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**'You're talking  
about my family'**

**Leticia Van de Putte,**

Democratic candidate  
for lieutenant governor,  
explains her support  
for LGBT rights



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Cover photo courtesy of Leticia Van de Putte campaign. Design by Kevin Thomas.

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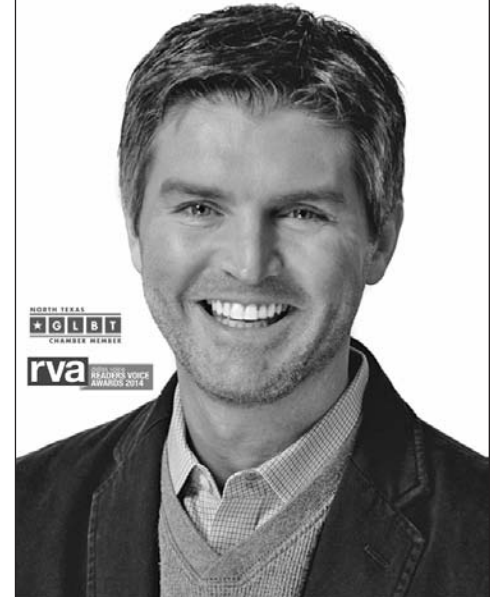
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## instantTEA

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### 1 killed, 1 injured in FW break-in

A member of Celebration Community Church was killed and another was severely injured by a man who broke into their home on Fort Worth's west side early Sunday morning.

According to reports, James Bowling, 56, was killed when he and Don Keaton, 82, confronted the intruder, identified by police as Miguel Angel Hernandez, 29.

According to the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's website, Bowling was strangled to death. The Medical Examiner places his time of death at 3:06 a.m.

Police said Keaton suffered multiple blunt force injuries and that both men suffered chemical burns that could have resulted from Hernandez throwing drain cleaner on him. They said Keaton may have suffered permanent damage to his eyes from the cleaner.

Celebration Community Church Pastor Carol West said that Keaton and Bowling had been members of her church for "at least 15 or 16 years" and were both active in "quite a few aspects of our church's ministry."

"They were both wonderful, loving men. Just good, good men, very good-hearted," West said Tuesday. "This attack was just so random. It is really scary for a lot of people in our congregation that it was so random and so violent."

Police believe Hernandez chose Keaton and Bowling's home at random. Patrol officers found him sitting in his own truck, naked, two houses down. Police said he took off his bloody clothes and left them in the yard of Keaton and Bowling's home, but left the keys to his vehicle in he pocket of his pants in the yard.

— Tammye Nash

### Perry speaks at pro-Israel rally at Dallas City Hall

About 1,000 people gathered on Dallas City Hall Plaza Wednesday afternoon for a rally supporting Israel. Among those in the crowd were members of Congregation Beth El Binah, Oak Lawn's LGBT synagogue.

Gov. Rick Perry was the first speaker and received a fairly warm welcome from the mostly Jewish crowd, a crowd that predominantly votes Democratic.

Roberta Clark, community director of the Anti-Defamation League in Dallas, said this was an inter-national issue that transcends party lines.

A Christian pastor who said, "I support Israel," got louder cheers. The only mix of boos and cheers came when one speaker read a message from Sen. Ted Cruz.

Members of the LGBT community who attended had similar reasons for being at City Hall.

"I'm Jewish," said Beth El Binah member Roz Tuerk. "I support Israel."

Gay activist Geoff Staples said, "I'm here be-

cause Israel deserves our support despite Netanyahu."

— David Taffet



Miguel Angel Hernandez

### Abbott a no-show at petition drop

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott was a no-show Monday when Equality Texas dropped off nearly 5,200 petitions demanding Gov. Rick Perry and Abbott drop their defense of the state's same-sex marriage ban.

"Despite the plans prearranged last week in which a staff member would meet us in the lobby and take possession of the petitions, the Attorney General's office said they would only accept the petitions if they were mailed via an acceptable ground carrier," wrote Chuck Smith in an e-mail.

Instead of giving up, the group headed to the nearby UPS store and mailed them. They arrived Tuesday.

— James Russell

### Abbott argues equal protection as a right to discriminate

In his brief filed Monday with the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in the Texas marriage case, Attorney General Greg Abbott used the Equal Protection Clause to argue for discrimination.

Earlier this year, a U.S. District court in San Antonio threw out the Texas marriage amendment on the basis of due process and equal protection guaranteed in the U.S. and Texas constitutions.

"This does not require a state to confer equal treatment on things that are truly different from one another in relevant respects, and the district court did not deny that opposite-sex unions are the only type of human relationship that is biologically capable of producing children," Abbott wrote.

In other words, equal protection protects Abbott's right to discriminate. Special rights should only be given to couples seen as capable of reproducing and not to those couples adopting the kids whose reproducing parents aren't taking care of them.

He dismissed the idea that opposite-sex couples may marry who may not have children by saying rational basis "allows states to enact over-inclusive or under-inclusive laws" and that "rational-basis review does not require a state to produce evidence that a law will achieve its objectives."

So Texas' argument to defend discrimination is that that state may discriminate because gay and straight are different and if the argument for straight marriage is procreation, Texas can make laws favoring procreation even if they don't work.

— David Taffet

### DMA begins sale of David Sedaris tickets

The Dallas Museum of Art has tickets on sale for its members to hear David Sedaris talk pretty via its Arts & Letters Live series at the Winspear Opera House on Nov. 1. Tickets don't go on sale to the general public until Aug. 12. Now, you may think, "That's only two weeks; the Winspear holds 2,300 people. I can wait." But you'd probably be wrong. Or at least disadvantaged.

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— Arnold Wayne Jones



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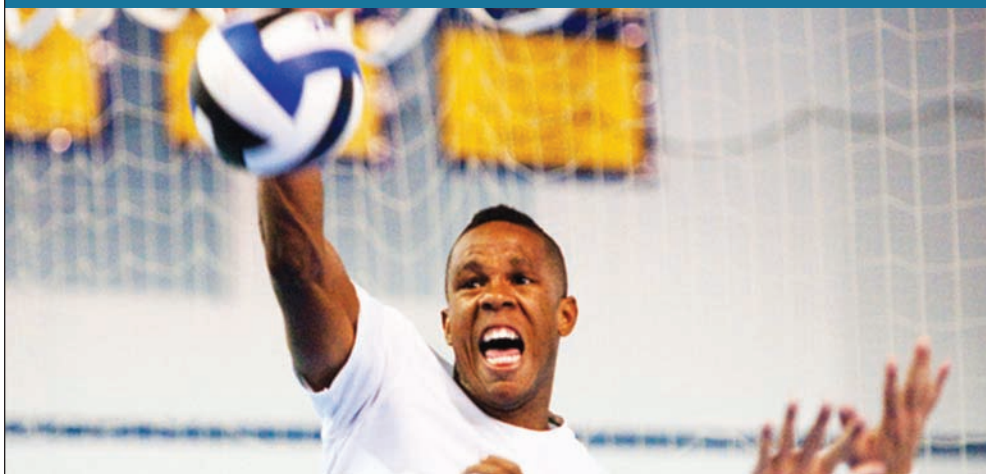
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## localbriefs

### 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.

### Texas Instruments hosts High Tech Happy Hour

Texas Instruments' LGBT networking program High Tech Happy Hour hosts their next event August 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Park Tavern, 8166 Park Lane, C310. Enter the lot from Greenville Avenue.

High Tech Happy Hour is a community networking initiative sponsored by TI to introduce the LGBT community to new and friendly bars and restaurants around Dallas. No reservations necessary.

### Out & Equal DFW presents One Night in Waikiki event

Out & Equal DFW will host their seventh annual fundraising event themed One Night in Waikiki this year on August 14, 6-8 p.m., at Times Ten Cellars, 6324 Prospect Ave. Individual tickets are \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. Contact Jef-

frey Gorczynski at 214-226-6502.

The event raises funds for workplace education programs and scholarships for its volunteers to attend the national Out & Equal Workplace Summit in San Francisco, November 3-6.

### Youth First art show opening reception

Youth First in collaboration with Hope Is Never Silent presents a show featuring art made by the group's youth reflecting on Harvey Milk's legacy. The show opens August 1, 6-9 p.m., at Illume Galerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Suite 107. The show runs through August 7.

### Lambda Legal holds Landmark Dinner

Lambda Legal's fifth annual Landmark Dinner and anniversary celebration takes place at Hotel Palomar, 5300 E Mockingbird Lane on Aug. 9 at 6 p.m.

The dinner celebrates the successful work of the organization, especially landmark cases such as Lawrence v. Texas that declared sodomy laws unconstitutional in 2003 and has been the basis for many legal gains made by the LGBT community in the last decade.

For information and tickets, contact Carla McKinzie at 214-219-8585, ext. 221 or [cmckinzie@lambdalegal.org](mailto:cmckinzie@lambdalegal.org).

### pet of the week / MELANIE

**Melanie** is a one year old brown and white tabby. If you don't like warm, friendly and affectionate cats then this cat is not for you. She loves petting and purring — you pet, she purrs. Because she's been at the shelter for more than 2 weeks her adoption fee has been waived. She's patiently waiting for you at Dallas Animal Services, 1818 Westmoreland Rd. Ask for Melanie, #A839433.

The Adoption Center is open 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday to Saturday and 12 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 of age, to any senior citizen that adopts a pet, and to anyone adopting more than one pet at a time. For more information, visit [www.DallasAnimalServices.org](http://www.DallasAnimalServices.org) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices](http://www.facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices). Photo contributed by Judi Burnett.



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Photos by David Taffet

# 'You're talking about my family'

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer

russell@dallasvoice.com

Leticia Van de Putte, a Texas state senator from San Antonio and the Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor, doesn't mince words. In her first interview with the gay press, she spoke intimately about her family and the ongoing legislative struggle for equality. She also packed in the punches against her Republican opponent, state Sen. Dan Patrick of Houston.

**Dallas Voice: You talk a lot about your family as a motivation and force in your life. Who among them has shaped you into the Democratic senator and lieutenant governor nominee Van de Putte?**

Leticia Van de Putte: I grew up in a very traditional Mexican-American family. We all lived within four blocks of one another, so my cousins were also like my brothers and sisters. But early on, my motivators were my dad, mom and grandparents. I knew growing up that I was unconditionally loved. I also knew I could be anybody. My dad was especially influential because he knew the power of a father's words. I was a little girl growing up in the 1950s and '60s, but even then to him it wasn't about my looks. When he'd introduce me, I wouldn't hear the usual, "This is my daughter." He would say "Es la más inteligente [She's the smartest in her class]." I didn't think so, but because he said so, I thought I might be. And because I thought I could be, I studied a lot.

You know, I've never been a petite girl either. But that didn't stop my dad from making me believe I could do anything. For instance he became my track coach. When you have big thighs, you can run track and jump over hurdles. To him, it wasn't what you looked like; it was what was in your head, your heart, strength and endurance — those were the qualities that were most important.

My mother was a public school music teacher who didn't get her college degree until later in life. She emphasized to my sisters and I that we could be trailblazers. We could be the first generation of women identified by our accomplishments, not by our daddies or husbands. But she made it very plainly clear that those accomplishments came with responsibility. She would say "No excuses! No 'My husband won't let me' or 'My daddy won't like it!'" I learned if you made the decision to really make your own character, it's going to be harder when you also have to own up to it.

**Did you grow up knowing LGBT people?** Yes! In my family, I had an uncle and two aunts. We called them our "aunts," but only one was my blood aunt. I would talk to my grandma about them and she would say, "I don't know what this big thing about gay is," as if nobody then was gay! She spoke about them as if they were like sisters. I told her "Grandma, they share a bed." And when it came to my Uncle Rudy, she would say, "He is very different but a great son to his mother."

It was a different time than now. Even though I grew up in a very differ-

ent and welcoming household, I still saw discrimination firsthand. After my dad came home from the Korean War, they wanted to buy a home in the area. But a lot of the properties had very discriminatory deed restrictions: "No Mexicans, no n-word, no dogs." But my parents were activists. When something wasn't right, they worked within the system.

I saw a lot that wasn't fair and right. I had a friend in the early in 1970s. People thought he was odd because he wore mascara and lipstick. I saw firsthand the humiliation he experienced. I thought he was so brave. He told me he didn't remember a time when he wasn't gay. In pharmacy school, I had to be cover for a gay friend. He feared if he were outed, the pharmacy board would prevent him from taking or passing his exams. For a year everyone thought we had this hot and heavy relationship — when really it was a hot and heavy friendship. I loved going to the gay bars (laughs).

My dorm roommate and I tried to get an apartment off campus when we were upperclassmen at the University of Houston, around 1974-75. We were told we had to get a two bedroom because we were two unrelated women. Two people of the same sex couldn't get a one bedroom. I said we had been living together in a one bedroom in the dorm. "We're not lesbians; this is all we can afford."

**What motivates you now as a legislator to pursue equality?** Our dearest friends are a gay couple across the street. They have been together for 16 years. They are the best role models for our family. My son is named after my husband Pete's mentor who was gay. My cousins just adopted a baby girl. They've been together 18 years. Before she passed, one of my dearest friends was Christie Littleton. She was from the trans community. She got gender reassignment surgery in the '70s. She married Pete's uncle and was the most fabulous wife. To us she was Aunt Christie. So when you're talking about the trans community, you're talking about my family. When you're talking about discrimination, you're talking about my family. I think that is one area of government we still have a group of people who aren't treated with full equality.

That's why I introduced [Senate Bill 237 to prohibit workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity] last year. Eric Alva was the first soldier injured in Iraq, the first Purple Heart recipient. And he came back home and faced discrimination — not because he was Hispanic or had disabilities, but because he is a gay man. This is someone who has fought for us! If the Department of Defense can let people be openly gay, why can't we protect those people, too?

I've seen people change. I'm just lucky I grew up in and have family where it's no big deal.

**The incoming freshmen senators have very different views from yours; they have very conservative views. How would you moderate your convictions and beliefs with theirs? Do you think their views will change?** I've served with great men and women for a long time. In the primary, candidates say what they say and do what they do to win. They usually make the turn to governance. If

they disagree with you, they largely will hear you out in the Senate. Many of the incoming legislators are very populist and libertarian. Under that scenario, they usually believe government shouldn't be telling people what to do in their bedroom.

Certainly my opponent, state Sen. Dan Patrick, believes marriage is between one man and woman. He is a foe of equality. But with others you could sway the libertarian folks from the religious angle who say this threatens traditional marriage. Well, I'll tell you, if my gay neighbors are a threat to my 37-year marriage to Pete, that's really the thing we should worry about.

You have two kinds of marriage: The type recognized by the government and then the type recognized by a religious institution. Each religion needs to adhere to the tenets with which it feels comfortable. But I believe the government will very soon promote equality and protection under the law. If that includes marriage, the recognition of a loving relationship with another person, we should be able to allow that.

**What would be your first move as lieutenant governor? And don't say you want to get a new chair.** (Laughing) A great leader listens to and treats every senator with respect regardless of party. It shouldn't be a red and blue team. It should be a red, white and blue Lone Star team. Our priorities are neither Republican nor Democratic. Our job is creating a budget providing infrastructure, water and education, not engaging in these single wedge issues that divide us.

I would tap the folks for their skill sets and passions. You respect them and also the taxpayers who elected them. There's a lot of work to do in a session, but the first thing you have to do is get everyone and their priorities together in a respectful process to come out with a budget and laws that respect priorities.

Being a good lieutenant governor is like being a good pharmacist. You have to listen and connect. I wish I could make my pharmacy patients make good decisions. I can't. But I can provide them with a structure, information and motivation so they can make good decisions and maintain their quality of life. I want to provide that structure to all Texans, their businesses and communities, regardless of size. I know how to work together with people to provide that. Maybe it's the mama; maybe the healthcare provider; maybe it's the small business owner in me.

**You've made it clear the differences between you and your Republican opponent, Sen. Dan Patrick. Given the state's long record of electing Republicans though, why even run?** I have an intense love for this state. I know Dan Patrick. He sits in front of me. I just don't see this vision of the state with what he brings. His "my way or the highway style" and D.C.-style politicking just isn't right for the state. We all may have our differences, but we have so much more in common, and you need a leader who understands that, not someone who constantly divides. You don't need a leader who is more interested in political points for the next election and what some groups are going to give him on a report card. That's not what's best for our kids' report cards, communities and state. I have to win.



# Grand marshals named

Carol West, Rafael McDonnell chosen by record turnout of voters, DTG director says

**TAMMYE NASH** | Managing Editor  
nash@dallasvoice.com

The votes are in and the community has chosen the Rev. Carol West and Rafael McDonnell to lead the 2014 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade as grand marshals on Sept. 21. Both said this week they are surprised and honored to have been chosen.

"It's really a great honor," said West, pastor of Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth. "It's always a great honor to be chosen to represent our community in some fashion. But there is just so much good happening in our community right now, our community is so alive and vibrant right now, that it is an especially wonderful time to be participating and to be honored this way."

Pointing to the victories the LGBT rights movement has won, including a growing number of legal victories around the issue of marriage equality, West said, "We've come a long way, baby, and I am glad to be here and be part of this community."

Like West, McDonnell, who is communications and advocacy manager for Resource Center in Dallas, said he thinks being chosen as grand marshal is as much an honor for the organization he serves as for him as an individual.

"I think this is a reflection of the work we do here at the center, our advocacy work and in terms of the programs and services Resource Center offers," McDonnell said.

But he also appreciates it as recognition for the work he did as a journalist, before he joined the center's staff. "My involvement with the community dates back to at least 1991," he said.

Michael Doughman, executive director of the Dallas Tavern Guild, the organization that puts on Dallas' Pride parade each fall, said there was a record voter turnout in this year's voting, with more than 1,600 ballots cast.

Each year, a male and a female grand marshal are chosen. Doughman said that in years past, Tavern Guild members chose the parade grand marshals. In 2012, however, they changed the process to allow the community to vote.

Doughman explained forms allowing the public to nominate potential grand marshals are posted on the Tavern Guild's website for six to eight weeks. Tavern Guild officials then narrow the nominees down to the top three men and the top three women, based on how many people nominated them.

Then the nominees are posted on the website and the voting opened to the public for four to six weeks, Doughman said.

The first year the grand marshals were chosen by community vote there were about 600 to 700 votes cast. Last year, there were about 1,000 votes. This year's tally increased by more than half.

Doughman said it is also the first time that both



The Rev. Carol West



Rafael McDonnell

the male and the female grand marshal have been from Fort Worth, as best as he can remember. And West is the first person, as far as anyone knows, to have been chosen grand marshal of Pride parades in both Dallas and Fort Worth. She was Tarrant County Pride Parade grand marshal in 2010.

But Doughman said both McDonnell and West have earned the right to be recognized in Dallas as well as Fort Worth.

"Carol has a really, really rich history in the Dallas community," Doughman said, noting that she was previously a minister with Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas, which is now Cathedral of Hope, a United Church of Christ congregation. And while McDonnell has been active in Tarrant County, "most of the work he does is here in Dallas, with Resource Center where he works, even though he lives in Fort Worth."

McDonnell agreed. "Yes, Dallas and Fort Worth each have their own issues. But we are a regional community," he said. "As the late Tom Anable [of Fairness Fort Worth] and I used to tell each other, equality doesn't stop at the county line." ■

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# Building a bridge of compassion

Immigrant rights activist and gay man Jose Antonio Vargas calls on LGBTs to reach out to immigrants

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor  
nash@dallasvoice.com

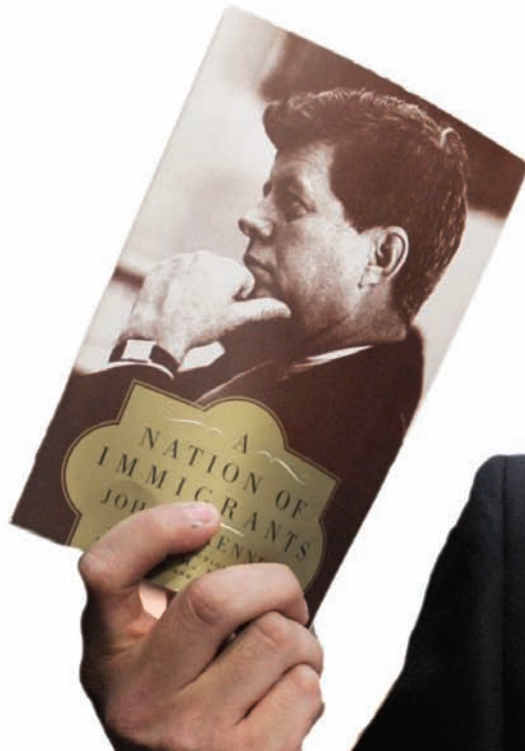
Born in the Phillipines, Jose Antonio Vargas has lived in the United States since he was 12. He has been open about his “undocumented” status — his mother sent him to live in the U.S. with his grandparents without the proper documents authorizing him to live here permanently — since 2011.

But he was never detained by authorities over his undocumented status — not, that is, until July 15 when he tried to leave the Texas border town of McAllen.

Vargas, an openly gay Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who has become one of the leaders of the national immigrant rights movement, was in McAllen to highlight the plight of children fleeing from violence in their Central American homelands.

More than 57,500 unaccompanied children and teens have been caught crossing the U.S. border illegally since last October, and that number is expected to rise. Many of them turn themselves in to authorities as soon as they get into the U.S., hoping to find asylum and protection from the drug gangs wreaking havoc in their own countries.

The issue of the young refugees has become a political flash point. Those on one end of the spectrum are demanding the children be packed up and shipped back home immediately. At the other end are those who insist the children are political refugees who face certain harm or death if they are returned, and as such deserve asylum here.



Jose Antonio Vargas

In a telephone interview Wednesday with Dallas Voice, Vargas — who will be in Dallas Saturday and Sunday for events hosted by Cathedral of Hope and Hope for Peace and Justice — said it is an issue that should transcend partisan, and any other, differences.

“This is a crisis, a humanitarian crisis,” Vargas said. “We have to begin creating the kinds of spaces where people can talk about this in a non-political way, a non-inflammatory way.”

Vargas praised Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins, who has offered to shelter some 2,000 of the refugee children, for offering the “kind of welcoming and compassionate voice” the children need. “We have to highlight those voices when we can find them,” Vargas said. “We need more people adding their voices to that effort, especially when we see so many images now of angry Americans” calling for the children to be rounded up and deported.

Vargas said he believes LGBT people are and should be at the forefront of those stepping up to help, because “the immigrant rights movement and the LGBT movement really have a lot in common. Both movements are about the fight for dignity, the fight to just be able to exist peacefully. In both cases, it’s about an issue of legality.”

The LGBT community has made great strides toward

equality, especially in the last 10 years, Vargas said. “In 2004, George W. Bush built his presidential reelection campaign around his opposition to [same-sex marriage],” he said. But just 10 years later, the LGBT community is on the brink of winning marriage equality.

“That’s just in 10 years,” Vargas said. “It seems like it is happening so fast that we’ve almost gotten whiplash. In just 10 years, we’re living in a new kind of atmosphere, where it is considered unacceptable to be homophobic. Yes, there are places, especially in the South, where homophobia is still very strong. But culturally speaking, it is unacceptable to be homophobic, especially among young people.”

Vargas attributes that growing acceptance to what he called “the Will and Grace effect — for every Will, there is a Grace, a friend or sister or mother who loves them.” In other words, acceptance of LGBT people grows as more non-LGBT people began to realize that they already know — and love — someone who is lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.

“The tent of compassion has grown, and it covers LGBT people more and more now. The LGBT rights movement has made such progress,” Vargas said. “But the immigrant rights movement still has a long, long way to go. The immigrant rights movement can learn a lot from the LGBT rights movement on how to build coalitions. And the LGBT rights movement has to be a stronger ally for the immigrant rights movement.”

“We have to create a bridge of empathy between the immigrant rights movement and the LGBT movement,” because the two movements, Vargas said, “intersect in so many ways. Immigrants who are undocumented have to come out to people, just

like LGBT people have come out, to let people in so they can begin to understand” the lives and the plight of undocumented immigrants.

The two movements also share common bonds, he added, because “so many leaders among the undocumented immigrants are LGBT.”

## What are we afraid of?

Vargas said it was scary to have been detained in McAllen, stuck in the Rio Grande Valley that he compared to “a militarized zone” where heavily armed Border Patrol agents and, now, National Guard soldiers are patrolling.

“You see this, and you think about the fact that it is children who are coming across the border, and you think, what are we really protecting ourselves from? From frightened children who come here to be safe?” Vargas said. “[Texas Gov. Rick] Perry is spending billions to ‘secure’ the border. But what is Gov. Perry really afraid of?”

“These children aren’t trying to come here and hide from authorities. They are running towards the Border Patrol agents as soon as they cross the border,” he continued. “It shows a real lack of intellectual honesty for [Perry] to be doing this now. He defended the DREAM Act before, and now he is against it. Where is Gov. Perry’s heart when it comes to these children?”

The answer, Vargas said again, is to approach the issue with compassion.

“There has always been someone, some group, that has been treated as ‘other’ — the blacks, the LGBT people. Right now, it’s the immigrants who are the ultimate ‘other,’” he said. “We all need to come together and insist on finding our common humanity.”

## Vargas in Dallas

Pulitzer Prize-winning author, immigration activist and openly gay man Jose Antonio Vargas will join a panel of local and national immigration activists and faith leaders for an Immigration Symposium Saturday, Aug. 2, at 1 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Rd.

Also participating will be LULAC National Vice Chair Christina Garcia, LULAC-Dallas President Juan Contreras, Citizens for a Better Arizona Field Director Ramiro Luna, Indigenous Liberation Committee National Chair and Dallas Communities Organizing for Change representative Kooper Caraway, Equality Texas executive board member and Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats Vice President Felipe Gutierrez, North Texas Dream Team Education Not Deportation Coordinator Soraya Ronco, and Hutto Visitation Program Grassroots Leadership consultant Elaine J. Cohen.

The event is free, but there is a suggested donation of \$5 to H4PJ’s Dallas Child Immigrant Fund.

At 6:30 p.m. Saturday, H4PJ hosts a screening of Vargas’ film *Documented*, followed by a talkback with the director, at Studio Movie Grill, 10110 Technology Blvd. in Dallas. Tickets are \$15 and include dinner. Students are admitted free with a school or college ID. Only 253 seats are available.

Vargas will also speak at both services at Cathedral of Hope on Sunday, Aug. 3.



# Hunting for justice

A Plano man attacked by a roommate's dog says homophobia in the Plano PD stalled his case

**JAMES RUSSELL** | Staff Writer  
russell@dallasvoice.com

When Hal Wallace went to the emergency room on June 29 following an attack by his roommate's dog, he and his husband, Johnathon DeJarnett, had a hunch the dog had been goaded into attacking Wallace. They believe the roommate, Johnathan James Mayer, riled his pit bull mix, Rocko, to intimidate Wallace.

Now, what was a backyard dispute between two roommates has become an ongoing battle that has left all sides disappointed.

June 29 was a low-key day with good energy for a house that was otherwise filled with personalities, said Calvin Carlson, another roommate. It was nice, that is, until Wallace went into the backyard.

A dispute over Wallace's lawnmower provoked Rocko to suddenly attack, mauling Wallace. When DeJarnett, Carlson and roommate Ashton Williams heard the ruckus they saw a badly injured Wallace and a terrified Mayer.

The roommates scrambled. They called the police and animal control. DeJarnett and Wallace were headed toward the hospital in an ambulance. Rocko was taken to the animal control shelter.

A few of the roommates had been drinking, said Mayer. When asked, Carlson disputed it. "It was a negligible amount," he said.

According to documents provided by DeJarnett, Plano Animal Control officer Jamey Cantrell believed that Rocko attacked Wallace. But what remains in question is whether Mayer intentionally goaded Rocko into attacking Wallace.

While Mayer and the couple had clashed before, it was nothing dramatic, said Carlson. Even when tensions were at their highest the atmosphere was still cordial.

After the city's animal control division opened an investigation, the couple also filed a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon against Mayer. But after an investigation, the detective concluded that their claims were unsubstantiated.

"There was no proof that Mr. Mayer intentionally ... caused serious bodily injury to Mr. Wallace and that a deadly weapon was used," wrote Police Chief Gregory Rushin in an e-mail provided by DeJarnett.

"I am in shock if this is how the justice system works. If it wasn't malicious, it was at least negligence, and we can find no advocacy at Plano PD," DeJarnett wrote. DeJarnett and Wallace said they believe the police department's decision not to send the case to the Collin County District Attorney's office came from homophobia in the po-



**A DOG'S LIFE** | Hal Wallace has been in the hospital for more than a month after his roommate's dog attacked him. (Dallas Voice/James Russell)

lice department.

Mayer denied that he acted with malicious or reckless intent. He alleged that Wallace provoked the dog by cranking the lawnmower, a loud machine that intimidated Rocko, and precipitated the attack. Mayer maintains his innocence and said he tried to restrain the dog.

"If you antagonize a dog, they will respond," Mayer said.

Since the attack, Wallace has been in and out of the hospital four times, piling up thousands of dollars in medical bills. He has also missed more than a month of work.

Mayer moved out.

The city's animal control division has scheduled a hearing to determine whether the dog will return its owner or be euthanized. Mayer said he still visits Rocko at the shelter.

Wallace is still in the hospital. While he and DeJarnett see one form of injustice in alleged discrimination by the police department, Mayer sees another: "That dog is my little baby. I've had him since he was six months old." ■

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## MetroBall raises record amount for GDMAF



**BEDAZZLED** | New Razzle Dazzle Dallas board members, from left, David Hearn, Kelvin Myers, Rodd Gray, Mark Lampkin, Tom Dance and Bobby Jackson, met this week to begin mapping out next year's event. (Dallas Voice/David Taffet)

Razzle Dazzle Dallas breaks even;  
 organization rethinks June Pride

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
 taffet@dallasvoice.com

While MetroBall raised a record \$47,240 for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund at its June 6 event, the Razzle Dazzle Dallas main event, held the next night, was not financially successful, organizers have announced.

MetroBall and Razzle Dazzle Dallas are two separate events, but have been held the same weekend since 2011 as part of a Dallas June Pride weekend. Dallas' Pride parade, called the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, is held in September.

Since its resurrection in 2011, Razzle Dallas Dallas, along with MetroBall, has contributed \$223,000 to community organizations. But after two successful years at Main Street Garden, the Saturday night event returned to Cedar Springs Road this year. And proceeds dropped.

In contrast, attendance doubled this year for MetroBall, which featured Erasure's Andy Bell. Last year's draw was Thelma Houston.

Razzle Dazzle Dallas and MetroBall President John Cooper-Lara said paid attendance at RDD was down this year, but also general attendance on the street decreased for the main event on Saturday night.

Because Cedar Springs is a public street, admission can't be charged. However, the parking lot behind the bars was closed to cars and used as a paid entertainment area. Expenses for the main event were lower this year than last, but a number of regular sponsors didn't participate at the \$500 and \$1,000 level, Cooper-Lara said.

Razzle Dazzle Dallas didn't make any money to return to beneficiaries this year, but the event wasn't the financial disaster of 2003 when the Village People appeared and bankrupted the organization.

"We paid all our bills," Cooper-Lara said. He said gate admission and beer sales are the major fundraiser for Razzle Dazzle, and both declined this year.

"Most of our money [for MetroBall] comes through the silent auction," Cooper-Lara said. "And we have a solid base of support."

And when more people attend to see an attraction like Bell, more people participate in the silent auction.

Cooper-Lara will continue to head MetroBall next year.

Incoming Razzle Dazzle Dallas President Tom Dance, who met with his new board on Tuesday, said next year's event is being completely retooled. He said the board liked the idea of making Razzle Dazzle into a music concert event.

Board member Rodd Gray said this year's set up, with multiple stages, was confusing to people who attended. He said people saw the free stage on Cedar Springs but didn't know there was another stage behind Sue Ellen's featuring Thea Austin of Snap, Jason Dottley, DaniElle De-Latte, Josh Zuckerman and his band and Patrick Boyd.

Gray, who is heading next year's entertainment committee, said he'd like to see a mix of local and national names on the stage and has already been in touch with several people who have expressed interest in appearing.

The board has discussed whether holding its event during June is a priority. Board members said they are looking for more input from the public and are exploring options.

They're also looking at a number of possible venues and at having RDD become an annual fundraiser for one organization, rather than having multiple beneficiaries.

"We're excited," Dance said. "We have a good future and a new generation of board members."

Cooper-Lara said planning is already underway for next year's 10th anniversary MetroBall, which is the flagship fundraiser for GDMAF. That organization provides financial assistance for critical needs when resources are exhausted through other local AIDS organizations.

Both MetroBall and Razzle Dazzle Dallas are already looking for sponsors and volunteers for next year's events and can be contacted through their websites. ■

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# Trans woman settles housing case



**HOME SWEET HOME |** Roxann Joganik, left, and Darlina Anthony at home in Seven Points where they moved their RV after they were given two hours to vacate a mobile home park in Athens because Joganik is trans. (Dallas Voice/David Taffet)

Cedar Creek Lake couple say they were pressured by DOJ to accept mediated settlement rather than take case to trial to set legal precedent

**DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer**  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

A transgender woman and her partner have settled a lawsuit alleging unfair housing practices by an Athens RV park owner.

The Cedar Creek Lake-area couple say they are not happy with the settlement and that the Department of Justice pressured them to accept \$4,000 to settle the suit.

The case was based on an Obama Administration interpretation of nondiscrimination law that includes the transgender community in the definition of gender discrimination.

Roxann Joganik and her partner, Darlina Anthony, charged that when George Toone took over the RV park they lived in, he evicted them because of Joganik's gender identity.

"The Department of Justice let down every transgender person across the U.S.," Joganik said.

Had it gone to trial, the case could have established the legal precedent that transgender falls under the category of gender discrimination, she said.

Last fall, the Department of Housing and Urban Development filed a lawsuit on behalf of Joganik and Anthony. The suit alleged that prohibiting someone from dressing as a female in the park violates federal fair housing laws.

The lease for the pad in the RV park and park rules did not include protections against sex discrimination.

Toone told Joganik he did not want her to wear female clothing in the park because there are children around the pool and it is "not the type of atmosphere we want to promote on private property." In its suit, HUD said Toone's statement indicated he would rather not have transgender persons in the common areas of the

park. HUD called that illegal.

Joganik praised HUD's suit, but said once the Department of Justice became involved, things went downhill.

"The attorney was not sensitive to my gender identity," Joganik said.

She said although her name has been legally changed and gender changed on her social security, insurance and other papers, the attorney called her "sir."

"She said that I threatened her when I didn't and went so far as to call me a terrorist," Joganik said.

The court required the two sides to go to mediation. A trial was scheduled for later in the year if the negotiations failed, but Joganik said the Department of Justice attorney told her they would drop the case if she didn't accept the settlement.

The settlement only covers actual damages. When given two hours to vacate the property, Anthony said they had to replace tires on their mobile home. Her TV and other unsecured items were damaged as a result of the quick move.

In the settlement, Toone denies all allegations, but paid the amount of damages. He maintains he complied with state and federal law, but he was required to add gender discrimination as a category in the park rules and in his lease. He will not be monitored by DOJ for compliance.

Anthony and Joganik said they could have filed separate cases and that Anthony had a stronger case had she filed alone. But the Department of Justice refused to separate the claims, Joganik said. The \$4,000 broke down as \$1,000 for Anthony and \$3,000 for Joganik.

"Once again, women are treated unfairly," Anthony said.

She said she had more actual damages than Joganik.

The settlement stipulates Joganik and Anthony can say nothing about Toone, and they only confirmed he paid the negotiated settlement.

Joganik praised the work HUD did on their behalf, but said she is moving forward by filing a complaint against the Department of Justice. She said DOJ let down the entire trans community.

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viewpoints

# It ain't all about you

When someone transitions, so, in a way, do their friends and families

Having just celebrated my 39th birthday for the umpteenth time, I figured some reflection was due. A lot has happened in the last couple of years since I came out as transgender — on my birthday in 2012.

Who the hell comes out on their birthday? I guess, I do. I never intended to, but shit happens sometimes.

I had delayed doing it so for many years for a slew of reasons. But I was always pretty clear on just who I was. It wasn't courage that got me to finally say the words aloud; I was backed into a corner and felt I had no other choice — well, no other reasonable choice.

I had spent 30-plus years behind a microphone on radio stations all over the country — as a guy. A character.

It worked really well. A radio station is a great place to hide while feeding my creative energy. I earned good ratings, won awards and made lots of money. But I was restless and never completely happy.

Coming out is certainly a very personal thing. To come out as transgender has profound implications on the rest of your life. I don't care how much thought and preparation you put into it, you will never think of everything — not even close!

There is so much to think about:

- Your new name (which will need to be legally changed, along with your gender

marker).

- How you will present yourself to the world.

- Whether to tell your employer (Many transgender people find themselves out of work).

I could do a whole article just on that. But while this process is deeply personal, it also affects nearly everyone in your life.

When I came out, I had been married for 33 years. I have now been divorced for 16 months.

My brother feels that by uttering my name or using it in print, it would be an offense to his god — so he won't. As you might guess, we don't talk much.

A bright spot in my life has been my two daughters. They are now 33 and 27, and I could not be more proud of them. Both have been tremendously supportive of me through my transition, yet both have struggled in their own way.

My oldest came to visit me shortly after I moved to Dallas and stayed a week before returning home. This was maybe eight months before I came out. The next time I saw her was over Christmas and it was the first time she had met me as Leslie.

This past Thanksgiving, we were talking and she said, "You know, I wish when I came to see



Leslie McMurray  
Contributing Columnist

you that I would have known it was the last time I'd see my dad."

I had no answer. What do you say? "Yeah, sorry about that?"

The first Father's Day after I came out, I was unprepared. My oldest had wanted to post a picture of us together on her Facebook Wall but didn't want to offend me. So she didn't. It was the picture of me walking her down the aisle at her wedding. I love that picture and would be fine with her posting it, but I didn't think ahead of time to address that day with my kids.

Just recently my youngest, Chrissy, called. We speak often and we had a delightful conversation. She has been living with her boyfriend for about five years now and I love him. He's so good to her. I have a pretty good idea where this relationship is heading.

Anyway, I was talking to Chrissy and asked her if she feels like the relationship with her dad was taken away from her. She was candid and said "Not really. We have a better relationship now than we ever did when you were my dad."

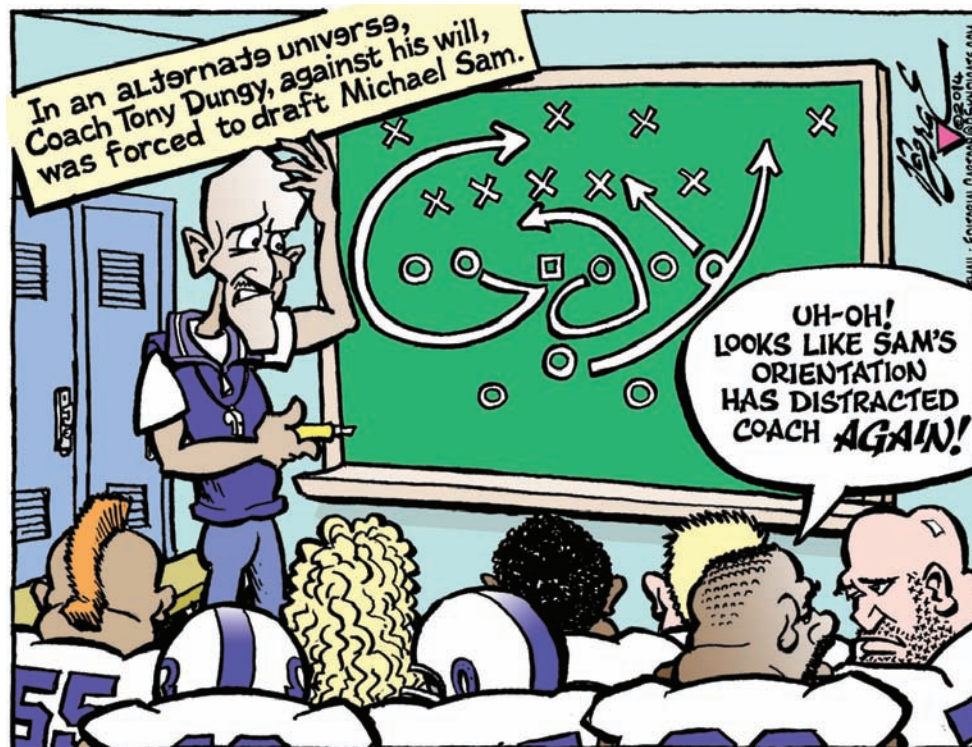
Well OK then.

She then went on to say that recently she and her boyfriend were at a friend's wedding and everything was fine until they had the "Father/Daughter Dance." Chrissy said she just lost it as she was hit with the realization that this event would never happen for her. We have a totally different relationship, and it's great. But it's not father and daughter.

That was punctuated when I asked her about her eventual wedding. She told me that there would be some changes that would have to be made: "One thing's for sure, you and your fake tits are NOT walking me down the aisle!"

I just love her.

Leslie McMurray, a transgender woman, is a former radio DJ who lives and works in Dallas. Read more of her blogs at <http://lesliemichelle44.wordpress.com>.



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# Queer & folk

Out Texas musician Jay Brannan steps off the shortbus and into adulthood



Judging from the comments on Jay Brannan's YouTube channel, the Texas-born, Manhattan-based, openly queer singer-songwriter doesn't have many haters. He may have the 2006 film *Shortbus* to thank for the international fan base he has accrued there: on his May 2014 posting of a cover of Fleetwood Mac's "Landslide," one of the comments reads: *Not to take anything away from a very good rendition of landslide, butt... I just really want to bite your ass.*

"Oh, god," Brannan laughs. "That is a reference to the three-way!" In the sexually explicit — and very queer — film *Shortbus*, directed by John Cameron Mitchell, Brannan made his acting debut as Ceth, a young musician who becomes part of a gay throuple alongside co-stars PJ DeBoy and Paul Dawson. During a riotous and hardcore threesome sequence, DeBoy sings "The Star Spangled Banner" into Brannan's derriere while rimming him (the clip is easily found online).

"For the record, there wasn't any biting going on in that scene!" Brannan clarifies. "It was very gentle. Yeah, a lot of people were introduced to me and my music through that film. *Shortbus* struck a chord with a lot of people." The film also featured his song "Soda Pop," a catchy indie-folk ditty that proved the soundtrack's most popular entry — today you can download it for free on his discography page, [JayBannan.com/music](http://JayBannan.com/music).

In the years since, he's released several full length and EP albums, including 2012's *Rob Me Blind*, which featured another hit, "Beautifully" (it shot up iTunes' charts when a gay dancer used it as his audition track on Canada's *So You Think You Can Dance*). Brannan was nominated for a Canadian Genie Award (the country's Oscar equivalent) for the song "My Love, My Love," featured

in director Thom Fitzgerald's critically acclaimed 2011 film about a pair of elderly lesbians, *Cloudburst*. And his multilingual 2013 EP, *Around The World in 80s Jays*, featured cover versions of international songs in their native tongues.

Just as strong as the above tracks, and perhaps even more profound, is "Blue-Haired Lady," Brannan's latest song and music video — a beautiful, hook-laden song about an elderly woman on her deathbed with the catchy albeit downbeat refrain ... *don't let me die alone*. It springs from his brand new album, *Always, Then & Now*, which became available on July 15.

He says that the song, and entire album for that matter, are informed by lessons learned as he's grown older and more reflective — Brannan turned 32 in March — and a desire to create fictitious characters and flex creativity through his songwriting rather than just "let out steam from my own head."

"It's thinking about the past and future and who you are in all those times," he explains. "Who you will become. I experimented with different song structures. I wrote several that don't have choruses. And I think there is more hope on this album, which is not a characteristic of me. Anger and loneliness and sadness are still there, but also hope. I can't be an angry 20-year-old the rest of my life. Only on Tuesdays and Thursdays."

The liberal use of strings, meanwhile, adds an aching quality (*à la* Antony & the Johnsons) to a number of tracks, which were recorded over the course of a year in a friend's Brooklyn studio.

"Aching's my middle name!" Brannan laughs. "It was very organic. It's raw and acoustic. My songs are about the lyrics and melodies. I would just start there and once I have guitar and vocal down I think, where can I add some texture? I have talented

friends who play cello and piano, and there are background vocals on one song [by someone else], which is a first for me. We tried a bunch of different stuff. I do what I want in the moment. I'm not good at planning a No. 1 hit!"

Nor was Brannan ever the type of person to plan out his life in long-term measures. Raised in a Texas Baptist family, he says he never imagined living beyond 30, and decided to, with instinct as his guide, pursue a precarious and unpredictable path as an artist. After escaping Texas, he moved to Los Angeles to pursue acting, but became disenchanted and quit. In 2002 or so, a friend spotted a call for audition tapes for what was then dubbed *Sex Film Project* — later to become *Shortbus* — and thought Brannan, then working as a receptionist, might be interested. He was, and made the cut, becoming part of a film that achieved critical success, captured a cultural zeitgeist and reinvigorated his creative spirit.

"I went to Cannes Film Festival," he recalls. "I got cut from my acting program in college and to walk down the red carpet in Cannes for a film I was in felt good."

Brannan went on to appear in 2007's *Holding Trevor*. However, it was Brannan's music career that got the jumpstart from *Shortbus*: he was signed to label Nettwerk, and *Shortbus* film festival screenings afforded him opportunity to perform all over the world.

Today, an international following ravenously devours his output on YouTube (40k-plus subscribers), Twitter (29.5k followers), Facebook (more than 77k likes), and other social media sites, through which he makes a living from his music. Alas, he notes, maintaining these makes dating *really* difficult. "I'm a loner on his laptop all the time and that was great for writing songs and social

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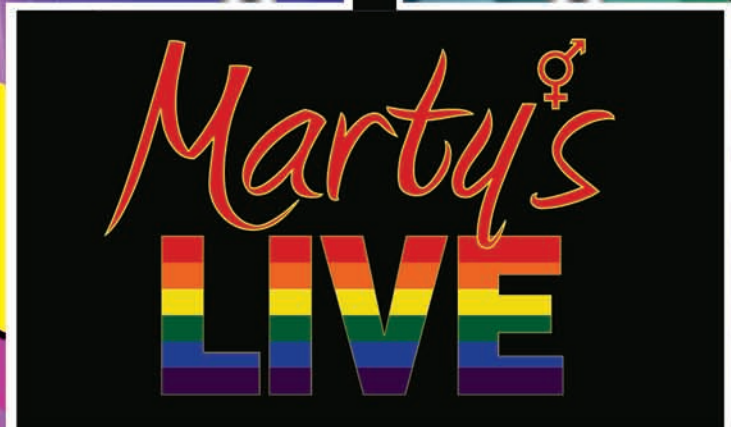
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■ BRANNAN, From Page 16

media, but dating is one area where I have not had much success the last ten years," he admits.

Adding to his labors as "president of the company," he decided to self-release *Always, Then & Now* for several reasons (he says he may return to Nettwerk in the future). "It was just where we were — our contract was at a certain place and I wanted to do something organic," he says.

While he may never have seen any of this coming as a Texas teen who didn't even think he would make it to 30, now Brannan — who lists Lana Del Rey, Seattle's Courtney Marie Andrews, Lorde and Canada's Rose Cousins as his current musical faves — is looking very much towards what lies down the road quite literally, starting with a three-month tour that will take him across North America (including Sons of Hermann Hall Monday), Germany, the U.K. and beyond through October.

"I followed a weird path," he muses. "I followed my instincts. I have done so many things I wanted to do. I feel grateful. But there are two sides of it. I have done things a lot of people dream of, but I haven't planned for 60 yet! I realize I am only a third of the way through my life! And who knows. It's important, finding a balance between living for now and living for tomorrow."

— Lawrence Ferber

# Psych!

Woody proves himself a Coward in a medium 'Magic in the Moonlight'

Many filmmakers are lovers of magic, probably because the professions of director and magician have similar skill sets: Adeptness at sleight of hand, misdirection and showing your audience only as much as they need to know for you to trick them. And they love it.

That also describes Stanley (Colin Firth), the curmudgeonly protagonist in Woody Allen's new romantic comedy, *Magic in the Moonlight*. Stanley is a stiff, cynical Brit in 1920s Europe who has made his career pretending to be a Chinese mystic while hornswoggling an audience he seems to hold in contempt precisely because he can fool them. He's a non-believer, a Jazz Age version of The Amazing Randi, who debunks those who claim to reach the spirit world. Stanley is enlisted by an old pal, Howard (Simon McBurney), to disprove the bona fides of a woman (Emma Stone) who seems to be the real deal: A psychic medium who talks to the Other

★★★★★

#### MAGIC IN THE MOONLIGHT

Colin Firth, Emma Stone.  
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**GARDEN PARTY** | Colin Firth and Emma Stone play cat-and-mouse in Woody Allen's romantic 'Magic.'

Side, and is on her way to marrying a dimwitted young millionaire.

Superficially, *Magic in the Moonlight* has a mystery at its heart, but really, that's just Allen's own gesture toward misdirection: Get you thinking about whether she's authentic while he's actually charming you — and Stanley — into falling for her.

From *The Help* to the Spider-Man movies, Stone has perfected a goofy, naifish likeability that makes her both sexy and intellectually engaging. You sense there's more going on under her snood than she let's on, but it's not coy and deceptive. You want her to be real, even though,

like Stanley, you can't subscribe to the fantasy.

Firth is a redoubtable Allen surrogate, undertaking the lead but — unlike many before him (Owen Wilson, John Cusack, Larry David, etc., with varying degrees of success) — he doesn't try to "do" Woody. He's a combination of a Noel Coward sophisticate (think *Blithe Spirit*) and Mr. Darcy. Allen gives him plenty of room to wander through his emotional repressiveness, appointing the film with gorgeous clothes and scenery (the once Big Apple-bound filmmaker now seems obsessed with the Old World). It's a whimsy, a lark — and, like a seance itself, a wonderful waste of time, even if you don't really believe in it.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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**CRY UNCLE** | Uncle Julio's, a gayborhood favorite, has jazzed up its menu with several elegant new twists on fajitas, including red snapper, pictured, and filet mignon.

We frequent restaurants in part because there's something reassuring about what they deliver. Even when they change the menu out seasonally, we have a sense for the quality and style. If they don't evolve, we get bored. But at several gayborhood haunts, recent changes have given us new reasons to check them out anew.

The Lemmon Avenue location of **Uncle Julio's** isn't the biggest restaurant in the Dallas-based national chain's arsenal, but it is the oldest, and in some ways still the best. But there's always room for improvement.

Don't worry: The swirl margaritas haven't gone away, but you will find some gourmet additions. For one, tableside guacamole has made its way to Julio's. It's a trend that's been around a while, but only started here within the last month. If you're a fan of guac, you'll want to call over a fully-loaded cart where a server mixes room-temperature avocados, cilantro, onions, lime juice and tomatoes, into a huge basalt *molcajete* (the familiar igneous rock vessel) for a chunky, fresh appetizer.

### Cocktail Friday

Everyone knows Dallas is a foodie city, but it's also a boozy city. In the gay community especially,



it's not just a beer and a shot that lubricate our social interactions, but a smartly tailored craft cocktail. Starting this week, Fridays on DallasVoice.com's InstantTea blog, we will feature a different

cocktail recipe, perfect for spicing up that pool party, fundraiser or just weekend away from work. If there's a favorite you want to share, suggest it by emailing the recipe to [jones@dallasvoice.com](mailto:jones@dallasvoice.com).

Gayborhood faves up their games with innovations

That's a good start, but it's the developments on the fajita menu that should really whet your appetite. Seven new styles — including three putting seafood at the fore (shrimp al pastor, red snapper and grilled ahi) and one with filet mignon — impart high-end spins on traditional skirt steak or chicken. Sure, shrimp has been around for a while, but the version here boasts a certain elegance, doused in a mild habanero-mango sauce. The filet is far more tender than most fajita meat, and the red snapper, served with julienned squash and a jicama slaw, wrap perfectly inside pockets of Bibb lettuce (though corn and flour tortillas are also available). These are refreshing combinations that reinvigorate an already popular menu.

A few blocks over on Throckmorton, **Thairiffic** has its own flavor updates — though perhaps not the kind you expect. The thing is, Thairiffic's notorious 1-to-20 "heat" scale (most guests stick to a "5" or below) isn't an exact science. In recent weeks, as the U.S. endures the driest season on record the chiles used to imbue that tongue-burning flavor have been running hot: A "9" may taste like a "10." And that means you might want to adjust your expectations.

And if you know Thairiffic, you know expectations are usually met. I tend to max out around an "8," though recently I tried a "7" and hit the sweet spot for spiciness. The noodles, bolstered by chewy cubes of spongy fried tofu in a red curry, gave me everything I wanted in a Thai dish: An exotic balance of power and texture.

And you don't even need to go into the restaurant to enjoy it. Thairiffic is now offering free delivery (it's been available for a few months, but they've only recently begun promoting it), which means you can have those curries and fresh shrimp rolls dropped off right at your door.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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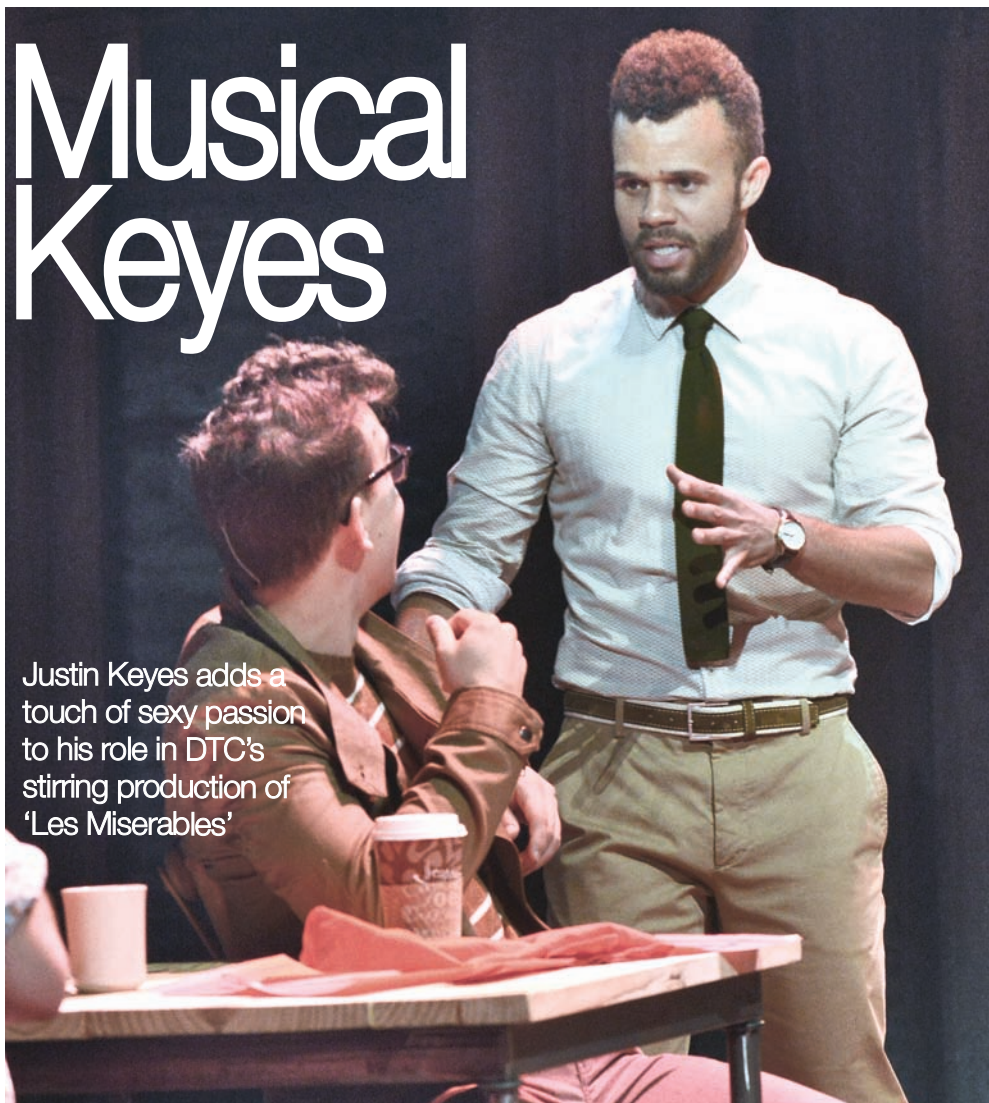
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L+S stage

# Musical Keyes

Justin Keyes adds a touch of sexy passion to his role in DTC's stirring production of 'Les Miserables'



ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor  
[jones@dallasvoice.com](mailto:jones@dallasvoice.com)

Dallas Theater Center's acclaimed rendering of *Les Miserables* has been praised for all the invigorating changes made by director Liesl Tommy, especially the modern dress. But if you're paying attention, there's one big change that improved upon the show immeasurably: The character of Marius is interesting for once.

Marius — the starry-eyed lover-boy whose main purpose seems to be cooing and singing love songs, and surviving until the end — has always been a dramatic blind spot in the musical. To paraphrase Tolstoy, saccharine love affairs tend to all look alike. We have Justin Keyes to thank for upping the game.

The out singer and actor not only brings a beautiful voice (and handsome face) to this diverse and talented cast, but his passion makes a three-dimensional person out of the stereotypical moon-faced romantic.

"That was part of our discussions with Liesl in the beginning," Keyes says over a cappuccino in the Arts District. "All these characters are very well-known, and we were [concerned] about them not becoming stock versions of *Les Miz*. What happens with lovers in musicals is, a lot of their language is so grand [we disregard it]. We decided to activate that language more."

He readily admits the modern dress element no doubt contributes to the way audiences relate so emotionally to the characters.

"There is a little bit of a disconnect" when actors are in period dress, he agrees. "I love the costuming in this production obsessively. It's probably my favorite thing" in the show, he says.

This isn't Keyes' first foray into the Dallas musical theater scene. He created the role of Tyllis, one of the basketball players in the original musical *Give It Up!*, which eventually moved onto Broadway with the title *Lysistrata Jones*. And before that, he toured with *Mary Poppins* at Fair Park.

"I'm two-for-two at [the Wylly]," he says. "One of the things that caught my eye [in the audition notice] was that I was familiar with the theater [from *Give It Up!*]. I like the idea that I did one show here that was a brand new work, and now a modern classic that everyone knows."

Keyes talks about musicals with the intensity of someone who takes them very seriously. He's interested in the use of language, how songs can be used to illuminate character and advance

■ KEYES, Page 24

**JUST JUSTIN** | Keyes appears in 'Les Miz,' but it's not his first time on Dallas stages — he was in 'Give It Up!' at DTC and toured with 'Mary Poppins' at Fair Park Music Hall. (Photo courtesy Karen Almond)





(L-R) Loni Reynolds, Steve Stallings, Steven Patterson, Thomas Rhem, Lauren Shafer, Alvaro Ramalho, Robert Olivas, Matthew Harrington, Vanessa Guzman and Carlos Saenz.

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■ KEYES, From Page 22

plot, and how powerfully a scene can communicate information. ("I find myself being especially vigilant when I talk about *Les Miz*, because so many people know it even better than I do!" he says.)

Keyes may also look familiar to local audiences for a different role — one *not* on a stage, but on TV. Keyes filmed an HIV public service announcement for the Logo network (he played a man whose part-

ner was trying to convince him to have unprotected sex) that aired frequently during *RuPaul's Drag Race*. But it was his co-stars who got most of the attention: They were *Avenue Q* puppets.

"That made me quite a celebrity for a while!" he laughs. "It was so hilariously written, but it was great to raise awareness. And those puppeteers I would put up against the best improvisational actors. It was a real education working with them."

He's not just a fan of Dallas because of his car-

reer highlights here. Despite being a native of the cooler climate of North California, Keyes is a fan of the city.

"Dallas reminds me of California, other than the heat and the politics. I love the food and the people, and all the development, even since I was last here," he says. But there's one part of the experience he feels he's missing out on.

"I've been told this is a mild summer [for Dallas], but I'm ready for the 110 degree weather," Keyes says with an absence of caution.

You can say that, Justin. But trust us: It's better this way. ■

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#### A 'Boy' and his 'Dogfight'

This summer in Dallas has been a golden age for excellent musicals. In addition to DTC's exceptional rethinking of *Les Miz*, Uptown Players has mounted the can't-miss show of the year, and WaterTower Theatre gives a joyous but serious-minded show a crackling production. How to choose? Don't — see them all.

You can start with *The Boy from Oz*, an unexpected blockbuster. The musical, based on the life of Aussie entertainer Peter Allen, was a vehicle for its star and driving force, Hugh Jackman, and hasn't been revived since he left the Broadway version. But then, no one else had Alex Ross take on the part. Ross is a marvel of playful energy and star power, dazzling the audience with his flirtatious charm. As good as he is, this is also the strongest ensemble of any show in recent memory, from the spot-on interpretations of Liza Minnelli (Sarah Elizabeth Smith) and Judy Garland (Janelle Luts) that never fall into caricature, to the tapping chorus girl to the best child actor (Westin Brown) Dallas has seen since Patsy McClenny grew up to become Morgan Fairchild. Director Cheryl Denson handles a complex and rangy narrative with laser precision and a Vegas panache. If you don't stand up and cheer, it's only because you're weak in the knees.

*Dogfight* up at WTT is a very different show — one in a minor key, not about a flamboyant gay man but lonely straight people — though the craft is equally impressive. On the eve of Nov. 21, 1963 — the day before JFK's assassination and the end of American innocence — three Marine recruits preparing to ship off to Vietnam decide to have one final bash: They host a "dogfight," a party where every Marine invites the ugliest girl he can find, and the one with the ugliest takes the pot. It's cruel and prankish, an offensive toying of others' feelings, but something they feel compelled to do as a rite of passage: Graduate, enlist, have sex, get married, have kids. They are victims of their fathers' fathers' expectations. And for many of their generation, they won't be coming back from Southeast Asia to fulfill those last two rituals.

*Dogfight's* score is brisk and delightful, but like *Spring Awakening*, it broods over the dark inevitability we see coming with hindsight but which blindsides all of them. Terry Martin's staging is excellent, and the performances — by the cast *and* the musicians — are outstanding, full of heartbreak and beauty.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



## Wednesday

08.06

Experience the music of the night with 'Phantom'

Andrew Lloyd Webber is to musical theater what James Cameron is to movies: The biggest hit-maker of all time. Among his work without Tim Rice, *Phantom of the Opera* is his best show — bombastic, yes, and overblown, but incredibly tuneful and captivating. It returns to Dallas in an all-new staging, approved by Webber himself.

**DEETS:** Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Aug. 6–24. ATPAC.org.

## Tuesday 08.05 — Friday 08.08

## Miss Gay USofA Newcomer comes to Dallas for first time

Pop culture loves new things, and so it's reflective of our fondness for freshness that Miss Gay USofA has a pageant specifically for the best newcomer of the year. For the first time ever, the contest arrives in Dallas, with a slate of candidates doing preliminary competitions at the Round-Up Tuesday through Thursday, with the final night at the Park Inn. Along the way, some old hands — including Dallas divas Alyssa Edwards and Jenna Skyy, pictured — will show the newbies how it's done.

**DEETS:** The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. Aug. 5–7. 9 p.m. showtime. Park Inn by Radisson at Love Field, 1421 W. Mockingbird Lane. Aug. 8. 7 p.m. doors, 8 p.m. showtime. MissGayUSofANewcomer.com.



## Friday 08.01

## The new Steve and Edie, in concert

Ask someone in the 1970s who "Steve and Edie" were, they'd say "Lawrence and Gorme." But today a more accurate answer would be "Martin and Brickell." The Oscar-winning funnyman and his all-rock wife team up — him on banjo (and telling jokes), her on vocals — for a tour promoting their new album. It's a bit of a homecoming for the Dallas-bred Brickell and should be a hoot ... if you know what I mean.

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**The Boy from Oz.** Uptown Players mounts this musical about the gay entertainer, and Oscar-winning songwriter, Peter Allen. *Reviewed this week.* Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Aug. 10. \$30–\$50. UptownPlayers.org.

**Broken: The Musical.** A story about tragedy and justice, it deals with the many untested and lost rape kits that deny justice to many victims. Proceeds benefit the Dallas Rape Crisis Center. The Lone Star Room at Gilley's, 1135 S. Lamar St. Through Aug. 17. BrokenTheMusical.com.

**Dogfight.** Charming musical by out composer Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, about Marines pulling a cruel prank on plain-looking girls on the eve of being shipped off to Vietnam. *Reviewed this week.* Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Aug. 17. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

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

**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. *Final weekend.* Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. JubileeTheatre.org.

**Phantom.** *Nine* scribes Maury Yeston (score) and Arthur Kopit (book) adapt the classic tale. Presented by ICT MainStage Irving-Las Colinas. Directed by Michael Serrecchia. Dupree Theater at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Through Aug. 9. \$19–\$24. IrvingArtsCenter.com.

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

**Stiff.** A new comedy about a theater critic whose death throws a wrench in a big Broadway opening. Written by Jeff Swearingen. Presented by Fun House Theatre and Film, 1301 Dolphin Road, ste. 706. Plano. Aug. 1–9. FunHouseTheatreAndFilm.com.

**The Straight Guy.** A straight guy who seems gay and a gay guy who seems straight become roommates and romantic entanglements ensue 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.

**FINE ARTS**

**Concentrations 57: Slavs and Tatars.** An international art collection, in display as part of the DMA's Concentrations Series. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Dec. 14. DMA.org.

**FRIDAY 08.01**

**CABARET**

**Cabaret and Cabernet.** The combination intimate concert and wine-tasting returns to the Sammons



**LION IN WAIT** | The 27th annual Leo Party and Miss Leo Contest roars back at the Hidden Door Saturday.

Center with performances by local favorites including Laura Ainsworth, Sara Shelby-Martin, Amy Stevenson and Larry and Linday Petty. Meadows Hall at the Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. 7:30 p.m. wine-tasting, 8 p.m. curtain. \$25–\$200 (table of 8). SammonsArtCenter.org.

**CONCERTS**

**Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers feat. Edie Brickell.** The husband and wife stars team for an evening of music and comedy. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.

**SATURDAY 08.02**

**FUNDRAISER**

**27th Annual Leo Party and Miss Leo Contest.** The storied event, a benefit for the Daire Center of AIDS Interfaith Network, returns with the theme Disco Divas and Oldies (The Music, Not the Divas). Hidden Door, 5025 Bowser St. 8 p.m.

**TUESDAY 08.05**

**FILM**

**Sorcerer.** A forgotten classic by director William Friedkin (*The Boys in the Band, Cruising*), this tense psychological drama is about a man (Roy Scheider) driving volatile explosives through the jungle. A remake of Clouzot's *The Wages of Fear*. 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.

**COMMUNITY**

**Miss Gay USofA Newcomer 2014.** It's the first time in Dallas for this pageant honoring outgoing titleholder Tonica E. Cavalli and featuring performances from Alyssa Edwards, Jenna Skyy and more special guests. Preliminary performances Aug. 5–7 at the Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. 9 p.m. show. Final night at the Champagne Ballroom, Park Inn by Radisson at Love Field, 1241 W. Mockingbird Lane. Aug. 8. 7 p.m. doors, 8 p.m. curtain. MissGayUSofANewcomer.com.

**WEDNESDAY 08.06**

**THEATER**

**The Phantom of the Opera.** An all-new production of the moster hit settles in for a three week engagement at the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Aug. 6–24. ATPAC.org.

**THURSDAY 08.07**

**BROADCAST**

**Project Runway.** Season 13 continues with Heidi, Nina, Zac and Tim. Airs on Lifetime at 8 p.m.

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# Billy Masters

Diving in with Louganis and Daley

Everyone is in a tizzy about the Russians shooting down that Malaysian plane — although, frankly, anyone getting on a Malaysia Airlines flight is taking a big risk these days. But I heard a unique spin on the subject from my pal **Greg Louganis**. The Olympic diving champ has a theory: “Once I learned [some] of the passengers on the flight were on their way to the World AIDS Conference, I [couldn’t] help thinking, there are no mistakes. I was in Moscow for the LGBT Russian Open Games and felt the disdain and disgust, I know it will never be proven but, and I don’t like to put my energy into ‘conspiracy theories’, but I also got an e-mail from the producers of the documentary *To Russia with Love*; and they felt the same. My heart goes out to all the passengers, but I doubt it was an accident.”

Speaking of Olympic divers, little **Tom Daley** was named one of *Attitude* magazine’s Hot 100 ... kinda like the Out 100, but with an accent and more fore-skin. Tom was even honored with yet another *Attitude* cover, this time shirtless but in jeans. Says Daley: “I just wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone who voted for me in *Attitude*’s Hot 100 — it means the world.” Does it? The whole world?

Moving to California, I was tickled by news of the *Pride Whopper*, a product **Burger King** sold in a rainbow-colored wrapper in select markets in June to celebrate Gay Pride Month. We’re told that all money raised went to fund the Burger King McLamore Foundation, to provide scholarships to LGBT high

school seniors. Needless to say, this whole thing generated a fair amount of negative comments. The American Family Association claims that the product was promoting homosexual conduct, which of course is ludicrous. As someone who’s a Big Mac devotee, I wasn’t even swayed to buy a Whopper (although I’d like one of the wrappers). If they couldn’t convince me to eat a sandwich, I’m pretty sure they’re not gonna be able to convince anyone to switch their sexual orientation.

Also in San Francisco, two gay porn giants have joined forces. The founder of **Hot House Entertainment**, Steve Scarborough, has announced that he will retire from the industry. To ensure that his legacy will continue, Hot House will be acquired by Falcon Studios (or, more specifically, **Falcon/Raging Stallion Studios**). This announcement was made by **Chris Ward**, head of Falcon/Raging Stallions. As Steve said, “Because I came from Falcon and because Chris came from Hot House, I feel this deal is a perfect fit.” Eventually, all gay porn studios will be owned by Falcon. Or **Chi Chi La Rue**. Or **John Rutherford**.

There’s a legal situation developing between **John Travolta** and his ex-lover/pilot, **Doug Gotterba**, pictured. Doug had announced plans to write a tell-all memoir. He was then reminded by a lawyer that he had signed a confidentiality agreement with Travolta. Or did he? According to Gotterba, there was a draft of a confidentiality agreement that he saw and initialed, but the final draft was never signed nor was it filed with the court. Apparently, a California Appeals Court judge has ruled in his favor — or at least, has allowed that his challenge to the supposed agreement may proceed to trial. I imagine Doug can tell quite a few tales (or tails)!

Sometimes it’s best to bow out instead of trying to continue a legacy. That seems to be the case over at CNN. Network head **Jeff Zucker** claims that he has no plans to replace *Larry King Live* (or rather *Piers Morgan Tonight*) with another gabfest. “We believe that genre is no longer viable. There are just too many outlets with not enough big gets for a pure talk show to thrive any longer.” What we can look forward to is CNN specials from **Lisa Ling**, **John Walsh** and our very own **Mike Rowe**.

Since I’m in Florida this week, I occasionally feel inadequate whilst walking along Miami Beach and seeing the people with better bodies strutting their stuff. And then I saw someone, not exactly strutting. He was, in fact, sitting and stuffing his face. And he was sporting that Pebbles Flintstone hairdo which was certainly a hair-don’t. I was more shocked when I realized that the gent in question was **Leonardo DiCaprio**. Me-thinks he’s been eating too much gelato when visiting his Veronese penthouse, which is kitty-corner to my plush but not overly ostentatious palazzo. So if you’ve ever wondered how chunky Leo can get between flicks, do check out our website.

If this season of *Dancing with the Stars* taught us anything, it was that **Cody Simpson** is not a star — at least not in the U.S. Dagnabbit, he’s trying, though! Last month, he posted a photo of himself standing completely naked on his balcony. He was photographed from behind — almost like he was



waiting for me to show up. And while I missed that golden opportunity, you don’t have to. You can find him at [BillyMasters.com](http://BillyMasters.com).

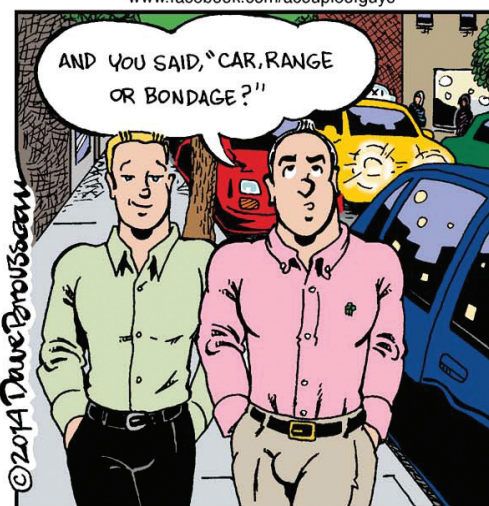
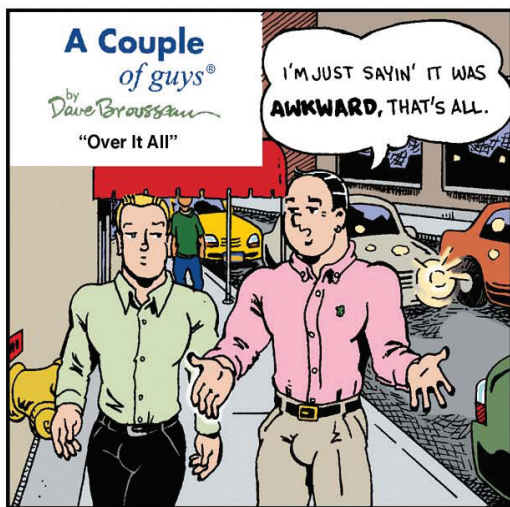
Sticking with exposed derrières, our Ask Billy question comes from Keith in Baltimore: “I don’t know if you’re a Monty Python fan, but in their final shows last week they sang ‘Every Sperm is Sacred’ and featured a really hot naked guy. We only saw his ass, but what an ass it was! Any idea who he was? Can you at least find a photo?”

I consider myself a somewhat casual Python fan, and I did indeed see *Monty Python Live (Mostly)*. It was hard to miss the hot guy in question, who I believe is the same guy who did some of the other solo bits. While I don’t know his name, I can go one better than post his photo, I can post the whole sketch.

When two bare bottoms are better than one, we’ve certainly reached the end of yet another column. I’ll soon be trading one beachside resort for another. By this time next week, I’ll be at the Filth2Go Beach House in Provincetown, hobnobbing with **Liza Minnelli**, **Alan Cumming**, **Carol Channing**, **Tommy Tune** and who knows who else? Check out photos on [BillyMasters.com](http://BillyMasters.com), the site that always keeps things above board. If you’ve got a question for me to tackle, send it along and I promise to get back to you before someone forces me to take a Whopper!

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

You can email Billy at [Billy@BillyMasters.com](mailto:Billy@BillyMasters.com).



## this week's solution

A	R	L	O	F	L	A	P	U	C	L	A
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Friends gather at Sue Ellen's



Anton, Shawna and Cindy at Sue Ellen's

Making the **SCENE** the week of August 1-7:

**Cedar Springs Merchants Association:** Wine Walk on Wednesday evening.

**1851 Club:** Ninth anniversary party on Saturday.

**Alexandre's:** Girls Night Out with Peggy Honea on Friday at 10 p.m. Andrea Dawson on Saturday at 10 p.m. Sheran Keeton on Wednesday at 9 p.m.

**BJ's NXSI:** Magic Sundays with the return of the amateur dance competition hosted by Jada Pinkett Fox. The winner receives \$200.

**Changes:** Wall of Food show on Thursday at 8 p.m.

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

**Dallas Eagle:** United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents Summer Revival show on Saturday at 6 p.m. benefiting AIDS Interfaith Network. Dallas Bears and Leather Knights club night on Saturday. Dallas Girls of Leather monthly meeting on Sunday at 5 p.m.

**JR.'s Bar & Grill:** Edna's Angels on Thursday.

**Rainbow Lounge:** Sunday Funday with Kiana Lee, Celeste Martinez, Candi Carroll, Aiden Lee Cox, Kat Blythe and Amethyst Lindsey.

**Round-Up Saloon:** Miss Gay USofA Newcomer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 p.m.-2 a.m.

**S4:** Purple Foundation presents Spin Party summer edition with New York DJ Joe Gauthreaux and DJ Paul McElroy and RuPaul Drag Race star Roxxy Andrews on Saturday starting at 9 p.m.

**Sue Ellen's:** Mustache Envy on Friday. Caio Bella on Saturday. Kathy Corbin and Barefoot Hippies on Sunday. Little Chalupa karaoke on Monday. Mi Diva Loca on Wednesday. Chick Happy Hour with Anton Shaw and Bad Habits on Thursday.

**Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** Laugh Out Loud with hot hits and comedy clips with DJ Skittle on Friday at 10 p.m. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to [DallasVoice.com/category/photos](http://DallasVoice.com/category/photos). Scene Photographer: Kat Haygood.



Ben and Brad at the Round-Up Saloon



Nick And Stephan at Alexandre's



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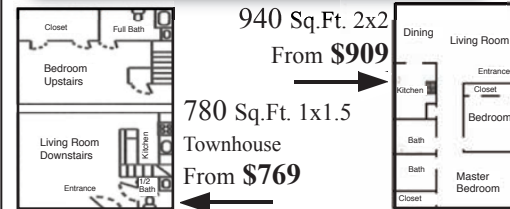
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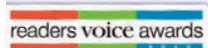
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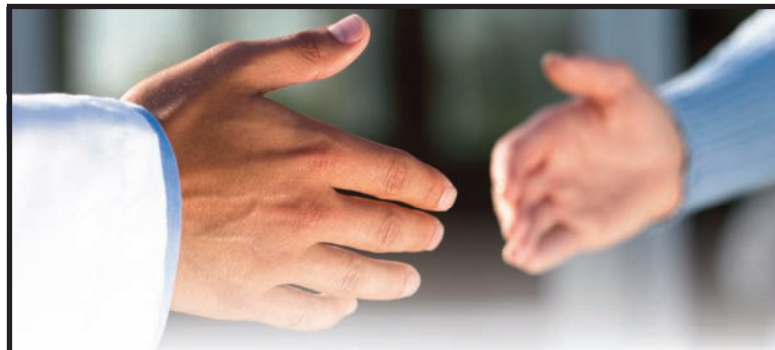
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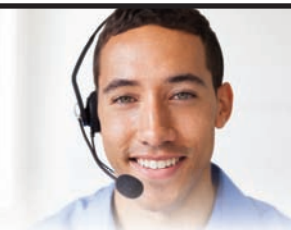
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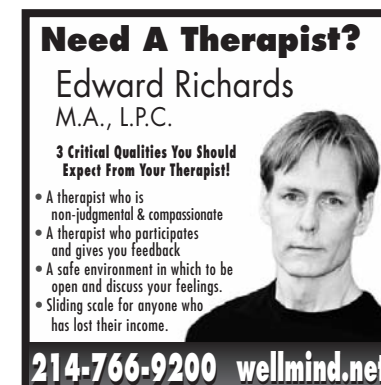
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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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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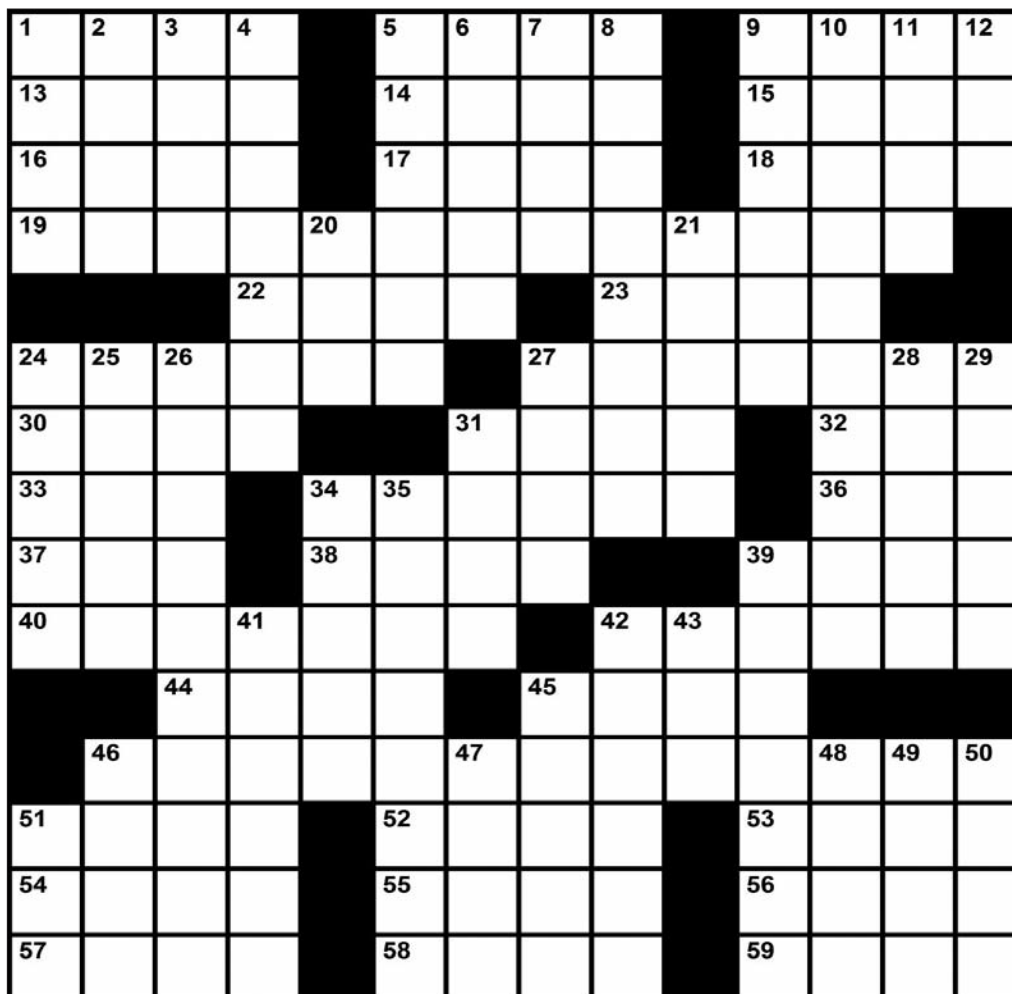
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Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA) is a Twelve Step Fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is recovery from codependence and the development and maintenance of healthy relationships. CoDA meetings in the area meet:  
•St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
6525 Inwood Road (Inwood at Mockingbird)  
Dallas, Texas 75209  
•LAMBDA GROUP  
6:30 PM, Friday; 1 hour  
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## q-puzzle



## (Ahem ...) a Hem

**Solution on page 28**

### Across

- 1 His grandmother had a Woody
- 5 Labium
- 9 NCAA home of the Bruins
- 13 Casino call
- 14 Gay-friendly Barrett
- 15 Coward of *Private Lives*
- 16 Series ender
- 17 Broadway lyricist Gershwin and others
- 18 Pig food
- 19 Togs traditionally for females
- 22 "Diana" singer
- 23 Roller coaster maneuver
- 24 Bones in the back
- 27 Take a chair
- 30 Loads
- 31 Not nuts
- 32 Charlotte of *Facts of Life*
- 33 Kid of jazz
- 34 With 46-Across, drag queen, with respect to 19-Across?
- 36 Some dam govt. project
- 37 Simpson trial judge Lance
- 38 Singer/actor Ives
- 39 One who gazes at crystal balls
- 40 Unit of electric charge
- 42 Women who date men who date men
- 44 Janet or niece Hunter
- 45 Piece of leg
- 46 See 34-Across
- 51 Hollinghurst's *The Folding* \_\_\_\_
- 52 As to
- 53 It comes in cakes
- 54 Bad habit
- 55 Suckers
- 56 Humorist Bombeck
- 57 Visitor at lesbianation.com
- 58 Boob, to a Brit
- 59 McKellen's Magneto movie

### Down

- 1 From the top
- 2 Old photo print
- 3 Neeson of *Kinsey*
- 4 What Joan of Arc was maid of
- 5 Feels up for a rod?
- 6 Lover of Dali, perhaps
- 7 Sex type
- 8 Director of *Salò*
- 9 Barefoot

- 10 Kevin Kline in *De-Lovely*
- 11 Signs of *The Lion King*?
- 12 "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" mountain
- 20 SSW's opposite
- 21 Type of pole
- 24 One who grins and bears it
- 25 \_\_\_\_ Novo (Benin's capital)
- 26 Like the money shot in a porn film?
- 27 Canadian comedian Mort
- 28 Did a hand job?
- 29 Comes up on
- 31 Balkan native
- 34 Butcher's cut
- 35 Margaret Cho, for one
- 39 Making love on a strongbox?
- 41 Newsman Jim
- 42 Most minimal
- 43 Spreading tree
- 45 Traditionally limp joints
- 46 Elevator pioneer Elisha
- 47 Eat beaver-style
- 48 Something to deviate from
- 49 Unlikely to bite
- 50 Nine inches
- 51 Sex Crimes division, to B.D. Wong

## Dallas Meth Study

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