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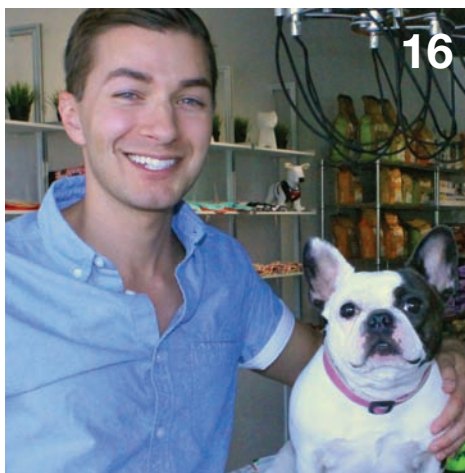
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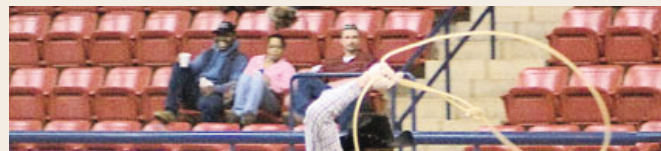
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Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Some things never change.

— James Russell

Florida's marriage ban overturned

A Monroe County circuit judge overturned Florida's marriage ban and gave the county clerk's office until Tuesday to begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

Monroe County covers the Florida Keys. The lawsuit was brought by two Key West bartenders and other couples seeking to marry, according to the Miami Herald.

Steve Rothaus, who covers the LGBT beat for the Miami Herald, reported it's unclear whether the state will appeal or seek an

Rodeo coming back to Cowtown

Polish up your cowboy boots and get those Wranglers starched: The International Gay Rodeo Association is once again bringing its Finals Rodeo to Fort Worth, Oct. 16-19 in the John Justin Arena, 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. in Fort Worth's Cultural District. Bud Light is once again the signature sponsor for the rodeo.

The four-day event will also include food and merchandise booths and entertainment. Competition in the 13 events will take place Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 18-19. Doors open each day at 9 a.m. Admission is \$15 a day or \$20 for a weekend pass. Proceeds will benefit IGRA's two charities for 2014: the National LGBT Cancer Network and the Gay and Lesbian Rodeo Heritage Foundation

— Tammye Nash

New Fort Worth Councilwoman Ann Zadeh sworn in

Ann Zadeh was sworn in as Fort Worth's new councilwoman for District 9 at Tuesday night's council meeting. After winning a special election in June to replace former councilman Joel Burns, Zadeh told the Star-Telegram she's ready to "go back through this thick notebook I have been compiling from neighborhoods to make sure nothing falls through the cracks."

In her first speech, she didn't go without acknowledging her supporters, thanking the "dynamic citizens who were never lacking in enthusiasm."

Nor did she hesitate to be ambitious. "I want to lay out my vision for the district," but that would take two hours, she said with a laugh. She also didn't forget a shout out to her influential predecessor, either.

"I have big shoes to fill," she said with a pause. "Literally, Joel's feet are big."

Burns, who announced his resignation in February, must've heard her. After the former chairwoman of the Fort Worth Zoning Commission thanked her supporters and took her seat, Burns joined the meeting via Skype to say hello ... from

injunction.

Marriage is currently legal in 19 states, several counties in Colorado and in the District of Columbia. In addition, a number of people have married in states such as Wisconsin, Indiana and Utah during a short window between a court ruling and a stay on the ruling.

— David Taffet

POZ Magazine founder to speak in Arlington

Sean Strub — founder and advisory editor of POZ Magazine, executive director of the Sero Project and author of *Body Counts: A Memoir of Politics, Sex, AIDS and Survival* — will speak Aug. 21 in the Rooftop Gallery at Arlington Museum of Art, 201 W. Main St. in Arlington, at an event benefiting AIDS Outreach Center.

The event is presented by Friends of AOC. A \$75 donation to AOC is requested of those attending, and tickets are available at AOC.org.

— Tammye Nash

Uptown Players adds Dan Savage to Pride Fest

Uptown Players has added queer advice/sex columnist Dan Savage's one-man show *Savage Love Live* to the lineup of its fourth annual Pride Performing Arts Festival, which runs in September. In addition to his column and books, Savage is best known as co-founder of the It Gets Better Project.

UP had already announced several of the shows, but today came out with the full schedule, which adds Savage and Steven Jay Crabtree's *Dysfunctional Divas*.

Opening the festival on the Kalita Humphreys mainstage will be the concert version of *The Last Session*, a revival of a show first produced in UP's inaugural season. It will kick off the fest Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. *Savage Love Live* will bring up the rear, closing the festival on Sept. 20 at 8 p.m.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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SPCA offers free spay, neuter surgeries

SPCA of Texas is offering free spay and neuter surgeries for all Dallas County pets at their Dallas and McKinney clinics through Sept. 30.

Thanks to a generous grant from PetSmart Charities, Fix 'Em Dallas County reduces the number of unwanted in city shelters by providing this free service to owners who could otherwise not afford them.

To make an appointment, Dallas County residents should call 214-742-SPCA (7722).

United Black Ellument anniversary events

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, United Black Ellument has scheduled a weekend of events beginning with open mic night at TMC: The Mining Company on Cedar Springs Road, 7-10 p.m. on July 18.

On July 19, U-BE gathers at Exall Park, 1355 Adair St. at Live Oak Street for Field Day at the Park, an afternoon and evening of live music, free food and games that include an old-fashioned potato sack race.

Sunday brunch begins at 3 p.m. on July 20 at the U-BE drop-in center, 3116 Commerce St., Suite C.

All events are free. For more information, visit UBEDallas.org.

Out & Equal DFW holds regional meeting

Out & Equal DFW will hold its regional council meeting July 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. The agenda includes discussion of the organization's upcoming scholarship fundraiser, the fall Pride parade, the annual Workplace Summit and more.

Leo Party, Miss Leo benefit AIN

The AIDS Interfaith Network's 27th annual Leo Party and Miss Leo Contest will be held Aug. 2 at 8 p.m. at the Hidden Door, 5025 Bowser Ave. The theme this year is "Disco, Divas and Oldies."

The annual fundraiser benefits AIDS Interfaith Network's Daire Center and meals program. Call 214-943-4444 for reservations and more information.

'Heat of the Night' raises money for LHT

Heat of the Night, the annual fundraiser for Legal Hospice of Texas features a casino theme with a silent auction and raffle. The event is July 26, 6:30-10 p.m., at the new University of North Texas-Dallas College of Law, 1901 Main St. Advance tickets are \$50, available online at LegalHospice.org. Tickets at the door are \$65. ■

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‘We have children who need our help now’

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins says the influx of children from Central America is a humanitarian crisis

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

“We have children who need our help now,” County Judge Clay Jenkins told Stonewall Democrats of Dallas this week, speaking at the group’s monthly meeting about the throngs of children coming into the U.S. from Central America.

About 52,000 children have crossed the border into the U.S. in the last eight months. That number is expected to increase to about 60,000 by the end of the fiscal year in September. Last year, the number was under 25,000.

Rising violence, mostly among drug gangs who are kidnapping these children and threatening to kill entire families, encourages parents to send their children out of their native Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.

Jenkins called the children coming across the border “refugees by any definition of the word.” But, he added, they are refugees that belong to a class the United Nations doesn’t recognize — children.

“If they were Kurds, or any other group, they’d be given asylum,” he said.

Jenkins said the most stunning fact is that Nicaragua is poorer than Honduras, Guatemala or El Salvador and yet has received more than 700 asylum requests from children. He said it is unprecedented that refugees would flood into Nicaragua from its more wealthy neighbors.

“This is not about comprehensive immigration reform,” Jenkins said. “It’s about giving relief to children.”

A few weeks ago, Jenkins said, he wouldn’t have expected to be the face of humanitarian relief to children. But since his meeting with President Barack Obama in Dallas on July 9, that’s exactly what’s happened.

Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink said she was in San Francisco last week, and “At least 20 times, people who heard I was from Dallas said, ‘That’s where that wonderful man is from,’” Fink said of people’s response to the Dallas County judge’s actions.

Jenkins stressed to the LGBT Democratic group that the situation is a humanitarian crisis. Gangs are forcing children as young as 5 to work in the drug trade for them and threatening to kill entire families that try protect the children. Parents feel they have no option other than to send their children out of the country, Jenkins said.

Jenkins said that many times, when refugee children are flown back to the Honduras, they are never reunited with their families. Instead, they are “auctioned off at the airport” to work as slaves for drug gangs. But, he added, he has received assurances from the White House that children being returned now to their native countries would be protected from such a fate.

At the meeting with President Obama last week, Jenkins said they had one hour to discuss what was needed, but Texas Gov. Rick Perry was mostly interested instead in discussing the history of the problem. Jenkins said it didn’t matter if the crisis was the fault of Obama, Congress or the drug gangs — these children need help.



10TH AMENDMENT GUY | Because Gov. Rick Perry dislikes interference from Washington, he said he wouldn’t interfere if “liberals” from Dallas like Mayor Mike Rawlings, left, and County Judge Clay Jenkins want to take in 2,000 Central American children. (AP photo)

A picture that made the rounds on social media showed Obama, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings, Dallas County Commissioner Elba Garcia and Jenkins laughing while Perry scowls. Jenkins explained.

“Perry said something off-putting,” he said. “Rawlings made some joke to turn things away.”

Jenkins met with Rawlings before the meeting to discuss what had to happen at the meeting with the governor and president. Whatever plans Dallas County had to temporarily shelter children, they knew the state could block it with new regulations.

When they addressed moving forward, Perry told the group, “I’m a 10th Amendment kind of guy.”

The 10th Amendment gives powers not granted to the federal government by the Constitution to the states.

Jenkins said Perry told them that he doesn’t like when Washington interferes in Texas, so “You liberals want to take 2,000 children, who am I to stand in the way?”

When members of Stonewall asked what they could do to help, Jenkins didn’t offer “backpack drives” as an option. He said he wants substantive help from the community: “We need 15,000 foster families.”

Jenkins said to ask friends and relatives across the country and briefly explained the process. Becoming a foster parent requires training and a home study. A number of local agencies provide the

training, including Jonathan’s Place and Hope Cottage in Dallas, both of whom welcome LGBT singles and couples. More information is available from the Department of Family and Protective Services.

Next, Jenkins said, he needs attorneys to do pro bono work for the 2,000 children that will be housed in Dallas.

“That number could grow,” he said, and as some children are processed and leave the facility, others will come to Dallas.

He said rather than donating items, donate money to one of the large agencies like the Red Cross or Catholic Charities involved in providing relief.

While other cities and counties across the country are beginning to contact Jenkins to see if they can also provide some relief, Dallas County’s program is the only one currently funded. He said he spoke to Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee from Houston who indicated Harris County would also like to step up. Representatives from Salt Lake County in Utah and from San Diego have also expressed interest.

But for now, Dallas has taken the lead in providing relief to children who have fled violence and death threats in Central America. Jenkins is asking people in Dallas who would like to help to tell friends and relatives across the country how they can help us provide that humanitarian relief. ■

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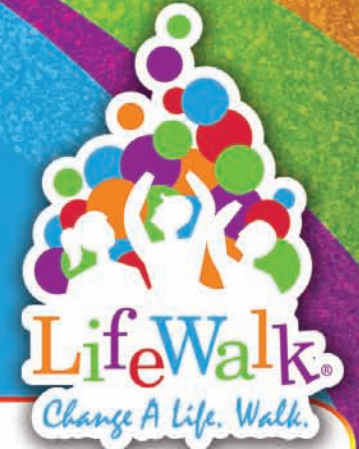
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Robin Hood to the rescue

Two Fort Worth animal enthusiasts set up a new business to benefit local nonprofits

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Robin Hood has two passions: golf and animals. "But not necessarily in that order," she said.

While Hood grew up around animals, her passion for golf preceded her passion for dog rescue. It wasn't until she retired after a decade of playing with the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour that she pursued that other passion, taking her first veterinary job in 1998 as a technician in Arlington.

After working for a veterinary consulting and marketing company, the current full-time manager of an Arlington veterinary clinic has added another title to her veterinary resume: small business owner and advocate for animals.

After saving enough money, and with the help of her father and her partner, Julie Ennis, Hood's newest venture — My Lucky Dogz — launched in September 2012, during National Dog Week at Arts Goggle, a biannual event in Fort Worth's burgeoning Near Southside.

While the idea for My Lucky Dogz had been on her mind for years, between full-time work and taking care of a family, Hood couldn't find time to devote to another venture. Starting up a small business, she said, isn't easy.

The year-and-a-half-old business sells high-quality t-shirts, caps and other accessories designed and printed in Fort Worth, where the company is based. Hood's goals and practices are socially conscious, promoting adoption and fostering and assisting chronically overcrowded shelters. Ten percent of the proceeds from each purchase benefits a reputable animal advocacy, rescue or shelter group of the customer's choice, regardless of size or location.

The shirts include phrases like "Rescues are my favorite breed." Others include a caricature called Bubba, inspired by Dakota, the dog that inspired the entire operation. The Lab-and-German-Shepherd mix was Hood's first adopted dog and her first dog as an adult. She fell in love with him.

"I immediately felt a strong bond and connection with him," she said. Soon after adopting him she suddenly found herself volunteering with rescue groups when she wasn't at home or work.

While Dakota has since passed, he lives on through the caricature. Ennis, a fellow dog lover, says that when people see the Bubba caricature, they see him as "everyone's dog." When others see him, they really get it, which makes selling the products so much easier and more fun.

"Dog owners can never have enough t-shirts," Ennis said.

Megan Henderson, the director of events and communications for Fort Worth South Inc., a community development agency that puts on Arts Goggle and other events in the area, said she loved the idea as soon as she heard

about My Lucky Dogz.

"They're one of the most prominent animal advocacy groups in the neighborhood," Henderson said.

When businesses call Henderson about groups they could benefit, Henderson turns to Hood. Hood, in fact, is Henderson's primary resource for animal rescue groups and shelters in the area. Plus, they also sell a great product.

"Not only are they walking billboards for animal advocacy, the t-shirts are cute, too. You want to wear them," Henderson said, adding she wants one for her daughter.

Both Henderson and Hood describe My Lucky Dogz as both an intermediary between rescue groups and shelters and as a resource for both new and veteran dog rescuers. While planning events, educating the public, volunteering for rescues and rolling out a new line of baked dog goodies for fall 2014 and working full-time may seem exhausting, Hood isn't deterred.

"It's a lot of fun," she said.

With both an online presence and a presence at many area events, festivals and markets, Hood and Ennis see plenty of opportunity for growth. She hopes to eventually make My Lucky Dogz a full-time job for both herself as well as something to pass onto her granddaughter Orian as well.

"There will always be dogs needing rescuing and [there will always be] shelters," said Hood. ■



GOOD DEEDS | Julie Ennis, above, wears one of many items My Lucky Dogz sells. A lucky dog, left, with the company's stickers. (Photo courtesy Robin Hood)



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CAR TROUBLES | Aaron Burrow with the car he alleges was illegally towed. (James Russell/Dallas Voice)

BILLY MASTERS



The plugged-in
pundit walks us through the gay,
the bad and ugly of celebrity gossip!

Check him out! Page 28.

dallasvoice
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Teed off by towing

Carrollton couple confronts
Denton towing company
over receipt for towed car

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Carrollton resident Aaron Burrow took off from his job at a property management company on July 9 and rode with his partner, Michael Pharris, to pick up his car, which had been towed from his apartment complex parking lot by Texas Impound Services in Denton. What happened afterward became an ongoing nightmare, the two men said.

Burrow discovered late on July 8 that one of his two cars was missing from the parking lot at the Villas of Josey Ranch, where he lives. According to documents provided by Burrow, he contacted

Amy Stafford, a community manager at the complex, who asked for the towing company to release the vehicle, which was then released free of charge.

As is typical with any transaction, Burrow signed paperwork to receive his car. But things got ugly, he alleges, when the clerk denied his request for a copy of the paperwork, according to statements by both Burrow and Pharris.

As someone who never had his car towed, Burrow said the situation baffled him. Pharris, a former police officer, said it was actually illegal.

The Texas Towing and Booting Act states that the boot operator, otherwise known as the operator who installs a boot on or removes a boot from a vehicle, must provide a confirmation of the transaction between the customer and operator. Pharris said Texas Impound violated that section of the act by not giving him a copy of the paperwork.

"A receipt is a confirmation of a transaction. The company needs to keep an inventory," Pharris said. Even with the simplest of transactions, everyone gets a copy confirming an exchange.

During repeated conversations, the couple alleged numerous code violations by the tow company, including expired licenses and registration tags, as well as reports of "aggressive and harassing behavior" by staff members.

After doing some research, Burrow said he discovered he isn't the only one who has had a bad experience with Texas Impound. A quick Google search confirmed his statements.

Tensions between the couple and Texas Impound Services boiled over on July 11 when the couple and their neighbor, who asked to not be named for fear of retaliation by his employer, noticed a tow truck on their property and blocked

Denton Police Department Media Relations Officer Ryan Grelle confirmed the report.

Burrow denied those allegations. He said he doesn't have a fax machine and probably called 20 times or more.

As tensions rose, so did the attacks. The couple took to social media with recordings and information culled through Internet research. Burrow said he and Pharris were aggravated by Texas Impound's activities and the company's refusal to provide a confirmation of the transaction. The homophobic comment only made the situation worse.

Godi said the tow was perfectly within the law. Despite the criticism common to towing companies, Godi insisted they have a good track record. When asked about the couple seeing a tow truck late on July 11, he said it is com-



WHO SHALL TOW? | Burrow with an allegedly illegal sign. (James Russell/Dallas Voice)

the truck from towing. It later left.

On July 12, Burrow and Pharris took their feud public when, during one of his attempts to get a receipt, an unnamed night manager asked Burrow to stop harassing his dispatcher, according to a recording provided by Burrow. When he demanded the receipt, the unnamed manager said he "doesn't like talking to queers," then promptly hung up.

Will Godi, a sales representative with Texas Impound, told Dallas Voice the "queers" comment was unprofessional, but would not discuss it further. Godi also alleged that Burrow has been aggressive and has harassed Texas Impound employees.

A city of Denton police report filed by a Texas Impound employee claims that Burrow called their office more than 200 times, and that he has faxed the company a hand-drawn picture of a llama with the words "Where is my receipt?"

mon for many large apartment complexes to struggle with parking issues to have trucks patrol the property and remove cars non-registered cars.

Burrow said July 16 he will be breaking his lease with Villas of Josey Lane. Until this happened, he said, he loved the apartment community where he has lived for 2 1/2 years.

"I'm so tired and no one is listening," Burrow said. "If they had given me what I wanted this would not have happened."

But he said he isn't stopping his efforts against Texas Impound.

"I'm not bullied easily. I don't plan to stop until they get fined," he said. "No one's punishing them."

Burrow and Pharris said they found a photocopy of the receipt on Burrow's door late on July 16.

But, Pharris said, "That's an illegal receipt. The right half has been cut off." ■

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viewpoints

Thoughtfulness in crisis

Republicans must take action instead of misplacing blame

We are in the midst of a humanitarian crisis that has left more than 52,000 children, many without their parents, in limbo at America's borders. Texas, along with other southwestern border states, has experienced an influx of undocumented immigrants. It is during these times that we all must exercise thoughtfulness in the midst of crisis.

The children that recently converged on our borders double the total number of children from Central and South America that attempted to enter the United States in 2013. They are 10 times more than the number of children that attempted entry in 2009.

Many of these children are victims of violent crimes in their home countries, and are negatively impacted by unrest that exists in their places of origin.

In some parts of our country, these children have been met with hostilities and vitriol from citizens protesting their mere presence. In North Texas, however, they have received a compassionate reception.

Two thousand of these children will be housed

in three different locations located throughout Dallas County. Recently, President Obama requested nearly \$4 billion in emergency funding from Congress to address the immigration dilemma facing the nation.

While many Republicans blame President Obama for the influx of children, it was legislation signed by former President George W. Bush, the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, that provided safeguards to young people that were not citizens of Mexico or Canada that reached America's borders.

The legislation prohibited unaccompanied children from being quickly returned to their home countries. It mandated that they be provided with legal counsel, and be afforded an immigration hearing. Additionally, the law required that migrating children be handed over to the Department of Health and Human Services, which was directed to locate family members, if they existed, that might care for them.



U.S. Rep. E.B. Johnson
Guest Columnist

Certainly, given the historical record of child immigration from countries located south of our borders, the present situation cannot be blamed on President Obama or policies of his administration. Republicans in Congress that refuse to consider comprehensive immigration reform shoulder much of the blame for the situation that we now find ourselves facing.

This is a time to be compassionate and to assist children who, through no fault of their own, find themselves in a country that is foreign to them. Many took perilous journeys from their countries with little more than the clothes that were on their backs.

I am very proud of the people of North Texas who have opened their hearts and have expressed a desire and commitment to provide shelter, food and health care for the children. Indeed, we have a moral obligation to ensure that they are treated humanely.

A responsible and reasonable response to this crisis requires bi-partisan congressional action. Congress must act swiftly to pass comprehensive immigration reform that will assist these children, and bring millions of undocumented immigrants out from the shadows of our nation. ■

U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Dallas, represents Texas' 30th congressional district

Call it what it is

'Religious exemption' is really 'religious privilege'

We have been oh so careful. How many times have we assured religious leaders that marriage equality will not mean that Catholic priests will have to start performing marriages between two lesbians? How many times have we bit our lip when a religious school has fired a gay person because he didn't set the correct example? How many times have we crafted laws to clearly allow religious organizations an out — a way to circumvent the law because of their strongly held anti-gay religious beliefs?

We were careful because the LGBT community understood the tensions between religion and being LGB or T. Many of us are — or were — religious people. Many of us have been rejected by our faith leaders. Many of us have been rejected by our families because of their religious faith.

We grew a tolerance to the anti-gay parts of our religion, or we found a more accepting faith. We accepted our Catholic grandmother's anti-gay sentiment as "religious conviction" even though she seemed supportive of our brother's divorce.

Last week, the United States Supreme Court rewarded our thoughtfulness with a slap.

Religious institutions have always had the freedom to assert "religious exemption." SCOTUS asserted that Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc., a for-profit

company, should enjoy that same "religious exemption" and can now legally omit reproductive coverage for women from their health insurance benefits because such family planning is in opposition to the Hobby Lobby's religious beliefs.

The floodgates have opened and all sorts of organizations and companies are falling over themselves to express their "religious exemption" and avoid following the law. And the first "exemption" up for grabs? Protections for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender individuals.

(A special shout out to all the gay men who have hectored me over the years about how reproductive rights have nothing to do with gay rights. Get it now?)

We may actually end up in a country where we will have to choose between getting married or being fired.

So what do we do? First, it's time to point out, as Amy Corcoran Hunt posted on Facebook, that the so-called "religious exemption" is really a "religious privilege."

Hunt is no stranger to activism. She played a crucial role in our battle for marriage equality. She also knows a thing or two about branding. Our side (the side that supports religious freedom and equality)



Sue O'Connell
Guest Columnist

has an opportunity to clarify what's happening.

Hunt explains on her Facebook page:

"An 'exemption' is freedom from an obligation or liability imposed by others. Do not use the language of 'religious exemption.' If progressive Democrats are true to form, they'll just adopt the phrase, rail against it, and lose. Kind of like 'tax relief.' Adopt the label and you lose. I suggest the label 'religious privilege.' A privilege is a special right, advantage or immunity available only to a particular person or group. It's accurate. And we do hate special rights. Do it, people."

Do it, indeed. It's a "so-called exemption," it's really a "religious privilege". Say it loud. ■

Sue O'Connell is co-publisher of Bay Windows, South End News and Edge Publications.

speaking out poll

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RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

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DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

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Taylor made

With his Oak Lawn pet boutique, Taylor Garrett wants to give every dog — and cat — its day

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Taylor Garrett can't get away from bow ties. The distinctive neckcessory became his signature sartorial statement when he was on *The A-List Dallas*, the Logo network reality show about life among local queerlebrities. But it wasn't something Garrett felt strongly about.

"I wore it to my casting [meeting], and they made me wear one the entire time," he sighs.

He doesn't wear a bow tie to work anymore, but he does keep an assortment handy — though none are designed for humans.

Garrett's new enterprise is Jack & Jill Pet Market, which opened last month on Oak Lawn across from Equinox. The bow ties are snazzy and hand-made ... and totally intended for man's four-legged companions. There are even flowers for female dogs, and both strap conveniently on the locally-crafted designer collars he carries.

If the store sounds a little fancy ... well, it's not really. But it is very gay. And very pet-focused.

Garrett drew the idea for the shop from its namesakes, his French bulldogs Jack and Jill. (Jill's small and friendly so you'll find her in the store most days; Jack tends to stay home.)

"They really are my inspirations," Garrett says of his canine family members; even the model mannequins that bear the store's designer fashions are based on Jill's markings.

It was Garrett's love of his pets that got him started in the business originally. Both his dogs had bad food allergies, and most of the commercially available dog food didn't help matters. He researched the problem, and found the majority of pet foods in the U.S. are still heavily filled with grains, which animals don't process well.

"Jill's eyes were bloodshot the first year I had her. They need multiple protein sources," he says, pointing to one brand of food he imports from Canada that contains turkey, duck and salmon, and "good" carbs — from beans, fruits, pumpkin, assorted berries, lentils and greens. "All these allergies come from too much corn and not enough [diverse] protein sources."

Garrett became such an expert, soon he was the go-to guy among his friends about the best products for dogs. That spurred him into setting up a home pet food and toy delivery service called Neighborhood Pet Food Delivery. He ran that for a year before opening the storefront on Oak Lawn.

The driving principle for Jack & Jill is quality borne of love.

"Gays and lesbians are very attached to their pets because we rely on them for so much for emotional well-being," Garrett says. "I always says [my pets] are my most cherished possessions. So if I'm not willing to feed something to my own dogs, I won't sell it here."

He offers a range of health supplements — all natural ("I feel

vets should distribute chemicals — a pet food story should be natural," he says) and everything from coconut oil formulated for dogs to promote a good coat to organic shampoos and treats.

But there are also the items we get for our pets because, hey, we're gay — from toys to fashion accessories. Jack & Jill specializes in durable, fun chewies for dogs that won't be destroyed before the packaging makes it to the trash can, although there is one item Garrett stocks for a different reason: The Justin Beaver toy. ("I can't tell you how many people love this," he laughs.)

Garrett also believes in buying locally when he can. The pet food-bowl mats are made by someone who lives just blocks from his shop; the pet collars are hand-sewn in the Metroplex; and those bow ties? Made right in Fort Worth.

All of those items might come in handy in the fall, when Garrett plans to host a doggie fashion show, with most of the "models" pets that need to be adopted. He also plans to make donate proceeds from the show to a pet charity. He already posts a "pet of the week" photo for customers' companions on his website.

If you haven't guessed yet, Garrett treats this enterprise not as just a job or even a business, but with the passion of a genuine pet devotee.

"I love animals," he says. "You can't be down or depressed when working with pets!"

Jack & Jill Pet Market, 4022 Oak Lawn Ave. Open daily 9 a.m.–6 p.m. (noon Sundays).

THE PET ISSUE

DROP YOUR SPOT!

Progress is the name of the game at Dallas Animal Services.

Adoptions are up, live release rates are skyrocketing, community outreach efforts and spay/neuter are paying off, and public support for DAS is at an all-time high.

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Ohh, myyy!

LIFE+STYLE

screen

Out actor, icon and activist George Takei mixes social media savvy with a social message

George Takei knows the power of a cat meme. Of all things, it's the pussy that gave him a platform and set the stage for something more than just pervy postings and silly jests: gay activism. Best known as Sulu from the original *Star Trek* series and its movies spin-offs, the actor isn't only the voice of a generation but of *generations*.

Takei (Ta-KAY) swooshed out of the closet at age 68 to become a powerful LGBT advocate and especially social media magnate — his Facebook posts are tremendously popular among his nearly 7.3 million followers. Now 77 years old, he reflects on all facets of his life during *To Be Takei*, a documentary that screened at the Oak Lawn Film Festival a few weeks ago, but which is also viewable on DirecTV through Aug. 6 and video on demand.

In the midst of traveling the Pride circuit, the cultural icon phoned us up to chat about it being “high time” for a gay *Star Trek* character (and why it hasn't happened yet), how closeted actors are still common and — ohh, myyy! — autographing his fans' private parts.

— Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: What's the message you've been bringing with you to

Pride festivals? George Takei: That we're making amazing progress, and that's because all of the people in the community are pulling at the same wagon. Because of people like [[Stephen Snyder-Hill, the soldier that spoke at the Republican debate in 2011], who have the courage to ask [the hard] questions and take principled stands, we're making the progress that we are.

You've been an integral part of that progress. For someone who wasn't

out for most of his life, how surreal is it for you to be riding in a Pride parade at this point? I lived most of my life closeted because I wanted my career. That was a heavy price to pay, because you're living with the constant tension of exposure — somebody could expose me and that's the end of my career.

In my early 20s, Tab Hunter was a god of the box office at the time — blonde, good looking, young — and played the lead in almost every movie that was coming out. He was exposed as gay in one of the scandal sheets, and you never heard from him again. That puts the fear in you, and you're always living with your guard up. You don't know what or who might destroy your career, and so when you come out, you're completely relieved of that tension. You can live fully as who you are.

I had an interesting experience: the State Department sent me on one big tour of South Korea and Japan, which culminated with U.S. ambassador to Japan, Caroline Kennedy, honoring me with a reception. As one of her guests, she had the first lady of Japan, the wife of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who told me that she had ridden in what she called a “Rainbow Pride Parade” in Tokyo this summer. Can you imagine the first lady of Japan riding in a Pride parade?

Changes are happening. Not only in the United States, but all over the world. It's a very optimistic time, but we still have the Employment Non-Discrimination Act before us — you can be fired for no other reason than who you are. It's the “Don't ask, don't tell” of the civilian population. So, it is an exciting time but we still have a long way to go.

How common do you think it is these days for actors to keep their sexuality concealed for their careers?

It's still not uncommon. There are actors who have to be living that double life. I won't name them, but you know, it's a decision that they have to make. It's a very personal decision. I don't know the specifics, but with society changing, they [seem] to be more and more like outdated dinosaurs who maintain that kind of life.

Are you saying you know people in showbiz who are closeted?

Friends of yours? I do. You know, when I was doing *Star Trek* my colleagues knew, but they're good people, they're cool, and they did not expose me. Well, one of them ... the fact that I am who I am went right over his head. I'll leave it to you to guess whom.

In the last 10 years, you've become quite the accidental activist, and because your parents come up often in the documentary, I'm wondering what you think they would say about your role as an LGBT role model?

They're both gone now. My father had passed long ago, and it's one of my regrets in life that I never came out to him. But I know he would've supported me. He did tell me: “Look at TV, look at movies, look at the kind of roles that Asians have to play — tiny roles to begin with, and stereotype roles at that — is that what you wanna go into?” I

told my father: “Daddy, I will change it.” He supported me in that. I think he knew deep down who I was; he was waiting for me to come out to him.

When I came out to my mother, she had some difficulties, but she knew who [my now-husband] Brad was. Brad was in my life already, and she thought of him as my friend, but when I came out to her, the situation was changed. She already knew Brad for who he was and that he was a nice guy, so it wasn't really that difficult. As life would have it, Brad and I took care of her in the last years of her life. She moved in with us. He became more a son to her than my own brother.

Your career resurgence is a marvel. And for 77, you sure know your way around social media.

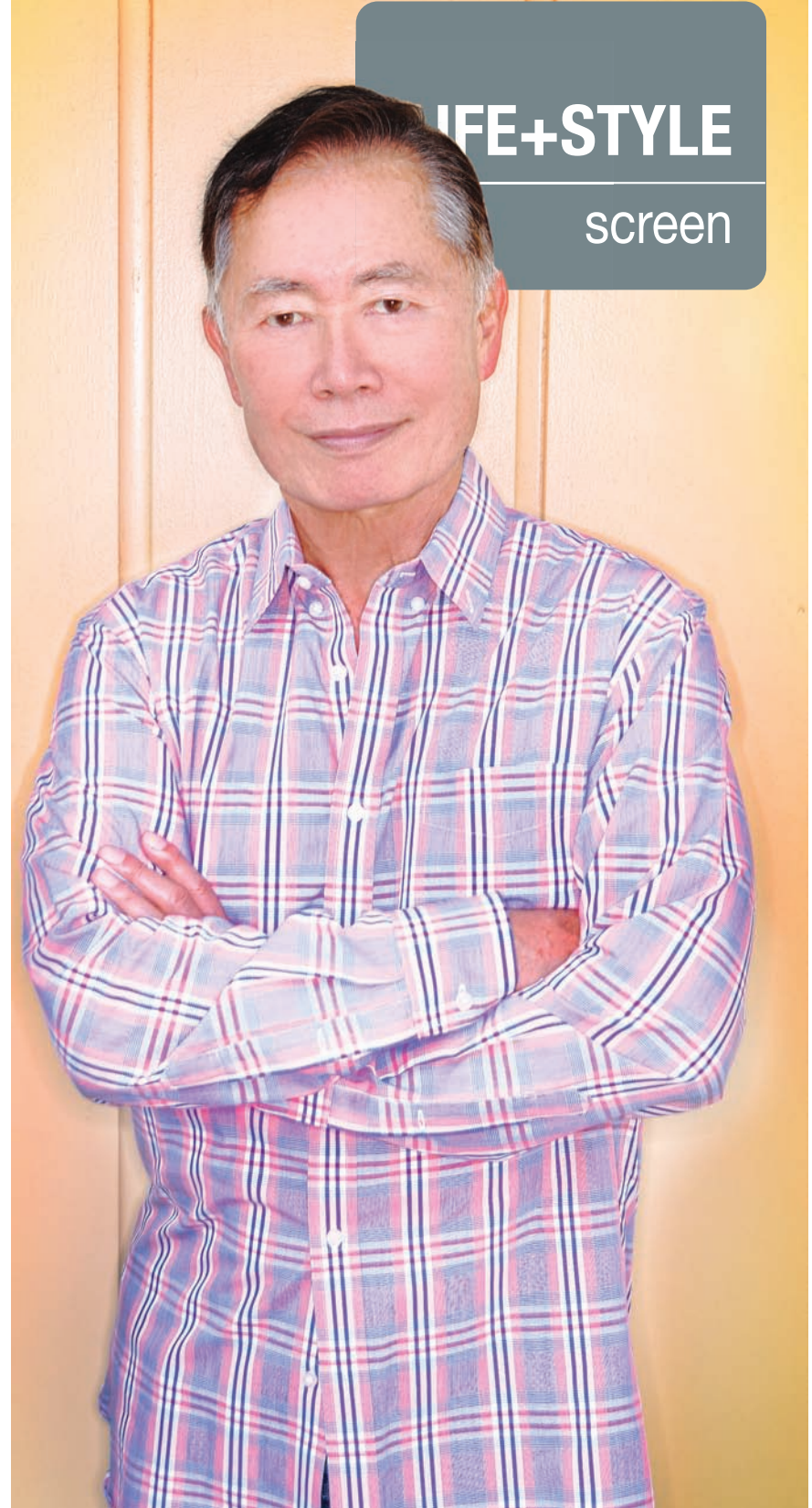
You've got a stereotype in your mind about 77-year-olds! There are a lot of us who are very comfortable with social media. My generation is not as out of touch with technology as you youngsters seem to think.

What role has humor played in how you present politics and social commentary on LGBT issues?

It is key to building your audience. The reason why I got so actively involved with social media is, it's been my mission in life to raise the awareness of my childhood incarceration — imprisonment of Japanese-Americans simply because we happened to look like the people who bombed Pearl Harbor. So, I've been going on speaking tours to universities and doing corporate events, and we founded a museum called the Japanese American National Museum — we're an affiliate of the Smithsonian — and we developed a musical based on the internment called *Allegiance*.

I thought I'd use social media [to promote it], but my base, when I started in 2010, was essentially made up of sci-fi geeks and nerds — my *Star Trek* audience — and I had to grow that. So, by trial and error I found that the humorous things, the funnies, or the cat memes, got the most likes and shares. Then I started concentrating more on that, and it started to explode. It was really amazing how fast, and how big, your audience base can grow in social media. And once the audience had grown to a certain size I started zinging them with social justice issues, LGBT issues and the internment of Japanese-Americans, as well as various other things ... like proper grammar!

Do you think we'll ever see an out LGBT human on *Star Trek*? I think now it's high time. I did very quietly bring up the subject to Gene Roddenberry when we were starting our movie series and he said with television he had to walk a very tight rope. You know, we were dealing with issues at that time — the civil rights movement, the Vietnam War, the Cold War — and that episode where Kirk kissed Uhura, a white man kissing a black woman, that was blacked out in all of the Southern states. Our ratings plummeted! [Gene] said he knows that the LGBT issue is a civil rights issue, but he had to keep the show on the air, and if he pushed the enve-



BY GEORGE! | George Takei thinks it's about time for 'Star Trek' to boldly go where some have gone before: Adding an out gay human to the slate of edgy characters in the storied franchise's history.

lope too far he wouldn't be able to address *any* of the issues. Same thing with feature films now: bigger budget, higher risk. And he had said he's predicating a 23rd century when the LGBT issue would not be an issue, but it is an issue of our times that we're dealing with metaphorically in terms of science fiction and he wants to deal with it and still be able to make movies. He had said he hopes for the time that he will be able to do it.

Alas, Gene passed. It was in '91 that he passed, and we're 20 years-plus from that time. We've advanced with unimagined speed, and I think now it is high time *Star Trek* deal with the issue of LGBT equality. Now there are *Star Trek* actors who are out. Zachary Quinto, who plays Spock in the reboot, came out, and I am out. With the two of us out, it is now safe for *Star Trek* to deal with LGBT equality.

Some fans have some very specific requests when they meet you.

What's been the most bizarre fan request you've experienced? I've been asked to autograph various body parts. And some are, um, *very* private parts. I'll let your imagination go there.

Did you follow through on these requests? I did!

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L+S screen

Boy to man

A Texas filmmaker's daring 12-year project, 'Boyhood' grows up

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
 jones@dallasvoice.com

If you've heard anything about *Boyhood*, you've probably heard that, while it's not a documentary, it was filmed over a span of a dozen years, with the leading actor, Ellar Coltrane, growing in the role from ages 5 to 18. But for anyone familiar with the work of Texas filmmaker Richard Linklater, the idea of a long-form project isn't so strange. This is the man who cast two virtual unknowns (Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy) in the talky romance *Before Sunrise*, then reteamed with them nine years later (playing the same characters nine years later) in *Before Sunset*, and once again another nine years later for 2013's *Before Midnight*. Linklater has the patience of a sculptor — he's raised deferred gratification to the realm of its own art.

So yes, the gimmick of *Boyhood* is clever, and even if you don't believe reviews, you should probably see it just to appreciate its scope (Linklater is a shoo-in for a best director Oscar nomination). But what's truly brilliant about what the film does is ... it doesn't *do* much. And yet it does everything.

That's not really a paradox — at least it doesn't feel like it, once you see the film. The camera opens on young Mason's (Coltrane) face staring dreamily at the clouds. Mason has an older sister (Lorelei Linklater, the director's actual daughter) and lives with his mom (Patricia Arquette); his absentee father (Hawke) visits when work brings him to Texas. Mason is an average kid: Introspective but not anti-social, smart but not a genius, likeable but not one of the cool kids. He eventually experiments with drugs (a little) and develops a passion (photography) and gets bullied and gets laid, but it's all so ... so ... *ordinary*. It is, simply, what boyhood is for 90 percent of us.

There's not a scene in the film that is Big Picture Meaningful in the annals of cinema, or even in the life of the film itself, but for me, the turning point — the moment what you “get” what Linklater's overarching mission is — occurs when Mason is 15. He's heartbroken by a promise his dad didn't keep, one Dad doesn't even remember making (and insists he never did). But there's not a second — *not one!* — where I doubted Mason's recollection, where I knew *exactly* how he was feeling. The broken promise wasn't the betrayal; the casual way it was not even acknowledged was. Every kid has had that experience, when he



POST PUBERTY | Many child actors talk about growing up on-screen, but Ellar Coltrane did so literally, from 5 to 18, in Richard Linklater's ambitious epic of the ordinary, 'Boyhood.'

realizes an off-handed comment that shaped his desires was made in jest or thoughtlessly. It's tremendously painful, that disrespect, that understanding that truth is a razor's edge that can cut deeply. It's the ache of growing up, the loss of innocence when tears would accomplish nothing even while the hurt is unfathomable.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BOYHOOD
 Ellar Coltrane, Patricia Arquette,
 Ethan Hawke, Lorelei Linklater.
 Rated R. 165 mins. Now playing at
 Landmark's Magnolia Theater.

Boyhood is a loopy story, which ventures closest to cliché with the parade of drunken losers mom brings home, but it never devolves into melodrama — it doesn't have time, even though it clocks in at nearly three hours. Confrontations are moved past, relationships abandoned, new ones formed. Linklater doesn't tell it all from Mason's perspective — there's no voice-over or POV shots — so we don't filter it through the lens of the unreliable narrator. The film is more like glimpsing the intimate moments of lives fully lived, without the uncomfortable feeling of being a voyeur. It's precisely the film's clear-eyed honesty that elevates it. And the decade-plus it took to explore that honesty really sends a shudder through you. *Boyhood* is a masterpiece. ■



TASTING NOTES

It's The Pet Issue, so of course we're happy to hear that chef **Chris Ward** will hold a charity cooking class on Aug. 16, with proceeds benefiting a wonderful nonprofit: GALT, the Greyhound Adoption League of Texas. The class, at **The Mercury**, takes place from 2-5 p.m. and costs \$60 (\$100 for VIP seating) ... and it's all for a great cause.

Speaking of dogs, **Samson's Gourmet Hot Dogs** on Oak Lawn has expanded its menu, with mashed potatoes and a mac & cheese bar as add-ons, plus some chipotle chili sauce and pepper-hummus bratwurst. That joins chef/owner **Troy Gardner's** already delightful fare, including a vegan weiner, which I have nicknamed a veg-iner. You're welcome.

Design District hot-spot **FT33** is really bringing attention to Dallas' food scene. Its chef, **Matt McCallister**, was recently on the cover of Food & Wine magazine as one of the top chefs in the country, and reservations fill up quickly. If you wanna check it out, though, you might want to try a one-night-only wine dinner on Aug. 4 celebrating the Australian black truffle season. (The Perigord-style underground mushrooms don't just appeal to pigs, but to dogs, pictured above.) McCallister will prepare a special five-course menu of truff-ed out dishes like scallops with black truffle and chives, and local Waygu with black truffle and heirloom garlic. And how about foie gras and truffle éclair with white chocolate for dessert? Seating starts at 6 p.m. and the price is \$115/person (add \$55 for wine pairing). Call 214-741-2629 for reservations.

Reservations also started this week for **DFW Restaurant Week**. Among the participating restaurants for the specially-priced meals (with a portion of proceeds benefiting the **North Texas Book Bank**) are faves **Al Biernat's**, **Belly & Trumpet**, **Eddie V's**, **Grace**, **The Grape**, **Javier's**, **Meso Maya**, **Pyramid**, **Salum**, **Stampede 66**, **Stephan Pyles** and **Tillman's Roadhouse**. Pick your seats soon! The week starts on Aug. 11.

Tickets also went on sale this week for the **Flying Saucer's Texas BeerFeast**, which will take place in Fort Worth in Sundance Square on Oct. 11 and in Dallas on Lake Ray Hubbard on Oct. 18. More than 40 craft brews will be offered. Get tickets at BeerFeast2014.com.

Alamo Drafthouse will open another North Texas location in The Cedars south of Downtown. The concept, which shows movies and serves food, will open mid-2015 in the South Side on Lamar complex.

Scotch & Sausage, a modern sausage grill and biergarten from chef **Trevor Bell**, will open on Oak Lawn on July 24, featuring beers and more than 100 whiskey options.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
crwauto@aol.com

The Honda Accord Hybrid has racked up its share of awards lately — 2014 MotorWeek Drivers' Choice Award, Green Car of the Year, "top safety pick" by the IIHS, and one of About.com's Best New Cars of 2014. If human, it probably would have earned a GLAAD award, too. Having tested the car this year, I understand all the accolades.

The new sedan slips down the road with Honda's two-motor hybrid system that includes a 124-kilowatt electric motor, lithium-ion batteries, continuously-variable transmission (CVT) and a 141-horsepower, 2.0-liter engine to run in three driving modes: EV Drive (which allows the car to run short distances without burning gas); Engine Drive (which churns the front wheels directly); and Hybrid Drive (a combination of the two, allowing fuel economy of 50/45-MPG city/hwy. — impressive for a larger car). Indeed, in naming its award, About.com cited the sedan's comfortable interior and class-leading EPA fuel efficiency ratings.

Styling is clean, if less dramatic than the powertrain, cribbing from BMW for the raised hood and from Hofmeister kink-in-the-side windows and accentuated trunk — much better designs than the last-generation Accord, finessed with LED driving lamps and chrome up front, 17-in. alloy wheels and thin body color trunk spoiler. Blue trim in the grille, unique alloys and Hybrid badges distinguish hybrids from thirstier Accords.

Its innards surpass its interiors, which are well-made, but about as exciting as a Macy's changing room. Base cars have a rubber steering wheel, no navigation, no XM radio and mouse-fur seats, though everything feels like it will last a half-century. At least the supportive cloth seats have lumbar adjustment. A large analog

speedometer is flanked by electronic graphs for electricity usage/replenishment. Trunk space is half-consumed with the battery pack, so forget flipping down the rear bench for bikes and gear.

A rear backing camera, Bluetooth calling/streaming audio and SMS text messaging add keep you connected to your peeps and disconnected from hard objects. Hybrids come with Honda LaneWatch, which uses a small camera to show obstacles next to the car when the turn signal is activated. I think it's stupid; I'd prefer Honda spend the money on heated seats or a leather-wrapped steering wheel (which, you can get for a few dollars more).

On the road, your only clue that batteries and electric motors are providing part of the thrust is smooth, torquey acceleration around town. On the highway, the engine revs like a Hoover after your shoelaces, made more

pleasant with active noise cancellation technology. Beyond all of the high-tech wizardry, the best part of the Accord Hybrid is that it's an Accord. It's as solid as a brick house, as roomy as your grandmother's divan and as predictable as Hillary running for president.

Here's the skinny. If you want a well-built Honda that gets sippin' fuel economy, the Accord Hybrid is your car. With a starting price of \$29,155 for a pretty basic car, it's not cheap. By comparison, non-hybrid Accords rise from \$21,955 and achieve 27/36-MPG city/hwy — a very good value. The Toyota Camry Hybrid, Ford Fusion Hybrid, or Toyota Prius go for thousands less with comparable fuel economy. And, in the case of a Prius, an actual trunk that will hold bicycles, a stroller and gear. But none of those are built with Honda's renowned reputation for technical savvy and ownership longevity.

TECH SAVVY | Technology trumps styling in the gas-sipping versatility that is the Accord Hybrid.

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Ask Howard

How to do what's wrong right



Dear Howard,

I've seen an ad on TV hosted by Bono claiming that for just 40 cents a day, we can save a person in Africa living with AIDS. Only 40 measly pennies? Then why in the heck do my meds in Texas cost me, monthly, more than \$1,500? For what logical reason does it cost me more to stay alive than it costs the pizza joint I work for to maintain its fleet of automobiles while some dude in Zambia pays almost nothing? Something isn't right! — Seth Daniel Jarvis

Dear Seth,

Simply put, our government's blithe insouciance toward medical price controls is responsible for your astronomical drug costs; and for reasons that are utterly mystifying, Americans will not rise up, *en masse*, to protest the unholy prices of their meds. Why are there still no HIV meds currently available in the U.S. in generic form? A patent only lasts seven years — yet, antiretroviral meds first came on the market back in 1996. Every gay person in the U.S. should write his/her representative asking why the injustice of monopolized, prescription price-kiting is allowed to continue; when people do, it'll change.

Of course what this means is: the populations of the continents of Africa and Asia only pay \$4/day because that's what HIV drugs *truly* cost to manufacture.

Seth, if you're having difficulty affording your prescriptions, ADAP (the AIDS Drug Assistance Program) is a federal/state-level undertaking for those with HIV to gain access to antiretroviral medications (who cannot otherwise afford them); and the Ryan White Program is the single largest federal-level support initiative accomplishing the same goal. To learn more, visit NASTAD.org or KFF.org/hiv aids.

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Friday 07.18

Campy modern classic musical 'Little Shop of Horrors' at Jubilee

Seymour is a nerd with no game until he nurtures an alien plant bent on world domination and wins the girl and the fame ... at a price. The late, great Howard Ashman first teamed with composer Alan Menken for *Little Shop of Horrors*, a modern classic with catchy songs and surprising heart, set in the early 1960s. Jubilee Theatre, which specializes in shows with African-American themes, produced this doo-wopping delight.

DEETS: Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through Aug. 3. JubileeTheatre.org.

Saturday 07.19

Red Party hosts poolside fashion show at ilume

The summer's here, and that means pool weather, and what better way to see the latest fashions — and do something for a good cause — than at the Red Party's second annual poolside fashion show at the ilume. The evening event include snacks and an open bar (from Mi Cocina and Hudson Ferus Vodka), plus a runway show of the hottest looks from local designers like Marek+Richard and Rey Ortiz. Proceeds benefit Legacy Counseling Center, but you benefit, too. It's a win-win!

DEETS: ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 9–11 p.m. Tickets from \$35. RedFashionShow.eventbrite.com.

Sunday 07.20

Miss LifeWalk Pageant struts into Rose Room

She has to have glamor, poise, determination — in short, balls. And that's exactly what the contestants for Miss LifeWalk all have in common — with each other and with last year's queen, Veda Chardonnay, pictured. The 11th annual drag pageant in support of October's annual LifeWalk AIDS fundraiser features candidates who want to carry the LifeWalk mantle not only through talent and beauty, but through fundraising.

DEETS: The Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors at 6 p.m., curtain at 6:30 p.m. \$10 donation at the door, \$20 reserved seating. LifeWalk.org.



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THEATER

The Festival of Independent Theatres. Small Dallas theater companies — including WingSpan, Echo, Churchmouse and One Thirty — present this annual collection of one-act plays, showing in repertory at the Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Through Aug. 2. \$20–\$63. For a complete schedule, visit FestivalOfIndependentTheatres.org.

Christhelmet. Another experimental show from Matthew Posey including music, puppetry and more. Ochre House Theater, 825 Exposition Ave. Through July 26. OchreHouseTheater.com.

Herbits, Wizards and Borks, Oh My! Another popcorn-tosser that satirizes the Lord of the Rings movies. Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 Mockingbird Lane., #119. Through Aug. 16. 214-821-1860.

Hope & Gravity. A new play about nine people, strangely connected to each other. *Final weekend.* Circle Theatre, 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. CircleTheatre.com.

Les Miserables. The Dallas Theater Center closes its season with this inventive reimagining of the modern classic. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Aug. 17. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Little Shop of Horrors. The classic doo-wop-era musical from Ashman and Menken, based on the campy film. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through Aug. 3. JubileeTheatre.org.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile. Steve Martin wrote this acclaimed absurdist comedy that places Einstein and Picasso together in a cafe in 1904. Trinity Arts Theater, 2819 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. July 18–Aug. 3. OnstageInBedford.com.

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

The Straight Guy. A straight guy who seems gay and a gay guy who seems straight become roommates and romantic entanglements ensure in this new comedy by North Texas playwrights Alejandro de la Costa and J. Kyle Harris. Presented by MBS Productions. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. Through Aug. 10. MBSProductions.net.

DANCE

Modern Dance Festival. The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth hosts this 11th annual recital series. Performances July 19, 24 and 25. Admission is free. Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. For a full schedule, visit CDFW.org.

FRIDAY 07.18

COMMUNITY

Dick's Happy Hour. Monthly mixer for social gays. Salt Dallas, 3121 Ross Ave. 6–10 p.m. Free with RSVP at DicksHappyHour.com.

SATURDAY 07.19

COMMUNITY

Gaybingo. The term "summer camp" has a vastly different meaning when said about a drag queen that it does about a lakeside outing, but Gaybingo combines the two this week with the monthly Gaybingo fundraiser for the Resource Center, including games, fun and a lot

TO THE MAKSIM | Maks, the hunky pro dancer from 'Dancing with the Stars,' performs alongside fellow cast-mates for Ballroom with a Twist at Fair Park Saturday.

of shade ... and we don't mean from the forest. The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs. Doors at 5 p.m., curtain at 6 p.m. \$25–\$45. MyResourceCenter.org/gaybingo.

DANCE

Ballroom with a Twist. *Dancing with the Stars* hotties Maksim Chmerkovskiy, Karina Smirnoff and Cheryl Burke perform along with *So You Think You Can Dance* and *American Idol* contestants at this one-day event, with two shows. Fair Park Music Hall, 909 First Ave. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

FASHION

Poolside Fashion Show. The second annual fundraising show of summer styles from designers including Marek+Richard, Aussie Bum, ES Collection and more. Ticket sales benefit Legacy Counseling Center and Founders Cottage. Open bar includes margaritas and apps from Mi Cocina and vodka from Hudson Ferus; music by DJ Press Play. ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 9–11 p.m. From \$35. RedFashionShow.eventbrite.com.

SUNDAY 07.20

CONCERTS

Basically Beethoven. The Fine Arts Chamber Players



present their second free concert of their 34th annual Basically Beethoven Festival. City Performance Hall, 2420 Flora St. Doors at 2 p.m., concert at 2:30 p.m. Free. FineArtsChamberPlayers.org.

COMMUNITY

Miss LifeWalk Pageant. The 11th annual drag show, a fundraising for the AIDS fundraiser walk that takes place

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Doors Open: 8pm
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Final Night Aug 8
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in October. The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors at 6 p.m., show at 6:30 p.m. \$10 donation at the door; \$20 VIP seating. LifeWalk.org.

TUESDAY 07.22

FILM

The Sweet Smell of Success. The edgy, acclaimed drama about celebrity culture feels as relevant today as when it was released in 1957. It screens as part of the Tuesday New Classic series at Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village, sponsored by Dallas Voice. 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

CONCERTS

On the Run Tour: Beyonce and Jay Z. The husband and wife recording artists team up for this concert. AT&T Stadium, 1 AT&T Way, Arlington. 8 p.m. Ticketmaster.com.

FRIDAY 07.25

THEATER

The Boy from Oz. Uptown Players mounts this musical about the life of flamboyantly gay entertainer, and Oscar-winning songwriter, Peter Allen. Kalita

Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. July 25–Aug. 10. \$30–\$50. UptownPlayers.org.

Dogfight. Charming musical by out composer Benj Pasek and Justin Paul. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. July 25–Aug. 17 (in previews through July 27). WaterTowerTheatre.org.

CONCERTS

Michael Jackson: The Immortal World Tour by Cirque du Soleil. The music of the late pop icon is transformed as only Cirque du Soleil can. American Airlines Center, 2500 Victory Ave. July 25–26 at 8 p.m. Ticketmaster.com.

this week's solution

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Billy Masters

Thorpe comes out, Colter bursts out

Although the rain dampened the 4th of July celebrations in Provincetown, the silver lining was that I had time to check out the new show of the dashing **Cheyenne Jackson**. The newly-sober Jackson was a bright light in an otherwise dreary weekend. I know this will surprise some of you who think I have something against Cheyenne — would that that were true. I think Cheyenne is very talented; my issue is that he hasn't given me that "Wow!" performance I've always felt he's capable of ... until now. Perhaps it was the intimate confines of the Provincetown Art House. Perhaps it was his friendship with host/accompanist **Seth Rudetsky**. Or maybe it was because he wasn't playing a role, he was just being himself. But for the first time, I really felt Cheyenne connect with his audience in a way that brought him to another level (he was so well received, he'll be back for another round of P-town shows Labor Day weekend). Needless to say, Jackson is physically gorgeous, and his voice has never sounded better, particularly in the blues-tinged material. You can see exactly what I mean by check-

“One of them was Kirk, one was Spock, one Indiana Jones and I was Wonder Woman, obviously.”

— *Cheyenne Jackson, on playing in the woods with his friends as a child.*

ing out an exclusive clip from the show on BillyMasters.com. Since I know my fans, I'll also re-run his infamous jerk-off video. Just because *he's* changed, doesn't mean I have!

As I made my way into Cheyenne's show, I discovered that I was seated next to **Ryan Murphy** and his hubby, **David Miller**. We'd previously met in several social and unmemorable ways, so we exchanged a quick hello and then the show began. Afterwards, I turned to them and said, "Aren't congratulations in order? Isn't your anniversary today or yesterday?" Ryan smiled and said, "Today — how did you know?" Well, I was with them on their wedding day two years ago. They had a lovely afternoon ceremony and then went to see **Patti LuPone** — I was sitting close by that night, too. My congratulations led to some pleasant chit-chat before we went our separate ways ... but not without putting a friendly face

on my often caustic wit. Happy anniversary, guys. The next night, **Joan Rivers** hit Provincetown Town Hall for two fabulous shows to the capacity crowd of Independence Day revelers. Her opening act, **Tony Tripoli**, was eagerly embraced by the plethora of gay men in the audience — fingers crossed that enthusiasm continued after the show. As for Auntie Joan, she was treated like visiting royalty, which she most certainly is. Her act is as sharp

and caustic as ever. In fact, the first half was all new material she delivered with rapid-fire energy. In the second half, she revisited some of her favorite stories — including numerous anecdotes about her vagina. It is a dubious distinction, indeed, for someone's vagina to get laughs, but Joan is a trouper.

Our Ask Billy question comes from Darren in Chicago: "I just read that [Olympic swimmer] **Ian Thorpe** came out as gay. Is it true? He's always denied it."

The sexy Aussie sat down with U.K. host **Sir Michael Parkinson** for a fascinating (paid) interview, which clearly had an agenda. Parkinson quoted a section from Thorpe's 2012 autobiography, *This Is Me*: "For the record, I am not gay and all of my sexual experiences have been straight." Sir Michael asked: "Is all of that true?" Thorpe: "Well, that's true. But, um, you know, I've ... thought, well, I've thought about this for a long time." Parkinson: "I bet." Thorpe: "I'm not straight." Parkinson: "You're not." Thorpe: "And this is only something that very recently — we're talking in the past two weeks — I've been comfortable telling the closest people around me exactly that."

Speculation that Ian was gay started when he was 16. Apparently, not only was he not sexually active, but it didn't occur to him that he might be gay. So he denied it. Problem was, as he grew up and began to realize that he was gay, he had an issue — he had denied it so often in public (and, apparently, to himself), he felt that if he suddenly came out, people would question what else was a lie. Now, at 31, he feels differently. "I am telling the world that I am gay, and I hope this makes it easier for others now. And



even if you've held it in for years, it feels easier to get it out." Bravo, Ian. We'll run the entire interview on BillyMasters.com.

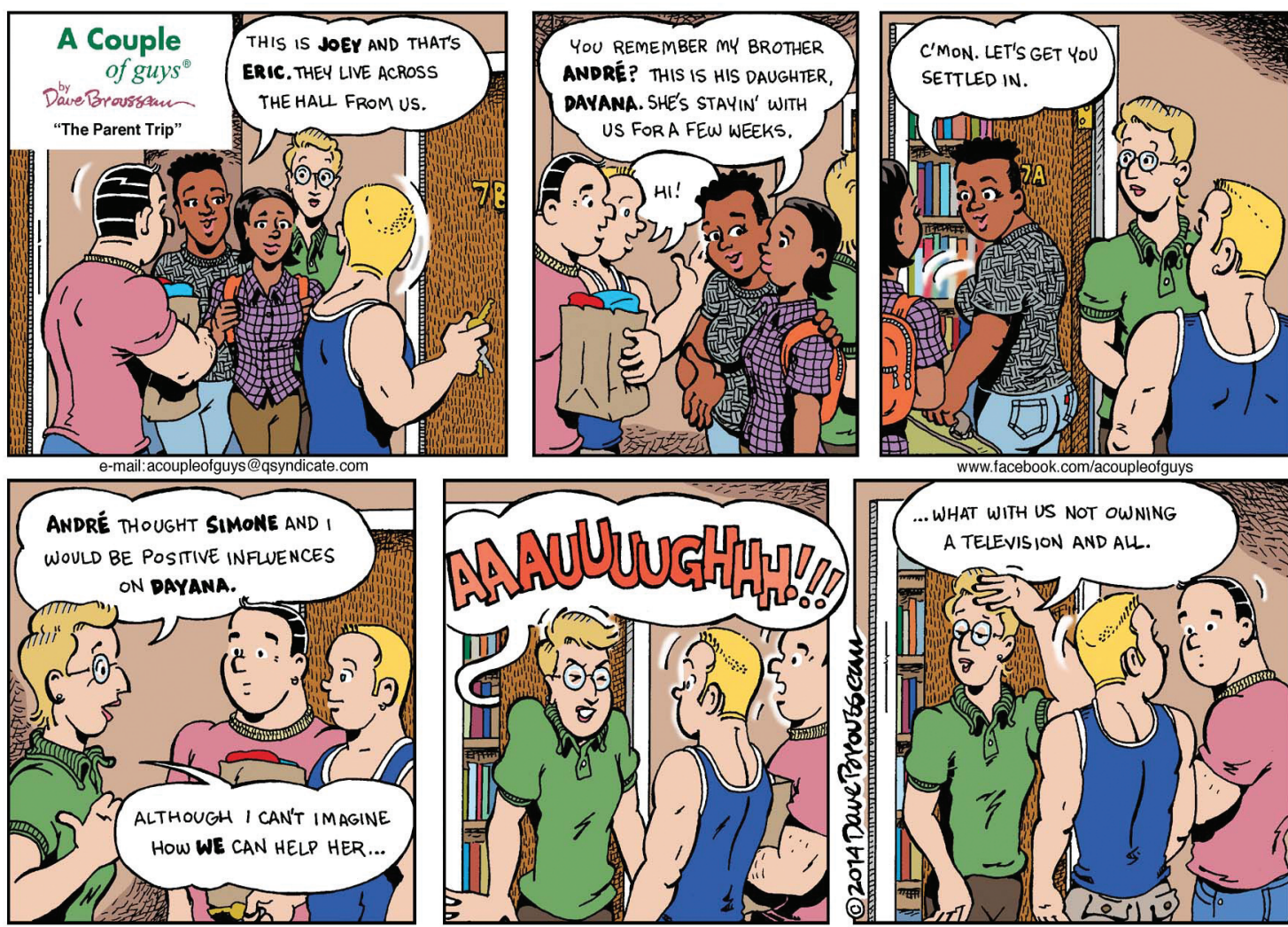
This leads perfectly into the story about a man who was almost arrested because he was wearing a Speedo in a water park, which has the following dress code: "Kentucky Kingdom is a family-friendly theme park and reserves the right to determine whether a guest's attire is appropriate." Certainly a Speedo could be considered inappropriate — as could a thong, certain bikinis or see-through swimming attire. The young man in question says that a public safety officer for the park said his Speedo was suitable. But an officer from the Louisville Metro Police allegedly called the lad "queer" and threatened to arrest him. The officer said that several of the park's public safety officers had already warned the young man, which he denies. Rather than risk jail time, he left.

To fill in some of the gaps, the man in question is **Jessie Colter**, pictured, a gay male porn star who does bareback videos online — not that this is germane to the story, but it bears mentioning. Maybe Jessie's prodigious "talent" was too visible whilst sheathed within his red Diesel Speedo. Or maybe it was how Jessie carried himself. He recently tweeted, "I think is funny when people ask me if I'm gay, lol! I think it's pretty obvious, especially if you've met me." Of course, it's also possible that the cop recognized Colter from his, ahem, "work." Whatever the specifics, Jessie seems to indicate that — as with all his endeavors — this one will have a happy ending. "It appears that justice will be served in the matter of my recent incident involving my brief cut trunks. That's all for now stay tuned folks." I'm sure I'll post some photos of Jessie in his offensive Speedo.

When Cheyenne Jackson is bringing people together, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Of course, all are welcome to check out BillyMasters.com — the site that hasn't yet been banned in Kentucky! If you'd like to ask me a question, send it along and I promise to get back to you before people ask, "What Would Ian Thorpe Do?" Yeah!

Until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

Contact Billy by email at Billy@BillyMasters.com.

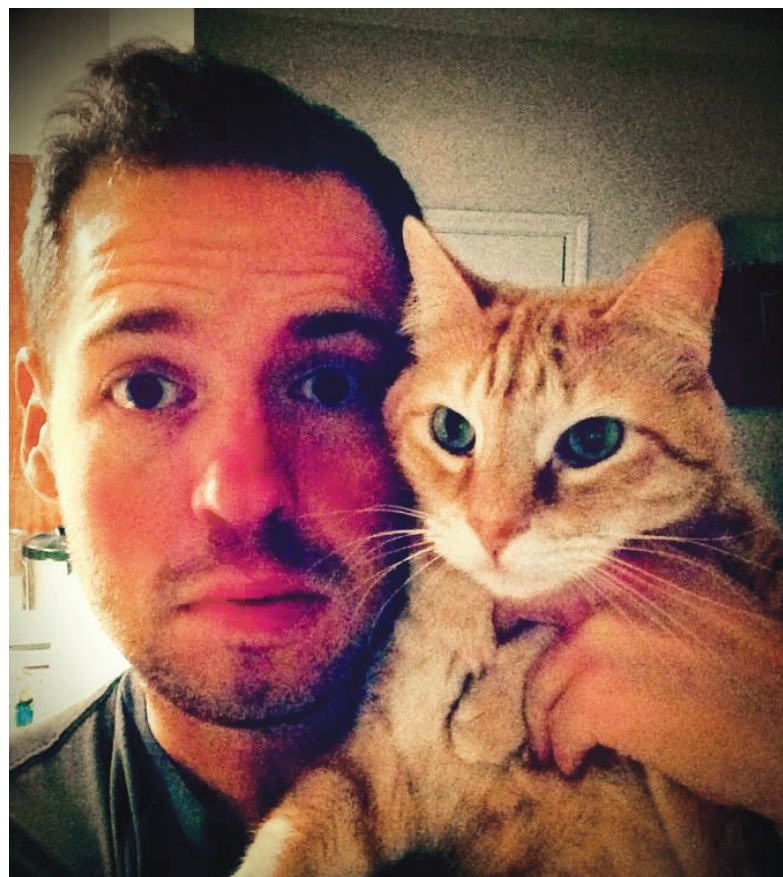


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Changes: Wall of Food meeting on Wednesday at 8 p.m.

Club Reflection: Cowtown Leathermen cookout on Sunday at 4 p.m. Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington game night on Sunday at 7 p.m.

Dallas Eagle: United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents Pride Colors on Friday at 7:30 p.m. Dallas Bears membership meeting on Saturday at noon. UCLSE Idol Imitation on Saturday at 7 p.m. benefits AIDS Interfaith Network. Pegasus Slowpitch Softball end of season celebration on Sunday 2-5 p.m. Dallas Kings softball team cook out on Sunday 4-9 p.m.

Round-Up Saloon: Voice of Pride semifinal on Sunday at 9 p.m.

S4: Glow Party featuring DJ Erik Thoresen on Saturday.

Sue Ellen's: Bad Habits on Friday. Jason Huff & the Ignition on Saturday. Tyla Taylor Band on Sunday. Little Chalupa Karaoke/Caven Enterprises Benevolent Association pool tournament on Monday.

TMC: The Mining Company: United Black Ellument open mike night on Friday 7-10 p.m.

Woody's Sports & Video Bar: Little Chalupa's karaoke on Wednesday at 10 p.m.

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



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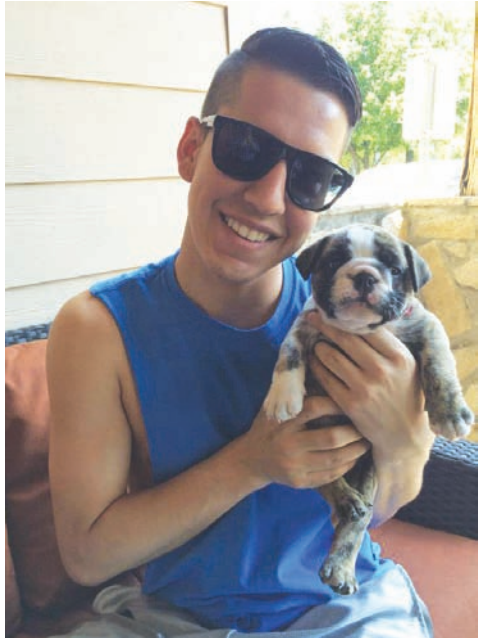
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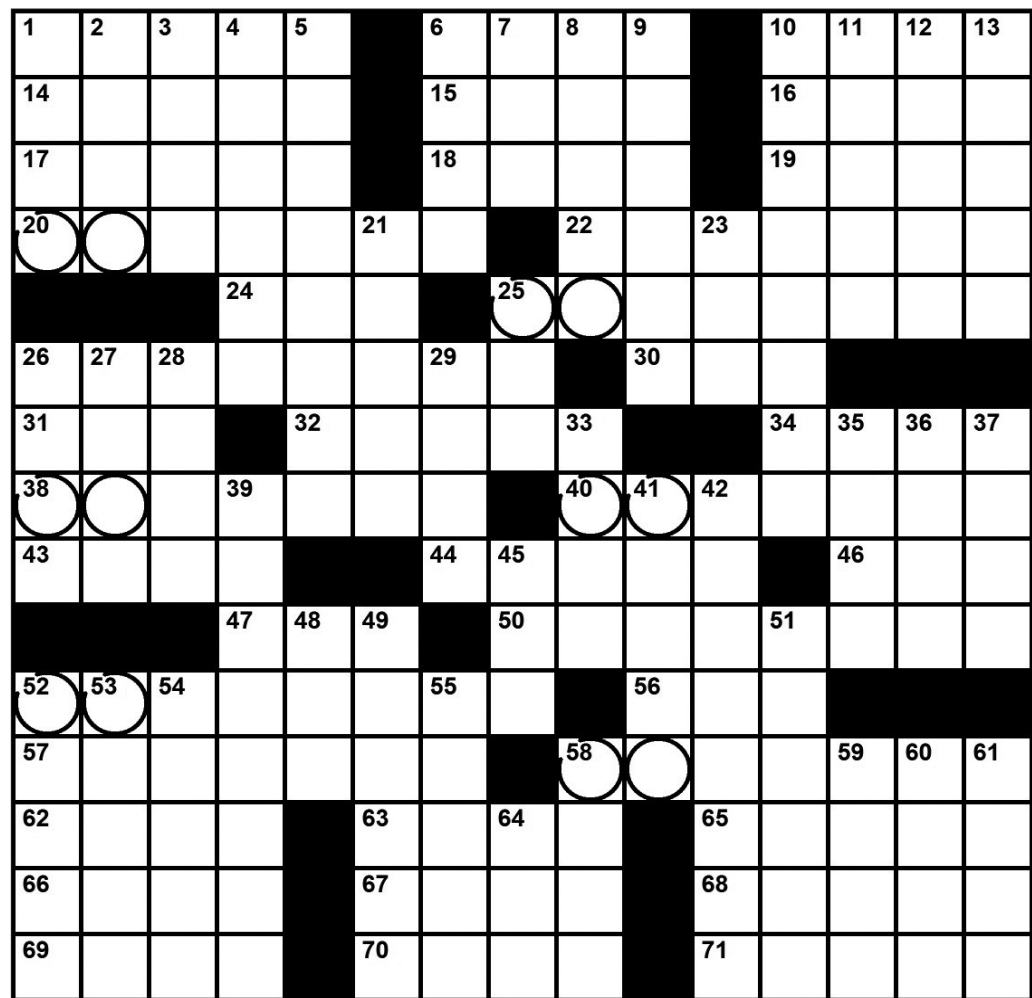
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I Hate Everyone... Starting with Me

Solution on page 27

Across

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- 6 *I Hate Everyone... Starting with Me*
author Rivers
- 10 Puts the tongue between the cheeks
- 14 Port city north of Tel Aviv
- 15 River in Roehm's country
- 16 Auth. unknown
- 17 Circuit party, e.g.
- 18 ___ ex machina
- 19 Adriatic seaport
- 20 Composer Gian Carlo
hated by Rivers?
- 22 In a stall
- 24 Bi plus one
- 25 Author Herman hated by Rivers?
- 26 Get ready for a Broadway show
- 30 Dusk, to Dickinson
- 31 Cells for women only
- 32 Cola choice
- 34 Muscle Marys pump it
- 38 Singer Etheridge hated by Rivers?
- 40 Singer Freddie hated by Rivers?
- 43 Mapa of *Switched at Birth*
- 44 '60s jacket style
- 46 Match a poker bet
- 47 Stalling sounds
- 50 Photo of a bare bottom?

52 Shakespearean character

- hated by Rivers?
- 56 Long in code
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hated by Rivers?
- 62 Big beer buy
- 63 Top of the head
- 65 Singing Mann
- 66 Katharine's Butch Cassidy role
- 67 "That was close!"
- 68 Nun influenced by St. Francis
- 69 Clothing closure
- 70 Years on end
- 71 Popular hero of Lorca's land

Down

- 1 Deep throat sound
- 2 Like a great review on Broadway
- 3 Department
- 4 Deserving attention
- 5 Dilapidated places
- 6 Knight protecting Princess Leia
- 7 "Stick that bull!"
- 8 Manhandle
- 9 Lesbian Herstory Archives
co-founder Joan
- 10 Like Steven Greenberg
- 11 As a whole

- 12 Gourmet mushroom
- 13 Nastily derogatory
- 21 Rubbers on rims
- 23 Greeting to Maria
- 25 Month in Madrid
- 26 Caesar's city
- 27 Stunt man Knievel
- 28 In the pink
- 29 Nine inches
- 33 Point of view intro, at Gay.com
- 35 Come too quickly
- 36 Bite it
- 37 Nikita's no
- 39 Split stuff
- 41 Wash out
- 42 Emulate George Frenn
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- 48 Pirates' drink
- 49 Plain in Nureyev's country
- 51 Penetrating
- 52 Assaults with a spray
- 53 Tickle pink
- 54 Bob Marley, e.g.
- 55 *My Own Private* ___
- 58 Output from small pussies
- 59 Apple that isn't a fruit
- 60 Polo of *The Fosters*
- 61 Angry, with "off"
- 64 Caesar's X

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