about 1,700 years ago, then by Asians, Portuguese, Spanish, Americans (North and South), and, really, anyone interested in living on a beautiful sandy Eden in the middle of the North Pacific Ocean. Its native fruit, the pineapple, is an international symbol of hospitality. The wonder is that it's not *more* crowded.

But the friendliness of the Hawaiian people goes deeper. All beach communities have a quirky nature, but island communities are even quirker, and when you live on a spit of dirt 1,800 miles from the nearest landmass, you develop a sense of independence and tend to treat newcomers with respect and kindness, no matter who they are or

LIFE'S A BEACH | The beach along Maui's Kihei coast is one of the longest uninterrupted stretches of sand anywhere.



what they look like. It probably has to do with the aloha attitude — the quality that says “live and let live — peace, love and joy to everyone.”

No one should be surprised that Hawaii boasts (according to a 2012 Gallup poll) the largest population by percentage of gays in the 50 states, or that it was the first state to declare same-sex unions legal (though that was derailed for 20 years; see story on Page 6). Now that gay couples have been granted — and are exercising — marriage rights on the islands, it has become the focus of renewed interest as a gay travel destination. And why not? Given a choice of nuptials in the winter in Des Moines or Diamond Head, is there *really* a choice?

Diamond Head, of course, is on the island of Oahu, the seat of government (the city of Honolulu is there) and the highest concentration of the population of about 1 million. But neighboring Maui, with more space to explore and fewer people to get in your way, may be the ideal location for a vacation, honeymoon, wedding ceremony ... or all three. (For wedding planning suggestions, see sidebar, Page 22.)

Locals will drive 25 mph even in a 30 mph zone. What's the rush? There is simply nothing as important as living a good life. And the good life is what Maui has to offer, with its rich cane sugar fields, miles of beaches and verdant mountain ranges.

Unofficially, Maui — shaped like an oblong

figure eight, 730 square miles and home to about 150,000 residents — has four main areas appealing to newcomers: Kihei (including Wailea and Makena) on the southwest coast, Lahaina (including Ka'anapali and Napili) along the northwest coast, Hana on southeast coast and the upcountry in the middle. Each offers a different vibe and benefits whether you're traveling with a sweetheart or just hoping to get away.

Lahaina

Probably the best-known part of Maui is the town of Lahaina, once the royal seat of the original kingdom of Hawaii and now its primary tourist draw, as well as the ritziest ZIP code on Maui. Its main beach, Ka'anapali, is famed worldwide, and the coast is dotted with a mile-long archipelago of hotels, resorts and restaurants, from the Hyatt to the Sheraton, that cater to almost every need.

The Sheraton was the first hotel to go up along the gorgeous strip of sand (it just celebrated its 50th year), and a recent renovation makes it one of the most luxurious. Like most properties, much of it is open-air, with breezy trade winds and magnificent sunsets lulling you as you walk through the cavernous lobby or with your seaward-facing windows open. The spacious grounds have several pools (plus a lazy

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TRAVEL TIPS

If you've never been to the islands, especially Maui, here are some tips for enjoying your stay.

- **Rent a car.** The island is meant to be explored, and taxi service is spotty anyway. You'll want to drive not only to your resort, but up to Haleakala and to the many great restaurants not within walking distance. Most of the rentals are hybrids, which you'll want, since gas typically runs a dollar/gallon higher there than in Texas.
- **Prices are higher.** Not just gas, but groceries and other services can cause sticker shock, but the cost of living is still lower than in NYC or S.F.
- **Give yourself time.** American Airlines offers nonstop flights from DFW to Maui (with the inexplicable airport code OGG), but it takes more than eight hours to get there and seven to come back. That's basically a day in the air. Plan to stay a week or more to fully appreciate your time there.
- **Give yourself time, part 2.** Another way to give yourself time while you are there: People tend to drive slower, and there are fewer highway options. So, if you're in Lahaina and the main road is blocked, you might miss a flight. Give yourself plenty of time to travel on the surface streets.
- **The Hana Highway.** Driving the Hana Highway is a breathtaking experience, but don't expect to get to Hana very fast: It's a narrow road that occasionally comes down to one-lane bridges. You'll want to pull over and explore the fruit-stands and take in the vistas anyway. Try to avoid it in the dark.
- **Get used to Hawaii Time.** The islands are four hours behind Dallas in the winter (the state does not observe Daylight Savings Time at all), which



means you'll feel a little jetlagged on your first day. On the other hand, you can watch football starting at 9:30 on Sunday mornings.

- **Get used to pronouncing Hawaiian names.** One of the joys of Hawaii is its authenticity: Many of the roads and locales keep the traditional Hawaiian names (the language has only 12 letters and uses diacritical marks amply).
- **Don't expect to see much of the other islands.** Maui is unique in that you can see as many as four of the eight major islands (plus the one you are on). But the hub of activity, Oahu, is not one of them — it's about 100 miles away — so day trips, while possible, aren't ideal. You might, however, consider a helicopter trip to the Big Island to observe the volcanoes from above.
- **Don't overdress.** There's hardly a place on Maui you can't go to in a short-sleeved patterned shirt, shorts or jeans and sandals. A windbreaker might help cut the cool night air.
- **All beaches are public.** That means free. It also means if you were thinking of a surfside wedding, think again: You can't prevent anyone else from walking through your photos or even holding their own ceremony 10 feet away from yours.

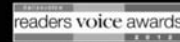
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river), on-beach massage cabanas and equipment rentals for snorkeling or just lounging on the sand. On the edge of the property sits the westernmost point on Maui, a black cliff where a nightly cliff-diving show takes place.

On the other end of Ka'anapali sits the Hyatt Regency Resort & Spa, a somewhat more recent addition to the strip but an extravagant addition. Designed almost like a nature preserve, the Hyatt has an expanse of well-tended grounds where wildlife meander among the guests, from flamingos to warm-weather penguins, as well as great dining options, from the nightly outdoor luau to the creative and calming Japengo; for breakfast, dine with the fauna at the Swan Court, which serves an exceptional buffet.

Ka'anapali, for all its beauty, isn't the only spot in Lahaina with romantic appeal. Although only a 15-minute drive north, neighboring Napili offers a distinctly cooler microclimate, as well as a slower pace and lower-key experience.

The charming Napili Kai Beach Resort sets the tone here. With a modest entrance, you might miss it driving by, which only confirms its remote getaway cred. The secluded nature belies spacious, well-appointed rooms and dreamy views of the reef-enhanced Napili Bay. Its Sea House Restaurant delivers an old-school dining room vibe with exquisite fish on the menu and remarkable desserts. After a meal, consider attending the weekly Slack Key Show, a bravura performance of traditional Hawaiian music on "slack key" guitars.

Dining in Lahaina is one of the main attractions of the area, as scores of excellent restaurants of all kinds offer their creations. But as a beach community, even fine-dining options are casual, and the food is allowed to be the star.

That's definitely the case at Mala Ocean Tavern, a smallish cinder-block-and-stucco structure abutting the rocky shores of Lahaina, with an intense culinary pedigree, courtesy of famed restaurateur Mark Ellman. Its rangy menu of seafood, lamb, beef and vegetarian options makes it unmissable, from the ahi bruschetta (lightly seared with edamame puree and local micro-greens) and ahi tuna wraps, to the spicy black bean tortilla soup, which rivals anything you could get in Texas. (The seared sashimi and signature fruit dessert are also worth ordering.)

Lahaina is also home to gay-owned Star Noodle, the diverse and delectable noodle shop that increased in reputation when its former executive chef, Sheldon Simeon, placed third on *Top Chef*. Not just Ramen, the menu is an intriguing selection of soba, udon, rice noodles and vermicelli, plus excellent libations and *malasadas* (fried doughnuts with chocolate and caramel) in a buzzy, friendly, family-style atmosphere.

Michael Moore, who owns Star Noodle and several other acclaimed concepts, also opened Leoda's Pie Shop, a casual diner with serious cuisine, feature both savory pies (lush, hot shepherd's, for example) and sweet desserts (the mini banana cream is a delight). And when you're talking about the islands, you have to mention Roy Yamaguchi, who pioneered Hawaiian-fusion cuisine. His new Roy's Ka'anapali offers a globally-sourced wine and sake list (with some well priced options even by the glass) and Pacific Rim dishes like a crunchy shrimp lumpia.

Kihei

About 45 minutes south of Lahaina — and only 15 minutes from the airport in Kahului — is lackadaisical Kihei, resort area extending down the southwest coast of Maui. There are few accommodations above three stories, and style is more residential-seeming and quaint.

This is where you will find the Maui Sunseeker, a gay boutique hotel undergoing a substantial renovation. (In keeping with Hawaii's openness, the hotel is welcoming of "awesome straight people" as well.) The gay-owned hotel of 23 rooms (expanding by summer to 26) feels more like a bed-and-breakfast, with its weekly mixers, free access to beach equipment and friendly staff. The pent-house suite — exceptional if you can get it — includes its own out-





door hot tub on a huge balcony overlooking the ocean, which is about 20 feet from the doorstep, plus a full kitchen, Jacuzzi tub.

Just down the road is ample shopping and dining options, but the unmissable stop is the Kihei Caffe, where all locals will encourage you to go. A mom-and-pop-style breakfast spot, you can get a huge, sticky cinnamon roll or the house specialty, pork fried rice with scrambled egg; it's easily enough for two. (Bring cash; like a lot of places on Maui, they don't take plastic.) Stella Blues is another great breakfast option.

The beach outside of the Sunseeker is beautiful and serene, but you're only about 15 minutes from notorious Little Beach. This bit of surf, across a lava flow from (natch) Big Beach, is Maui's clothing-optional stretch of dune, and considered the gayest of the area beaches. It can be a trek walking to, so if you work up a sweat, don't worry: You can dump your clothes as soon as you get there and hop in the icy brine.

Little Beach is in the Makena area, which, along with neighboring Wailea, more closely resembles the resort development of Lahaina than Kihei. It's also where you can find a variety of good restaurants. Along the Wailea Emerald Golf Course is Gannon's, the latest concept from pioneering Maui restaurateur Bev Gannon, whose three eateries — The General Store and Joes's are the other two — have made the Dallas native an iconic chef. Check out her version of the Hawaiian classic moko loko: beef patties with egg, fried rice and gravy. You can also check out the popular Monkey-

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MAUI EXPERIENCES | The Hana Highway, top opposite, is a photographer's paradise; once in Hana at the Travaasa Hotel, center opposite, you can relax by the palm-lined pool; cliff-diving is a sight at the Sheraton Ka'anapali Resort in Lahaina, bottom opposite; paddle boarding, top, is a popular water sport in Maui, as is whale watching aboard a catamaran like the Ali'i Nui for a sunset dinner-and-booze cruise, above.

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pod, and next door Pita Paradise, where the proprietor serves the fish caught that morning.

Whale watching is a popular pastime on Maui, which you can do with binoculars from the coast, or aboard one of the sunset catamarans. The Ali'i Nui is a fun way to spend a few hours, as it sails west into the sea and positions itself for a spectacular setting of the evening sun while you also score the water for whales. When darkness hits (and in Hawaii, minimal light pollution means it gets *dark*) the boat offers a feast of food (including alcohol) before returning to dock.

Hana

A true Maui experience wouldn't be complete without a trip to Hana: Its remoteness makes it a perfect getaway from strife, and the road to it — the notorious Hana Highway — is an attraction in and of itself. A two-lane (sometimes one-lane) coastal road that hugs the mountainside winds more than a one-armed watchmaker, but is a feast of flora. From the verdant hills to the breathtaking whitecapped sea to the fruit stands, expect to stop a dozen times. (It's less than 50 miles from the airport, but plan about three hours to drive it; you don't want to — and can't — speed.)

Start your Hana adventure with a stop at Mama's Fish House in Haiku, one of the great dining treasures of the island and reveres for its atmosphere as for its fresh food. Also say goodbye to the trappings of society there, because when you're pulling into the Travaasa Hana Hotel three hours later, you'll feel like you're in another world.

You kind of are. Hana itself (pop. 4,000) — an outpost on the tip of civilization — has only one real point: *Relax*. When you drop your car off at reception, it's parked away in a lot for the remainder of your stay. Why would you need it? Bellmen are available 24/7 to fetch you in golf carts

and drive you anywhere you'd need to go: To the front desk; to the spa, to the few restaurants in the area, even down to the beach access two miles away. The grounds of the adult-only Sea Ranch Cottages, feng shui'd in a meditative footprint, are fabulous, with palm trees, circular cart paths, archways, gates and landscaping that force you to slow down.

There's limited Wi-Fi here, terrible cellular reception and none of the cabins have TVs. If that's a deal-breaker for you — if being able to stream reruns of *Gossip Girl* is more important to you than a night in the Garden of Eden ... well, maybe man deserved to be expelled from Paradise.

The rooms hardly need TV, with amenities like whole-bean Hawaii coffee (with grinder!), local teas, spacious, airy accommodations and magnificent water views. And the spa, which opens onto a grassy courtyard, revitalizes you just to sit and reflect (though the treatment facilities and therapists are awesome). You can also enjoy the facilities (pools, tennis courts, etc.) and explore the environs. Go shopping in one of the area boutiques or galleries for art or produce, or head over to the Hana Ranch Restaurant, a neighborhood spot with a small menu and wine list. Get the coconut shrimp and catch of the day, especially if it's ono (preferred by locals even over ahi), a dense mackerel-like fish also known as wahoo, and don't skip the macadamia pie with island-made ice cream.

The Travaasa has its own eatery as well, the Paniolo Lounge, which serves Portuguese sausage (you can get Italian sausage anywhere, my native server tells me, but where have you even *heard* of Portuguese?) as well as banana-macadamia pancakes and the freshest-squeezed O.J. ever.

Leaving Hana requires an act of will. Most people will tell you to return to civilization along the same road that brought you there. Making the full circuit around the southern tip of the island is a no-no, according to your rental car agreement. But the reason (a 9-mile stretch of highway where the pavement is loose and sometimes flooded) isn't a reason at all if you drive safely and slowly ... and not during the rainy season. It also provides you



PLANNING YOUR WEDDING? NO NEED

With the state's authorization of same-sex marriages — not commitment ceremonies, not civil unions — the already-booming Hawaii tourism economy (\$14 billion last year) is poised to expand even more. Then again, it's old-hat for **Kevin Rebelo**.

The South African-born Maui transplant has been in the wedding biz for more than 20 years — in fact, his company, **HawaiiWedding.com**, was the first wedding-planning service with a website anywhere in the world. So while Rebelo was serving the gay community, heterosexuals from all over have sought out his services.

Planning a big event like a wedding ceremony from 3,700 miles away can be stressful and taxing, which is where local professionals like Rebelo can remove some of the worries. They can arrange for (or help you coordinate) photographers, licenses, officiants, space rentals, accommodation reservations and more — a one-stop-shopping service that can allow you to concentrate on the vows and the honeymoon and leave the details to someone else.

Of course, Hawaii's hoteliers have embraced the LGBT community as well, and most major accommodations have in-house wedding planners happy to assist gay lovebirds in tying the knot on their properties.

The Sheraton Ka'anapali Resort has a variety of packages available, ranging from a reservation in the lush presidential suite (where a small service of up to 22 guests can even be performed on the penthouse balcony) to garden spectaculars for up to 70 guests, as well as facilities for cocktail party and catering. (Contact the wedding manager at 808-662-8032.)

The Hyatt Regency Resort & Spa is equally prepared to assist same-sex couples, and actually limits the number of ceremonies they permit each day so as to make each ceremony and reception special. To make each event intimate, there are numerous outdoor (and indoor, if you like that kind of thing) locales to plan your event, from a small ceremony near a quaint foot-bridge, pictured above, to more extravagant parties. (Contact the wedding coordinator at 808-667-4430.)

Even the remote **Travaasa Hana Hotel** wants to help you plan your reception. With adults-only cottages (and some mixed garden suites) they can keep everything relaxed for your ceremony. And there's no tipping except in the restaurants, giving "full service, all-inclusive" a new meaning. (Contact Hubert at 855-721-8236.)

— A.W.J.



FROM SEA-LEVEL TO THE TOP OF THE WORLD | Coast of Maui south of Hana boasts vast ocean views; three hours later, you can be at the top of the Martian-like Haleakala Crater which, measured from its base under the Pacific, is taller than Everest.



is taller than Mount Everest.) It's a dreamscape you won't want to miss.

Driving down can feel torturous, but not as frightening as the decision to scale the crater under cover of darkness, await the sunrise (Haleakala means, in Hawaiian, "House of the Sun") and then bicycle back down more than 10 miles.

Biking down a mountain? That's extreme. Then again, everything about Maui is extreme, from its beauty to its peacefulness to its remote location. That's kind of what paradise was meant to be. ■

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD | The entrance to the Hyatt Regency's Japengo restaurant, left, shows off the serene beauty of the island, which is a foodie destination with options like the ahi tartare, right, at Mark Ellman's Mala Ocean Tavern.



with an experience few rule-followers will share: The opportunity to see massive seascapes of Pacific Ocean abutting a Martian-like landscape of red volcanic rock.

Upcountry/Haleakala National Park

The distaff side of Maui isn't for everyone, but it does lead you around the far side of the island, where there is much to enjoy. About an hour south of Hana on the road back to the populated areas is Haleakala National Park, which boasts beautiful ocean views and hiking paths that lead to a bamboo forest, as well as an impressive waterfall. Pass by the dirt road back to civilization and stop by the tasting room at Maui's Winery at Ulupalakua Ranch on the slope of Haleakala.

Coming this direction also makes it easy to veer off the main road and scale 10,000 feet to the top of the volcano that formed Maui, the now-dormant Haleakala Crater. (The only active volcanoes on the Hawaiian Islands are on the Big Island of Hawaii, 50 miles southeast of Maui, and visible on a clear day from the south side; the last lava eruption on Maui was before George Washington was elected president.)

Visiting Haleakala, a national forest service park (your admission ticket at any entrance of the park is good for two days), is a heady experience in more than one way. It takes about 45 minutes to climb the winding roads in a car, though hikers and bikers take their own routes both up and down the mountain. Along the way, there are turn-offs to pause and enjoy the exquisite views of the entire island, as well as the West Maui Mountains that back up against Lahaina.

Once up there, the Maui experience changes substantially. First, the temperature drops a good 35 degrees, and the landscape nearly defies description: Plantless expanses of solidified lava, and views that make you feel on top of the world. (In a way, you are: Measured from its based under the surface of the ocean, Haleakala



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Sunday 01.26

Dance Theatre of Harlem makes Bass debut

Inspired by the empowerment message of Martin Luther King Jr., Arthur Mitchell founded the Dance Theatre of Harlem 45 years ago, and it has been a tremendous success, known for its innovative, athletic and beautiful choreography. The company makes its Bass Performance Hall debut on Sunday, with a one-night-only performance.

DEETS: Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. 7 p.m. Tickets from \$16.50. BassHall.com.



Tuesday 01.28

DSM unchains 'Ghost: The Musical' at Fair Park Music Hall

"Molly ... you in *danger*, girl." If you don't recognize that line, then you probably didn't ball like a kid on a playground when you saw (if you even saw) the hit movie *Ghost*. The 1990 film, a spiritual tearjerker about a man who continues to walk the earth until he can protect the woman he loved, was like *The Sixth Sense* with pottery wheels and less smugness. The national tour of the Broadway hit arrives in Fair Park for two weeks, courtesy of Dallas Summer Musicals.

DEETS: Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Jan. 28–Feb. 9. DallasSummerMusicals.org.



LIFE+STYLE

best bets



Saturday 01.25

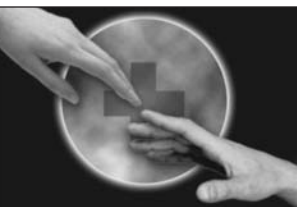
Alonzo King LINES Ballet at Winspear

Alonzo King LINES Ballet is a contemporary dance troupe renowned for a style deeply rooted in diverse cultural traditions, including classical ballet and featuring articulated movement and eye-popping visuals. The company makes its Winspear debut on Saturday with this single-night show, which features two dances: *Resin* and *Scheherazade*.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. \$12–\$135. ATPAC.org.

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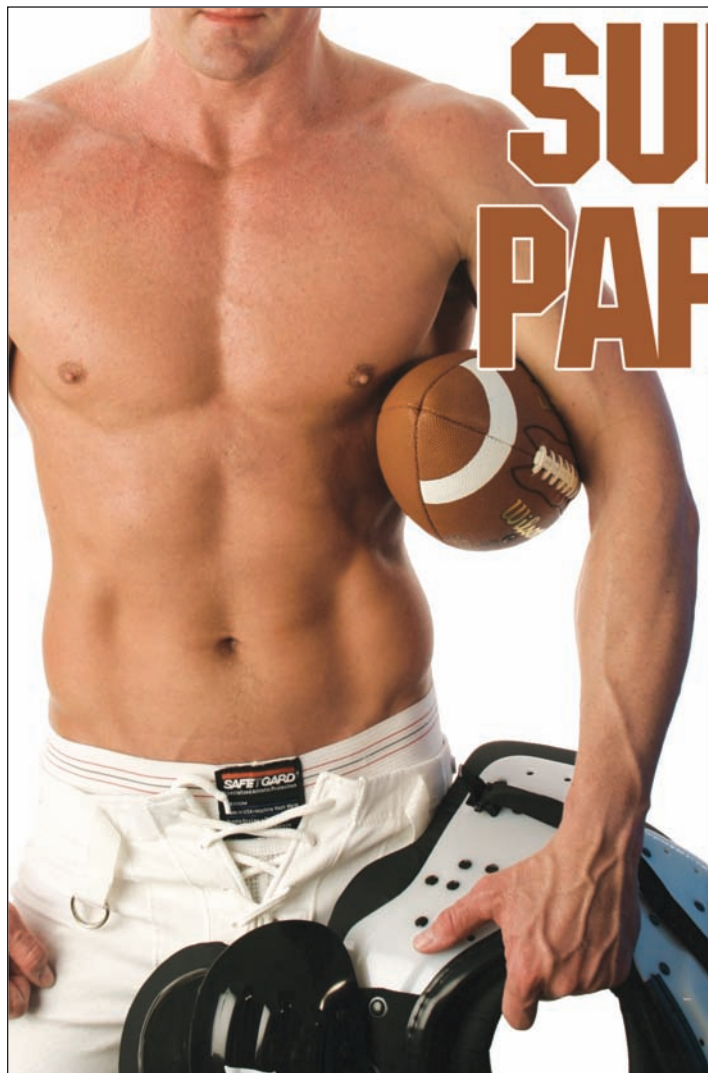
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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Broadway Our Way. The annual Uptown Players show, with previews of its upcoming season. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. *Final weekend.* UptownPlayers.org.

On the Eve. The award-winning guerrilla production gets the full treatment from Theatre 3. The rock musical — about a time-traveling Marie Antoinette and a living statue — was one of the best shows of 2012. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Feb. 9. \$10–\$50. Theatre3Dallas.com.

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. An adaptation of the Twain classic. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Feb. 16 (in previews through Sunday). WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Avenue Q. The hit musical moves from its home at Theatre Too over to Cowtown's Stage West with the original cast. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 15. StageWest.org.

Enchanted April. A romantic comedy set in a sunny resort. Theatre Arlington, 521 W. Main St., Arlington. Through Feb. 2. TheatreArlington.org.

Go, Dog, Go! The children's book is brought to life. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through Feb. 23. DCT.org.

Oedipus el Rey. The Dallas Theater Center continues its season with this work by Luis Alfaro, an adaptation of Sophocles' classic *Oedipus Rex*, set in the barrios of

contemporary Los Angeles. Directed by Kevin Moriarty. Wyly Theatre's Studio Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through March 2. Tickets from \$15. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Marilyn: Forever Blonde. A show about the last thoughts of Marilyn Monroe. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. *Final weekend.* ATPAC.org.

Paper Backs. An artist and writer navigate through the turns in their relationship. Presented by Sundown Collaborative Theatre. Directed by Tashina Richardson. PointBank Black Box Theatre, 318 W. Hickory St., Denton. *Final weekend.* 8 p.m. 940-220-9302.

I Love You, You're Perfect Now Change. The romantic musical comedy is back. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Feb. 16. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Working. Michael Serrecchia directs this revival of the musical adaptation of Studs Turkel's revelatory chronicle about the labor force in America. Greenville Center for Performing Arts, 5601 Sears St. Through Feb. 24. ContemporaryTheatreOfDallas.com.

FINE ART

Chinese Lantern Festival. The festival, which was supposed to end right after the new year, continues with an extension through Feb. 17, and special discounts available. Fair Park. ChineseLanternFestival.com.

Hopper Drawing: A Painter's Process. The towering 20th century painting Edward Hopper is revealed in a collection of pencil drawings and sketches that inform his creative choices. Includes several finished paintings,

Return of the divas: 'Broadway Our Way,' 'Avenue Q' and 'On the Eve'

A new year is usually a time for renewal, but three local theater companies have used January to look back with revivals — all worth seeing.

Uptown Players' *Broadway Our Way*, pictured, isn't a revival, really, but rather a tradition: The yearly musical revue and fundraiser for the gay theater troupe. And because Uptown has a rep for quality, it attracts top-notch talent — truly the best voices and savviest dancers in the city. From the colorful opening to the funny-sexy male-on-male duet "You've Got Possibilities" (courtesy Chad Peterson and Kevin Moore), to Darius-Anthony Robinson's trademark sass to Coy Covington's dragtastic mashup as a Times Square hooker (complete with Noo Yawk accent) to John Campione's one-two punch of "Suddenly Seymour" (with Angel Velasco) and "Don't Rain on My Parade," *BOW* is predictably wonderful and often hilarious. (*Final weekend; UptownPlayers.org.*)

Not every great voice is at the Kalita. Some have found their way to Stage West for the probably-final local revival of *Avenue Q*. The *Sesame Street* parody (complete with puppets) had a good run at Theatre 3 (almost two years!) but the production has moved across the Trinity with the original cast and creative team in place, but a bigger venue to share its collection of dick jokes and catchy tunes. It's the kind of show you can discover something new in each time you see it; this time, it's the strength and emotional resonance of Megan Kelly Bates' singing, no where more evident than on the powerhouse ballad "There's a Fine, Fine Line." After a staggering 200 performances together, this cast is just as energetic as they were on opening night ... and a bit friskier. Just try not to have fun. (*Through Feb. 15; StageWest.org.*)

A third local cast zeroes out the singing pool at Theatre 3, where *On the Eve* just opened. When this original musical played, for just a few weeks, in December 2012 at the tiny Margo Jones Theatre in Fair Park, it thrilled the handful of people who saw it (it was my No. 1 show of 2012). T3 snatched up the rights, and now the production is back with most of the same cast (including composers Seth Magill, who plays the heroic Chase Spacegrove, and his wife Shawn Magill, who plays keyboards and sings backup). A rock musical about creativity, time travel, sex and history, *On the Eve* jolts you out of your seat with the opening number, and keeps you riveted through a dozen quirky songs. Gregory Lush, who plays The Talking Man, has the kind of charisma Alan Cumming evinced in *Cabaret* — a sleazy, slightly threatening mystery — but the whole cast delivers. The songs could use buttons to end them more definitively, but director Jeffrey Schmidt has done such a consummate job with the material, you could pick this production up and drop it off at any off-Broadway theater and have the toast of New York. See it now, and one day tell your grand-nephews you were among the first. (*Through Feb. 9; Theatre3Dallas.com.*)

— Arnold Wayne Jones





'WORKING; STIFFS | How people make a living — or not — is the subject of 'Working,' a 1970s musical featuring songs by Stephen Schwartz and James Taylor based on the writings of Studs Turkel.

including the iconic *Summertime*. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 16. 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.

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.

SATURDAY 01.25

DANCE

Alonzo King LINES Ballet. The acclaimed dance company performs a one-night-only recital at the Winspear Opera House, 4103 Flora St. Saturday at 8 p.m. \$12-\$135. ATTPAC.org.

SUNDAY 01.26

THEATER

The Normal Heart. A benefit performance of Larry Kramer's angry play about the AIDS crisis, postponed last month due to weather, has its performance in commemoration of World AIDS Day. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. 6 p.m. \$25.

DANCE

Dance Theatre of Harlem. The troupe makes its Bass Hall debut. Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Sunday at 7 p.m. Tickets from \$16.50. BassHall.com.

MONDAY 01.27

THEATER

Oral Fixation. The monthly spoken word performance returns to Hamon Hall with the theme "Silver Linings." Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. \$25. OralFixationShow.com.

COMMUNITY

Are You Smarter Than a Drag Queen? The sassy

game show is back, with more games and a cash prize. The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. 9 p.m.

TUESDAY 01.28

COMMUNITY

Dallas Stonewall Young Democrats meet to consider endorsements for upcoming primary. Vixin Lounge inside Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 01.29

THEATER

Cock. The buzzy off-Broadway play about a bisexual man launches Second Thought Theatre's 10th season. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Jan. 29-Feb. 22 (in previews through Jan. 30). 2TT.co.

THURSDAY 01.30

THEATER

Venus in Fur. Circle Theatre presents the regional premiere of the Tony Award-winning two-hander about a writer looking for the perfect actress to portray his heroine. Circle Theatre, 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. Jan. 30-March 8 (in previews through Feb. 1). \$10-\$35. CircleTheatre.com.

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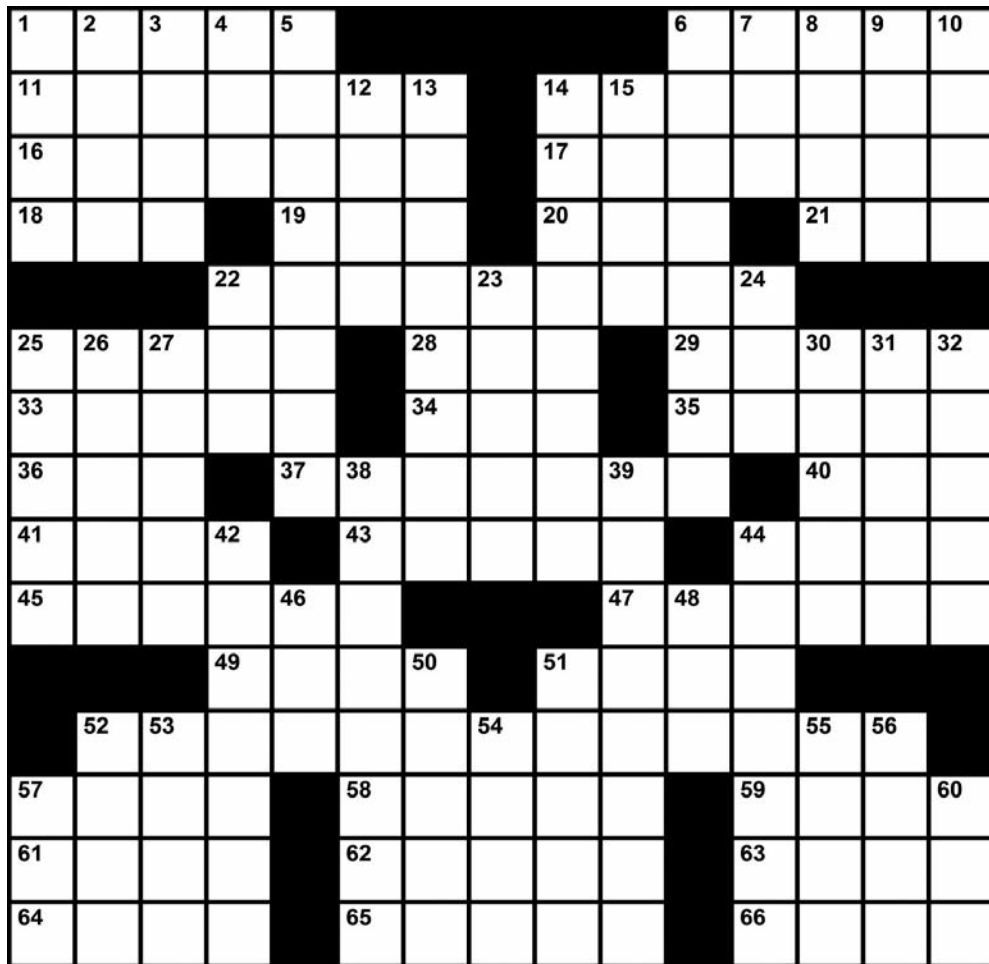


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Mother Ruth

Solution on page 28

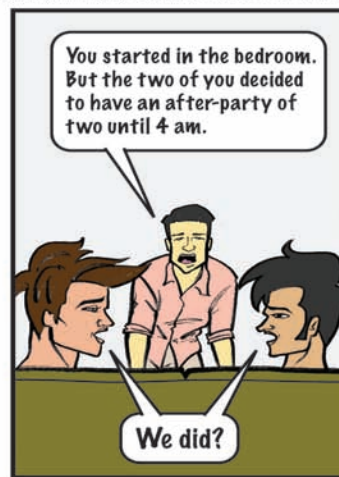
Across

- 1 Start of one description of Mother Ruth's father
- 6 Longtime oldest out lesbian "Mother Ruth"
- 11 They may zip out
- 14 Notarize
- 16 Head problem
- 17 *Northern Exposure* extra
- 18 Legislators in O. Wilde's land
- 19 Take a whack at
- 20 Dorm VIPs
- 21 Yadda-yadda-yadda ...
- 22 End of one description
- 25 George of *It's My Party*
- 28 Bellows on the set
- 29 Puts on a happy face
- 33 As a whole
- 34 Bard of boxing
- 35 Show that aired TV's first lesbian kiss
- 36 Aspen's hrs.
- 37 Kind of fiction
- 40 Much ___ About Nothing
- 41 Crude dude
- 43 Tatum of *The Bad News Bears*
- 44 Barbra's *Funny Girl* guy
- 45 Start of another description of him
- 47 More of another description

Down

- 49 Tabloid tidbit
 - 51 Nemesis of Tinkerbell
 - 52 End of another description
 - 57 Con man's mark
 - 58 "___ at time!" (No threesomes!)
 - 59 What Sam twitched on *Bewitched*
 - 61 *The Good Earth* heroine
 - 62 Christopher of *Superman*
 - 63 Frasier's response to a client
 - 64 It'll spice up your meat
 - 65 Tops of arenas
 - 66 A lot, maybe
- Down**
- 1 David Bowie genre
 - 2 Like a stereotypical wrist
 - 3 Bannon and others
 - 4 Cube with pips
 - 5 Loads, as software
 - 6 Like pencil marks
 - 7 OCS grads
 - 8 Have a thing for
 - 9 "___ first you don't succeed, keep on sucking till you do suck seed"
 - 10 Together, after "in"
 - 12 What one does to one's loins
 - 13 "What?"
 - 14 With "North," Maupin's birth state
 - 15 Cowboy actor Jack
 - 22 Shakespearean prince
 - 23 ___ Coyote (one who wants to eat the Road Runner)
 - 24 Three R's org.
 - 25 *The Lion King* protagonist
 - 26 R.E.M.'s "It's the ___ the World as We Know It"
 - 27 Swamp critter
 - 30 You must remember this
 - 31 Woman who goes both ways?
 - 32 Uttered obscenities
 - 38 It may not mean what you think
 - 39 Sets of environmental conditions
 - 42 Clothing
 - 44 Where to find a Pacific Rim job
 - 46 Sodom suffix
 - 48 Young lady coming out
 - 50 Sal of *Exodus*
 - 51 Close one, for a drag queen
 - 52 Type of skirt worn by a Hawaiian man
 - 53 Lesbian character in *She's Gotta Have It*
 - 54 Swarm
 - 55 Fruit of Peter Pears?
 - 56 River in NW Belgium
 - 57 Buns and shags
 - 60 Shrek's shoe size, perhaps

T&A SUNDAYS



WRITTEN BY TYLER CURRY
ILLUSTRATED BY CLARIONE GUTIERREZ

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LIFE+STYLE

scene



Shauna and Maria at Sue Ellen's.



Gaybingo at the Rose Room.



Paxton and Joe on The Strip.



Deana Dawn and Mark at the Round-Up Saloon.

Making the **SCENE** the week of **Jan. 24–30**:

Round-Up Saloon: Dallas Diesel Casino Night. Blackjack, Texas Hold'Em and more. Prizes include a 32" Samsung LED HDTV on Sunday, 3–8 p.m.

Woody's Sports and Video Bar: Woody's 10th anniversary customer appreciation and favorite things giveaway. Special performance by **Jada Fox** and friends. Sunday at 8 p.m.

Sue Ellen's: **Jason Huff & The Ignition** on Friday. **Two Lane Blacktop** on Saturday. **Ciao Bella** on Sunday.

Alexandre's: **Angie Landers** on Friday. **Bad Habits** on Saturday. **Denise Lee** on Wednesday. **Alicia Silex** on Thursday.

Dallas Eagle: **Mr. and Ms. Texas Leather** events throughout the weekend.

S4: Singles release party for **Mi Mi Mi** from pop starlets **Serebro** on Friday. Win copies while supplies last.

Eden Lounge: **Sets in the City** heads to Deep Ellum for karaoke night on Friday. **Fingerless Ghost** performs to celebrate the bar's one year anniversary on Saturday.

Garlows: **Randy Winters** presents **Friends Helping Friends** benefit for **Family Resource Center** in Gun Barrel City on Saturday at 9 p.m.

JR.'s Bar & Grill: Album release party for **Is There Anybody Out There** from the rising pop duo **A Great Big World** on Tuesday. Win copies of the CD while supplies last.

Randy's Club Cherries: **Kenny's Cowboys vs. Shay Fox's Dames of Deception** buffet and show benefits the **North Texas Council of Clubs** on Thursday at 6 p.m.

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



"Gaymers" at Hunky's.

LIFE+STYLE

scene



Aaron at S4.



Friends at the Hard Rock Cafe drag brunch.

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ices. Interested candidates
should complete an online ap-
plication at <http://www.aidsarms.org/about-header-with-toggles/>.

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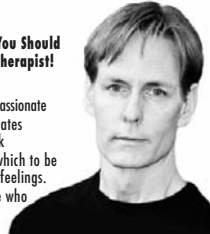
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