

dallas voice

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Photo by Chuck Marcello.
Design by Kevin Thomas.



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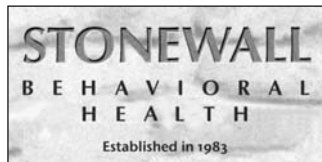
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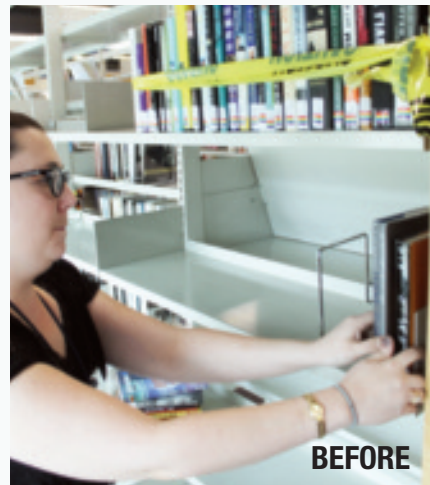
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BEFORE



AFTER

The second largest LGBT library collection in U.S. at Oak Lawn Branch

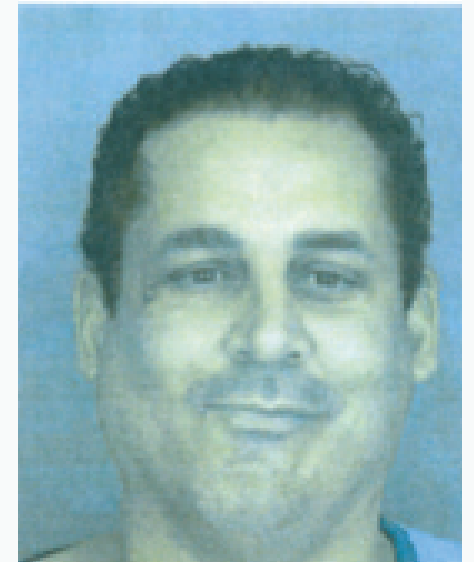
The collection of LGBT books recently donated to the Oak Lawn branch of the Dallas Public Library is shelved and circulating on the honor system. In order to have the books available for Pride weekend, they were not entered into the catalog before being made available. The collection, donated by iLume, is the second largest LGBT library collection in the country.

— David Taffet

DPD homicide detectives ask for help in murder investigation

Dallas Police Department Homicide Det. Derick Chaney is asking for the public's help as he investigates the death of a 54-year-old gay man assaulted early Saturday morning, Sept. 25.

Chaney said that Joseph Chase was beaten up by two men about 2:30 a.m. at the intersection of Cedar Springs Road and Throckmorton Street. Chaney said Chase was found unconscious on the sidewalk outside JR.'s Bar and Grill. He was taken by ambulance to a Dallas hospital where he was pronounced dead.



Joseph Chase

Chaney said detectives have video footage from nearby surveillance cameras that show Chase being assaulted by two unidentified men. He said the video also shows that several other people passed by during the assault and shortly afterward, and he hopes that one or more of those individuals will come forward with information that could help identify the assailants.

"The people passing by probably just thought they were seeing a fight. They probably had no idea this man was being assaulted and that he died as a result of this," Chaney said. "We want to reach out to these people and hopefully get some information that will help us solve this homicide."

Anyone with information is asked to call Det. Chaney at 214-671-3650.

— Tammye Nash

Ebola: God's new weapon against gays?

So apparently, God has gotten tired of waiting on AIDS to wipe out the gays and has decided to sic the Ebola on us, too. At least, that's what "Christian broadcaster" Rick Wiles thinks.

Wiles, a "citizen reporter who decided to take on the Big News Media," according to his own Trunews website, recently warned that Ebola could become a "global pandemic, and that's another name for plague." But Wiles, apparently, doesn't think that's such a bad thing.

"It may be the great attitude adjustment that I believe is coming," Wiles said. "Ebola could solve America's problems with atheism, homosexuality, sexual promiscuity, pornography and abortion. If Ebola becomes a global plague, you better make sure the blood of Jesus is upon you, you better make sure you have been marked by the angels so that you are protected by God. If not, you may be a candidate to meet the Grim Reaper."

Ebola as an "attitude adjustment"? Wiles' rampant stupidity, callousness and bigotry are the attitudes I think need to be adjusted.

Anyway, as Huffington Post points out, this isn't Wiles' first brush with outrageous and ridiculous claims. He's the one who claimed that Miley Cyrus sold her soul to Satan and had sex with a demon in exchange for fame. I find that hard to believe; if that were true, surely Miley would have made a better bargain than one requiring her to stick out her tongue and dance nearly naked with Robin Thicke.

Some Liberian religious leaders are also suggesting that Ebola is God's punishment for homosexuality and immorality, too. Of course, it's not the first time that right-wing religious leaders in the U.S. and right-wing leaders in Africa have agreed on something. Just ask Uganda's LGBT population.

— Tammye Nash

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localbriefs

Outrageous Oral at UNT library

The Dallas Way in conjunction with the Willis Library at the University of North Texas presents the 13th installment of Outrageous Oral, the oral history project that records stories told by members of the North Texas LGBT community.

The five speakers are UNT associate professor Clark A. Pomerleau, UNT student AJ Aguiñaga, the transman who founded the Transgender and Intersex Alliance of Denton, UNT PhD candidate Karen Wisely whose dissertation topic is the formation of the GLBT community in Dallas, UNT Speech Language Pathology major Eric Duran who is Vice President of GLAD and a peer mentor for freshman GLBT students at UNT and Rafael McDonnell, the Communications and Advocacy Manager for Resource Center.

Outrageous Oral takes place at Willis Library, The Forum, Room 140 on Oct. 9 at 7 p.m.

Benefiting from the ACA

Learn for the LGBT community can benefit from the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Matthew Heinz, director of provider outreach and LGBT outreach for the Department of Health and Human Services, and Katy Keith from Out3Enroll.org, a service organization partnered with the White House to work with the LGBT community, will speak at Agape MCC on Sunday, Oct. 5.

Keith and Heinz will hold an informational question and answer session in the social hall from noon-1 p.m.

Agape MCC is at 4615 E California Parkway, Fort Worth



Sable Alexander

Mr. and Miss Charity America at Round-Up Saloon

Home for the Holidays presents Mr. and Miss Charity America at the Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road, on Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.

The evening features Mr. and Miss Charity America 2014, Wendell Lindsey and Melodee Karmichael and is hosted by Sable Alexander and Patti Le Plae Safe. The pageant is open to anyone 21 and up who lives in the Home for the Holidays Texas service area. Contestants need not win a preliminary to qualify. Suggested donation of \$5 admission.

pet of the week / NAME

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Robin 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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Cowtown Pride



Organizers say they are sticking to the founding mission for Fort Worth's Pride

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

When Sharon Herrera and Tori van Fleet-Kujala learned they would be this year's Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association grand marshals, along with former AIDS Outreach Center Director Allan Gould, they were both shocked.

"I was shocked and tearful because I thought of my friend and mentor, Tom Anable," said Herrera.

Van Fleet-Kujala, meanwhile, was shocked simply because she was considered. "I don't know why they chose me. I've done much less for the community than others. I've just been myself. It's still a real honor," she said.

Given this year's theme, which promotes putting the "unity" in "community," the women's shared sense of shock could not be more appropriate, nor could the fact that Herrera is the parade's first Latina lesbian grand marshal and Fleet-Kujala, a transwoman who transitioned on the job, is its first trans grand marshal.

Van Fleet-Kujala is also only the third trans Pride parade grand marshal in the state.

This year's Pride week, which takes place across Fort Worth from Oct. 2-12, is the largest in TCGPWA's history, said Tina Harvey, its president. She estimated around 4,000 people will par-

ticipate in the annual parade and festival on Saturday, Oct. 4, and in the picnic on Sunday, Oct. 5. As of press time, she said vendors were still calling her, seeking to have a booth during the festival.

Demand and participation is so high, Harvey said the street festival has outgrown downtown's General Worth Square.

The events, participants and grand marshals represent the rapid pace at which Tarrant County, one of Texas' fastest growing areas, is diversifying. Pride Week is adapting to the county's demographics.

But the changing attitudes toward LGBT people in Tarrant County pique interest as well.

For one, moving the parade to downtown Fort Worth from the Near Southside neighborhood where it originated has increased visibility.

"I had people tell me the first year we moved downtown that they had never been among so many LGBT people," Harvey said. "Media told me they had never met a nicer crowd."

That trend also reflects changing societal attitudes toward LGBT people, even in a county as conservative as Tarrant.

"I would go to night clubs and hope my car was not spotted. I could have lost everything," Harvey said. "Now LGBT people can go any place without retaliation."

The size and scope of this year's events represent how far the county has come since TCGPWA's founding in 1981. According to the TCGPWA website, founder Gary Taylor, who went by the drag name Raina Lee, hosted gatherings for her LGBT "family" at Forest Park's Shelter House, describing the events as "a place to

gather, out in the open, in public, where we could be exactly who we were, without discrimination, without judgment and without fear."

The former private gathering in conservative Tarrant County is now a multi-day event featuring social and educational events and anchored by a renowned LGBT film festival — Q Cinema — and this year, the International Gay Rodeo finals.

The Fort Worth LGBT community is now such a pivotal community that Fort Worth's Convention and Visitors Bureau promotes it. A number of prominent local officials, mostly straight allies, march in the parade.

Fairness Fort Worth even secured Dr. Matthew Heinz, director of provider and LGBT outreach for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to speak at various events over the weekend about the Affordable Care Act. He will be accompanied by Katie Keith of Out2Enroll.org, which assists LGBT people with and train navigators about LGBT provisions within the ACA. They will speak on Oct. 5 at CoH-Mid Cities at 11 a.m., Agape MCC from noon-1 p.m. and at the picnic.

Increasing acceptance of LGBT people, however, has consequences.

"The community has spread out," Harvey said, which prompted her and her committee to choose the "unity in community" theme as a way to remind participants, "We are a family."

Young people especially must be reminded of the importance of the LGBT community, Harvey said. Young people are more likely than any other generation to support LGBT people. So she and older LGBT people must remind them they are

still part of a family.

"I don't want us to lose that bond," Harvey said.

Unity and community also means crossing county lines. This year's Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade featured two grand marshals from Tarrant County: Rafael McDonnell, who works in Dallas at Resource Center but lives in Fort Worth, and the Rev. Carol West of Fort Worth's Celebration Community Church. McDonnell then invited van Fleet-Kujala to accompany him on his float in the Dallas parade. She, in turn, asked McDonnell to accompany her.

Keeping a tight knit community also means remembering the struggles that bring us together. In a statement, Heinz defines his role with HHS as a response to the tumultuous history of LGBT people.

"Every person deserves to have affordable health insurance so they can lead healthy and productive lives. LGBT families have historically lacked access to healthcare and unfortunately are much more likely to be uninsured compared to non-LGBT families — it is a priority of the administration to address this problem," Heinz said.

Addressing LGBT issues is no longer just a fight for rights, as indicated by the federal government's push for addressing LGBT issues. Harvey said Pride is also now a genuine celebration of community.

The advances made for LGBT people are a big leap from Raina Lee's gatherings at Forest Park's Shelter House 33 years ago. But they've stayed true to her intention of bringing the LGBT family together out in the open and to be free of fear. ■

Use your voice: Vote



Greg Abbott



Wendy Davis

Tuesday, Oct. 6 is last day to register in time to vote this November

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

If you want to vote in the Nov. 4 general election in Texas but have not gotten around to registering, you still have time.

But not that much time.

To be eligible to vote, Texans must be 18; not convicted of a felony without having finished a sentence or parole; and live in the county where they submit their voter registration application.

The next step is to fill out a voter registration form, available in libraries and post offices, and submit it to the county elections office by close of business on Monday, Oct. 6. The form must be presented in person or postmarked by that date.

Even then, the task is not complete. Without photo identification, your vote will not count.

In 2011, the Texas Legislature passed a voter identification law requiring voters to present some form of photo identification. The debate on the bill was bitterly partisan and divisive. Democrats alleged the law was akin to a poll tax and a ploy to discourage the minority vote. Republicans claimed they were fighting voter fraud.

Texas is among 34 states to have passed some form of voter ID law, requiring voters to prove their identity before they vote. Though forms of ID vary among the states, Texas is one of 10 states requiring voters present a government-issued photo ID at the polls.

Among the seven forms of identification accepted in Texas, most common are a passport or driver's license. But if you don't have one of those to prove yourself, you instead have to go to the Department of Public Safety to get a voter ID card.

Photo IDs are like driver's licenses that only list your name. Though the card is free of charge, providing a proof of residency, like a gas bill or pay stub, is another obstacle.

Transgender people living in a state with voter

Register here

Resource Center, in partnership with the League of Women Voters of Dallas, will be holding a voter registration drive this Saturday, Oct. 4 at the Center's main offices, 2701 Reagan St., from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. You will need to bring a Texas state-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license, to register.

identification laws, according to a report from the Williams Institute, may face some of the biggest obstacles at the ballot box. Of the 25,160 eligible trans voters in Texas, 6,793 — 27 percent — do not have an updated ID or even updated records.

To ensure voters are able to get registered in time, Texas has established multiple temporary and mobile voter registration sites.

Tarrant County Elections Administrator Frank Phillips said his staff is well equipped to address any issues facing voters, including transgender issues. He said he hasn't noticed any unusual problems, nor has he seen an unusual number of last minute registration applications.

"But," he said, "we have seen an increase in voter registration. It's a governor's race, which heightens the interest."

Talia Sampson, a deputy voter registrar in Dallas, agreed.

"The 2014 governor and lieutenant governor races are the closest they've been since Rick Perry first assumed office," Sampson said. "With [state senator and Democratic gubernatorial candidate] Wendy Davis just single digits behind Attorney General [and Republican nominee] Greg Abbott, every vote is going to matter this election."

She also emphasized the importance of casting a ballot: "Whatever your political view, this race will determine the direction Texas takes over the next few years. The best way to have your say is to get out and vote in November." ■

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Walking for life

AIDS Arms uses LifeWalk funds to adapt programs to the changing HIV landscape



TEAM ASD | AIDS Services of Dallas CEO Don Maison, left, and other members including staff and residents will participate in the week's LifeWalk. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

As the Affordable Care Act helps more people find health coverage, some people with HIV find they can't afford their policies' enormous deductibles and co-pays. Funds raised by LifeWalk this year, taking place Sunday, Oct. 5, at Lee Park, will be essential to continuing to deliver care to those and other clients, AIDS Arms Executive Director John Carlo said.

Some clients have gotten insurance through the marketplace, Carlo said. But, he added, "Some people are falling through the cracks. It's a greater struggle for some of those on plans because of greater out-of-pocket costs."

He said some clients on the least expensive plans are having trouble keeping up with the co-pays. HIV meds are in the highest tier of co-pay costs, listed as non-preferred medications even when no alternatives available. On some plans, the co-pay ranges up to 30 percent of a \$2,200 per month medication.

Carlo wants those people who are "falling through the cracks" that help is available.

"We have programs that enable people to fill in the gap," he said. "Support from LifeWalk keeps people on meds."

Carlo said because better healthcare plans are cheaper in the long run for someone with HIV, AIDS Arms is working on a program to help clients purchase the more expensive coverage that will save both the agency and the client money over the following year.

He also commented on several other recent developments and studies in HIV prevention and treatment.

New research shows a suppressed viral load prevents transmission of HIV in both the gay and straight communities, Carlo said, calling those results amazing.

"We're not encouraging condomless sex," he said. "But we are finding treatment is prevention."

He also noted that a new, single, once-a-day pill was recently approved, the fourth single-pill treat-

ment available. While the other pills remain excellent treatments, Carlo said, the new pill gives doctors options when they note side effects and contra effects from other treatments.

"Every time we have a new combination pill, it's a win," he said.

Finally, Carlo said, there's good new evidence supporting PrEP as a prevention tool. PrEP is short for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis, where HIV-negative people take an HIV medication to prevent themselves from seroconverting.

Recent studies show people on PrEP are not increasing their risky behavior. Among younger people on PrEP, condom use actually increased, Carlo said.

Because of the cost, very few people are on PrEP and it's not something offered yet at AIDS Arms.

Carlo said he's encouraged by the new treatments.

"Fewer people die from HIV," he said. "There's a lot to celebrate. But it's discouraging we still see people coming in with zero T-cells."

LifeWalk, which began in 1991, raises money for AIDS Arms and other Dallas agencies to provide HIV care. AIDS Services of Dallas is among the agencies that benefit from the event.

ASD President and CEO Don Maison said he loves the event because it allows his clients to become involved in a way other, higher-priced events don't.

Maison said he's seeing a new level of activism among his residents that he hasn't seen in a number of years. That includes becoming involved in a "get out the vote" drive, the Wendy Davis for governor campaign and the Texas Organizing Project. It also means participating in LifeWalk.

This year, Maison said, ASD will have a team of more than 100 walkers that includes residents, staff and board members.

To pay the entrance fee for all of the residents who want to participate, Alex Sanchez organized a car wash in one of the Caven parking lots off Cedar Springs Road. Earlier this year, residents held a garage sale. Recently, they participated in the Lake Cliff Park centennial celebration and in

the Festival in Lee Park after the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade. They raised money for LifeWalk registrations by selling plants.

"What I like about LifeWalk is it gives our residents the opportunity to roll up their sleeves and get involved," Maison said.

Terry Bax captains Team Clover. The team has already raised more than \$40,000 and Bax alone is LifeWalk's all-time largest fundraiser with \$17,000.

The team's biggest fundraising event was Putt Putt Pub Crawl through bars, Hunky's and ilume Gallery. Each location set up a hole for foursomes to play. Team Clover sold mulligans and held a raffle and a costume contest. The winning team received a \$1,000 prize, but that team donated half of it back to LifeWalk.

AIDS Arms Development Director Tori Hobbs said last year's LifeWalk set a fundraising record for the event earning a total of \$512,000.

Quite a bit of the money used to be collected at registration in Lee Park the morning of the event.

"With our online tools, more people are doing fundraising earlier," Hobbs said. But during the last few days before the walk, many teams do a final push to increase their totals. Some walkers register the day of the walk at Lee Park.

The total will increase after the day of the walk with money coming in from some final events and corporate matching funds.

For each walker on its team, Cigna donates \$100. Last year that meant an additional \$1,500.

MAC Foundation, the nonprofit arm of the cosmetics retailing company, matches every dollar donated to its team.

"So if anyone is looking to donate and have it matched, that's a good way to make a donation," Hobbs said.

To donate to the MAC Foundation team — or to any other team or to the walk in general — go to the LifeWalk website at LifeWalk.org, or donate in person on the day of the event. ■

The 2014 LifeWalk 5K Fun Run/Walk takes place Sunday, Oct. 5, at Lee Park, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd. On-site registration begins at 11 a.m., and the walk begins at 1 p.m.

Leticia Alvarez
Senior Women's Health Educator
Maple Women's Health Center



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Attorneys Whitley, Duggan leading seminar on LGBT estate planning as part of SOLID TALK series

JENNY BLOCK | Contributing Writer
nash@dallasvoice.com

It's no secret that the LGBT community faces added challenges when it comes to legally protecting ourselves and our families. That is particularly true when it comes to handling our assets while we're alive, passing on assets after we die and handling separations when families divide prematurely, especially when children are involved.

That's why Meagan Whitley, an estate planning attorney, and Jaime Duggan, a family law attorney, are hosting a mini estate and family planning retreat next week in which they will address estate planning strategies and co-habitation agreements respectively.

On Thursday, Oct. 9, from 6-7:30pm at Oak Lawn Library, Whitley and Duggan will present a free seminar called "SOLID TALK: LGBT Estate and Family Planning Mistakes to Avoid." The session is part of The S.O.L.I.D. Network's monthly event program.

Duggan is a family law attorney at The Duggan Law Firm. She received her law degree from Texas Wesleyan School of Law and is one of the 2014 HRC Dallas Federal Club Co-Chairs. Duggan will speak to issues that affect the same-sex community, including domestic partnerships (including cohabitation agreements), adoption, child custody and divorce.

Whitley is an estate planning attorney, director of North Texas Operations for Rabalais Law and the author of the report, "Estate Planning for Same-Sex Couples." She received her law degree from the SMU Dedman School of Law. She is an avid rock climber and mountain biker with a passion for all things outdoors.

The Dallas Voice caught up with Whitley to find out more about the estate planning side of this event and what attendees can expect at this empowering event.

Dallas Voice: What is estate planning? Whitley: Estate planning involves taking action now to protect what you own. If you own anything and you care about either keeping it during your lifetime, or maximizing what you leave behind, then you need estate planning. If you don't plan properly for your future, your assets can be diminished or depleted entirely.

Isn't estate planning just for the wealthy? This is a common misconception. Everyone has an estate, no matter how large or small, complex or simple. Studies have shown that over 60 percent of American adults have no estate planning in place whatsoever. A large number of parents with minor children are included in that number, thinking estate planning is something only older people need to worry about. Estate planning guarantees that your loved ones are taken care of and your assets are protected.

What is the difference between a living trust and having a will? There are many differences

between the two, but the most obvious and important one is that setting up a trust avoids the need to go through the court system, while simply having a will does not. Having a will is an important first step. Both a will and a trust are easy to establish and you can remove your assets from either at any time. However, while a will may be a more cost effective option up front, it does not avoid the uncertain amount of time and money that you, your estate or your family will have to spend if something happens to you. Costs to file a will with the probate court can vary and the time spent going through this process is typically between six months and two years. Properly setting up a trust circumvents the court system entirely; it avoids the uncertainty of time and money that will be spent in doing so and allows your assets to be distributed immediately.

Why is estate planning particularly important for same-sex couples? Without proper estate planning, it's probable that an immediate family member who is unsupportive could be managing your affairs if something happens to you. The law does not provide any rights for individuals who are not related by blood or marriage. Therefore, it is essential for couples living together, but not married, to protect one another with comprehensive estate planning. If same-sex couples do not plan, the state of Texas will determine according to state law what happens to their assets when they pass away.

What kind of services do you personally offer? Our firm handles the preventative side of estate planning. This means that we help you set things up correctly the first time, so that the court system doesn't need to be involved. This includes estate planning for Texas residents (wills, trusts, property powers of attorney, medical powers of attorney, living wills, Medicaid planning, real estate transfer document and business formations); uncontested Texas successions; federal estate tax planning and probate avoidance, which means helping you save money in the long run by keeping things out of the court system where the length of time and money that you or your loved ones will spend is uncertain.

What can attendees to the SOLID Talk expect to learn? Do you know how to best protect what you have and pass it along to your spouse or loved ones? Do you have any legal protections in place to ensure your wishes and intentions for your estate are respected? Are you aware that without proper planning, your assets and care may result in struggles through the grasps of lawyers, probate court, Medicaid, nursing homes, death tax, your not-quite-perfect son-in-law, that over-controlling daughter-in-law or your family or your partner's family who don't fully support you? Do you have a specific concern that you would like me to address? Please don't hesitate to contact me at mwhitley@rabalaislaw.com.

"SOLID TALK: LGBT Estate & Family Planning Mistakes to Avoid," Thursday, Oct. 9, 6-7:30 p.m., Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road. Reservations not required but accepted on a first-come first-served basis. Seating is limited. Call 469-893-4235 for reservations or more information.



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Shining a light in the dark

Out of the DARKNESS

COMMUNITY WALKS
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

North Texas Out of the Darkness walk designed to educate, bring awareness to the issue of suicide

BY MATHEW SHAW | Contributing Writer
nash@dallasvoice.com

To bring awareness to the issue of suicide and to raise funds for suicide research, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's North Texas chapter hosts its annual Out of the Darkness walk Saturday, Oct. 4 in Reverchon Park.

Peggy Marshall, North Texas chapter chair, said the meaning of the event's name — Out of Darkness — means many things to many people: "It's people who are concerned with suicide prevention; it's people who have lost loved ones to suicide, or it's people who have thought about suicide. They all come together in hopes that it gets the word out to people.

"It's time for us as an organization to shine a light on the importance of reaching out for help," Marshall added.

AFSP is the leading nonprofit organization dedicated to research and education on suicide, said Ryan Tharp, North Texas chapter board member.

"Our main goal is really to reduce the stigma around mental health and suicide," Tharp said. "All of the money that we raise goes to fund scientific research."

These funds, he added, help develop new programs that AFSP can implement, such as distributing DVDs to schools.

Marshall said that education and awareness are also priorities. "We don't know enough about [suicide]," she said. "We don't want to make people feel uncomfortable, so it's just not talked about enough."

As of 2009, suicide was the 10th-leading cause of death among persons 10 years or older in the United States, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. In 2011, 39,518 people lost their lives to suicide.

"That is, one person every 13.3 minutes died by suicide," Marshall said.

The fight against suicide is personal for Marshall, who's husband died by suicide almost nine

years ago. He kept his struggles with depression to himself, she said.

"I think it was a stigma around depression that kept him from sharing that," she said.

Mansfield resident Jessica Caudle, who lost her father to suicide when she was 7, will attend the walk with her partner of eight years, her 9-year-old son and several friends. This will be her third time to participate in the Out of the Darkness walk.

Caudle said that in her family, too, no one talked about what happened. And when she got older, she said she began dealing with her grief in self-destructive ways, such as turning to alcohol.

Noting that suicide particularly impacts the LGBT community, Caudle said she also dealt with depression before becoming comfortable with her identity as a lesbian.

The CDC website confirms that LGBT youth are at increased risk for suicidal thoughts and behaviors, suicide attempts and suicide. And the AFSP website stressed the organization's endorsement of legislative and research initiatives to prevent suicide in the LGBT community.

Participants may register teams to walk in. Caudle will walk with Team Know Hope.

"Hope is available, and I feel it's important to send the message out there," she said.

Ryan Tharp, who lost his sister to suicide in June 2011, will walk with Team Lauren's Legacy.

"When I lost my sister, I immediately felt like there's nobody else in the world who knows what this feels like," he said. "But there are millions, millions of people who have lost loved ones."

Those who are in crisis may call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

The walk will take place 2-5 p.m. at Reverchon Park, located at 3501 Maple Ave. After the walk will be a "Celebration of Life" picnic in the same place.

The walk is open to anybody who wants to participate. Register online at [afsp.org](#) (under the Out of the Darkness Walks/Find a Walk Near You tabs) by 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, or register on Saturday at the event.

As of Oct. 2, the walk had raised more than \$117,000 toward its goal of \$150,000 and 917 people had registered to walk.

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PRIDE Calendar

DALLAS SOUTHERN PRIDE

Tarrant County Pride Week isn't the only Pride taking place this weekend. Dallas Southern Pride begins on Oct. 2 with the theme "Dallas Southern Pride: All Gold Everything!"

Dallas Southern Pride's slate of events is designed to promote positive awareness and foster support for organizations addressing health, education, economic and social issues affecting the local LGBT communities of color.

With a number of events, educational opportunities and parties packed into four days, there should be something to appeal to every one of the more than 10,000 people expected to participate.

Among the events are the pool party, 24 Karat Ball and the Southern Regional Ball/House and Pageant (B/HAP) Communities' Leadership and Health Disparities Conference, now in its third year. Participants are expected from nearly 20 states across the country. This year the conference is emphasizing the health disparities among African-American and Latino men as well as transgender male-to-female individuals.

The host hotel is Crowne Plaza, 1015 Elm St. For more information contact Kirk Meyers, 214-421-4800 or visit DallasSouthernPride.com.

OCTOBER

• **Through Oct. 4: Southern Regional Health Disparities & Leadership Conference**
Crowne Plaza, 1015 Elm St. BHAP-Conference.org.

• **Through Oct. 6: Dallas Black Pride Weekend**
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1015 Elm St. DallasSouthernPride.com.

• **Oct. 3: Festive Fall Gathering**
Private home, 3905 Summercrest Drive, Fort Worth. \$75 benefits Equality Texas. Rep. Marc Veasey is special guest.

• **Oct. 3: HRC Reception for Rep. Krysten Sinema**
1400 Hi Line Drive, 6th floor. VIP reception: 5-6 p.m., reception: 6-7:30 p.m. \$250-2,600. 214-269-7761.

• **Oct. 3: Burgers & Burgundy**
Private home, 4637 Meadowood Road. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Chefs John Tesar, Blaine Staniford and others in a foodie fundraiser for DIFFA.

• **Oct. 4: Tarrant County Pride Parade and Festival**
Parade steps off at noon at Weatherford and Houston streets.

Festival noon-6 p.m. TCGPWA.org

• **Oct. 4: Inclusive Counseling's LGBT Adoption Options**
Jonathan's Place, 6065 Duck Creek Road, Garland. 11 a.m. RSVP therapy@inclusivecounseling.com.

• **Oct. 5: LifeWalk**
Lee Park, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd. Register 11 a.m. Walk at 1 p.m. LifeWalk.org.

• **Oct. 9-12: QCinema Film Festival**
Rose Marine Theater, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. Qcinema.org.

• **Oct. 11: National Coming Out Day**

• **Oct. 12: Jennings Street Festival**
Jennings Avenue between Pennsylvania Ave. and W. Cannon. 2-8 p.m. benefits AIDS Outreach Center.

• **Oct. 12: Spirit Day**
Stand with LGBT youth against bullying.

• **Oct. 15: DIFFA Style Council party**
Announcement of the 2015 Season Style Council and Legends



TWO AT 5 | Michael Sam, left, and Dale Hansen posed for pictures together at 5 Factor on Sept. 26 at Seven for Parties in the Design District. (Photo courtesy Melissa Grove)

members. Neiman Marcus, 1618 Main St. 6 p.m.

• **Oct. 18: Spooktacular** Fundraiser for the GLBT Leadership Education and Advocacy Program (GLBT LEAP), 6-9 p.m., at ilume 2, 3109 Douglas Ave. For information call 214-865-6516.

• **Oct. 19: Great Gatsby Party** Benefits AIDS Interfaith Network. The home of Faye C. Briggs, 5909 Desco Drive. 3-6 p.m. AIDSInterfaithnetwork.org.

• **Oct. 17-18: International Gay Rodeo Finals** John Justin Arena, 1051 Rip Johnson Road, Fort Worth. \$15 one day, \$25 two days. IGRA.com.

• **Oct. 25: Halloween on Cedar Springs Road** [Facebook.com/Events/776039205742083](https://www.facebook.com/Events/776039205742083).

NOVEMBER

• **Nov. 13: Holiday Wreath Collection** Galleria Dallas, 13350 Dallas Parkway. 6:30 p.m. \$50.

• **Nov. 14: Wanda Sykes with Keith Robinson** Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm St. 8 p.m. Tickets available at TicketMaster.com.

• **Nov. 15: Black Tie Dinner** Dallas Sheraton Hotel, 400 N. Olive St. \$400. 6 p.m.-midnight. BlackTie.org.

• **Nov. 20: Transgender Day of Remembrance** Details of local observances to come. [Facebook.com/TransDOR.Dallas](https://www.facebook.com/TransDOR.Dallas).

December

• **Dec. 1: World AIDS Day**

• **Dec. 1: Night of a Thousand Names**

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■ **texasvoices**

The need for a separate Dallas Black Pride

Dallas Southern Pride gives black LGBT people a chance to celebrate their unique heritage, culture

Dallas Southern Pride, aka Dallas Black Gay Pride Weekend, takes place Oct. 2-6, two weeks after Dallas' larger gay Pride celebration featuring the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and the Festival in Lee Park.

People often wonder why the two Pride celebrations occur on separate weekends. So let's explore some of the history behind and importance of a Black Gay Pride celebration in Dallas.

We can trace the roots of what are now called gay Pride celebrations in the U.S. back to the demonstrations inspired by the Stonewall Riots in 1969. The high-energy, emotional riots often resulted in violence and other unintended, negative consequences.

The LGBT community in New York City eventually realized the ineffectiveness and destruction of the rioting, but at the same time discovered the power of gathering in numbers. As a result, gay, lesbian, and transgendered individuals — along with many others — gathered as groups and individuals in cities throughout the U.S., on June 28, 1970.

There was no glitz, no glam and no flashy parade floats then — just people marching in solidarity to raise awareness around equality for LGBT people and others. The intent of the march was to reflect on, commemorate, improve and expand the efforts and energy of the riots the previous year.

June is designated as national Pride month in honor of the Stonewall Riots of 1969.

Unofficial gay Pride marches in Dallas began in 1972, and the first official Pride parade happened in 1980. The celebrations occurred during Pride month each year until 1983 when the Dallas Tavern Guild — then a newly-formed group of Oak Lawn area bar owners — decided to move the Pride celebration to September in honor of Judge Jerry Buchmeyer's legal ruling that struck down the Texas sodomy law.

Opinions on Dallas' September Pride celebration vary. Some feel the weekend slate of events should occur in June to align with the larger movement. Others agree that the difference in timing causes no problem and may be more beneficial to

Dallas and the larger efforts.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people are often grouped together as a monolithic society and culture commonly referred to as the "LGBT community."

A community consists of individuals or a group of individuals who share common values such as geographical living area, history, beliefs, religion, interests, social and economic status, condition and activity. The larger, overall LGBT community actually comprises many communities, small and large, made up of many individuals with unique identities that may connect to multiple other communities.



Jalenzski Brown
Contributing Writer

The roughly 7.3 billion human beings that live on this planet make up a global community of people on Earth. Some of us are born with brown skin or blue eyes while others may be lighter or darker. Some people are romantically attracted to the same-sex, and others not so much. What works for one person may not work for the next.

As humans, we are all born of the same material delivered in varying expressions.

Our roots, the journeys we take and our interactions with other people determine who we are as individuals. To fully understand our individual identity we must also understand the collectives to which we belong.

The black community, like other marginalized groups within the LGBT communities, has varying strengths and struggles.

One under-acknowledged event of historical significance to the black LGBT community is the Harlem Renaissance Movement. Much like Stonewall, but many decades before, The Harlem Renaissance was a cultural explosion and new era for the African-American community, and it was spearheaded by some of the most notable names in the African-American LGBT community.

A lack of acceptance lead homosexual people to create their own safe havens to exist equally. Likewise, Dallas Southern Pride was created out of a

need to recognize and celebrate the differences of black gay and lesbian individuals.

The creators of Dallas Southern Pride noticed an influx of black gay and lesbian people to the DFW Metroplex during the weekend of the State Fair Classic, a college football game between the historically black schools Grambling State University and Prairie View A&M University.

In 1997 on the weekend of the game, Dallas' first official Gay pride celebration catering to black men and women was held.

Much like homosexuals encountered resistance in integrating into mainstream society, the black LGBT community has had a similar experience in integrating into the larger LGBT community. Because the black LGBT community has commonalities with the larger black community that it does not share with the larger LGBT community, Black Pride celebrations may look and feel different. But these celebrations still provide a platform from which to reflect on black LGBT culture, history and needs.

While marriage equality is a top priority for many in the overall LGBT community, the black community for the past decade has focused on public health issues, such as HIV, because black gay men are disproportionately affected by the epidemic.

Dallas Southern Pride partners with organizations like Abounding Prosperity and Resource Center's United Black Ellument to infuse messages of empowerment and sexual health awareness within a growing black LGBT community. Dallas Southern Pride weekend has become a time in which all people can celebrate the progress of people who have for so long been ostracized.

Because our identities can be connected to multiple communities, we often find ourselves fighting on multiple fronts. The LGBT movement parallels movements of other communities. Knowing those to whom we are connected and the powers at play creates an opportunity for change to occur in a more effective and mutually beneficial manner.

When we are open to the differences of others, using our commonalities as the basis, we can begin to see the intersection of our movements. Our differences then become a source of insight and strength for shared and individual progress.

The multiple Pride celebrations in Dallas create additional platforms for the larger efforts toward equality and can better service the communities directly served. Also, they promote diversity and allow people from Dallas and other LGBT communities a chance to attend both and exchange resources.

The timing and manner in which gay Pride celebrations occur become less of an issue when the original reason for celebrating is the primary focus of attention. Regardless of our identifiers and characteristic, we all want equality for our communities and ourselves.

Our differences divide us but embracing our commonalities connects us.

(I want to say a special thanks to Kirk Myers and PJ Moton, MSW, for their contributions to this column.)

Jalenzski Brown is the United Black Ellument program coordinator for Resource Center.

Brain Nausea

The benchmark for a diagnosis of gender dysphoria is a strong, consistent and persistent identification with and desire to be the opposite sex than one was designated at birth.

Yeah. But what's it feel like?

Recently, Dallas attorney Katie Sprinkle referred to gender dysphoria as "brain nausea." Someone else described it as a toothache that some days is bearable, other days excruciating – but always there.

I like Katie's "brain nausea" descriptor. It fits.

There are few things we humans know for sure. Life is a lot of guesswork. But one thing we know without question is "Who we are."

Even as little kids, we don't need an adult to tell us who we are. I sure didn't. I was a little girl.

But when I was born, my doctor looked between my legs instead of between my ears and hung an "M" on me that followed me around for far too long.

I didn't ask for that. There is a whole cascade of expectations society has waiting for people with an "M" on their birth certificates. Nobody asked me if I wanted to sign up for that stuff, but I gave it my best shot anyway.

But back to the brain nausea: It fits because there is an odd disconnect between the physical evidence (your anatomy) and the expectations from family and society, however well meaning, and what you know to be true about yourself. It's a puzzle with some of the pieces missing.

Knowing I am a girl, I should see girl things in the mirror confirming my identity. But as a child, I didn't. A little boy looked back at me instead.

My father frequently told me, "You can be anything you want to be, if you want to do it badly enough." I could be the president! I could go to the moon! I could be a doctor! Anything, if I was willing to pay the price.

I wonder how many little boys lie awake at night and pray to God to get rid of their penis and put a vagina in its place? "Please God. That's all I want.

Not many, I imagine.

But when my dad would stop in and tuck me in at night, he would ask if I said my prayers. I'd say yes. He never asked what I was praying for.

If you've ever suffered from motion sickness, the "brain nausea" is kind of similar. Motion sickness arises when what your eyes see and what your brain feels are in conflict. Gender dysphoria is much the same.

It's disorienting. It's distracting. It's sometimes the only thing you can think of as it pushes nearly everything else out of your



Leslie McMurray
Contributing Columnist

head. It can get bad.

It can kill.

The motion sickness analogy is relatable. Imagine a never-ending case of it, the disorientation and nausea unrelenting, at times so severe it's unbearable.

It's little wonder 41 percent of transgender people consider a permanent solution to this very treatable problem.

In treating this "brain nausea," it has proven ineffective to try and treat the brain with therapy. But what works well is bringing the body in line with what the individual knows to be their true self.

The "Dramamine" in my case was estrogen and progesterone. They calmed the dysphoria to where I could live my life.

They have certainly had significant and profound physical effects on my body. But the most immediate effects happened to my mind. I had never before felt this sense of calm.

Everyone is different. For some, hormones are enough. Others need surgery. The rule of thumb is generally go with the least invasive treatment that rids one of gender dysphoria.

If you have never felt this or just can't relate to this article — be grateful. I can tell you, it's no picnic.

With all of the information available now via the Internet, it's so much easier to find support groups, counseling and clinics that can help. But I grew up in the 1960s and I believed I was a freak, the only one. I didn't have a name for what I felt and had no way to express it.

I never had the courage to tell my parents, and they passed many years ago without ever knowing they had a daughter. But my dad's words of encouragement lived on, fanning long-smoldering embers that manifested themselves in a way he never would have dreamed.

I really could do anything I wanted to, if I were willing to pay the price.

Well, I was willing, and two years ago I transitioned to the woman I always knew dwelled inside of me. I hope my dad (and mom) would understand. ■

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

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Keep on truckin'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES

Executive Editor
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How a gay Highland Park intellectual and a nice Jewish girl from the Upper West Side collaborated to create 'Hands on a Hard Body,' a touching musical about car-touching Texas rednecks

Doug Wright is dining over lobster tacos, lamb burgers and onion rings at Dee Lincoln Steak, across from the Quadrangle where his latest musical, *Hands on a Hard Body*, is receiving its Dallas premiere at Theatre 3.

Wright has been thinking a lot about his home town lately, and not just because he grew up here, cutting his teeth in theater as a kid at T3, working on children's theater with the late Larry O'Dwyer. His high school alma mater has also been in the news lately, and not for reasons he's happy about: The school suspended half a dozen books from the syllabus because a clutch of parents objected to sex, violence, abortion and anti-capitalistic sentiments in some of the works.

"I was alarmed, like so many people," he says when he heard the news about the school's drastic action. "I felt I had to respond. No student should be held hostage to a small but vocal group of extremists."

The decision attracted controversy from several quarters, but having an alum — a Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner, no less — chastise the censorship with erudite and persuasive arguments no doubt played a big role in the school back-tracking. Just moments before we sat down for lunch, Wright learned it had reversed its decision.

Knowing this pedigree, you might not expect Wright — a liberal, gay, Yale-educated intellectual — to be drawn to a story about East Texas rednecks involved in a contest to win a pickup truck. And, of course, you'd be wrong. Wright may live now in New York, but he is still a Texan, and he understands the souls of Texans as well as anybody ... and he understands how ripe with drama a situation like that can be.

He didn't need to be convinced. There was already a 1997 documentary with the same name out there, one that attracted Wright because of the humanity at work in the contest to win a Nissan truck by simply keeping a hand on the vehicle the longest. And we're not talking hours. We're talking *days*.

An equal mix of *They Shoot Horses, Don't They?* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Hands on a Hard Body* isn't about a contest so much as 10 stinging character studies of what drives someone to invest so much in such a strange undertaking.

Hands was Wright's third produced musical (he also wrote *Grey Gardens* and *The Little Mermaid*), but he's not a composer; he needed to look for a collaborator. And he found an unlikely ally in Amanda Green.

Despite being the offspring of Broadway royalty — her mother is Tony-winning actress Phyllis Newman, and her father is the late Adolph Green, the legendary partner of Betty Comden who, together, wrote the landmark musicals *Singin' in the Rain*, *The Band Wagon*, *On the Town* and more — Green herself grew up with little interest in Broadway music.

"I've always liked country music, and I was obsessed with *Nashville*," she says of Robert Altman's 1975 movie masterpiece, set in Music City, U.S.A. The film's star was Keith Carradine, who won an Oscar for his song from it, "I'm Easy." Green was enamored of the laconic movie star.

"I would write a song with Keith in mind," she says of her preoccupation.

And here's where fate interceded. Carradine played the title role in the original production of *The Will Rogers Follies* on Broadway ... a show written by Adolph Green. Amanda finally has a connection to her matinee crush. So when he signed on to play one of the central roles in the Broadway production of *Hands on a Hard Body*, Green's dream came true: She in fact was writing songs for Carradine.

Hands is tinged not only with countrified riffs, but also gospel, rock, a tango and other

TEXAS TWO STEPPERS | For Amanda Green, her recent visit to Theatre 3 was a first; for Doug Wright, it has been a homecoming — the Highland Park native started his stage career at this very theater. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

LIFE+STYLE

stage



genres that make it endlessly interesting with raise-the-roof numbers and intimate ballads. The pairing also ended up being the perfect marriage: A Texan with a handle on character and a country singer-songwriter with B'way in her DNA, whether she wanted it or not.

"Amanda has spent a lot of time in Nashville, so she has the musical vernacular of these [characters]," Wright says. "It is a show a lot of people of faith embrace, and we decided faith was the language they would understand, their cosmology," so many songs have the flavor of a tent revival meeting.

"Doug had a handle on these fully fleshed out people when he brought me in," adds Green, who wrote the lyrics and co-composed, with Phish musician Trey Anastasio, the music. "I enjoyed these complicated, interested, flawed, surprising people. We met a lot of the contestant when we went to Longview, and once you meet someone, you [can't help but see them as complex people]."

After all their efforts, the Broadway production had a disappointing run — just 28 performances before closing in the spring of 2013. Still, it was enough to net Anastasio and Green Tony nominations for their score, as well as one for Carradine's performance. And the cast got an opportunity that's increasingly rare with non-hit musicals: They recorded an original cast album.

"That was a bittersweet triumph," Green admits, noting that the cast recorded it just as the show was closing.

"In a way, the [album] was a metaphor for the

show — we had all worked on it for a three-year period, and then each one of the characters drops off from the contest" until eventually no one is there.

But someone is there now. This is only the third production since Broadway, and the first Wright has had a chance to see. Green saw the prior two, one of which — produced in Houston — made so many unauthorized changes to the script and score they shut it down.

"Authors make so many sacrifices to maintain our copyright," Wright explains. "You can't just change things without our permission." Pride in ownership extends to seeing a vision realized and reinterpreted, but also demanding truth to a work that meant so much to its creators.

Wright was able to see Theatre 3's version of *Hands* three times before the official opening night this week (Green once before), and both concur that the intimate setting is conducive to the effectiveness of the show. And even though it wasn't the New York hit they'd hoped it would be, they are happy it has life outside the city. And the tinkering is done.

"There are no perfect plays, but there are many finished ones," Wright observes about the tendency of some authors to perpetually rewrite even successful works. "I could not rewrite *I Am My Own Wife* or *Quills* now, because when I wrote them, I had to write them. But the *me* who wrote them isn't me anymore."

Like the contestants in *Hands on a Hard Body*, you've gotta know when to let go. ■

HANDS ON A HARD BODY

Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Oct. 26. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Review: "Hands on a Hard Body"

The manager at Floyd King Nissan in Longview needs a gimmick to move inventory, and for a decade or more, his *Hands on a Hard Body* contest seems to do the trick: Let locals put their name in a hat, and 10 lucky folks will get the opportunity to win a \$22,000 pickup, and all they have to do is be the last one standing.

Hands on a Hard Body is a real contest, and a real documentary recounts the folks who entered it one year. And who enters such a thing? Mostly, it seems, the unemployed, the desperate, the foolish and the dreamers, all of whom are represented in the musical at Theatre 3. There's Benny (Ashley Wood), a prior winner already in need of a new piece of transportation and the one who knows the mind games better than anyone; there's J.D. (Jim Johnson), a disabled oil rig worker who wants to be productive in some way once more; Janis (Nancy Sherrard), a gap-toothed middle-aged mother of six; and several more who endure the Texas summer heat because they have something to prove.

With its thoughtful investigation into what compels a person to behave in such a way, *Hands on a Hard Body* bears a lot in common with *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, which parses why kids would commit a series of letters to memory. And like Putnam, neither is really about what it seems to be about, but rather deals with things



much deeper. Doug Wright's script, which brings these people into focus by turn, peeking inside their psyches with empathy but no judgment, has crafted an intriguing series of character studies that resonate with a Texas twang. He traffics in the rhythms of East Texas life, and his characters — all acted with knowing conviction by the talented cast — will resonate with local audiences.

The score, by Amanda Green and Trey Anastasio, creates layers of personality through song choice, from the heartbreaking "Stronger" (sung with passion by Chris Ramirez) to the hand-waving "Joy to the Lord," which might get you back to church.

Director Jeffrey Schmidt gives a show about folks standing still an amazing dash of energy, and the clever staging even leaves room for choreography. It's such a delight, everyone involved in this production deserves a big *Hand*.

— A.W.J.

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L+S dining

They're ba-a-a-ck!

2 popular chefs — Monica Greene and Blythe Beck — return to the kitchen



If there's anything Texans are more loyal to than their sports teams, it may be their favorite chefs. Restaurants come and go, but if you find a cook who speaks to your palate, you'll follow her anywhere.

So it is with Blythe Beck (famed for her "naughty recipes" at Central 214) who, in a pink coat with a butter obsession and throaty laugh, became a favorite Dallas culinary personality.

It's been a few years since Beck pattered around her own kitchen, but she's finally back in town ... and for a limited time only.

That's what the "LTO" at Kitchen LTO stands for: A pop-up, chef-driven concept in the Trinity Groves development that was the brainchild of Casie Caldwell. Caldwell holds competitions every four months or so to select the next face of the restaurant, and she tells me "Blythe was the winner by a landslide."

Of course she was. "You know me — I don't do anything green unless I deep fry it," Beck laughs while discussing her menu, which always felt like home cooking elevated by quality ingredients and Beck's assurance that it's OK to gorge as long as the food tastes good. She's bringing back some dishes that made her famous, like her "lettuce

babies," and some new items to delight and surprise her existing fans and hopefully recruit some new ones.

It's now open for lunch and dinner, and if you do nothing but try her deep-fried version of oysters Rockefeller, you'll know her aesthetic immediately.

Another fave back in the kitchen is Monica Greene, whose concepts from Aca y Alla to Ciudad have made her the goddess of Mexican cuisine in Dallas for 30 years. If the name of her new place, Pegaso Diner, sounds familiar, it's because that's what she dubbed her Downtown Dallas resto 10 years ago. This concept — now in Fort Worth along Bluebonnet Circle near TCU — is more cafeteria style than fine dining, but that doesn't affect the quality one bit. The menu features an array of enchiladas (some planned out for you, but also customizable by you), handmade margaritas and, frankly, the best refried beans I have ever tasted. In my life. Ever.

Doubt anyone can get that excited about refried beans? Just try them and tell me I'm lying. Good food is good food, and if anyone knows that, it's Monica.

Kitchen LTO at Trinity Groves, 3011 Gulden Lane, ste. 108. KitchenLTO.com.

Pegaso Diner, 3516 Bluebonnet Circle, Fort Worth. PegasoDiner.com.



Greene at Pegaso Diner, top, and Beck at Kitchen LTO, above.
(Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Follow the gays!



Lead or follow? Gay homeowners often set the pace for gentrifying neighborhoods

JONANNA WIDNER | Contributing Writer

For years, a common real estate tenet has been, to put it succinctly, "Follow the gays." Where the LGBT community goes, often the discovery of a hidden gem of a neighborhood follows. One person's shabby ranch home is another's future mid-century pearl ... especially if you add a queer touch.

"The gay community is willing to go into some more eclectic neighborhoods and renovate these homes," says Kathy Hewitt, of Hewitt Habgood Realty. "Mostly because we've had the money to invest in it — typically we didn't have kids (of course, that's changing now), and the community has had the vision of what these houses could become."

This may be especially true in Dallas, with its surfeit of close-in neighborhoods that are merely blurs that pass by commuters' windows as they head to the freeway. That is, until the LGBT community drives by, happens to notice a particular spot, puts a finger to pursed lips, and murmurs, *You know, with a little work, that Craftsman could be spectacular.* Then we've got an Oak Lawn on our hands.

Of course, Oak Lawn, that venerable old gal,

now has some competition.

In her 27 years in business, much of it catering to the gay community, Hewitt has specialized in once-funky, now well-established neighborhoods, and she's seen the pattern that's culminated in Oak Cliff's Kessler Park area becoming a hot-spot.

"The first broker I worked with was Dean Faaf," Hewitt says, "and he had an office in Oak Cliff and Oak Lawn, way back when. I always chose to use the office across the river. I would show places like Lakewood and then I'd say, 'Let me introduce you to the hidden beauty of the neighborhood we call Kessler Park.'"

The newest hidden beauty? Hewitt notes the Kiestwood area, around Hampton Road and Kiest Park, is becoming popular. "It's got a lot of 1950s to 1960s houses," she says, "a combination of mid-century modern and mid-century ranch. It's a little further south, so it's more of distance than Kessler Park, but you sure can get a lot of house for the money."

As an example, she points out a house she recently sold to a same-sex couple: A 3,300 square-

CLIFF page 29

After nearly 30 years in real estate, Kathy Hewitt has a sense for where the next hot gayborhood might be — and she's excited about several areas south of the Trinity. (Photo by Arnold Wayne Jones)

Now we're cooking



Even a simple kitchen redo can add value — if you know where to put your money

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor

When you wanna spruce up your house — for yourself, or even more importantly sometimes, to get it ready to put on the market — a kitchen makeover is usually a good investment ... that is, if you know what to invest in. And if you don't? That's why Mary Kathryn Reese is here.

Reese is co-founder with her partner, Jennifer Sherrill, of Snappy Kitchens, which specializes in turning your scullery space into a showplace.

"After the economic downturn, we saw middle-income families cooking in more and eating out less," Reese says. "One of the byproducts is, even once the economy started to recover, we have seen people" continue to use their kitchens more. The kitchen, as one of the most popular rooms we spend our waking hours in, can turn a house into a home ... and help it sell faster.

"Where you can really negotiate [as a buyer] is where a kitchen is really outdated," she says. "In our experience, a seller's agent usually tells the seller what to do from a minimum standpoint to minimize your days on the market, but if not — or if you're a prospective buyer and the seller *didn't* make the investment — look at these things." (For the record: The No. 1 complaint Reese and Sherrill encounter from clients? Lack of storage and countertop, so anything that adds to those is a plus in their book.)

DO
Cabinetry hardware. "We see a lot cabinets that don't have hardware like knobs and pulls,"

COOKING page 27

Countertops, backsplashes and new faucets can perk up any kitchen. (Photo courtesy Snappy Kitchens)



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Fall gets HOT

What colors and styles will make your house pop this season? MG+BW knows

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor

A lot of exes fight over how to split up the furniture. But Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams are well above that — they cooperate in making *new* furniture. Though no longer partners in life, they remain partners in business, and their upscale Up-town boutique — called, of course, Mitchell Gold+Bob Williams — is a mecca for fine décor.

"We're having a great year," Gold says of the company's landmark 25th anniversary in 2014. "It really is exciting for us. When we have hit special anniversary dates in the past, we've had a party in High Point [North Carolina, where they are based]. But Bob suggested we have a party at each one of our stores [to mark 25 years], and it's been great fun with great turnout." (The 25 number is further significant because by the end of the year, they will have 25

stores — two of which are in North Texas.)

You don't stay in business that long without having a sense for what styles, color and trends are in fashion, so we asked these doyennes of decorating to fill us in about what is hot for the fall. Here's what they said.

Break out the 8-tracks! It's a post-Mad Men age. As *Mad Men* nears the end of its run as the ultimate statement of '60s style, MG+BW sees the '70s in your living room.

"It's an interpretation of '70s style, but with an updated twist," Williams says. It's definitely a classic '70s theme. A lot of accents are coming up brass, but as this is our silver anniversary, there's a lot of silver as well."

Among those *Brady Bunch*-era icons making a comeback? The sectional sofa. But the modern take on it understands the family room isn't what it used to be.

"Social networking [at home] is what we call it," says Gold. "There are a lot of sectionals, often with swivel chairs." Why the swivel? So that you can turn to face a number of guests ... "and it allows you to see the big screen TV wherever you choose to mount it," he adds.

"The miniaturization of televisions — the move from big furniture pieces of television sets in huge armoires to wall-mounted flatscreens — has altered the way they design for living spaces," Gold explains. "Swivel chairs allow the room to open up."

And what to do with those old armoires that used to hold your deep cathode ray TV? "It has a door on it right? Go ahead and re-purpose it for storage in another room," Gold suggests. "It's still a good piece of furniture. I redid my bedroom in the just the



The tufted sofa in jewel-toned blue, above, is the favorite piece of Bob Williams in the current collection he designed with business partner Mitchell Gold, both seated opposite. Their boutique chain is currently marking its 25th anniversary.



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last couple of months and got rid of an armoire. Honestly, I can't imagine why I waited so long."

Williams concurs. "I had a beautiful armoire in my utility room for storage and I moved it into the den because it was so lovely."

Color me dazzled. If you're looking for a palette to excite your palate, Williams says jewel tones are the way to go this season. From sapphire blues to deep purples and an array of metallic finishes, the deep luxe colors are hitting to brighten up fall with a richness. You also see it reflected in the presence of natural formations like geodes and crystals as accessories. Each piece is unique, but with an earthy touch of the outdoors.

Their own favorite pieces. An easy call for Williams.

"The Barrymore blue tufted sofa," he says. "It reminds me of a Chesterfield, one of the classics." It can give a room a mid-century modern



vibe while still feeling timeless, Gold adds.

Gold himself has two favorites. "I love the purple velvet sofa, and there's a chair we call the Directoire. It's like the old canvas director's chair [in profile], but it's polished brass, and sturdy, not saggy."

What you *won't* find this season MG+BW? Recliners.

"Some years ago, we got requests for recliners all the time but we refused to do them," Gold says.

Some things deserve to remain in the 1970s after all.

MG+BW's current sale — 20 percent off linens, wall art, lighting, accessories and more — continues through Oct. 5.

COOKING From Page 24

she says, or which just have old or ugly versions. "It is super affordable to update a look with new knobs, and there is a standard on how far apart the screws are, so you can replace hardware you don't like."

Countertops and backsplashes. The most common thing we recommend is a new countertop," Reese counsels. "Many have Formica — we suggest granite or quartz. And we almost always do a backsplash and get rid of that 6x6 tile with the green accent!"

Sink and faucet. Another quick fix for an outdated kitchen? An under-mount sink ... and don't forget to replace the faucet. "Those things usually go together as a solution," Reese says.

Refinishes. A coat of paint can cover a multitude of sins. "We see oak or ash cabinets stained brown and never touched up from when the house was built, and brown is just *not* an energizing aesthetic," Reese says. Painting those cabinets and exposed areas white will make it feel updated and open up the room.

DON'T

Some things aren't worth your time or budgets, Reese says, or shouldn't be priorities at least.

Cooktops. Believe it or not, people almost never replace ovens when selling ... and buyers almost always do replace them once they move in. Since they likely won't close the deal either way, don't put in the money.

Ceiling lights. Incremental items should probably be low priorities. Thinking of adding can-lights? "It's easier to replace the fluorescent



Installing modern new drawer pulls is an inexpensive, simple way to ready a house for the market.

bulbs in the light box and you can call it a day."

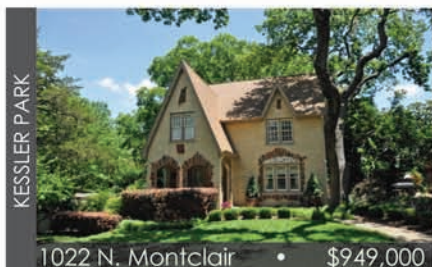
DEPENDS

Popcorn ceiling. If it's in bad shape, you might need to fix it, but if not, Reese would prioritize removing wallpaper before worrying about what's overhead. "People look forward more than they look up."

Under-cabinet lighting. "When people aren't interested in under-cabinet lighting, I might have that conversation with them three times before I accept their decision," Reese says. "I don't see as well as I did 20 years ago, and when I'm prepping something, I want my knives pretty sharp. It really improves your ability to see while you're doing tasks, and enhances the beauty of the kitchen. And we find a lot of people use them as nightlights."

For more hints or to book an appointment, visit SnappyKitchens.com.

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Beautiful 4/3/4 LA, .45 Acres - 3,368 SF



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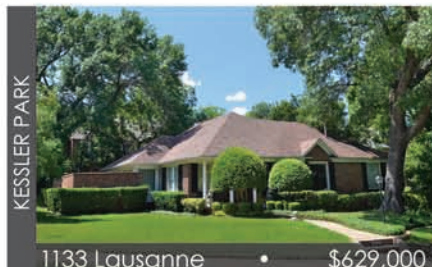
New Construction, 4/2/2 LA - 2,489 SF

UpTown



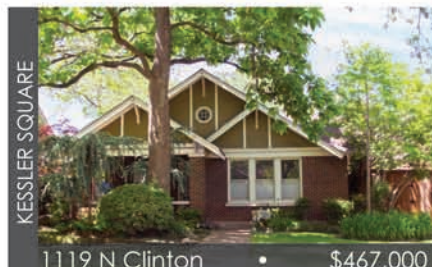
1116 Kensington • \$829,000

Majestic 6/4.1/4 LA, .41 Acres, Pool - 5,409 SF



1133 Lausanne • \$629,000

Extensively Restored 3/3/3 LA, Pool - 3,250 SF



1119 N Clinton • \$467,000

Crisp, Clean 3/3/2 LA Craftsman - 2,562 SF

DownTown



900 Bison Trail • \$885,000

Amazing MCM 4/4.1/2 LA, 1/3 Acres, Pool - 3,417 SF



1215 Kings Hwy • \$599,000

Beautifully Updated 5/3.1/2 LA Prairie - 3,160 SF



726 W. Greenbriar • \$399,000

Renovated 2/1.1/2, Sleek Kitchen, Pool - 1,605 SF

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Dallas' newest fixture

NorthPark's new tenant, Pirch, turns a bathroom redo into an adventure

STEVEN LINDSEY | Contributing Writer



Appliance shopping is never exciting. Well, that *used* to be true, but not now that Dallas has its first location of San Diego-based Pirch. At this high-end retailer, which occupies the space in NorthPark Center that previously housed Barneys New York, the process of creating dream kitchens, bathrooms and patios is as exhilarating and

luxurious as the finished spaces.

Pirch is far more than just a place to pick out a new refrigerator or bathroom fixture; it's a wonderland of possibilities that sets itself apart from the competition in a very big way. Or 23 ways — evidenced in the company's multi-facet manifesto, each numbered and displayed prominently throughout the store, from "Live your life now" to "Live joyfully" with thoughtful bon mots like "You have a great bottle of wine. Drink it!" thrown in for good measure, the overall attitude here is making the very most of your time on this planet of ours.

And if you plan to spend much of those hours in your kitchen or bathroom, you're in luck, because here you'll find nearly every component needed to create the ultimate of both. As two of the rooms that can most contribute to a home's increase in value, it's no surprise that so much time and creativity has been devoted by the store's buyers to curate a collection of so many best-in-class options.

Pirch features entrances at both street level and from within the mall. Upon entering from either side, you'll be greeted by a barista offering up a complimentary beverage. And trust us, you'll need to caffeinate in order to



Lakewood Home Festival set for November

Lakewood is one of the oldest and most architecturally rich neighborhoods in the Metroplex, and if you've ever wanted a peek inside one of the homes there, your chance is coming up. The 38th annual Lakewood Home Festival showcases six houses from the area, from an upgraded '30s French farmhouse to a '50s classic ranch to new construction in modern idioms.

The tour runs Nov. 15–16, and tickets are available at LakewoodHomeFestival.com.

— A.W.J.





comfortably inside the tub.

On the kitchen side of things, customers who purchase cooking appliances — such as stoves, steam ovens or outdoor grills — can actually meet with the on-staff chef, who will prepare a variety of dishes to showcase the capabilities of the new acquisition. The culinary team also presents weekday demonstrations ranging from steam and hearth cooking to grilling on the patio.

For anyone not yet ready to drop 10 grand on a refrigerator, Pirch also offers a variety of carefully selected gift and accessory items for any budget, including sparkly gold or silver sponges, spectacular serving pieces and decorative objects.

The space is ideal for large events, too, so don't be surprised if an upcoming DIFFA or Black Tie pre-party takes place among the in-cabinet wine chillers, robotic vacuums and front-loading washers.

thoroughly browse the offerings set up in working vignettes throughout the 32,000 square feet.

Want to test the spray nozzle on a new kitchen faucet? Maybe try out the motion-sensor raising of the seat on a space-age toilet? Or see just how quickly a convection oven can bake a batch of cookies? It's all possible because nearly everything in-store is available to experience just as you would at home.

Of course, few try-before-you-buy options are as elaborate as what takes place in the Sanctuary. Here, you can reserve time alone in a space outfitted with more than a dozen different shower heads, a couple steam room options and a gorgeous tub or two. After all, if you're going to drop a load of cash on a new bathroom retreat, you'll want to ensure that the shower head is absolutely perfect. And that you actually fit

The 'shower room' at Pirch has an array of working shower heads that are completely programmable — and if you want to try one out for real, you can even set up an appointment to stand under them in your bathing suit to get a feel for what it will really be like in your home. How's that for personal service? (Photo courtesy of Darin Fong Photography)

CLIFF From page 24

foot home for \$160,000. "They have the vision," Hewitt says of their commitment to transforming the property from fixer-upper to showplace.

Another area on the rise: The Wynnewood neighborhood, north of Illinois Avenue and the Wynnewood Shopping Center. That part of town also is rich with mid-century ranch homes that are practically aching to be renovated, Hewitt says, and gay men are starting to notice.

The big bang for the house buck in these up-and-coming locales may be high, although those looking for nightlife, walkability or retail opportunities should probably poke around other parts of the city. But if you're looking for a lot of space and pure potential, it might be best to be a pioneer. Or just follow the other pioneers, and move quickly.



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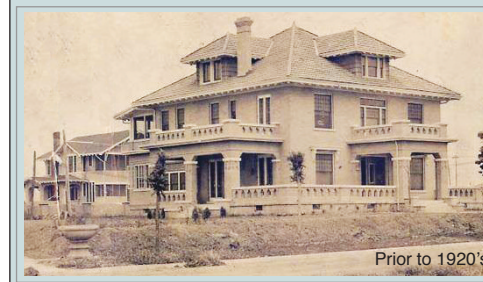


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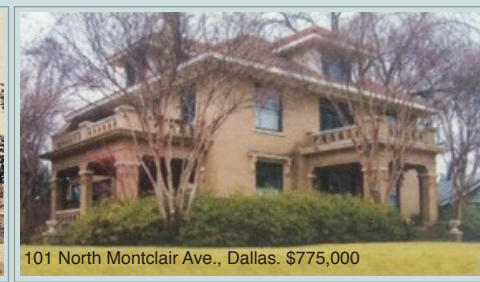
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Friday 10.03

'Rapunzel' unfurls at Dallas Children's Theater

Rapunzel is tangled up in some intrigue that has her pulling her hair out — she's really tressed out. Yes, the fairy tale princess with the long mane is back in our lives, thanks to the folks at Dallas Children's Theater, who are teasing out their newest all-ages musical, *Rapunzel! Rapunzel! A Very Hairy Fairy Tale*. Perfect for kids and the parents — or just the young at heart — it features morning matinees and weekend performances for all schedules.

DEETS: Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through Oct. 26. DCT.org.

Thursday 10.09

Sam Smith wraps up North American tour at HOB

He's the hottest new singer of the year, with a soulful tenor voice that belies an aching relationship with love. Sam Smith — out and proud, and happy to sing about romantic failures — has been on a limited North American tour this fall, and he finishes it up right here at Dallas' House of Blues. I guess he was saving the best for last.

DEETS: House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. 8 p.m. doors. HOB.com/Dallas.



LIFE+STYLE

best bets

Friday
10.03
Saturday
10.04
Sunday
10.05

Dallas Southern Pride gets its mojo moving

Did you think Pride was over in North Texas? Sorry, no. Not only does Tarrant County celebrate its Pride this weekend, so does South Dallas, with Pride events aimed at the LGBT black community. Events (themed around All Gold Everything) are broken into "his" and "hers" varieties, from parties to performances, but everyone is welcome.

DEETS: Host hotel: Crowne Plaza Downtown, 1015 Elm St. Friday-Sunday. For a schedule of events, visit DallasSouthernPride.com.

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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

The Brothers Size. Texas premiere of a tough-but-tender drama about siblings. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through Oct. 26. JubileeTheatre.org.

Hands on a Hard Body. The 2013 Broadway musical, based on a documentary set in Longview, Texas, concerns a marathon competition where the winner received a new pickup truck. Written by Dallas native Doug Wright. *Reviewed this week.* Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Oct. 26. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Rapunzel! Rapunzel! A Very Hairy Fairy Tale. Denise Lee stars in this musical adaptation of the folklife favorite, from the Dallas Children's Theater. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through Oct. 26. DCT.org.

The Rocky Horror Show. DTC launches its new season with this cross-dressing classic about the sweet transvestite from transsexual Transylvania. Directed by Joel Ferrell. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Oct. 19. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Shear Madness. Comic mystery in Theatre 3's downstairs space where the audience helps solve the crime. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. (in the Quadrangle). Extended through Nov. 16. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Tomorrow Come Today. Undermain Theatre launches its 2014-15 season with this world premiere, a science fiction drama set in the not-too-distant future where technological advances permit the wealthy to cheat death. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Through Oct. 11. Undermain.org.

Whodunit: The Musical. The Texas premiere of this musical mystery comedy by Ed Dixon. *Final weekend.*



SIZE MATTERS | 'The Brothers Size,' the Texas premiere of a play about siblings, runs through Oct. 26 at Jubilee Theatre in Fort Worth. (Photo courtesy Adam A. Anderson)

Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. TheatreArlington.org.

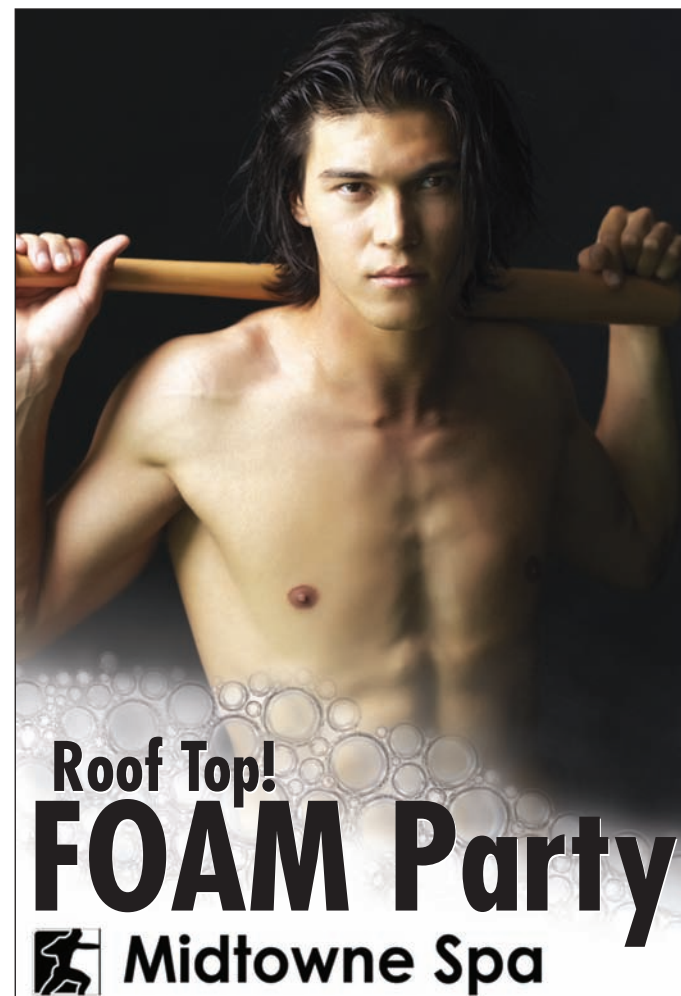
FINE ARTS

Isa Genzken: Retrospective. The German modern artist — sculptor, painter, videographer and repurposer of found objects — gets a rare and dazzling retrospective at the DMA, in conjunction with the

Museum of Modern Art and Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Jan. 4, 2015. DMA.org.

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

Mario Testino: Alta Moda. The famed fashion photographer turns his lens on ordinary residents of Peru. Dallas Contemporary, 161 Glass St. Through Dec. 20. DallasContemporary.org.



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FRIDAY 10.03

COMMUNITY

State Fair of Texas. The historic event continues with fried food and farm equipment. Fair Park Grounds at First Avenue and Martin Luther King Boulevard. Through Oct. 19. BigTex.org.

Dallas Southern Pride. Dallas' Black Gay Pride celebration — themed All Gold Everything — runs throughout the weekend. Host hotel: Crowne Plaza, 1015 Elm St. Events are planned for "him" and "her." For a schedule, visit DallasSouthernPride.com.

Burgers & Burgundy. A fundraiser for DIFFA, featuring gourmet burgers from top chefs. At a private residence. 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$100-\$150. DIFFADallas.org.

CONCERTS

Antigone Rising. The all-girl band known for their unique and electrifying live shows performs at Sue Ellens's in the Vixen Lounge, 3014 Throckmorton St.

Katy Perry: Prismatic Tour with Tegan & Sara and Ferras. Queer musicians Tegan & Sara and Ferras open for pop goddess Katy Perry. American Airlines Center, 2500 Victory Ave. 7 p.m. Ticketmaster.com.

Natalie Cole. The singer performs. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.

SATURDAY 10.04

FESTIVAL

Cottonwood Art Festival. Richardson's fall edition of the expo of art, music, food and more. Cottonwood Park, 1321 W. Belt Line Road, Richardson. Oct. 4-5. Free. CottonwoodArtFestival.com.



FINE ART
Adam Ball: The Space Between.
 The exhibit closes with a talk by the artist. Goss-Michael Foundation, 1405 Turtle Creek Blvd. Talk noon–1 p.m. Free.

SUNDAY 10.05
COMMUNITY
24th Annual AIDS LifeWalk. The annual fundraiser for AIDS Arms takes place, starting in Lee Park, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd. Registration at 11 a.m. Walk (and 5k run) at 1 p.m. \$40–\$50 entry fee. LifeWalk.org.

TUESDAY 10.07
FILM
Once Upon a Time in the West. Sergio Leone's sprawling classic, with Henry Fonda in a rare role as a sadistic villain. Screens as part of the Tuesday New Classic series at Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village, sponsored by Dallas Voice.

TENNESSEE, TITAN | WingSpan Theatre Co. stages a rarely-produced work by Tennessee Williams, 'The Two Character Play,' at the Bath House, opening Thursday. (Photo by Lowell Sargeant)

Free. CottonwoodArtFestival.com.

Continental Lofts: 100th Anniversary Celebration and Art Exhibit. The Deep Ellum landmark commemorates its centenary with a party art exhibit of work by its talented residents. 3311 Elm St. 6–10 p.m.

7:30 p.m. only.

CONCERTS
An Evening with Emmylou Harris. The 13-time Grammy Award winner performs at a benefit for the nonprofit Stay-Focused, which serves disabled adults.

Arlington Hall, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd. \$150. Stay-Focused.org/Dallas.

WEDNESDAY 10.08
FILM
Dallas VideoFest. The 27th annual VideoFest gets underway with a screening of Hitchcock's *The Lodger*. Oct. 8–19. For complete schedule, visit VideoFest.org.

THURSDAY 10.09
BROADCAST
Project Runway. Season 13 continues with Heidi, Nina, Zac and Tim. Airs on Lifetime at 8 p.m.

THEATER
The Two Character Play. A rarely-performed piece by gay playwright Tennessee Williams — a play-within-a-play set on a desert island where a brother and sister act out until reality and illusion blur. Directed by Susan Sargeant. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Oct. 9–25. WingSpanTheatreCo.com.

Bonnie & Clyde. The recent musical adaptation of the famed Dallas bandits of the 1930s makes its regional debut. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Oct. 9–Nov. 2 (in previews through Oct. 12). WaterTowerTheatre.org.

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.

CONCERTS
Sam Smith. The hot new gay troubadour winds up his North American tour at the House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. 8 p.m. HOB.com/Dallas.

FASHION
Girls' Night Out. Fashion show, drinks and more. Belk at the Galleria. 6–9 p.m.

FILM
Q Cinema. Annual festival of LGBT films begins. Rose Marin Theatre, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. Oct. 9–12. Qcinema.org.

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Cassie Nova

Dating while poz has its challenges, but Cassie has the tea

Do you ever have one of those days when you realize, "Oh crap! I'm an idiot." I like to think of myself as a smart person. I know I am not a brainiac, but I did really well in school. But book learnin' ain't everything. Ever since I can remember, I have pronounced aspartame, the artificial sweetener in Sweet-N-Low, A-SPART-A-ME, like it was a super sweet Greek god or something. Recently, while watching the news, I saw a report on artificial sweeteners, and heard a doctor call it by its correct pronunciation, AS-PER-TAME. I thought, "Me no smart." I guess that's what I get for laughing at **Shia LaBeouf** for calling **Michael Douglas** the "EPI-TOME of strength" when he was trying to say epitome. Karma is a fickle bitch. Lesson learned. Now let's see how smart I am by answering some questions.

Dearest Timeless Cassie, Upon moving to Dallas some years ago, I immediately became involved with various charities — AIDS service orgs, to be specific. My parents always instilled the "give back" attitude, and I wanted to take that with me to my new home here in Big D.

Several years later, I found myself sitting at the Resource Center on Reagan with a tester holding my

hand while I cried after getting my test results. Irony. Since then, I've been terrified of dating. I've asked several poz friends if I should tell a guy of my HIV status before a date, during a casual date or wait until before sex. Occasionally, a date happens before sex. I believe it's important to be honest if your goal is to have someone as a potential husband or partner for any length of time. I've had HIV-positive sex partners during this time, but I'm terrified of rejection or having my personal health business spread all

over town. You know how that goes: What happens in Dallas will be all over Dallas tomorrow! I took one friend's advice after a guy asked me out, so we went on a causal coffee date one evening a few weeks after I was diagnosed. I told him I was positive after we sat and chatted for about an hour. He stood up, said "Good luck!" and walked away

from the table. I cried for days! I don't expect everyone to react that way, but his reaction really has stuck with me. I know of poz/neg couples out there, and that's not necessarily what I'm saying I want. Dear Goddesses, throw me a bone! That may or may not be a metaphor.

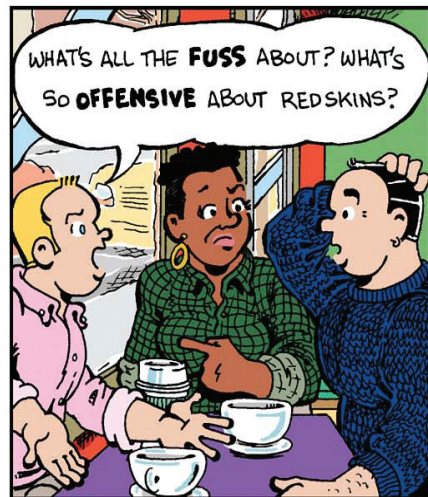
I want to start dating again; however this part of my life is making dating emotionally difficult. What are your thoughts? — POZitively Hopeful

Dear POZ, First I wanna say your sense of humor and honesty about this subject is refreshing. The stigma about someone being HIV-positive is hopefully changing by more people being honest about it.

A lot of people don't realize that being HIV-positive is not a death sentence anymore, thanks to great antiviral medications and healthy living. But I also get that you don't want everyone in Dallas knowing your tea. You know... Television. Telephone. Tell a queer.

Regarding the "Good luck" guy, consider telling men about your status to be a test. It's a great way to weed out the closed-minded douche bags you don't need to waste your time on any ways.

I also agree that



you should tell someone before y'all have sex. A note for guys who want to stay negative: Treat every partner as though they are positive and you will be less likely to do something to put yourself at risk. Always play safe.

Have you tried dating services like Pozmatch or ThePositiveConnection.com? You are not alone. There are many positive single good guys in our community so stay positive and keep looking. That sounded corny didn't it? Sorry. But outlook is everything. Give someone the opportunity to love everything about you. Good Luck, Cassie

Dear Cassie, What is the most important product used by a drag queen? Curiously, K.W.

Dear K.W., That question has way too many answers. For me, I have to have foam padding for my big ol' ass. Without my curves I feel very mannish. Other queens, like **Asia O'Hara**, might say it's a fierce wig and a strong fan for it to blow in, like Beyonce. **Edna Jean** might say cosmic blue eye shadow. **Krystal Summers** and **Valerie Lohr** might say vodka. Ok, to be honest, I think we would all say vodka. Oh yea, a MAC lip pencil. I love their lip liners. See, way too many answers. — Cassie.

Hey guys, I am in need of some more great questions. So please ask anything. Whoever said there are no stupid questions was a moron, but sometimes those are my favorites. So keep them coming. Remember that if I, The Almighty Cassie Nova, can feel stupid sometimes, you can cut yourself a little slack when you have one of those days. 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.

LIFE+STYLE

scene

North Texas GLBT Chamber's Business and Organization Expo



Making the **SCENE** the week of **Oct. 3-9**:

Alexandre's: **Kerrie Lepai Girls Night Out** on Friday at 10 p.m. **Andrea Dawson Band** on Saturday at 10 p.m. **Sheran Keyton** on Wednesday at 9 p.m. **Alicia Silex** on Thursday at 9 p.m.

BJ's NXS!: **Magic Sundays** with **Jada Pinkett Fox** on Sunday 8 p.m.–12 a.m.

Club Reflections: **Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association** kick off show **Showboats and Showgirls** on Thursday at p.m.

Dallas Eagle: **Brianna Allan Candidate for Empress Show** on Saturday at 7 p.m. **Dallas Bears** and **Leather Knights** club night on Saturday at 9 p.m. **Dallas Girls of Leather** monthly meeting on Sunday 5–6 p.m. **Miss Wanda Comedy Show** on Thursday at 9 p.m.

Rainbow Lounge: **Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association Wedding Reception** on Thursday 6–7 p.m.

Round-Up Saloon: **Sable Alexandre** and **Patti le Plae Safe** host **Mr. and Miss Charity America** on Sunday at 7 p.m.

Sue Ellen's: **Ciao Bella** opens for **Antigone Rising** in the Vixen Lounge and **Mustache Envy** on the main floor on Friday. **Mojo Dolls** on Saturday. **Kathy Corbin & Barefoot Hippies** on the main floor 6–9 p.m. and **Sing for Your Life, A Queeraoke Variety Show**, in the Vixen Lounge on Sunday. **Marisela the Voice** on Wednesday.

The Brick: **Dallas Southern Pride 24 KT Explosion** with **Lil Ronny** on Friday at 9:30 p.m. **Pole Warrior Challenge** on Wednesday at 10 p.m.

Woody's Sports & Video Bar: **Little Chalupa's Karaoke** on Wednesday at 10 p.m. **Jada Pinkett Fox** on Thursday at 11 p.m. **Laugh Out Loud Friday Comedy** on Friday 10 p.m.–12 a.m.



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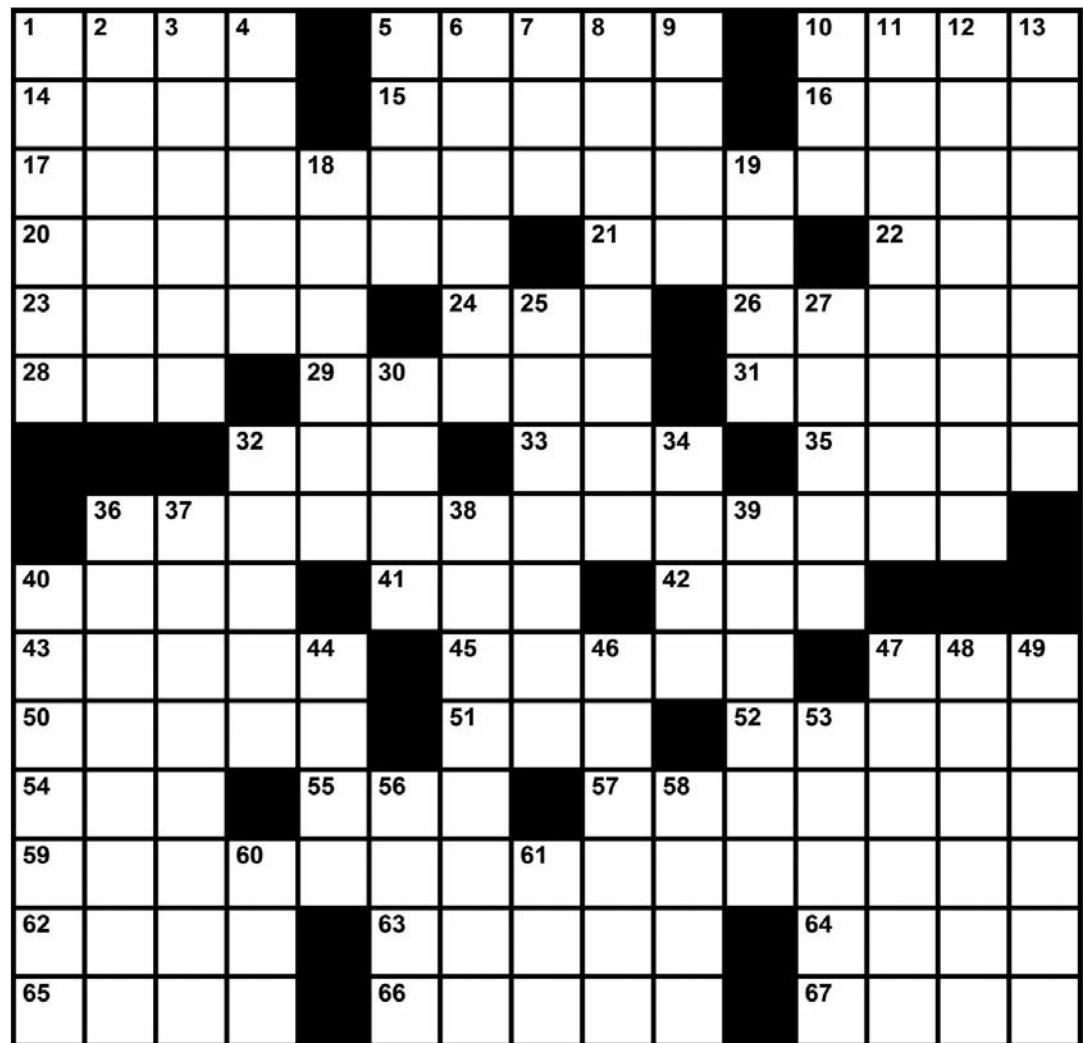
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The Gay Jersey Boy

Solution on page 33

Across

- 1 Where to wallow
- 5 Branches of a family tree
- 10 The Phantom of the Opera's name
- 14 Etcher's fluid
- 15 Islamic deity
- 16 Moliere's mommy
- 17 1962 hit that Bob Crewe co-wrote
for The Four Seasons
- 20 Ten-inchers, for example
- 21 Beginning of a hickey?
- 22 Tin Man's request
- 23 Former NFL player Tuaolo
- 24 BB propellant
- 26 Sad piece
- 28 Jan. 1 until now
- 29 Batman's alter ego Bruce
- 31 Parts of floats
- 32 "That was good, honey!"
- 33 Use your tongue
- 35 Licks, for example
- 36 1974 hit that Bob Crewe co-wrote
for Patti Labelle
- 40 Philbin cohort
- 41 Childcare writer LeShan
- 42 Place for Hamburger Mary's meat
- 43 "___ roll!" (winner's cry)
- 45 Went down on eagerly
- 47 Vegas opening
- 50 Cuban coins
- 51 Hanging spot
- 52 That is, to Cicero
- 54 Throw in the towel, with "out"
- 55 QB's misfire
- 57 Freaked out
- 59 1967 hit that Bob Crewe co-wrote
for The Tremeloes
- 62 Kind of idol
- 63 Hot blood
- 64 Nuts
- 65 Gas brand in Canada
- 66 In concert
- 67 Aardvark entrees

Down

- 1 Moms of comedy
- 2 Most like a polar bear
- 3 Fixed, but not repaired
- 4 It can cut leaves of grass
- 5 Ass attachment?
- 6 "Damn straight!"
- 7 Bibliophile's deg.
- 8 Unpleasant experience in bed
- 9 "Beat it!"

- 10 Mouth-to-mouth pro
- 11 Emulated Lance Bass
- 12 Make moist, and then some
- 13 Type of car entry
- 18 Sorta
- 19 Moves the head
- 25 Thankless one
- 27 Early caucus participant
- 30 Words of woe, to the Bard
- 32 Hersey's *A Bell For* ___
- 34 *Seinfeld* character from Pakistan
- 36 Green fruit desserts
- 37 Peter and Paul, but not Mary
- 38 Some work AC/DC
- 39 *High Sierra* star Ida
- 40 Dorothy Parker delivery
- 44 Q ___ queen
- 46 Prods
- 47 Seduce
- 48 Apperance
- 49 Pool parties?
- 53 Secretary of Perry
- 56 Trojans' org.
- 58 Shrek, for one
- 60 Brian who collaborated with Bowie
- 61 Same-sex vow

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