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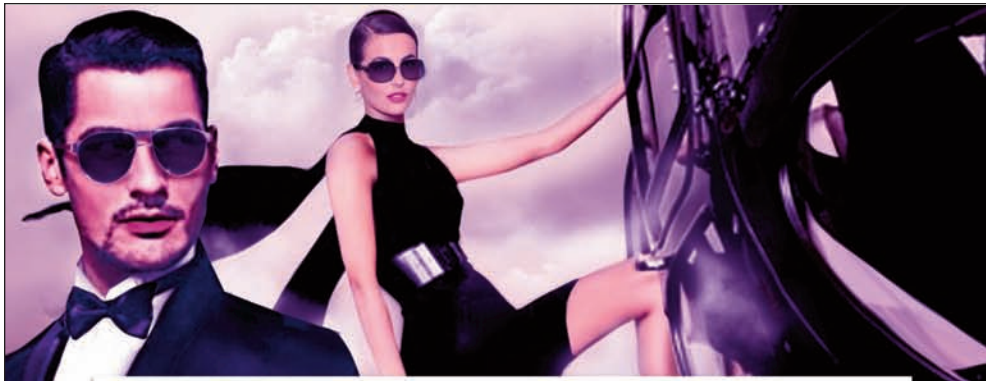
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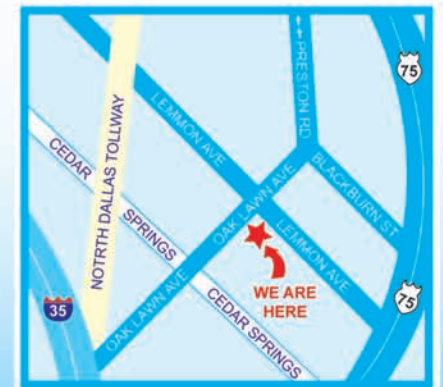
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Protesters at Colorado funeral

**Church halts funeral over
photo of 2 women kissing**

Friends of Vanessa Collier this week protested outside a Lakewood, Colo., church Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 13, after the pastor of New Hope Ministries church stopped their friend's funeral on Jan. 10 because of a video showing Collier kissing her wife.

Collier, 33, died Dec. 30. She is survived by her wife, Christina Higley, and their two children, among other family members. Jessica Maestas, Collier's cousin who helped Collier's mother arrange the funeral, told ABC News that New Hope Ministries was aware that Collier was a lesbian because they told the church about her sexual orientation while they were making funeral arrangements. Maestas also said they told the church that they would be playing a video at the service, and that they had complied with the church's rule that the video be submitted two days prior to the funeral so church officials could review it.

"I provided the video, and got the okay from the funeral home that we would be able to show it," Maestas told ABC News.

But on Jan. 10, about 15 minutes into the funeral, New Hope Pastor Ray Chavez stopped the funeral and told family and friends they would have to remove a video that included photos of Collier kissing Higley, and photos of the two women together with their children.irate mourners instead gathered up the flowers, the programs for the service and eventually Collier's casket and moved to a new location. Fortunately, Newcomer Funeral Home, across the street from New Hope Ministries, was able to accommodate the funeral, although the crowd of about 180 had to pack into a room intended for about half that many.

Collier's longtime friend Victoria Quintana told the Denver Post that the whole incident was "humiliating [and] devastating."

The Post reported that about four dozen people gathered outside New Hope Ministries on Tuesday afternoon, waving signs saying "Shame on Pastor Ray" and demanding an apology for what happened, as security guards posted around the church made sure none of the protesters moved onto church property.

Collier's relatives say they have received no refund on the money they paid New Hope Ministries to host the funeral.

— Tammye Nash

**Judge strikes down
South Dakota marriage ban**

U.S. District Court Judge Karen E. Schreier struck down South Dakota's ban on marriage equality, saying that the six plaintiff couples in the case have "a fundamental right to marry."

She wrote: "South Dakota law deprives them of

that right solely because they are same-sex couples and without sufficient justification."

Schreier's ruling is stayed, pending appeals to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

— Tammye Nash



Pete Schulte

**Schulte to run
for sheriff**

Pete Schulte announced that he will be running for Dallas County sheriff in 2016, as long as incumbent Sheriff Lupe Valdez retires, as she has said

she will do. Schulte made the announcement at the

Texas State Capitol during a trip sponsored by state Rep. Eric Johnson to watch the swearing in of the House of Representatives.

— David Taffet

**Michigan must recognize
'window marriages'**

A federal judge ruled Michigan must recognize its "window marriages" performed last year after the state's marriage law was struck down and before a stay was placed on the ruling.

After Michigan's marriage law was declared unconstitutional, about 300 couples married in the state before a higher court judge placed a stay on the ruling. Michigan is in the 6th Circuit, which later upheld the state's right to discriminate.

Now Federal District Judge Mark Goldsmith says the state must recognize those marriage licenses it issued.

"Even though the court decision that required Michigan to allow same-sex couples to marry has now been reversed on appeal, the same-sex couples who married in Michigan during the brief period when such marriages were authorized acquired a status that state officials may not ignore absent some compelling interest — a constitutional hurdle that the defense does not even attempt to surmount," Goldsmith wrote in the introduction to his opinion.

The "window" lasted only a few hours on March 22, 2014. Goldsmith was not the judge in original decision.

In an interesting note, Goldsmith writes in his opinion that no Supreme Court case addresses the right to maintain a marriage but it's assumed that when the vows are spoken, "the lifetime of committed intimacy that couples expect will follow."

He calls Michigan's refusal to recognize marriages it licenses "entirely unprecedented."

— David Taffet



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GLBT Chamber accepts nominations

The North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations for its annual Business Excellence Awards. Recipients represent the best of who we are as business and community leaders. Awards will be given in one or more of the following categories: Business of the Year, Community Service, Corporate Ally, Emerging Leader, Member Service and Supplier Diversity Champion. The nomination period ends Sunday, Feb. 15. Awards will be presented at the 10th Anniversary Celebration of Excellence Dinner on Friday, April 24, at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel. The nomination form and more information are at Bit.ly/GLBTChamber2014.

LGBT Labor Leadership Training set

Pride at Work has announced the date for its 3rd LGBT Labor Leadership Training workshops. The membership-only training takes place April 17-18 at the AFL-CIO Building in Washington, D.C. Participants must be Pride at Work members

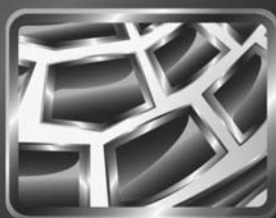
and willing to work with a local P@W chapter. If you are not already a P@W member, you can become one through the registration page.

P@W will help start a local chapter. Alternative workshops are offered at Feb. 4-8 Creating Change in Denver; March 6-7 at the AFL-CIO Organizing Institute in Washington, D.C.; and Aug. 26-29 at the 2015 Pride at Work Convention in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Registration deadline is March 27. To register or more information visit Bit.ly/1CbvgNC.

Ladino Day Program and Week of Judeo-Spanish Culture at SMU

SMU celebrates the Second International Day of Ladino marking a week of celebrating Judeo-Spanish history and culture on Jan. 25. The series is sponsored by SMU's Jewish Studies program. The celebration is 2-5 p.m. at McCord Auditorium, third floor of SMU's Dallas Hall, 3225 University Blvd. Event includes lectures by Judeo-Spanish scholars, original music and personal stories related to the Judeo-Spanish language, history, and culture. The week includes lectures and the U.S. premiere of the movie "Saved by Language" about a Ladino/Judeo-Spanish speaker who survived the Holocaust at 5 p.m. on Jan. 28 in SMU's Owen Fine Arts Center, 6101 Hillcrest Ave. For more information contact Rachel Amado Bortnick at bortnickra@sbcglobal.net or 972-458-2253.

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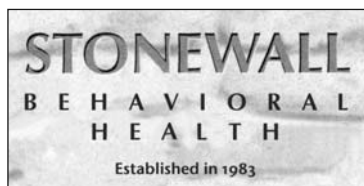
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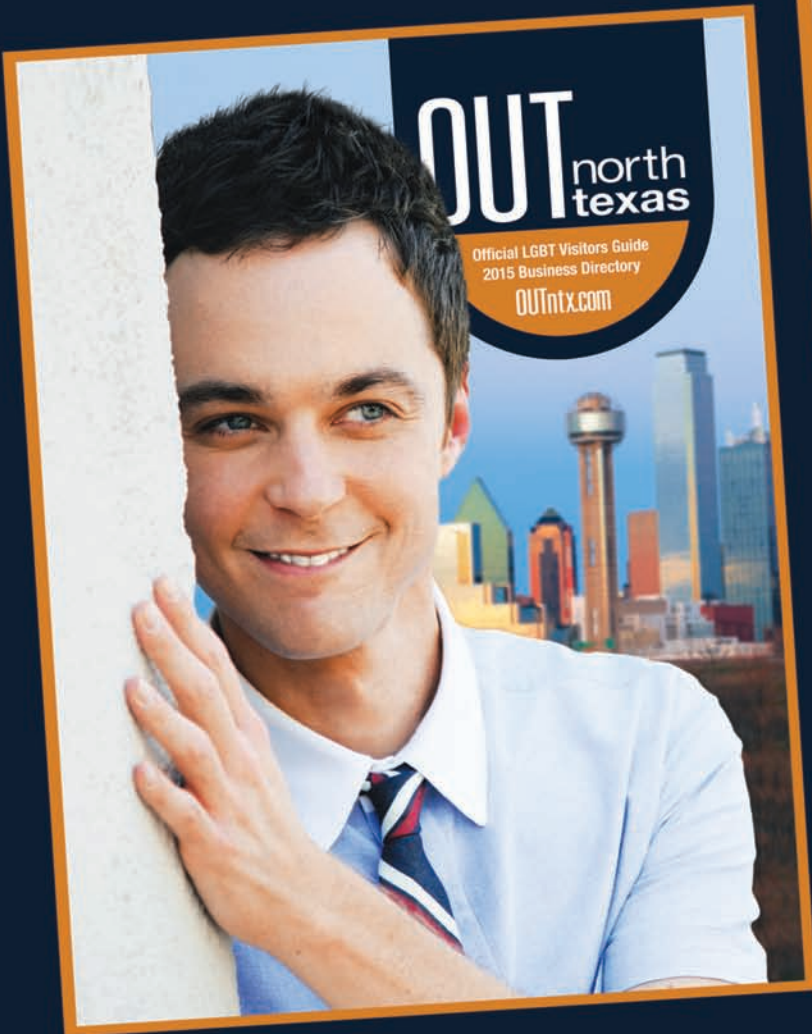


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A brief herstory of lesbians in Dallas

From politics, to health, from nightlife to spiritual life, lesbians have played a leading role in creating a vibrant, strong and healthy LGBT community in North Texas

Editor's note: Notice the title of this piece says "brief." We know it is not even close to comprehensive. There are many more lesbian heroes in our community, and much that came before and after the time covered here. But we wanted in this, our first "Lesbian Issue," to pay tribute to women who helped make our community great.

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Louise Young and Viv Armstrong moved to Dallas in the fall of 1976 but didn't begin searching for the lesbian community here until the spring of 1977. Their initial search took them to a bar off McKinney Avenue, near what's now the Crescent, called Bayou Landing.

They saw a poster at the bar for a meeting of the Dallas Gay Political Caucus and decided to check it out.

"We don't know what to make of all this," Young and Armstrong told DGPC's new president, Steve Wilkins, at the meeting.

"I hope you'll become involved," he said.

That was in February. In March, DGPC had an opening for secretary, and Young took the position. Armstrong headed the organization's new political action committee. This was the committee that interviewed political candidates for the organization, and that organized the first opposition to Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code, aka the Texas sodomy law.

In 1980, lesbians and gays across the city brought resolutions worded alike to repeal 21.06 to precinct conventions across Dallas, in a move organized by DGPC. The organization also encouraged gays and lesbians to run for precinct chairs.

"We organized the community's approach to precinct conventions held the night of the primary," Young said. "That brought women to precinct conventions. We felt empowered and many were elected to district and state conventions."

A year later, DGPC changed its name to Dallas Gay Alliance. At the same time, many gay groups across the country were adding the word "lesbian" to their titles, Armstrong said.

"Women left when 'lesbian' wasn't put in," Young said. "Women wanted the L in the name."

Armstrong and Young conducted a survey of 100 women at the bars.

"There was a direct correlation of women's desire to be involved in political and organizational activities and wanting to be called les-



Candy Marcum, right, and Carolyn Hall



Deb Elder



Joe Elliott



Kay Vinson



The Rev. Carol West, left



Kathy Jack

bians," Young said.

Young, who wrote several pieces for DGA's newsletter, said the organization had a style sheet that insisted everyone in the community be referred to as gay. When Young referred to women as lesbians in an article and the piece was changed for print, she said she felt slighted and disrespected.

But, she noted, "I don't believe there was an intentional effort to exclude women."

By 1986, Young and Armstrong had left DGA, which by that time was consumed with providing services to those with AIDS. The couple wanted to focus on political activism and so helped create the Lesbian Gay Political Coalition.

DGA finally changed its name to Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance in 1992, soon after Deb Elder became president of the organization. Elder was the first woman to head the group since Young served as president. By the time it became DGLA, the board's male members agreed with the women the change was long overdue.

Cece Cox succeeded Elder as DGLA president and successfully lobbied Dallas City Council to add workplace protection to city ordinances. By the time she served as president of the group, Cox said the rift over 'the L word' was healed.

"My experience was that men and women

came together, working side by side," Cox said.

Young said despite the controversy, men and women always worked together well in Dallas. She recalled once when a friend from San Francisco visited, "she was amazed at what we were doing here compared to San Francisco."

Beginning in the late 1970s and continuing through the 1980s, activists in Dallas — and across Texas — battled to rid the state of the sodomy law, which criminalized private, consensual sexual contact between adults of the same gender. Even though the first victory came when Don Baker filed a lawsuit that resulted in federal Judge Jerry Buchmeyer ruling the sodomy law unconstitutional, that ruling was later overturned by the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

It wasn't until lesbian Micah England tried to join the Dallas Police Department that the community won its first lasting victory over the sodomy law (although it wasn't completely overturned until 2003 when the U.S. Supreme ruled it unconstitutional).

It was in the early 1990s, though that England, openly lesbian, challenged the sodomy law in state court after the Dallas PD used it as an excuse not to hire her. The trial court ruled in her favor, as did the Texas Court of Appeals. The case never made it to the Texas Supreme Court, because the state failed to appeal the decision in time.

Lesbians during the AIDS crisis

Armstrong is a nurse and in addition to her day job, she served on several boards to provide AIDS care to gay men who, in the 1980s and early 1990s, were contracting the disease at an ever-increasing rate.

She worked with the county health department on prevention, providing condom bowls to get men in the habit of having protected sex. She served on the department's HIV services planning committee for nine years. She helped provide care through Visiting Nurses Association.

Other women in healthcare offered other types of support to gay men who were contracting AIDS.

When Parkland Hospital wouldn't offer pentamidine mist treatment to help prevent a virulent strain of pneumonia that was killing many people with HIV, Penny Pickle, also a nurse, began administering the treatment at the then-DGA office. That was the beginning of what today is the Nelson-Tebedo Clinic.

Sandy Horwitz was a nurse at Baylor Hospital. She transferred to the AIDS floor there because she knew she could provide gay patients with a level of care they otherwise wouldn't have gotten. She said she lost count of the number of gay men who died in her arms.

Mary Franklin began her career caring for people with AIDS as part of the Dallas Buyers Club, helping Ron Woodruff distribute AIDS drugs not approved in the U.S. that had been smuggled into the country, with the FDA turning a blind eye.

Franklin helped turn a shelf in Crossroads Market — a shop at the corner of Cedar Springs and Throckmorton where customers left canned goods to be distributed to people with AIDS — into the Resource Center Food Pantry. Before the pantry started getting most of its food supplies from the North Texas Food Bank, Franklin tracked train wrecks and overturned semi trailers for possible sources of donations. She organized teams to stand in front of "Mary Thumb" — the Tom Thumb supermarket that once stood where ilume is now located — to hand out lists of food pantry needs, and she shuttled vans full of donations to the pantry.

Caring for their own

While women worked hard to care for men dying from AIDS, they were also creating organizations care for women's needs as well. One of the earliest lesbian groups was Flying W's, a motorcycle group started by legendary Dallas lesbian Lory Masters in the 1970s.

Another was the Texas Lesbian Conference, which Cox explained was held annually in different cities around the state, featuring workshops on everything from art to health and social issues.

Lesbian Visionaries, founded by Elder and Kay Vinson among others, was another group

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- **National LGBTQ Task Force**

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that provided women's programming.

"That was where women came together," Cox said. She said when that group merged with DGLA, it provided a women's component that had been missing from the alliance.

In 1988, to celebrate National Coming Out Day, Lesbian Visionaries tried to place an ad in The Dallas Morning News and the Dallas Times Herald. Both papers rejected the ad. Years later, DGLA had more success placing the ad with the Morning News.

While the Gay and Lesbian Community Center provided space for everyone in the community, a group of women led by Christine Jarosz opened the Lesbian Resource Center on Hall Street in east Dallas as a safe space specifically for women.

To develop leadership within the community, a group called Leadership Lambda created a seminar series with quite a bit of lesbian talent directing and developing the program. Innovative and strong Dallas organizations were gaining a national reputation.

"I cut my teeth on local organizations," said Candy Marcum, co-founder of Oak Lawn Counseling Center. Once reports of Gay-Related Immune Deficiency (GRID, which later became labeled AIDS) began to hit, the center began a crisis line and transformed into Oak Lawn Community Services, one of Dallas' major AIDS service providers through the 1990s.

Fairway to Equality, which celebrates its 25th



Christine Jarosz

year this June, was the first exclusively lesbian event to benefit Human Rights Campaign.

Marcum said she joined the Dallas Insiders, which became the Federal Club and that propelled her into becoming HRC's first female national chair.

Power lesbians

The Dallas lesbian community also has a strong business tradition.

Elder was an early part of Crossroads Market until she and Vinson opened Curious Times, a jewelry and bookstore on Cedar Springs Road.

Vinson and Kay Christian published the Lambda Pages, the Dallas LGBT community's first yellow page directory. Lambda Pages became a Texas Triangle publication, was later acquired by Dallas Voice and has now evolved into an annual relocation/visitors guide called Out North Texas, still published by Voice Publishing.

Women have been a major driving force in the Dallas real estate scene. Masters was so successful that a neighborhood in the northwest area of Dallas is still referred to as "Lory Land." And lesbians like Kathy Hewitt and Susan Melnick today consistently rank among the top sales people in the city.

Women's Business Network, created by Marty Malliton and led by Jo Bess Jackson, was known for its business mixers that brought professional women together to share resources.

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Making a **real,** **live** difference

Amanda Robinson co-founded Real Live Connection to help LGBTQ teens avoid issues she faced as a teen

JENNY BLOCK | Contributing Writer
nash@dallasvoice.com

At first glance, Amanda Robinson might seem like your typical 30-something: She's the general manager of 123 Technologies and likes to spend quality time with friends and family when she's not working.

But the McComb, Miss., native is anything but typical. She's a powerhouse on the front lines of improving — dare we say saving — the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning teenagers ages 13-19.

Robinson is the co-founder of Real Live Connection (RLC), a non-profit based in Dallas that is dedicated to providing positive development and life-enhancing programs to LGBTQ teens. She also serves on the steering committee of the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, Family Pride Zone and NTARuPT, where, she says, "I continue to reinforce the rights and interests of LGBTQ teens."

Dallas Voice sat down this week for a question-and-answer session with Robinson:

Dallas Voice: How did RLC start? Amanda Robinson: I was a troubled teen, trying to figure out what it meant to be a lesbian. As I struggled to figure out where I fit into society, I eventually found my own path as an entrepreneur and started developing humanitarian interests. I cofounded Real Live Connection in 2012 because I wanted to give back to the LGBTQ youth community.

How does it make a difference in our community? Well, I see the community as a web of individuals, all of which have the potential to come into daily contact with LGBTQ teenagers. However, knowing how to approach and talk to these individuals can be challenging. Therefore, our Safe Space Trainings provide the community with common terminology and stories so you can empathize and identify with these teens, and do your part in the community by aiding these individuals to reach their full potential. Safe Space Training also allows you to create a safe space for teens so that they can feel comfortable being themselves.

From a business perspective, you could be working with this demographic on a daily basis, and how you treat them will determine if they choose to be repeat customers. If you treat them with respect, don't show any judgment or harassment, and display the safe

space sticker, you will not only demonstrate that you are an ally, but it will show you work for a business that cares about them.

For instance, Safe Space can help you know how to handle various situations, such as what to do if you work at the counter at a bank and one of our transgender youth come up to the window with Stan's ID but in front of you stands Stacy. The transition process can take at least three years before the ID matches the person. How you react to Stacy may impact the way Stacy does business with you in the future. It may impact the way Stacy's family and friends do business with you.

As a community, it is our responsibility to treat all individuals — regardless of gender, race, orientation, etc. — with respect. No one should feel uncomfortable to be out in public or fear being harassed by strangers or feel unsafe in this world.

Why did you start RLC? I wanted to give LGBTQ youth opportunities and access to resources that I know would have made a world of difference in my life had they been available when I was a teen.



KEEPING IT REAL | Amanda Robinson and volunteers enjoy the RLC holiday party. (Courtesy photo)

What is one of your favorite Real Live Connection stories? The first year we had Teen Pride, a teen who was having trouble in school came out to the event and was exposed to other teens who were having the same issues. She later approached me with tears in her eyes saying, "I now feel like I can keep living. I no longer have to cut anymore." That made my heart skip beats, and it was in that moment that I realized how much of an impact RLC can have on just one person, in addition to the community as a whole. ■

For more information on Real Live Connection, call 469.666.REAL (7325) or email info@rlc365.org. Also Connect with Real Live Connection on Facebook (Real Live Connection) and Twitter (@rlc365) for information on upcoming events and ways to get involved.

Avoid the insta-nest

Don't lose yourself in a new relationship and jump in to commitment too quickly

The funniest jokes are the ones that are true, which is what makes the most famous lesbian joke of all so funny. Too funny for our own good, if you ask me.

"What does a lesbian bring on a second date?"

All together now: "A U-Haul."

It's scary but true. We are known for our insta-nesting. There's no way around that. And why we do it is painfully simple. It's in our nature to nurture.

So, we meet a girl we dig and the first thing we want to do is snuggle in and take care of her. It's pair-bonding at it's best — and it's worst.

The thing is, although it might primarily come from a good place, it also comes from a place of fear, which is never a good place from which to operate.

When you think about marking territory, men and dogs might be the first groups that come to mind. But the truth is, lesbians don't fall too far behind when it comes to the, "MineMineMine" behavior and mentality.

Why? Well, I've got a couple of ideas.

One, it's not easy to meet the right girl. So, when you do, you want to hang on to her. I get that.

Two, we like to lock things down; it's easier on our over-thinking, over-processing brains. If we can get a confirmation on this coupling thing down quickly, we can move on to other things like volunteering at that food bank and starting that kale garden.

Three, and don't get all bent out of shape about this, but we are girls. And even the toughest amongst us fear a broken heart. So, having a girl park her VW in your garage and her golden retriever and jet-black feline in your house is, let's face it, a welcome safety.

But, my friends, we have to break the cycle. This U-Hauling business may work for some, but it is not a good idea in the long run for most of us.

I repeat — not a good idea.

I know, I know. You have this friend . . . Or one time you . . . We all have those stories.

But I'm not talking about the exceptions. I am speaking of the rule. Make no mistake, insta-nesting is a dangerous game.

Why?

For starters, you miss out of a lot of the fun stuff. Sure, safe and easy might feel nice. But new and exciting feels amazing. If you're meant to be, you'll be. Trust me.

The rush has more of a chance of ruining you than solidifying you. So enjoy the slow burn instead. Go out on dates. Stay at your own place by yourself once in awhile. Don't lose track of your friends. Leave the wedding planning for later.

When you take the time to really learn someone, you can enjoy the experience of being new and special to someone. And there's no feeling in the world that compares to that.

Waiting for that person to call or text. Looking forward to a big date at the end of the week. Planning outings for the next time you'll see each other



Girl on Girls,
By Jenny Block

— Those are the joys of dating. Why rush through them?

You have a lifetime to figure out who's going to make dinner and who's going to take the dog out.

I have a confession to make. I was a U-Hauler — if not literally, then certainly figuratively.

I would meet a girl; feel a connection, and get right to the relationship part, promises and all. And — you guessed it — it never worked out. I have asked myself a thousand times why exactly I do this. I have no good answer other than, sigh, genetics, old habits, and, I don't know, my star sign?

But this time around, I'm dating a new kind of girl. A non-U-Hauler, if you will. She's younger than I; maybe the next generation is learning from our mistakes?

She is committed to her job and her friends and her life. And she wants someone to share her life. But she doesn't need someone.

That is something I have long preached. But I am doing a far better job of practicing this time around.

With this girl, there was no sex on the first date — or the second or the third or the fourth for that matter — even though it was very clear that we were both very interested in one another. And there was no casual throwing around of the word "girlfriend."

She asked when she was ready and because I was ready, I said yes. Same went for saying, "I love you."

I'm not saying we waited a crazy long time for any of those things. We didn't. But we did wait. It felt so incredibly different. It felt conscious and thoughtful and intentional.

It felt good.

And, interestingly enough, it feels more secure and concrete than the rushed versions of my past. I know she loves me. I know she wants me to be her girl. And those things are equally clear for me, too.

Will we be together forever? Too soon to tell. But I do know that the foundation we've set is a firm one and that each step we take forward will be a smart one. ■

Jenny Block is a writer and the author of the Lambda Award-winning book *Open: Love, Sex, and Life in as Open Marriage*. Her writing appears in and on *HuffingtonPost.com*, *Curve Magazine*, *Dallas Voice*, *Edge Media Network* and many others. Her new book, *O Wow! Discovering Your Ultimate Orgasm*, is due out summer 2015 (Cleis Press). JennyOnThePage.com.

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COMPLERA is a prescription medicine for adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before and who have no more than 100,000 copies/mL of virus in their blood. COMPLERA can also replace current HIV-1 medicines for some adults who have an undetectable viral load (less than 50 copies/mL) and whose healthcare provider determines that they meet certain other requirements. COMPLERA combines 3 medicines into 1 pill to be taken once a day with food. COMPLERA should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.

Just the **one**  for me

COMPLERA is a complete HIV-1 treatment in only 1 pill a day.

Ask your healthcare provider if COMPLERA may be the one for you.

Pill shown is not actual size.

COMPLERA does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS.

To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking COMPLERA. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

It is not known if COMPLERA is safe and effective in children under 18 years old.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?

COMPLERA can cause serious side effects:

- **Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis)**, which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include feeling very weak or tired, unusual (not normal) muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain with nausea or vomiting, feeling cold especially in your arms and legs, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.
- **Serious liver problems.** The liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and fatty (steatosis). Symptoms of liver problems include your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored bowel movements (stools), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach pain.
- **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems** if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking COMPLERA for a long time. In some cases, these serious conditions have led to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any symptoms of these conditions.
- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you also have HBV and stop taking COMPLERA, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. COMPLERA is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take COMPLERA?

Do not take COMPLERA if you:

- **Take a medicine that contains:** adefovir (Hepsera), lamivudine (EpiVir-HBV), carbamazepine (Carbatrol, Equetro, Tegretol, Tegretol-XR, Teril, Epitol), oxcarbazepine (Trileptal), phenobarbital (Luminal), phenytoin (Dilantin, Dilantin-125, Phenytek), rifampin (Rifater, Rifamate, Rimactane, Rifadin), rifapentine (Priftin), dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate, or the herbal supplement St. John’s wort.
- **Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection**, unless recommended by your healthcare provider.

What are the other possible side effects of COMPLERA?

Serious side effects of COMPLERA may also include:

- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood tests to check your kidneys before starting treatment with COMPLERA. If you have had kidney problems, or take other medicines that may cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may also check your kidneys during treatment with COMPLERA.
- **Depression or mood changes.** Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms: feeling sad or hopeless, feeling anxious or restless, have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself.

- **Changes in liver enzymes:** People who have had hepatitis B or C, or who have had changes in their liver function tests in the past may have an increased risk for liver problems while taking COMPLERA. Some people without prior liver disease may also be at risk. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your liver enzymes before and during treatment with COMPLERA.
- **Bone problems**, including bone pain or bones getting soft or thin, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV-1 medicines.
- **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking COMPLERA.

The most common side effects of COMPLERA include trouble sleeping (insomnia), abnormal dreams, headache, dizziness, diarrhea, nausea, rash, tiredness, and depression. Other common side effects include vomiting, stomach pain or discomfort, skin discoloration (small spots or freckles), and pain. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?

- **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or had any kidney, mental health, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.
- **All the medicines you take**, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. COMPLERA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how COMPLERA works. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start any new medicines while taking COMPLERA without first talking with your healthcare provider.
- **If you take rifabutin (Mycobutin).** Talk to your healthcare provider about the right amount of rilpivirine (Edurant) you should take.
- **If you take antacids.** Take antacids at least 2 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA.
- **If you take stomach acid blockers.** Take acid blockers at least 12 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA. Ask your healthcare provider if your acid blocker is okay to take, as some acid blockers should never be taken with COMPLERA.
- **If you are pregnant** or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking COMPLERA.
- **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, some medicines in COMPLERA can pass into breast milk, and it is not known if this can harm the baby.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information with **important warnings** on the following pages.



COMPLERA[®]
emtricitabine 200mg/rilpivirine 25mg/
tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information

COMPLERA® (kom-PLUH-rah)

(emtricitabine 200 mg, rilpivirine 25 mg, tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

Brief summary of full Prescribing Information. For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

What is COMPLERA?

- **COMPLERA** is a prescription medicine used as a complete HIV-1 treatment in one pill a day. COMPLERA is for adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before and who have no more than 100,000 copies/mL of virus in their blood (this is called ‘viral load’). Complera can also replace current HIV-1 medicines for some adults who have an undetectable viral load (less than 50 copies/mL) and whose healthcare provider determines that they meet certain other requirements.
- COMPLERA is a complete regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS. When used properly, COMPLERA may reduce the amount of HIV-1 virus in your blood and increase the amount of CD4 T-cells, which may help improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or getting infections that can happen when your immune system is weak.
- **COMPLERA does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.** You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.
- **Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing HIV-1 to others.** Do not share or reuse needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?

COMPLERA can cause serious side effects, including:

- **Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take COMPLERA or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**
 - feel very weak or tired
 - have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
 - have trouble breathing
 - having stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
 - feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
 - feel dizzy or lightheaded
 - have a fast or irregular heartbeat
- **Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems can happen in people who take COMPLERA. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**
 - your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
 - dark “tea-colored” urine
 - light-colored bowel movements (stools)
 - loss of appetite for several days or longer
 - nausea
 - stomach pain
- **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking COMPLERA for a long time.**

- **Worsening of Hepatitis B infection.** If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take COMPLERA, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking COMPLERA. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before. COMPLERA is not approved for the treatment of HBV, so you must discuss your HBV with your healthcare provider.

- Do not run out of COMPLERA. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your COMPLERA is all gone.
- Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider.
- If you stop taking COMPLERA, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking COMPLERA.

Who should not take COMPLERA?

Do not take COMPLERA if you also take any of the following medicines:

- **Medicines used for seizures:** carbamazepine (Carbatrol, Equetro, Tegretol, Tegretol-XR, Teril, Epitol); oxcarbazepine (Trileptal); phenobarbital (Luminal); phenytoin (Dilantin, Dilantin-125, Phenytek)
- **Medicines used for tuberculosis:** rifampin (Rifater, Rifamate, Rimactane, Rifadin); rifapentine (Priftin)
- **Certain medicines used to block stomach acid called proton pump inhibitors (PPIs):** dexlansoprazole (Dexilant); esomeprazole (Nexium, Vimovo); lansoprazole (Prevacid); omeprazole (Prilosec, Zegerid); pantoprazole sodium (Protonix); rabeprazole (Aciphex)
- **Certain steroid medicines:** More than 1 dose of dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate
- **Certain herbal supplements:** St. John’s wort
- **Certain hepatitis medicines:** adefovir (Hepsera), lamivudine (Epivir-HBV)

Do not take COMPLERA if you also take any other HIV-1 medicines, including:

- Other medicines that contain tenofovir (ATRIPLA, STRIBILD, TRUVADA, VIREAD)
- Other medicines that contain emtricitabine or lamivudine (ATRIPLA, Combivir, EMTRIVA, Epivir, Epzicom, STRIBILD, Trizivir, TRUVADA)
- rilpivirine (Eduvant), unless you are taking rifabutin (Mycobutin)

COMPLERA is not for use in people who are less than 18 years old.

What are the possible side effects of COMPLERA?

COMPLERA may cause the following serious side effects:

- **See “What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?”**
- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and while you are taking COMPLERA. If you have had kidney problems in the past or need to take another medicine that can cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may need to do blood tests to check your kidneys during your treatment with COMPLERA.
- **Depression or mood changes. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:**
 - feeling sad or hopeless
 - feeling anxious or restless
 - have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself
- **Change in liver enzymes.** People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus infection or who have certain liver enzyme changes may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening liver problems during treatment with COMPLERA. Liver problems can also happen during treatment with COMPLERA in people without a history of liver disease. Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your liver enzymes before and during treatment with COMPLERA.

- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV-1 medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the main part of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effect of these conditions are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having any new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

The most common side effects of COMPLERA include:

- Trouble sleeping (insomnia), abnormal dreams, headache, dizziness, diarrhea, nausea, rash, tiredness, depression

Additional common side effects include:

- Vomiting, stomach pain or discomfort, skin discoloration (small spots or freckles), pain

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

- These are not all the possible side effects of COMPLERA. For more information, ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?

Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:

- If you have or had any kidney, mental health, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis B or C infection.
- If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn child.
 - There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take COMPLERA.
 - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
 - Two of the medicines in COMPLERA can pass to your baby in your breast milk. It is not known if this could harm your baby.
 - Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements:

- COMPLERA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how COMPLERA works.
- If you take certain medicines with COMPLERA, the amount of COMPLERA in your body may be too low and it may not work to help control your HIV-1 infection. The HIV-1 virus in your body may become resistant to COMPLERA or other HIV-1 medicines that are like it.
- Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
 - Rifabutin (Mycobutin), a medicine to treat some bacterial infections. Talk to your healthcare provider about the right amount of rilpivirine (Edurant) you should take.

- Antacid medicines that contain aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids **at least 2 hours before or at least 4 hours after** you take COMPLERA.
- Certain medicines to block the acid in your stomach, including cimetidine (Tagamet), famotidine (Pepcid), nizatidine (Axid), or ranitidine hydrochloride (Zantac). Take the acid blocker **at least 12 hours before or at least 4 hours after** you take COMPLERA. Some acid blocking medicines should never be taken with COMPLERA (see “Who should not take COMPLERA?” for a list of these medicines).
- Medicines that can affect how your kidneys work, including acyclovir (Zovirax), cidofovir (Vistide), ganciclovir (Cytovene IV, Vitrasert), valganciclovir (Valtrex), and valganciclovir (Valcyte).
- clarithromycin (Biaxin)
- erythromycin (E-Mycin, Eryc, Ery-Tab, PCE, Pediazole, Ilosone)
- fluconazole (Diflucan)
- itraconazole (Sporanox)
- ketoconazole (Nizoral)
- methadone (Dolophine)
- posaconazole (Noxafil)
- telithromycin (Ketek)
- voriconazole (Vfend)

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking COMPLERA without first talking with your healthcare provider.

How should I take COMPLERA?

- Stay under the care of your healthcare provider during treatment with COMPLERA.
- Take COMPLERA exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Always take COMPLERA with food. Taking COMPLERA with food is important to help get the right amount of medicine in your body. A protein drink is not a substitute for food. If your healthcare provider decides to stop COMPLERA and you are switched to new medicines to treat HIV-1 that includes rilpivirine tablets, the rilpivirine tablets should be taken only with a meal.

Keep COMPLERA and all medicines out of reach of children.

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about COMPLERA. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can also ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about COMPLERA that is written for health professionals, or call 1-800-445-3235 or go to www.COMPLERA.com.

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Cowtown couple

Smith, Edwards have made a mark on Fort Worth as business-women and community volunteers

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

In 2007, Holly Edwards was reading a book and eating dinner at Fort Worth's Tommy's Hamburgers when the manager, Lee Furlong, gave her the business card for Kelly Smith, the owner of the popular restaurant.

Edwards recalled Furlong getting right to the point: "Call her. She's single."

Edwards was already a Tommy's regular, camping out in a booth or at a table on weekend evenings. And she already had her eye on Smith.

"I'd always seen her but I didn't know her before then," Edwards said.

So Edwards, who was newly single, followed Furlong's advice and called Smith. They agreed to meet.

Their first date was in 2007. They married on June 25, 2010 in the gay mecca of Provincetown, Rhode Island.

Tommy's Hamburgers is a staple of Cowtown's burger scene, having been in the Smith family

since 1983 when Kelly Smith's father, Tommy, opened the first location. The restaurants are now under Kelly Smith's management. She revived the brand in 2001, opening its first store on the city's historic Camp Bowie Boulevard.

Predictably, it's long been known for its beers and burgers. But Tommy's is also well known for its gay-friendly vibe.

Previous advertising campaigns for the store prominently featured references to the queer pop art icon Andy Warhol. In the spirit of Cowtown's moniker "cowboys and culture," murals of the city and cow-filled pastures can be found on its walls.

And Kelly Smith and Edwards are as well known for volunteering in the community as Tommy's is for its hamburgers.

The restaurant's newest location — there are two — in the city's gay-friendly Near Southside neighborhood hosts the monthly meetings for Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats, of which Kelly Smith is a proud member. (She noted both her parents, Tommy and Glenda, were hard-core Democrats.)

But Kelly Smith isn't only about beer, burgers and politics; in certain circles, her name is always linked with the AIDS Outreach Center. Now the immediate past president of the AOC board, Kelly Smith credited her uncle, Brad Smith, for her involvement, explaining that she accompanied Brad,



FORT WORTH FAVES | Kelly Smith, left, with Gus poses with Holly Edwards, right, and Scout.

who was gay, to her first AIDS walk in 1993.

Though her uncle died of AIDS-related complications a year later at the age of 37, Kelly Smith said she felt compelled to carry on his memory.

After regularly participating in AOC's AIDS Walk, she joined its board in 2007. Her service to

AOC recently earned her an inaugural Visionary Award from Fairness Fort Worth's Legacy Project. It was her first LGBT-related award.

As a couple, Kelly Smith and Edwards are both active in the Susan G. Komen Foundation's annual Race for the Cure fundraiser. ■

■ **HERSTORY**, From Page 9

Lesbian bars as community centers

Nightclubs played an important role in the lesbian community, but unlike many other cities, in Dallas many of the lesbian bars were actually owned by women.

Kathy Jack, the original manager of the popular nightclub Sue Ellen's who recently returned to that position, said that at the time Caven opened Sue Ellen's, there were four other lesbian bars in Dallas: High Country, Desert Moon, Jugs and Buddies. That was amazing at a time when other cities struggled to keep just one lesbian bar open. Jack attributes that to Dallas' large and especially strong lesbian community.

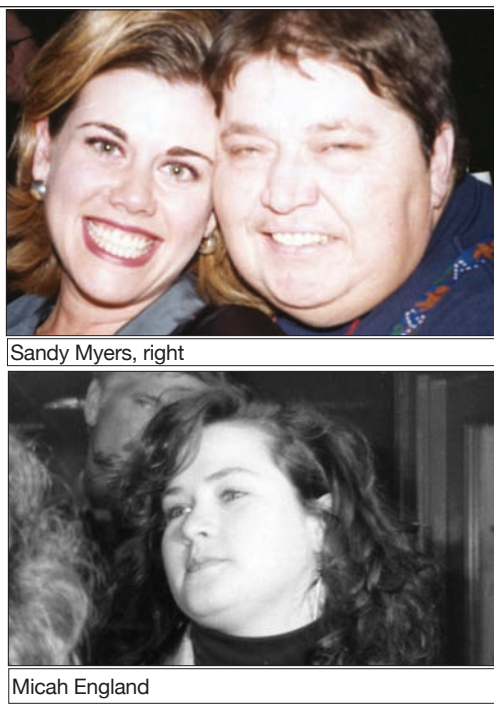
Jugs and Buddies were the two iconic names in the history of Dallas lesbian bars. At the time Jugs — owned by Joe Elliott — closed, it was the oldest continuously operating lesbian bar in the country. When Sandy Myers' Buddies II closed a number of years later, it had taken the title of longest lesbian-owned-and-operated bar in the country. Jack said Myers started out working for Elliott at Jugs. At one point, they "got into it," and Myers opened her own bar.

Jack, herself now an icon Dallas LGBT nightclub world, called Elliott a mentor. "Joe had a heart as big as Dallas and would do anything for anybody," Jack said. "But [you wanted to] stay on her good side."

Myers also had a gruff exterior, but was also



Lory Masters



Sandy Myers, right

Micah England

known for her big heart. Every year, Christmas was her opportunity to collect clothing and blankets for the homeless. She and her partner Dawn Jackson and bartenders and customers from the bar would go out and distribute items on the streets and under bridges to whomever was in need.

Jackson likes to tell the story about a particularly cold Christmas when Myers had given her

a pair of fur-lined gloves.

While distributing the blankets and clothes, they met a woman who appeared especially cold.

Myers said, "Give me the gloves." Jackson objected because it was her Christmas gift. "Give me the damn gloves," Myers insisted. Jackson handed over the gloves to the homeless woman and Myers got Jackson another pair later.

Living in faith

Lesbians have long been strong partners in the Dallas faith community as well.

"Carol West played an incredible role," Cox said. "They were there as leaders and [they] restored people in their faith."

Colleen Darraugh, Shelley Hamilton, Shelly Torres West are also among those leaders Cox described.

Many local faith leaders moved to national positions. Cindi Love served as executive director of Metropolitan Community Churches for four years and was executive director of Soulforce.

Unlike in other cities where the men's and women's communities have been quite separate and even antagonistic entities, Dallas women all gave as many examples of men and women working together as they did of just doing things for themselves.

This brief history doesn't include the names of many of the women that contributed so much to the community — Ann Brown, Starr Eady, Charlotte Taft, Susan Gore, Alpha Thomas, Micah England, Christy Kinsler and so many, many more — and it doesn't include much history beyond 1990. But lesbians — including Sheriff Lupe Valdez, Patti Fink, Tonya Parker, Feleshia Porter, C.D. Kirven, Felecia Miller, Dee Pennington and others — have continued to contribute to every aspect of what makes the Dallas LGBT community such an important part of the city today, and an integral part of why Oak Lawn was recently named the No. 1 gayborhood in the country. ■

Faith on fire



DONE DEAL | Sue Cardin of First State Bank Gun Barrel City watches as Celebration On The Lake church members Pam Jenkins, Bruce Ward and Hildy Jacobs burn the church's mortgage on their new facility, after paying the loan off early. (Photo courtesy Brenda Allen)

Celebration On The Lake church ceremonially burns mortgage after paying off new facility early

DAVID WEBB | Contributing Writer
nash@dallasvoice.com

CEDAR CREEK LAKE — Celebration on the Lake Church burned its mortgage Jan. 12 in a celebratory ceremony just six years after constructing the church's new building.

About 70 members and visitors attended the regular Sunday morning worship service and a potluck dinner in the church's banquet hall afterwards. The enthusiastic congregation beamed smiles as the mortgage went up in flames in a metal receptacle.

Pastor Kathy Bowser said the congregation observed a joyous celebration. "There wasn't a dry eye in the place when we sang, 'Standing on holy ground,'" she said. "It became very emotional. There was cheering and stomping and people standing on chairs to take pictures."

Bowser said the congregation that began with 20 members in 2003 and now numbers 82 realized a lofty goal upon moving into the new building in May 2009. They felt the reward again with the early mortgage pay off, she said.

"There was a huge desire on the part of many LGBTQ people to go to church," Bowser said. "Not all churches would let them, or if they did would not let them take leadership roles or validate them. Many of them were raised in the church, and they had a burning desire to have a place that was inclusive, welcoming and validating."

The church spent about a quarter-million dollars to raise the new building on property purchased off South Highway 198 in a rural area near the lake. The church obtained a mortgage from First State Bank in Gun Barrel City to supplement money it raised in a capital campaign while still renting space in a strip mall, also on Highway 198 near the bridge in Payne Springs.

First State Bank branch manager Sue Cardin delivered the mortgage papers to the church and attended the celebration.

"She was the loan officer who took a risk when others would not on a very small group of people who had a vision for a flagship church at the lake," Bowser said in an email to the congregation announcing the ceremony.

Others attending the ceremony included original guarantors of the mortgage who pledged their

savings accounts and homes to help get the church built.

The 12-year-old church conducted three capital campaigns over the years, including the most recent "Double-Up Campaign" that led to \$25,000 in contributions from anonymous donors. The sale of a piece of property given to the church several years ago put more money in the bank.

"It was really amazing," Bowser said of the fundraising, which included benefit shows at the now-closed Friends nightclub and at Garlow's, both in Gun Barrel City.

At the beginning of 2015 the church owed \$111,000 on the mortgage, and the congregation voted to pay it off with the savings.

Bowser said several churches in the Cedar Creek Lake area welcomed the congregation and their new church building. For the past two holiday seasons, the choirs of six other churches joined Celebration on the Lake's choir in Christmas pageants narrated by retired Channel 8 news anchor Gloria Campos, who is a weekender.

Now, the congregation is setting new goals over a three-year period, Bowser said. They want to increase membership to 150, collaborate with more groups that serve people in need, increase the food bank work by 50 percent, bring about 20 new members under the age of 30 into church membership and establish relationships with more area churches.

Bowser said the congregation is diverse with a "good mixture" of men and women and retired and working people who live in a dozen towns surrounding the lake. Most of the members live in the area, but some come from Athens and Palestine, she said.

There used to be more weekenders in the congregation, but the ongoing drought led to a drop in their numbers, Bowser said. A few of the members are friends of the LGBTQ community, she said.

Bowser said the congregation worried at first about the reaction from the lake community to an LGBTQ church sitting prominently off the highway when the sign went up, but no trouble came to pass.

"Getting involved with the other churches has helped us," Bowser said. "I think it has helped us a lot."

Bowser said she expects the church will enjoy "expanding acceptance" in the lake community as the years pass. ■

Celebration on the Lake Church is at 9120 S. Hwy. 198 at CR 2531. Call 903-451-2302 or email pastor@cotlchurch.org. Services are Sunday at 10 a.m.



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Shekter to receive lifetime achievement award

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce announced four special honorees and the recipient of a lifetime achievement award to be given at its April 24 dinner.

Mark Shekter will receive the chamber's second lifetime achievement award. Shekter is an award-winning architect who also has a real estate company called Surrealty. He was one of the founders of Stonewall Business Association and helped with its merger into the GLBT Chamber.

At the height of the AIDS crisis, Shekter created MOM — Meals on the Move — to deliver meals to people living with AIDS who couldn't prepare their own food.

The four special honorees are American Airlines pilot Capt. Kathi Durst, Andy Smith, Roger Thompson and Zack Hicks.

Durst last August became the first woman named chief pilot for American Airlines. She's been with the airline since 1988.

Smith was named executive director of Texas Instruments Foundation last year, and is responsible for \$12 million in grants to arts organizations and math and science education.

Thompson is executive vice president, chief development officer, general counsel and secretary for Brinker International. He's involved with National LGBTQ Task Force and Lambda Legal as well as the Chamber.

Hicks is Toyota's chief information officer. The company is moving its U.S. headquarters to Plano. Hicks has already relocated to the area.

On hand to announce the award winners was Sam McClure, vice president of the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. She said her organization includes 39 chambers



Tony Vedda, left, Sam McClure, right

around the country. While Dallas isn't the largest or the oldest, she said it's one of the strongest and has won a record four excellence awards.

McClure called North Texas Chamber CEO Tony Vedda a nationally recognized leader.

The dinner will be held in the new City View ballroom at the Renaissance Hotel on Stemmons Freeway. ■



The Gay Agenda

JANUARY

• **Jan. 10-Feb. 15: Bruce Wood: A Retrospective**

A new exhibition celebrating the life and creative contributions of the renowned Fort Worth dancer, choreographer and creative genius at the Arlington Museum of Art, 201 W Main St, Arlington. Tuesday–Saturday 10:00–5:00 p.m. Sunday 1–5:00 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors. Children 12 and under are free. Call 817-275-4600 or email ama@arlingtonmuseum.org for more information.

• **Jan. 19: 10th Annual MLK Symposium**

Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture presents the 10th annual MLK Symposium featuring the premiere of a play adapted from King's "Letters from a Birmingham Jail" 7-9 p.m. at Dallas Institute, 2719 Routh Street. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$10 for teachers and free for students. Purchase tickets at Bit.ly/1wCJNBZ. Call 214-871-2440 for more information.

• **Jan. 20: Coming Out Workshop**

Jim McBride and the Rev. Jane Graner lead a seven-week coming out workshop on Tuesday evenings through March 3. 7–9 p.m. at Northaven United Methodist Church 11211 Preston Road. 214-284-9194 or jimcbridedalas@sbcglobal.net. Free.

• **Jan. 20: Stonewall Democrats of Dallas**

New officers for 2015 will be sworn in at 6:30 p.m. at Ojeda's Restaurant, 4617 Maple Ave.

• **Jan. 22: Dallas Way presents "Outrageous Oral"**

Listen to witnesses to Dallas' LGBT history tell

their stories at another installment of the Dallas Way free storytelling series "Outrageous Oral." Storytellers include former councilwoman Veletta Lill, Barbara Rosenberg, Leza Mesiah and Buddy Mullino. Robert Emery serves as the emcee. 7 p.m. at The Rose Room, upstairs at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For more information visit TheDallasWay.org.

• **Jan. 22: Our Bodies Our Lives**

Celebrating women's health and the 42nd anniversary of Roe v. Wade at a free, community-wide event. For more information and to RSVP, visit OurBodies-OurLives.com. 6-10 p.m., Community Beer Company, 1530 Inspiration Dr.

• **Jan. 24: Tyler Area Gays Winter Ball**

Join the Tyler Area Gays for their "Viva Las Vegas" Winter Ball from 7 p.m.–midnight at the Holiday Inn South Broadway, 5701 South Broadway Ave., Tyler. DJ, dance floor, casino games, heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and a contest for best Las Vegas entertainer look-alikes with prizes. All tickets include a stack of casino chips. Tickets are \$35 adult, \$30 student until Jan. 18 or \$40 at door. Tickets available at Tylerareagays.com/viva-las-vegas.html.

• **Jan. 30–Feb. 7:**

Couple Communication Workshop

Candy Marcum, LPC and Jimmy Owen, LPC conduct a two-weekend workshop for couples. 5-7 p.m. on Jan. 30 and Feb. 6 and 10 a.m.–noon on Jan 31 and Feb. 7 at 3500 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 260. \$440 per couple. 214-521-1278. Candy@CandyMarcum.com.

• **Jan. 31: Blue in the Heart of Texas 2**

BITHOT is a biennial, one-day summit for Democratic Party activists with the goal of max-

SPOTLIGHT: Outrageous Oral



From left to right, Former councilwoman Veletta Lill, Buddy Mullino and Barbara Rosenberg. (Photos courtesy Paul Kubek)

As part of its ongoing efforts to document Dallas' LGBT history, the Dallas Way presents another segment of its "Outrageous Oral" series at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22, at The Rose Room, upstairs at S4.

The lively free storytelling sessions range from the irreverent to deeply poignant. But each storyteller through his or her storytelling always shines a light on the personal experiences of Dallas' LGBT community and its allies.

Storytellers include former Dallas City

Councilwoman Veletta Lill, current Executive Assistant Dallas City Attorney Barbara Rosenberg, media personality Leza Mesiah and community stalwart Buddy Mullino.

Dallas Way co-founder Robert Emery serves as the emcee.

The event is free and registration is not required. Donations are welcome and all proceeds go to the LGBT collections and archives programs at the University of North Texas in Denton. For more information, visit website at TheDallasWay.org.

imizing the party's effectiveness in 2016. The summit includes an afternoon "Knowledge-Fest" of breakout sessions on specific topics. Tickets are \$5 and cover meals. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. at New Mount Zion Baptist Church, 9550 Shepherd Road. Register online at Bit.ly/BITHOT-DCDP.

FEBRUARY

• **Feb. 7: Turtle Creek Chorale 35th Anniversary Concert**

Tim Seelig conducts this performance. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. Tickets at Tickets.TurtleCreekChorale.com or at 214-526-3214.

• **Feb. 7: Night Circus Masquerade Ball**

The Women's Chorus of Dallas annual fundraiser. Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd.

• **Feb. 14: LGBTQ SAVES Youth dance**

Valentine's dance for youth 7–10 p.m. at Agape MCC, 4615 E California Way, Forest Hill. For more information visit LGBTQsaves.weebly.com or e-mail LGBTQsaves@gmail.com.

• **Feb. 14: Dash for the Beads**

Oak Cliff Mardi Gras-themed walk, run and festival benefits local area schools to help pro-

mote healthy eating and physical activity. 9:30 a.m. at Kidd Springs Park. Register online at Bit.ly/1tZ0txv.

• **Feb. 15: Mardi Gras Oak Cliff Parade**
Bishop Arts District at 4 p.m.

• **Feb. 17: Equality Texas Faith Advocacy Day**
Lobby legislators in Austin about issues facing LGBT people. First of three EQTX's lobbying days at the Capitol. Co-sponsored by the Texas Freedom Network. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Austin Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca St. Advanced registration required. Register at EqualityTexas.org.

• **Feb. 17: Equality Texas Faith Advocacy Day**
Lobby legislators in Austin about issues facing LGBT people. First of three EQTX's lobbying days at the Capitol. Co-sponsored by the Texas Freedom Network. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Austin Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca St. Advanced registration required. Register at EqualityTexas.org.

• **Feb. 22: He Said/She Said**
The Human Rights Campaign Dallas Fort Worth presents the inaugural He Said/She Said fundraiser, a new twist on the Her HRC event. Events include trivia with cash prizes, HRC Bachelorette and/or Bachelor live auction and a drag show to cap off the day. Cassie Nova and Jenna Skyy host. 2 p.m. at Sue Ellen's.

Feb. 28: 17th Annual Toast to Life: Voodoo on the Trinity
What do you get when you mix a bunny with magic? You get "Voodoo on the Trinity," the theme of Resource Center's annual Toast To Life fundraiser. DJ Lady Bunny will provide entertainment. The fundraiser begins 7 p.m. at The Empire Room, 1225 N Riverfront Blvd. For more information, visit bit.ly/1BUUp2w.

MARCH

• **March 21: Tarrant County AIDS Walk**
Registration at 9 a.m. \$20.

• **March 21: South Dallas AIDS Walk**
Takes place 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Philip's School and Community Center, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Bit.ly/1wxUG4I for registration details.

• **March 23: Equality Texas Family Advocacy Day**
Lobby legislators in Austin about issues facing LGBT families. Second of three EQTX's lobbying days at the Capitol. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Austin Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca St. Advanced registration required. Register at EqualityTexas.org.

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Impressions from the courtroom

Patti Fink recounts memorable moments from the 5th Circuit court hearing on marriage equality

Real harm. Democratic process. Immutability. Legitimate state interest. Animus. Equality. Respect. Dignity. Personal liberty. Personal dignity. Equal dignity.

These words filled the West Courtroom of the John Minor Wisdom Federal Courthouse in New Orleans on Friday, Jan. 9, as attorneys for both sides in marriage equality cases from Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas stepped to the lectern to present their oral arguments to a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

The attorneys for each state added their own Southern mix of tired old arguments, urging the judges to uphold each state's ban. You know them; we've heard them over and over again, and not just in these marriage cases but all of our lives:

"You can't procreate" was the big one. "The state has the right to limit marriage to one man/one woman." "It's not discrimination; it's furthering the state's interests." "It's not about hate or moral disapproval of gay people, it's about preserving 'traditional marriage.'"

The attorneys representing each state's plaintiffs



Patti Fink
Special Correspondent

were compelling and logical, and in urging the judges to rule each state's ban unconstitutional, these attorneys built their arguments on our humanity and our equality in simply being. While the states' attorneys spoke about us as almost non-humans

as objects or abstract theoretical concepts, "our" attorneys infused our humanity into their arguments as their starting place, speaking about our love, our lives, our children, our realness as human beings, our equal dignity.

And "we" packed the courtroom during each of the three cases. All of the plaintiffs for each state were present, and while I sat in the press section inside the very small courtroom, the remaining pews and several rows of chairs added by court staff filled and re-filled for each case. Staff also made available two overflow rooms with live audio.

My partner, Erin Moore, was outside while I was inside, and she recounted that the harried

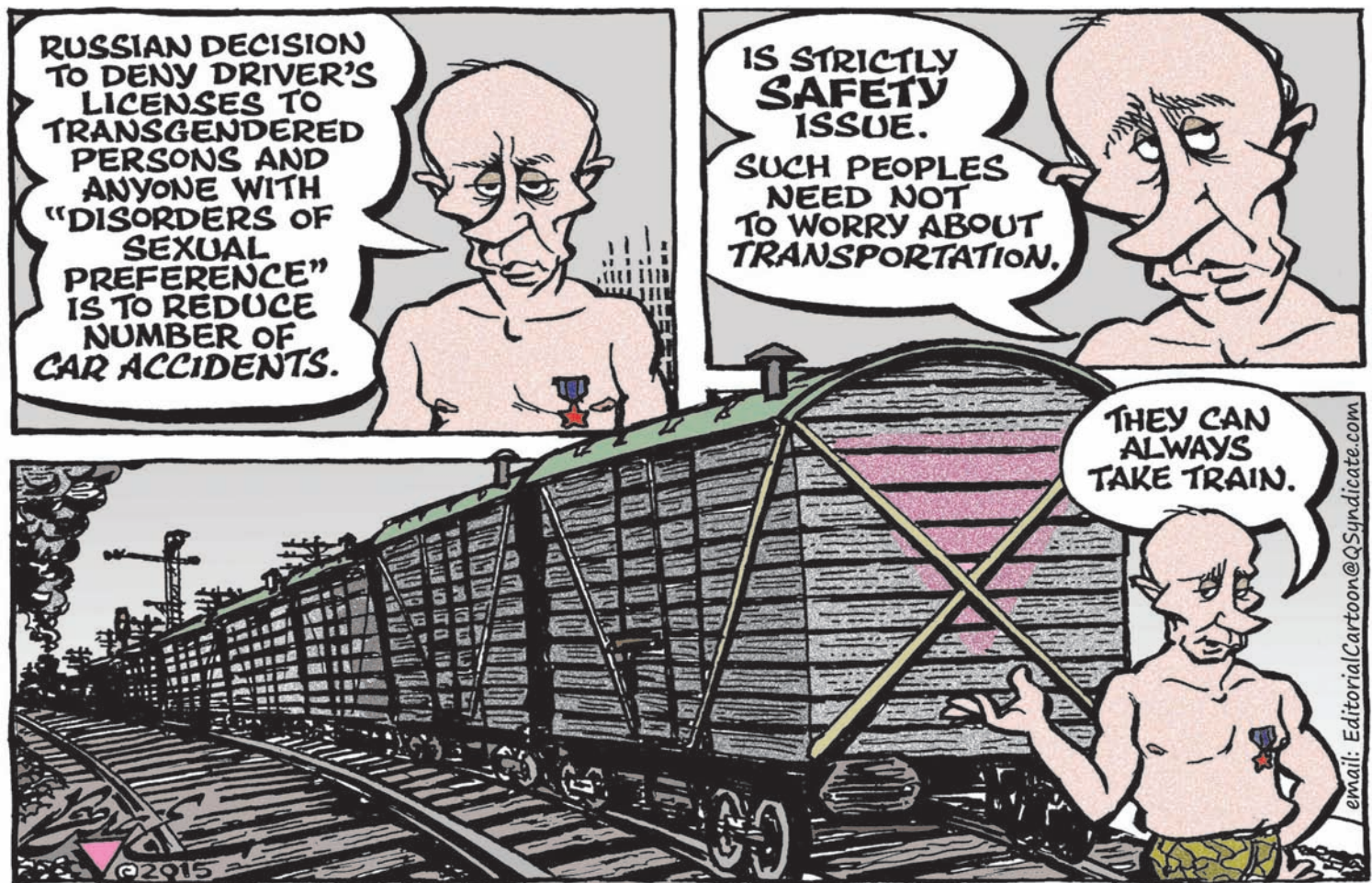
court staff told her they'd never seen anything like it. They'd never dealt with that many spectators and media before.

Inside I didn't see a single right-wing reporter or spectator.

Louisiana went first, and after the case was submitted the court staff cleared the courtroom of spectators in order to allow Mississippi folks in for their case. Suddenly there was a sea of lesbians in jeans and colorful golf shirts, and numerous small children peppering the pews, sitting with their gay parents.

"Our" attorney noted to the court from the lectern, "Mississippi actually has the highest percentage of gay families with children in the nation — 29 percent. ... But the state has offered not a single reason why those children should be treated worse than the children of straight parents. ... There is no possible explanation that passes any test of logic, common sense or even simple human decency for why the state should not want those children to have the same benefits and opportunities that other children do."

Earlier in that case, the state's attorney told the court that Mississippi's "legitimate government interest" was to "promote stable family relationships of those who procreate naturally" — and then one of the babies in the gallery cried out



loudly, prompting Judge James Graves to exclaim, "On cue!!"

Amid the laughter, the state's attorney pointed to the gallery and blurted out, "That child needs a stable family relationship!" Yes, yes that child does, sir — and her parents should be able to marry!

The contrast between the sides could not have been more stark. I urge Dallas Voice readers to listen to each of the oral argument recordings — links below — for a full appreciation of how very well we were represented and how utterly ridiculous the states' arguments were.

Interestingly, two of the three attorneys arguing for marriage equality were women.

In Louisiana's case which differs from the other two in that the plaintiffs lost and thus appealed the lower court ruling, Lambda Legal's Camilla Taylor very ably asserted a clear case for equality and was remarkably deft in fielding questions from the judges.

In Mississippi's case, which is similar to the Texas case, Roberta Kaplan was a commanding presence at the lectern, vigorously and forthrightly representing her clients and bantering with the judges with articulate, cogent logic and even humor. (Indeed, it was my impression that Judge Jerry Smith — the panel's conservative — was a tad star-struck to be engaging the attorney who won the landmark civil rights case *United States v Windsor*, in which the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act in 2013.)

Akin Gump attorney Neel Lane represented the Texas plaintiffs, speaking eloquently for marriage equality and exposing the utter irrationality of our state's arguments in nimble, crisp, plain language.

The three federal judges, for their part, peppered the attorneys with questions challenging their assertions and, if those questions are any indication of how they will rule, then "we" will win, hands down.

Their questions and comments mocked the states' arguments and underscored the overt desperation in each, often with great humor. The poignant zinger of the day from the bench was from Judge Patrick Higginbotham: In response to the Mississippi attorney's assertion that "We're talking about a social policy issue, not a constitutional right issue yet," adding that if Mississippi changes its mind then voters can repeal the ban, Higginbotham observed, "Those words — 'Will Mississippi change its mind?' — have resonated in these halls before."

Ouch. The attorney was dumbstruck and, while the room gasped, he bumbled, "Your Honor, if I may conclude, the state asks that the court reverse the district court's preliminary injunction," and sat down.

It is difficult to select from the amazing, plain-spoken quotes from "our" attorneys or from the straw-grasping absurdities from the state attorneys because they are far too numerous. But here are a few of the best:

• In arguing that in Texas "marriage is a sub-

sidy" to incentivize procreation and in explaining "the fear requiring the state to 'wait and see'" on same-sex marriage, the state's solicitor general said: "Those who oppose same-sex marriage are animated by a concern that it will reinforce the notion that marriage exists not only primarily, but perhaps almost exclusively, as an institution to celebrate the love and commitment of two people. And in doing that, it could undermine the idea that marriage exists to encourage procreation and to encourage the creation of new offspring."

Neel Lane, attorney for the Texas plaintiffs reeled: "What you just heard, that definition of marriage from this lectern, is an incredibly narrow, blinkered view of marriage that would be unrecognizable to anyone who has experienced it, witnessed it, or aspires to it ... And that radical redefinition of marriage is not present in the legislative record anywhere."

• Roberta Kaplan, who told the judges, "There are many ways to decide this case, all of which we win," had quite a few keepers. Among them:

"As Justice Kennedy said, 'Times can blind.' Times have blinded this country about African-Americans. Times have blinded this country about women. And times have blinded this country about gay people."

"There is no rational reason to believe that the exclusion of gay couples from marriage somehow incentivizes straight couples to do anything at all. ... It is fantasy to assume that any young woman who accidentally gets pregnant will decide to marry the father of her child because my clients cannot."

"The Supreme Court made it clear in *Windsor* that gay people have dignity under the law that is equal to the dignity of everyone else. Once you accept the fact that gay people have equal dignity, then any purported justification for the government to treat them differently in marriage is unconstitutional, no matter what level of scrutiny applies. ... Once you accept that gay people are equal to everyone else, then all these 'reasons' really make no sense."

Indeed. Equal dignity. Our rights begin and end with equal dignity. Period. ■

Patti Fink is a longtime LGBT activist at the local, state and national level. She represented Dallas Voice as a special correspondent at the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals hearing on Jan. 9.

Listen to recordings of oral arguments at these links:

Louisiana

ca5.uscourts.gov/OralArgRecordings/14/14-31037_1-9-2015.mp3

Mississippi

ca5.uscourts.gov/OralArgRecordings/14/14-60837_1-9-2015.mp3

Texas

ca5.uscourts.gov/OralArgRecordings/14/14-50196_1-9-2015.mp3

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For laughs

Dana Goldberg killed it at Black Tie. But the lesbian comedian feels her big break is still ahead of her

Dana Goldberg is what you might call the comedian next door. She's wickedly funny, enviably charming and has the kind of bio that young comedians dream of. The notches on her bedpost include performances at the San Francisco International Comedy Competition, The Comedy Festival produced by TBS and HBO, and the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Advocate.com even named her among the nation's top LGBT comedians.

In just the past five years, Goldberg has shared the stage with the likes of President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, former President Bill Clinton, Kerry Washington, Jennifer Lopez, John Lithgow, Alfred Molina, Jennifer Hudson and Sir Elton John. On the local front, last November she hosted and served as auctioneer for Dallas' Black Tie Dinner.

She'll be back here in Dallas on June 5 for HRC Dallas' 25th Annual Fairway to Equality Golf Weekend. Before she tees up that event, though, we sat down with the queermedian to find out a little more about what makes this funny girl so damn funny.

— Jenny Block



Dallas Voice: What is your first memory of realizing that you might be funny? Goldberg: When I was 5, my kindergarten teacher told my mother I was the funniest 5-year-old she had ever met. I'm not sure who my competition was, but I'll take it. I've always used humor to get through uncomfortable situations in my life, so being the youngest child in a single-parent household in which two out of three kids are gay ... those situations came early and often.

Do you remember your first comedy gig? Technically my first ever comedy gig was my high school talent show when I was 17. I decided to do a 10-minute stand-up routine, and I won. [But] I didn't touch a stage after that until I was 26.

There was a show that was produced in Albuquerque called Funny Lesbians For A Change. It was a variety show that raised higher education scholarships for lesbians in the community. I went and auditioned and they gave me a seven-minute set. Mind you, this was in front of 650 people in a sold-out theater. Before I went on stage, I could see my heart beating through my shirt. I didn't dare touch the microphone for fear I would turn it into an amplifying vibrator of sorts. I hit my first big joke and heard the most deafening laughter I had ever heard ... and that was it, I was hooked.

What was your biggest bomb? Oy. My biggest bomb, in my opinion, was at Caroline's on Broadway seven months into my career. I was flown out there to perform for their annual comedy benefit for the Ms. Foundation. I was honored [but] definitely not ready for this. Gloria Steinem was literally two feet from me when I was on stage. Before I went on, I remember saying to myself, "I don't belong up there with these women yet." And lo and behold, the universe answered ... and not with laughter. It was a very hard night for me, but also a very growing night. I know it sounds cheesy, but I learned what the power of manifesting our thoughts was that night and it's really helped me to create different thoughts and hopefully the Universe will meet me half way on my positivity.

What would you consider your big break? I'll be honest: I'm not sure I've had my big break yet. I've had a lot of little breaks that have created a really fun and successful career so far, but not sure about a big break. I have an upcoming gig where I will be hosting the Humanitas Prize Awards at the Beverly Wilshire in Los Angeles. This is basically the awards ceremony for all of the show runners and creators like Jason Katims [*Friday Night Lights*, *Parenthood*], Shonda Rhimes [*Scandal*], Glen Mazzara [*The Walking Dead*], and so forth. I'll be hosting the show in front of every big writer, producer and show runner in Hollywood, not to mention some big agents and managers.

Have you ever been heckled? I've definitely been heckled a time or two. I remember earlier in my career I was asked to perform at a Republican country club. Crazy, right? I was a bartender at the time and had some regulars that belonged to the club, so they invited me in. I remember after one of my Jewish jokes some drunk guy stood up and said "You look Jewish to me! It must be your nose!" My response was just basically, "Well sir, I actually have a small nose, and from here you look like a pretty attractive guy so there must be something wrong with the lighting." I guess he wasn't very liked by most people in the room, so I got a good applause break out of that and was invited to have some drinks and champagne with the guests after.

In what way is comedy important? In every way! Comedy allows us to escape our everyday lives for even an hour or two. It allows us to laugh at the things we don't give ourselves permission to laugh at otherwise. Comedy bridges gaps between gay and straight, old and young, male and female by allowing us to see the common human experience we all go through and the absurdities that lie within those. Laughter truly is healing and comedy provides that. Basically I'm a doctor. Which makes me realize, I don't get paid nearly enough.

How is comedy important specifically in the lesbian community? I think comedy is sometimes more vital for the comedians, as opposed to the audience. There are some incredibly funny women out there,

and sometimes I think we use comedy to work out our shit publicly. It gives us an outlet to find humor to deal with the craziness that exists in our community. And let me tell you, there is some craziness. The lesbian community is an incredibly supportive audience, though, and I'm grateful they make up a good portion of my fan base.

You hosted LTD this year, and in my opinion killed it; what was that experience like? The Black Tie Dinner was an incredible experience for me. I had a blast that night, made the over 3,500 attendees roar with laughter, and raised more than \$140,000 in the live auction. I say it was one helluva successful night. I look forward to the possibility of hosting again in the future.

Speaking of, do you cater your performance to specific audiences? I definitely try and read my audience to deliver material they can relate to. That's why we laugh. We laugh when we can see ourselves in someone else's material. We share common experiences and funny is funny. I have over [90 minutes] of strong material so I can move around according to what's landing with the audience. I have never done a show where I didn't come out at some point. My sexual orientation is a big part of my life and my comedy, and it's also part of some of my funniest jokes.

I just did a gig down in Memphis for Harley-Davidson. It was a room full of older, straight, very conservative people. I learned a bit about their organization and led with those jokes so they knew I did some research, but I did the same set I would do anywhere. Half of the room loved it, half of the room was terrified at one point or another, but I can honestly say, at some point during the night, I had everyone in that room laughing. It's good to be challenged in our beliefs from time to time. I definitely can do that. I had a woman come up to me and say, "I bet your mom is so proud of you. I know if I was your mom, I'd be proud of you." That right there is a successful show.



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POUND FOOLISH | The out comic — a good friend and protege of the late genius Robin Williams — calls herself a standup, but her true calling was something much, much different.

Hey, hey, hey Paula

Paula Poundstone makes merry, Mary — but not like most other comedians

Paula Poundstone's comedy style is more identifiable for what it's *not* than for what it is. It's observational, but not trite (nary a "didya ever notice?"). It's droll but rarely snarky. She can be political, but not viciously so. Indeed, even from her perspective, her comedy is ever-evolving.

"I do tailor [my act] to my audiences," she says on the phone from her home in Santa Monica. "My favorite part is talking to the people — the time-honored, 'Where are you from, what you do' — because it's organic. If you came to both shows [in Dallas] would you hear some crossover? Yes, but not the same."

Part of the reason is Poundstone's own work ethic — or perhaps lack thereof.

I have almost zero self-discipline when it comes to my quote-unquote 'act,'" she says. "I carry around a folder to put ideas in, but it's more a ritual than anything else now. When I think of something, I may jot it down and then I work it out verbally on-stage over time but the finished

product is not written anywhere. If it goes over well, I get the happy chemical release in my brain and it's like giving a dog a treat and I remember it. Every so often [a joke] doesn't go anywhere for the longest time and then it'll hit. But not often."

If her process sounds less like a process than a happenstance, well, that's because standup comedy isn't *really* her calling.

"The job I was best at and best suited to was table buser," she says. "Ben Franklin would say he was a printer, and that's how I feel. My backup job is standup comedy. I'm a really good table buser because I'm OCD, which gives me a gift. I worked at a restaurant [in my youth] and when I quit they had to hire two people to replace me. I was a dynamo. The idea of being 'in the zone?' I've achieved it more in table busing than comedy. Maybe I should go on my table busing tour ... Honestly, it's not out of the question."

She's kidding ... probably. But that's part of Poundstone's appeal. From her live shows to TV appearances to near-weekly guest spots on Na-

tional Public Radio's *Wait, Wait ... Don't Tell Me* quiz show, she always seems a little befuddled by her own life and not afraid to share it. She famously lives with 15 cats and a couple of dogs. She has three children she has raised as a single parent, but she never makes motherhood sound like a blessing.

"I like to present a realistic picture of parenthood," she cautions. "Having children is an ordeal. I don't put pictures of my kids on Facebook — they say the whole Facebook syndrome [where people develop envy over their friends' seemingly perfect lives] really affects us badly. We wonder how come we're not like that? When I was a kid, I used to watch *The Waltons* and would sob — not because it was so sad, but because I thought, 'My family is nothing fucking like this!'" No one feels that way after a Paula Poundstone set — you see yourself in her comedy.

This past year been a taxing one for her personally as well. One of her earliest champions and longtime friends was Robin Williams, who took his own life last summer.

"It was a horrible tragedy — a personal loss, but I feel it was a loss to everybody," she says. "I just think of him as Tasmanian devil of comedy. I don't know a lot about the details [of his death], but I think for me he was a mentor and a tower of strength. He was one of the most generous people I've ever known. Those of us who aren't brilliant writers, one of the things Robin did was eliminate the segue — after him, you could just jump from topic to topic."

Williams, like Poundstone, also knew the value of a live audience.

"I've loved the Three Stooges since I was a kid. But a couple years ago there was a film festival [of Stooges shorts] my kids and I went to, and we were sitting in a crowd that loved them. The waves of laughter were amazing. I saw stuff I'd never even seen before. I haven't laughed out loud at them in years! It's not that you can't appreciate them [in private], but you're missing the communal nature of comedy. It's really, really important. I consider myself a proud member of the endorphin production industry." ■

PAULA POUNDSTONE

City Performance Hall,
2520 Flora St. Jan. 31. Shows at
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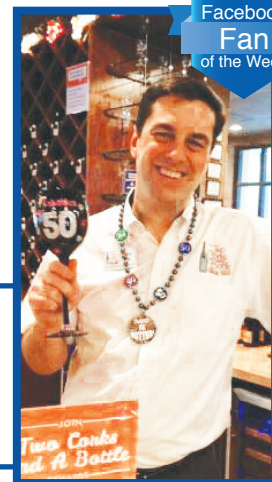


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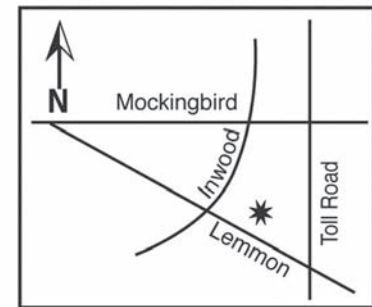
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guage in some places, could have helped maintain the brutal poetry of Kalin's blunt words as she recounts the story of her life. There are typos here and there, occasional errors in grammar and slips in continuity. But none of that can detract from the power of Kalin's story and the visceral response it stirs.

The oldest child (and only daughter) of a Seventh Day Baptist preacher named Ralph Hays and his wife Mary, Sally Ann Hays grew up in and around New Orleans, surrounded by her father's extended family, all of whom were active in the church. While her earliest memories are of a happy childhood, the memories soon grow sour.

Sally Ann recounts the first time she saw her father beat her mother and how later turned his fury on her and her younger brother. She tells how her once-beloved Uncle Jack began to molest her, while the rest of the family turned a blind eye.

Desperate to escape, Sally Ann graduated early and began attending college in NOLA. That's where she got her first introduction to the gay and lesbian community, and found the women who would confound her and the women who would love and protect her.

The First Stone doesn't whitewash anything or anyone. Kalin tells of the drinking and the drug use — her own and others'. She tells of the sexual experimentation, and the women who preyed on her in her naïveté, including the women who would eventually adopt her and give her a new name.

But this isn't a book of salacious gossip or lesbian soft porn. If that's what you're looking for, look somewhere else.

This is a story about keeping traditions and keeping secrets, and the damage that can do. It's a story about good people with horrible flaws. It's a story of redemption and forgiveness, and Sam Kalin's long and often torturous journey to get there.

The First Stone doesn't end with happily ever after. Kalin offers no easy answers; in fact, she makes it plain there aren't any easy answers. But there is hope.

Hernández's three tías insisted she keep up with her Spanish, which she resented. There were words that didn't translate easily from English to her parents' language, so there were things she couldn't share with her elders.

Perhaps not surprisingly, when she told her father that she wanted to be a writer, he told her she'd "gone crazy." Still, Hernández pursued her dream, maybe because storytelling was in her blood: Her mami loved sharing tales of her own immigration from Colombia, how she'd heard that money grew on trees but, instead of finding cash on the ground like leaves, she'd had to find a factory job.

Such stories of strength in her mostly-female

household gave Hernández a map of life and relationships. She learned about men and whom to marry, disappointing her mami and tías with her first Colombian boyfriend. American boys, they told her, were better because "Anything made in America works," but — at 17 — Hernández was sure she was in love.

That Colombian boy taught her a lot about sex. So did a feminist body-awareness class she took early in her college career, which was where she suddenly understood a long-held feeling that, once articulated, would hurt her mother and cause a rift with her favorite auntie. "I love kissing boys," Hernández says, "but a girl. I could kiss a girl."

With wit and respectful grace, Hernández shares stories of love for family, of strong (despite herself) roots, and of assimilation and claiming who you are without losing who you were. These tales are sprinkled, essay style, with powerful anecdotes of self-discovery that I couldn't get enough of. I also enjoyed the unwavering tone that Hernández takes, speaking her truth, firmly, no arguments.

That no-nonsense attitude mixes nicely with quiet humor and familial devotion to make this a don't-miss for memoir fans. And if that's you, then have *A Cup of Water Under My Bed*. You'll like what's inside. ■

—Terri Schlichenmeyer

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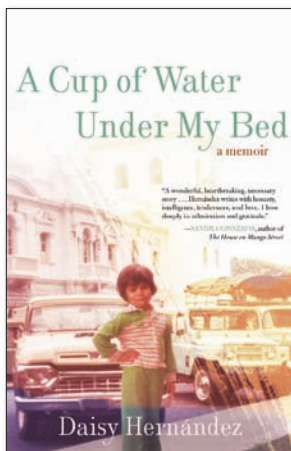
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A Cup of Water Under My Bed by Daisy Hernández (Beacon Press 2014). \$24.95; 200 pp.

Until she was in kindergarten, Daisy Hernández's entire world sat in Union City, N.J. Her parents, her Cuban father and Colombian

mother, spoke only Spanish at home, although Daisy learned a smattering of English here and there; more, once she was sent to Catholic school.

English always held a fascination for her, but



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'Tru' and faults

Capote comes into focus in 'Tru;' trashy 'Book Club' opines on litter-ature

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

I'm not sure gay culture as we have come to know it would have existed today without Truman Capote. Gays have long spoken in their own kind of code ("family," "Friend of Dorothy," "grlll"), but Capote was such an inveterate magpie of language, and so relentless, even fearless, in revealing secrets, just appearing on a talk show with that high pitched whine of his and dishing about *haute société* (and the gays who fawned all over them) ripped off the mask to mainstream culture ... or in Capote's case, ripped off a Band-Aid.

That's what happened when he published the first chapter of his proposed *chef d'oeuvre*, *Answered Prayers*, in which he mocked the very *grandes dames* who made him a must-know personality. He craved their acceptance and love, no matter what he said to the contrary. But he couldn't help himself. "You'd have to be deluded to think a writer was not taking notes," he says in Theatre 3's presentation of the rarely-revived solo play *Tru*.

It's Christmas Eve 1975, and Truman is alone in his fancy East Side apartment, drinking himself into a stupor since Babe Paley and Slim Keith turned their backs on him for making gossip into literature. He's trying to justify his actions, but he keeps recalling how this is a cycle for him: He did the same when he was 8 years old, and hasn't really learned any lessons since. How could he? A writer needs to write, and when you hang out with the elites, that's what

you know.

Tru isn't the play I remember, in part because the original Broadway version was dominated by Robert Morse's uncanny impersonation. It's not as tight a narrative as it could be, though it does suggest persuasively the contradictions in Tru that made him a character for decades. (When was the last time an author was this kind of celebrity that didn't write about vampires or wizards?)

Jaston Williams tackles the role full-heartedly and unabashedly, and for nearly two hours, it's just him, a bottle of Stolli, a kimono and Jay Pres-son Allen's words that keep us rapt. Williams

never gives up — or really tries to — his West Texas twang for Capote's odd mix of Alabama drawl and pinched Northeastern ennui; there's more than a little Arles Struvie in his Truman. Purists will rage about it, and they have a point. But this is

about character more than the trapping, about the fragility of the human psyche as much as anything else. Truman is the vessel for this journey of understanding into the artist's heart — warts and all.

Capote wrote literature. *The Book Club Play* is more like litter-ature. It's a dreary, terrible title for a dreary, terrible play getting a miserably inept production right now at the Kalita Humphreys Theater. I'm almost at a loss to say more — the first rule of *Book Club* should be: Do not talk about *Book Club* — but feel I must, if only to caution the unwary travelers through North Texas theater away from what can only be

TRU
Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St.
in the Quadrangle.
Through Feb. 2.
Theatre3Dallas.com

FANNING THE FLAMES | Capote (Jaston Williams) sets high society on edge in 'Tru.' (Photo Kirk Tuck)

called its Scylla and Charybdis.

First up: It's barely a "play" at all, although on the surface it has the trappings: there are characters (two-dimensional stereotypes, each of them) and a plot (simultaneously predictable and tortured) and dialogue (stilted) and even jokes, some of which are funny (I counted four). But really it's more of an idea for mischief making that feels entirely conceived inside the brain of a writer weaned on sitcoms who has herself never actually interacted with other members of the human race.

The six characters are members of a Middle-American-elite book club, led by Ana Smith (Christie Vela), a fluff-piece columnist for a local paper whose social-climbing snobbery makes Hyacinth Bucket seem modest. She leads a small klatch of friends who all read books for fun ("a good 16 months before Oprah did it," Ana clucks) ... only no one really is *having* fun. Ana insists they only consume the acknowledged classics of world literature — basically, only stuff by dead white European males. The others allow themselves to be cowed by Ana's strong-arming because the social aspect of the book club means something to each. For her husband Robert (Jeffrey Schmidt), it's a way to hang out and drink and eat and have friends over; for Will (Steven Walters), it is a chance to show off his liberal arts education; Jen (Sarah Rutan) finds it a release

from her sexual obsession, and newcomer Lily (Tiana Kaye Johnson) welcomes the chance to meet new people in her new town.

Would that the play's author, Karen Zacarias, have one iota the craft of the masters they indulge in. Ana and Will pat themselves on the back for getting authorly imagery and waxing enthusiastic about books, but their insights are no deeper than what they could glean from skimming a Cliffs' Notes pamphlet without ever actually cracking the spine of one of the books

themselves. The only one who seems to get this is Robert, a former jock who rarely reads the books and just enjoys partaking of the dip. Ana, however, is the opposite: a predictably stick-up-her-ass, bored housewife who thinks of herself as a cultural touchstone but who's just as mid-

dlebrew and repressed as any character in a bad Danielle Steele novel, which is of course, any Danielle Steele novel. Ana insists on reading *Ulysses* over *The Da Vinci Code*, considers 400-plus page counts a mark of worth and eschews filmed adaptations of literature as corruption.

Their lives are thrown into turmoil when Ana agrees to allow a famous Danish filmmaker (never seen) — one known for planting cameras in the homes of his subjects to film them during their book club meetings — unobtrusively record their meetings, including all of the secret trysts and confessions that people would prefer to

THE BOOK CLUB PLAY

Kalita Humphreys Theater,
3636 Turtle Creek Blvd.
Through Feb. 1.
DallasTheaterCenter.org.



SITCOM HELL | Closet cases and liberal guilt are just some of the many cliches that dominate the unfunny 'Book Club Play.' (Photo by Karen Almond)

keep silent. But they forget the camera is there, meaning their private lives will soon be broadcast to the dozens of people who will turn out for a Danish filmmaker's documentary about book clubs.

And hence is one of the innumerable problems with this flaccid, infuriating play. Nothing in it — the characters, the situations, the under-

standing of anything in the culture today — rings as even remotely true. The documentary premise is a cheesy gimmick, and not even a very contemporary one (reality TV would have made much more sense, except that Ana probably wouldn't have agreed to be on basic cable).

■ STAGE Next Page



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■ STAGE, From Previous Page

The “surprising revelations” are neither surprising (secret crushes) or really revelations (closet case come out), and are painfully overacted with big gestures. Near the end, the lights go dark and when they come back up, the set is a melee with the actors awkwardly posed in “comical” but not minimally realist positions (chairs are upturned, but a stemmed wine glass in the center of the action remains untouched). Even the bar set undermines the characters: They are supposed to be pretentious snobs, but the liquor selection appears to be culled at the last second by what ever the property master happen to have in the trunk

of his Hyundai: Lots of whiskey, but not one bottle of vodka, and anyway everyone drinks cheap grocery store sauvignon blanc? These are sophisticates? The costumes are atrocious, having the unmistakable air of being picked up at a Ross Dress for Less circa 1999.

Zacarias shows a paltry understanding not just of literature and book clubs, but also homosexuality, married life, how long it takes to read a book, documentary filmmaking and even the act of writing itself. But why delve into the details when superficiality is so much easier and untaxing? If the playwright herself

were half as interested in developing her own characters as they pretend to be in the books they read, this might have been something more than a low-rent sitcom pilot waiting to be picked up by the CW, or, in a pinch, TBS. As it stands, it's merely one of those insufferable and infuriating pieces of garbage by hack playwrights who have somehow been christened with the mantle of artistic respectability, allowing them to infest regional theaters. Personally, I'd prefer to read *The Da Vinci Code*.

WHY THINGS BURN

Margo Jones Theatre in Fair Park, 21121 First Ave.
Through Jan. 24.
WhyThingsBurn.bpt.me.

Why Things Burn in the tiny Margo Jones

Theatre in Fair Park doesn't have an iota of the budget DTC spent on their bad costumes, and there were technical glitches on opening weekend, but the first production from this new company led by producer-director Van Quattro (*Superior Donuts*) does a lot with the little. The play — virtually never produced outside workshops in Los Angeles, mostly decades ago — is a nifty little bit of film noir with a sick heart.

It's the early 1950s, the brief interregnum between Nazis and the Cold War, right about when TV was driving folks indoors and away from the live entertainment of traveling circuses. One member of the side show, a German with painful memories of the war, dreams of establishing a new home in Hollywood.

If this sounds like the current *American Horror Story: Freak Show* arc, no kidding. There are definite similarities in plot, theme and character, though the particulars are quite different (the German here, for instance, is a man, played by Elias Taylorson). For one, most of the action takes place in Hollywood, with the dew-eyed starlet (Nikki Cloer) being preyed upon by a sleazy lesbian casting agent (Cindee Mayfield) ... except that she seems to like it.

Despite a microbudget, the acting is very solid, with the actors going full-bore, from the hard-to-watch aftermath of swallowing of a razor blade to the sex scenes to the inventive way to use fire in space that can't use fire. It's a promising start for a new company. ■



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Friday 01.16



'Paris Is Burning' screening followed by fab after-party

For nearly 25 years, *Paris Is Burning* has been the definition of a cult documentary — a fascinating look into New York's drag subculture of divaliciousness. Now CineWilde kicks off its 2015 series of monthly movies and mixers with a screening of the film, followed by an off-the-hook after-party and ball that should put glamour on the bill.

DEETS: Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. 8 p.m. \$5-\$14.

Saturday 01.17



Ronald K. Brown is in Evidence at Winspear

Dallas audiences may remember choreographer Ronald K. Brown's work on *Grace* for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Company, and those who do know what a treat it will be to see his own company at work, which specializes in modern themes and styles. Evidence returns to North Texas courtesy of TITAS for an evening of dance celebrating the music of Stevie Wonder. We're overjoyed.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATTPAC.org.

Sunday 01.18



Anjelah Johnson standup comes to Fair Park

You've seen her on commercials for Taco Cabana, but there's more to this comedian than salsa jokes, though she can get pretty spicy. The Latina comic returns to Dallas for perhaps her biggest show yet inside the spacious Fair Park Music Hall.

DEETS: Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. 7 p.m. LiveNation.com.



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ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Another Murder, Another Show! The latest from Pegasus Theatre, this In Living Black & White show — where makeup, sets and lighting make the play appear to be an old black and white film — brings back Harry Hunsacker in this spoof of 1940s-era film noir. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts, 5231 Performance Drive, Richardson. Through Jan. 25. EisemannCenter.com.

Boeing, Boeing. The farce about sexual escapades among the jet set. Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. Jan. 16–Feb. 1. TheatreArlington.org.

The Book Club Play. A woman who loves her book club allows a documentary team to film her. *Reviewed this week.* Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Feb. 1. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

The Explorers Club. A knockabout farce set in the age of exploration at the end of the 19th century. With Mark Shum, John-Michael Marrs. This co-production with Stage West moves to WaterTower for the remainder of its run. WaterTower Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Feb. 8. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

The Flick. The regional premiere of Annie Baker's 2014 Pulitzer Prize-winning play about a rundown moviehouse. Directed by Blake Hackler, who last year performed in *Cock*. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Through Jan. 31. Undermain.org.

Tru. Jay Presson Allen's play starring legendary Texas actor Jaston Williams as Truman Capote. *Reviewed this week.* Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Feb. 8. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Why Things Burn. Southwest premiere of a play by Ric Krause, an ode to '50s-era film noir and pulp fiction at the height of the Red Scare. *Reviewed this week.* Margo Jones Theatre at Fair Park, 1121 First Ave. Through Jan. 24. \$15. WhyThingsBurn.bpt.me.

FINE ART

Modern Opulence in Vienna: The Wittgenstein Vitrine. The DMA's conservationists restore this century-old display case of silver, lapis and glass — an amazing example of Viennese craftsmanship. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Oct. 18. Free. DMA.org.

Bouquets: French Still Life Painting from Chardin to Matisse. A reexamination of the painting of flowers in the 19th century. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 8. Special exhibit fee. DMA.org.

The Mary Baskett Collection of Japanese Fashion. Stunning couture from three of Japan's most iconic fashion designers: Miyake, Yamamoto and Kawakubo. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through Feb. 22.

EXPO

The Marvel Experience Tour. An interactive theme park attraction with rides and exhibits centering on the Marvel Universe. The Cotton Bowl, inside Fair Park. Through Feb. 1. TheMarvelExperienceTour.com.



GOING NATIVE | Following a successful run in Fort Worth, the period farce 'The Explorers Club' — about Victorian Age fascination with world travel — settles in for a spell at WaterTower Theatre in Addison.

FRIDAY 01.16

FILM

Paris Is Burning: Screening, ball and after-party of the acclaimed documentary about fabulous cross-dressers, designers and divas who make up New York's ballroom community. Begins with a screening, and continues with a fashion contest and off-the-hood party. Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. 8 p.m. doors. 9 p.m. screening. 11 p.m. party. \$5–\$14.

SATURDAY 01.17

SPORTS

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

COMMUNITY

Gaybingo. The first event of 2015 is as always a fundraiser for the Resource Center, which runs the third Saturday of each month of the year (except December). This month's theme: Time Traveler. Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs. 5 p.m. doors, 6 p.m. play. \$25–\$45. MyResourceCenter.org.

DANCE

Ronald K. Brown/Evidence. The modern dance troupe returns to North Texas, with dances set to the music of Stevie Wonder and Nina Simone. Presented by TITAS. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATTPAC.org.

BROADCAST

Whitney. Angela Bassett directs this telefilm about the late diva (Ya Ya DaCosta), which concentrates on her early relationship with Bobby Brown (a terrific and sexy

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'WHITNEY' LIVES A LIFETIME | Ya Ya DaCosta and Arlen Escarpeta play the famed pop couple in the telefilm 'Whitney.'

Arlen Escarpeta). Diva Deborah Cox supplies Whitney's vocals. Airs at 8 p.m. on Lifetime.

Looking. The second season of the drama about gay life in San Francisco, starring Jonathan Groff. Airs on HBO at 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY 01.18

COMEDY

Anjelah Johnson. The sassy Latino performs at Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. 7 p.m. LiveNation.com.

BROADCAST

Girls. The fourth season of the quirky comedy-drama about modern living, co-starring Andrew Rannells and Zachary Quinto. Airs on HBO at 8 p.m.

MONDAY 01.19

EXERCISE

Adult Broadway Butt Busters. DTC artistic associate Joel Ferrell leads an hour-long cardio-centric fitness class based on B'way choreography for an eight-week session each Monday evening. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through March 2. 5:30-6:30 p.m. \$150. ATPAC.org.

TUESDAY 01.20

FILM

The Producers. Mel Brooks' Oscar-winning comedy about two Broadway producers who try to engineer a huge flop and thereby bilk their investors. The 1968 film included several flamboyant gay characters; in 2000, it was adapted to the musical stage. Screens as part of the Tuesday New Classic series at Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 01.21

BROADCAST

Top Chef. This season, in Boston, with Padme, Tom, Gail and Richard Blais, returns. Airs on Bravo at 8 p.m.

American Horror Story: Freak Show. The creepiest season yet of the anthology series, returns. Airs on FX at 8 p.m.

THEATER

Stagger Lee. Dallas Theater Center presents a world premiere musical by writer in residence Will Power, about how a folk song in the African-American community became a huge R&B hit half a century later. Cast includes Denise Lee. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St.

Jan. 21-Feb. 15. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

THURSDAY 01.22

BROADCAST

Project Runway All Stars. Returning contestants compete. Airs on Lifetime at 8 p.m.

THEATER

Annie Get Your Gun. Lyric Stage presents a concert version of the Irving Berlin classic musical. Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. Jan. 22-25. LyricStage.org.

this week's solution

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Billy Masters

Globes recap! Snooki on B'way?

While we're already two weeks into the new year, in Hollywood the year doesn't *really* begin until awards season, which was kicked off last Sunday with the Golden Globes, hosted for the final time by **Tina Fey** and **Amy Poehler**. It was a lackluster showing — with one exception. Though the idea of having a North Korean general-reviewer attend might have been Tina and Amy's idea, **Margaret Cho** virtually stole the show with her impersonation (all three pictured right). It was also a big night for the trans community when the AmazonPrime series *Transparent* won two top awards. I suppose **Kevin Spacey's** win also ties into this column, but let's not go there.

Despite coming up short in the award department, HBO's legendary after-party was the place to be. The threat of a soggy *soirée* had party-planner **Billy Butchkavitz** and his team working overtime. Happily, the weather cooperated and the party was a huge success.

My first celebrity run-in was with **Robert Michael Morris**, who plays Mickey on *The Comeback*. Since I thought this season was even better than the first one a decade ago, I was curious if there was more to come. He told me that HBO loved it and would welcome a return, but creator **Michael Patrick King** thinks it best to wait a few years. Speaking of follow-ups, **Nia Vardalos** said that the sequel to *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* will start filming any day now, while hubby **Ian Gomez** is sad to be wrapping up *Cougar Town*.

There are some people I don't go up to. What does one say to **Monica Lewinsky** — "I love your work"? Not only was I curious what she was doing there, I was trying to figure out what she was chatting to **Jennifer Aniston** about. Since one of my best friends, **Jenifer Lewis**, plays **Anthony Anderson's** mother on *Blackish*, it was nice to meet him and **Tracee Ellis Ross**. Tracee said that I'd have to wait and see who plays her mom on the show. I'd like to think it will be **Diane**, but I doubt it.

My most memorable celebrity encounter was probably when I wound up as the meat in a Carver boys sandwich. **Charlie and Max Carver** couldn't have been sweeter, although between them I looked like George Washington Carver. Charlie told me that the three-way he filmed with **James Franco** and **Zachary Quinto** for *I Am Michael* was not nearly as memorable, but I find that hard to believe.

My week ended at the glittering Golden Globes, but it started on the other side of the country. **Jeff Timmons** of the pop group 98 Degrees was in Boston headlining *The Men of the Strip*. This troupe of male strippers from Las Vegas have been featured on E! The "hook" is that they all sing and dance in the style of a boy band. What I think really sets them apart from other groups is that they don't cater solely to the ladies. Yes, there is the typical strip show banter about the types of



women the guys like, which elicits squeals of delight from the ladies. But at a certain point, they asked where the men were. The gaggle of gays (and a smattering of straight guys, I'm sure) cheered. The guys onstage said, "We love our guy fans." As if to underscore that point, let me ask you this: How often does Jeff Timmons sing "Invisible Man" to a guy?

Guess who's hoping to hit Broadway? **Snooki!** Believe it or not, the *Jersey Shore* starlet is looking to the Great White Way for her next job: "I'm not famous anymore to do *SNL*. But I'm going to figure something out to do Broadway!" Grammar aside ... *really?* Snooki on Broadway? I guess it's not so far-fetched since she was inspired by another reality star. **Nene Leakes** is on Broadway in *Cinderella!* I'm going to L.A. and I'm going to have a meeting with my peoples and I'm going to tell them let's get me on Broadway." It only takes one person to ruin it for the rest of us.

A sports star who is making a big impact is soccer great **Cristiano Ronaldo**. Ronaldo was honored in his hometown of Funchal, Portugal, with a 10-foot bronze statue of himself. While the sexy stud is captured in all of his rippling glory, the most memorable feature on the statue is below the belt. At the unveiling, people were surprised to see an exaggerated protrusion in the penile area. Cristiano approved of the likeness, and posed with it proudly. At least the shade provided from the bulge kept the sun out of his eyes.

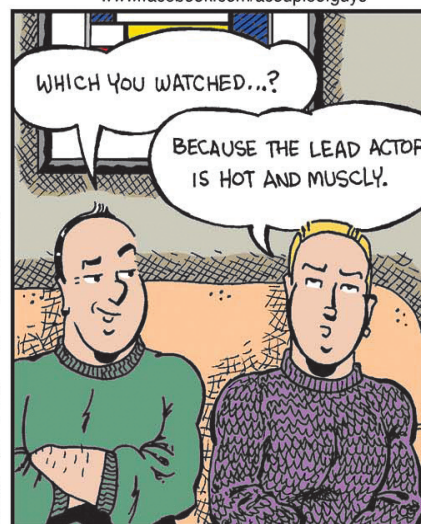
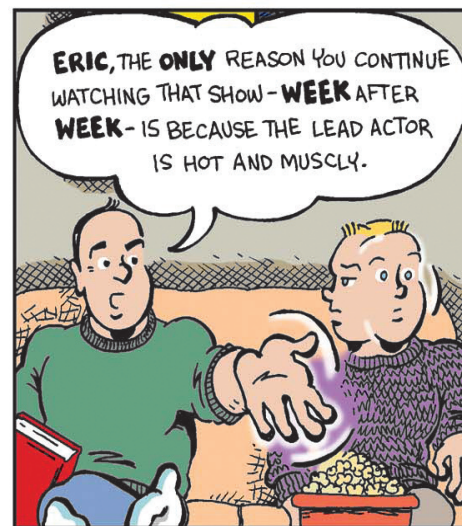
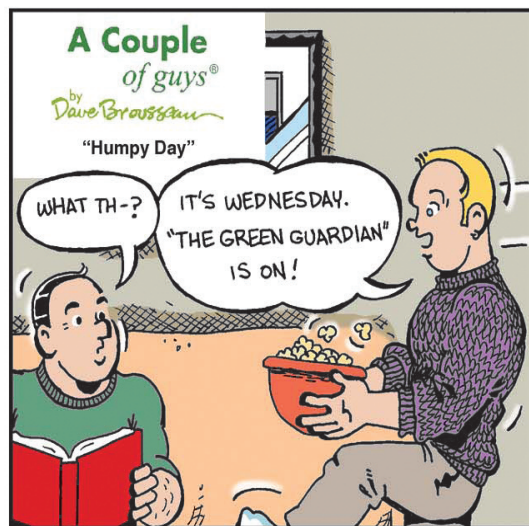
Our Ask Billy question comes from Kevin in Chicago: *What do you know about Ellen's new gardener? He looks kinda familiar to me. You found the nude photos of Nick, so I'm sure you can find something on this guy.*

Ellen's temporary gardener is model **Derek Yates**, who hails from Chattanooga and aspires to act and sing. You probably recognize him for a gazillion underwear ads. Diplomatic as he is hot, he claims to not have a real favorite brand. "If it fits well and makes me look good, then I like them, regardless of the brand." That said, he admits, "I have always wanted to be a Calvin Klein underwear model." A little padding and that dream might come true. As to if I have any skin shots, he claims there are none to be had.

When the most memorable Golden Globes belonged to **Jennifer Lopez**, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Since we ran long, if you have a question for me, send it along and I promise to get back to you before Snooki wins a Tony.

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

Have a question for Billy? Send an email to him at Billy@BillyMasters.com.





Friends on The Strip.



Boys' night out at TMC.



Edna Jean and Onyx at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Buck Wylde on The Strip.



Cameron getting a lap dance at Marty's Live.

Making the **SCENE** the week of Jan. 16–22:

Alexandre's: **Walter Lee** at 10 p.m. on Friday. **Corey Paul** at 10 p.m. on Saturday. **Mi Diva Loca** at 9 p.m. on Wednesday. **Alicia Silex** at 9 p.m. on Thursday.

BJ's NXSI: **Friday 4Plays** are back with **DJ Clint**.

Brick/Joe's: **Pole Warrior Challenge** at 10 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Club Reflection: **Cowtown Leathermen** annual chili cook-off at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Dallas Eagle: **DFW Leather Corps** seminar at 2 p.m. on Saturday. **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** presents **Denim and Diamonds** hosted by **Ashley Dior** at 7 p.m. on Saturday. Bid for **Queen of the Rodeo** benefiting **TGRA Charities**.

JR.'s Bar & Grill: **Cassie's Freakshow** on Monday.

Rainbow Lounge: **Kelexis Davenport's Drag Warz** with \$150 cash prizes at 11 p.m. on Thursday.

Round-Up Saloon: **Bear Happy Hour** at 6 p.m. on Friday.

Sue Ellen's: **Kickback** on Friday. **Ciao Bella** performs for **Rhonda's 50th** birthday party on Saturday. **Tyla Taylor** from 3–5 p.m. and **Cami Maki & Co.** from 6–9 p.m. on Sunday. **Jessica Grai** on Wednesday. ■

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



Trashy Tuesday at BJ's NXS!



Joe and Dallas Voice mascot Joey at Out of the Closet.



Terry and Jeff at Liquid Zoo.



The Sisters at the Round-Up Saloon.



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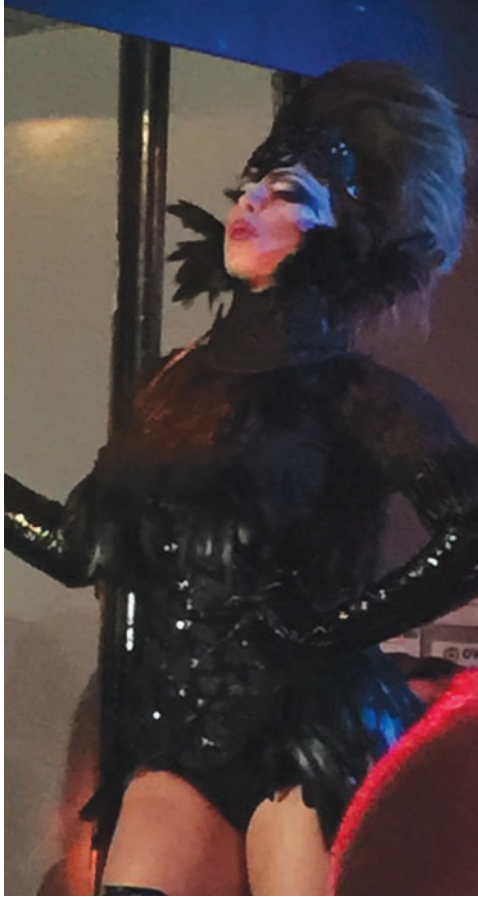
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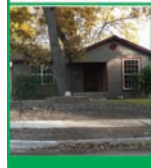
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- St. Thomas Episcopal Church
6525 Inwood Road
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- LAMBDA GROUP
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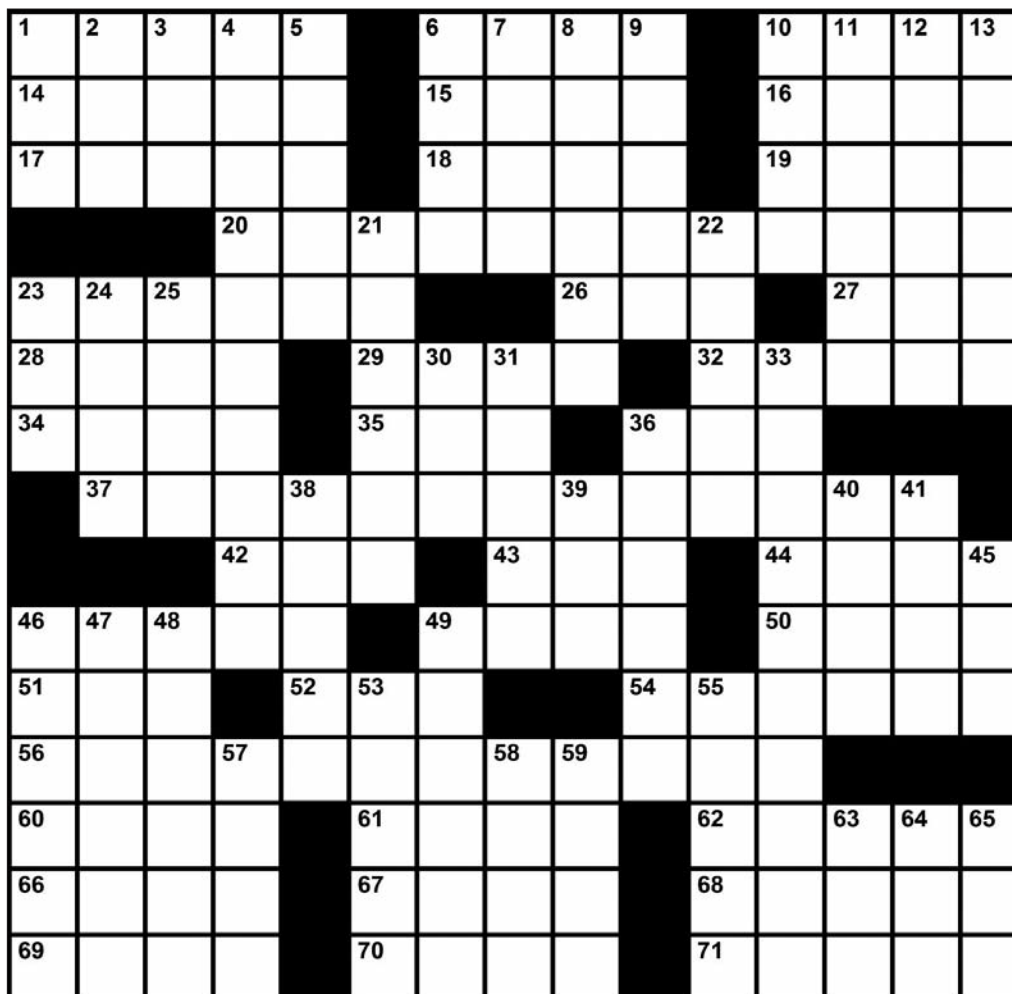
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q-puzzle



ECCE HOMOPHOBE

Solution on page 33

Across

- Rainbow maker
- Drag queen Justin
- Lickety-split
- Kilmer simile phrase
- Locker room emanation
- Gore Vidal work, with *At*
- Had in mind
- Where to find a top on the level
- Protected, to seamen
- Homophobe Kansas governor
- Award for Ursula LeGuin
- He made boxers more visible
- When repeated, a dance
- Room for Marga Gomez
- Waterproof cover
- Say hi to
- Asian inland sea
- Thurman of *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*
- Mandy Patinkin's *Evita* role
- Duck Dynasty* homophobe
- ___ kwon do
- Type of toy
- Coal porter's vehicle?
- Has more than a one-night stand
- Revealing fashion
- Verdi slave girl
- Billy Budd, for one
- Word in Brazilian place names

54 Chewy candy

- Anti-family homophobe with 19 kids
- Artist Catherine
- Perry Mason* star Raymond
- Perineum, in slang
- Asshole
- Non-speaking part in *Born Free*
- Come after
- Lammy award winner Donnelly
- Votes of approval
- Bear

Down

- Homophobe attorney general of Florida
- USPS beat
- "Got a Rainbow" lyricist Gershwin
- Characteristic of Mapplethorpe's photos
- Rock music subgenre
- Flop on Broadway
- River of Ulrichs' country
- "You're out of luck"
- Talk like a Tennessee Williams character
- Moby Dick chaser
- Comfort in sorrow
- Don of "Cocoon"
- Watch like a voyeur

21 Like R-rated-film audiences

- Shakespearean's *Twelfth* ___
- Top-secret org.
- He shot off at O.K. Corral
- Not so exciting
- First in a Latin threesome
- Steven Greenberg, for one
- Milieu of Stephan Pyles
- "For ___ out loud!"
- Wonder Woman weapon
- Forever and a day
- First ed.
- Lorca's zip
- Where wrestlers lie together
- Next step for Elton after knighthood?
- City where you can "Taiwan" on?
- Risk adversaries
- Vehicle for a moonshot
- The Sound of Music* setting
- One of the "Maneater" singers
- Ed Wood* role
- Bear that roams the night
- End of a favorite holiday
- Stein words that pop up between roses?
- Sister Act* extra
- Homophobe senator Cruz

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