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Martinez will be first out Dallas County justice of the peace



Sara Martinez won her primary for justice of the peace, precinct 5, place 1 this week.

With no Republican opposition in the fall, she will become the first out JP in Dallas County. Martinez had the support of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. A public defender, Martinez has worked in every justice of the peace precinct in the county.

In other Dallas County runoffs, former City Councilwoman Pauline Medrano held a 20 point lead over her opponent Bennie Elnora Brown. Medrano said she was campaigning this evening until the polls closed at 7 p.m. and will continue campaigning hard through the fall election. She did well in many of the suburbs where she's not as well known by working with precinct chairs and area Democratic clubs.

Felicia Pitre won the District Clerk runoff against Tarsha Hardy with more than 62 percent of the vote. Pitre works for current District Clerk Gary Fitzsimmons, who endorsed her as his successor.

Another Stonewall Democrats of Dallas-backed candidate who won her runoff was Katy Hubener for a Precinct 4 JP seat. Constable Beth Villareal held a slim lead over challenger Michael Orozco all night and won by about 100 votes.

Statewide, David Alameel gained more than 75 percent of the vote in the race to become the Democratic challenger to U.S. Senator John Cornyn. Alameel beat Keshia Rogers whose platform is to impeach President Obama. Jim Hogan beat Kinky Friedman to run for Agriculture Commissioner.

In statewide Republican races, Sen. Dan Patrick beat incumbent Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. Patrick faces Leticia Van de Putte in November for Lieutenant Governor.

Sen. Ken Paxton beat Rep. Dan Branch for the Republican nomination for Attorney General. Paxton faces Democrat Sam Houston in November.

— David Taffet

Opponents threaten to oust Houston Mayor Annise Parker

The debate on the proposed nondiscrimination ordinance in Houston got nasty before it passed this week.

Mayor Annise Parker's perennial adversary Dave Wilson said he's planning a recall vote against the mayor and several council members, according to CBS affiliate KHOU.

Recall in Houston isn't easy. Signatures of 25 percent of voters who voted for the official must be collected in 30 days. Reasons allowed for recall in the city charter are incompetence, misconduct,

malfeasance or unfitness for office. Wilson claims passing an ordinance that contradicts state law amounts to incompetence.

Houston was the only major city in Texas with no nondiscrimination ordinance and the only major city in the U.S. without one.

According to KHOU, more than 42,000 signatures would have to be collected to put a recall of Parker up for a vote. Some council members could face recall with less than 2,500 signatures.

Wilson was elected to the Houston Community College District Board of Trustees in a majority black district by insinuating he was black in his campaign literature.

Former Dallas City Councilwoman Veletta Lill who served when Dallas passed its nondiscrimination ordinance more than a decade ago commented on the controversies in San Antonio and Houston during her appearance on LGBT talk show Lambda Weekly last week. She said when Dallas debated its ordinance, several people did voice opposition and concerns. She said those concerns were taken into consideration and addressed and the ordinance passed without controversy.

— David Taffet

Poet Maya Angelou dies at age 86

Poet and essayist Maya Angelou died Wednesday at the age of 86.

Winston-Salem Mayor Allen Joines told WFMY News 2 that Angelou's caregiver found her dead in her home Wednesday morning.

Angelou is best known for her award-winning writing, including *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. She was a keynote speaker at Black Tie Dinner in Dallas in 1997 and a participant in the Nasher Salon Speaker Series in Dallas in 2011. She appeared at the University of North Texas: An Evening with Dr. Maya Angelou in 2006.

Angelou was a high school dropout who went on to become a professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University.

She was an American Study herself.

"I have created myself," she told USA Today in 2007, "I have taught myself so much."

Angelou defied simple labels. She was a walking list of careers and passions: In addition to her books, she was an actress, director, playwright, composer, singer and dancer. And if that wasn't enough, she once worked as a madam in a brothel and as the first female and first black street car conductor in San Francisco.

She was best known for the first of her six memoirs, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (1970), still widely read in schools. She described being raped at 7 and becoming an unwed mother at 17. (Her son, Guy Johnson, a poet and novelist, is her only immediate survivor.)

Her formal education ended in high school, but she was awarded more than 30 honorary degrees from colleges. She insisted on being called "Dr. Angelou."

In November 2013, at the age of 85, Angelou stole the show at the National Book Awards in New York when she was presented an award for "Outstanding Service to the American Literary Community." She was introduced that night by her friend, author Toni Morrison, who said of Angelou, "Suffering energized and strengthened her, and her creative impulse struck like bolts of lightning."

She was scheduled to appear in Houston this week.

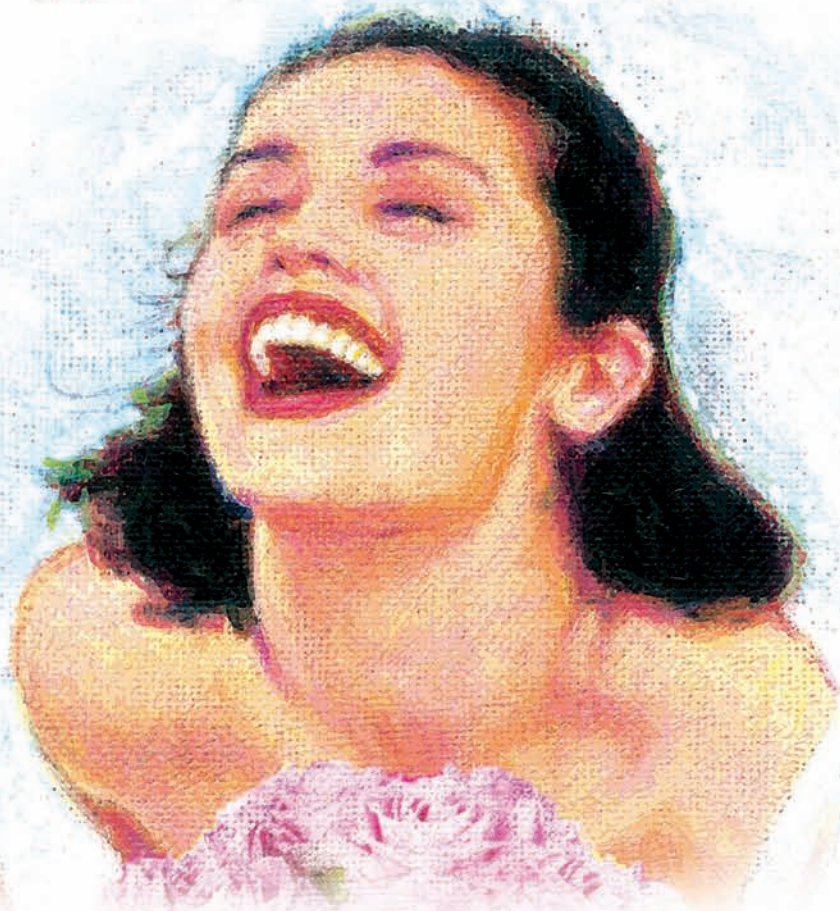
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Evening of Hope for AOC

The annual Evening of Hope gala is the largest fund-raising dinner for HIV/AIDS in Fort Worth and benefits the programs and services of AIDS Outreach Center. Each year, hundreds of AOC's most dedicated donors and supporters come together to celebrate recent achievements and honor those who have made a substantial impact locally in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Evening of Hope, River Crest Country Club, Fort Worth. May 31. Tickets at AOC.org

All-Girl band entertains Gray Pride

The Old School All-Girl Band makes a return visit to the Gray Pride Café on May 30. Old School is a newly formed band playing mostly folk music as well as a few original songs. All band members are over 30 years old and all are former or current teachers. They entertain with their unique blend of musical traditions, utilizing voice and stringed instruments. Food and beverages will be served.

Gray Pride Cafe, May 30. 5-8 p.m. Free but donations are appreciated. For info, contact Shelley Hamilton at 214-821-4501.

Religious activists honored

Center for Theological Activism honors four religious activists for their work in the LGBT community.

Those being recognized are Kim Batchelor, coordinator of the Dallas Area Christian Progressive Alliance and a member of Northaven United Methodist Church; the Rev. Dr. Stephen V. Sprinkle, a Baptist minister who is professor of practical theology at Brite Divinity School; the Rev. Dr. William K. McElvaney, a Methodist minister who recently performed a same-sex wedding; and Dr. Rita Cotterly, a Roman Catholic who founded the Sexuality Education Center and PFLAG Fort Worth.

Center for Theological Activism binds diverse people of faith together in educational and activist communities that will work jointly to break down walls of oppression and marginalization.

Bridge Bistro, 921 N. Riverfront Blvd. May 30 at 6:30 p.m. Suggested donation for dinner is \$10.

Transgender film screening

A screening of the film *Just Gender* benefits Resource Center on June 3. The film explores what it means to be transgender, as well as the differences and misperceptions between sexual orientation and gender identity. \$10. Pre-screening happy hour at 6:30 p.m. followed by 7:30 p.m. screening. Studio Movie Grill — Spring Valley, 13933 N. Central Expy, Dallas. For tickets, visit MyResourceCenter.org/just-gender. ■

pet of the week / BUD

Bud is a neutered red Labrador Retriever and Chow mix. The shelter staff think he's about 2 years old. Please visit him at Dallas Animal Services, 1818 Westmoreland Road and ask for Bud, ID# A824703.

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



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Texas marriage cases stall in state, federal courts

Appeals court denies petition to expedite hearing while state Supreme Court drags feet on same-sex divorce ruling

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

As judges continue to rule in state after state that marriage amendments barring same-sex unions are unconstitutional and couples begin to wed, eyes turn to LGBT Texans eagerly awaiting their turn.

In February, a federal San Antonio judge ruled the state's amendment unconstitutional but stayed his decision after a hearing for a temporary injunction to allow one of the couples in the case to marry. The state appealed the ruling to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. That court declined a petition to expedite the hearing last week, meaning it could take months before the case moves forward.

Based on the ruling, the state could appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, or the case would head back to the San Antonio court for a final ruling in the case.

The other two Texas federal marriage cases are based in Austin. The state requested those be postponed pending the appeals court ruling in the other case. The Austin judge has yet to rule on the request. Those cases are further complicated because the plaintiffs in one of the cases, Chris McNosky and Sven Stricker, who are representing themselves, came out as straight in a recent interview with Dallas Voice.

The two friends are suing based solely on sex discrimination and said they never lied about being a couple, but it was implied throughout the case, which was filed in July and was the first Texas marriage case filed by a couple. They expect their case to move forward. As to whether the state will try to derail it based on standing is not clear. Representatives with Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's office did not respond to several requests for comment.

Meanwhile in state courts, same-sex divorce cases are moving forward. A San Antonio lesbian couple filed for divorce in March. The state tried to intervene, but a federal judge ruled that he cannot interfere. The couple has a child and wants the custody issue determined during court proceedings. Then in mid-May, a Tarrant County lesbian couple followed suit and filed to dissolve their union.

Two same-sex divorce cases are currently being considered at the Texas Supreme Court. Hearings took place in November with a ruling expected in early summer before the court recess. But Jody Scheske, the couples' attorney, said Texas doesn't have a deadline for justices to issue a ruling. A controversial case they ruled on a few years ago



NOT SO FAST | Plano couple Vic Holmes, far left, and Mark Phariss and Austin couple Cleopatra DeLeon and Nicole Dimetman are shown in federal San Antonio court in February. Their marriage equality case won't receive expedited hearings at the appeals level. (Photo courtesy of Randy Bear)

took about four years before a decision was issued.

"I have no idea when the Supreme Court is going to decide," he said. "For either difficult or complicated cases or for whatever reason, cases they don't want to decide, they can wait."

The cases involve an Austin lesbian couple who were granted a divorce before the state appealed the decision, and a Dallas couple trying to obtain a divorce.

The court sat on the request for review for years before requesting briefs in 2011 and again last year after the federal Defense of Marriage Act was struck down.

Scheske said the Austin couple, who have a child, have moved on with their lives, but the Dallas couple, who have lived apart since 2008, are still waiting. He said the court needs to recognize that LGBT couples are getting married and returning or moving to Texas, and with the only op-

tion to dissolve their unions in their home state, the state will eventually need to allow same-sex divorces.

"Texas residents can only file for divorce in Texas, so we're going to continue to see married same-sex couples have to end their marriages in Texas," he said. "And the fact that our Supreme Court has not issued a ruling is very frustrating for the judges and the litigants because there is no other place to go. ... We know they're getting married, we know some of the marriages are going to fail, and we know that you can only file for divorce in Texas. So this problem will continue to increase."

Of course if the federal court case results in the state law being overturned, it will strike down the entire law, granting recognition of out-of-state marriages and allowing divorce.

While some gay couples are trying to dissolve their marriages, transgender Texans may have to

fight to keep their right to wed. Trans widow Nikki Araguz won her battle in February to have her marriage recognized to her deceased husband.

The 13th District Court of Appeals in Corpus Christi issued the opinion that the state must recognize marriages of trans people who've had gender reassignment surgery and marry people of the opposite sex.

It overturned the 1999 Texas Court of Appeals decision in *Littleton v. Prange*, which found that someone's birth sex would always be his or her official sex.

The state has filed an extension to submit a review to the Texas Supreme Court. The deadline to file the request is June 30.

Kent Rutter, Araguz's attorney, said he doesn't expect the court to hear the appeal, especially because an affidavit of a sex change can be used to obtain a marriage license. ■

Razzle Dazzle returns to The Strip



GOING HOME | Razzle Dazzle Dallas returns to Cedar Springs Road after two years at Main Street Garden in Downtown Dallas. Organizers said they moved it back to The Strip to celebrate the revitalization of Oak Lawn. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

A talent competition is the new component of this year's 4-day Pride month event

DAVID TAFFET |

Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Razzle Dazzle Dallas returns to Cedar Springs Road after two successful years at Main Street Garden Downtown.

Razzle Dazzle Dallas President John Cooper-Lara said that with the revitalization of The

Strip and so many new stores opening, the board thought it was a good year to return to Oak Lawn. New this year is the Big D Talent Show, a two-week talent competition with four preliminaries that began last week and will end with finals on June 5 at The Brick. The winner receives a \$500 prize and performs at MetroBall and Razzle Dazzle's Main Event.

The four-day event begins with a Wine Walk on Cedar Springs on June 4. Board member Jimmy Bartlett said while Wednesday night focuses on the retailers in Oak Lawn, Thursday night moves to the bars, especially those off The Strip.

"In the past we had a pub crawl to the bars not on The Strip," Bartlett said. "This year we decided to do the talent show."

The Big D Talent Show began with preliminary competitions at Alexandre's, Dallas Eagle and JR.'s Bar & Grill. The final preliminary at Woody's takes place on June 1 at 8 p.m. Cooper-Lara said most of the entries have been singers, but any type of performance, such as

■ **RAZZLE**, Page 24

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Dallas to mark Pride Month with citywide events

For fourth year, a proclamation will be issued by city, and for third year in a row city, library partners for events all month long

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
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For LGBT Dallasites, the options for social outings during National Pride Month in June only continue to grow.

The city's LGBT Task Force has planned events over the month for the past two years. Last year the events focused more on social than educational as the year prior. A family zoo day was added, and will return this year, and more library gatherings for LGBT families made the calendar. Events are still being finalized.

The month kicks off at City Hall Wednesday, June 4, in the Flag Room for a city proclamation declaring it Pride Month and honoring individuals during a Spirit of Equality Award ceremony. Recipients will be selected in categories of leadership, ally and community.

An award ceremony was slated for last year

but was derailed when former Councilwoman Delia Jasso removed her signature from the equality resolution memo, preventing a vote on the measure. Instead, the Task Force gave one award to former City Manager Mary Suhm before she retired to honor her longtime commitment to helping the group.

Another new thing in the works for the month is a day at Bahama Beach for LGBT families with reduced rates, like the zoo day. The group also plans to help assist Youth First with a prom at Cathedral of Hope. And to round out the month, the return of a volunteer day at a nearby venue will likely be scheduled. Nell Gaither, Task Force member, planned the Give Back Day last year at The Stewpot. She said about 30 people attended to help clean and distribute food.

Library events also are planned throughout the month, including an LGBT family day, an inspirational talk and a social media distribution of a different LGBT-themed books each day with links to request the books.

Events can be viewed on the city's online calendar at DallasCityHall.com/calendar or at DallasLibrary.org.



LIT UP | The Davis Building in Downtown Dallas was lit in rainbow colors last June for Pride Month. The building will again be aglow this year. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

■ **PRIDE**, Page 25



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Will Houston's nondiscrimination ordinance protect the trans community?



PASSAGE | Houston Mayor Annise Parker, front center, and the Houston City Council passed HERO, the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance on Wednesday with an 11-6 margin.

After a two-week delay to consider amendments, HERO passed the Houston City Council

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

HOUSTON — A provision in Houston's proposed equal rights ordinance that passed Wednesday provoked a protest outside Houston City Hall by 300 religious conservatives and caused some in the trans community to withhold support earlier in the debate.

The ordinance passed on May 28 by a vote of 11 to 6 after almost 10 hours of public comments and a vote on a number of proposed amendments that delayed the vote by two weeks.

Transgender Education Network of Texas Executive Director Katy Stewart called an original provision in the ordinance unnecessary and said changes made it worse. Councilman Jerry Davis proposed an amendment to remove the contentious item.

The removed item said no business open to the public could deny a transgender person entry to a restroom consistent with his or her gender identity.

Stewart said the original provision allowed a business to discriminate based on how that business perceived someone's gender identity. The change allowed a business to discriminate based on its perception of "supposition of crime."

"Businesses can take an arbitrary position,"

Stewart said.

She said separating out the bathroom issue was a bad idea, because it called attention to something that is already covered. The section preceding the removed item makes it illegal for "any place of public accommodation or any employee or agent thereof to intentionally discriminate against any person on the basis of any protected characteristic."

Gender identity is one of the protected characteristics along with sex, religion and a list of others.

"We were very glad to see it removed," Stewart said.

Monica Roberts, who heads the Houston chapter of Black Trans Women, attended the council debates.

"As written, it would have added a layer of protection," she said, "but opponents convoluted it."

She said the ordinance already does what the trans community wanted.

Roberts called the religious right's tactics a "fear and smear" campaign.

"Because they're losing so badly on marriage, they have to come up with another way to justify their existence," she said. "So they're demonizing the trans community."

Houston trans leader Lou Weaver said the way the ordinance was originally written was just wrong.

"You don't need to say gay people can go to the bathroom," Weaver said. "You don't need to say



STILL WAITING | Jody Scheske, left, the attorney representing the two same-sex couples trying to get divorced in Texas, speaks to people after the Texas Supreme Court arguments in November. The court doesn't have a deadline to rule, and may not rule anytime soon. (Anna Waugh/Dallas Voice)

Marriage equality hits a milestone

Will U.S. Supreme Court hear a case now that more than half the states have marriage equality or marriages laws ruled unconstitutional?

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Last week, marriage equality hit a milestone. When judges in Oregon and Pennsylvania declared those state's marriage bans unconstitutional and state officials decided not to challenge the decisions, we had marriage-equality states Nos. 18 and 19. Less than a week earlier,

Arkansas and Idaho had their marriage bans declared unconstitutional. More than 300 couples in Arkansas married before the state got an injunction.

In addition, judges in Utah, Oklahoma, Michigan, Texas and Virginia declared those state's marriage bans unconstitutional and judges in Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio ruled those states must recognize out-of-state marriages, at least in certain cases.

That makes 29 states — more than half — with marriage equality or marriage equality rulings.

■ MARRIAGE, Page 19

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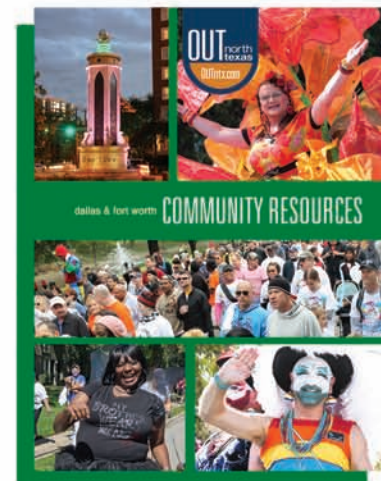
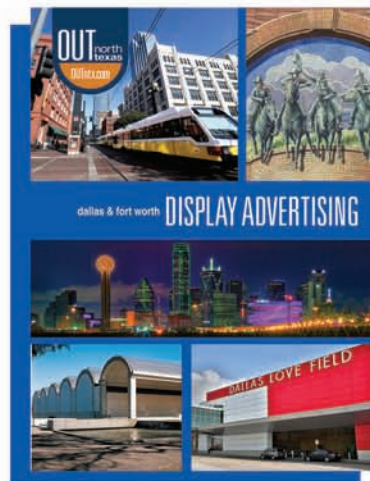
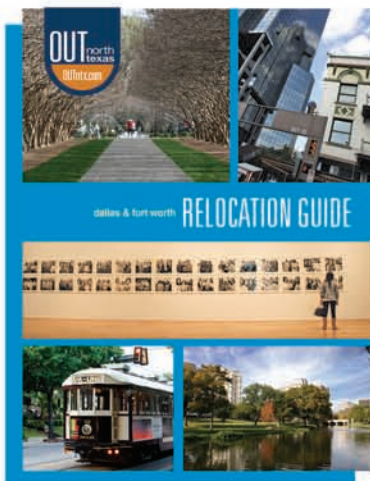
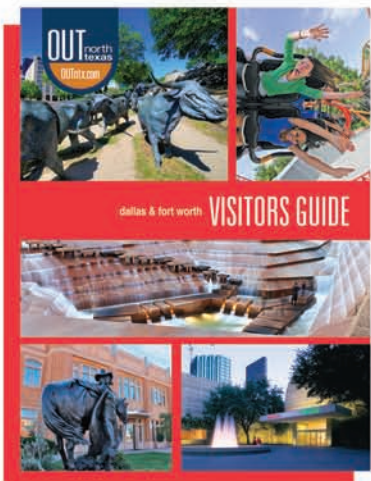
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■ texasnews

Gates: Would have allowed gay adults in Boy Scouts

New Boy Scouts of America president takes the reins of organization, says he would have allowed gay leaders, not just gay youth, last year

NOMAAN MERCHANT | ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING — Robert Gates, the new president of the Boy Scouts of America, said Friday that he would have moved last year to allow openly gay adults in the organization — a step further than the Scouts ultimately took — but said he opposes any further attempts to address the policy now.

Gates took over the Irving-based organization this week that serves about 2.5 million youth but faces continued membership declines and fights over its inclusion of openly gay boys, but not adults. Gates addressed those issues Friday, a day after Scouting's national leadership elected him president.

"I was prepared to go further than the decision that was made," Gates told The Associated Press in an interview in advance of a speech before the group's national leaders at its annual meeting in Nashville, Tenn. "I would have supported having gay Scoutmasters, but at the same time, I fully accept the decision that was democratically arrived at by 1,500 volunteers from across the entire country."

The BSA's National Council voted at last year's annual meeting to accept openly gay youth, after a monthlong process with protests on both sides. Gates planned to tell Scouting's leaders Friday that a continued fight over the issue threatens BSA's future.

"Given the strong feelings — the passion — involved on both sides of this matter, I believe strongly that to re-open the membership issue or try to take last year's decision to the next step would irreparably fracture and perhaps even provoke a formal, permanent split in this movement — with the high likelihood neither side would subsequently survive on its own," Gates said in prepared remarks.

Gates, 70, a well-respected former secretary of defense and director of the CIA, is a visible advocate for Scouting as it faces a storm of bad publicity.

The Scouts reached out to Gates as he was retiring from the Defense Department and asked him to join their leadership, said Wayne Perry, the departing BSA president. AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson, who was expected to become president this year, agreed to wait another two years to allow Gates to serve now, Perry said.

"We need America to know what the Boy Scouts can do for the youth of America," Perry said, adding that Gates "immediately can reach an au-



Robert Gates

dience that we wouldn't otherwise reach."

Gates earned his Eagle Scout award as a 15-year-old growing up in Wichita, Kan. He has long credited that achievement for giving him the confidence to excel in nearly five decades of public service, and he stayed involved in Scouting during his career.

Along the way, Gates became known as someone willing to speak frankly about problems in the institutions he led, often at the risk of offending others. Gates warned BSA's leaders last week that "maybe it's time for blunt talk."

Over the last decade, the Scouts have faced small, but consistent declines in membership. Also, high-profile sponsors and corporate donors, including Disney and Lockheed Martin, have cut funding over the exclusion of openly gay adults. Meanwhile, a handful of conservatives who opposed the inclusion of openly gay boys started their own organization, Trail Life USA.

Gates told the AP he wanted to move the Scouts past that debate and focus on what unites the membership. He said he would push for a heavier focus on local marketing and sharing positive stories about Scouting efforts that are sometimes drowned out by debates over gay rights or child abuse lawsuits filed against the Scouts in several states.

He said he would emphasize to sponsors that "welcoming gay youth is an important step forward."

Gates led the Defense Department when it phased out the ban on openly gay soldiers known as "don't ask, don't tell," something gay-rights groups have cited as a hopeful sign for them. But Gates said Friday that the Scouts were different from the CIA or the military, where "I could give an order and people would follow it, at least most of the time." In an organization driven almost entirely by volunteers, officials have to respect differences in opinion, he said.

"The key at this point is to keep focus, again, on the top priority, which is, how do we develop the best possible program for kids, and how do we keep their interests at the forefront?" Gates said. ■

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■ HOUSTON, From Page 12

trans people can go to the bathroom.”

Speaking for Equality Texas, Field organizer Daniel Williams said, “We enthusiastically endorse the Davis amendment. Based on extensive input and discussion, we sought with leaders in the transgender community both in Houston and around the state.”

Religious right leaders who spoke at City Council and protested outside said the ordinance would allow sexual predators into women’s bathrooms to attack women and children. They dubbed the new law the Sexual Predator Protection Act.

The law includes protections based on religion as well as a long list of other protected characteris-

tics.

Until it’s passage, Houston was the largest city in the U.S. and the only major city in Texas without a nondiscrimination ordinance.

“The ordinance was 30 years in the making,” Roberts said.

In the 1980s, a much narrower ordinance covering sexual orientation in city employment was repealed, and the city has had no local nondiscrimination ordinance protecting any category since.

Roberts commented on how divisive the ordinance debate has been, citing Houston Councilwoman Brenda Stardig as an example. Stardig, who has a gay brother, voted against the ordinance. ■

■ MARRIAGE, From Page 13

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg cautioned the court not to legalize same-sex marriage before states were ready. She used the example of Roe v. Wade, the Dallas case that legalized abortion nationwide.

In 1973, when the ruling was issued, only four states — New York, Washington, Hawaii and Alaska — had abortion on demand. In 16 states, abortion was legal under certain circumstances but illegal in 30 states under all circumstances, including threat to the woman’s health.

Ginsburg believes had the court ruled incrementally, opposition to legalized abortion wouldn’t have been as strident as it’s been.

Ruling too soon backfired in the case of sodomy.

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of Georgia’s sodomy law in *Hardwick v. Bowers* in 1986. Just 17 years later, the court decision was overturned in *Lawrence v. Texas*.

States were moving in the direction of loosening restrictions on sodomy, but the court wasn’t ready to side with the LGBT community in *Bowers*. In 1960, every state had sodomy laws on the books. Five years later, the U.S. Supreme Court took a contraception case that recognized a married couple’s right to privacy. By 1986, fewer than half the states had repealed their sodomy laws, but by 2003, only 10 states still had sodomy laws on the books. Of those, four applied only to gay men.

Everyone in the LGBT community is anxious for the Supreme Court to give the Defense of Marriage Act and marriage discrimination a final blow. Appeals court rulings are expected soon in the Utah and Oklahoma cases, so the court could decide to take one or both of those cases.

Since the Windsor decision that invalidated parts of DOMA last June, marriage equality has won in every court where it’s been heard. A number of additional cases have upcoming dates. In June, Colorado and Louisiana cases will be in court. In July, a Florida hearing begins. Wisconsin’s trial begins in August and, in September, Idaho and Alabama are set for hearings.

Rulings are expected at any time in a number



Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

of cases including the Texas divorce case pending before the Texas Supreme Court.

Several cases may be ready for the U.S. Supreme Court by next session. The Utah and Oklahoma decisions are expected from the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals any time, and Virginia is expected as early as this summer.

During the 2014-15 session, the Supreme Court could decide to hear any one of the cases decided by an appeals court, or it may choose to sit it out another term to see how all of the cases play out in lower courts.

As of this week, every state except North Dakota has at least one case filed. The cases are diverse, covering more than just the right to marry. In some states, the cases involve the right to stay married. If a couple is married in one state and then travels to another, do they have the right to expect their marriage to continue to be considered valid?

Several cases involve divorce, including a Texas case. While a couple may marry anywhere, residency is required to file divorce. If a couple is married in one state, but lives in another, must the state recognize the marriage for the purposes of divorce?

And in another Texas case, two straight men filed for the right to marry. They’re claiming simple sex discrimination is keeping them from tying the knot. Should marriage be about more than sexual attraction and allow two people who simply want to take care of each other to marry?

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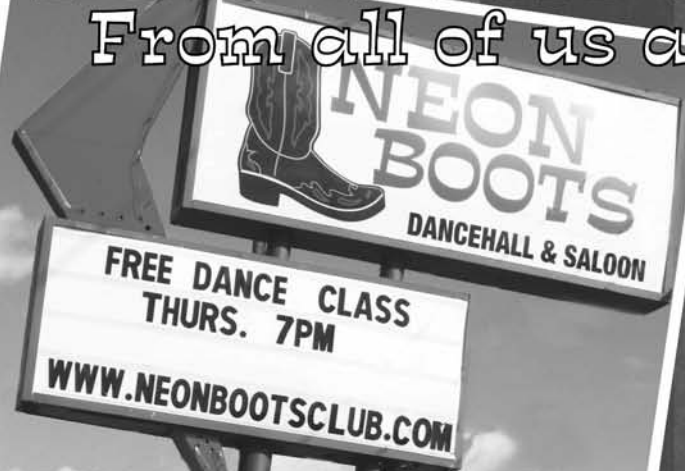


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■ businessnews

Dallas lesbian launches



QUEER AGENT | Lanisha "Taye" Taylor recently launched her own LGBT talent agency, The Color Agency, after

Having witnessed discrimination when representing queer talent, Lanisha "Taye" Taylor took her experience and launched her own entertainment company

"Instead of just helping one person, I was like, 'Well let me create an agency that can help a lot of people,'" Taylor said. "Because if she was facing this discrimination, then I wanted to have a company that could help everyone."

The Color Agent provides talent agency services from scouting, booking and promotions to marketing, consultation and placement for LGBT artists. Taylor's agency isn't just one type of artist, either. She currently represents an actor, DJ, YouTube personalities and a dancer. Some are in Dallas and Houston, and another is in Kansas City, so Taylor expects her company to ultimately stretch far outside of Dallas where she's based. While not the first talent agency focused on the LGBT community, Taylor's company is one of the first, if not the first, agency of its kind in Texas.

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Lanisha "Taye" Taylor has worked in the entertainment industry for years as a dancer, promoter, dancer and now, a business owner.

Taylor started The Color Agent LLC in April and officially launched the company mid-May. But she'd been toying with the idea for about two years around the time she was representing a lesbian rapper who was discriminated against. Taylor said she had problems getting venues to book her client when places had a certain fan base in mind or would have her open when the venue was all but empty. At other times, she'd struggle to get producers on board. So she decided to give LGBT talent a voice.

With LGBT artists not always understanding the entertainment industry or how to market themselves to communities outside the LGBT community, Taylor said many queer artists are locked out or put in a box. And others are looked over at gay events like Pride celebrations for straight performers. Launching The Color Agent was her way to help level the playing field for LGBT talent, she said.

s LGBT talent agency



she witnessed past clients being discriminated against for being out. (Courtesy of FotoPhresh Photography)

"I basically established it so LGBT artists could compete or at least be parallel to their heterosexual counterparts," Taylor said. "I just want them to be able to be in the same industry without having to go and just do things for the gay community. I want them to at least be able to compete in the same industry on a broader scale."

Taylor is no stranger to the entertainment industry. She's been a promoter and manager for years for both straight and queer artists, putting roots down in Dallas while often traveling for work. She's even been on the other side of the industry when she was a dancer with a local troupe about six years ago. The group would travel around to different gay venues to perform, she said. Her experience is what made her want to go into business for herself.

"I've been in all aspects of the entertainment industry, so just seeing it all made me want to focus in on the LGBT community being that I am a part of it," she said.

Courtney Wade, who goes by DJ CWade, is one of Taylor's clients. She's been a DJ in Dallas for about five years and has worked in both gay and straight clubs. She said as a masculine lesbian, she's been put in a box for the type of image ven-

ues will book.

"It has definitely hindered me from being able to do certain things, reaching a certain level outside the LGBT community, me being a masculine lesbian," Wade said. "It kind of puts me in a box."

Wade said the agency is definitely needed in Dallas as a way to promote LGBT artists and help them move up in the local scene, calling it a "larger platform for a lot of us to showcase what we do."

"I think it's really big for Dallas because there's a lot of talent in the city and a lot of LGBT talent is definitely overlooked, not only within the city but on a larger scale as well," Wade said.

Taylor echoed that sentiment, adding that it's time for an LGBT talent agency in Dallas and Texas to help promote the immense talent within the community while helping artists hold on to their true selves and art ventures.

"I just want to do my part for the community and offer them something because so many times they try to jumpstart their career and they have to change their clothes or change the way their music sounds and try to fit in," Taylor said. "So I want something exclusively for them."

For more information, visit TheColorAgent.com

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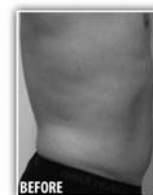
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A legacy of beauty — the passing of Bruce Wood

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES |
Life+Style Editor

Many obits are respectful recitations of the cost of a life to the community, but the passing Wednesday night of my friend, Bruce Wood, at age 53, is far, far more personal. Bruce — whose next performance with the Bruce Wood Dance Project, *Touch*, is scheduled for June 12–13 at City Performance Hall — was the first man who got me excited about the art of dance.

He was a gifted dancer in his own right. A Fort Worth native, he studied under the tutelage of George Ballanchine from age 16 and rose to principal dancer with New York City Ballet. In 1996, he founded the Bruce Wood Dance Co., and soon thereafter is when I caught the dance bug. His works were remarkable things, full of energy and wit and breathtaking style. He once said every performance should make an audience laugh, cry and gasp. I for one did that, every time.

The Bruce Wood Dance Co. closed operation in 2007, but that wasn't the end for Bruce. He went on to direct theater — in fact, he was scheduled to choreograph a show with Kevin Moriarty directing at the Dallas Theater Center next season, a sports-themed play called *Colossal* — and was essential to *A Gathering*, the two-time celebration of life and fundraiser put on by the arts groups in Dallas.

"Honestly, it's hard for me to put my emotions into words right now," Moriarty said Thursday afternoon. "Like everyone else in our artistic community, I'm devastated by this loss."

"We have lost an extraordinary artist," TITAS' executive director, Charles Santos, posted on his Facebook page.

In 2010, Bruce regrouped, forming the Bruce Wood Dance Project, which did several shows per year, thanks in large part to his producer Gayle Halperin, one of Dallas' most respected dance patrons. That is the company set to perform *Touch*. The loss to them is unfathomable, as it is to me.

"Our creative work during the pre-production process [on *Colossal*] was typical of how he approached all of his work: Passionate, intense, smart and filled with invention and deep emotion," Moriarty said. "Our conversations about football, dance, masculinity and sexuality, which are all these in the production we were creating, were personal and deeply impactful for me. As a dance fan, I was personally drawn to his work on



many levels — both because of the depth of its feeling and themes and because of its formal inventiveness, clarity and grace. I just can't believe he's gone."

"Bruce had a special gift for pulling the best out of the people he worked with," John Ahrens, his long-time costume designer, said Thursday. "Things we never thought we could do, we did for him. I knew every day I had with him was a gift."

Bruce himself was the gift. He could be grumpy and demanding, but his charisma made it so you didn't care. He smiled an awful lot for someone as intense as he was, who created works of such beauty.

Last December, I came back early from a trip to Maui just I could attend a function in his honor. It was a pleasure to do it.

The last time I saw Bruce in person was the opening night of *Fortress of Solitude* at the DTC earlier this spring. It was always so great just bumping into him. I'll miss those moments as much as I will miss his art.

He passed away from pneumonia and heart failure owing to a depleted immune system Wednesday night. The onset was sudden. No funeral plans have been announced.

"The work lives on," a representative for the Bruce Wood Dance Project informed us. "We will proceed as planned for the performances of *Touch* on June 12 and 13."

The family asks that donations be made to the Bruce Wood Dance Project in lieu of flowers. ■



Stonewall Inn

U.S. aims to identify historic LGBT sites

LGBT scholar claims movement began decades before Stonewall

LISA LEFF | ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — The National Park Service is launching an initiative to make places and people of significance to the history of LGBT Americans part of the national narrative.

Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell is convening a panel of 18 scholars next month that will be charged with exploring the LGBT movement's story in areas such as law, religion, media, civil rights and the arts. The committee will identify relevant sites, and its work will be used to evaluate them for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, designation as National Historic Landmarks, or consideration as national monuments, Park Service Director Jonathan Jarvis said.

"The Park Service is, in my view, America's storyteller through place," Jarvis said. "It's important that the places we recognize represent the full complement of the American experience."

The process mirrors efforts the service already has undertaken to preserve and promote locations that reflect the roles of Latinos, Asian-Americans and women in U.S. history.

Jewell plans to announce the initiative on Friday at New York's Stonewall Inn, which was made a national historic landmark in 2000. Stonewall is widely regarded as the birthplace of the modern gay rights movement. In 1969, a series of riots took place outside when police raided the Greenwich Village bar and arrested patrons and employees, citing morals charges. The riots broke out when the LGBT community fought back.

But Gerard Koskovich, a San Francisco

scholar who will be part of the panel, said the movement actually predates Stonewall by decades and goes back to the founding of the first American gay rights organization in Chicago in 1924. The freedoms unleashed after World War II gave gay men and lesbians opportunities to associate, and the 1953 publication in Los Angeles of the first magazine with a positive portrayal of homosexuality are other early chapters that merit recognition, he said.

"When you consider that until the 1970s, the federal government was still rallying around persecuting LGBTQ people and devoted to punishing us, arresting us and excluding us, that we now see after a 40- or 50-year process a federal government saying that we are now part of the stories that deserve to be told and protected is really remarkable," Koskovich said.

The scholars' study, which is expected to be completed by 2016, is being financed with \$250,000 from the Gill Foundation, a major donor to gay civil rights causes.

"While we take this important step to recognize the courageous contributions of LGBT Americans, we need to unite together in the days ahead to ensure we leave none of our fellow Americans behind," said the foundation's board chairman, Colorado philanthropist Tim Gill, the founder of software company Quark Inc.

Four sites associated with gay history ties have been added to the National Register of Historic Places since 2011, including a theater and home on New York's Fire Island.

The Park Service also has been trying to incorporate LGBT perspectives into its ranger-led interpretations of sites such as the National Mall. It's currently trying to collect stories and artifacts from gay people who worked in Navy shipyards for the museum at Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, Calif. ■

Ky. city alters proposed gay rights ordinance

City officials succumb to threats from a religious organization which threatened legal action

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DANVILLE, Ky. — The Danville City Commission has altered a proposed gay rights ordinance to exempt religious groups after a Baptist-affiliated organization threatened to leave the city.

The City Commission changed the proposed ordinance this week, and members voted 3-2 in favor of the revised ordinance on its first reading Tuesday, The Advocate Messenger reported.

At the commission's meeting last month, an attorney for Sunrise Children's Services said it would move its child care center out of Danville if the ordinance did not include an exemption. The Baptist-affiliated agency receives a significant portion of its funding from the government, but it refuses gay job applicants.

Commissioner Paul Smiley proposed the change. The previous ordinance included an exemption, but only for religious groups that receive less than half of their funding from government sources.

"I'm concerned about fairness," said Smiley. "I believe that we will have a good fairness ordinance, but this would, if I'm correct, and I believe I am, exempt Sunrise Services. I believe that compromise is the way of our country, and I think we can still have a good ordinance, but this compromise is acceptable to me."

The ordinance, similar to others enacted in a handful of Kentucky cities, would make it illegal to discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity in cases of employment, housing or public accommodations.

Several residents thanked the commission for making the change while others voiced their disappointment with the commission's decision.

Centre College professor Daniel Kirchner questioned what happened from the last meeting to warrant the change in the ordinance.

"Surely the legal arguments have not changed at this point, nor have the legal facts," said Kirchner. "I wonder what it is about our community that makes it the kind of place that, when there is a threat from a particular institution who has the power and the money to hire an attorney and to get their way onto the agenda and to have executive sessions because they can threaten legal action."

Chris Hartman, director of the Fairness Campaign, which has advocated for the gay rights ordinances in several Kentucky cities, said the Danville commission succumbed to "legal bullying and scare tactics."

"No organization — especially one supported almost wholly by taxpayer dollars — deserves the right to discriminate," Hartman said in a release. "There is still time for Danville's commission to do what's right in this situation, which is not to cover before legal smoke and mirrors that have been shattered in other cities."

The commission will vote on a second reading next month. ■

Gay groups banned from Republican convention

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
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Texas LGBT Republicans have been barred from participating in the state's Republican convention held next weekend in Fort Worth.

While gays are welcome to attend, their organizations are not allowed to have booths at the convention explaining their mission and participation in the state party. The party allegedly cited the state GOP platform, which condemns homosexuality. However, some of the anti-gay language was removed two years ago because it was redundant.

Log Cabin released a statement Thursday to denounce the party's stance toward Texas Log Cabin and Metroplex Republicans.

"Overall, Log Cabin Republicans of Texas has found incredible support within the Republican party — Texans, like the rest of the country, are evolving on LGBT rights issues," Log Cabin Republicans of Texas Chairman Jeffrey Davis said. "The Republican Party of Texas has even welcomed many of our members as delegates to the Texas State Republican Convention. However, the party has denied our several attempts to host a booth in the convention exhibit hall, citing archaic language in the party platform to support their actions. We deserve to occupy a booth just like anyone else, and it's time

that the Texas GOP's hypocritical policies and procedures are replaced by new ones that match the general opinion of Texan Republican voters.

Their exclusion comes 16 years after Log Cabin was denied participation at state convention.

"It's simply unconscionable that more than a dozen years since Log Cabin Republicans took the fight for gay equality against the homophobic fringe of the Party, the Texas State GOP still doesn't get it," LCR National Executive Director Gregory T. Angelo said. "We are your friends and neighbors; we are your colleagues and family members; above all else, we are loyal Republicans, and deserve a literal seat at the table at the Texas State GOP Convention."

"Make no mistake: This isn't about disagreements we may have on civil marriage; this isn't about the party platform — this is about an anti-gay wing of the party that hates gay people so much they can't even stand to see us acknowledged as a necessary part of a winning Republican coalition. At a time when Democrats are working overtime to turn Texas from red to purple and then a vibrant blue, now is not the time for the politics of subtraction and division in the GOP; it is time for addition and multiplication. The Texas State GOP and its leadership ignore that advice at their peril." ■

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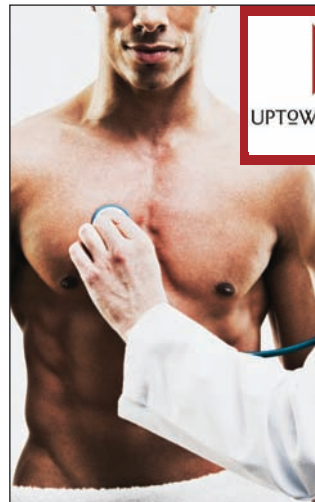
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BIG BUCKS | Thelma Houston helped raise money for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund at last year's Metro Ball. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

■ **RAZZLE**, From Page 10

comedy, is welcome to compete.

"We wanted to enter a new element to this year's event that would allow members of this community to participate in this year's music festival," Cooper-Lara said.

The winner to be chosen at the Brick on June 5 opens for Andy Bell of Erasure at MetroBall on June 6 and performs on the Cedar Springs stage at the street party on June 7.

MetroBall features Andy Bell from Erasure. The Friday night event takes place at S4 to raise money for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund.

In its ninth year, MetroBall became part of the weekend when Razzle Dazzle Dallas was revived in 2011 after a decade-long hiatus.

In addition to Bell's performance, a popular silent auction helps raise money for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund. GDMAF provides financial assistance for critical needs when resources are exhausted through other local organizations. Cooper-Lara said assistance can be anything from buying a tire for a car to helping with co-pays or replacing a refrigerator. He said buying a tire sounds like an odd request, but when that car is the person's only transportation to a doctor's appointment, it can be lifesaving. He said last week he gave a check to a landlord to stop an eviction.

Cooper-Lara said the focus of the Saturday night street party is a music festival in the party pavilion located in the parking lot behind S4. Last year, the music was mostly local.

"This year we're focusing on national Pride entertainment," Bartlett said.

Thea Austin, whose 1990s hits include 'The Power' and 'Rhythm is a Dancer,' headlines the evening. Sordid Lives star Jason Dottley, Australian singer DaniElle DeLaite and singer-songwriter Josh Zuckerman also appear. Bartlett said all have focused on doing Pride festivals around the country in the past few years.

Performing free on the Cedar Springs stage are Chaz Marie, DJ Ray Isaac and the winners of the Big D Talent Show.

"Our hope is we will build over the years that both performers and visitors will think of this as a national destination event," Cooper-Lara said.

The \$10 admission to the music pavilion goes toward Razzle's beneficiaries — AIDS Arms, AIDS Interfaith Network, Legacy Counseling, Resource Center Food Pantry, The Women's Chorus of Dallas and the Cedar Springs Beautification Fund.

"This year's beneficiaries represent the mission of Razzle Dazzle that gives money back to the community through its AIDS organizations and other community groups," Cooper-Lara said.

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Dallas Pride Month schedule:

June 4: Pride Month reception and award ceremony, Dallas City Hall

June 12: SOLID Talk: Building Confidence in You, Oak Lawn Branch Library

June 19: LGBT Book Club, North Oak Cliff Branch Library

June 20: Youth First prom at Cathedral of Hope

June 21: Bahama Beach family day

June 21: Rainbow Gardening Club of Dallas, Skyline Branch Library

June 21: Rainbow Family Day at the Dallas Public Library, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library

June 25: Dallas Zoo family day

June 28: Give Back Day

Dallasites plan alternative Pride celebration

Dallas' LGBT community will have a new pride party to add to their calendar this June: Queer-Bomb Dallas.

The alternative Pride march and festival was born out of a need to represent a more diverse celebration of the queer community, one of the organizers, Daniel Villarreal, said.

"We're looking for a Pride event that celebrates the true creativity, political expression and our diverse Dallas queer community," he said.

QueerBomb has been successful in Austin, which is now in its fifth year as a June event, Villarreal said. This marks the first time the event will hit North Texas.

He said the Dallas Pride parade in September isn't diverse enough. And a Dallas Black Pride has followed that celebration in October for years, something local leaders have said represents a need for a revamped, more inclusive Pride event.

QueerBomb Dallas starts at 8 p.m. June 28 with a march followed by a rally in Deep Ellum. The venue is still being finalized, he said. An event with dancers and performers will take place afterward at Quixotic World following the rally.

Villarreal said the QueerBomb organizers plan to participate in Dallas Pride this fall by marching in the parade and having a few events up until the Pride weekend.

"We do feel like there's a place for [Dallas' Pride parade], and it does represent people in the gay

community," Villarreal said, adding that organizers have said their event is just another queer party." We're way too fabulous to be contained by just one parade."

Organizers are holding a town hall meeting to gain input about QueerBomb from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at Resource Center.

For more info, visit TinyURL.com/QueerBomb-Dallas or QueerbombDallas.org.

Other events planned across the state in June include:

Dallas. Fears for Queers kicks off its fourth annual LGBT horror film festival June 7. Proceeds from the film festival benefit the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of North Texas' GALA Youth program.

Doors open at noon with screenings beginning at 1 p.m. Films include: *Playing in Darkness* by Alexander Roman, *Zombie* by Tony E. Valenzuela, *Plug & Play* by Davy Sihali, *The Secret Path* by Richard Mansfield and *Sacrament* by Shawn Ewert. Texas Theater, 231 West Jefferson Blvd, Dallas. For more info, visit www.GalaNtx.org.

McKinney. North Texas Pride, Collin County's Pride celebration, is returning to its roots for its fourth year.

The event was first held in McKinney in 2011, followed by growing attendance the past two years in Lewisville and Plano. Last year, the outgoing Plano mayor was an honorary chair of the event, which raised more than \$15,000.

This year McKinney Councilman Ray Ricchi and his wife Stephanie will co-chair the event.

The event takes place in downtown McKinney from 1-6 p.m. June 8. The family-friendly event features music, food, face painting and bounce houses. For more info, visit NorthTexasPride.com.

Beaumont. The LGBT community will celebrate Pride Month with a first-ever Pride walk and street festival on June 21.

The LGBTQIA walk will start at 11 a.m., beginning at the corner of Broadway and MLK. Participants will continue through downtown and end at Orleans and Forsythe streets.

The 600 block of Orleans will be blocked off for a family-friendly street festival. Free events are also scheduled at several different venues.

For more info, visit TinyURL.com/Beaumont-Pride.

Longview. Beaumont isn't the only city planning its first-ever Pride event this year. Longview's LGBT community will come out for a Pride festival on June 21.

Sponsored by PFLAG Longview, the event takes place from 5 p.m.-9 p.m. at Heritage Plaza in downtown Longview.

The event will have music, food and local organizations and businesses from Longview, Tyler, the Shreveport area and Dallas.

For more info, visit TinyURL.com/Longview-Pride. — Anna Waugh

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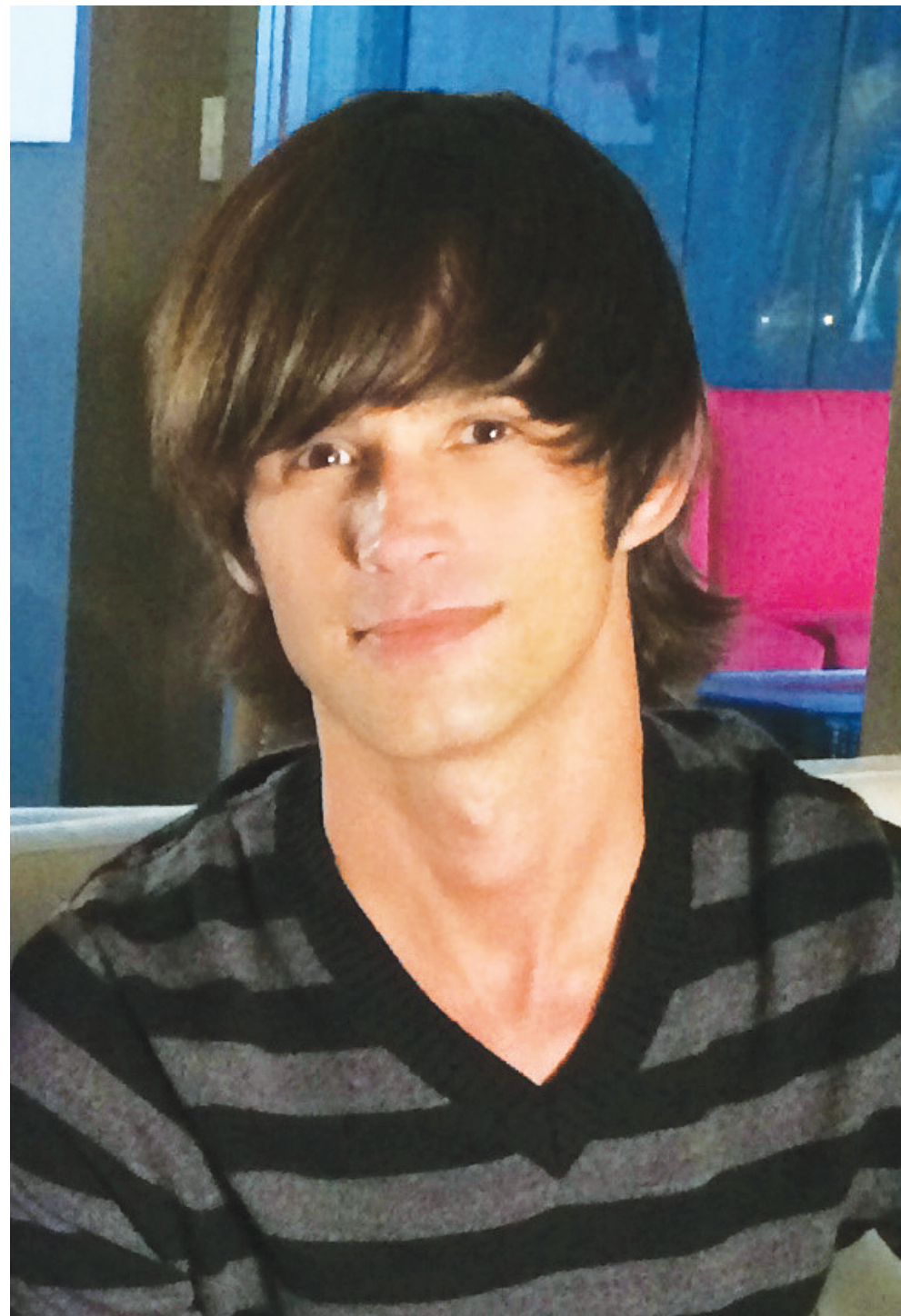
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It's inexcusable for a member of the LGBT community to be uninformed about the issues that legally define us

EMERSON COLLINS | Contributing Writer

"I hate politics" is a knee-jerk exclamation from at least one person in a group when elec-

tions, politicians or even related topics come up in a discussion. It's proclaimed loudly and proudly. End of discussion.

I understand the sentiment and the impulse to express disdain for the entire process and current system. The problem is, when you scratch past the surface of this statement, in many cases the unspoken completion of the thought is "...and so I don't pay any attention to it."

Especially in the younger demographic of

the gay community, there seems to be entirely too many willing to wear their ignorance of politics as a badge of pride under the delusion that being disgusted with politics based on a studied understanding and being disinterested and unformed and framing that as disgust by acting above it all are the same thing. They are not.

You should care about politics. Period. However, if that sweeping, and possibly patronizing, generalization isn't enough, consider this instead. As a member of the gay community at a time when we are using the political machine to move our community forward and permanently enshrine our equality in the governmental structure of our cities, states and nation, you should care because it is directly about you.

There is a basic reality that we all have lives, and we do not have time to follow the ins and outs of daily political activity. After all, being a politician is a full-time job, and that's why we elect them. (Even if it seems an inordinate amount of time is spent campaigning, cutting ribbons and posing for photos with perfect attendance winners or whatever.) However, if you live a life that includes enough leisure time for you to have any kind of social media account or to have read this far in this article, you have time to be informed at the very least on the state of politics that directly affect you.

It's absolutely acceptable to find politics disgusting. Even junkies like myself will readily admit that the more you pay attention, the worse it seems. But is it an excuse to tune out? Nope. You should know what you think, what you stand for, and what your representatives and our government are doing on the issues. At the very least, you should know a general summary on germane subjects.

It's not enough to say, "Well, I'm a Democrat," because you know they address LGBT equality issues better than Republicans. That doesn't absolve you from the need to think any further.

Sidebar for a moment. If you are a gay Republican (taking a deep breath here and reminding myself that I do truly believe that it takes the full range of perspectives to reach the right kind of compromises that create a society that best serves the people) you had better have an incredibly specific and informed opinion across a wide breadth of subjects beyond some general PolySci 101 answer of "I like limited government and a free market economy" to explain that unpopular position.

The reality is that we are winning equality through politics. Artists and the arts have done incredible work over the past decades, changing how we are perceived by society in ways that have created a cultural framework that make our current political victories possible. Now that they have, politics is where we close the deal.

The court cases coming up through the legal systems in nearly every state in the country — that's politics. Leaders who are willing to step up and step out in conservative districts — that's politics. Whether or not you can be fired

for being gay — that's politics. Rent a house and be gay — that's politics. Get married — obviously, that's politics.

Politics, politicians, legislation and court decisions — these are the way we win the war without having to fight a battle with every single person in the country who doesn't support

“ If you have no idea who represents you in your state and city, you aren't doing enough.

—Emerson Collins

our community. As frustrating and disgusting as politics can be, it's actually the shortest route to success.

It's not particularly fun at times, but one of the duties that comes with a free society determined by the will of the people is being a person with an informed opinion more often than every two years on major national election days.

If you don't know the names of your senators and representative, you're not doing enough. If you have no idea who represents you in your state and city, you aren't doing enough. And, if you haven't taken the time to decide what you think on taxes, education, immigration, basic foreign policy, health care, well, those are a good start, you aren't doing enough.

Whether you like it or not, someone is sitting in your city hall, state assembly and in Congress speaking on your behalf. The decisions they make affect nearly every aspect of your life. I don't know about you, but I'm entirely too controlling to let someone speak for me without knowing what they're going to say. How can it possibly be OK for politicians to be governing for us and about us without knowing exactly what they're doing?

If you're a young member of the gay community, and you're informed and engaged, that's awesome! Tell your friends! I'm not talking about you. However, you likely have friends who address political discussions with this kind of righteous dismissal masking as ignorance. We need them to participate with you.

We're getting there, but we are by no means finished. Don't let the growing perception, especially in metropolitan areas with sizeable gay communities, that our eventual victory is inevitable lull you into the feeling that you don't have to care or be involved.

For any American, being uninformed is disappointing. For a member of the LGBT community to be uninformed when decisions are being made daily, legislation is being enacted from the city level to Capitol Hill and court cases are being fought state by state that will decide how we are defined, treated and codified in all levels of our government? It's inexcusable. ■

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Last week, we tried something new. We did a photo issue — The Swimsuit Edition.

It was fun. It was summery. We hoped to attract some new readers. We certainly did attract some new advertisers, and we brought back some advertisers who hadn't been in the paper in awhile. Welcome back!

And we expected criticism. Some of the comments we got were constructive.

If we do a swimsuit edition next year, we should leave a few pages in the front for news, rather than just putting the news online. Agreed.

If we do a swimsuit issue again next year, we should have more than just captions. It should include several related fashion articles. Again, great idea.

More women next year. We're cool with that suggestion. Trans inclusion. We did. We just didn't label our trans model.

Then there were the comments that made me question what I have devoted my life to doing, which is making our community better.

Like those from a Facebook thread from Laura McFerrin Hogan: "Has anyone read the Dallas Voice lately? It's terrible. This week is a swimsuit addition [sic] and it's just a bunch of people in swimsuits. Where's the hard hitting news? There are so many issues they could be writing about. The Voice is turning into an embarrassment."

Laura, I love that you're so passionate about Dallas Voice. We are, too. That's why we're always trying new things, and we want all of them

to work. Like our new cover format. Like some of our new writers. Like some of our new features. Some won't work. This one didn't for you and for some of our other readers.

Even if you consider last week's issue an entire failure, please understand that attracting new advertisers keeps us in business so we can continue to cover the community.

One of my favorite comments was from Kandy Pople-Gill.

"Its [sic] been years since we picked one up. Last time it was full of Who was seen at which bar... pictures. .. Who cared?"

Scene, as we've called those pages for about the last 10 years, isn't more than three pages and never has been. And it's buried in the back. You really have to look for it. Interesting that you've missed the news in the front. I'm sure

somehow you'll find your name, also somewhat buried here on Page 28, especially when you don't pick the paper up.

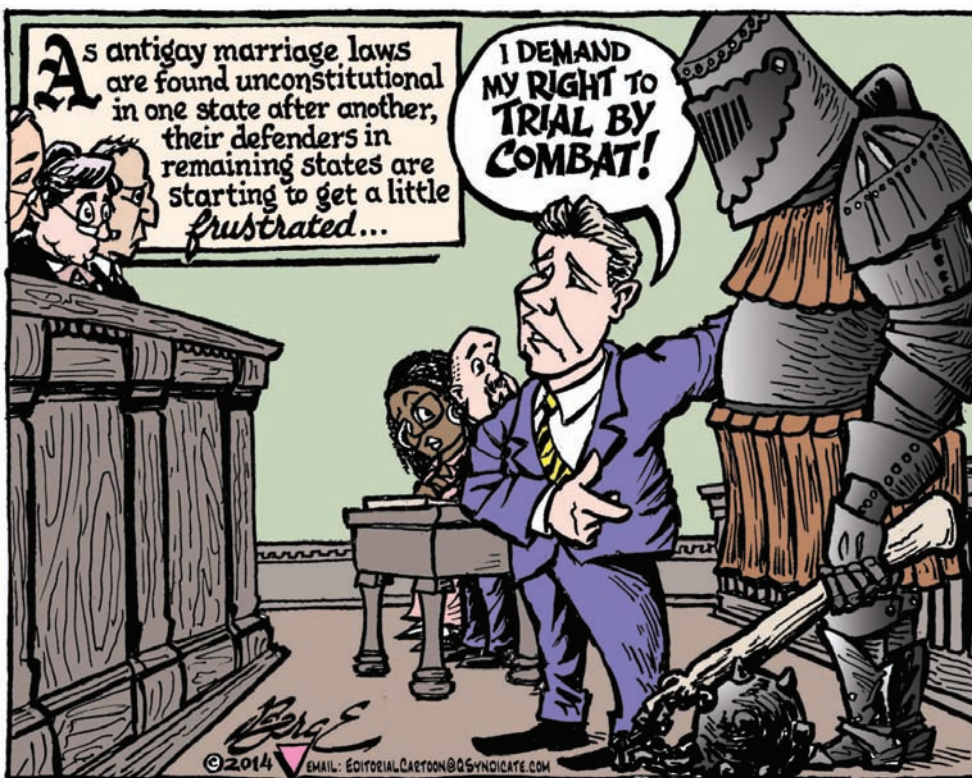
Further down the thread, Ashlee McClelland commented, "Seriously when have you looked to DV for 'hard hitting news?' When has ANYWHERE had hard hitting news? It isn't a concept that means anything in modern journalism."

Ashlee, our goal is to cover the LGBT community in North Texas, and when we can, throughout Texas.

I'm not sure what hard-hitting stories you're looking for that you're not finding here or anywhere else. However, I can think of a few that have made a difference in the lives of LGBT peo-



David Taffet
Staff Writer



ple in the area.

When AIDS Arms former Executive Director Raeline Nobles needed to get a client into Parkland, she found waiting times were getting longer and longer. Despite requirements that agencies that receive Ryan White funding do patient intake within two weeks, waiting time had extended to three months.

Frustrated, she called me. I worked on the story for two weeks and after it ran on Friday, waiting times were fixed by Monday. Parkland was furious with Dallas Voice, but they fixed the problem as a result of my story.

I did a story about two gay Iraqi refugees who were not receiving government-contracted services from Catholic Charities and were being harassed by others in the housing they were given. I received a call from a United Nations mission offering their help and received calls offering them jobs and other assistance. We hooked them up, and their lives became better. Hard-hitting? Maybe not, but I hope Dallas Voice helped in some way by making the lives of a couple of people in our community better.

After the raid on the Rainbow Lounge, we were so busy that week taking calls from national news organizations from CNN to the New York Times that we were very late finishing the next week's issue. So even when members of our community feel let down by our content, other press outlets seem to respect us. So do most of the people we cover. Fort Worth Police Chief Jeff Halstead later said we were the only ones who got the story right from the beginning and reported it fairly.

And I admit it. I go for the non-hard-hitting as well. A couple I profiled got a call from Oprah a few weeks after my story ran. Her producers interviewed them and they ended up on Gayle King. So while we may not always be meeting the needs of everyone in our community, I take some solace in knowing at least Oprah finds us interesting enough to read.

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

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Queerly Neon

Newly out frontman Tyler Glenn leads band Neon Trees with fresh panache



Springtime is always a season of new life, whether you're talking pastel flowers or Neon Trees. One of the hottest bands out there, Neon Trees' season has been one of starting anew, especially for lead singer and keyboardist Tyler Glenn. He recently turned 30, the band released its third studio album *and* he came out as gay in the April issue of *Rolling Stone*. That's a lot of blossoming in such a short time, especially the decision to come out.

"I wanted to make some changes. I wanted to be happier. I didn't want to carry some of that weight into [my] new decade," Glenn says.

Still, the announcement couldn't exactly be characterized as much of a surprise. With his glam-drogynous looks and the queer friendly lyrics of Neon Trees, Glenn's revelation was greeted with more ho-humness than, say, Michael Sam around the same time. But it proves that the closet is still a very real place for adult men, despite breakthroughs in LGBT rights and visibility.

"I never was great at hiding it, but I did have a fear of giving all my cards away," he says. "I've always been very good at compartmentalizing, especially the deeply sad parts. And then the band took off, so I patterned myself after those ambiguous figures like Bowie and Jagger."

And there's the Mormon thing, too. But instead of turning away from his religion — which, he notes, is so famously unaccepting that 40 percent of queer Mormon youth are kicked out of their homes — he still embraces it.

"I haven't thrown that out. I still feel this space and have this belief, and so I'm not quick to throw away that part of me," Glenn says. "There were risks going into coming out, but it's still great progress."

That shows in Neon Trees' latest release, *Pop Psychology*, with songs like "Teenager in Love" and "Love in the 21st Century," which basically feels like an anthem for hookup apps. Glenn wrote

while going through therapy, and breakthroughs are reflected in the free-flowing confident sound of the album.

"Now that this is all out, I can write what I know. I have this confidence to talk about things in my life I wasn't able to before and not do any of our music an injustice," he says.

Being out, Glenn jokes that he's now a well-adjusted rock singer. More so, he feels a genuine connection to his audiences. He likes that they get the nuances of his lyrics. But this time out, they did go huge.

"Well, first, our show is really colorful and the biggest show we've ever done. It's spectacular and colorful and so much fun. That's what can our fans can expect." And Dallas fans can experience themselves when Neon Trees performs at The House of Blues on June 1.

Still, writing what Glenn knows doesn't mean one thing. "I would hate to put out a religious album just *because*," he

NEON TREES

House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar
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\$22-\$28. Ticketmaster.com.



FOREST FOR THE TREES | Newly out frontman Tyler Glenn, center right, will lead Neon Trees on a concert Monday at the House of Blues that also features Smallpools and Nightmare & the Cat.



Review: 'Pop Psychology'

Musicians can be funny about their sexuality defining their music, but on Neon Trees' latest, the gayness of out-and-proud frontman Tyler Glenn is embedded into every Technicolor beat of the band's cool synth-pop. Coming of age with shamelessly sex-focused ideas, **Pop Psychology** — the Mormon band's third release — is practically a rite of passage. But because it's a nonstop rush of New Wave, it goes deeper than its superficial shell ... a shell that's radio-accessible but also a monotonous drone of instantly gratifying beats muddled into one big blur.

Uniform to a fault, the disc is front-loaded with a tiring parade of disposable bubblegum party pop: "Love in the 21st Century," a sly observation on modern-day yearning; "Sleeping with a Friend," the first single; and "I Love You (But I Hate Your Friends)," where Glenn celebrates your blatant sexuality. As a reflection of contemporary relationships and sexual exploration, and writing-wise, *Pop Psychology* is an engrossing project, making the album all the more frustrating. During the back half, there's promise in a duet with his bandmate, Elaine Bradley, on "Unavoidable," and with a synth loop reminiscent of Alphaville's "Forever Young" on "Voices in the Hall." The rest should be as solid, but it's just not. Instead, Neon Trees' latest leaves you with a bunch of coulda-beens.

— Chris Azzopardi

laughs. "But I can wonder about new music differently now, and there are even songs about a guy I was in love with. And I love this record for that lightness and happiness. It's a celebratory one."

Upon coming out, Glenn could easily have gotten tired of talking about only that instead of the new album or the tour. But he's pragmatic about it. His story isn't just about him, it's about others in the closet in these modern times.

"I'm happy to talk about it, and it's so interesting if it could help someone, but also, there's a time and place for it," he says. "As much as it was a headline, I don't see it as gossip, but I hope that people respect that time and place for me, or for anyone else."

— Rich Lopez

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- Sylvia Moreno

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.

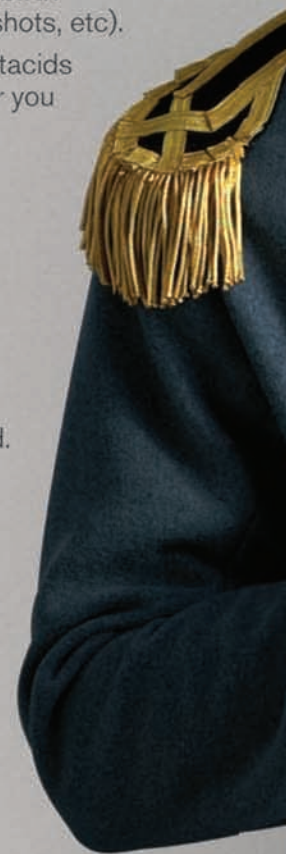
The most common side effects of STRIBILD include nausea and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or don’t go away.

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.

STRIBILD[®] 

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

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 (Cafegot®, Migergot®, Ergostat®, Medihaler Ergotamine®, Wigraine®, Wigrettes®), and methylergonovine maleate (Ergorate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor®, Altoprev®, Mevacor®)
- oral midazolam
- pimozide (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 (Atripla®, Combivir®, Complera®, Emtriva®, Epivir® or Epivir-HBV®, Epzicom®, Kaletra®, Norvir®, Trizivir®, Truvada®)

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 contain 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 hydrochloride (Vasacor®, Bepadin®)
 - bosentan (Tracleer®)
 - buspirone
 - carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Epitol®, Equetro®, Tegretol®)
 - clarithromycin (Biaxin®, Prevpac®)
 - clonazepam (Klonopin®)
 - clorazepate (Gen-xene®, Tranxene®)
 - colchicine (Colcrys®)
 - 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.

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'BBQ' roasts modern society; 'Booth' explores the making of an assassin



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

Some people are just inherently, effortlessly funny. They have porous minds, where ideas seem to escape in a slow leak — you're never sure where a drip will lead, or if it will pool into a primordial ooze where laughter can germinate, spreading like a new life form that becomes self-sustaining.

Matt Lyle is one of those people.

I doubt Lyle can *not* be funny, because he doesn't try to be in the first place. It seems to come naturally to him, as you can tell even during the prerecorded curtain speech that kicks off **Barbecue Apocalypse**, his world premiere dark comedy now at Kitchen Dog Theater. Lyle personally recorded the "turn your phones off" screed, but rather than tune it out, you laugh. A lot. And the play hasn't even started. And that's just a taste for what's to come.

The premise is simple, even predictable. Childless couple Deb and Mike (Martha Harms and Michael Federico), apparently DUPPIES (downwardly mobile urban professionals), feel like they will never grow up. Their lawn isn't mowed, they still decorate their house with old movie posters and beanbag chairs, they can't throw a decent dinner party, so they call it a cook-out ... and yet they still crave to impress the neighbors. Deb doesn't understand why Mike is even still friends with college buddy Win

(Max Hartman), an arrogant, misogynistic bully who brags about his money and that his young new girlfriend Glory (Miranda Parham) is auditioning for the Rockettes (even though he's never seen a Rockettes show and seems to have only a vague knowledge of what they do). Then there's Ash (Jeff Swearingen) and Lulu (Leah Spillman), self-consciously douchy hipsters who *tsk-tsk* that the beef isn't organic and the wifi isn't 4G. Who would *want* to be like any of these people?!

Deb and Mike, that's who. And you and me, admit it.

Barbecue Apocalypse is a droll indictment of our consumer society, where worth is weighed not by happiness (Deb and Mike might *be* happy if they could only *let* themselves not care what others' think) but by acquisitions. Ash seems surgically attached at the eyeball to his Twitter feed, ignoring his sexually frustrated wife, who, it turns out, is *not* pregnant, just paunchy. How could she be pregnant when Ash can't pause web-surfing long enough to get it up?

As the title suggests, things don't stay that way for long. At the end of Act 1, some kind of worldwide cataclysm occurs (it doesn't matter what), and earth is plunged into a *Walking Dead/The Road* dystopia of ravaging looters, cannibals, privation. And you can forget streaming your favorite shows on HuluPlus. There are new skills to value in this society, and expressing yourself in 140 characters ain't one of them.

END OF THE WORLD | Deb (Martha Harms) and Mike (Michael Federico) prove their mettle in 'Barbecue Apocalypse,' above; Montgomery Sutton is eerily accurate as a fanatic in 'Booth,' opposite.

Lyle structures the play cannily, with Act 2 symmetrical to Act 1: Another backyard barbecue, with the same guests, same chit-chat and a vastly different dynamic. "Where's Glory?" everyone asks Win in turn, gently following up with a cluckish, "You didn't eat her, did you?" Character is destiny. (He didn't eat her. He did something far worse.)

The vast reservoir of pop culture Lyle mines to create dialogue that is both realistic and stylized reveals a kind of Aspergery love of language that's hard to over-praise. The play isn't laden with jokes so much as a way of saying things with hilarious understatement. You may want to see it twice just to hear all the lines you missed the first time.

The cast is ideal, and director Lee Trull maintains a deadpan style that allows Lyle's genius to shine through. I could see this on a New York stage running for years. Like, say, *Portlandia*, it has a voice that speaks to the modern era and the modern ear. The decline and fall of civilization has never been so amusing ... or so accurate.

Booth, playing inside Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, is, technically, a play: It takes place on a stage with live actors and an intermission between acts. In every other particular, *Booth* is a movie: Full of jump-cuts, multiple time lines, lots of dialogue and populated with a score of characters. It's an exhausting historical drama, the kind even Hollywood seems loath to take on much these days.

Set in the aftermath of, and lead-up to, the Lincoln assassination, it centers on the actor and Confederate patriot John Wilkes Booth (an eerie doppelganger in Montgomery Sutton), who, with a klatch of disgruntled sore losers, plots the kidnapping of the president, the vice president and the secretary of state ... then improvises, and instead shoots just one of them in the back of the head. His impulsiveness proves to be a boondoggle, committing his cohorts to a murder they never wanted, martyring Lincoln and unintentionally facilitating the reunification of the United States. History has labeled him a villain and a traitor, surely a resident of Dante's seventh circle.

History, perhaps, but not Steven Walters, who wrote and directed *Booth*. He seems less convinced that Booth was all bad, or that the government's pursuit of him (and especially his fellow conspirators) was all good. Was Lincoln a bully, suspending habeas corpus and such, only deified because he was felled before the bad decisions could cement? And did the behavior of Secretary of War Mars Stanton (Stan Denman) — falsifying evidence in order to coerce confessions, violating constitutional rights to get what he wanted ... and all without benefit of the USA PATRIOT Act. (Walters and costume designer Jennifer Ables pepper the dialogue and the clothes with modern iterations, possibly to suggest parallels to then and now, but unlike, say, a totally modern-dress version of Shakespeare, it often comes across as merely careless.)

Booth is a play of ideas, but many of them are



subsumed in Walters' gangly technique — a style common to many modern plays, where intensity and voluble language stand in the stead of character development. The cool start and end, with the singing of classic era-appropriate songs, doesn't prepare us for the pandemonium to come. As a result, it reinforced some of the actors' less-likeable gimmicks and sometimes ventures into the unintentionally comic. (In order to cue in the audience when Booth is post-assassination, Sutton will suddenly clasp his broken leg and wince in pain; after a while, it comes to resemble Fred Sanford's "I'm coming Elizabeth!" cardiac grab.)

Still, there's no denying the thought and intelligence that went into creating this world premiere. Walters draws a straight line between Booth's performance in *Julius Caesar* and his fanatic's commitment to the conspiracy ... and the line continues all the way past JFK and up to Edward Snowden and the NSA.

Many actors in the large cast stand out, which is sometimes hard to do since they all sport variations of muttonchops, sideburns and other variations of whisker. (I haven't seen so many beards in one place since a reunion of Tom Cruise's exes.) In addition to Sutton, Brandon Sterrett's icy evil as Payne, and Frank Moseley's performance both as Booth's more talented brother Edwin and as a befuddled immigrant lured into the conspiracy, were distinctive and memorable. I can imagine them both in the film version ... then again, that's kind of what this production already is. ■

ON THE BOARDS

BARBECUE APOCALYPSE at **The MAC**, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through June 21. KitchenDogTheater.org.
BOOTH at **Bryant Hall**, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through June 14. 2TT.co.

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CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
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Cadillacs are for rock stars: They're glitzy, high-tech and fabulously sexy wherever they slink. Elvis practically gave them away as party favors; hip-hop artists use Escalades as their 'hoods' Chevrolets. Unlike competitors that are undergoing reinvention, Cadillacs are Cadillacs.

But they *can* evolve. Whatever dust-ridden image you have of Cadillac was blown afar with the 556-horsepower CTS-V. Credentials were bolstered by the latest ATS/CTS sport sedans and 2015 Escalade. A new Vsport edition of the 2014 XTS hides a surprise.

From grin to fin, the XTS is pure Cadillac. Up front, light tubes create vertical white razors — bracketing projector headlamps and a black V Sport grille.

At the tail are red light tubes that fit perfectly within the accentuated hints of fins. Between are sculpted bodysides, steeply raked rear window, and 20-in. alloys. Satin silver window trim and lighted door handles add class. It's a very sleek car, almost futuristic — one of the best-designed Cadillacs since the '67 Eldorado.

A glass cockpit accompanies a cabin trimmed in layers of leather and real wood. It looks and smells like a Coach boutique. Seats are comfy, with heat front and rear, but some thicker side bolsters would go with the car's attitude. Bose audio, heated steering wheel and ambient lighting that seeps from the dash and doors elevate comfort.

Consumer Reports doesn't like the CUE infotainment system (big shock), but it is far from the worst. I paired my smartphone in less than a minute, allowing untethered access to calls and streaming audio. You can swipe the center screen like an iPad to scroll. Audio and climate adjust via touch controls, or conjure by voice. A reconfigurable LCD instrument cluster shows analog or digital gauges (whichever you prefer). I'm a big fan of the heads-up display, but old-school Caddy loyalists *will not* be pleased.

While Cadillac was preparing the

HI SPORT | Cadillac's powerful V6 engine creates a hum to match the purrs of satisfaction for its elegant styling.

new CTS V Sport, it found another surprising place for its engine: Inside the XTS. The 3.6-liter twin-turbo V6 delivers 410 horsepower and 16/24-MPG city/hwy. All-wheel-drive puts cleats to pavement. There are gaps in the torque curve between 80 mph and 100 mph, and again north of 120 mph (don't ask). But there's plenty of thrust to skip the 4,200-lb. sedan down-road.

Keeping pace with the powertrain is GM's Magnetic Ride Control, which adjusts damping in 5 milliseconds. Corvette and Ferrari use the

same technology. While the XTS is no sport sedan, it is no fluffy lush, either. Roads you expect to unsettle the chassis don't. Operation is near-magical. I prefer the Sport mode, which tightens the steering and suspension for beckoning backroads. Brembo disc brakes halt the fun in a flash.

Safety tech looks out for passengers. An array of cameras and sensors enable Side Blind Zone Alert, Forward Collision Alert/Prevention and Rear Cross Traffic Alert. Full-range adaptive cruise control maintains a safe distance on the highway, but can also halt the car and creep through traffic automatically. Safety Alert Seat vibrates if the car senses danger.

The XTS V Sport has a sport sedan's powertrain, Corvette's suspension and style that Harley Earl would recognize. Cadillac competes with the Germans and Japanese simply by making better Cadillacs. I keep thinking how sinister it would look painted metallic black with charcoal wheels. Sexy. Like a rock star.

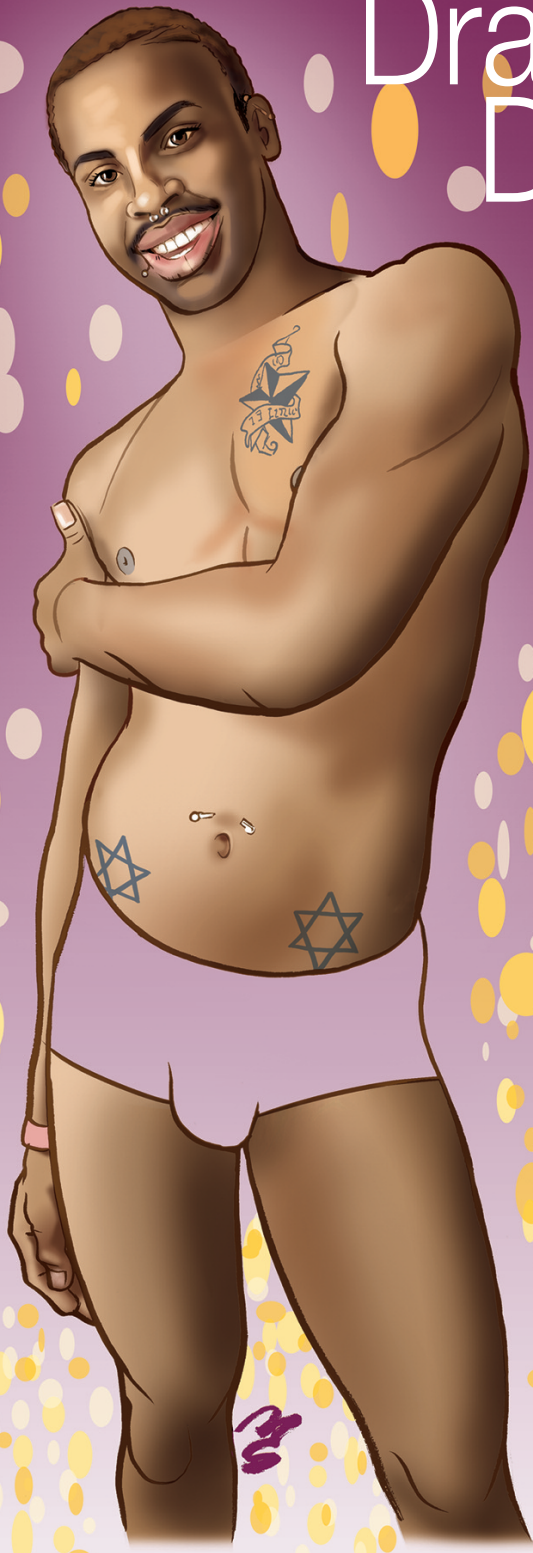
Although list starts at under \$45k, the price as tested came to \$70,020. ■



'14 XTS SPORT

Cadillac. 410 hp, 3.6 liter V6.
16/24-MPG city/hwy. As-tested
price: \$70,020

Drawing Dallas



Oklahoman **Marquis Prince** only recently brought his Pride to Dallas

Name and age: Marquis Prince, 22

Occupation: Salesperson/Server, Entertainer

Spotted: Beltline Road and Marsh Lane

Born in Oklahoma City and raised in Spencer, Okla., tall, flamboyant Marquis Prince is hard to miss. His bright smile and great laugh are two of this gregarious guy's greatest gifts. Marquis moved to Dallas four months ago. He packed a little money, a few clothes and his favorite nightstand and took I-35 South until he reached Dallas where he says he "felt good" upon arriving.

From insects to audiences: The middle of three siblings, Marquis has always had an interest in animals, and he grew up collecting horned toads, mice, bullfrogs, lizards, bugs, spiders, millipedes and tarantulas, among many other creatures. He initially pursued a career in veterinary medicine, but eventually switched his major to communications. Playing trombone in his high school band made him realize that entertaining is in his blood. His future plans include becoming a radio/television personality or newscaster.

Breathing room: Marquis came out at 19, but says he needed some personal space away from his family. His move to the Big D was far enough away from home to provide him that.

MARK STOKES | Illustrator

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LIFE+STYLE

pride

A host of out musicians, DJs and singers turn out to celebrate National Pride Month at Razzle Dazzle Dallas

Everyone knows Dallas formally celebrates its Gay Pride with a parade, festival and all around communal atmosphere in September, but that doesn't mean we overlook National Gay Pride Month, aka June, altogether. And that's what Razzle Dazzle Dallas is here to do. The three-day event officially kicks off with the finals of the Big D Talent Show on Thursday, June 5, at The Brick, then continues through Friday, June 6, with the MetroBall fundraiser at S4 (and featuring headliner Andy Bell of Erasure) before culminating on Saturday, June 7, with Razzle Dazzle itself, with performances by a host of singers and musicians. And this year, all the events are back in Oak Lawn!

We sat down with three of the headliners — Broadway star Patrick Boyd, Aussie DJ-cum-singer Ray Isaac and troubadour teacher Josh Zuckerman — to get a sense for what they hope to bring to Dallas for the weekend's festivities.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Broadway Barer: Patrick Boyd

Although a fundraising event may seem an unlikely place to encounter a movie crew, expect to see the cameras rolling at this year's Razzle Dazzle Dallas. Singer, songwriter and Broadway performer Patrick Boyd will be performing at the Pride festivities while co-starring in the independent film *Touch: A Love Story*. Boyd plays a gay pop star in the movie, and a crew will shoot his live performance for use in the film.

The feature film's storyline addresses the difficult topic of same-sex domestic violence, and, although producers originally recruited Boyd to play the film's abusive boyfriend, they later gave him the option of playing its songbird hero.

"While I welcomed the challenge of the role [of abuser], I don't think it was in my box of

crayons," Boyd winks. "I thought I would be better suited to play the singer. I have been a performer and singer all my life, so the character I am going to play is a better match for me."

At next weekend's events, Boyd will perform "There Are No Words," one of two songs he wrote and which producers have licensed for the film. "They were just written in my down time to be creative," Boyd says of the songs. "I think both of them were born out of relationships that I had had previously and what I felt was going on. If I could sing about what transpired as a result of those relationships, that's what these songs are."

Boyd's love of entertaining began early. "I was a kid magician," he says. "I used to annoy my friends and family with really bad magic tricks." It was as an undergraduate, however, that he became interested in musical theater, after discovering "computer science ... was not my calling." Luckily, he had also taken a drama class which required him to attend all of the school's theatre productions. He was quickly hooked, and — even better — found that his family supported his new career choice.

Boyd, who recently celebrated the 20th anniversary of his Broadway debut in the 1994 revival of *Grease*, is an active participant in

Broadway Bares, an HIV/AIDS fundraiser for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. It was for the Broadway Bares annual striptease event called Solo Strips that he found another use for his skills as a magician.

"There is a little newsboy strip that I do starting out very innocent and childlike, and it gets raunchier," he says of a routine that he plans to perform in Dallas. "In the process of that strip, I take a newspaper, it gets ripped up to shreds, and then it gets restored to a newspaper again. At the end of the number, it's the only thing I have hiding my junk."

Working as an actor has afforded Boyd many incredible opportunities. He has performed alongside celebrities like Bette Midler in the film version of *Gypsy* and Rosie O'Donnell in Broadway's *Grease*. He has met

presidents and appeared in a Tony Awards broadcast. But his career choice also has its downside.

"You jeopardize your personal life," Boyd, currently single, confides. "Not a lot of people are interested in dating an actor. You have to go where the work is. You have to leave town sometimes on a week or two's notice. That gypsy lifestyle is not attractive."

Yet Boyd perseveres. "I just don't know what else I would do if I didn't do something in the arts," he states. "I haven't given myself other opportunities. It kind of makes me work harder."

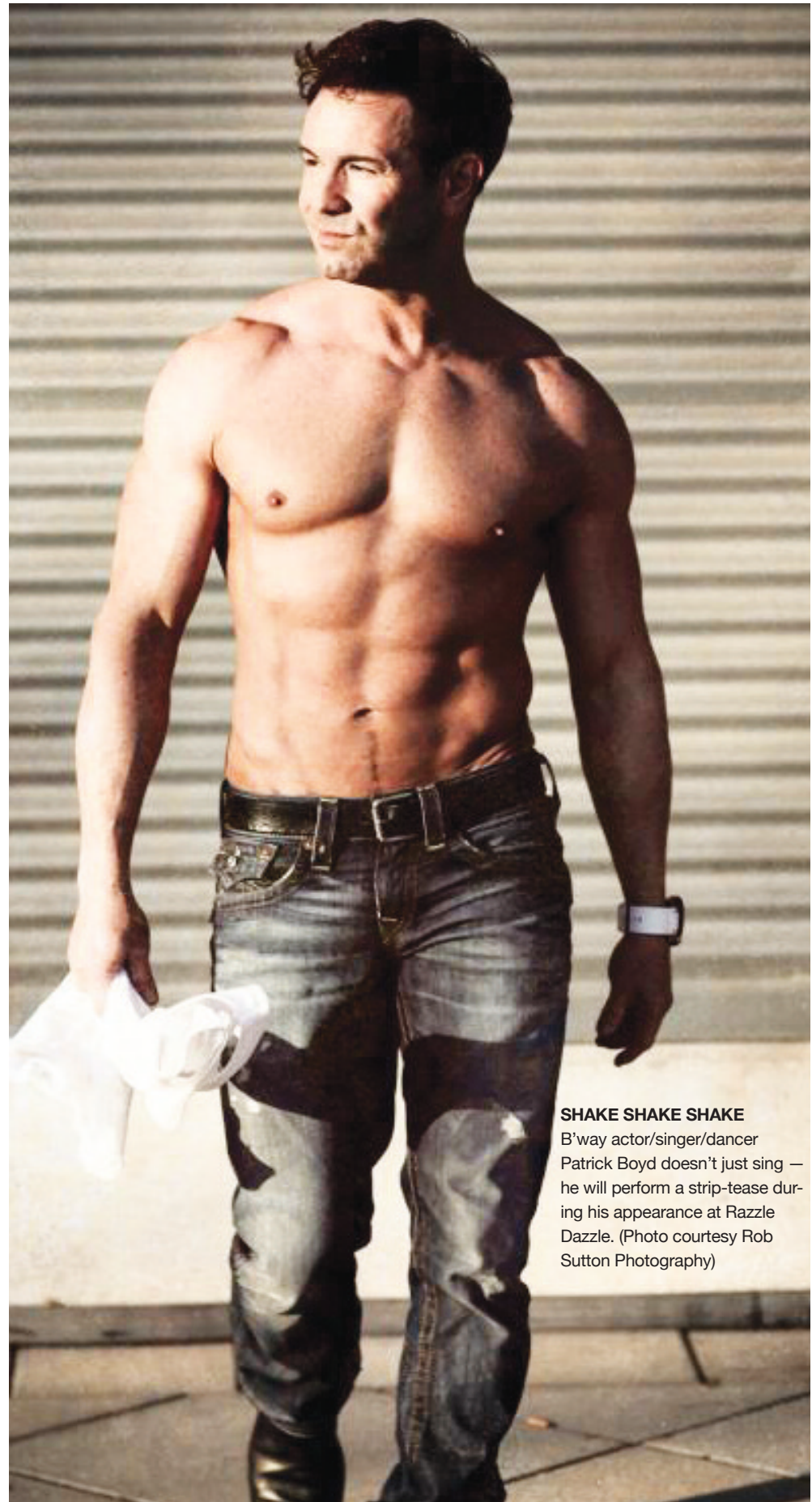
— Scott Huffman

Equal from Down Under: Ray Isaac

Australian born singer, songwriter and DJ Ray Isaac is on a mission — some might even call it a healing crusade. His debut album *Who I Am* — an 11-track collection of self-penned ballads and pop songs (released on iTunes) — is the result of personal struggle, introspection and self-acceptance. Isaac hopes this labor of love will resonate with and comfort others, especially those who might feel ostracized for being different.

RAZZLE DAZZLE DALLAS

June 5-7 at The Brick, S4 and along The Strip. For a complete schedule, visit RazzleDazzleDallas.net.



SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE

B'way actor/singer/dancer Patrick Boyd doesn't just sing — he will perform a strip-tease during his appearance at Razzle Dazzle. (Photo courtesy Rob Sutton Photography)

■ OUT, Page 42

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■ **OUT**, From Page 40

"*Who I Am*, I would say, is my equality and empowerment debut album," Isaac, who was bullied in school, says. "Each song resembles a part of my life and experience, but it also portrays what many people who are outcast may be going through now or have gone through. I see it as my natural music healing CD."

Isaac's upcoming appearances as DJ and performer at Razzle Dazzle will be a milestone in his musical career. The tour marks both his debut U.S. performance and the launch of his new album. And Isaac is eager to bring his campaign for acceptance stateside and will perform, among other songs, a remixed dance version of his album's title track, a song inspired by events in his life.

"I was going through this whole acceptance of myself phase," Isaac says, describing a time during which he was questioning religion and his sexuality. After a period of rebellion and depression, he found peace of mind in a conversation

with his mother. She told him simply to go out and be who he wanted to be.

"I wrote this song that day, and I released the tears," he says. "I hoped the words I chose to record would affect someone else who was going through the same thing."

One year ago, Isaac performed onstage before an audience of thousands at London's Trafalgar Square during World Pride. "I was fatigued for like two days after," Isaac recalls. "The energy from that audience affected me for days later. I was coming down from pure, high, natural energy. Trafalgar Square so far has been the most amazing live performance I feel that I have ever done."

In contrast, Isaac's first public performance was a bittersweet one at his cousin's funeral. He performed "Goodbye Innocence," a song that he wrote as a celebration of her life. "It made me feel sad in a sense, because she had passed," he recalls, "but in another sense I felt fulfilled because she always knew that [performing] was what I wanted to do. I had just applied for a performing arts school. She was the only one from

my family supporting me going to it. And to be honest, if it wasn't for her death, my music career wouldn't have been born."

Artistically, Isaac credits gay icon Madonna as a major influence. — and not totally for her music skills. "It's more her attitude, her honesty, her willingness to adapt and change and modify her art every year and for every album. She also has given me confidence just to be myself and not give a damn what people think."

Isaac's advice for anyone interested in pursuing a musical career is simple. "All I can say is never give up," he says. "Every time you give up, it allows someone to have your spot."

— Scott Huffman

Hot for Teacher: Josh Zuckerman

Summer is looking very good for singer Josh Zuckerman. He's booked as part of the live music roster for Razzle Dazzle. But his Dallas visit has an added agenda — like Patrick Boyd, he'll make his acting debut in the Dallas-shot indie film *Touch*. This looks to be quite a summer for him.

"It is!" he agrees. "I'm working on my fifth CD and really excited about that. I'll be playing various Prides throughout the summer [including Razzle Dazzle]. I'm going to have a song in one movie and acting in my first movie!" (His song "When We Dance" will be featured in gay director Rob Williams' film *Out To Kill*.)

Originally, the producer of *Touch* planned to use Zuckerman's performance just for concert footage, 'but then she came to me with a 'small but important' role. Now I have to study my lines before I head down."

While the film is new territory for Zuckerman, his music has been delighting fans for years. Sometime in "late June or July," he plans to drop his fifth album.

"I just finished 13 songs, and I feel like it displays a going back to my rock edge," he says. "I went more electric guitar, and I just feel like jamming out is more fun."

That's a far cry from Zuckerman's day-job as a kindergarten teacher, a dichotomy that makes the out musician both forthcoming and enigmatic. Indeed, the subject matter of the expected disc is dark.

"I've been in really unhealthy relationships, and it's about that — becoming a better person from it, but it's also real life stuff," he says. "I'm very spiritual, and my break up five years



A SEASON OF DEBUTS | Ray Isaac, opposite, is making his U.S. debut with his current tour, while Josh Zuckerman, above, will make his debut as an actor while filming a movie during Razzle Dazzle weekend.

ago put me through the ringer. I got into Eckhart Tolle's *The Power of Now*, and [so] I named my album *Background Static of Perpetual Discontent* from a line in the book. That's what the album is about — all this noise that makes you unhappy and getting rid of that excess noise in your life."

Living has informed his lyrics, so has it developed his music.

"I think I'm a better, more mature songwriter. I do like my music. I'm very impressed by the idea of creating and affecting people. This is my platform. You know, I could never be a public speaker, but I can easily play guitar in front of people," Zuckerman says.

That seems ironic, in that both of his careers require him to be in front of people.

"I don't like being watched or observed if I'm speaking," he reiterates. "That just isn't my strong suit. As for teaching, for one thing, it's kindergarten, and I always looked up to teachers, so that particular situation, it's a little more comfortable — and easier for 5-year-olds."

With a new sound on your album, will that affect his live show?

"I love to be a showman, and this album allows me to be much more of one," he says. "I have some cool eclectic stuff now. The whole idea of doing a more theatrical show is so great, and just the idea of coming to Dallas with a full band is exciting. I mean, they had the budget to fly us all in! That's cool."

— Rich Lopez

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Whoop, Whoop, who's gay?

LIFE+STYLE

comedy

Longtime gay ally Whoopi Goldberg, like her comedy hero Moms Mabley, doesn't care what anyone thinks

Never one to give a flying you-know-what, Whoopi Goldberg has made a career out of not caring what people think about her. Ask her about her sexuality — to some, a lingering enigma since the '70s, when Goldberg made lots of lesbians laugh at San Francisco comedy clubs — and she doesn't get all the fuss. Ask her what she thinks about pot ... actually, don't even bother. She just wrote a column about it. Whoopi loves a blunt.

It makes a lot of sense, then, that one of Goldberg's earliest comedy heroes was Jackie "Moms" Mabley, the 20th-century comic trailblazer (and later, a civil rights activist) known for her so-what attitude and edgy humor. The first female comedian featured at the Apollo, Mabley was also lesbian, a topic discussed in *Whoopi Goldberg Presents Moms Mabley*, a Goldberg-funded documentary featuring a roster of comedy big shots: Joan Rivers, Eddie Murphy, Bill Cosby and Kathy Griffin.

During our interview with Whoopi, the Oscar-winner talked about how being a lesbian had no effect on Moms becoming "the funniest woman in the world," the longstanding rumors of Goldberg's own sexuality and her commitment to the fight for gay rights. ■

— Chris Azzopardi



Dallas Voice: How do you think a black lesbian like Moms managed to have such a following in the '20s and '30s, a time when homosexuality would've likely been a career breaker? Whoopi Goldberg: Nobody was thinking about it. If you weren't funny, you didn't work. Your sexuality, who you were — whether you were a man or a woman — didn't matter. Funny trumps everything.

You were an early ally of the LGBT community at a time when identifying as such was a much bigger risk. At that point in time, people would automatically assume an ally was someone who just did not want to come out of the closet. [Laughs]

That's what people thought! It was ridiculous. I was like, "Uh, no." People just didn't understand. You see bad situations or stupid situations, like folks having an issue with who you cared about, who you wanna be with, all that kind of stuff that has nothing to do with the realities of our world. The realities of the world I grew up in was: It was nobody's business. If you're not doing your job, then I'm gonna bitch. But I'm not gonna bitch at anybody 'cause they're gay, or because they weigh a lot more than me. At the time, it just seemed so stupid to me that this was what people's issues were.

As an ally and as someone with a long history in the movement, what's your take on the role you played then and the evolving nature of being identified as an ally? I don't know yet. There was nothing anybody could do to me then, because I felt that these were my friends and my people, and no one had a right to judge them. I don't want people messing with me, so I defend everybody's right to be themselves. That has always been my battle cry. I think now, people get it. They understand it because they're looking at themselves saying, "This is how I am." I know if somebody's messing with me, I don't wanna hear it. I have to stand up. Get off my stage.

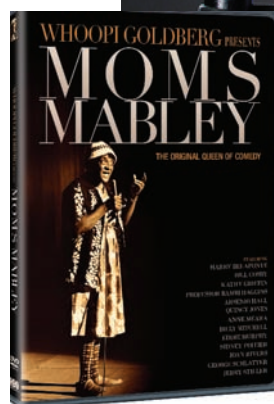
People have long speculated about your sexuality, haven't they? Yeah! And it's like, there are a lot worse things people could have accused me of — things that would really be upsetting! That's not one of them. It never has been. I grew up in the theater. I

grew up in a neighborhood where there was always gay folks. *Always!* So I never understood people's freak out about it. Everybody is so damn paranoid about everything. They're so concerned that [people] are gonna be like, "Oh, somebody's gonna think I'm gay." So what! What happens if they do?

Considering how long people have wondered how you swing, watching *Moms Mabley* made me think: Should a documentary be made about your life one day, how do you want people to characterize your sexual identity? I don't care. Don't care! Because I'll probably be gone by then! With all the amazing people who have come out, if you're still talking about my sexuality — I'm the one you choose — you're not doing your job.

But don't you think celebrities also play a role in the gay rights movement just by being themselves? They do now. But there was a time when people were like, "Oh, no, I'm not gonna say anything. Somebody's gonna think I'm [gay]." It's like, you'd be lucky if somebody thought you were gay! That's my response to everybody. If that's what you're freaking out about, then you're concerned about the wrong thing.

In 2008, you held up a sign that said "For My Friends — Equal Rights" during a Prop 8 protest in New York. In 2010, you joined Cyndi Lauper in the launch of her Give a Damn Campaign to raise awareness of LGBT discrimination. But your gay advocacy dates back even further than that: You pushed an AIDS-stricken man in a wheelchair in the 1987 March on Washington. What motivated you to become an ally? Well, there's all of that, but I've always had gay people in my life. I mean, I grew up in Chelsea, a neighborhood that has all kinds of folks, because nobody had any money. We were all



MAMA SAYS | Goldberg has financed a documentary on classic lesbian comic Moms Mabley.

poor. There were men you'd call "uncle" who never seemed to have girlfriends, and they were your "uncle." Later on you learned what it meant. These guys didn't want to be with these girls. They had their love from their brothers. They wanted their men.

And Moms, despite talking about young men in her act, had a thing for the ladies. Yeah, she worked a great game.

She was all about living life on her own terms.

Moms must remind you of yourself in that sense. It's crazy. She's very much like me. Very much! Like her, I'm always trying to get the gig, and it can be a bit difficult because I'm not conventional. There's many things people can wonder about, but if you don't know by now, it's because you don't wanna know. I say to people, "Well, what do you think I am?" They say, "We think you're gay." I say, "If that's what you wanna think, OK!" I have been gay in films. I've done two: *The Color Purple*, and I always forget what the other one is. People assume they know because they've seen you in a movie or because they've seen you do something or they've heard you say something, and then they make assumptions. Quite honestly, I was glad to be claimed.

We were happy to claim you. Yes! You know, no one was trying to claim me, nobody wanted me. Black folks didn't want me. Nobody wanted me. But I've always been claimed by the gay community. Always.

And maybe that's why people have assumed you're anything but straight. Through the years you've even made some vague remarks regarding your sexuality. For instance, on *The View* in 2009 you told Barbara Walters, when she made a comment about you coming out of the closet, "Please, that door's been open for years." Is your sexuality something you prefer to leave ambiguous? No, I'm pretty clear. You've never seen me with a woman. Pretty much been married to men the whoole time! Not the same, but a few of them. I'm straight, but what does it mean? What does it really mean?

It means you play a lesbian in *Boys on the Side* and people jump to conclusions. Yes, that's the other one! Thank you. I love that movie. I always forget *Boys on the Side* because I did *The Color Purple* and I know people saw that first.

What's gayer: playing an actual lesbian or a singing nun? It's all a challenge because you always have to find out what your sweet spot is in a piece. My sweet spot in *Boys on the Side* was how much I loved Mary-Louise [Parker, who played Robin]. The sweet spot for *Sister Act* was really religion — that everybody can have some relationship to religion, and it doesn't have to be what everybody else thinks that relationship should be.

I love that answer, but I think you misinterpreted my question, but we'll just go with what you think I said. I love you already.

Thea Austin

Lead singer of the group SNAP, "Rhythm Is A Dancer", "I've Got The Power"



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Movie: Touch/A Love Story



Ray Isaac
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A TALE OF TWO PIGGIES | Barter's spare ribs, opposite, were unexpectedly tough, while the shank, above, though tender and generous, was notably undercooked. (Arnold Wayne Jones/DallasVoice)

LIFE+STYLE
dining

Trade-offs

Attractive clientele or great service?
Top-notch cocktails or fine dining?
All is in play at Barter

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

When Barter opened late last fall, a friend managed to walk in during the soft opening; I asked him how the food was. He looked at me with a puzzled look.

"I don't remember," he said, "but there were a lot of hot guys."

There are worse reasons to patronize an establishment in this day and age. Indeed, one of the best reasons to go to a bar is the eye-candy quotient of the clientele. Atmosphere isn't just about decor and theme; people-watching may be America's true national pastime.

Even if Barter — in the space along McKinney next to Del Frisco's Grille, previously occupied by Private | Social — didn't have great-looking men-folk lingering around, the signature cocktails could bring me back to its bar. The drinks are reasonably priced (\$10 to \$12 range mostly), with deft takes on classic concoctions. The rusty screw (an adaptation of the traditional rusty nail) gives whiskey a polish while still engaging you with its heat, while a peach-flavored martini proved good enough to make me want to root for Georgia Tech. Yes, if you're just going to Barter for the booze, you could do a lot worse.

But if you're going to Barter for the food, you could do a lot better. When it comes to food, we tend to be pickier than we are with our drinks, and the cutest waiter isn't gonna make an overdone steak taste any better. There's a reason why the proof of the pudding is in the eating — looking at it is meaningless if the taste is left wanting.

That was the exact situation with the spare-rib appetizer on one recent trip to Barter. The serving of six ribs (\$12) arrived cross-hatched and stacked like a log cabin, and despite the superfluous afterthought of a dusting of chives, they invited our eyes. But for the circuit to be closed, the food had to make sparks on the tongue. My dining companion was frothing at the mouth in anticipating of savoring these thick cut, generously glazed

crescents of succulent pork. And ... and... *Huh.*

The overused methodology about evaluating ribs is that the best are "fall-off-the-bone" tender. It's a trite-and-true cliché — no less accurate despite its gimmickiness. The meat here not only didn't fall off, it seemed to be clinging on for dear life. I've seen drowning victims grip life preservers with less determination than the meat steadfastly remained bound to the bone. When I was finally able to gnaw loose random strips of flesh, the flavors were adequate (if a little on the sweet side), but that may have been due in part to the hunger I'd amassed struggling to rend it free.

Not an auspicious start, but there's always room for improvement. The next course could definitely still turn the tide.

And perhaps if the next course had arrived in oh, say, 10 or even 15 minutes, a more direct comparison would have been possible. But no — I glanced over my shoulder for nearly a count of 20, which seemed extraordinarily long considering the paucity of a crowd. That did give me a chance to look beyond the patrons and eyeball the décor, which has been modified but not wholesale-abandoned since the Private | Social days. The bar, still a focal point, has been given a slightly cluttered, rustic makeover, overflowing with tchotchkes and a cozy warmth. The dining room is earthier than the elegant style of P | S — friendly and unfussy without being unduly casual. I could see joining pals after work for a beverage and a bite.

But probably not a full meal. One of our entrees, a very reasonably-priced crab fajita plate (\$16 at lunch, \$18 at dinner), arrived as a whole soft-shell crab spread-eagled across a cast iron skillet, a confetti of onions adorning it like petals thrown down the bridal aisle by a flower girl. A side of tortillas, salsas and cojita cheese was provided, but proved largely superfluous. The crab was easy to enjoy as-is, flecked as it was with a sprightly chile salsa. Still, it wasn't all that filling. (Maybe empty carbs was the true



purpose of the tortillas.)

The pork shank (\$16/\$18) made up for the paucity of crab in terms of sheer mass. The meat seemed less placed on the plate a part of it, like the Rock of Gibraltar emerging from the sea. I've seen whole chicken roasters with less meat on them. Initially, it won me over. The glaze was gooey, the pork itself a level above the ribs, and the medley of meat with large-kernel hominy-corn side danced like a Viennese waltz. Then further along, my knife peeled back the meat from the bone, where I was confronted with ... blood.

Not an arterial gusher, perhaps, but liquid redness nonetheless, and if there's anything you don't wanna see at a restaurant, it's hemoglobin gurgling near the bone in chicken or pork. Underdone-ness of those proteins can spell trouble in the courtroom as much as the kitchen, and the preparation failed to instill confidence in the rest of the meal. That meant starting over with another visit — fresh eyes and fresh palate.

There *was* improvement. The twin pasta (\$16/\$18) — so named for its gemilli corkscrews — was another hearty portion (you'll never walk away from the table hungry here). Tossed with an oily herb butter and an assortment of hen of the woods mushrooms as well as shavings of black truffle, it sang a peasant, woodsy tone. Atop, knobs of skin-on chicken leg, reminiscent of a duck confit, added volume to the protein. A flavorless crumble of ricotta could be overlooked with the addition of crunchy housemade pancetta. Overall, though, it was too heavy.

It didn't help that the pasta arrived too quickly on the heels of the tomato basil soup starter (\$3 cup/\$6 bowl). Less creamy than the progenitor of the recipe (La Madeleine), its terra

cotta color and dollop of basil made for a chewy and herbaceous app for one of our recent rainy May meals, but I can't imagine it staying a popular choice during Dallas summers.

I sense that the proprietors at Barter are aware of their market appeal as a tavern with food more than a restaurant with drinks. The first three letters of the name (highlighted with incandescent bulbs in the dining room) suggest the BAR is where the business is; indeed, the menu has two pages of drinks and only one of food.

Still, I haven't given up on it quite yet. I haven't tried the by-the-ounce steaks (a regal concept) and despite being enticed by desserts, those have flown under my radar so far, though Patron XO in a pecan pie sounds like an awesome idea. Indeed, despite a comparatively limited menu, the selection suggests real thought, and prices are moderate, even at dinner. There's more exploring to be done, and it might be possible there is a magic combination of drinks and small plates that will strike the perfect balance of acceptable food and delightful cocktails. Life is full of such trade-offs, especially if you're called Barter. ■

OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

Barter, 3232 McKinney Ave. Open daily for lunch and dinner. 214-969-6898. BarterUptown.com.

An inviting atmosphere and great cocktails make Barter a welcome tavern, but despite some promising menu items, the food has been hit-and-miss.

- Food: ★★★★★
- Atmosphere: ★★★★★
- Service: ★★★★★
- Price: Moderate

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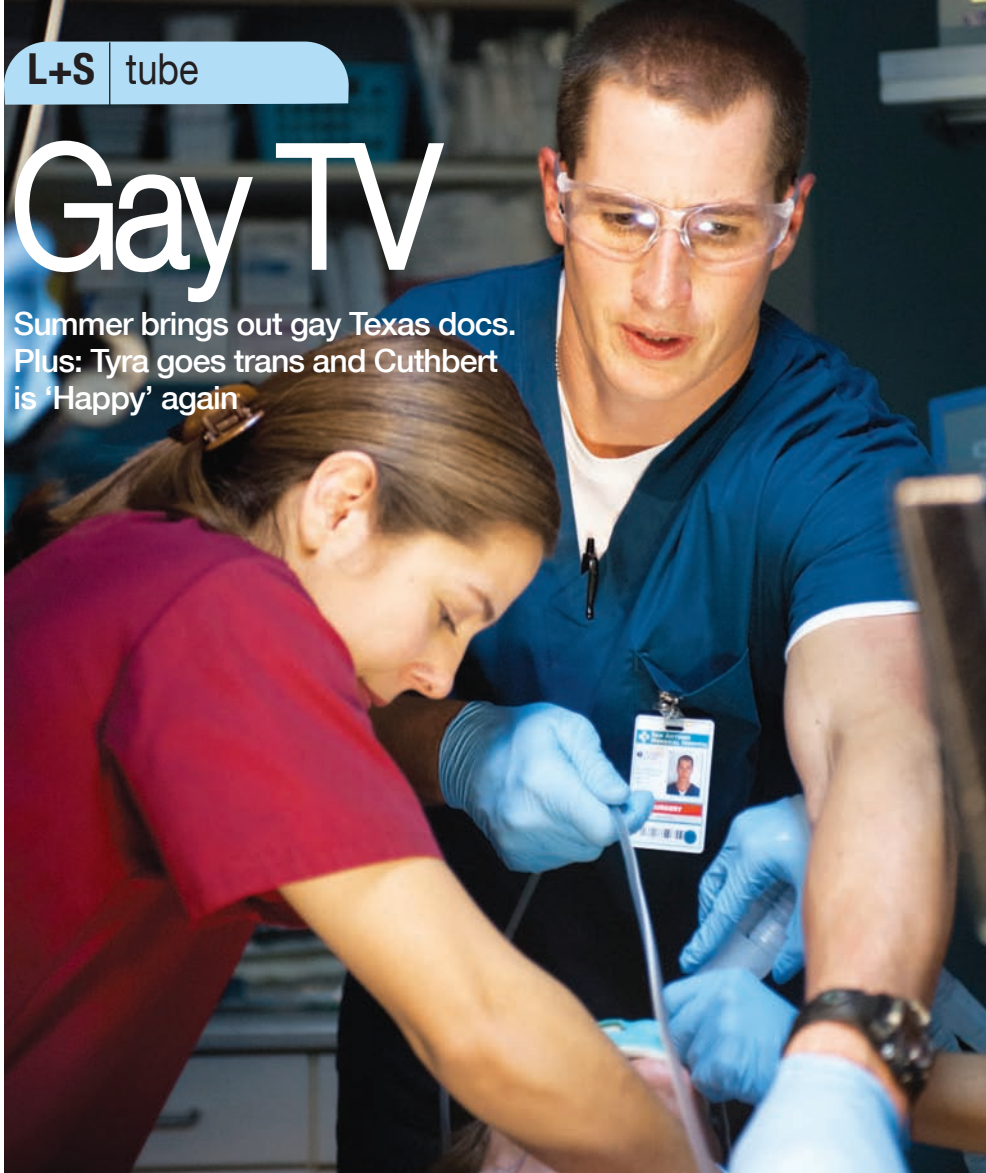
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OUTNTX.COM

Gay TV

Summer brings out gay Texas docs. Plus: Tyra goes trans and Cuthbert is 'Happy' again



A new doctor show has come to television. Yes, yes, we know, there's *always* a new doctor show coming to television. But *The Night Shift*, which premiered early this week on NBC, has a new wrinkle in its ongoing story line: a closeted doctor. The series revolves around a San Antonio hospital and its night staff, which includes Brendan Fehr (former '90s teen heartthrob from the show *Roswell* ... remember?) as a young veteran of the war in Afghanistan, now a doctor with a big gay secret. Meanwhile, his character's boyfriend is still on active duty in Afghanistan but coming home to stay, which will put a dent in that closet door. Luke MacFarlane, the openly gay star of *Brothers & Sisters*, plays that handsome soldier. If this narrative seems a touch dated now that don't ask, don't tell has ended and marriage equality is quickly coming, so be it. Some guys still aren't comfortable in their sexuality. And we trust TV to make us care about hot dudes no matter what sort of contrived problems and angst they deal with. We'll watch!

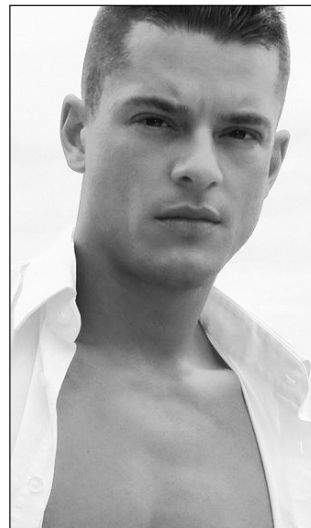
We're entering a significant moment in the push forward for awareness and equal rights for the T members of the LGBT community. A new wave of transgender awareness, activism and media presence is opening eyes and minds every day. And now Tyra Banks will lend her name and media clout to a docuseries about trans women. Alongside producing partner Gay Rosenthal, Banks will bring *TransAmerica* (the current working title) to VH1. The eight-part re-

ality series will follow the lives of a group of women in Chicago united by the experience of being transgender. A graduate student, a cosmetics consultant, a medical student, a club kid and a model (look, it's still Tyra's show) will open up their lives to the cameras to look at the variety of directions life takes the cast as they transition and beyond. The show is scheduled to air in late 2014/early 2015. And will the trans man show be far behind?

When the criminally underrated and underwatched *Happy Endings* was cancelled last year, we wept and we cursed. We hoped we'd see the hilarious cast again soon, somewhere just as good (OK, almost just as good, whatever). Well, co-star Elisha Cuthbert has landed herself a job at Power Lesbian, Inc., starring on the new NBC series *One Big Happy*. Created by *2 Broke Girls* writer Liz Feldman with Ellen DeGeneres executive producing, the premise involves a lesbian (Cuthbert) planning to have a baby with a straight male friend (Nick Zano). Relationship complications ensue, both the hetero and homo varieties. It's the third LGBT-themed sitcom NBC has offered audiences (*Sean Saves The World* and *The New Normal* came first), which means they're committed to making at least one of them stick. Third times a charm and all that ... and the second show for Cuthbert with the word "happy" in the title. That has to be a good sign, right? Either way, we're rooting for this one. ■

— Romeo San Vicente

TURN YOUR HEAD AND COUGH | Brendan Fehr plays a closeted gay doc in San Antonio in the new summer replacement series 'The Night Shift,' which just began airing on NBC.



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Friday 05.30

Uptown Players adds world premiere play 'Art and Science' to lineup

Uptown Players' original season announcement didn't include Art and Science, but when they got a chance to present the world premiere of this piece by gay former Dallasite James Wesley, they jumped at it. The story is about two men who seek to close old wounds once the older one suffers a stroke. It will be performed in the Kalita's upstairs space, Frank's Place, for three weekends.

DEETS: Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. May 30–June 15. UptownPlayers.org.



Friday 05.30

Texas Theatre gets the jump on Gay Pride Month with queer film series

The Oak Cliff stage at the Kessler is still moist from John Waters' footprints, and already, he's back again — sort of. Texas Theatre is kicking off Gay Pride Month a tad early, with a weekly film series of gay-themed movies presented by CineWilde. And what better way to start things than with Waters' 1988 original comedy *Hairspray* (which includes an after-party and costume contest.) The film screens Friday, but subsequent entries — among them the HBO documentary *The Case Against 8* and the Queers for Fears festival of gay horror films — will hop around the schedule, so check it out soon so you don't miss your favorites.

DEETS: Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson St. 8 p.m. (pre-show talk), 9 p.m. (screening). TheTexasTheatre.com.

Sunday 06.01

Dish kicks off June Pride with Drag Brunch

If you were debating how you could celebrate National Gay Pride Month as soon as possible, wait no further than June 1 — as with most First Sundays, that's when Drag Brunch comes to Dish. Hostess Jenni P will throw some shade while you feast on mimosas, eggs benedict, skillet entrees and assorted pasties ... we mean *pastries!* Can't imagine how we confused the two.

DEETS: Dish, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. seatings available. Dish-Dallas.com.

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calendar highlights



SCOUNDREL OR SAINT? | MBS Productions revives this 2009 play about the complicated bisexual ruler (made pope at age 18) 'John XII.' (Photo courtesy Keith Hoffmaster)

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Art and Science. A "bonus" show from Uptown Players (not on their original season announcement) is this premiere by former Dallasite James Wesley, about a two struggling to resolve old conflicts once the older one suffers a stroke. Performed in the upstairs space Frank's Place. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. May 30–June 15. UptownPlayers.org.

Barbecue Apocalypse. A world premiere comedy from Matt Lyle, part of Kitchen Dog Theater's New Works Festival. *Reviewed this week.* The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through June 21. For a complete schedule of shows, visit KitchenDogTheater.org.

Booth. A world premiere from Steven Walters about the motivations behind the assassination of Lincoln. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphrey campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through June 14. 2TT.co.

John XII. Mark-Brian Sonna's racy 2009 play about the notorious pope. Stone Cottage Theatre at the Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through June 29. MBSProductions.net.

Shear Madness. Comic mystery in T3's downstairs space. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. (in the Quadrangle). Through July 20. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Xanadu. The campy musical set in the 1970s and with a disco score. And, like the Broadway production, they even offer onstage seating. Onstage in Bedford, 2821 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. Through June 15. OnstageInBedford.com.

this week's solution

S	T	R	I	P		B	E	R	T		B	A	B	A	R				
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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.

FINE ARTS

Carmen Menza: Equal. The local artist opens her new show of neon, fine art and sculpture as a benefit for the Human Rights Campaign. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, suite 107. Through June 14. ilumegallerie.com.

FRIDAY 05.30

COMMUNITY

Women Celebrating Women May Mixer. Happy hour sponsored by the DFW Federal Club. Grapevine Bar, 3902 Maple Ave. 6:30–8:30 p.m. GrapevineBar.com.

FUNDRAISER

The Red Rose Ball. A dragtastic entertainment and benefit for Home for the Holidays, featuring host Michael Castlow and Wayne Smith as Cher. Club Cherries, 2506 Knight St. Buffet starts at 7 p.m., performances at 10 p.m. No cover, but donations are encouraged.

SATURDAY 05.31

SPORTS

FrontRunners. Gay jogging group meets at 8:30 a.m. at the statue in Lee Park for a run along the Katy Trail

SUNDAY 06.01

DINING

Drag Brunch at Dish. It's the first Sunday of the month!

Time for Dish's monthly drag brunch, this time featuring hostess Jenni P. Seating available for 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. seatings. Dish, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, suite 110. Dish-Dallas.com.

WORSHIP

Dignity (LGBT Catholics). Worship the first Sunday of each month, led by ministers Cliff and Jon Garinn. Interfaith Peace Chapel (lower level), 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. Weekly Dallas radio broadcast dealing with LGBT issues. 89.3 KNON-FM at 1 p.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

PERFORMANCE

Big D Talent Show Preliminary 4. Last preliminary leading up to the finals on Thursday. Woody's Sports & Video Bar, 4011 Cedar Springs Road. 8–9:30 p.m. RazzleDazzleDallas.net.

TUESDAY 06.03

FILM

Jaws. Little known fact: The world premiere screening of Jaws, several months before its release, took place in Dallas. And ever since, nothing has been the same. See the movie that launched the summer blockbuster — and it still holds up. The Magnolia Theater continues its Tuesday Big Movie (sponsored by Dallas Voice) with

classic. Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village. 7:30 and 10 p.m.

THEATER

Mamma Mia. Dallas Summer Musicals brings back this abundantly queer hit, featuring the songs of ABBA. Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. June 3–15. DallasSummerMusicals.org.



DANCING QUEENS | The long-running Broadway hit 'Mamma Mia,' featuring the songs of ABBA, returns to Fair Park Music Hall for a two-week engagement.

THURSDAY 06.05

PERFORMANCE

Big D Talent Show Finals. Two finalists from each of the preliminary rounds with all kinds of talents will compete in this run-up to Razzle Dazzle weekend. The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave., suite 124. 9–10:30 p.m. RazzleDazzleDallas.net.



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AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK — 501 N. Stemmons, #200; Dallas 75207; 214-943-4444 (Programs); 214-941-7696 (Administration); aidsinterfaithnetwork.org.

AIDS OUTREACH CENTER — 400 N. Beach St.; Fort Worth, 76111; 817-335-1994; aoc.org

AIDS PREVENTION PROJECT — 400 S. Zang Blvd., Dallas 75208; 214-645-7300; 214-645-7301.

***AIDS SERVICES OF DALLAS** — 400 S Zang Blvd, Dallas 75208; 214-941-0523; aidsdallas.org.

AIDS SERVICES OF NORTH TEXAS — 4210 Mesa, Denton 76207; 940-381-1501; 2540 Ave. K, Suite 500, Plano 75074 972-424-1480; 3506 Texas, Greenville 75401; 903-450-4018; 102 S. First, Rockwall 75087; 800-974-2437; aidsntx.org.

EXHALE SERVICES — 405 S. Elm, Denton 75201; 940-484-2516.

GREG DOLLGEMER MEMORIAL AIDS FUND, INC. — P.O. Box 29091, Dallas 75229; 972-423-9093; gdmf.org.

***LEGACY COUNSELING CENTER & LEGACY FOUNDERS COTTAGE** — 4054 McKinney, #102, Dallas 75204; 214-520-6308; legacycares.org.

***LEGAL HOSPICE OF TEXAS** — 1825 Market Center Blvd. #550; Dallas 75207; 214-521-6622; legalhospice.org.

***NELSON-TEBEDO HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER** — 4012 Cedar Springs, Dallas 75219; 214-528-2336; rcdallas.org.

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS HIV PLANNING COUNCIL — 1101 S. Main, #2500, Fort Worth 76104 817-321-4743 (Office); 817-321-4741 (Fax); notexasaids.org.

POSITIVE VOICES COALITION — 8099 Pennsylvania Ave., Ft. Worth; 817-321-4742; notexasaids.org.

PROJECT ESPERANZA — 5415 Maple, #422, Dallas 75235; 214-630-0114.

***RESOURCE CENTER** — 2701 Reagan, P.O. Box 190869, Dallas 75219; 214-521-5124; resourcecenter-dallas.org.

***RESOURCE CENTER FOOD PANTRY** — 5450 Denton Drive Cut Off, Dallas 75235; 214-521-3390.

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE AIDS FUND — P.O. Box 190409, Dallas 75219; 214-394-9064; tccaidsfund.org.

WHITE ROCK FRIENDS MINISTRY — 9353 Garland Rd., Dallas 75218; 214-320-0043; whiterockchurch.org.

EDUCATION

ALLIES — 3140 Dyer #313, Dallas 75205; 214-768-4796.

***DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY** — 1515 Young, Dallas 75201; 214-670-1400; dallaslibrary2.org.

HOMAGE AT UTA — 817-272-3986; tmrshall@uta.edu.

OUT @ COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE — 214-991-7851; out.collin.edu.

SPECTRUM — 3140 Dyer Suite 313; Dallas 75275; 214-768-4792; people.smu.edu/spectrum.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS ALLY PROGRAM — 940-565-2000; ally@unt.edu; ally.unt.edu.

MEDIA

***DALLAS VOICE** — 4145 Travis, 3rd Floor; Dallas 75204; 214-754-8710; dallasvoice.com.

OUT NORTH TEXAS — 4145 Travis, 3rd Floor, Dallas 75204; 214-754-8710; outnbc.com.

GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION — 800-GAY-MEDIA; glaad@glaad.org; GLAAD.org.

LAMBDA WEEKLY — GLBT talk-radio show; KNON 89.3FM; P.O. Box 71909; Dallas 75371; lambdaweeekly@aol.com; www.lambdaweeekly.com.

PRIDE RADIO — 14001 N. Dallas Parkway, #300; Dallas 75240; 214-866-8000; prideradiofdw.com/main.html.

MUSIC

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OAK LAWN SYMPHONIC BAND — 2701 Regan Street, Dallas 75219; 214-621-8998; info@oaklawnband.org; oaklawnband.org.

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE — P.O. Box 190137, Dallas 75219; 214-526-3214 (x101); turtlecreek.org.

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

POLITICAL

DALLAS STONEWALL YOUNG DEMOCRATS — 4145 Travis St., #204; DallasSYD.org.

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LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF DALLAS — Tom Purdy; LogCabin.org/Chapter/Texas-Dallas; Facebook: Log Cabin Republicans of Dallas.

METROPLEX REPUBLICANS — MetroplexRepublicans.com.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DALLAS — P.O. Box 192305, Dallas 75219; 214-506-DEMS(3367); stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DENTON COUNTY — P.O. Box 3086; Denton, 76202; 972-890-3834; info@stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org; stonewalldemocratsofdentoncounty.org.

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DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN BAR ASSOCIATION — 214-540-4460; adamsede@aol.com; dgliba.org.

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LEADERSHIP LAMBDA TOASTMASTERS — info@leadershiplambda.free; toasthost.com; leadershiplambda.toastmastersclubs.org.

LGBT LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS — lgbtlawtx.com; 800-204-2222 (x1420).

NORTH TEXAS GLBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE — 3824 Cedar Springs Rd., #101-429 Dallas, 75219; 214-821-GLBT; http://glbtchamber.org.

OUT & EQUAL DFW — outandequal.org/dallas-fort-worthDFW@outandequal.org.

TI PRIDE NETWORK — 12500 TI Blvd., MS 8683; Dallas, 75243; 214-480-2800; tipridenetwork-officers@list.ti.com.

SERVICES

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COLLIN COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE — P.O. Box 860030; Plano, TX 75086-0030; 214-521-5342 (x1715); info@ccgla.org; ccgla.org.

DALLAS SOUTHERN PRIDE — 3100 Main, Suite 208; Dallas 75226; 214-734-8007; dallassouthernpride.com.

DALLAS/FORT WORTH FEDERAL CLUB — P.O. Box 191153; Dallas 75219; 214-428-3332; dfwfederalclub.org.

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

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

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

GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD — 214-528-0022; rcdallas.org.

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

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

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

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

GROUP SOCIAL LATINO — 2701 Reagan St., Dallas 75219; 214-540-4446.

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

KHUSH TEXAS — http://groups.yahoo.com/group/khushstexas.

LATE BLOOMERS — La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon Ave.; Dallas 75219; 903-887-7371.

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

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

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER — P.O. Box 190611, Dallas 75219; 214-521-4765.

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

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

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

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

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

POZ DALLAS — pozdallas@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS DALLAS/FORT WORTH — groups.yahoo.com/group/sindallasftworth; dalmsu@yahoo.com.

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

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION — dallasfamily.org.

SPIRITUALITY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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HARVEST MCC — 725 North Elm St., Suite 18, Denton TX 76201; 940-484-6159 (Phone); 40-484-6159 (Fax); harvest@harvestmcc.org; harvestmcc.org.

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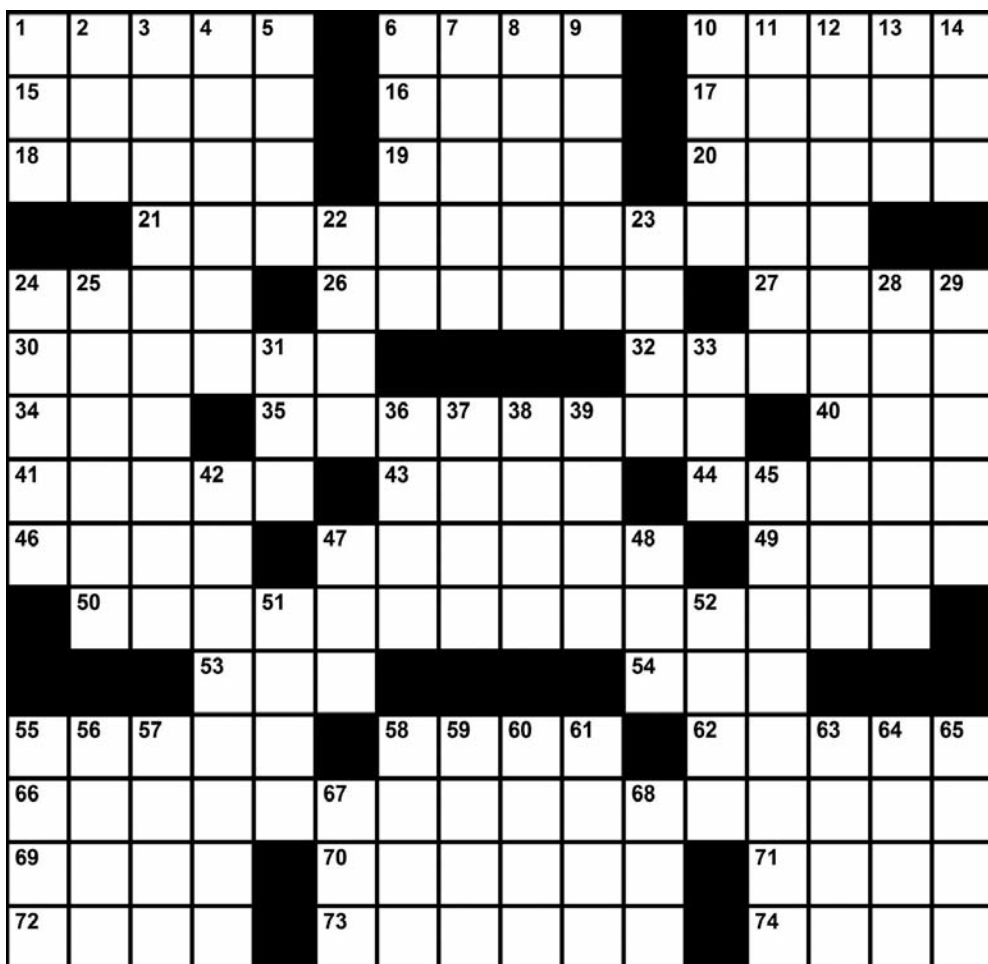
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Feat of Clay

Solution on page 53

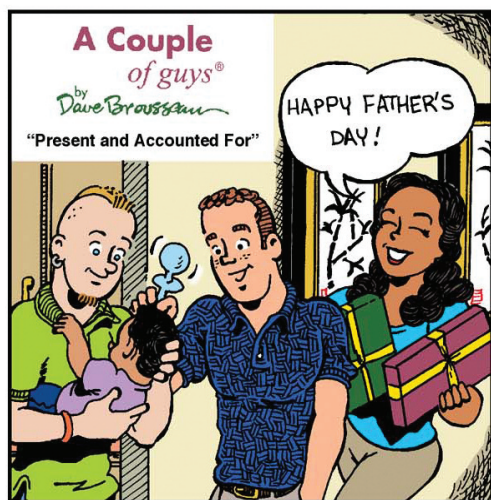
Across

- 1 "Take it off!"
- 6 Lahr of *The Wizard of Oz*
- 10 Kid-lit elephant
- 15 ___ donna
- 16 Saudi or Iraqi
- 17 Speed skater Ohno
- 18 Glenn Close's ___ *Attraction*
- 19 Lorca's "but"
- 20 Andrew ___ Webber
- 21 Competition in which Clay Aiken sang
- 24 Unconsciousness
- 26 Ticked pink
- 27 LeBlanc of *Friends*
- 30 Girl in a Beach Boys song
- 32 Chatter, in Brit slang
- 34 Cry in a stuffy room
- 35 Start of Clay's comment on being in 21-Across
- 40 Rough stuff for miners
- 41 Shakespearean sonnets and such
- 43 What guns shoot off
- 44 *Return of the Jedi* creatures
- 46 Right in the head
- 47 Guy with a "third leg"
- 49 Stein fillers
- 50 More of the comment
- 53 Mission ending

- 54 Club for swingers
- 55 Hollow stone
- 58 Whale's *The Man in the Iron ___*
- 62 Rev devices
- 66 End of the comment
- 69 Mel's role with Jodie in *Maverick*
- 70 She sprang from the head of Zeus
- 71 Wilde country
- 72 Adam, created by a woman named George
- 73 It may vibrate when someone wants you to come
- 74 Fop prop

Down

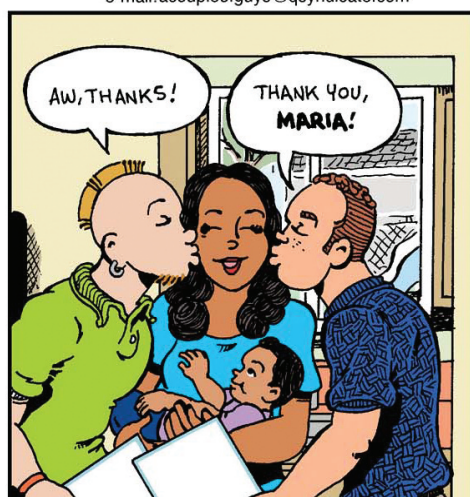
- 1 Lotion letters at South Beach
- 2 Sung syllable
- 3 *West Side Story* Oscar winner
- 4 Spencer Davis Group hit about Chaz?
- 5 Turn white
- 6 Spaghetti sauce ingredient
- 7 Lucci's Kane in *All My Children*
- 8 Tried to tackle tight ends, e.g.
- 9 Butcher's cut
- 10 Like Yul in *The King and I*
- 11 Grace under fire
- 12 Yalie's cheer
- 13 Hayworth's Khan
- 14 Fisherman's tool
- 22 Get juice from a fruit
- 23 Pastoral poem
- 24 Casino dice game
- 25 Drew Carey, e.g.
- 28 Studs of note
- 29 Strand in a drag queen's wig
- 31 Kit letters
- 33 Always, to Shakespeare
- 36 Uncommon, to Nero
- 37 Do a nocturnal activity
- 38 REM gear
- 39 Cloverleaf part
- 42 Plan to become wife and wife, e.g.
- 45 "Keep your pants on!"
- 47 Your, among Friends
- 48 Young lady coming out
- 51 Very, in Vichy
- 52 Cable syst.
- 55 Bee Gees family name
- 56 To be, in Toulon
- 57 Got a little behind
- 58 Not using the tongue
- 59 Queens tennis stadium
- 60 From A to B, to Debussy
- 61 Lucci in *All My Children*
- 63 "Pet" plant
- 64 One to blow on
- 65 Popeye's ___' Pea
- 67 A left or a right
- 68 Road topper



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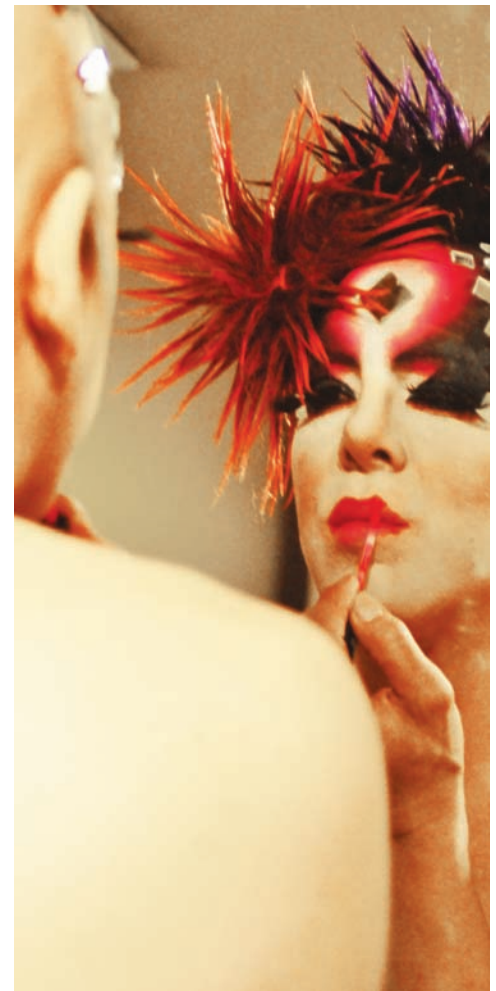
Denton on The Strip.



Eduardo at Medusa.



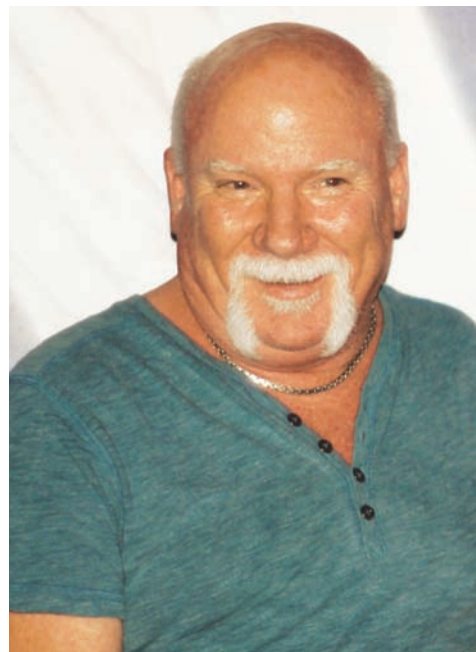
Eddie and Izzy at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Getting ready for a show.



Mark at Zippers.



David at Pub Pegasus.

Making the **SCENE** the week of **May 30–June 5:**

Razzle Dazzle Dallas begins Wednesday on **Cedar Springs Road** with a **Wine Walk**.

Alexandre's: **Carlos Saenz** on Friday. **Mi Diva Loca** on Saturday. **So Strung Out with Specer West** on Thursday.

Changes: **Wall of Food Show** on Wednesday at 8 p.m.

Club Reflection: **Cowtown Leathermen** cookout on Sunday at 4 p.m. **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** presents **Mr., Miss, Mstr., Ms. Cowtown Pageant** on Sunday at 6 p.m.

Dallas Eagle: **DJ Perry** on Friday. **DJ Paul Kraft** on Saturday. **National Leather Association** advanced workshop on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. and **Beyond Vanilla Launch Party** on Saturday at 7 p.m. **Girls of Dallas Leather** monthly meeting on Sunday at 5 p.m.

Garlow's: **Country Night** featuring **Rusty Winters, Jim Gribben** and others on Saturday at 9 p.m. benefits **Celebration on the Lake Church**.

JR.'s Bar & Grill: **Netchix** on Monday and **JR.'s Potluck** on Tuesday.

Pekers: **Robert M** hosts **Totally Twisted Karaoke** on Friday.

Rainbow Lounge: **Cher-o-oke** with **Wayne Smith as Cher** on Monday at 9:30 p.m.

Round-Up Saloon: **Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association** presents **Miss PSSA 2014** on Sunday at 8 p.m.

Sue Ellen's: 25th anniversary on Friday. **Backhand Sally** on Saturday.

The Brick: **Razzle Dazzle Dallas' Big D Talent Contest** finals on Thursday at 9 p.m. Pop dance party with **DJ Ray Isaac** on Thursday after the contest.

Woody's Sports & Video Bar: **Big D Talent Contest** preliminary on Sunday at 8 p.m.

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



Ben, Josh and Paul at Tin Room.



Jacque, Vicki and Olivia at the Brick.



Just two of the glamorous people at Medusa.



Alois and Jeff at Sue Ellen's.



Beverly, Jose and Paige at Alexandre's.



Spectrum Motorcycle Club at Sue Ellen's.



Cara and Alysse at Sue Ellen's.



Ernest and Whitney at S4.



Bryan, Randy and Jason at Woody's.



Lonzie and Michael at Tin Room.



Derek, Lena and Zach at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



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Pegasus Squares, an LGBT North Dallas Square Dance Club, meets the first and third Sundays of each month, 3pm-5pm at the Resource Center. Lessons beginning March 9th. Contact Rob Miller at 214-320-9598 for more information.

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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:
 •St. Thomas Episcopal Church
 6525 Inwood Road (Inwood at Mockingbird)
 Dallas, Texas 75209
 •LAMBDA GROUP
 6:30 PM, Friday; 1 hour
 OAK LAWN CoDA GROUP
 7:30 PM, Wed; 1 1/2 hours
 Meeting Type:
 Open, Sharing, Steps, Welcoming to all, Safe for GLBT

Join us for Catholic Mass for the LGBT community First Sunday of each Month Dignity Dallas Mass held at CATHEDRAL OF HOPE Interfaith Peace Chapel, Lower Level
 dignitydallas@hotmail.com
 972-729-9572
 www.dignitydallas.net

Let's Talk
 Join the Dallas County District Attorney's Office as we host a Town Hall meeting to discuss our newly implemented LGBT Task Force.
 Where: Resource Center
 2701 Reagan St. Dallas, TX 75219
 When: Mon, June 30th, 5:30-7:00pm Watch online:
 live.dallasda.com



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