

dallas voice

The LGBT Texas | DallasVoice.com | DallasVoice | Established 1984 | Volume 31 | Issue 13 | FREE | Friday, August 8, 2014



GAME SOON!

Once an underground culture of role-playing and techno-fantasy, gamers are now considered mainstream, and gay Dallas is playing its part. Long live the gay nerd!

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Allan Gould, left and Tori Van Fleet-Kujala, right



Tarrant County Pride Week grand marshals announced

Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association officials have announced that Sharon Herrera, Allan Gould and Tori Van Fleet-Kujala have been chosen as grand marshals of the 2014 Tarrant County Pride Parade.

They also announced that Todd Cooper (aka Scarlett Rayne), DeeJay Johannasen, David Mack Henderson and the Rev. Ken Ehrke have been nominated for the 2014 Raina Lea Award.

Honorary Grand Marshals are Chris McNoksy and Sven Stricker.

Tarrant County Gay Pride Week 2014 will be Oct. 2–12, beginning with a Pride Kick-Off Show on Oct. 2. The website doesn't have details on the show posted yet, but keep watching. I am sure the info will be there soon.

The Pride Parade and Street Festival will be Saturday, Oct. 4, from noon–6 p.m., and is once again being held in downtown Fort Worth. The parade begins on Weatherford Street on the north side of downtown, and ends further south on Houston Street. The Pride Street Festival — with live entertainment, vendors and food and beverage booths — will be set up at the intersection of Houston and 9th Streets.

TCGPWA's popular Pride Picnic at Trinity Park will be held from noon–6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, and will feature a DJ, live entertainment, group activities, friendly competitions and a free Pride Kids Zone. Community organizations and vendors will have booths set up, and there will be beer, other beverages and food available, too.

Pride Week continues with the 15th annual Q-Cinema Film Festival at Rose Marine Theatre.

— Tammye Nash

Eureka Springs celebrates Arkansas marriage equality with a wedding reception

More than 40 restaurants and businesses in Eureka Springs, Ark. contributed to an event described by one local TV station as the first "mass gay wedding reception in the Bible Belt."

After the Arkansas anti-marriage amendment was declared unconstitutional, about 500 same-sex couples married in the state before a judge placed a stay on the decision.

The reception was held in Eureka Springs to honor those couples that married.

According to another local TV station, the Eureka Springs City Council called on the Arkansas to offer marriage equality.

Michael Walsh put together the event he titled Married to Equality.

"In addition to being the first city in Arkansas where gay people could get married, we're the first city in Arkansas to throw them a wedding reception," Walsh told Arkansas Matters.

— David Taffet

Xamach opens at the ilume

It's been about a week, but the soft opening of Xamach ("huh-mosh") — a Mexican bistro and bar in the ilume — is fully underway. Named for a Mayan term, Xamach is the newest edition to the Cedar Springs dining scene, and serves mostly Central Mexican- and Yucatan-style cuisine, such as chile rellenos, pictured, and cochinita pibil. It's open for lunch and dinner.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Six cases heard by Sixth Circuit

The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals heard six marriage cases on Aug. 6 — two from Ohio, two from Kentucky and one each from Michigan and Tennessee.

The Michigan case began as an adoption case and was expanded at the suggestion of the lower court judge. The couple was suing the state to allow them to adopt the children they were raising. This is the only marriage case in the country that revolves around adoption.

One of the Ohio cases involves the state recognizing an out-of-state marriage. Before one of the spouses in the case died, the couple took a medical flight to Maryland to marry there. The surviving partner is suing the state to recognize his marriage for inheritance purposes.

One of the couples in one of the Kentucky cases — Greg Bourke and Michael DeLeon — were in Dallas last year protesting outside Boy Scouts headquarters in Irving.

After Bourke and DeLeon won their marriage case based on equal protection, Kentucky's attorney general refused to defend the law. The governor hired outside counsel who represented the state at the Sixth Circuit.

Two of the three judges who heard the cases were appointed by President George W. Bush and one was appointed by President Bill Clinton.

— David Taffet



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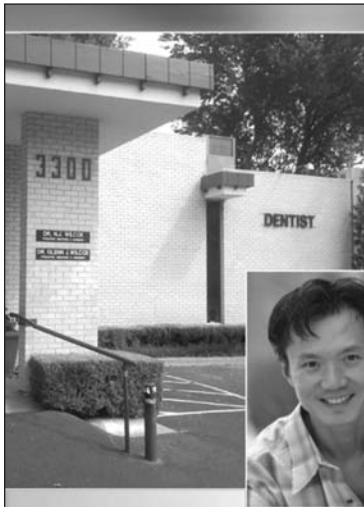


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localbriefs

Fitness program in Lee Park

WiL Turner announced Fitness in the Parks, an outdoor fitness camp that begins Aug. 9 in Lee Park.

Fitness In The Parks is a 40 minute synergistic exercise program, which combines cardiovascular training, strength training, core conditioning, functional movements, plyometrics and yoga for muscle confusion, weight loss, building strength, muscle growth, improving cardiovascular endurance, stamina, core stability, mobility, flexibility, posture, total physical health and a total body transformation.

Beginners class is at 8 a.m. and advanced at 9 a.m. Register online at Fusion40Fitness.com.

POZ founder speaks

POZ magazine founder Sean Strub speaks at Arlington Museum of Art rooftop gallery on Aug. 21 at 7 p.m.

Strub talks about his recent book *Body Counts*:



A Memoir of Politics, Sex, AIDS and Survival. A \$75 donation is requested and benefits AIDS Outreach Center in Fort Worth. Tickets are available at AOC.org/donate. The museum is located at 201 W. Main St., Arlington.

Win a Dallas Staycation

Starting Aug. 11, LifeWalk will draw three names website every Monday through Sept. 1. Each of these winners receives a \$25 Chamberlain's gift card and will be entered into a drawing for the grand prize of a Dallas staycation.

The grand prize includes a two-night stay at the Marriott Dallas Center, car rental from Park Place Volvo and a \$100 gift card to Hattie's in the Bishop Arts District.

To qualify, register to participate at LifeWalk.org and pay or raise at least \$40. The grand prize drawing takes place Sept. 2.

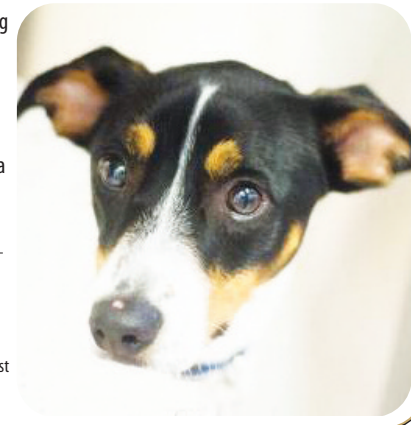
Raven at the Brick for TeamMetro

Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund's TeamMetro hosts its annual LifeWalk fundraiser on Aug. 9 at The Brick. RuPaul's Drag Race star Raven is joined by Sable Alexander, Sienna Silver, Linze Serell and Vanity Storm. Patti Le Plae Safe hosts. The evening includes a silent auction and go go boys selling raffle tickets. Suggested donation is \$20.

pet of the week / HUNTER

Hunter was brought to Operation Kindness as a stray. He is a great looking 1-year-old white, black and tan fox terrier mix. Hunter is that great small-to-medium-sized dog that can travel and sit with you. He is a sweet dog who could be that final piece for that all-American family photo. Hunter has a great personality and would do well with an active individual or family. He is very high energy so he would be best placed in a home with a runner or with older kids who can give him the proper exercise he needs. Come visit with Hunter to see if he is the dog for you.

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



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GILEAD: THE SOVALDI TAX

Forbes
com

“The drug Sovaldi is generating enormous profits on the backs of patients...”

June 16th, 2014

A cure for Hepatitis C is within reach for 170 million people around the world thanks to poor and sick Americans who are picking up the tab.

Gilead Sciences, the manufacturer of the Hepatitis C drug Sovaldi has priced the medication at \$1,000 each in the United States. An entire treatment regimen of 84 of those pills costs just \$900 in Egypt.

Hepatitis C patients in the United States are mostly uninsured, underinsured and/or incarcerated. Medicaid, Veterans Affairs and our prison system bear the brunt of the cost impact, and by extension so do taxpaying Americans.

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Price and Parkland

Trans man's treatment prompts changes in Parkland policies

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

When Maddox Price's former girlfriend read his Facebook post that sounded like he was saying goodbye to friends after finishing off a bottle of pills, she called police.

Police had Price transported to the psych unit at Parkland Memorial Hospital, where he got what he described as the kind of care "that would lead people to kill themselves." Price, a transgender man, reported suffering from increasing depression over the month prior to the incident, even though he was elated about having had top surgery just nine days earlier in San Antonio.

He hasn't changed his gender marker on legal papers and is just beginning therapy with a gender therapist, even though he's already had top surgery.

While he complained about his treatment at Parkland and by police, Price said he is glad that his complaints were taken seriously and changes have been made to make things better for him and other trans people who use the hospital.

Price said the problems began with officers who first took him into custody. He said he asked not to be handcuffed behind his back because he was still healing from the surgery. He said officers did agree to use a looser cuff, but still placed his hands behind his back.

Dallas Police Department's LGBT Liaison Laura Martin said DPD procedure when someone is taken into custody is to cuff their hands behind their backs unless paramedics say not to.

Price said he was stressed over the break up

with his ex, under pressure at school where he is editor-in-chief of the Brookhaven College newspaper and still healing from surgery, alone at home.

"I knew they had to take me," he said. "I had an empty pill bottle next to my bed."

But Price said he had simply finished the prescription of hydrocodone, prescribed after the surgery. None of the medical records from Parkland or Green Oaks Hospital, where Price was transferred, contradict this.

Price said he was well cared for at Parkland's emergency room.

"They were respectful," he said. "I was on suicide watch, but they gave me my medication and changed the bandages."

After being treated in the ER, he was moved to the psych department. "That," he said, "is where the problems happened."

According to his medical records, Price kept

getting agitated. Price said he was just insisting that staff there recognize and respect his gender identity.

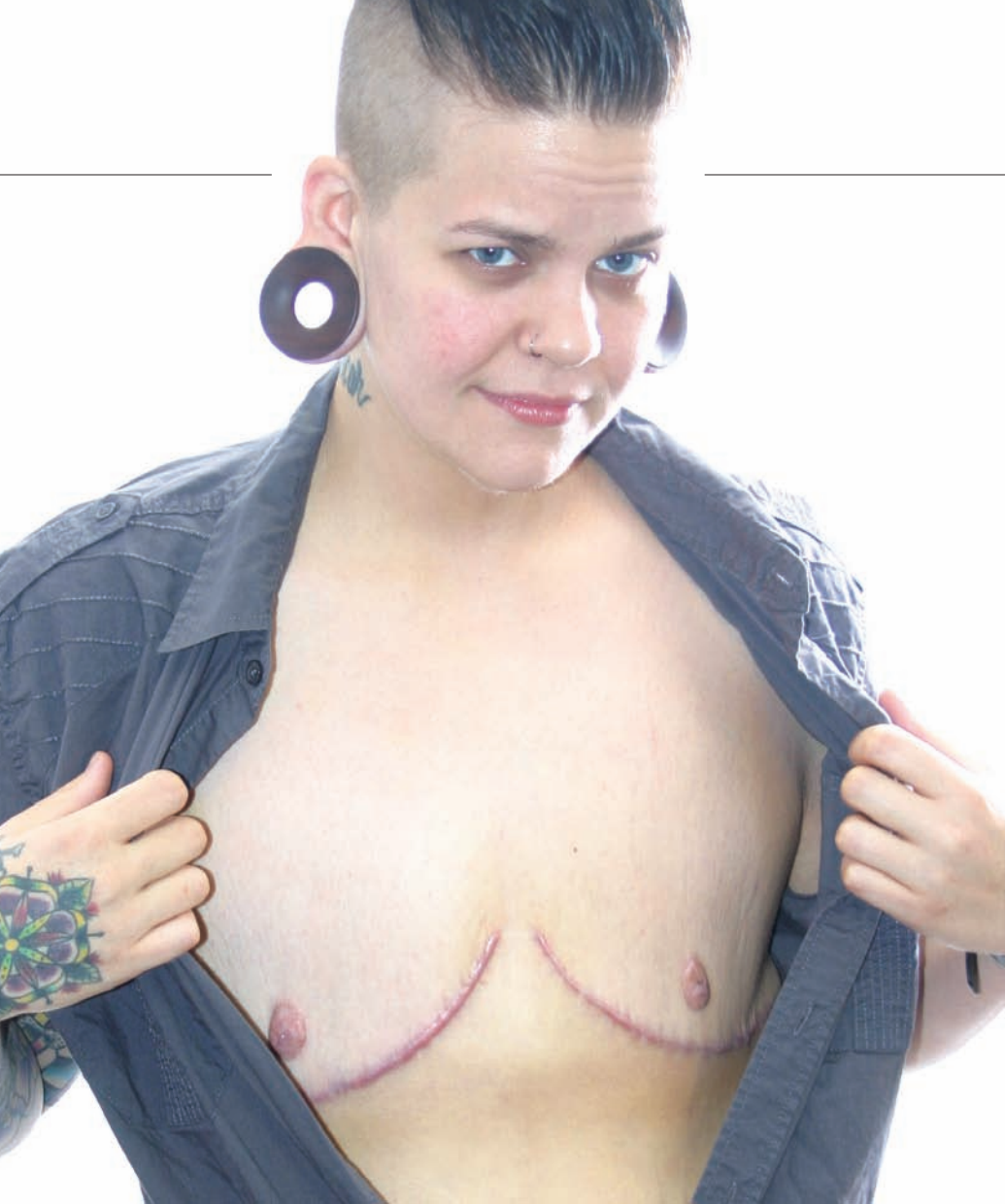
"Their treatment of gender-variant people needed to change," he said. "I asked why my gender identity wasn't being respected."

Parkland spokeswoman April Foran said Price's issues have been fully addressed.

"As an organization that has been recognized as a leader in LGBT healthcare equality in the Healthcare Equality Index, we are committed to being inclusive of all individuals," Foran said.

Parkland received a perfect score on Human Right's Campaign's new Healthcare Equality Index that rates hospitals in a publication similar to the Corporate Equality Index.

"Psychiatric Services leadership developed a cultural competency module designed for working with members of the LGBT community," Foran said.



THE RIGHT CHOICE | Maddox Price said having top surgery was the best decision he's ever made. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Price questioned how his gender identity was recognized. He said he understood why the hospital and police needed his legal name. He even said he understood if other departments in the hospital only used his legal name, since neither his name nor the gender markers on his identification and legal papers have been changed.

But he said he thought staff in the psychiatric unit should understand gender variance better. Rather than cause further upset to a patient already in a stressed out and upset state, Price said he thought hospital personnel should use his preferred name. To him, that is no different than a person who's always been called by a nickname not answering when called by his legal name.

"As a measure to ensure safety, all hospitals use two patient identifiers when interacting with patients," Foran explained. "Parkland is no different. However, we recognize the importance of developing positive relationships with patients by using their preferred name designated by a patient, rather than the name a patient used as registration.

"When our patients express the desire to be addressed by a name other than their legal name, our staff will use the preferred name," Foran said. "When the encounter does require two patient identifiers, one of them is the name on the patient's registration."

Price said he started menstruating while he was at the hospital. When he asked for a tampon, a nurse said they only had pads. Price refused to take one. He said as a trans man, he dislikes using pads.

"It's a trigger for me," Price said.

The fix for that was simple.

"Tampons are [now] available in the psychiatric units," Foran said.

Another change has also happened to make Parkland more welcoming to trans patients.

"Parkland has re-designated bathrooms as unisex and assured that our patient visitation rights language includes gender identity," Foran said.

In addition to the changes at Parkland in response to Price's complaints, Martin has said that his complaints about his treatment by police have been addressed privately, despite a letter that said Price filed the complaint beyond the 60-day limit to trigger an investigation.

While Price's medical records indicate that medical staff at Parkland — and at Green Oaks where he stayed later — had some misgivings about Price's top surgery, questioning whether that surgery might have contributed to his depression, Price said he's delighted with the result.

"It's the best decision I've ever made," he said. "My life is changed — in the best way." ■




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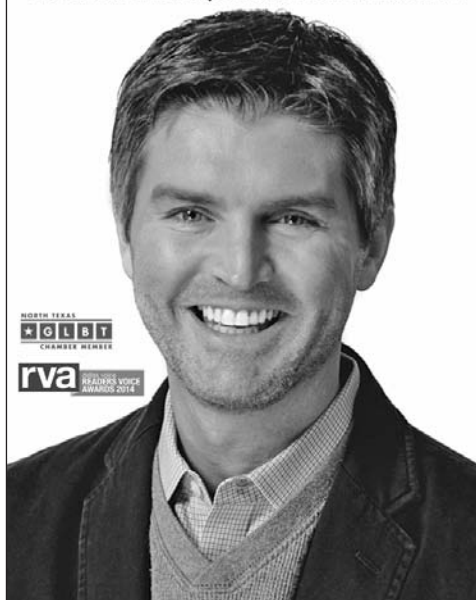
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■ **texasnews**

DFR opens investigation into allegations against paramedic

LGBT advocates say if charges are true, paramedic's behavior would be an anomaly in DFR

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

After a gay man injured in an altercation inside an Oak Lawn bar said he was refused treatment by paramedics because of blood on his head, Dallas Fire and Rescue has opened an internal affairs investigation and asked other witnesses to come forward.

Members of the LGBT community who provide sensitivity training for Dallas Fire and Rescue said this sort of interaction between the community and first responders isn't typical.

Zachery McGinnis said that he was talking to a woman inside BJ's NXS! on July 29 when the woman's male companion — identified later by another witness as the woman's husband — hit him in the head with a glass, and then left with the woman.

McGinnis said a Dallas Fire and Rescue paramedic who responded to the scene refused to treat him because he was bleeding.

Rafael McDonnell who does advocacy work with Resource Center said that if the allegations prove to be true, the case is an anomaly.

"This is the first case like this I remember hearing about in the department," he said.

McDonnell said the department needs to set out clear expectations about how everyone will be treated.

"The LGBT community needs to feel that message is being heard," he added.

Lt. Joel Lavendar, spokesman for Dallas Fire and Rescue, said his agency will conduct a thorough investigation.

"It hurts that any group feels they're treated that way, but we hold our people accountable," Lavendar said. "Our brand is only as good as the last time we serviced you. We aim for top-notch service and nothing less."

Lavender said DFR recently went through department-wide diversity training. And all new recruits go through diversity training that includes four hours on the LGBT community.

"That's more than any other community," said Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink, who has participated in the training with DFR since 2004.

She said she gets few questions about the spread of HIV, because all of the protocols are in place and the paramedics are already trained in medical aspects of the job. She said tuberculosis and hepatitis C are more of a threat to first responders because they spread more easily.

Fink said she advises recruits to treat a same-sex couple the same way they would treat a mar-



Zachery McGinnis

ried couple.

"If you let a spouse ride in the ambulance, let a gay person's partner ride in the ambulance," she said.

For those who have a religious problem with the LGBT community, she said they stress it's about professionalism — don't create an incident.

"You don't want to be on the 6 o'clock news," she said she tells them.

As president of DGLA, Fink said she's watched the five to 10 annual complaints filed with the city of Dallas under the nondiscrimination ordinance. She said by the time most of the complaints are settled, those involved have moved on.

"Most people want an apology and a policy change," she said. "[They say], 'Don't let this happen to anyone else.'"

McGinnis agreed that what he wants is an apology and assurances it wouldn't happen again. He said he appreciates DFR's quick response in opening an investigation into the incident.

McGinnis also said he had little interest in filing a police report or pursuing assault charges against the man who hit him with the glass.

A man who said he was in the bar and witnessed McGinnis get hit said that McGinnis provoked the incident by being too "touchy-feely" with the woman. McGinnis this week rejected those claims as ridiculous.

"Why would I be touchy-feely with a woman? Someone I don't even know?" McGinnis said. "That's a ridiculous allegation."

McGinnis has said he hasn't gotten back the credit card he was using to pay for his drinks that night. The witness said McGinnis' credit card was turned down and that bar staff had returned the card to McGinnis. McGinnis, however, said that although he does not have the credit card, he does have credit card records showing a \$26 charge from the bar that night. BJ's owner Ron Adams, who was not at the bar that night, said that the bar tab was closed, and the bar doesn't have the card either. ■

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dallas voice classy

Online and in print, beginning on page 31



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HERO Opponents sue after referendum petition's rejected

City will delay enactment pending legal cases

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com



Houston Mayor Annise Parker

Four opponents of the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance filed a suit against the city just one day after the city announced opponents failed to submit sufficient valid signatures to place a repeal referendum on the ballot in November.

City attorney David Feldman said Monday, Aug. 4, that the petitions contained too many irregularities. Petition gatherers in some cases failed to meet the charter's minimum requirements that include appearing before a notary public to swear they witnessed each signature. Others did not include the voter's full information.

The city charter states that the number of signatures on a petition must equal 10 percent of the number of voters who cast ballots in the city's last mayoral election. Petitioners needed to have a minimum of 17,269 valid signatures, but the city found that only 15,249 met the standards, leaving opponents 2,020 signatures short.

Ultimately the array of errors meant the petition did not meet the minimum requirements of the city charter and state election code. "The petition is simply invalid," Feldman said.

Anticipating the legal challenge, Mayor Annise Parker said the city would delay its implementation. She nevertheless remained confident that the ordinance would be upheld in court.

"I am confident the courts will agree that the rules set out in our charter and state law to protect the integrity of the process should be followed and that the results of our review will be upheld. The judicial review will provide additional assurance to the voters that the process has been fair," she said in a statement.

The ordinance, which passed on an 11-6 vote by the city council, amended the city's non-discrimination code to include protections for residents, including protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in both public and private facilities. While religious institutions were exempt, that didn't stop some opponents from opposing it on the basis of religious freedom.

The most prominent face of the opposition was the UNequal Rights Coalition, a group of Houston area pastors and religious organizations. They alleged that the ordinance violated their religious beliefs and threatened religious freedom.

Some also argued it crossed the line by protecting

transgender individuals. According to a statement, they alleged that the ordinance would allow "biological males to enter women's restrooms."

Dave Welch of the Houston Area Pastors Council, a leader in the coalition, closely watched the city's review of the petitions. He was skeptical about the city's transparency while reviewing the petitions.

Feldman may have violated the city charter by intervening, Welch said. "We believe the city attorney inappropriately inserted himself into the process, working beyond his role as legal counsel," he said.

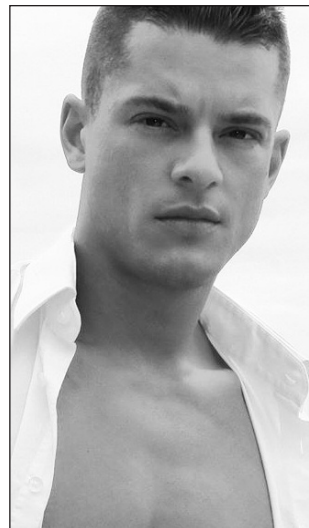
Beto Cardena, the lawyer for the pro-HERO group Equal Rights Houston, shot back in a statement that Welch's allegations are superfluous. "The rules are in the city of Houston's charter for a purpose: to protect the integrity of the process and prevent fraud. The campaign will continue to promote nondiscrimination, defend the ordinance, and trust that the courts will uphold the clearly defined process," he said.

The opponents' failure to get a referendum on the ballot was not surprising to many activists and observers. In a late effort to promote transparency and scrutinize the process undertaken by its opponents, an anonymous group late last week published the names of the signatories at HEROPetition.com.

Among the names found by this reporter are State Rep. Dwayne Bohac and Ryan Patrick, the son of Republican lieutenant governor nominee and state Sen. Dan Patrick.

Under state law, petitions submitted to government agencies are public record.

As of press time HEROPetition.com had not returned a request for comment. ■



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Vedda earns sought-after certification



CERT GRANTED | Dallas Voice Publisher Leo Cusimano, left, and North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce CEO Tony Vedda at the Legacy of Love monument. The chamber is donating \$1,000 towards maintenance. (Dallas Voice/David Taffet)

Dallas Voice becomes just the third newspaper to receive LGBT Business Certification by the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Tony Vedda is receiving his Certified Chamber Executive credential this week and Dallas Voice became an LGBT Certified Business Enterprise, a program Vedda has promoted to local chamber members.

For Vedda, the process to earn his certification took about a year. After submitting quite a bit of information about himself and the North Texas GLBT Chamber, he had essays to write, a presentation to deliver, books to read and finally a four-hour exam to pass.

Of the 16 people who began with Vedda, 12 made it through the process. About 500 people have earned CCE certification over the years, but less than 300 are currently working at chambers of commerce around the country.

Vedda is the first executive of an LGBT chamber to earn the certification.

While the certification puts him in a small group of chamber executives across the country and qualifies him to work as an executive with the largest and most prestigious business organizations, Vedda said he has no plans to leave.

"We have lots of work ahead of us in the LGBT community," he said, calling his work with the GLBT Chamber "personally meaningful."

National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Vice President Sam McClure called Vedda "one of the most respected chamber executives" she works with. She said he's been relentless in pursuit of education.

"Tony's a pioneer in the LGBT business community because he has a seat at every table," she said.

Among the standards Vedda has brought to his chamber businesses is obtaining LGBT business certification.

For Dallas Voice Publisher Leo Cusimano, obtaining LGBT business certification was important. Just two other newspapers — Washington Blade and Bay Area Reporter — have that certi-

fication.

Cusimano explained that if a drug company is looking to spend advertising money in diverse publications and it needs to decide on a limited number of LGBT papers, it would be more likely to place those ads in the papers that are certified.

Certification is a complicated process, McClure said. A company must prove it is 51 percent LGBT-owned, -operated and -controlled.

"The process is rigorous," McClure said.

Cusimano said Dallas Voice President Terry Thompson had a marriage license to prove he's a member of the community, but Cusimano isn't legally married. He has adopted two sons with his partner, however. The second-parent adoption proved his community status.

Then the company must provide a long list of supporting documentation, including any business licenses, tax returns, a list of employees with length of service and other information about the business. Finally, a site visit by Vedda or one of his

board members is necessary before the application goes to the national chamber for approval.

As companies are navigating opportunities to intentionally include under-utilized businesses, contracting with LGBT-certified businesses ensures their supplier diversity, McClure

said.

"The federal government recognizes race, gender and veteran status," Cusimano said.

He said the goal is for the federal government to recognize the national chamber's program. While some companies already look for the LGBT certification for their diversity spending to attract an LGBT clientele, many more will do so once the program is federally recognized.

Vedda sees this as one of the exciting opportunities for him to work with his chamber's members to develop new business.

"We have lots of opportunities ahead of us," he said.

He said in Dallas County alone, it's estimated there are about 3,500 LGBT-owned businesses and the North Texas GLBT Chamber only has about 350 members from throughout North Texas.

Another thing keeping Vedda at the local chamber is the opportunity to help his community. After a vandal recently painted graffiti on the Legacy of Love monument at the corner of Cedar Springs Road and Oak Lawn Avenue, the chamber pledged \$1,000 to help with the professional cleanup needed by the Oak Lawn Committee that maintains the landmark. ■



Kuchling Award winner Chet Flake dies

The Rev. Bill McElvaney to stop treatment for his cancer and begin palliative care

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Longtime Dallas activist and volunteer Chet Flake has died.

Flake is predeceased by his partner Bud Knight. Together, they won Black Tie Dinner's Kuchling Award in 2011. The award was posthumous for Knight, who died in November 2010.

The couple was together for 45 years. They married in Vancouver in 2005.

Flake volunteered at Resource Center since 2003.

"We miss him already," Resource Center CEO Cece Cox said. "Chet volunteered here at the front desk at the community center and at Nelson Tebedo. He was on the front lines. So many people who came to the community center and clinic interacted with him. He made them feel comforted and welcome and encouraged the staff and other volunteers."

He was a longtime Turtle Creek Chorale volunteer, life member and board chair for several years.

"Chet and his husband, Bud Knight, were there at the beginning and over the next 30-plus years never wavered in their support for 'their guys,'" said Chorale board chair David Hess. "Chet served many years on the board, and chaired it several times. Any of us who have made one of the Chorale concerts in the Meyerson, will remember Bud and Chet watching from their long time seats in Box J. Both Bud and Chet are among the few non-singers to be honored with life membership in the Chorale, an honor they both cherished."

The couple volunteered throughout the community.

They participated in Oak Lawn Community Center's Buddy Project during the height of the AIDS crisis, volunteered at AIDS Interfaith Network and were members of St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church. Flake and Knight raised thousands of dollars for LifeWalk, where they billed themselves as the "oldest walkers."

Flake was a teacher and later a school administrator in Southern California. He became a consultant in math and science for Xerox Corp. and Ginn Publishing Company.

Memorial service will be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Aug. 16 at 10 a.m.

McElvaney to begin palliative care

The Rev. Bill McElvaney is the retired pastor of Northaven United Methodist Church who did



quite a bit to welcome the LGBT community to the church when some of the other Methodist churches in the area weren't as welcoming.

Earlier this year, he announced he would perform same-sex weddings despite the Methodist Church's ban. In February, he married Jack Evans and George Harris, who have been together 53 years. McElvaney was suspended in March pending an investigation, although the case was always unlikely to go to trial.

At the time of the wedding, McElvaney was being treated for liver cancer. Although he sat while performing the ceremony, he walked down the aisle with the couple and his voice was strong throughout the ceremony.

This week, he sent a message to members of Northaven that his cancer has spread and he will forego any further treatment.

Bill McElvaney's Message to Northaven:

During the past three years of my chemo and radiation treatments, your prayers and various forms of encouragement have meant more than I can express in words and continue to do so.

Dr. Yull Arriaga, our oncologist, has been consistently honest and compassionate, informing us at our very first meeting in 2011 that my type of cancer was treatable but not curable.

The latest scan, one of many over the three years, reversed the mostly positive previous results and revealed additional tumors in the liver, as well as the cancer having spread into the right lung. Dr. Arriaga indicated we were beyond additional treatment except for experimental drugs that would provide less than a 10 percent chance for brief benefit and would probably cause harsh side effects.

With Fran's support, I have chosen no further treatment. Dr. Arriaga will continue as our doctor; in fact, he said he would be with us all the way. We intend to proceed with engaging palliative care through hospice.

I believe I am in God's hands as experienced throughout 86 years of amazing grace surrounding my life in countless ways, not the least through Fran's superb loving care. We know we will both need your continued love and support, and we look forward to notes, phone calls and visits. Please call after 10 in the morning and before 4 in the afternoon.

I encourage us all to extend loving care to all Northaven members who are in special need.

Life is good; Grace abounds.

God's Peace,

Bill

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viewpoints

Moving from indifference to action

Recently the world saw a brave and compassionate local elected official take a stand for refugee children. And in a few ugly photo-ops, we saw groups of white Americans with ugly signs and ugly words — “Return to Sender” being among the most egregious — take a stand against the same refugee children.

A person’s actions will tell you everything you need to know. Or, as a bestie puts it: “When someone shows you who they are, believe it.”

But unlike cities like Marietta, Calif., which blocked buses of children or hateful Collin County officials who just last week passed a ban on “illegal minors,” it’s nice to live in a city whose compassion outshone hate.

In my last column, I suggested that gays and lesbians as a group aren’t really all that interested in any causes outside those that affect them directly. A handful of folks took me to task for generalizing, pointing out the good works they themselves are doing for other causes.

Yes, there are many people doing many good things. But I am still unaware of any major, non-gay-oriented group that lists the LGBT community as its staunch ally.

And that includes immigrants.

I have two close friends who live here in Dallas who have a bi-national relationship. Until portions of the Defense of Marriage Act were overturned by the Supreme Court last year, these men were considering leaving the U.S. altogether because the time on the visa was running out. Unlike heterosexual couples, the legal institution of marriage was unavailable to them as an option. About the only LGBT people visibly involved in this component of the fight for immigration reform was this couple’s circle of friends.

And yet marriage equity is only one facet of the complex immigration crisis.

What about the Dreamers — the estimated 2 million undocumented young people of all races who have been raised here in this country, who call America home, who have no path to citizenship? What about the families broken apart due

to deportation? What about asylum for children who will likely be killed unless they leave their own countries or if they are sent back to their country of origin? What about gays and lesbians being persecuted in other parts of the world?



Todd Whitley
Contributing Columnist

Where does the gay community at-large — locally and nationally — stand on the issue of immigration reform? Do we have a stand at all?

I’ve only heard a few gays make untoward comments about immigrants and the refugee children, but I know a ton who are indifferent. I wonder if that’s somehow worse.

As I’ve said before, ask anyone who’s heard me on my milk crate: As people who have experienced first-hand marginalization and second-class citizenship, gays and lesbians should be among the first to come to the aid of anyone experiencing marginalization.

To reach the point I am at today, I myself have had to first overcome my own indifference and then undergo a lot of education — from religious deprogramming to a comprehensive analysis of my world and the people I interact with. It has not been easy.

I’ve struggled with concepts of law versus feasibility, compassion versus reality, religion versus morality. I’ve grieved — and blown a few gaskets over — self-proclaiming Christian people cherry-picking scripture to somehow justify their un-Christlike stances.

I have tried to expand my experiences, to look into the faces of the undocumented, and have taken acquaintances and strangers alike to task for their views. In the process, among a few looks of gratitude, I could see near-incredulity — even suspicion — in the eyes of some of the folks at the

LULAC meeting I attended last week. It was as if they were saying: Why is this white man here talking to us about immigration reform? What is he really up to?

And I have experienced the backlash of disagreement.

You know, we all kinda laughed at the premise of the mostly critically panned 2004 film Spanglish. But the reality is that undocumented American workers not only contribute to our economy, they provide a host of services we born-here Americans don’t want to do without — and also don’t want to do ourselves.

Many of the undocumented are the people who serve us our chips and salsa. Who do our mani-pedis. Who provide landscaping services, clean our homes and offices, drive our taxis, build our highrises. Others work in the shadows in more highly skilled positions, teach in our universities and perform valuable research.

The undocumented are consumers and taxpayers. And what would we lose culturally if they were no longer part of our country?

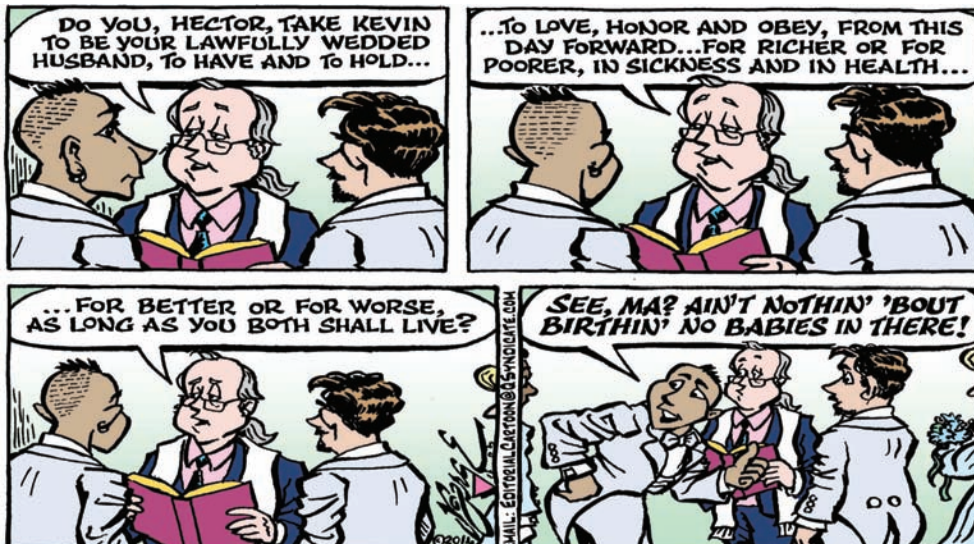
Define American founder and undocumented gay American Jose Antonio Vargas, speaking at Cathedral of Hope last weekend, asked us to consider, “What would happen to the United States if we all just left? I don’t know any immigrants who have come to America not to work.”

So sure, send them all home. And watch our infrastructure crumble and our economy crater.

Whether they’re straight or gay, these folks are our natural allies. Rather, we naturally should be their allies.

I am an individual who enjoys a large amount of privilege: I am white. I am a man. I am an American citizen. And I am gay, which automatically makes me more fabulous than my heterosexual counterparts. I, for one, think it’s time I use my privilege to promote the causes of others.

What if the LGBT community as a whole did the same? Can you imagine the change we could effect? And the humanitarian clout our cause would garner in the process? ■



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GAME ON!

Nerd culture has never been more popular, with gay gamers waving their geek flag proudly

RICH LOPEZ | Contributing Writer and
ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
lifestyle@dallasvoice.com

Cynics may scoff, but the power of magic is real. It compels folks to congregate with its mystical appeal. And on this Friday, they are congregating at Common Ground Games on Inwood.

In an unassuming strip shopping center, Jamison Sacks has created the one store in Dallas proper for tabletop gamers and Magic the Gathering players to come and play — and in doing so, he's created a community.

The shop was recently awarded a Best of Big D award for "Best Place to Geek Out" alongside its neighbor, gay-owned Zeus Comics and Collectibles. For a shop with just a year under its belt, such recognition for Sacks is vindicating.

"It was a great surprise," Sacks says. "That was really cool. The growth has been phenomenal and far outpaced what we expected. It's been really nice to see Dallas welcome us with such open arms."

Friday Night Magic at Common Ground Games (CGG) is both a friendly but intense game night and the proving ground for budding community. With its proximity to Zeus, this enclave of fantasy culture has turned the gay nerd into the gaymer nerd. And LGBT gamers welcome CGG as a haven.

"Regardless of who you are, this is a safe place," says D.R. Hanson, Sacks' partner in life and business. "It's in the name itself and people can come in, learn about games, have fun and never feel insecure."

CGG adds to the queer landscape of social outlets as an alternative to bars or restaurants. Regular player Brian Nesbitt credits Sacks with cultivating an easy atmosphere — one that isn't always found at other shops.

"I've played at other stores where the regulars were, at best, barely tolerant [of newcomers] and [could be] downright hostile, at worst," Nesbitt says. "At one shop, a player kept using the word 'fag,' which ended up being an uncomfortable situation. A friend recommended I check out CGG and everyone there has been awesome."

CGG has a straightforward comfort that would appeal to even the non-tabletop gamer. Popular games range from the strategic Settlers of Catan to party game Cards Against Humanity, the comic book world of HeroClix and of course, Magic the Gathering (MTG). But proof of the shop's impact can be seen on Friday nights and at other weekly events that provide a place for a younger crowd that's missing in Oak Lawn. Sacks has even built a relationship with the Resource Center's young men's group Fuse to cultivate events such as Fuse Gamer Night.

"There's no real place for underage people to hang anymore," Hanson says. "Common Ground has given them a safe place to



GOING COMMANDO | Plano-based game firm Gearbox actively seeks to create a diverse universe of characters, although commando Axton's sexual identity began as a programming bug that inspired designers to make him bisexual. (Artwork courtesy Gearbox Software)

be."

Sacks' reason for opening CGG was a deeply personal one.

"I didn't grow up with normal social interaction," he confides. "We know other people think we're nerdy. When I was 20, I wish there was a place like this where I could hang with people with similar interests, and the community has been justifying the entire endeavor which is quite humbling."

As a 20-something, Sacks used to manage a comic book and game store before working for Richard Neal at Zeus. As the 40-checkbook was nearing, he had an epiphany.

"I couldn't work for someone else and needed to do it for myself. I realized the only time I enjoyed getting up and going to work was when I went to the game and comic stores," he says. "When Zeus moved in 2012, there were empty spaces, and on Free Comic Book Day [May 4, 2013], we opened our doors."

Hanson added that Sacks' timing was perfect and as mainstream culture is getting more inundated with comic book movies and supernatural books, that one thing is for certain: "Geeks are finally getting the limelight."

And gay gamers — those who enjoy card- and board-based games, as well as those who like online, video and multi-player platforms — are jumping on for the ride, like Steven Diorio. As an

organizer for the Facebook and Meetup group Dallas Gay geeks, it's all about welcoming "techies, gaymers, otaku, nerds, dorks, geeks and anyone in between" for social events of a "geeky persuasion," as Diorio puts it.

"Dallas Gay Geeks was started in 2011 by a friend. After moving from New York to Dallas, I was fortunate enough to attend the first meeting and I felt like I had a new home," Diorio says. He led the group's 2012 expansion to focus not just on tech and science interests but "the geeky arts."

Like Sacks and Hanson, Diorio wanted to create a sanctuary with the group while expanding his and fellow nerds' circles of friends.

"My goal was to craft a forum [for those] who share the same passions," Diorio says. "By providing a safe place for like-minded individuals, people have a way to meet other gamers or geeks. We'll have video game nights playing Diablo 3, League of Legends and Final Fantasy or board games like Resistance, Settlers of Catan and Cards Against Humanity."

Boasting 188 members on Meetup and 62 Facebook members, the group will meet on Aug. 16 for Geeky Game Board Day at Madness Games and Comics in Plano and recently attended a *Lord of the Rings* parody at Pocket Sandwich Theatre.

Video games were a welcome distraction for Diorio. He bonded with friends in high school over *Street Fighter II* and unwound after a 50-plus hour work week with multiplayer games. In July, Diorio discovered the profound connection between queer identity and video games at GaymerX in San Francisco.

"It was a very fulfilling experience for me," he says. "Several of the Dallas Gay Geeks attend the conference. It was unbelievable to be part of a crowd that all identified with the same pastimes. I even found people to talk with about my collection of rare old school games. The conference even had a video game-themed drag show that took my breath away."

One of the panelists at GaymerX last month was Graeme Timmins, an openly gay level designer for Gearbox Software, a 15-year-old Plano-based game design firm. In one of Gearbox's signature titles, *Borderlands 2* (released in September 2012), two characters are LGBT: The commando Axton and the old-school trapper Sir Hammerlock.

"Gearbox wants to incorporate diversity into our games — not just gay issues, but women and minorities, as well," Timmins explains of the company's foray into gay characters. "Character artists and writers really respond to building characters that connect to people, and reach an audience with a strong relation to them."

Anthony Burch, a writer with the company, has been an exponent of inclusiveness in the games.

"When he came onto *Borderland 2*, he wanted to open ourselves up to all these other perspectives and a greater reach," Timmins explains. Sometimes, happening onto diversity can be as much about circumstance as design.

"Axton became bisexual almost through a bug in our game," Timmins says. "When you take enough damage in that game you don't die, you go to [a level where others can nurse your character back to health]. The program didn't understand who was helping him out, so Axton would say things like, 'Thanks, hot stuff' to men and women. We thought, hey, that's not a big deal. Let's not make it a bug; let's make it part of the character."

What accounts, though, for the rise in gaming — not just mainstream, but with the gay community as well? Timmins has a theory.

"LGBT people love to be part of communities, and games help develop those communities," he opines. "They come together and identify in that way."



MAGIC FRIDAYS | Jamison Sacks hosts a Magic the Gathering game night every Friday at Common Grounds Games. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

That theme is echoed by Diorio, who found refuge in video games both alone and with friends was far more than a pastime. "As a member of the LGBT community, I wouldn't be who I am today without my years playing video games. It will always drive my free time and the company I choose," he says.

The market continues to expand. The new *Dungeons and Dragons*, which launched in July, features a range of gender identities and sexual orientations among its characters. This sparked an idea in Sacks and Hanson.

"We'd love to be a store that fosters and facilitates creators gay or straight who might need a place to play," Sacks says. Hanson adds that CGG endeavors to support both the LGBT and gaming communities.

"I love they are trying to build up that community," CGG patron Curtis Glenn says. "I find that everyone I have met there is very open-minded customers and employees alike."

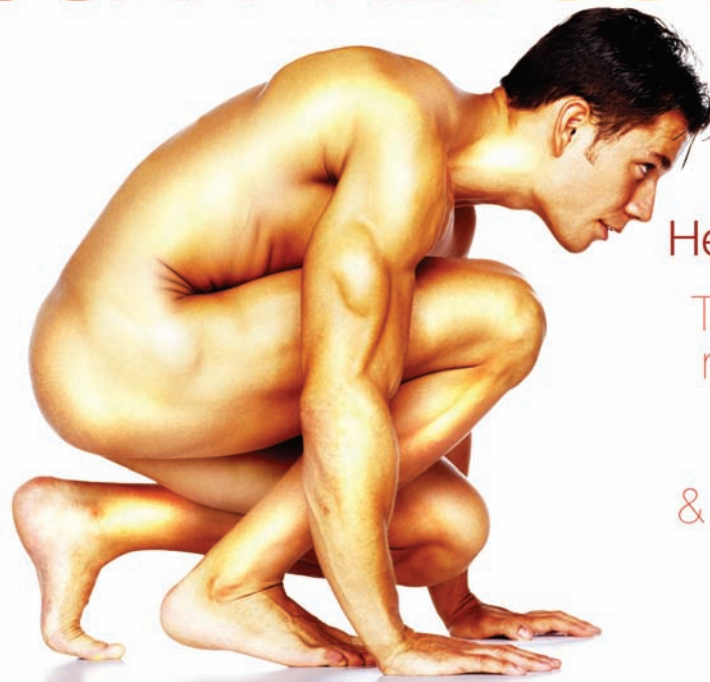
CGG contribute to the community through their LifeWalk team CGG Cares, they've sponsored Gaybingo and have their relationship with Fuse but first they are a business — one that's created a comfortable space for them and their clientele which range from students to doctors, ministers to monks (yes, really), men and women of all ages and, especially, orientations.

"Yes, the store is gay owned but it's not the end-all to what Common Ground is," he says. "Anyone can be who they are here. But we're glad to be a part of the community and not just a store. When I worked at Zeus, I saw how Richard was always visible in the community, and we're trying to be that too."

Game over? Hardly.

Find Dallas Gay Geeks on Facebook and visit Common Ground Games at BoardGamesDallas.com.

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CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
autocasey@aol.com

In 1991, when I was a high school senior, a teacher walked in and asked how much the new V12-powered Mercedes 600SEL cost. I said, \$126,000. He grinned and nodded. That was the price for the world's best car.

That was then. While the 600SEL packed a 402-horsepower 6.0-liter V12, the 2014 S63 AMG — a kick-ass ride if ever there was one — slams forth with a hand-built 5.5-liter biturbo V8, delivering 577 horses and 664 lb.-ft. of torque. That much power can shrink a car. It connects to a paddle-shifted 7-speed automatic transmission and 4MATIC all-wheel-drive. Flash from 0-60 mph in just 3.9s and on to unmentionable speeds. Gas mileage is disgusting, but nobody cares.

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A sophisticated chassis delivers. 4MATIC and AIRMATIC suspension systems conspire for dynamics that would bedevil smaller cars. "Comfort" and "Sport" modes deliver a softer ride on-road or a firm AMG feel for peeling backroads. Carbon ceramic brakes "deploy the parachute."



MIND BENZING | With horsepower nearing 600, Mercedes-Benz's premium S-Class model has power and style, and the interiors, opposite, are equally indulgent.

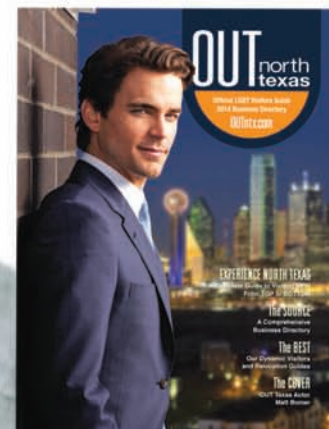
An S-Class is also about recognized style.

Whoever at Mercedes thinks screwing with the fronts of the company's sedans, moving the star from hood to grille, has never gazed hood-long at one from behind the steering wheel. Fortunately, none of that nonsense found its way onto the S63. Flash that big chrome grille at exclusive hotels, or fill the mirrors of left-lane slow-pokes with it, and you quickly get respect. People tend to move in your favor!

If they pause, they'll realize all of the car's lights are LEDs. They'll also swoon over our car's 20-in. black alloys, AMG-embossed exhaust outlets, and flowing lines that replace chunky wedges as Mercedes' design repertoire. It recalls elegantly grand sedans from the '30s-'50s.

Company coming?

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Interiors are dominated by twin LCD screens, expanses of stitched leather, and real wood that foretell elegance for decades to come. Use the knurled aluminum joywheel and center screen to select infotainment functions. Connect smart phones via Bluetooth or USB ports in the armrest and settle into plush heated/cooled leather seats with pillow headrests. Rear passengers recline under the twin pane panoramic sunroof.



Heated/cooled seats and a heated suede steering wheel are sweet, but our test car spoiled with heated armrests and door panels and in-car wifi hotspot. Hear the Bestermer 3D audio and you'll sledge your home system. Customize the cabin's scent atomizer and ambient lighting as you please.

Further, the S63 employs smart cruise control with steering assist to monitor vehicles ahead and marker lines to keep the big 'Benz centered in its lane. Brake assist with pedestrian recognition, blind spot warning, lane keeping assist,

360-degree parking guidance, and cross-traffic alert systems shield fenders.

The S63's blend of obnoxious power, hedonistic luxury, hushed cruising, gravity-defying chassis and advanced safety set the standard. There's nothing like driving an S-Class — especially one massaged by AMG. It's quick enough to cast shadows on Corvette bumpers while insuring Pullman cars remain derailed.

Is the S63 the best car in the world? If not, it's darned close. A base price of \$139,500, and \$162,085 as-tested, will have buyers also considering the Bentley Continental, Rolls-Royce Ghost and Porsche Panamera. ■

'Gypsy Boy' sequel equals the first

***Gypsy Boy on the Run* by Mikey Walsh (Thomas Dunne 2014) \$25; 306 pp.**

Work stinks. And home isn't much better. Deadlines, dirty dishes, nasty clients, empty bank account — any wonder why you're so crabby? What you really need is to get away, which is why Mikey Walsh did. But as he explains in this memoir, his stakes were higher: He had to escape certain death.

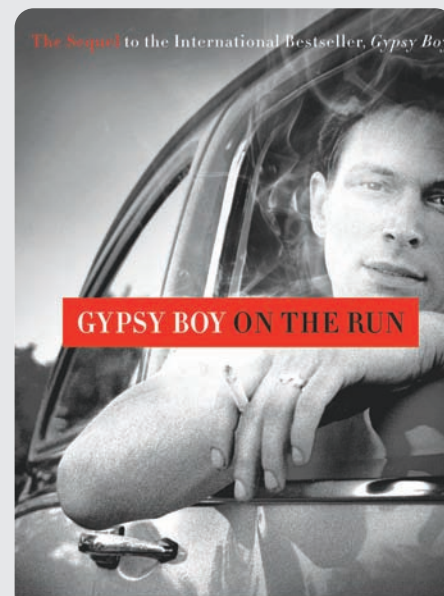
Growing up in Europe's Romany culture in the 1980s was wonderfully idyllic — for awhile. As a young boy, Walsh played with his sister, danced to his mother's favorite music, made mischief with cousins and loved to dress up. But as the youngest in a line of Gypsy fighters, his father started "training" him early to use his fists. That meant daily beatings (sometimes more) until Walsh was a teen.

By then, he realized he was gay and he knew his father would kill him if he found out. With the help of Caleb, a man he'd fallen in love with, 15-year-old Walsh disappeared in the middle of the night. But his father wasn't going to let him go easily.

Walsh finally found safety in a town where he hoped his father wouldn't look. Walsh found a job, but he lost Caleb to the pressure of constant threats.

Though proud of his Gypsy heritage, his way of speaking became more "Gorgia." He made friends and learned to embrace his sexuality. He'd stopped living with paralyzing fear, learned to read, enrolled in acting classes ... and began to forgive his father.

At the end of last year's *Gypsy Boy* — which I absolutely loved — Walsh teased his readers by letting it slip that there was much more to his story. He didn't elaborate, and I wondered if he could deliver on that delicious tantalization. I shouldn't have doubted.



GYPSEY BOY ON THE RUN

My Escape from a Life Among the Romany Gypsies
Mikey Walsh

Beginning with a brief recap that also serves as a summary for those who missed the first book, Walsh wastes little time before pulling readers into a terror-filled account of being a half-step ahead of his father's fists, and yet he manages to keep a sense of humor. He presents his story with no poor-me tone; the lack of whining is oh-so-refreshing.

This memoir contains some repetition, but that minor annoyance is overpowered by a tale every bit as stellar as its predecessor.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer

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Sax appeal

Out jazz musician Dave Koz toots his own horn

SUP, KOZ? | Dave Koz, second from left, will perform Sunday with Richard Elliott, Mindi Abair and Gerald Albright at Fair Park Music Hall.

SCOTT HUFFMAN | Contributing Writer
scott_in_dallas@yahoo.com

think first and foremost, if you like the saxophone, you will be very happy," out sax player Dave Koz, 51, jokes about his music. The musician and radio host will be delivering a matinee performance in support of his most recent album, *Summer Horns*, at Fair Park Music Hall Sunday. "If you don't like sax, you might want to think about a different way to spend your afternoon."

For the second consecutive year, the boyishly handsome Koz has toured alongside fellow saxophonists Mindi Abair, Gerald Albright and Richard Elliott promoting the music on the album, a 12-track collection of songs that serves as an homage to bands with horn-driven sounds.

"The album celebrates the music that made me the musician I am," Koz explains. "The sound that really captivated me as a young kid was the sound of a horn section, bands like Tower of Power, Earth Wind and Fire, Chicago, Blood Sweat and Tears, Kool and the Gang. Really [they were] the impetus for me picking up the saxophone in the first place."

For the veteran performer, his hectic touring schedule, while tiring, is a labor of love.

"The part of getting to places — the traveling and van rides to the gig — is a part of the process and can be more of the work aspect," Koz says. "If you ask most musicians, I think they would

say you get paid for the other 22 hours of the day, but the show you do for free."

Since his first album in 1990, Koz has been a staple on the Grammy lineup, with nine nominations (including one earlier this year for *Summer Horns*). He has yet, however, to take home his own trophy.

"Those things are hard to win!" he says laughing, explaining how grateful he is for the acknowledgement. "I think that's the key. It's not so much the winning. It's the opportunity to be amongst your peers and to have that recognition for works that you really feel strongly about."

And it is not as if Koz has gone without accolades. In 2009, he was immortalized on the Hollywood Walk of Fame; his star is just outside the iconic Capitol Records building and only a short distance away from the Beatles' stars.

"I thought they made a mistake," Koz recalls about first hearing the news. "I asked, 'Is this a joke?' Sometimes I will stop by just to make sure it is still there. And I have gone there to clean the star on occasion. It's the cleanest star on the block."

In what he calls "the best gift" he has ever given himself, Koz came out in a 2004 interview in *The Advocate*. Rather than derailed his career, it only got better.

"Around 40, something inside of me welled up that I didn't rec-

ognize," Koz recalls. "It was a desire to be a whole person. There was a tremendous freedom that came with [coming out]. The fears that we create in our mind are really illusions, because nothing happened. The only thing that happened was that I felt free. It opened me up in a lot of ways that were surprising."

While music remains his first passion, Koz is also enthusiastic about wines. In fact, he has helped raise thousands of dollars for the Starlight Children's Foundation (for which he serves as a global ambassador) through a line of California wines that bears his name.

"You go into the supermarket, and each bottle is a completely different story," Koz says of wines in general. "You can't say the same thing about Coke or Pepsi or coffee, or pretty much any other drink. It reflects the personality of the winemaker, the grapes and the fact that the formula changes every year because the grapes are different every year. It's like art in a bottle."

Another of Koz's passions is his pricey new electric car, and he is especially fond of one of its entertainment features.

"I just bought a Tesla," Koz says. "I'm crazy in love with that car. It comes with Slacker Radio, which is like Pandora. You can press a button on the steering wheel and then just say whatever you want to hear — whatever is on your mind or whatever mood you are in." Has he asked it to play something from Dave Koz? "That was the first test!" he beams. "I'm proud to say it passed." ■

DAVE KOZ

Music Hall at Fair Park,
909 First Ave. Aug. 10. 3 p.m.
Ticketmaster.com.

Putogate



How gay activists responded to a Mexican taunt during the World Cup set the stage for more inclusiveness in sports

Last month's World Cup in Brazil had everything: Goals galore. Scintillating performances (including by the surprisingly non-inept United States team). Stunning upsets. Gay prostitutes.

Que diabos?!

"Gay prostitutes" refers to a very loud, very clear chant favored by many (though certainly not all) Mexican fans. *Puto* is as much a four-letter word as any English slur: just as powerful, just as controversial, just as fraught.

According to Slate writer Juliana Jiménez Jaramillo, the yell — directed at the Cup against opposing goalkeepers, but one with a long history in Mexican *fútbol* — is "a very specific, homophobic double entendre." In Spanish, when a keeper lets up a goal, he is said to allow another player to "stick it in." In other words, surrendering a goal is like being on the receiving end of anal sex. From there, it's a quick step to calling a goalie a gay whore.

Jaramillo notes that *puto* is not the same as *maricón* ("faggot"). But when tens of thousands in a packed stadium scream the word — and it is heard by hundreds of millions of television viewers around the world — ears prick up.

ESPN, which broadcast every World Cup match, may or may not have realized what was going on in the first game against Croatia, but it certainly knew afterward — and during the ensuing Mexico-Brazil match-up — when complaints poured in. The ABC-owned giant's first response was that they use the audio feed supplied by FIFA, soccer's governing body.

Of course, as Outsports.com pointed out, ESPN could easily have muted the sound. "It's hard to believe they would allow someone to say 'faggot' on their air without muting or bleeping the slur," the gay sports website noted.

ESPN's Bob Ley read a we're-sorry-if-anyone-was-offended statement before Mexico's game against the Netherlands. "This is a long-standing tradition at Mexican national team matches," he said. "The word is an anti-gay slur in Spanish.

Here at the World Cup, this has become a bit of an international issue. FIFA has looked into it. Mexican officials have acknowledged the impossibility of policing the conduct and language of tens of thousands of fans."

FIFA is soccer's international governing organization. It had its hands full even before *Putogate* — it's "looked into" racism, allegations of match-fixing, corruption charges and slave labor in Qatar, site of the 2022 World Cup, among other issues — but it did conjure up a statement even before the Cup began that was to be read in every stadium, before each match.

It emphasized "mutual respect, regardless of gender, race, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religion or class. These are the values and aspirations of FIFA, the wider world of sport and people everywhere." And that was that.

Univision, the Spanish-language World Cup broadcaster in the U.S., came down harder than ESPN, with a bit more realism than FIFA's Kumbaya statement. Univision "celebrates the diversity of the sport we love and can be enjoyed by all — absent what can be the hurtful consequences of certain words." It made a commitment to "make sure that our own coverage and commentary is respectful and inclusive of all, including the gay community."

Thanks to that one "P" word, attention shifted from the field to the stands. Even in Mexico, not everyone bought fans' it's-only-a-game-and-we've-always-said-it-plus-we-just-use-it-to-distract-the-keeper-and-besides-it's-not-really-anti-gay explanation. "The chant *puto* is an expression of disdain, rejection. It is not a neutral expression; it is negative, it is stigmatizing, it devalues," said Conapred, the country's anti-discrimination agency. "It equates being gay with being a coward, with mistakes, it is used to equate the rival team to women."

Mexican actor Diego Luna, who played gay



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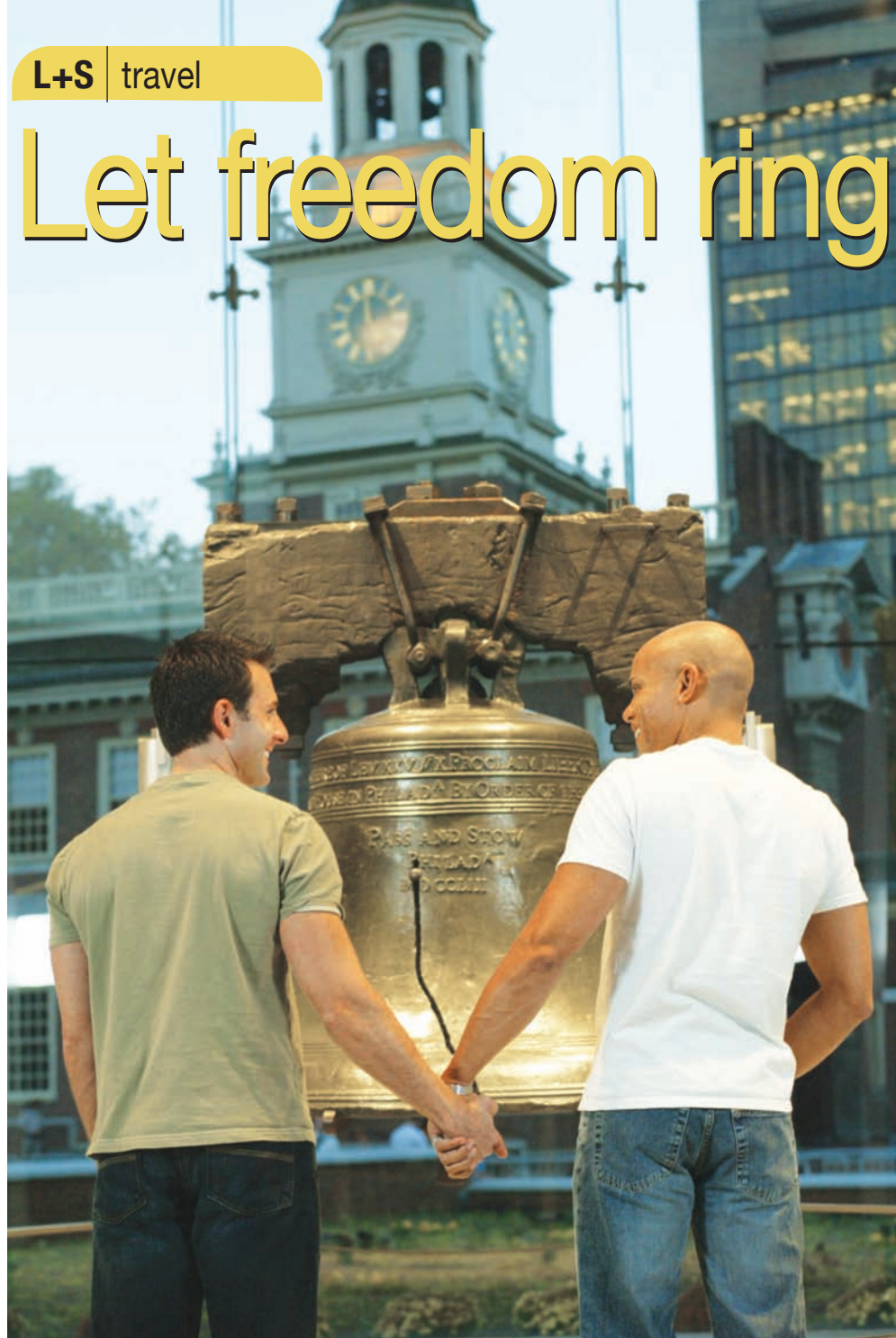


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L+S travel

Let freedom ring



Philadelphia, the city of brotherly (and sisterly) love, welcomes gay travelers

ANDREW COLLINS | Contributing Writer
outoftown@qsyndicate.com

Philadelphia is home to some of the most important and fascinating art museums and historic attractions in the country, not to mention a superb (if underrated) dining scene and a rich selection of stylish hotels. Stroll around Independence National Historical Park to admire the buildings in which the founding fathers conceived of the United States, or to wander through Fairmount Park, with its groomed paths meandering along the Schuylkill River. Here's a blueprint for spending a perfect weekend in the City of Brotherly Love.

Friday evening. On your first night, kick things off with a memorable meal. You'll find a heady mix of international culinary influences,

a dedication on the part of many chefs to sustainable and locally sourced ingredients, and a thriving craft-cocktail and beer scene. Chef and restaurant partners (in business and in life) Marcie Turney and Valerie Safran have made an indelible mark on Philadelphia by opening several outstanding eateries, all of them highly popular with the LGBT community — you might even dine at one of their restaurants each night of your visit, or consider making a progressive dinner one evening by sampling one or two items at a few different spots.

Among the Turney-Safran venues, consider cozy and romantic Little Nonna's for pan-seared potato gnocchi, grilled pork chop pizzaiola, and other classic Italian dishes; Barbuzzo for beautifully prepared Mediterranean tapas, cured-meat and cheese plates, and pizzas; Jamonera for traditional Spanish

GAY HISTORY. | Liberty Bell Plaza near Independence Hall, above, is popular with gay visitors to Philly, as is the annual PrideDay Parade and Festival, opposite. (Photos by B. Kennedy for Visit Philadelphia)



tapas; or Lolita, a BYOT (bring-your-own-tequila) Mexican restaurant.

Saturday. Start the day with a leisurely stroll around City Center. City-planning guru Jane Jacobs called this tiny patch of paradise the most successful urban park in the United States; indeed, Rittenhouse Square Park is picturesque, socially diverse, highly safe and largely unscathed by post-World War II architecture. Off the Square's southeast corner is the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music, where Samuel Barber, Leonard Bernstein and Ned Rorem studied, as well as the Philadelphia Art Alliance, which presents outstanding exhibits and art shows.

Stop by La Colombe Torrefaction for an expertly brewed espresso, or if you're looking for a proper brunch, nearby Honey's Sit 'N Eat is a terrific option (try the Honey Cristo: challah French toast stuffed with Lancaster County double-smoked ham and Swiss, and topped with two sunny eggs).

Depending on how much you've eaten during your morning stroll, in the early afternoon, make your way northeast about a mile from Rittenhouse Square to visit the famed and cavernous Reading Terminal Market, which dates back to 1892 and contains more than 80 stalls carrying everything from local seafood to Pennsylvania Dutch specialties to decadent baked goods and homemade fudge.

Even if you're not a big history buff, you can't visit Philadelphia and not soak up at least a whiff or two of the city's amazingly rich heritage. The Old City neighborhood, just a 15-minute walk east of Reading Terminal Market, contains the bulk of the city's pre-1800s attractions, most them centered around Independence National Historical Park, which celebrates the very birth of our nation. Most famous is the Liberty Bell Pavilion, site of America's beloved and cracked 2,000-pound bell. Although commonly thought to have played a significant role in Colonial history, the Liberty Bell actually rose to prominence during the 1830s as a symbol of the movement to abolish slavery.

Nearby Independence Hall is where the Second Continental Congress met in 1775, the Dec-

laration of Independence was adopted in 1776, the Articles of Confederation were signed in 1778, and the Constitution was adopted in 1787. It was also the site of the city's first major civil rights demonstrations (which included the concerns of lesbians and gays). The list of important sights within the park goes on and on – you could easily spend a full day here.

Saturday evening. As the dinner hour approaches, book a table at one of the restaurants operated by another of Philadelphia's culinary stars, local celeb chef Stephen Starr. It's not easy to choose among the more than a dozen Starr eateries around the city, but two standouts are Jones, which is right by Independence Hall and serves eclectic Southern- and Caribbean-inspired dishes like fried chicken and waffles, and spicy jambalaya; or, around the corner, snazzy Talula's Garden, which specializes in artfully plated contemporary American fare, such as filet of beef with foie gras-brown butter and seared local brook trout with garlic-braised guanciale, snap peas and fiddlehead ferns.

The city's compact gay district is where you'll want to go if you're up for some bar-hopping and clubbing. Favorite gay nightspots include long-running but handsomely revamped Woody's, a youthful video and dance bar that's quite crowded every night of the week. The three-story Voyeur Nightclub is the gayborhood's go-to for dancing into the wee hours (it's open until 3 a.m.), while Tavern on Camac is a charming gay piano bar with a cozy basement restaurant. Other friendly options in the area include U Bar, an attractive spot with exposed-brick walls and warm lighting; trendy but friendly Knock Bar and Restaurant, a great option both for dining and cocktails; ICandy, the oldest gay bar in town, set in a historic tavern.

Sunday. Now that you've become acquainted with Philly's rich history, head to two or three of the city's renowned art museums on Sunday. But first, kick off your adventure with brunch at wonderful Sabrina's Café, near the

■ PHILLY, Next Page

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■ PHILLY, From Previous Page

Parkway Museums District. Fave morning dishes include huevos rancheros with smoky chorizo sausage and blue-corn tortillas.

If you have time for just one museum, make it the Barnes Foundation, an internationally acclaimed collection assembled by the late chemist Albert Barnes and moved from his suburban Philadelphia mansion into a stunning contemporary exhibit space in 2012. The idiosyncratic collection boasts works from a range of cultures, but there's a particular emphasis on Impressionist and Modernist artists, especially

Renoir, Cezanne, Matisse, and the lesser-known (and gay) Pennsylvania painter Charles Demuth. Give yourself at least a couple of hours to tour this singular museum.

If possible, also try to stop by the famed Rodin Museum, which contains the largest collection of the eponymous artist's sculptures outside Paris, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which sits within a dramatic Greek Revival building amid 10 landscaped acres. Standouts in the permanent collection include contemporary masterpieces by Picasso, Braque, and Matisse as well as works by a number of post-World War II artists. The outstanding Marcel

Duchamp collection includes renditions of his *Nude Descending a Staircase*. Check out the fine collection of photos and paintings by gay artist Thomas Eakins of young, virile men crewing and boating on the nearby Schuylkill River.

And that's just scratching the surface. The museum is adjacent to lushly landscaped Fairmount Park, which straddles the Schuylkill River and comprises nearly 9,000 acres of picturesque gardens, walkways and biking and bridle paths, plus about a dozen historic (mostly Colonial) mansions, which are open to the public.

Sunday evening. Philadelphia has some out-

standing ethnic dining options. For stellar Mexico City-inspired fare, try Distrito, which serves the creative cuisine of talented chef Jose Garces. Or for delish Asian fare, head to informal Cheu Noodle Bar, an inventive gayborhood favorite for brisket ramen, coconut curry and barbecue pig tails with turnip kimchi.

Where to stay. The city has a mix of historic and stylish, design-driven hotels, with quite a few options within easy walking distance of gayborhood bars and restaurants. Discerning fans of the arts favor the refined Four Seasons Philadelphia, on Logan Square, just a couple of blocks from the Barnes Foundation and other top museums. Request a room overlooking the square, and be sure to enjoy cocktails or a light bite in the casually sophisticated Lounge, or dinner in the Fountain Restaurant, which serves nonpareil French food. Another draw here is the hotel's soothing day spa.

Near stately Rittenhouse Square, the hip and modish Radisson Blu Warwick occupies a marvelously transformed historic hotel with artfully designed rooms and cushy beds; Tavern 17, off the mod lobby, is a fun spot to meet friends for drinks or dinner, and cozy and stylish Stir gay neighborhood bar is across the street. One of the largest and most inviting urban gay-owned hotels in the country, the reasonably priced Alexander Inn has 48 warmly appointed rooms and is steps from local bars.

Gay-favored Kimpton hotels operates the dapper Hotel Palomar, also close to the gayborhood, as well as the sleek Hotel Monaco, which is in Old City close to Independence Hall — a nice alternative if you'd prefer to be near the city's most historic attractions. Other LGBT-popular lodging gems include the Loews Philadelphia, which occupies the handsome 1930s PSFS Building; and the Hyatt at Bellevue, a 172-room grande dame on the Avenue of the Arts. ■

■ SPORTS, From Page 21

characters in *Y Tu Mamá También* and *Milk*, said, "Soccer is a reflection of what we are in many ways. We live in a classist, racist, homophobic society ... I'm not really proud of that."

Here in the U.S., some commentators accused the gay community and its allies of overreacting. But University of New Hampshire associate professor of Spanish language Holly Cashman didn't buy it. Writing on the Huffington Post, she said, "It is important to stand up and call out linguistic practices that are hurtful and dangerous, even if they are part of beloved traditions."

Homophobic slurs "are not just words," she added. They "translate into real violence because they condone and normalize hate. Slurs translate into suicide, substance abuse and self-harming because they underscore the message that LGBTQ people are not worthy of life, love and happiness like everyone else."

Puto may be a dubious Mexican soccer tradition. But it's not the only one. For the sixth straight World Cup, the team was eliminated in the Round of 16. ■

— Dan Woog

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Monday 08.11

Fashion icon Diana Vreeland comes to life at 'Full Gallop'

She was the legendary fashion editor at Harper's for a quarter of a century, and even led *Vogue* for a decade B.W. (Before Wintour), but you may not know Diana Vreeland as well as you may like. That can change with *Full Gallop*, the decade-old one-woman show making its regional premiere with official opening night on Monday, and local actress Diana Sheehan playing the lead.

DEETS: Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Aug. 9–31. WaterTowerTheatre.org.



Saturday 08.09

Drag Racer Raven headlines Night of Stars

She was one of the most talked-about queens in *Drag Race* history, and if you've always wanted to see her perform, this is your chance! She headlines *Night of the Stars 2* at The Brick Saturday, a fundraiser for LifeWalk's Team Metro. Patti Le Plae Safe serves as host for the event.

DEETS: The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. 6–10 p.m. \$20 donation at the door suggested.




Sunday 08.10

Who will be crowned this year's Voice of Pride winner?

A dozen men and women — all desperately talented — enter a stage. Twenty-four songs later, one emerges \$7,500 richer with a reputation as Oak Lawn's best singer. Will it be a newcomer? One of the returning favorites? Man or woman? Rock or opera? You can never tell, which is why the *Voice of Pride* finale — sponsored by the Dallas Tavern Guild, is one of the most enjoyable reality shows *not* on TV. In addition to the contestants, last year's winner, Walter Lee Cunningham (pictured), will give a farewell performance. It's like *American Idol* without having to endure Ryan Seacrest.

DEETS: The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 5:30 p.m. doors, 7 p.m. showtime. \$5 cover; limited VIP seating available. DallasTavernGuild.org.



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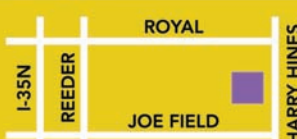
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The Boy from Oz. Uptown Players mounts this musical about the gay entertainer, and Oscar-winning songwriter, Peter Allen. *Final weekend.* Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. \$30-\$50. UptownPlayers.org.

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. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Aug. 17. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Full Gallop. A one-woman show about Diana Vreeland, the famed editor of Harper's Bazaar who helped establish the benchmark for fashion in the U.S.A regional premiere starring Diana Sheehan. Studio Theatre at the Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Aug. 9-31. 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.

Phantom. *Nine* scribes Maury Yeston (score) and Arthur



'PROJECT RUNWAY' | Nina Garcia, Zac Posen and Heidi Klum are back for the new season of the hit reality competition show, airing Thursdays on Lifetime.

Kopit (book) adapt the classic tale. Presented by ICT MainStage Irving-Las Colinas. *Final weekend.* Dupree Theater at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. \$19-\$24. IrvingArtsCenter.com.

The Phantom of the Opera. An all-new production of

the monster hit settles in for a three week engagement at the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Aug. 24. ATPAC.org.

The Straight Guy. A straight guy who seems gay and a gay guy who seems straight become roommates. *Final weekend.* Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. MBSProductions.net.



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Sat, August 16th
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Sat, August 23rd
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Sat, August 30th
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FRIDAY 08.08

COMMUNITY

Miss Gay USofA Newcomer 2014. Finals 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.

High Tech Happy Hour. The monthly mixer for gays. Park Tavern, 8166 Park Lano. 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Marty's Live. Named after the late gay bar owner Marty Herschner, this newcomer to Maple Avenue has its grand opening today featuring male dancers. Marty's Live, 4207 Maple Ave.

SATURDAY 08.09

COMMUNITY

Night of the Stars 2. A fundraiser for the LifeWalk's Team Metro, with special guest Raven and hosted by Patti Le Plae Safe. The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. 6-10 p.m. Suggested donation at the door: \$20.

SUNDAY 08.10

CONCERTS

Dave Koz and Friends: Summer Horns. The out musician delivers a matinee concert at Fair Park Music Hall, 909 First Ave. 3 p.m. Ticketmaster.com.

COMMUNITY

Voice of Pride 2014 Contest. The annual competition for the best singer in the community. The Rose Room inside S4, 2911 Cedar Springs Road. 5:30 p.m. doors, 7



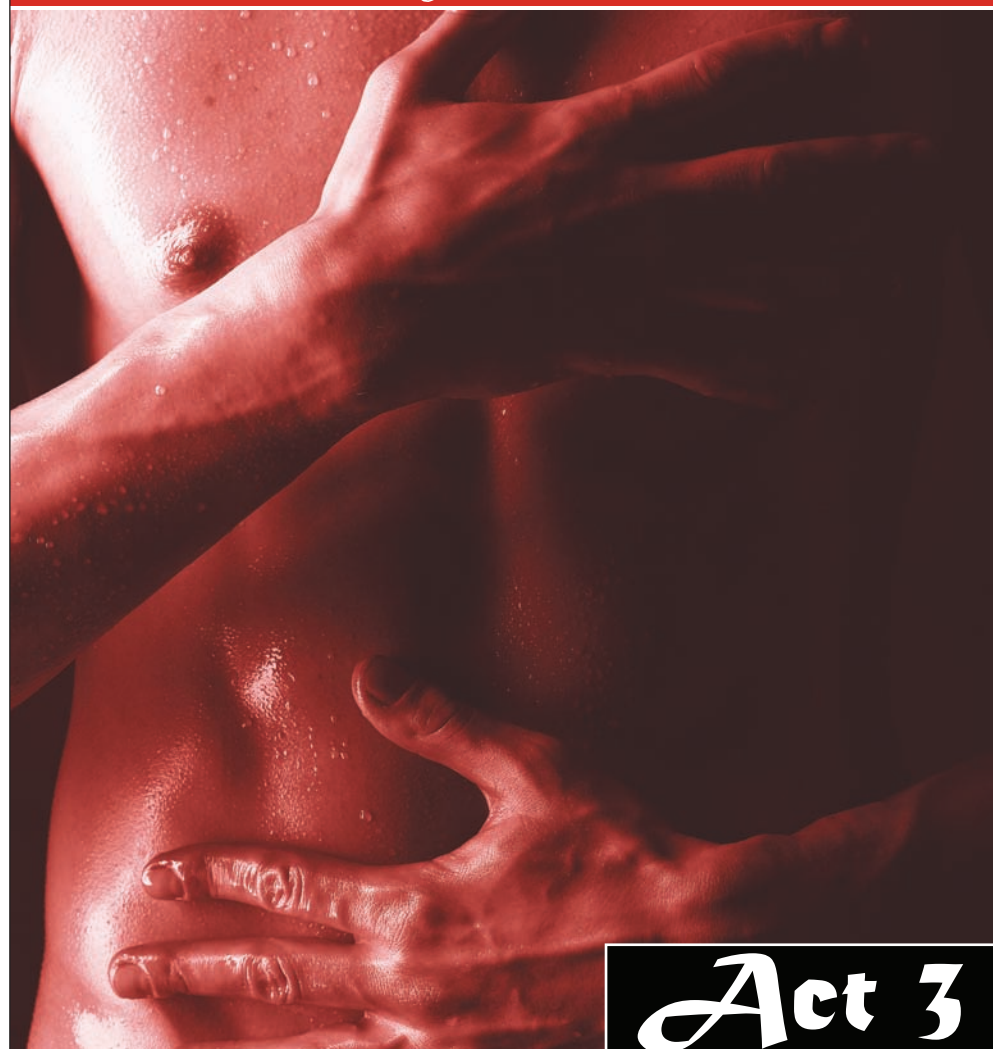
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Act 2
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Act 3
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15th of August
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QUEER CLIP:
'The Hundred-Foot Journey'



The language we use to describe food is so like that we use to describe love — spicy, tender, comforting, satisfying, sensual, hot — it's no wonder so many good foodie movies are also excellent love stories. If you can present a plate of sea urchins and make someone taste it through the screen, you can convince audiences of anything.

Lasse Hallstrom got in some practice before *The Hundred-Foot Journey*; he also directed *Chocolat*, where the incursion of a bakery into a small French town turned the residents upside-down and also turned the watcher into a diabetic. Both deal (as many food movies do) with the competition between cooks, or between consumer and preparer. It can be like falling in love: You need to be convinced, wooed. And that's what this film does to you.

Hassan Kadam (Manish Dayal — adorable in the early scenes, sexy in the later ones) learned to cook at his mother's apron-side in Mumbai. When tragedy forces the entire family to flee to Europe, Hassan, his father (Om Puri) and siblings end up stranded in a sleepy Provencal where dad decides to settle in and open a restaurant, with Hassan leading the kitchen. This doesn't sit well with Madame Mallory (Helen Mirren), the prickly proprietress of La Saule Pleureur (The Weeping Willow), a Michelin-starred restaurant that attracts the best clientele. She doesn't appreciate the ethnic energy emitted from across the street, and the families engage in a tit-for-tat revenge scheme, until eventually someone goes too far.

There are any number of directions a story line this could go, but whatever journey it takes, the destination is the same: self-discovery, love of family and food and spiritual satisfaction through the kitchen door. Predictable at time, but really, is that your concern here? Better just to luxuriate in its tactile, engorged celebration of the senses, with striking photography (both in the tailored interiors and the verdant countryside), a pitch-perfect score and delightful performances. It's a fantasy film for adults who no longer believe in super-heroes, but still believe in love.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

p.m. showtime. \$5 cover. DallasTavernGuild.org.

MONDAY 08.11

SPORTS

DIVA new member clinics. The Dallas Independent Volleyball Association holds tryouts for new members at two clinics this week (Monday and Wednesday) at the Polk Recreation Center, 6801 Roper St. 7-9 p.m. DIVADallas.org. Final registration day is Wednesday.

TUESDAY 08.12

FILM

All About Eve. In many ways, *the* gay classic, which gave Bette Davis her best role, as a star fending off the advances of a younger protege. Part of the New Classic series at Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village, sponsored by Dallas Voice. 7:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m.

THURSDAY 08.14

COMMUNITY

Rising Star Pageant. Layla LaRue and Edna Jean Robinson host this pageant looking for the best

newcomer of 2014. The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road.

One Night in Waikiki presented by Out & Equal DFW. The seventh annual fundraiser for the group that seeks to protect LGBT people in the workplace. Times Ten Cellars, 6324 Prospect Ave. 6-8 p.m. \$35-\$40.

BROADCAST

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

this week's solution

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

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

Cassie Nova

Cassie loves being gay (good thing)

Hi-dee-ho, homos (and homo-friendly fans!) Have you ever thought to yourself, Thank god I am gay? No offense to my straight friends, but we are awesome. If I would have been born a straight guy? Ugh! How boring! I love being gay. We just seem to have more fun.

And being a drag queen is the cherry on top. My job is a party and it's Halloween all year long: "Miss Thang, why are you dressed as a Disney princess?" "Because it's my job, bitch." "Miss Thang, why are you wearing an afro?" "Because it's Tuesday and I wanted to be a disco queen." BLOOP!

Now on to our questions.

Dearest Cassie, A lot of people (I'm not one of said "people," for the record) don't understand drag as a legitimate art form. I can allow that. But what saddens me is that, within the gay community, there still seems to be a lot of self-described "masculine, straight-acting" gays who belittle or make fun of drag. Some may say they lack understanding as well, but I think that perhaps they more accurately feel like they feel they need to defend their masculinity. In an effort for me to be kinder and more understanding of (my opinion) these idiots, and perhaps, self-loathing homosexuals, how do you address this situation amongst us and send a message of education, understanding and/or love? "Masc" queens can be mean! Signed, with love and admiration, Not a mean str8-acting queen!

Dear Not a Mean, As a gay man turned drag queen, I have been on both sides of this coin. Except the part about being masculine. Long before I ever came out, I hated that every gay person I ever saw on television was a drag queen or someone super flamboyant, like Hollywood Montrose from the movie *Mannequin*. Remember, that was way back in the '80's. I hated that every time the news showed anything about "The Gays," it was dudes in dresses, guys in assless chaps or dykes on bikes. I really wanted to see "regular-looking" gay guys. I wasn't attracted to nelly, effeminate guys. So when I first came out, I had a bit of a chip on my shoulder when it came to drag queens. I remember telling local drag superstar **Celeste Martinez** one evening outside of Hunkey's "You are not who I want to be represented by as a gay man." Her response both entertained and annoyed me. She said, "Be gone little queen, you have no power here." Everyone standing around *ooohh'd*, laughed and snapped their fingers in a Z formation. She had let me have it. And I was on my way to being enlightened. Over the next few months, I started going to drag shows and loved how they seemed to bring us all together.

So, those "masculine straight acting drag hating queens" have just not been enlightened yet. They should remember drag queens rioted at Stonewall for gay rights. It's a drag queen they call every time they want to have a fundraiser. It takes a lotta balls to do drag. Just because I wear a dress doesn't mean I am any less of a man — I'm just prettier. Those that are anti-drag are really missing out. Maybe these mean queens should check out the DFW Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and all they do for our community. **Eve Angelica** and **Kerianna Kross** are some fierce (albeit hairy) painted ladies. Or local bearded beauty boy **John Ball**. He is a different breed of drag: Muscled, bearded and painted

for the gods. You don't have to love drag, but at least respect the people in your community. There is way too much hate out in the world to have so much in our own little gay world. Thanks for your support. Love, Cassie.

Dearest Cassie, How do you feel about bachelorette parties going to gay bars? — Elliott.

I honestly don't have a problem with them as long as they realize that they are not in the show. There have been many bachelorette parties that have been lots of fun, but a lot of them get out of control. With the whole gay marriage struggle, part of me does not even want to acknowledge them, celebrating what is denied us, but I always want the audience to have a great time. My way of thinking is this: I am supportive of your marriage, all that I ask is you be supportive of mine. Gay marriage *will* be legal here in Texas some day — hopefully sooner rather than later. On



the up side of it, I have noticed more gay and lesbian bachelor and bachelorette parties lately. We are slowly moving forward. Thanks, Cassie.

Dearest Cassie, I have had many drag queen friends over the years. The thing I loved most about hanging out with drag queens is they always had the best stories. Do you have any stories that the average fan in the audience would never have heard? Please and thank you, Tyler from Tyler.

TT, You have no idea. This question got me talking to the other ladies in the Rose Room and yes, we have stories, although some of the names have been changed or left out to protect the innocent. **Valerie Lohr** tells a story about a queen years ago who had poured cocaine on the counter next to her makeup, when she got called to go on stage. Then the lady boy coming off stage saw it and thought it was makeup. She dipped her powder puff into it and applied it as highlighting powder. Poor thing could not figure out why her face was numb. The moral of the story, don't do drugs, mmmmkay? Drugs are bad.

One of my other favorite stories is about a drag queen who went home with a piece of soldier trade on Halloween ... dressed as Wonder Woman. Her walk of shame was epic. The next morning she had to sneak out a window and down a fire escape with her hip pads, boots and gold crown wrapped in her cape. Now that is one bad, bold superhero. She was after all on a military base. God bless, America! I'll tell more of these stories in the future. Although some of them might be too scandalous. Stay tuned.

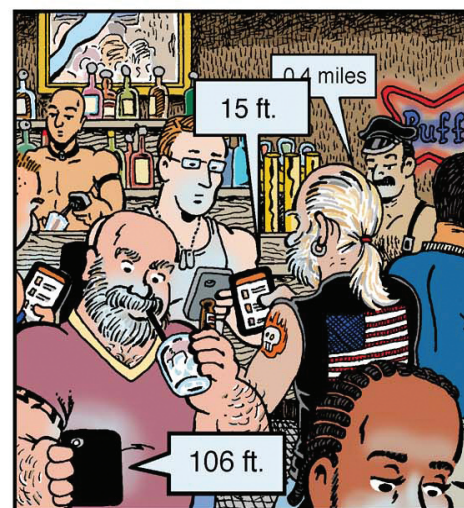
B.T. Dubs: If you have been offended by any part of my column. Awesome. I try to offend someone just a little bit everyday. But remember, it comes from a place of love and fun. So suck it.

If you have a question for me, a juicy piece of gossip or a great story to share, email me and remember: Love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova!

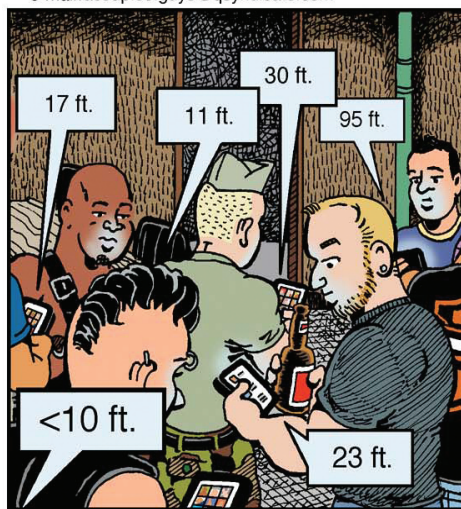
If you have a question and want to suggest for Ask a Drag Queen — or just have some juicy gossip to share — email it to AskCassieNova@gmail.com.



e-mail: acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com



www.facebook.com/acoupleofguys



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David at Kaliente.



Checking out the view from the balcony at The Round-Up Saloon.



Jake, Joel and Tom at Alexandre's.

Making the **SCENE** the week of August 8-14:

Alexandre's: Walter Cunningham on Friday at 10 p.m. Shelia P and Infinity on Saturday at 10 p.m. Sheran Keyton on Wednesday at 9 p.m. Alicia Silex on Thursday at 9 p.m.

Changes: Cowtown Leathermen meeting on Monday at 7 p.m. Fort Worth Treehouse meeting on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Club Reflection: Trinity River Bears meeting on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and cookout at 4 p.m.

Dallas Eagle: National Leather Association presents an advanced workshop on Saturday at noon. NLA club night at 7 p.m. Beyond Vanilla promotional party on Saturday at 7 p.m. Miss Wanda Comedy Show on Thursday at 9 p.m.

JR.'s Bar & Grill: NetChix with Krystal and Asia on Monday.

Round-Up Saloon: Check out the new website at RoundUpSaloon.com.

Sue Ellen's: Heather Knox on Friday. Unjustified Matters, the Battle of the Band Winners on Saturday. Bad Habits on Sunday. Marisela the Voice on Wednesday.

The Brick: Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund's Team Metro hosts its annual fundraiser with Sable Alexandre, Sienna Silver, Vanity Storm and Linze Serell and a silent auction and raffle on Saturday at 6 p.m.

The Rose Room: Voice of Pride final on Sunday at 7 p.m. Rising Star Newcomer of the Year with 2013 Stefani Milkyles hosted by Layla LaRue and Edna Jean Robinson on Thursday.

Woody's Sports & Video Bar: Little Chalupa karaoke on Wednesday.

To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/category/photos. Scene Photographer: Kat Haygood.



Hanging out on the patio.



Doug and Darwin at TMC: The Mining Company.



Lillith Grey pours some wax during a show at Sue Ellen's.



The crew hits The Strip.



Jeff, Michael and Jesse at Woody's.



Patsy and Eddie at The Brick.

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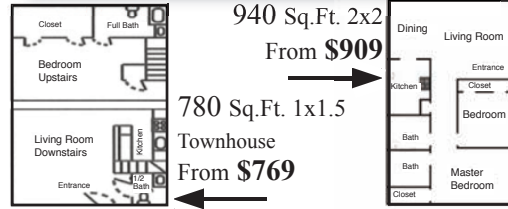
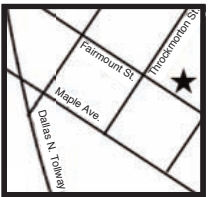
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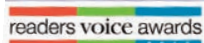
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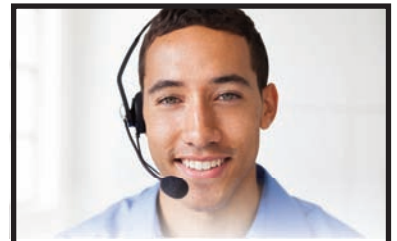
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Pegasus Squares, an LGBT North Dallas Square Dance Club, meets the first and third Sundays of each month, 3pm-5pm at the Resource Center. Lessons beginning March 9th. Contact Rob Miller at 214-320-9598 for more information.

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

- St. Thomas Episcopal Church 6525 Inwood Road (Inwood at Mockingbird) Dallas, Texas 75209
- LAMBDA GROUP 6:30 PM, Friday; 1 hour
- OAK LAWN CoDA GROUP 7:30 PM, Wed; 1 1/2 hours

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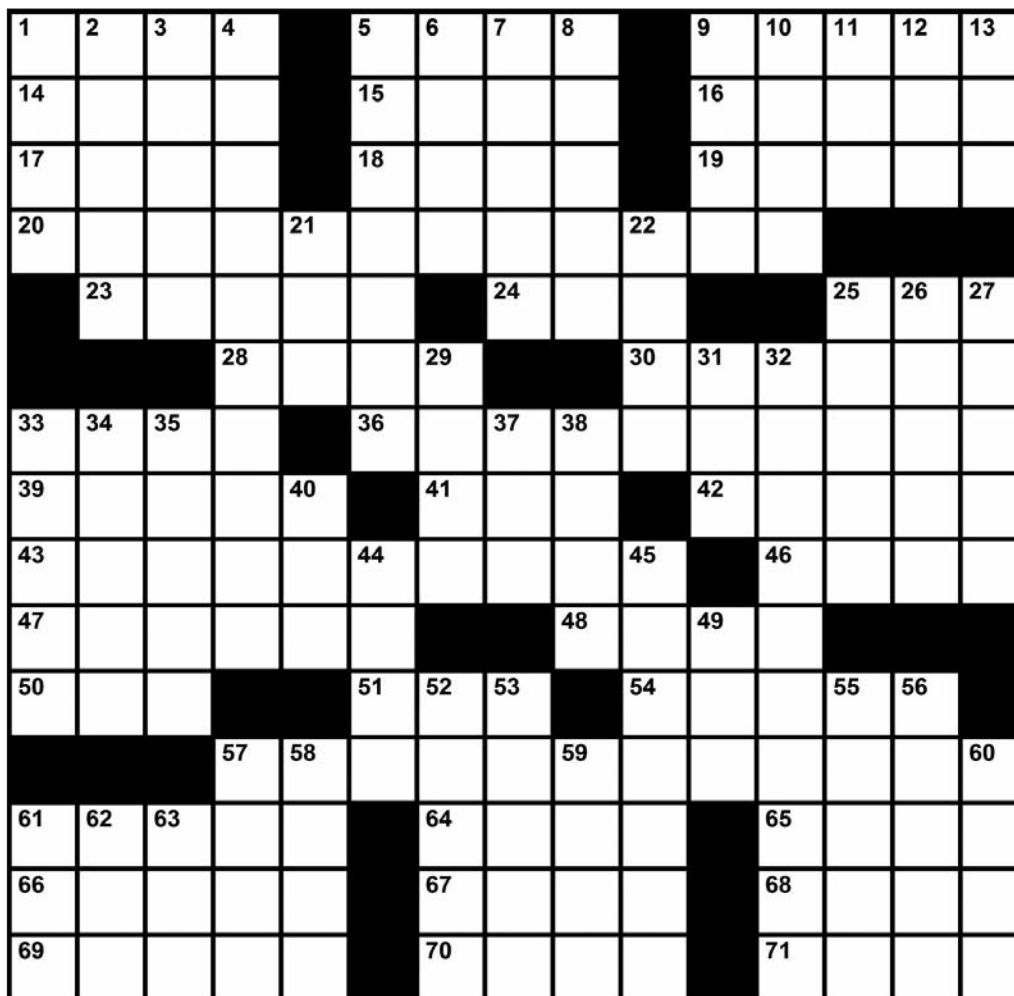
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q-puzzle



Blu Collar Worker

Solution on page 27

Across

- Blow to the buttocks
- "A Boy Named Sue" singer Johnny
- The Audacity of Hope* author
- Hilary Swank's ex Chad
- For-skin cream ingredient
- Like Alexander Pope?
- It makes gelatin get hard
- Polo of *The Fosters*
- Behind
- Susan Blu's line of work
- Take a five-finger discount
- Queer ___ three-dollar bill
- Motorist's offense, briefly
- Sheryl Swoopes and Michael Sam
- Topple from the throne
- Time gone by
- Blu did Aimee Brightower in this series
- One that sucks some sap
- Non-Judy garland
- Sweet heat source
- Blu did J.B. McBride in this series
- Split
- This way
- Like a member that's not upright
- Bullring shout
- Liza, to Lorna
- Sample some buns, e.g.

- Blu did Futura in this series
- Island of Mead's research
- Tender ender?
- Milk-colored gem
- Word used to stop seamen
- Barely managed, with "out"
- Jack in Mexico?
- It can cut your pole
- Ward of *Once and Again*
- Trickle through the cracks

Down

- Navratilova, for one
- Company emblems
- Anticipate the coming of
- Penetrating
- International Male puts it out
- Mapa of *Switched at Birth*
- Rather, informally
- Will beneficiaries
- Withdraws, with "out"
- Meadow sounds
- Lending letters
- Foaming at the mouth
- Hayworth's Khan
- Stud site
- Evian waters
- Get the hoar hot
- Paint Your* ___

- Billie Holiday's "___ to Be You"
- It'll spice up your meat
- B'way locale
- Some infielders in Glenn Burke's sport
- Large phallus painter Picasso
- Eliot's "cruellest month"
- Ice cream treat
- DeLaria of *Orange Is the New Black*
- Opera solos
- Chef Traci ___ Jardins
- Fair-to-middling
- The Capitol dome is its top
- Fourth notes for Menotti
- Lesbos and Man
- Add fuel to
- Tonto's erection
- Use a rubber
- "Hey, I never thought of that!"
- Type of crime
- Jessica of *I Now Pronounce You Chuck & Larry*
- Pig repast
- Actor Mineo
- Gardner of *Show Boat*
- Where wrestlers lie together

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