

Austin Scarlett on 'Project Opera'

The out couturier teams with Fort Worth Opera for costume epic
Known for his bridalwear, Scarlett tackles designing for a world premiere opera

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He's On it

After creating an
LGBT Task Force,
Dallas County District
Attorney Craig Watkins
puts his staff through
sensitivity training

Cover story by
Steve Ramos



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Graphic design by Kevin Thomas



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'Drag Race' promises to drop transphobic gags

Following a dustup occasioned by a game that made its contestants guess the gender of a person based on close-up photos of their anatomy, RuPaul's Drag Race has had a change of heart about some of the language it uses on the show.

The series, which airs on Logo Mondays, pits a dozen or more drag queens — that is, men impersonating women — against each other for cash and the title of "America's next drag superstar." Occasionally, however, a contestant on the show has been a genuine transgender woman, not just a drag queen; those "coming out" moments are some of the most sincere and heartfelt on reality TV. So it seemed a disconnect for some that the show would routinely use the term "she-mail" as Ru's version of "e-mail" to the contestants, since "she-male" is considered a derogatory term for a trans woman. (The "she-mail" controversy began when it was first used in Season 1, though the hubbub quickly died down.)

In a statement from Logo to The Huffington Post, the network said, "We are removing the 'you've got she-mail' intro from new episodes of the series. We did not intend to cause any offense, but in retrospect we realize that it was insensitive. We sincerely apologize." Several former contestants (some trans, some not) lobbied for the change and endorsed the decision.

The question it raised for me is, why now? And why that term?

The "now" is fairly easy to answer: Society has developed its sensitivity to LGBT issues over the years, and it continues to grow, and the "female of she-male" game from several episodes ago was clearly a tipping point.

The "why" is harder to answer.

Is it derisive to call a trans person "she-male" offensive, even transphobic? Most definitely. But is calling a gay man a "girl" also bad? It certainly is when said with malice — but one of Ru's other catch-phrases is "Silence! ... Bring back my girls," in reference to the (male) contestants. Is calling someone "queer" wrong? When shouted angrily from a car at a gay man walking down the street, yes. But *Queer Eye* and *Queer as Folk* showed us how to co-op hate speech and turn it into empowerment.

"She-male" is clearly wrong, but "she-mail" — a pun on "e-mail" — is, and should be considered, a

joke ... perhaps one in bad taste, but then, bad taste is the stock in trade of *Drag Race*. In the same way that the transploitation film *Ticked Off Trannies with Knives* was so named in order to take ownership of a term that can be used derisively, couldn't we all agree that "she-mail" was meant in good fun and leave it at that? There's no show on TV that has greater respect for the gay community — including the trans community — than *Drag Race*. The show also objectifies men (the bikini-brief-clad Pit Crew), uses words like "hunty" and "fishy" in suggestive ways, regularly plays the quiz-show parody "Snatch Game" (and we know what "snatch" means in this context) and makes countless other transgressions. In the way that gay activism popularized the mantra "We're here, we're queer, get used to it!" could we take an expansive look at our culture and distinguish between maliciousness and good-natured hazing?

Maybe not. The trans community suffers a lot of indignities, and coming out as trans isn't easy. We should try to be sensitive to issues of tolerance and not spread hate. But Chaz Bono — child of Cher and perhaps the most famous trans person in the world — was a guest on the show Monday night, and he presumably didn't object to the term. Maybe we could all take a lesson from Chaz ... or maybe Chaz needs to take a lesson from the activist trans community.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

4 Texans top Out Magazine's Power 50 List of nation's LGBTs

Out Magazine's eighth annual Power 50 List released this week includes four Texans among the ranks.

Houston Mayor Annise Mayor, Brittney Griner, Michael Sam and Dustin Lance Black are featured. Both Parker and Black have been included before on the list, which examines LGBT officials, leaders, athletes, musicians and business people (among others) who have the power in America.

Parker, now in her third and final term as mayor, has used her role in the past to chair Mayors for the Freedom to Marry and recently announced she planned to introduce a nondiscrimination ordinance in the city, which is the largest city in Texas without such a measure.

Black, known as the screenwriter for *Milk*, has been active in LGBT causes, including taking down California's Prop 8 and later writing the play about the events surrounding the ballot measure. He continues to work on pro-LGBT projects.

The two new Texas additions also happen to be leading the way for LGBT inclusion in sports, an area in which LGBT equality and attitudes are still homophobic.

Griner came out last April after the WMBA draft. She's discussed how difficult it was attending college at the Baptist-affiliated Baylor University before she went to play professionally. She goes into more detail in her recent book *In My Skin*.

Sam, also a Texas native, made waves earlier this year as the first player pre-NFL draft to come out as gay. He said he wanted to be honest about his sexuality before the draft. While he's expected to be an early round pick, six teams have recently come out in favor of signing an openly gay player and are seriously considering Sam.

— Anna Waugh

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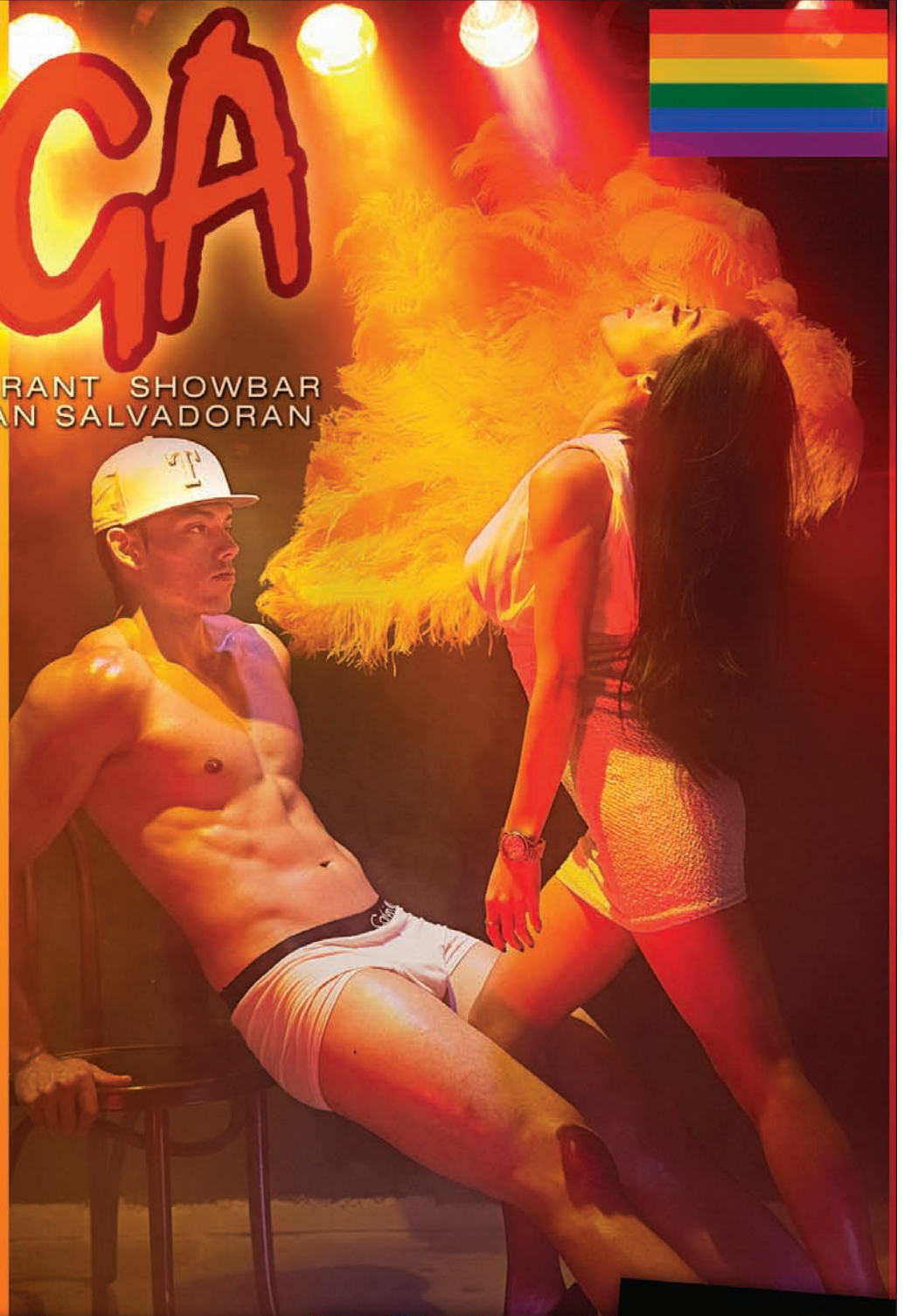
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Hundreds of DA staffers go through diversity training



NOH8 | The Dallas County District Attorney's office welcomed Roberta Clark of the Anti-Defamation League to the office for a training on "Why Diversity Matters." Nearly 300 prosecutors and investigators attended the training. (Tracy Nanthavongsa/Dallas District Attorney's Office of Communications)

DA Craig Watkins' policies could ensure violence against LGBT people won't go unpunished

STEVE RAMOS | Senior Editor
ramos@dallasvoice.com

They were the words no mother wants to hear. Maria Ramos, tough ranch woman that she was, must have weakened when the Arkansas official told her that her son was injured and probably wouldn't live through the day. It was 1985. People weren't awakened by genial cell phone tones in those days. Instead, a 10-pound phone ringing in the early morning hours roused people like a cattle prod to the brain. The news that your son is near death would only rev that shock to a mind-splintering level.

Minutes after she hung up the phone, Maria's bags were packed, and she was herding other

family members into action. Bad news travels through Mexican neighborhoods faster than the speed of light in a vacuum, and the community circled the wagons around her. Within the hour, family friends were dropping off money to help with the trip. A couple of dollars from one, five bucks from another. Tears from all of them.

Maria and her six other children pointed their cars toward the barely rising sun. Normally, sunrises are glorious in the Texas Panhandle, but the streaks of magentas and oranges would have been lost to the family on that morning. Instead, the sun's movement westward was only a reminder that time was running out. Doubtlessly, Maria would have prayed 10 rosaries during that tortuous drive — one for each of the hours that separated her from her dying son.

I don't know who told Grandma what happened to my uncle, or if she knew the details before she left home or was told at the hospital. It doesn't matter. He was brain dead, the result of

a brutal gay bashing. Eyewitnesses reported that a man attacked my uncle from behind, knocked him to the ground and then kicked him in the head repeatedly.

Because. He. Was. Gay.

After the attack, my uncle was able to get up, the witnesses said, but he later collapsed. It was the last time he would walk. We soon learned the assailant had prior convictions of assault in Arkansas and Louisiana and was on probation for assault at the time of the attack. One would think it was an open-and-shut case. But not in Arkansas. And certainly not in 1985.

The district attorney should have just stayed home on the day of the trial. A first-year law student could have swatted away his feeble prosecution like a child slapping a geriatric gnat. He just didn't care. He allowed the defense to mock the gay eyewitnesses, turning the trial into a finger-pointing at them, that they and my uncle were somehow responsible for the attack — just

for being gay. They were ridiculed and humiliated, forced to divulge to their neighbors the personal details of their gay lives. They were on trial. The gay community was on trial. The only one not on trial was the defendant.

It turns out the jury didn't care, either. Despite the eyewitness testimony that detailed the attack on my uncle, and despite the assailant's criminal record, a dozen jurors found him not guilty. Imagine a mother being told by 12 people that her son's life has no value to them. Indeed, as one of my aunts was later walking down the courthouse steps, she overheard someone say, "It's just one less faggot walking the streets as far as I'm concerned." My grandmother never recovered.

Sadly, my uncle's story isn't a unique one in the LGBT community. Laramie, Tyler, Paris, Dallas, Houston — this list goes on. Dallas Voice reporter David Taffet is working on a story about the Texas Obituary Project that has documented,

so far, about 140 violent deaths in the community over the last several decades.

How many law enforcement agencies and district attorneys buried LGBT hate crimes during those years or just determined not to prosecute them? How many mothers were told their sons' and daughters' lives were of no value to the legal system because they were LGBT? Too many.

Obviously, Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins agrees. Watkins announced in February the creation of the Dallas County District Attorney's LGBT Task Force, and in March nearly 300 of his prosecutors and investigators took part in sensitivity training, titled "Why Diversity Matters," that will help them better understand the county's diverse communities.

"The diversity training will benefit our office and the residents of Dallas County as a whole," Watkins said. "We are better prosecutors, better investigators, when we understand the communities that we serve. Not only will it provide us a better understanding of the people we must prosecute, but equally with the victims and witnesses of crimes."

Watkins said he's aware that many LGBT people are reluctant to report crimes committed against them. Their experiences with law enforcement officials haven't always been good, and as one trans woman recently reported, police officers in Paris told her "Being the way you are, you should expect that" treatment, after she reported to them she was receiving death threats in the East Texas city.

Watkins certainly sees a lot of hate. It's even been directed at him, Dallas County's first African-American DA, and as he steers his office toward an understanding of diversity, he's liable to see more.

"My role is very controversial," he said, "but I'm going to live up to the principles I believe in. I've seen people use their power to hold people back from living the American dream. It's impossible to change this office overnight, but I am going to set the standard of behavior of what the justice system should be."

Watkins' creation of the LGBT Task Force and putting his staff through diversity training could stop the rise in anti-LGBT hate crimes. The FBI and the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs report an increase in those crimes, and the breakdown is horrifying. Transgender people and gender non-conforming people continue to experience higher rates of homicide. LGBTQH people of color represented 53 percent of total reported survivors and victims of all hate crimes, but 73.1 percent of homicide victims.

Watkins said he's an advocate for change and the Task Force and training will have a ripple effect in his office and in the county. He also believes it will reach the community.

"We're already seeing it," he said. "Many LGBT people don't believe in law enforcement because it hasn't worked for them. They've been marginalized."

■ DA, Next Page



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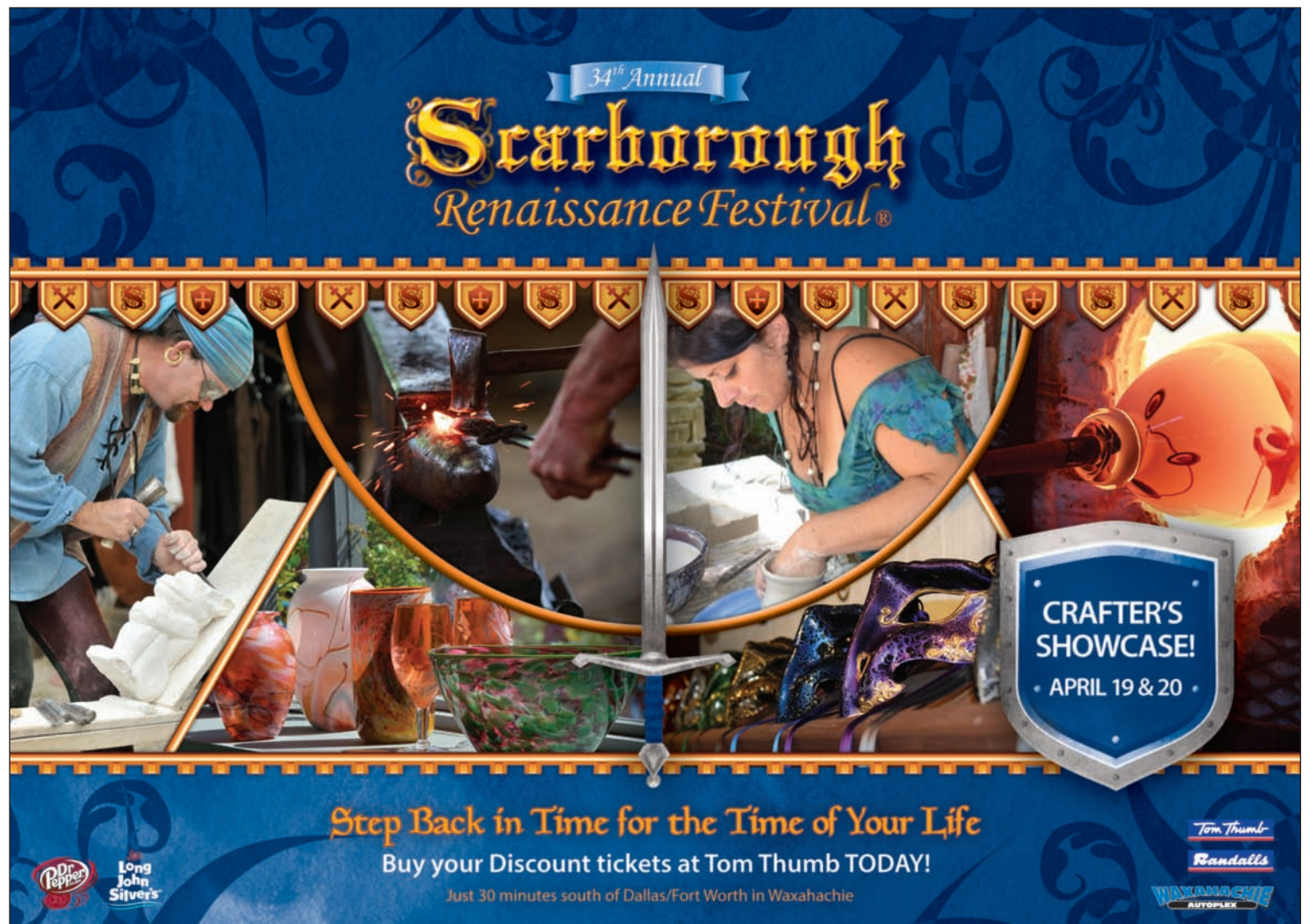
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■ texasnews

■ DA, From Previous Page

My grandmother, gone for 19 years now, would have loved to hear those words from a district attorney. The Task Force — comprised of four attorneys, an investigator, a case worker, a victim advocate and a spokesperson — will now help ensure no one in the community is excluded from the judicial process. And when LGBT people are on the defendant’s side, they are being told they can expect to face a more understanding prosecutor.

No members of the LGBT community are on the Task Force, but James Tate, LGBT spokesman, said, “We are exploring a future date and time to conduct a town hall meeting. In essence, this would allow us to introduce ourselves to the community and let them know we are here to help.”

Three of the Task Force members identify with the LGBT community, but no members of the community are on it because there will be cases that potentially come before the Task Force that can be viewed only by the district attorney’s office.

As Watkins finishes the last year of his second term, he reflects on how the job has changed him. He earned five times the amount of money in private law practice than he does as the district attorney.

“But I was unhappy,” he said. “I’m happy

now. I’m very religious, and I read the Bible. We are all children of God, whether you’re LGBT or a member of any other community. In my office, we need to protect everyone.”

That sentiment did trickle down to the prosecutors in Watkins’ office.

“In some way, almost all of us are minorities,” said Brian Higginbotham, an assistant district attorney in the appellate division. “It may be gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, disability or many other things. As prosecutors, we see all kinds of people at their worst and at their best.”

In our fight for marriage equality, Watkins said, “the Constitution says you have the right to marry.” And he encourages LGBT people to marry “even if it means you’re hauled off in handcuffs.”

“Live your life the way you want to,” he advised.

Twenty-nine years ago, my grandmother saw prosecutors at their worst, but I’m hopeful that I’m now seeing one at his best. The community will hold Watkins’ to the message drawn on his cheek for the NOH8 picture. It’s a powerful symbol for a powerful office, and it’s high time for the changes promised to us.

If members of the community have a concern they want to discuss with the Task Force, they can send an email to lgbt@dallasda.com. ■

■ pet of the week / KELLY

Kelly is a 1-year-old brown and white German Shorthaired Pointer/Staffordshire Terrier mix. She’s been at the shelter since March 17, so her adoption fee has been waived. She loves to play but is also very happy snuggling up with you. She portrays herself as very intelligent and well mannered. She also mentioned that her goal in life is to have a person to please. She’s had all her vaccinations, is spayed and microchipped. Please visit her at Dallas Animal Services, 1818 Westmoreland Rd, and ask for A828821.



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Council to vote on extending FMLA to LGBT employees



NOT AGAIN | Interim Assistant City Manager Theresa O'Donnell, left, holds a picture of her two children with her wife in the city's 'It Gets Better' video last year. O'Donnell was denied family leave when both her daughters were born but a proposed ordinance would recognize same-sex spouses for leave.

City officials denied gay employee leave when daughters were born, but the proposed plus-1 policy will recognize same-sex spouses

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Dallas officials have taken the comprehensive equality resolution passed last month seriously with discussions about the civilian pension plans starting last week, and now the City Council will consider adopting a plus-one plan for family leave.

The resolution called for changes in the pension plans, as well as family leave and health-care, among other areas, to make policies and procedures equitable for the city's LGBT employees.

Under a proposed ordinance the council will consider next week, the Dallas City Code would change to allow city employees to take leave for a "designated care recipient." The

"designated care recipient" would be "one individual designated by the employee who is 18 years of age or older and has resided in the same household as the employee and intends to reside in the same household as the employee on a continuous basis," according to the ordinance.

Currently employees can utilize the federal Family and Medical Leave Act only to care for a spouse, child, parent, related service member with a serious health condition or for a situation resulting from that service member's active duty.

Theresa O'Donnell, interim assistant city manager, helped brief a committee on the resolution before its passage last month. An 11-year veteran of City Hall, O'Donnell has experienced the city's unequal treatment because she's lesbian.

In 2005 and again two years later, she was denied family leave when her daughters were born. In a letter from former Human Resources Director David Etheridge in 2007, O'Donnell

■ FMLA, Next Page

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UNT gender-neutral housing plan hits roadblock



A NEW COMMUNITY | UNT's Legends Hall houses the sophomore and transfer student REAL Communities, which stands for Residents Engaged in Academic Living. Students are placed in a REAL Community with other students who have the same major, play the same sport or have a similar interest. Students are trying to add the option of gender-neutral housing on campus.

Students say university staff hasn't followed through on research, but officials say they're still in discussions without a plan to move forward yet

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

DENTON — Students at the University of North Texas hoped to see discussions begin this semester for creating gender-neutral housing.

But Taylor Evans, one of the organizers of the

proposal, said this week the effect is “definitely stalled” after housing officials never followed through on their promises to research the options for implementing gender-neutral housing.

But the university says officials have met with students and will continue the discussion about adopting a gender-neutral housing option.

Evans, a sophomore economics major, said she and a few classmates in a women's studies class launched the initiative in the fall after an assignment about activism gave them the idea.

They wrote a proposal and presented it to a few housing officials in December. The officials told them they'd put together a committee to

study how to implement gender-neutral housing, but Evans said nothing has been done. And while she said the university didn't necessarily stonewall the project's progress, it hasn't communicated with her or the other people, two of whom are resident assistants who proposed the change.

“It kind of fizzled out, but the housing department didn't follow through,” Evans said. “I think they're worried about what people are going to think.”

UNT spokesman Buddy Price said officials “have met several times with a group of students to discuss the issue and will continue those dis-

cussions. However, there are no plans at this time to adopt a gender-neutral housing plan.”

Under the proposal, UNT would offer gender-neutral housing to any student, not just LGBT students, who can share a multiple-occupancy bedroom with the same or opposite gender.

“Gender-neutral housing supports the University's non-discrimination policy and fully commits to the principles of social justice with respect to sexual orientation, sex, gender, and gender identity,” the proposal states. “Gender-neutral housing accommodates students who may identify as transgender, or are questioning their gender identity, or do not wish to prescribe to gender classifications. It also accommodates students who may be uncomfortable with same-sex roommates for any personal reasons.”

UNT has REAL Communities, which stands for Residents Engaged in Academic Living, where students with the same major, play the same sport or have a similar interest can live together.

UNT would be the first university in North Texas with a gender-neutral housing option.

In 2009, Texas Christian University planned to have a DiversCity Q community for LGBT students as one of the university's many living-learning communities. But the university later pulled the planned housing plan, along with other living communities after the news of the LGBT one made national news.

Texas Southern University, Southwestern University and Rice University already have gender-neutral housing, as well as the University of Oklahoma.

Evans said the proposal could still be “working its way up” the administrative ladder for approval, but she's surprised no committee was formed to continue the discussion about the option. A Change.org petition supporting the measure at UNT entitled “Instigate gender-neutral housing” garnered 217 signatures.

She said that even if the university fights the student body on the change, the administration will eventually have to add a gender-neutral housing option to keep up with the times and ensure all students are comfortable in on-campus housing.

“Eventually they're going to have to do it,” Evans said. “That's kind of the future of college housing is gender-neutral housing, so they're going to have to do it.” ■

■ **FMLA**, From Previous Page

was told that under FMLA “a domestic partner is not covered,” so the department couldn't fill her request. The news was a surprise, especially after the support from co-workers surrounding the birth of her daughters.

“When our daughters were born, we were warmly embraced by our friends and colleagues at the city,” O'Donnell said. “They hosted baby showers, brought gifts, sent cards, cooked meals for us and shared their favorite parenting stories.

In stark contrast to this heart-felt celebration was the dehumanizing rejection of my FMLA requests.”

O'Donnell said she hopes the new ordinance passes so LGBT employees in the future can take the family leave they are entitled to.

“The plus-one amendment will correct this institutionalized discrimination and ensure all city employees have the right and legal protection to spend necessary time with their families during times of celebration or in times of grief,” she said. “I applaud the city manager for moving so

quickly to find this simple and family-friendly provision that will also make Dallas a more competitive employer.”

Adam Medrano, chair of the city's LGBT Task Force, said he was pleased that proposed changes and discussions were happening so quickly after the equality resolution's passage.

“It's great to see all the work the Task Force put into the resolution is paying off,” Medrano said. “The resolution is working in the way it was designed to. This also shows that the city manager is taking this seriously and working to

correct the inequalities here at City Hall that affect the LGBT employees.”

Employees would still be eligible for family leave as long as they've worked at least 12 months for a minimum of 1,250 hours during the 12-month period. But under the ordinance, anyone who violates the ordinance will be subject to a \$500 fine, making the offense a class-C misdemeanor, much like offenses under the city's nondiscrimination ordinance. The council will consider the ordinance Wednesday, April 23. If passed, it will take effect immediately. ■

CSMA hosts Easter weekend events



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DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Cedar Springs Merchants Association has a big weekend planned as it hosts a store opening, an arts festival and Easter in the Park.

On April 19, Out of the Closet, a resale store operated by AIDS Healthcare Foundation that has taken over the space previously occupied by Union Jack, opens. Dallas Councilmen Adam Medrano and Philip Kingston, Dallas County Health and Human Services director Zach Thompson and Ron Givens from Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson's office will be on hand for the ribbon cutting at 10 a.m.

AHF Texas Regional Director Bret Camp said there will be balloons, a stilt walker and someone giving away fried pies to celebrate the store opening.

Cedar Springs Road will be closed from Reagan to Knight streets from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. for the Cedar Springs Arts Fest taking place on the street throughout the day.

Cedar Springs Merchants Association Executive Director Dave Berryman said about 50 artists are participating, many returning from previous years.

On Sunday, Easter in the Park continues under the direction of the CSMA. The merchants association took over the Lee Park event four years ago after other groups backed out and almost ended the Oak Lawn tradition that began in the mid-1960s.

"It's rain or shine — unless we absolutely have to cancel for lightning," Berryman said.

The day begins with the Pooch Parade.

Steve Kemble and Paul J. Williams will emcee the event. Judges include Kingston and Medrano who will award prizes for best small dog, medium

dog, large dog, look-alike and best overall.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. near the Robert E. Lee statue. The entry fee is \$10 per dog for each size category. Compete as a look-alike for an additional \$5. Line up is near Turtle Creek Boulevard and Lemmon Avenue.

Vendors will set up around the park on the

north and south lawns and across Turtle Creek Boulevard and open for business at 11 a.m. Many of the vendors are pet-related, including a number of rescue groups, a pet patisserie, groomers, boarders, vets and others with products no LGBT-owned pet can live without.

Entertainment begins at 2 p.m. with Mi Diva

Loca. Bring blankets or lawn chairs to listen and picnic.

"You can bring your own food and drink," Berryman said. "Park rules are no glass containers and no open flames. Oh, that no flaming rule doesn't apply to people." ■

More information at EasterInLeePark.com.



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viewpoints

At least I'm not a lumberjack like my great-grandfather

Apparently the only thing worse than what I'm doing right now is chopping down trees. I guess bad career moves run in my family

According to CareerCast, out of 200 jobs, newspaper reporter ranks 199, just ahead of lumberjack at 200. The website used data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics to compile its rankings. What brings down the career of journalist is negative growth in the industry (down 13 percent), chance for a raise and average salary. Also the stress level which is ranked as total stress. I guess I'm not doing my job right, because I never stress about anything. Ever. And I love the way that pisses other people off.

On the top end is mathematician, the No. 1 career. Obviously, boredom is not taken into account. (Sorry mathematicians. I'm sure you love your profession as much as I love mine.)

Tenured university professor is No. 2. Yeah, I get that. I wonder if the irony that some tenured university professors teach journalism knocked this job out of the top spot.

Nos. 3 and 4 are statistician and then actuary. Maybe the average salary three times mine is what keeps them from killing themselves.

No. 5 is audiologist. What?

Dental hygienist is No. 6. Dentist is No. 61. Huh? Why bother learning to inflict pain in dental school when you can scrape plaque all day?

Software engineer, computer systems analyst, occupational therapist and speech pathologist

round out the top 10. OK, those I get.

On the down side, just ahead of newspaper reporter is enlisted military personnel. Then taxi driver, broadcaster and head cook. Flight attendant is No. 194, followed by garbage collector.

Wait a minute. Going from reporter to garbage collector is taking several steps up? Understand, I respect what they do, but they're out all day in sweltering heat, rainstorms and snow. The smell. Running alongside the truck. Riding on the truck. On the other hand, they get city benefits and can retire a hell of a lot earlier than I ever will. HmMMM.

Next worse comes firefighter, corrections officer and roofer.

Wait, corrections officer? OK, so here's where I have to explain apparently bad career moves that run in my family.

My father's last job before he retired was teaching at Sing Sing. He wasn't a corrections officer, but he worked with inmates in prison for ... well, he said he never asked what any of them did. It's how he was able to teach them without judging them, trying to help them make something of themselves when they got out.

At No. 163 is pest control worker. The Orkins (you've seen their pest control trucks) are my cousins. As far as I'm concerned, their bad move wasn't the business they chose, but their decision to live in Mississippi.

And then there's lumberjack. It's what my great-grandfather, David Fisher for whom I'm



PAUL BUNYAN | Actual photo of my great-grandfather David Fisher, from whom I get my rugged good looks.

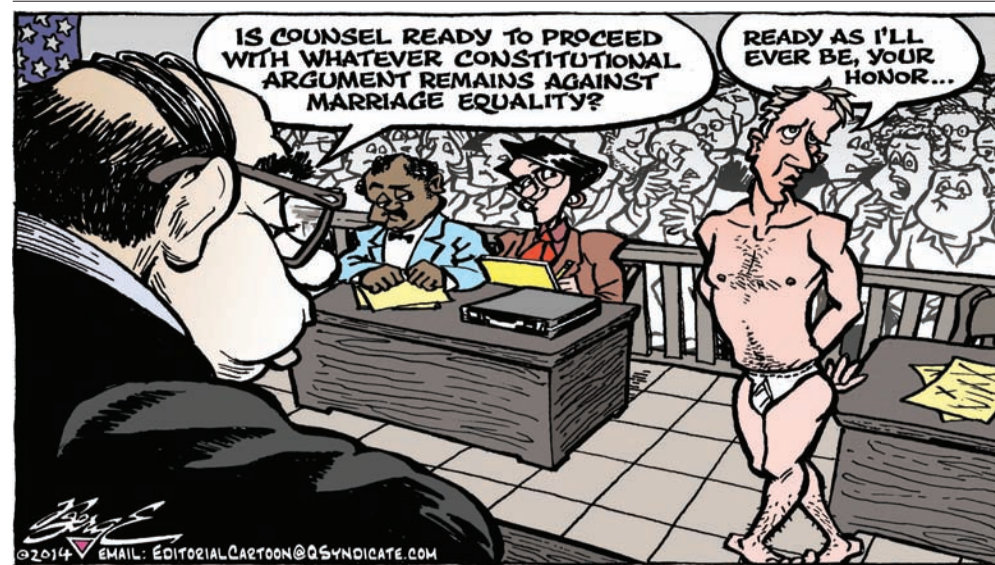
named, did in Nagy Varad, Hungary (now known as Oradea, Romania). The story is, he had good years and bad years. After one of his bad years, he said the next good year he'd use the money to get his family to America. Apparently he did a very good job, because when I visited Oradea in 1990, soon after the communist government fell, there wasn't a tree in sight.

He got his wife and two daughters to New York in 1905 and he arrived a year later. He wanted something better for his family and that's what he got. I'm not a No. 200 lumberjack. I'm a No. 199 newspaper reporter.

David Taffet is a staff writer at Dallas Voice. He can be reached at taffet@dallasvoice.com



David Taffet
Staff Writer



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A study in Scarlett

From bridal gowns to opera costumes, 'Project Runway's' Austin Scarlett loves challenging himself

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

Austin Scarlett is having a diva moment. Actually, it's not a moment, he's been working on it for months. And it's not even *his* moment anyway.

The divas he's thinking about are in the opera world, where Scarlett has found himself ... and somewhat unexpectedly.

Scarlett — the fashion designer who shot to prominence as a fan favorite on Season 1 of *Project Runway* with his elaborate, tailored looks perfect for ballgowns and wedding dresses — is goin' to the op'ry! He's been tapped as the costume designer for one of the productions in the Fort Worth Opera's upcoming 2014 festival.

With his stylish flamboyance, you might expect Scarlett to jump at the chance to do some fantastical costuming — perhaps for tropical delights of Bizet's *The Pearl Fishers* or Mozart's fanciful *Così fan tutti* — but you'd be off. Way off. He opted instead to design costumes for nuns.

Trust him, it surprised him as much as anyone.

"We were talking about me doing Britton's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* when Darren [Woods, general director of the FWO] said, 'You don't wanna do an opera with nuns, do you?' and I said, 'Actually, I do!'"

That conversation took place about two years ago, and this week all the efforts finally come to fruition when the piece, named *With Blood, With Ink*, opens.

The opera, in English, tells the life story of Juana Ines de la Cruz, a 17th century Mexican who was decades (if not centuries) ahead of her time. Yentl-like, she disguised herself as a man to get a university education and was a poet, nun and fierce feminist — before such a term even existed. Scarlett knew instantly he wanted to help tell her story.

"I knew a bit about Sor Juana," he says on a recent trip to Fort Worth. "She was the Joan of Arc of Mexico — a martyr who was an inspiration. She's such a fascinating character and became the first New World feminist."

His familiarity with Sor Juana was fueled when he learned more details about her life, but also because of the era she lived in: The Spanish colonial baroque.

"It was so fascinating to me, that whole time period, when women were relegated to being wives and maybe concubines, but it was also the most use of fabric in history. The standard of the day was to use 20 yards of material!" he says.

But wouldn't he still be constrained by the clerical look of the Catholic sisters? Well, it wouldn't be a challenge if he didn't find a way.

"Some of the technical challenges are creating these nuns who are comfortable in their clothes, particularly when you're swaddled around the face and the neck. And as historically accurate as I want to be, there are certain adjustments I need to make to make it



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NUN (FASHION) SENSE | Wedding gown couturier Austin Scarlett tackles his first opera, costuming the world premiere 'With Blood, With Ink' at the Fort Worth Opera. (Photos courtesy Fort Worth Opera)

work for the audience," he says. For instance, the countess "seemed too severe and mean to make her appear as an attractive and benevolent mother," so he tweaked her look. And Sor Juana stands out as well.

"There's a chorus of nuns, but that can also tell you how she was conforming to this group identity, she was so unique and of a single mind," he says. "And it's important to make a singer feel the part and be comfortable in the character."

Scarlett is best known for his bridal collection for Neiman Marcus. But bridalwear has many parallels to costume design.

"[A wedding gown] is nothing like what a woman will wear in her everyday life — it exists only in wedding attire. And it's living out this make-believe fantasy, this childhood, fairytale dream. But there is a ceremony and certain theatrical aspects. You're center

■ SCARLETT, Page 19

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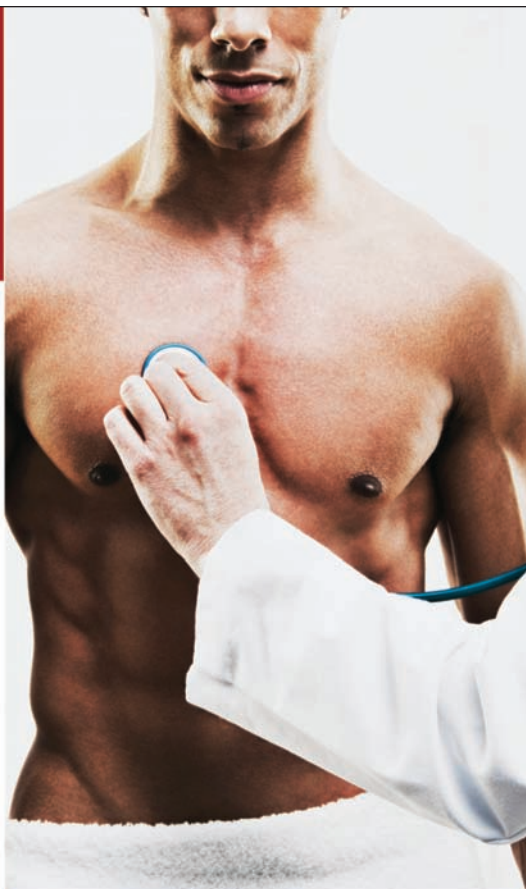
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Salsa moves

The secret may be in El Come Taco's sauces, but the appeal goes deeper

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

I feel sorry for people who still believe that a "taco" is ground beef at the bottom of a crisp shell, smothered in iceberg lettuce and shredded cheddar cheese and supplemented by chunky tomato sauce squirted out of a plastic packet. But it is a pity born of experience.

In my years before moving to Texas (which I now call The Dark Times), I, too, thought of tacos as coming in two varieties: Bell and Bueno. But the culinary life in Dallas provides far more diversity than that. The richness of Mexican culture in North Texas provides us with a banquet of taquerias — holes-in-the-wall where, often for two dollars or less, you have the opportunity to experience the exquisite, flamboyant flavors of *Distrito Federal* street food in the palm of your hand. And it doesn't take a passport to get it.

Numerous taquerias dot our landscape, some more successfully than others. For those willing to explore the barrio, there are countless, faceless taquerias hidden away and nondescript strip

malls, where Telemundo broadcasts a constant stream of telenovelas and soccer games. For authenticity, they are excellent, but may require a more daring spirit — few creature comforts are provided: A chair upholstered in plasticine and duct tape, gray cinder block walls, a wobbly laminate table. (What do you expect for a buck-and-a-quarter?) I enjoy some of these places immensely, but only for the food.

For foodies intimidated by restaurants where Spanish speakers predominate, there are exceptional but gringo-friendly places like El Tizoncito, the terrific gayborhood joint on Lemon Avenue that elevates fast-casual food with a Spanish accent. (Other locations of El Tizoncito are peppered around town as well.) And of course we have Urban Taco, Fearing's, Stampede 66 and assorted other high-end restaurants that know how to do a tortilla proud.

For those in the middle ground, there's El Come Taco.

It's in the (sort of) Latino neighborhood of Fitzhugh and North Central Expressway with a (sort of) Mexican flair; there's a TV with soccer



TAQUERIA HEAVEN | The arrachera, pastor and suadero offerings at El Come Taco in East Dallas are brightly elevated by custom salsas. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

on it, but it's more likely to be FoxSports or ESPN than Univision, and the colors are festive but not overwhelming (chalk drawing of Mexican wrestler masks, skulls priming you for Dia de los Muertos).

Behind the counter of the family-owned spot, Luis Villalva or his brother Javier greet you in English (if you look like me) or Spanish (if you

look like my Puerto Rican dining companion). Luis, who used to manage Café San Miguel just a few blocks away on Henderson, does this for the love of it. Each taco comes with a fresh wedge of lime, even though lime prices have skyrocketed in recent months. The pastor (a vertical-spit-grilled spicy pork) arrives with the option of piña — an essential (and complimentary)

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add-on, plus fresh white onion and verdant chopped cilantro. Villalva enjoys the traditions of the taco, but he's sensitive to the desires of his customers. And that's the mark of a good restaurant.

The tacos run from a mere \$1.50 (including the traditional doubled-up corn tortillas, plus cilantro and onions) up to a max of three dollars (for the fish tacos and some of the specialties). There are at least a dozen variations to choose from, from the arrachera (a delectable skirt steak preparation) to vegetarian options (including nopales — tender slices of prickly pear) to the suadero (brisket).

OVERALL RATING ★★★★★



El Come Taco, 2513 Fitzhugh Ave. Open daily for lunch and dinner. 214-821-3738.

Food: ★★★★★

Atmosphere: ★★★★★

Service: ★★★★★

Price: Inexpensive

Ah, El Come's suadero: I have not been able to erase it from my mind. The meat is moist but with a crispness that comes from carbonization, lightly seasoned but distinctly textural. But it's turned from noteworthy to memorable by the addition of the salsa.

The salsas at El Come Taco are an indelible ingredient in the success of each bite. There are almost as many variations of them as there are tacos themselves. The spicy tomatillo, paired smartly with the suadero by Luis, adds cool fire on the tongue. The pastor taco arrives, per plan, with a squirt bottle of red, chili-flaked salsa — not too potent, but with a burnished earthiness. The luscious, deep-fried tilapia tacos are best with a simple dollop of crema. (They even label each bottle with what taco it best complements, though of course you can mix and match, as I do. But the pairings, like the best work of a sommelier, are already well considered.)

The salsas, though, are not the deciding factor in what makes El Come Taco currently my favorite taqueria, nor does its central location on the outskirts of the burgeoning Henderson Street scene. And the service — pleasant for counter-service dining — is nice but hardly white-glove.

No, it's the combination of all these things: The sense of discovery, the authenticity without feeling out-of-place, the satisfaction of supporting a business that does what it does for the love of feeding folks. That's what true foodies are always on the lookout for. And all that is what El Come provides. ■

Tiffin plans for Gay Days

Dallas DJ Ryan Tiffin has accomplished a lot in a short time. The DJ, who spins weekly at Club Dallas for a late-night set on Saturdays, will be increasing his reach with his upcoming gig: Two sessions at the Walt Disney World gaylebration, Gay Days, coming up the first weekend in June.

The annual festivities — which for more than 20 years have made the Happiest Place on Earth a little happier — see the influx of hundreds of thousands of queer pilgrims for amusement park fun during couched around circuit party extravagance.

Tiffin will spin for two different five-hour sets: The Main Pool Party at the Doubletree on Friday, June 6 (5–10 p.m.) and then turns right around for another set from noon–5 p.m. on Saturday, June 7.

So how does one come up with 10 hours of constant music in a 24-hour period ... and do it live (no pre-recorded sets, here). Well, that's why Ryan has already started planning what he'll want to feature — though he still had time to get a new glow-in-the-dark leather harness especially for the event. Hey, he plans to have fun, too.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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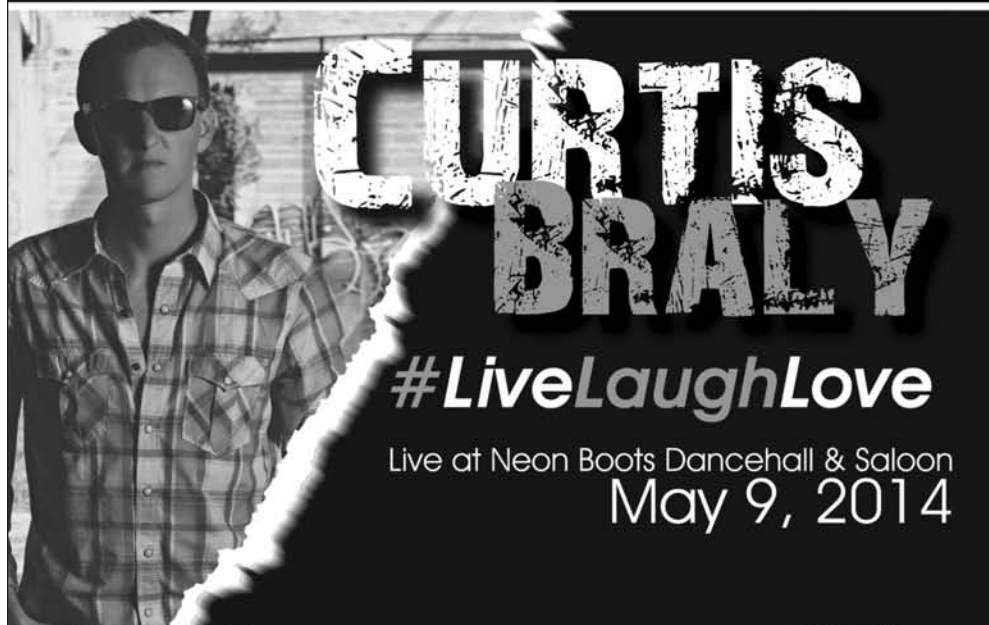
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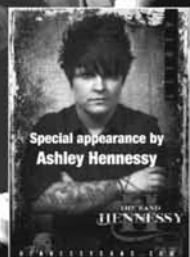
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ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

With nearly two dozen films among the slate of offerings, Dan Savage's Hump Tour can fairly be called a legitimate film festival. But check the run-time: The entire event lasts less than 90 minutes. You could screen it simultaneously with *Lawrence of Arabia* — twice — and still have time for a bathroom break.

Yes, the movies making up what Savage tags "The Best of the Pacific Northwest's Sexiest Film Fest" are all shorts, ranging from just 75 seconds to a long of about eight minutes. They are mostly made by different filmmakers with unknown casts, different styles and genres (animation, documentary, fiction). In fact, about the only thing these 20 movies *do* have in common is the subject matter: Sex.

And not just "sex," as in male-female issues or love or even romance. Sex as in hardcore, explicit, unbridled fornication — what less sophisticated cineastes might call "porno." Cuz that's just what it is.

Yes, Dan Savage — he of the It Gets Better campaign, the Savage Love sex advice column and books about his "monogamish" marriage (he co-parents an adopted kid as well) — has assembled a reel of dirty movies, blessed with the patina of art ... pop art, perhaps, but not outright pornography.

Or maybe it is. That's sort of the appeal of

Hump, which Savage touts as the chance to be "a porn star for a day, not a lifetime." Accordingly, there are no stills from the films (just the intro reel that accompanies it); no permission to reveal the names of the actors or directors (not that you would know any of them); no post-screening Q&As with the filmmakers. But neither is it meant to be a darkened, shameful screening in a seedy, sticky-floored movie house (it's screening at the Texas Theatre in Oak Cliff — porn can't make you more notorious than being the site where a presidential assassin was arrested). The artists may be anonymous, but the audiences are invited to sit proudly, collectively and enjoy the Art of the Skin Flick.

It fits in well with Savage's long-standing mission to demystify — or perhaps de-stigmatize — the celebration of sex. Americans are stuffy about such things; we shouldn't be. And what better way to loosen up than to show porn as something not odious but part of the colorful tapestry of the human experience?

Mind you, movies with names like *Go Fuck Yourself* and *Pie Sluts* may undercut that position. But just a little.

Pie Sluts actually isn't very good (a piece of cinema verite where ugly people do ugly things with pies), but *Go Fuck Yourself* — a comic sci-fi about a time-traveling man who has carnal

SAVAGE SEX | Gay advice guru Dan Savage continues his mission to destigmatize sex with Hump, his nine-year-old festival of porno.



Austin Scarlett, a self-described 'honorary Texan.'

■ SCARLETT, From Page 14

stage of this large event and command attention of the room. How it works with the group and the whole process."

Nevertheless, this kind of costuming is a new experience for Scarlett.

"I didn't grow up with opera," he says, but came to it quickly when he moved to New York City. It was there he met Thomas Rhodes, who works at the FWO. Rhodes was the first to suggest Scarlett might want to design an entire collection for a single world premiere opera.

"So far it's been fun," he chirps. "There's a lot

of work involved, and there's been a bit of a challenge doing it and keeping my business running at the same time. But working with the opera company has been exciting. I love the collaborative atmosphere."

The actual creation of the costumes only started [in late 2013], but it was important to get them finished early. "There are some things that might have to be changed as the show takes more of a clear form, but my work will be done!"

With his Neiman Marcus connection, his work with the Fort Worth Opera and an upcoming project in Austin related to a costume exhibit for *Gone with the Wind*, the native of the Pacific

Northwest has been spending a lot of time lately in the Lone Star State ... and that's perfectly fine with him.

"I'm sort of an honorary Texan!" Scarlett says. And we're happy to have him as one. ■

The Fort Worth Opera Festival runs in repertory April 19–May 11, with six different presentations (The Pearl Fishers, Così fan tutti, Silent Night, Forte, Hamlet and the Opera Unbound series entry With Blood, With Ink). Most performances will take place at Bass Performance Hall, 535 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Tickets available at FWOpera.org or by calling 817-731-0726 (With Blood, With Ink tickets not available online.)



FAMILY VIOLENCE plagues a number of LGBT homes across North Texas. The largest contributing factor that allows this behavior to continue in the home is silence. Speak out against family violence by contacting the authorities.

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knowledge of himself — is good. And you'll be astonished by how *The Beat* — which is basically just a cute twink repeatedly violating himself with a dildo — manages in its brief two minutes to surprise you with a twist ending.

Aaron, the director of *The Beat*, helms another film in the festival, called *Ourboros*, which tells the story of a hookup in reverse chronological order. Aaron has an eye and a creative spirit that extend beyond the genre of porn, and I'd check out any short films he choose to make.

The same is not of the short *Go Ahead, Peel*, which is, sadly, exactly what it sounds like, or *D&D Orgy*, about hot girls and male nerds getting turned on by an RPG or *Fun with Fire*, a homemade doc where a heterosexual couple ignite fast-burning paper on their naked bodies. (Straight people — go figure.) And the opening salvo, a series of animated penises having unsuspecting sex with disembodied vaginas set to a Strauss score (a short I have renamed *Thus Fucked Zarathustra*), seems like a lite version of bad Ralph Bakshi.

But for each of those is at least one clever take, like *The Legend of Gabe Harding*, a mockumentary about the world's most famous fluffer. (The fact that he's a pudgy, balding, middle-aged bear makes it all the funnier.)

Gay, straight, trans, fetish — there's something for almost everyone in Hump. Well, maybe not for your mom ... then again, you never know. ■

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Wednesday
04.23

USA Film Festival kicks off with movie-foodie dinner at Salum

Although the 44th USA Film Fest officially starts on Tuesday, for foodies Wednesday is the big event. That's when two food-themed films — *El Camino del Vino* and *Tasting Menu* — screen. And while food movies are awesome, even better is a real five-course wine dinner, courtesy of chef Abraham Salum, who, with special guest gourmets Charlie Artuaola and Alejandro Escudero will celebrate the cuisine and wine of Argentina. And even if you don't go to the dinner, the movies (and more!) promise to be just as delicious.

DEETS: Dinner at Salum, 4152 Cole Ave. \$150. Films screen at Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. USAFilmFestival.com.



LIFE+STYLE

best bet

Thursday 04.24

Uptown Players, Chorale re-team for 'Sweeney Todd'

Last year, Uptown Players and the Turtle Creek Chorale joined forces for the musical *Ragtime*. This year, they're back again with what some call the greatest modern musical ever written, Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, about a mad barber who exacts his revenge with his straight-edge razor. The performance takes place at City Performance Hall!

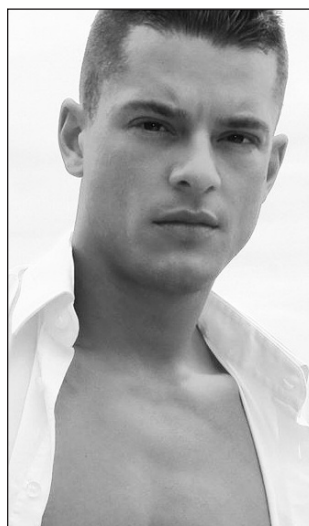

DEETS: City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. April 24–26. \$39–\$54. UptownPlayers.org and TurtleCreek.org.

Saturday 04.19

Cedar Springs Art Festival returns

The Cedar Springs Merchant Association skipped its arts fair last year, but it's back in 2014 — and back on Easter Weekend. This one-day festival features vendors offering up everything from paintings to sculpture to hand crafted items and, of course, food and drink. In addition to the artists, the Cedar Springs Art Fest will include a DJ spinning and an outdoor karaoke lounge for those who want to demonstrate their own artful way with a song lyric.

DEETS: Cedar Springs Road between Reagan and Knight streets. 10 a.m.–7 p.m.

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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Beauty and the Beast. The animated feature with songs by Ashman and Menken, adapted for the stage. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through April 27. ATPAC.org.

Evita. The thrilling Webber and Rice musical about the machiavellian Eva Peron. *Reviewed this week.* Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. Through April 27. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Greater Tuna. The Texas comedy classic opens in Theatre 3. Theatre 3, 280 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through April 27. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Marianela. Mark-Brian Sonna adapts this play about an illiterate woman with a joy for singing. Addison Theatre Centre's Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through April 26. MBSProductions.net.

Nocturne. The second show of Second Thought's 10th season. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through April 26. STT.co.

Spunk. A musical adaptation of the works of Harlem Renaissance writer Zora Neale Hurston. *Reviewed this week.* Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through May 4. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

OPERA

Fort Worth Opera Festival. The opera company's spring festival returns, with most performances at Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. April 20-May 11. FWOpera.org.

FILM

Southern Baptist Sissies. The film version of the play about gay boys growing up in the church in Dallas.

Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. \$10. TexasTheatre.com.

SATURDAY 04.19

COMMUNITY

Gaybingo: Hippiity Hop. In celebration of Easter weekend, this month's



fundraiser for the Resource Center has a bunny theme. The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors at 5 p.m., play at 6 p.m. \$25-\$40. RCDallas.org.

FILM

Hump Tour. Dan Savage's one-day film festival of porn. Texas Theatre, 321 W. Jefferson Blvd. Screenings at 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. \$20. HumpTour.org.

FESTIVALS

Cedar Springs Art Festival. One-day exhibition of local artists and vendors. Along Cedar Springs Road between Reagan and Knight streets. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. CedarSpringsArtFestival.com.

Scarborough Faire. The Renaissance festival returns for a 34th season, with new attractions. Faire Grounds, FM 66 in Waxahachie. Through May 26 (open weekends and Memorial Day). SRFestival.com.

SUNDAY 04.20

COMMUNITY

Easter in Lee Park/Pooch Parade. The annual

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gayborhood Easter Sunday festival, including vendor market (11 a.m.), Pooch Parade (noon) and live entertainment (2 p.m.) 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd.

TUESDAY 04.22

FILM

The USA Film Festival. Dallas' oldest film festival, now in its 44th year, screens films of all kinds, some of gay interest, and sponsors programs. Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station. April 22-27. For a complete schedule, visit USAFilmFestival.com.

THURSDAY 04.24

COMMUNITY

North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce's 9th Annual Celebration of Excellence Dinner. A party celebrating the business community. Sheraton Dallas Hotel (Chapparal Ballroom), 300 N. Olive St. 5:30-9 p.m. \$100. CelebrationOfExcellence.com.

Outrageous Oral. Storytelling about gay life from Randy Roberts Potts, Molly Behannon, Leslie McMurray and George Keaton, Jr. Presented by The Dallas Way. S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Free.

 **browse**

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

 **submit**

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit.

THEATER

Seminar. The recent Broadway hit about a college lecturer and his relationship with his students. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. (in the Quadrangle). April 24-May 18 (in previews through April 27). Theatre3Dallas.com.

FILM

John Wayne Film Festival. The third annual celebration of The Duke. Look Cinemas, 5409 Belt Line Road. April 24-27. JohnWayne.org.

this week's solution

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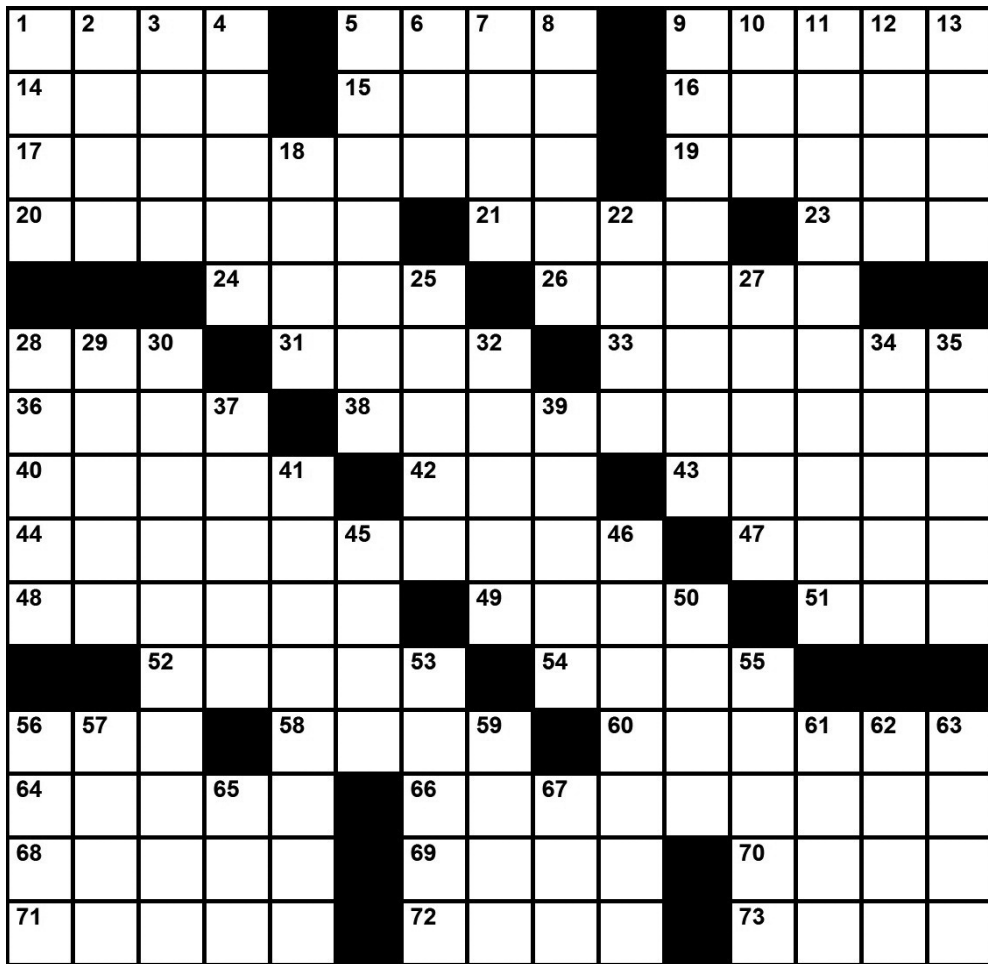
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Solution on page 23

Across

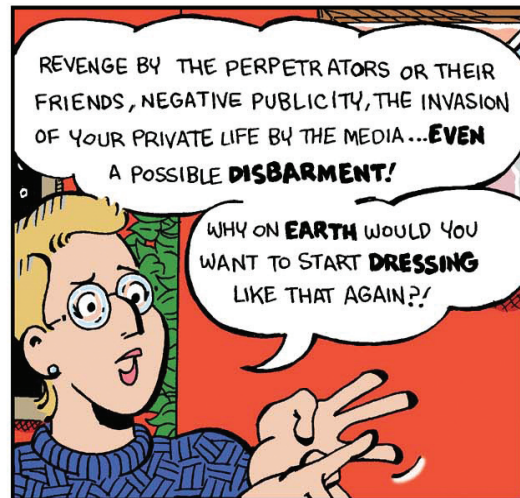
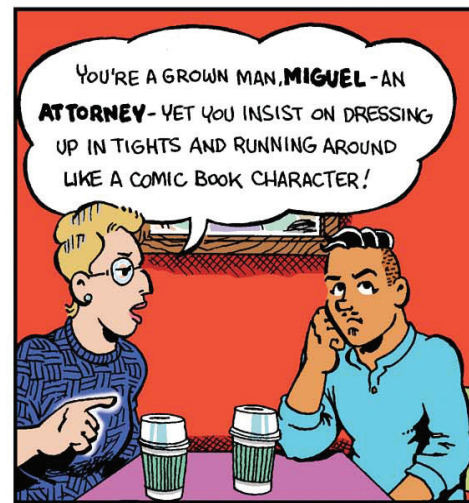
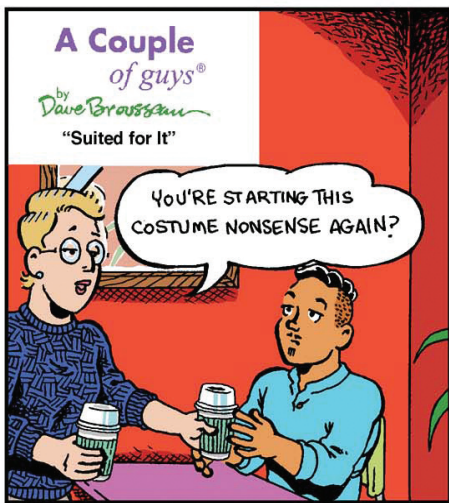
- 1 Word for a sea wall that sounds LGBT
- 5 Ginsberg's "In Back of the ___"
- 9 Wore
- 14 Burl of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*
- 15 Bedfellow
- 16 Become "husband and husband" on the fly
- 17 With 19-Across, soap opera that will feature the first 38-Across on daytime TV
- 19 See 17-Across
- 20 Dildo, e.g.
- 21 Skimpy skirt
- 23 Dottermans of Antonia's Line
- 24 Producer Meron
- 26 Royal family of France
- 28 Teletubbies ainer in the U.S.
- 31 Stuffed shirt
- 33 Get by somehow
- 36 Chews the fat
- 38 Ceremony for Sonny and Will, for example
- 40 Speak off the cuff
- 42 One + on,, in Barrie's land
- 43 Like rays caught at South Beach
- 44 She plays Marlena, who will officiate at the 38-Across
- 47 Human Rights Campaign fundraiser, e.g.
- 48 Sign of horniness?

49 Linda Hunt's *The ___ of Living Dangerously*

- 51 P-town summer hrs.
- 52 Prelims for Bruce Hayes
- 54 Twosome
- 56 "So, it's YOU!"
- 58 It's hard and woody
- 60 Ducks
- 64 Sonny Kiriakis portrayer Freddie
- 66 Will Horton portrayer
- 68 Joe of baseball
- 69 Carpet layer's calculation
- 70 Poet Gidlow
- 71 Targets of tops
- 72 Choose not to come
- 73 Bottomless

Down

- 1 Conn of *Grease*
- 2 "Terrible" ruler
- 3 Elton John's 88
- 4 To eat, to Ulrichs
- 5 Activity that may leave foam on your face
- 6 "Xanadu" grp.
- 7 Former senior
- 8 Line from Lerner
- 9 Chopper landing spots
- 10 He worked where you see lots of boxers
- 11 Fit perfectly
- 12 Artist Robert
- 13 Untouchable head
- 18 Rock group?
- 22 Dick, for one
- 25 Strongly opposed (to)
- 27 R.E.M.'s "It's the ___ the World as We Know It"
- 28 What the Devil wears, in a movie
- 29 Former German state
- 30 Be picky about a woman's pubes?
- 32 Secluded road
- 34 Responders to "Bite me!"?
- 35 White-plumed bird
- 37 Come slowly closer
- 39 Whipped
- 41 Enjoys oxygen
- 45 Ziegfeld Follies costume designer
- 46 Put aside
- 50 Shankar of sitar
- 53 Heroic tales
- 55 Put out
- 56 Nick was his master
- 57 Med. care groups
- 59 Von Trapp youngster
- 61 Man, as a cruising goal
- 62 Antiviral drug measure
- 63 Kirk Read's *How I Learned to ___*
- 65 Threesome in Roma
- 67 Positive vote



LIFE+STYLE

scene



Stan at Oak Cliff Earth Day.



DJ Brandon Moses at Latino Cultural Center.



G'mon and Craig at Wai Wai Kitchen.



Stopping for the camera at No Tie Dinner & Dessert Party.

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Putting up the rainbow big top at Oak Cliff Earth Day.



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Socializing at No Tie Dinner & Dessert Party.

Making the **SCENE** the week of **April 18-24:**

Arts Fest on Cedar Springs: Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Easter in the Park: Lee Park on Sunday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Alexandre's: Liz Mikel and Jason Huff on Friday at 10 p.m. Shelia P and Infinity on Saturday. Lala J on Wednesday at 9 p.m. Alicia Silex on Thursday at 9 p.m.

Best Friends Club: Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington and Fort Worth Gay Rodeo Association present **Bring Back the 80s** on Saturday at 7 p.m.

Club Reflection: Cowtown Leathermen hot dogs on Sunday at 4 p.m.

Dallas Eagle: United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents **Once Upon A Time in Fairytale Land** on Friday at 8 p.m. benefiting Resource Center Nutrition Center and Youth First. DFW Leather Corps seminar on Saturday at 2 p.m. Larry Carter and Anna Conda Carter presents **Dynamic Duets** on Saturday 6-10 p.m. benefiting Sharon St. Cyr Fund.

Hidden Door: Easter Basket Auction hosted by The T-Bear Club benefits Resource Center Nutrition Center. Saturday. Exhibition at 7 p.m. Auction at 8 p.m.

Round-Up Saloon: Miss Gay Dallas Texas at Large on Wednesday.

S4: Hippy Hop GayBingo on Saturday at 5 p.m.

Sue Ellen's: Jason Huff & The Ignition on Friday. Ciao Bella on Saturday. Tyla Taylor Band on Sunday. ■

More Scene photos at DallasVoice.com/category/photos.



George, Jack and John at No Tie Dinner & Dessert Party.



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AIDS Arms Inc. (AAI) is seeking Promotores de Salud. Interested candidates should complete an online application at <http://www.aidsarms.org/about-header-with-toggles/>.

AIDS Arms Inc., Dallas is seeking a Linkage to Care Specialist for its HIV/STD prevention initiative, Project CONNECT. Interested candidates should complete an online application at <http://www.aidsarms.org/about-header-with-toggles/>.

AIDS Arms Inc. is seeking a Behavioral Health Case Manager for its HIV/STD prevention initiative, Project CONNECT. Interested candidates should complete an online application at <http://www.aidsarms.org/about-header-with-toggles/>.

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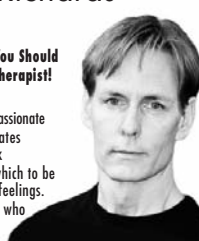

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Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA) is a Twelve Step Fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is recovery from codependence and the development and maintenance of healthy relationships. CoDA meetings in the area meet:
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 • LAMBDA GROUP
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