

dallasvoice

The Pre

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Joe Paacetti

Dallas' fundraising gem

by David Taffet,
Page 8

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Joe Pacetti holds his picture with Pope Francis. Photo by David Taffet



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Parkland offers free mammograms in south Oak Cliff

Parkland Health & Hospital System's annual "Come Together for the Cure" breast cancer awareness event will be held 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24 at Light of the World Church of Christ, 7408 S. Hampton Road. Part of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the free event is open to the public and co-hosted by Parkland and Susan G. Komen Dallas County. The program will arm women with facts about breast cancer, dispel myths and provide potentially life-saving screening mammograms.

Workshops on six breast cancer topics and no-cost mammogram screenings begin at 8 a.m. The luncheon program hosted by KRNB radio personality Lynne Hayes begins at noon. Guest speaker is breast cancer survivor Renee Higginbotham Brooks, a Fort Worth attorney. Gifts, raffle prizes and lunch are complimentary.

Women in the U.S. have a one in eight chance of being diagnosed with breast cancer.

To register for a no-cost mammogram, call 214-266-0514. To attend the workshops, email Vickie.Henry@phhs.org.

— David Taffet

Proposed UIL rule would possibly bar transgender student-athletes

The statewide body overseeing high school sports voted to send member school district superintendents a rule that would identify a student's gender based on their birth certificate.

The 32-member University Interscholastic

League's governing body's voted to send the rule to superintendents instead of taking a vote to formalize the policy.

The rule states "gender shall be determined based on a student's birth certificate. In cases where a student's birth certificate is unavailable, other similar government documents used for the purpose of identification may be submitted."

While a UIL spokeswoman told the Texas Tribune the rule has been informally applied in the past, Rafael McDonnell, communications and advocacy manager for Resource Center, said it looks problematic.

"On the surface this appears to go against the Department of Education's application that gender identity is protected under sex discrimination Title IX," he said.

Many states have passed laws allowing transgender student-athletes to play sports based on their identity.

McDonnell said he can't recall the Dallas school district have any problems accommodating transgender students. But he is unsure specifically about transgender student-athletes.

According to UIL procedure, a majority of school district superintendents and the education commissioner must approve the referendum. A superintendent gets one vote for every high school in the district.

— James Russell

GLFD to hold SPCA fundraiser

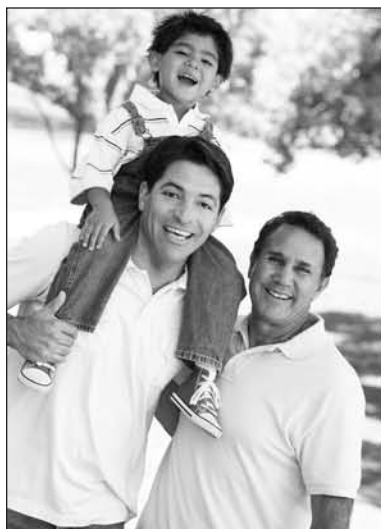
Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas announced its next fundraising event — Project Ruffway benefiting the SPCA.

The event takes place 7-10 p.m. on April 10, 2016 at the Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas, 2400 Lone Star Drive.

There will be cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a DJ spinning the latest music, a silent auction and a high energy fashion show with models and their dogs wearing the Spring 2016 line. Local celebrities will join the more than 400 animal loving people and adoptable cats and dogs.

The Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas promotes equality and raises awareness of the personal and financial contributions of gays and lesbians to the City of Dallas.

— David Taffet



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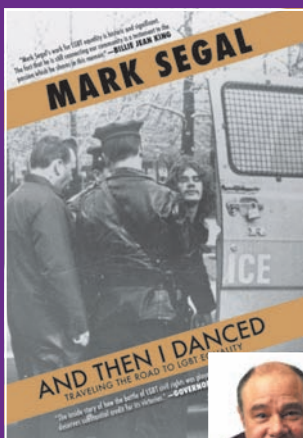
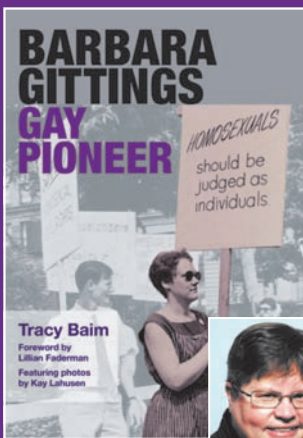
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Under the covers of GAY HISTORY

dallasvoice

presents:

A dual book signing and discussion by authors: Tracy Baim, publisher of Chicago's Windy City Times and Mark Segal, publisher of Philadelphia Gay News

Join us as we turn the pages of gay history from our esteemed authors, moderated by Dallas Voice's Tammye Nash and David Taffet. Books may be purchased at the complimentary event.

Thursday, November 5th at 7pm at the Interfaith Peace Chapel of Cathedral of Hope

This event is sponsored by:



THE GAY AGENDA

Have an event coming up? Email your information to staff writer James Russell at russell@dallasvoice.com by Thursday at 10 a.m. for that week's issue.

OCTOBER

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m.** on 89.3 KNON-FM with guests from UNT's LGBT Archive and Pridge from The Dallas Way; **United Black Ellument** hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community at 7 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening but the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Apt 2367; **Fuse Connect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. at the Fuse Space. For more information call or e-mail Ruben Ramirez at 214-540-4500 or rramirez@myresourcecenter.org.

• **Oct. 23: CinéWilde Presents *Frankenstein***
Doors open at 8 p.m. with pre-show

discussion at 8:30 p.m. and movie at 9 p.m. followed by Behind the Scream open mic at Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson. Costumes encouraged. For tickets visit Bit.ly/1LllwC2.

• **Oct. 23: Purple Foundation Presents Purple Happy Hour**
Catch up with friends and kick off the Dallas Halloween Block Party at the last Purple Happy Hour of the year from 6-8 p.m. at the ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road.

• **Oct. 24: The Queer: A Conversation**
Five queer ministers and theologians speak for 15 minutes on various themes from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the Interfaith Peace Chapel at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. For more information visit On.fb.me/1RbiRRt.

• **Oct. 24-25: Dallas Showcase Classic Basketball Game**
Basketball tournament bringing 30 national

Clarification: The Dallas Voice incorrectly attributed DeeJay Johannessen as the source for the city of Arlington's negotiation with MGM in the Arlington is Embracing its LGBT Community article published on 10/16/15. Johannessen's comments were instead responsive to how the city could strengthen negotiations with any company looking to move to Arlington, including MGM.

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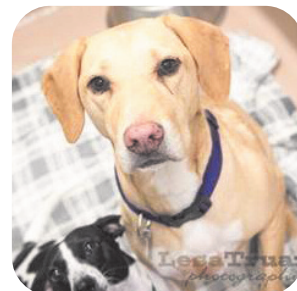
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pets of the week/ Myla & Zoe

Myla is a 7-year old smooth-haired miniature Dachshund mix female, and **Zoe** is a 7-year-old Labrador/retriever mix female weighing about 51 pounds. When Myla and Zoe's owner left the country he gave Myla and Zoe to a neighbor, who later was unable to care for them long term. The friends were brought to Operation Kindness for a fresh start. Myla and Zoe will both be wonderful companions for any family, including those with children. Because they are life-long friends, we're hoping this sweet pair will be adopted together into a loving home!



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

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affiliates of the National Gay Basketball Association and hosted by Score Moore Lives and Dallas Alternative Basketball Association includes two days of competitive basketball and three nights of social activities at University of Texas at Arlington and Cedar Springs Tap House. Free. For more information contact tournament director Scott Moore at scoremoorelives@gmail.com.

• **Oct. 25: Trunk or Treat at Northaven United Methodist Church**

Free family-friendly event includes bounce houses, a costume parade, a cupcake walk and more from 5-7 p.m. at Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Road. For more information visit Northaven.org.

• **Oct. 25: Kerry Eleveld Book Signing**

Journalist Kerry Eleveld signs copies of new book *DON'T TELL ME TO WAIT: How the Fight for Gay Rights Changed America and Transformed Obama's Presidency* from 9 a.m.-noon at Cathedral of Hope's Sources Bookstore, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Introduction at 9 a.m. service. GetEQUAL co-founder and co-director of the 2009 National Equality March and local equality activist Mark Reed-Walkup will also be in attendance.

• **Oct. 25: AIDS Outreach Center Hope Walk**

Starts 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Park Pavilion, 2300 W. 7th St., Fort Worth. For more information visit AOC.org/walk.

• **Oct. 25: Pegasus Squares LGBTQ Square Dancing Open House**

Second of two open houses hosted by Pegasus Squares, a LGBT Modern Western Square Dance club, hosts from 2:30-4:30 p.m. on Oct. 18 and 25 at the Dallas School of Burlesque, 2924 Main St. Ste. 103. No experience required. Singles welcome. For more information visit Pegasus-Squares.com.

• **Oct. 25: St. Thomas Episcopal Church Community Picnic**

Family and LGBT-friendly event with a cook out, games and music from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 6525 Inwood Road. For more information contact 214-352-0410.

• **Oct. 27: GALA Give Back Night at Durkin**

Family-friendly happy hour meets every fourth Tuesday of the month from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Durkin Pizza, 8930 State Highway 121, McKinney. Ten percent of proceeds benefit GALA.

• **Oct. 28: Grace Project Employment and Training Workshop**

All-day workshop sponsored by Legacy Counseling Center is designed to help people living with HIV move forward. Classes

include learning to obtain a GED, computer skills, resume building, workplace discrimination and more from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak St. To register leave a message with your name and number at 214-520-6308 ext. 384. For more information visit Legacycares.org.

• **Oct. 28: Evening of Laughter Kickoff**

Legacy Counseling Center benefit kicks off with designer Edo Popken hosts a kickoff event with hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and more from 6-9 p.m. at Edo Popken, 1523 Dragon Street.

• **Oct. 28: Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats Fundraiser**

Annual fundraiser includes drinks and hors d'oeuvres while watching the 2016 Republican debate from 6:30-10 p.m. at a private residence in Fort Worth. \$25 individual tickets. For tickets and more information visit TarrantStonewall.org/buytickets.

• **Oct. 29: Dallas Stonewall Young Democrats Community Safety Town Hall**

7:30 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St.

• **Oct. 29: Saddle Up for Social Studies Benefit for Samaritan House**

Kick-off event for Texas Council on Social Studies benefit for Samaritan House features emcee Hondo, host of Impact Texas, and guest speaker Kinky Friedman from 7:30-9 p.m. at Fort Worth Convention Center, 1201 Houston St. \$50. For tickets and more information call or e-mail Elvira Muñoz at 817-332-6410 ext. 195 or emunoz@samaritanhouse.org.

• **Oct. 29: The Year We Thought About Love**

Screening and Fundraiser for Youth First One-time screening of documentary about True Colors, the oldest queer youth theater company in the country. Portion of proceeds benefits Youth First. \$10. Remaining tickets must sell by Oct. 22. 5:30-7 p.m. at Studio Movie Grill Dallas Royal Lane, 11170 N. Central Expressway. For tickets and more information visit Tugg.com/events/37831.

• **Oct. 30-Nov. 7: Couple Communication Workshop**

Candy Marcum, LPC and Jimmy Owen, LPC conduct a two-weekend workshop for couples. 5-7 p.m. on Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 and 10 a.m.-noon on Oct. 31 and Nov. 7 at 3500 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 260. \$440 per couple includes two workbooks and eight hours of instruction. 214-521-1278. For more information call or e-mail Candy Marcum at 214-521-1278 or candy@candymarcum.com.

Grace Project Employment and Training Workshop



Legacy Counseling Center's all-day workshop is designed to help people living with HIV gain key skills to move forward with their lives. Participants will learn the how-tos of everything from gaining a GED to computer skills, workplace discrimination rules and more.

• **Oct. 31: HERO Phone Bank**

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas and Dallas Stonewall Young Democrats phone bank supporting the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance from 2-4:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.

NOVEMBER

• **Nov. 1: Light Up Oak Lawn: March for a Safer Neighborhood**

Raise awareness of proposed improvements to guarantee safety of the neighborhood from 7-9 p.m. For more information visit On.fb.me/1RbilgE.

• **Nov. 3: DFW Transcendence Trans/SOFFA Meeting**

Trans and ally support group meets monthly on first and third Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m. at Agape MCC, 4615 East California Parkway, Fort Worth. For more information contact Finn Jones by phone at 214-499-0378 or by email at sfinn.jones@gmail.com.

• **Nov. 5: Beatlemania Benefit Performance for The Well**

A Hard Night's Day headlines third annual benefit concert, Recovery Live benefitting The Well's mental illness support programs at the Kessler Theater, 1320 W. Davis St. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the concert begins at 8. Purchase tickets at TheKessler.org/tickets. For more information e-mail Alice@wellcommunity.org.

• **Nov. 5: Fort Worth PFLAG Meeting**

Meets every first Thursday of the month from 7-9 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian

Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. For more information call 817-428-2329 or visit PflagFortWorth.org.

• **Nov. 5: Trans Pride Initiative Board Meeting**

Open to the public. 6:30 p.m. at Brazos Room, Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak St. For more information e-mail Nell Gaither at nell@tpride.org.

• **Nov. 6-8: Strength Conference for Men Living with HIV**

Weekend conference offering support, seminars, workshops and fellowship at Embassy Suites Love Field, 3880 W. Northwest Highway. \$50 registration fee. For more information and to register call 469-410-3755 or e-mail Strengthconference@AIDSWalkSouthDallas.com.

• **Nov. 7: DFW Trans Ladies Monthly Meeting**

Meets from 7-8:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month at Agape MCC, 4615 E. California Parkway, Fort Worth. For more information email info@dfwtgladies.org or visit DFWTGLadies.org.

• **Nov. 7: The Dallas Flea: An Indoor Curated Marketplace**

All day fair includes drinks, entertainment, food and 140-plus vendors showcasing vintage and handmade items takes place from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Trinity Groves, 2900 Bataan Street. \$5 entry. Kids under 12 enter free. Free parking. For more information visit TheDallasFlea.com.

Joe Pacetti

is known as the flashy jeweler who wears big diamonds.
But anyone who knows him knows that the biggest thing about him is his heart

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Joe Pacetti turns 60 in November, and he is celebrating by throwing his biggest fundraiser ever for a nonprofit organization.

Pacetti is a jeweler known for always displaying his wares. But his passion is helping people.

"One of the reasons I work so hard and travel 200 days a year — predominantly for business —

is so I can give back," he said.

And give back he does, from local to international organizations.

Since 1993, Pacetti's been on the board of the Patron of the Arts of the Vatican Museums, where he's personally sponsored six restoration projects and helped make the Texas chapter one of the most prolific.

Locally, he's worked on Black Tie Dinner and been honored by No Tie Dinner. He's served on

the Turtle Creek Chorale and DIFFA boards, and he's raised money for every AIDS organization in Dallas.

But Legacy Counseling Center and Founders Cottage, an organization he first came in contact with while he was on DIFFA's board, holds a very special place in Pacetti's heart. And he says that Legacy Executive Director Melissa Grove, who helps people rebuild their lives after life-threatening illnesses while appearing to brush off her own

battle with muscular dystrophy, is a totally selfless woman.

"What amazed me about Melissa is how she's overcome her own obstacles to take care of other people," Pacetti said. "Of all the charities I've ever been involved with, I've never seen a ship run as efficiently or tightly" as is Legacy.

Grove said Pacetti is a supporter who doesn't need a pat on the back.

"He takes care of business and delivers," she said. "He's a smart business person and a lovely human with a big heart. He's a gift to me."

Pacetti brings in all sorts of people who wouldn't normally be involved in an HIV/AIDS fundraiser, Grove added.

Pacetti met Grove when he first toured Founder's Cottage in Oak Cliff as a DIFFA board member. He was so impressed by the work done there, he decided that when the opportunity arose, he'd do something more for the agency himself. He found that opportunity when he met Leslie Jordan at a charity luncheon in Los Angeles.

A friend of Pacetti's on the board of Hope House in L.A. was hosting a charity luncheon and asked Pacetti for a piece of jewelry to auction. When Pacetti donated a diamond, he got a call from his friend encouraging him to attend the event. That's where he met Jordan.

The two hit it off and Pacetti told Jordan about Legacy.

"I'd love to help you," Jordan said. "If there's anything I can ever do."

As a matter of fact, Pacetti told him, there was. He arranged Jordan's first appearance at a fundraiser for Legacy held in the penthouse of the Vendome on Turtle Creek that raised about \$6,000.

That fundraiser featuring Jordan turned into an annual event, moving first to the Weisfeld Center in downtown Dallas and last year to Theatre 3. This year, Pacetti said, he wanted to take the event to the next level and is hoping to sell out the Majestic Theatre for Jordan's performance on Nov. 21.

Sponsorships have completely covered the costs and several hundred seats are already sold.

Becoming a jeweler began with ballet

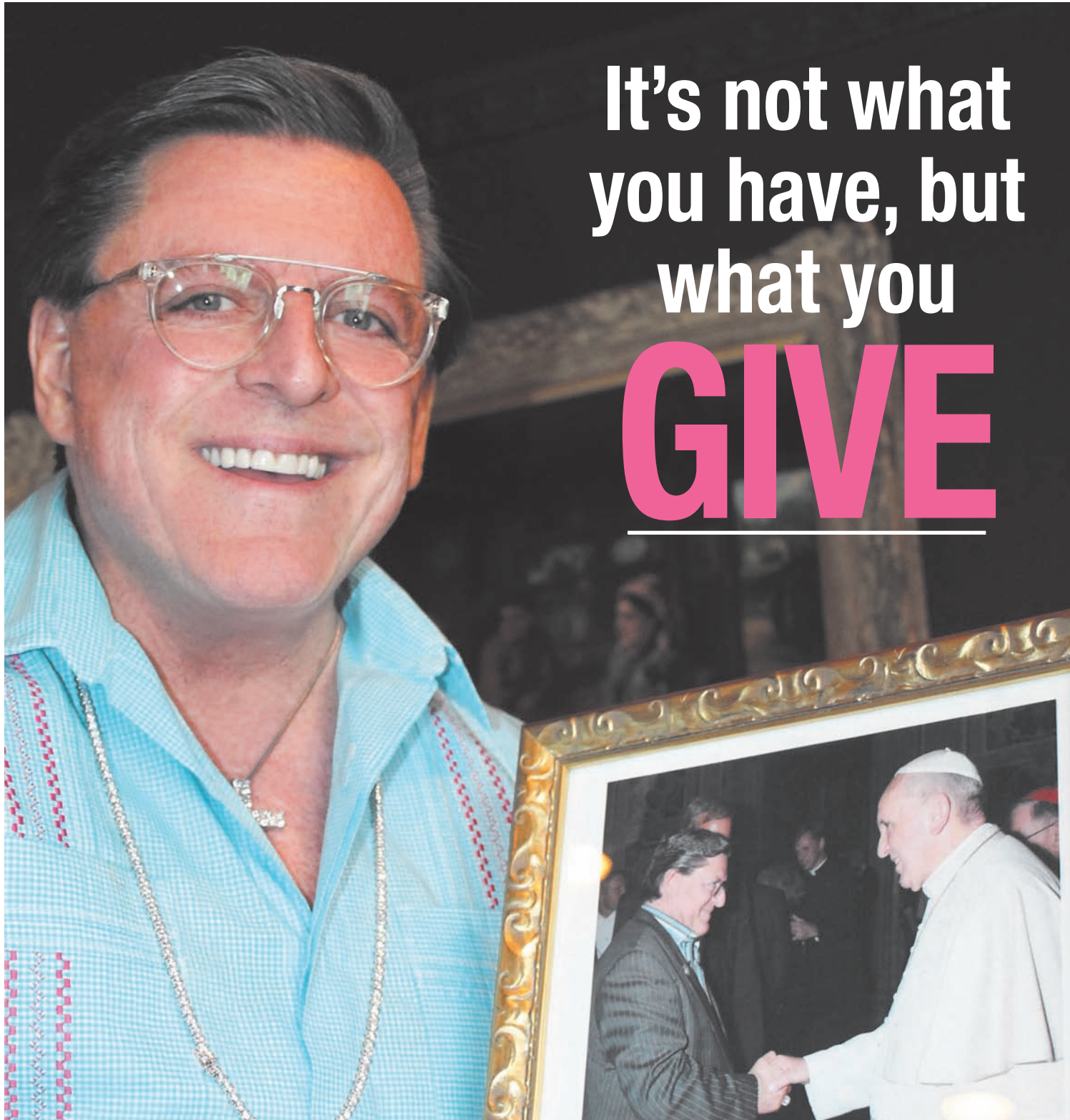
As a teen, Pacetti danced with the Tulsa Ballet for seven years.

"I always loved the grace of it," he said, laughing as he explained that at 16 years old, he had a 26-inch waist. But he decided not to pursue ballet as a career.

"I never had a principal role," Pacetti said. "Unless I was going to be Nureyev or Baryshnikov, I never was going to make a lot of money."

So he went to work for Zales Jewelers in Tulsa. He was there for two years and credits the company with putting him out on his own.

The average sale in the store where Pacetti



Joe Pacetti holds a picture of his meeting with Pope Francis. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

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Scoring

Local gay basketball teams build community and empower players

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Local youth worker Dean Moore struggled with his sexual orientation growing up in a small town in East Texas. His struggle continued when he attended a conservative Christian university, where he studied biology.

"I was on the down low in college," Moore said. He was, however, comfortable playing sports. Playing basketball and tennis kept him going throughout school. Athletics helped him develop his physical and emotional health.

And unlike his degree, sports had a major influence on Moore well beyond college.

"I haven't used my biology degree since graduating," he admitted. But one habit stuck: playing sports.

"It's a medium to accomplish goals," he said. Moore came of age, and came out of the closet, when he arrived in Dallas, thanks to the large gay sports scene here.

Getting involved and doing something he loved helped him come out.

"It was liberating. I was no longer running away from freedom," Moore said.

Hearing a radio segment about the high number of black individuals living with HIV in South Dallas compelled him to act.

"I said, 'We have to do something,'" Moore said. And he did, founding the all-volunteer Score Moore Lives in 2013.

Among its programs is the Dallas Alternative Basketball Association, an affiliate of the National Gay Basketball Association. From Oct. 24-25, the DABA hosts 250-300 athletes representing 30 teams from across country for the Dallas Showcase Classic at the University of Texas at Arlington.

DABA, like all of SML's programs, encourages healthy competition through athletics with the goal of impacting the lives of its participants.

"My whole philosophy is when you have a platform like this, you make it about more than events.

You're having fun while doing something," Moore said. "We're giving people a chance to be open and free from hiding. We want everyone to experience success."

It's about going beyond just basketball. "It's about anything involving competition, like card games or tennis. We're addressing and educating one another on issues impacting LGBT people."

Moore stressed the importance of "meeting people where they are."

Outsized impact

Ray Person is a co-founder of Score Moore Lives and team captain for Dallas Thundercats 2, one of the three basketball teams under the SML's umbrella. (The other two are the original Thundercats and Thundercats 3.)

Like Moore, he's always loved basketball. And like Moore, he also didn't feel comfortable about his sexual orientation.

Before branching out with buddies like Moore, Person initially played with the Dallas Ballers and Hot Shots, an affiliate of the Dallas Gay Basketball Association.

"[Playing basketball] was a catalyst for me. I was nervous about coming out," Person said. But he was passionate about basketball. "Combining the two motivated me to push forward and come out."

Coming out was a team effort. Person credits his fellow Thundercats for helping him with coming out and more. Playing basketball with others who were struggling made it easier for him to come out to family and friends. He also developed leadership skills.

"The expectation is we're not just a team but a brotherhood that respect and support one another," Person said. "We push one another to be successful in life. We want to be respected."

The three teams consist of nine players each, who compete with other teams from around the country. They aren't just basketball teams from Dallas, but ambassadors for Dallas as well.

"We want to put Dallas on the map," Person said.

They're pretty good ambassadors, too. A num-



for life

Members of the three Dallas Thundercats basketball teams have won national championships. On Oct. 24-25, they'll host and compete against others teams.



ber of team members have received accolades, like Most Valuable Player Awards. The three teams have also won numerous division championships since 2012, including in Chicago, New Orleans and San Diego.

The Dallas Classic involves competing for the championship title, displaying the diversity of LGBT life in Dallas/Fort Worth to LGBT visitors and building camaraderie.

But it's not just about the experience. At the heart of the game is the mission of Score Moore Lives: to change and impact individuals.

"We are all about fun. But we're about brotherhood, too," Person said. "Basketball is just the cat-

alyst for getting us to where we want to be."

Person is proud of the Dallas Thundercats' accomplishments and of his community. He's proud and thankful.

"I want to represent the community, the people and the best city that has impacted my life tremendously," Person said. ■

The Dallas Showcase Classic takes place Friday, Oct. 24-25 at the University of Texas at Arlington's Maverick Activities Center, 701 South Neddernan Dr., Arlington. Social events take place throughout the weekend at Cedar Springs Tap House, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. All tournaments are free. For more information visit NGBA.org.

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Texas gaybies now get both parents on their birth certificates

As ordered, Texas rolled out new rules that allow both parents' names on vital documents

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Texas has rewritten its rules on birth certificates, but attorneys still encourage same-sex couples to do an adoption.

The new rules issued by Texas Vital Statistics Unit give parents a choice how a birth certificate will read. Parents' names may be labeled mother, father or parent.

When a married woman gives birth, her spouse is the presumed second parent. Now it doesn't matter if that spouse is a man or a woman. A same-sex married couple may now adopt together. When the adoption is complete, both parents' names may be placed on the child's birth certificate.

If a surrogate is used, both parents' names will go on the birth certificate. Previously, only a biological parent's name would appear on the document when the parents were a same-sex couple.

The second parent in a same-sex relationship would have to adopt. Now the second parent's name will be entered on the document at birth if the parents are married.

In the past, when same-sex couples adopted, only one parent was allowed to adopt and that parent's name went on the birth certificate. A second parent adoption could begin three months

later, but that parent's name wouldn't appear on the birth certificate.

Now, married parents may adopt together and couples that were married at the time of the adoption may file a request with Vital Statistics to have the second name added to the birth certificate.

Austin attorney Suzanne Bryant specializes in adoptions by same-sex couples. She said having both names on the birth certificate simplifies a number of things, like applying for a passport, travel, enrolling a child in school, taking the child to the doctor or applying for college and scholarships.

But Bryant said many same-sex couples are now saying, "Why should I bother to do an adoption?"

She said when a relationship is going well, the birth certificate will suffice. But half of all straight marriages end in divorce. As more same-sex couples marry, the number of same-sex divorces will rise as well.

If a couple who had a child splits up, a judge may decide to give custody of the child to the birth mother, even if both names appear on the birth certificate. Bryant said the second parent has the standing of a judge's orders if an adoption is completed.

If a birth mother dies, her parents may decide to sue for custody without a court order declaring the second mom a legal parent. The birth certificate may be evidence, but won't be seen as a court ruling by a judge deciding custody.

"A birth certificate can be challenged," Bryant said. "It's too bad we still have to do an adoption, but you need a court order."

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Bryant said in some states, judges regularly issue a parentage order without subjecting the couple to an expensive and time-consuming home study. "I wish that would become more common in Texas," she added.

The new rules the Vital Statistics Unit drew up came into place after a Conroe man filed a motion in the Texas marriage equality case in order to be recognized on his husband's death certificate in August. U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia ordered marriages that predated the U.S. Supreme Court's marriage equality ruling be recognized for purposes of all state documents. He told the state's Department of State Health Services to rewrite rules that apply equally to all married couples.

For couples with children, that allowed both parents to go on a Texas birth certificate for the first time.

While the new rules have been in place since September, states such as Florida are just beginning to grapple with the issue. A suit was filed this week in Florida after that state continued to refuse to recognize married couples for purposes of a birth certificate.

How to apply

One of two forms would be used to apply for a new birth certificate, according to Christine Mann, press officer for the Texas Department of



Attorney Suzanne Bryant, above, encourages couples to continue adopting, even if both names appear on the birth certificate. James Stone-Hopkins, below right, filed a motion to be listed on his husband James' death certificate. That prompted Judge Orlando Garcia to order all vital statistics follow the *Obergefell* decision.



State Health Services.

"VS-160 is an adoption form," Mann said.

If either one or both of the parents are not the biological parents, use this form to amend the birth certificate to include the second adoptive parent. To use this form there must be an official adoption decree from the court.

"VS-166 is an application for a new birth certificate based on presumption of parentage or a gestational court order," Mann said. "For example if there is already one parent on the birth certificate, the spouse can be added to the birth certificate."

Instructions are attached to the forms.

Certified copies of a marriage license, informal marriage declaration (common law) or court order including adoption order must be included. This will not be returned unless requested.

Send a check for \$47 — issuing a new birth certificate is \$25 and sending a certified copy is \$22.

Send to: Vital Statistics Unit, Department of State Health Services, P.O. Box 12040, Austin, Texas 78711.

Additional information can be found on the DSHS website at dshs.state.tx.us/vs. Follow the link that says the department "is implementing revised policies and will also amend certain vital events forms and records in response to the June 26, 2015 Supreme Court ruling in *Obergefell* and the July 7, 2015, U.S. District Court ruling in *DeLeon*."

Copies of the forms may be downloaded from the DSHS website and are attached to the online version of this story and can be downloaded from DallasVoice.com.



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Hope Walk: new name, same goal

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1:30 p.m.
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1:45 p.m.: Speaker Sandra Ford

2 p.m.
Hope Walk

3:15 p.m.
Heels for Hope Dash (.5K)

3:30 p.m.
Awards and
Prize Presentation

3:45 p.m.
Velvet Love Box

Registration:
Individuals \$25;
students \$15; dogs \$10



AOC's Curtis Smith shows off his Kinky heels.

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

The Hope Walk may be the AIDS Outreach Center's second walk this year but organizers are not fretting. They are confident they will meet their goals.

Sarina Harz, development associate at AOC, said they have raised \$30,000 raised so far.

"It's on par with what we anticipated," she said. "It's a tough year for fundraising because we've had two walks."

Tarrant County's largest AIDS service organization is also undergoing a transition.

After 23 years, the Tarrant County AIDS Walk has changed its name and moved from spring to fall. The AIDS Walk will now be the Hope Walk, slated for Sunday, Oct. 25.

But changing and rebranding meant extra effort this year. Past participants schedule time to come to the walk in March. They held their final walk in March only to turn around and ramp up for the newly branded fall walk.

The move just fits with the center's current rebranding efforts.

Currently, AOC's two biggest events are the walk and Evening of Hope gala in May. Moving

and rebranding simply balances the growth of their two major special events.

"We wanted to rebrand the walk to keep consistent with our message, which is that we offer help for today and hope for tomorrow," Harz said.

Sign up parties at bars and restaurants in Tarrant County have helped them reach their goal of \$75,000.

Even if they already walked in March, participants are returning and not bothered by attending two benefits only a few months apart. Harz is confident the event will reach that goal and see at least 350 walkers show up.

In fact, they expect more walkers.

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price is confident too. In fact, she's kicking off the day's walk.

"What we saw in March is people raise a lot of money the week and day of. Not only did we rebrand but added two new events," Harz said.

To guarantee high turn out, organizers added two new events this year.

The first event is a Heels for Hope Dash, a .5k stiletto run. Only one winner gets a High Heel Trophy but everyone will have the chance for a red carpet finish.

The second event is the Pooch Parade, a dog costume contest.

"We wanted to add a few sparkly additions to inspire the HOPE of the rebranding and an alternative to the 5K which some participants are unable to do. Additionally, we were inspired by our partners in the Pride Parade, Performing Arts Fort Worth, who are producing Kinky Boots at Bass Hall the following week," Harz said. "Again, it goes back to bringing light and hope to our community." ■



JOE PACETTI, From Page 8



Pictures of Joe Pacetti in his elegantly furnished home. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)



worked was under \$1,000. Then one day Pacetti made a \$43,000 sale when a regular customer purchased a number of items as Christmas presents. He felt the store owed him a commission, or at least a bonus on the sale. So he contacted the corporate office.

When they told him the company didn't pay commissions, Pacetti picked up his box of clients and walked out of the store.

Pacetti had already earned a degree in gemology and had a reputation as an expert. While at Zales, he had gone on buying trips for the store.

When he called vendors, he arranged to take items on consignment and paid them after he made a sale. The first year, he made more than \$60,000 and he bought his first house at age 22.

"I was making more than my father, who worked for American Airlines for years," he said.

Pacetti's list of carriage trade, or high-end, referrals grew quickly and well beyond Tulsa. One of his customers introduced him to an estate liquidator in Dallas who did well selling the furniture and other household items but didn't know what to do with the jewelry. So Pacetti began traveling to Dallas regularly to sell the estate jewelry for her and brought some of his own to add into the mix.

JOE PACETTI, Page 16

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JOE PACETTI, From Page 15

While here on business in Dallas, he met a woman: "I met the girl I married," he said. They dated two years and were married for five.

His wife was a fifth generation Texan and she wasn't going anywhere, Pacetti said, so during the oil crash of the early 1980s, he moved to Dallas. They had a daughter, who's now 29, and he and his ex-wife have remained friends.

Pacetti's business has thrived, even though he's never had a retail location or showroom. He works out of his house and only takes referrals.

As Pacetti's business and contacts grew, so did his ability to give back. Lupe Murchison told him

she knew of an organization he'd be interested in because of his love of art and style. She took him on his first trip to the Vatican where he saw the museums and had a private audience with Pope John Paul II. He's been involved ever since and has had audiences with Popes Benedict and Francis as well.

Soon after Pope Francis was elected, Pacetti had an audience with him at the Vatican with about 300 people. Pacetti was sitting in the fourth row and the custom was for the Pope to invite just the first row to approach for a personal blessing. When Francis motioned for the second row to ap-

proach, his aides indicated no. Francis ignored the aides and had each row come up and privately chatted and blessed each person.

So, Pacetti said, he exchanged a short greeting personally and had his picture taken with the Pope. When Francis left the reception, he put his arms around two of the people attending and they left the room together.

"There was no pretense, no separation," Pacetti said.

His meetings with the popes, especially with Francis, inspire Pacetti to be as generous as possible and people who've worked with him describe



him as warm and giving.

David Andrews has helped Pacetti secure sponsors for the upcoming Leslie Jordan fundraiser for Legacy and he thinks of Pacetti as a mentor, calling him one of the kindest, smartest and most warm-hearted people he knows.

"I hope I can one day strive to be a fraction of the incredibly charitable man as I've witnessed him to be," Andrews said.

Comedian Paul J. Williams has performed with Leslie Jordan at past Legacy fundraising events and will appear as Sister Helen Holy with Jordan at the Majestic this year.

"Joe Pacetti has never shied away from being a larger than life personality," Williams said. "Fortunately, his heart is equally as large, and he has used his success and connections for the betterment of others. Many organizations owe a debt of gratitude to Joe for all his kindness over the years."

Pacetti might disagree. He doesn't believe any of the organizations he's helped have any debt to him. He said he hopes a large fundraiser would give Grove more time to devote to client services.

Despite a house filled with art and a wardrobe always accessorized with pieces from his jewelry collection, what's most apparent about Pacetti is his heart. Grove said she's never seen someone as busy as he is always looking for more ways to give.

He said he lives by a simple motto: "It matters not what you have," Pacetti said. "It matters what you give."

An Evening of Laughter with Leslie Jordan, with special appearances by Vince Martinez and Sister Helen Holy begins at 8 p.m. Nov. 21 at the Majestic Theater, 925 Elm St. VIP tickets are \$200 and general admission tickets are \$50, available at LeslieJordanDallas.com. Sponsorships are also available.



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Community searches for safety solutions

Police and city officials met with businesses and community members to discuss recent attacks in Oak Lawn

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Councilmen Adam Medrano and Philip Kingston, Northwest Division Police Chief Catrina Shead and about 10 police officers and members of the Mayor's LGBT Task Force met with a packed house at Resource Center Wednesday, Oct. 21, to discuss community safety. The meeting addressed a series of attacks that have happened in Oak Lawn that began the night of the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

At least three victims of attacks spoke at the meeting.

Shead called the recent attacks horrific and said she's added more foot patrols and patrol cars to the entertainment district. Plainclothes detectives will also be assigned to the area, she said.



Chief Catrina Shead addressed the community about safety at the Resource center on Oct. 21, (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Because police alone can't keep everyone completely safe, Shead listed some common sense ways people can stay safer: Walk in well-lit and busier areas. Don't walk alone. Pay attention to your surroundings, not your phone.

If you see something suspicious, dial 911 or use the iWatch app to send info or photos anonymously, Shead recommended.

Other suggestions came from the audience. One suggested that a group leaving a bar for separate cars should instead walk together to one car and that car should drive the others to their cars.

Area resident John Anderson circulated a petition this week calling for more cameras, lighting and action by the neighborhood, and his petition was discussed at the meeting. Medrano said he drove the neighborhood and reported all out street lights to Oncor. Those should be fixed by

this weekend.

City bond money planned for Cedar Springs improvements may be diverted to safety upgrades. Medrano said the LGBT Task Force that he chairs would appoint a committee to look into that possibility.

After the meeting Medrano spoke to Blake, survivor of the only recent attack police are officially labeling a hate crime, rather than a crime of opportunity, because of anti-gay language used during the attack. Medrano asked Blake to serve on the committee.

Money may be used to add lighting to dark streets behind the main entertainment area, where most people park. That money may also help add camera throughout the area. Round-Up Saloon owner Alan Pierce said he was adding security cameras outside the bar. Attendees called on all area bars, restaurants and stores to do the same.

One suggestion from an attendee was to add blue light call buttons that connect automatically to the police every block or two. Shead said she's heard from police in other cities that those work well in entertainment districts.

Burke Burnett, survivor of a vicious anti-gay attack in Reno, Texas in 2011, now lives in Dallas and attended the meeting. He said a support group for survivors is helpful. He noted the state offers victim services that helps with medical bills and legal services so that attackers, if caught, will be charged correctly.

Assistant D.A. Craig McNeil chairs the Dallas County District Attorney's LGBT Task Force and said the D.A.'s office has been tracking the situation. He also said there is compensation to assist victims.

Officers attending said reducing crime in an area only works when police, city, businesses and the community work together. They called the large turnout a great start.

The attacks that were addressed began the night of this year's Pride parade when Blake, who has asked that his last name not be used while his assailants are still at large, was attacked on a side street near Cedar Springs Road. He was walking to a friend's house from a bar.

He was hit in the head and dragged into a car. In the car, he was repeatedly hit and then was dumped on Sylvester Street off Wycliff Avenue, where he was presumably left to die.

His phone was the only thing stolen so he could not call for help. A neighbor heard Blake's screams and came to his aid. He was taken to Parkland Hospital and needed 40 stitches in his head, but is now recovering well.

Burnett was attacked at a private party in 2011. Four men jumped him, stabbing him at least twice with a broken beer bottle before throwing him onto a fire. He has recovered from his injuries and two of his attackers were convicted and are serving time in prison. ■

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Too many roses

I think it was hearing about Ashley Hallstrom that put me over the edge. Ashley was a transgender woman who, at age 26, felt that life was so hopeless that her best option was to end her life by stepping in front of a dump truck.

I am so angry right now, I can't think straight. Not at her, but at a society who just doesn't give a damn about transgender people.

As if to add an exclamation point to that statement, the very next day Zella Ziona, a 21-year-old trans woman was shot in the head in an alley behind a laundromat in Gaithersburg, Md. She was the 22nd transgender homicide victim of 2015.

That is 22 sons and daughters, cousins and friends — 22 individuals who would probably have preferred to be left alone to live their lives, difficult though they may have been, without being gunned down, strangled, beaten or set on fire.

What the fuck is the matter with people? Why are trans lives so worthless to them?

I'm honestly not sure whether I'm bothered more by the murders or the suicides. Either way, trans people are dying — a lot of them — and few seem to care or even notice.

Whether you are aware of it or not, Dallas is a small little oasis for trans people. While we may not be embraced here, at least we have access to things that few others have. I will get into those things in a second, right after I remind you that Shade Schuler's body was discovered on July 29 in Dallas, so no place is perfect.

What seems to break my heart most about those who take their own lives is that society has made things so hopeless that stepping in front of a truck seems the only answer. Leelah Alcorn did exactly that last December, just after Christmas.

Are things really that hopeless or hostile? Yes, as a matter of fact they are. Here are just a few things that we as trans people have to deal with that others don't:

When someone comes out as transgender, we change how we present ourselves to the world. I have yet to have a gay friend come out to me and have it be a surprise. When trans people come out, it is often a shock. When we change genders, we change nearly everything, including our names and the gender markers on our identity documents. Or at least we try to.

Anybody know how many judges in the whole state of Texas will sign one of those? Out of more than 500 civil court judges in the state, only about 15 will routinely sign an order changing your gender marker — and the vast majority of them are in Dallas County.

Tarrant County will not even let you FILE a petition to change your name and gender. Denton

County? Not one single judge will sign one. Collin County? Maybe on a rare occasion.

If you live in the Panhandle or a rural county and are transgender, you're screwed. How much

does that suck? Try changing from James to Cynthia but still having a "M" as your gender marker on your I.D. You get outed every time you show your I.D.

The state of Texas is NOT friendly towards the trans community. Matter of fact, during the most recent legislative session there were four bills put forth trying to criminalize bathroom usage by trans people. There are people spending money in Houston



Leslie McMurray
Accidental Activist

trying to defeat the Equal Rights Ordinance using fear tactics with trans people at the center.

To those people I say, YOU are costing people their lives. YOU are making things seem hopeless. Why can't you just fix the roads instead of worrying about whether or not I know which bathroom to use?

A friend of mine that is a trans woman in New Jersey working as a model was outed by the police when they printed her name and gender information on a public website, causing her car to be vandalized and her to receive death threats. Police and media routinely mis-gender trans victims of crime.

No wonder things seem hopeless. Trans people are often rejected by family members, rejected and ridiculed by the faith community. Churches recommend "conversion therapy" to try and convince someone who is 100 percent certain of who they are that they are wrong.

(This doesn't work, by the way.)

The Obama administration would like to see conversion therapy go the way of the dodo bird, but Republican lawmakers want to keep it around so they don't offend the religious sensi-

bilities of their constituents. After all, God would be proud to have you mentally abuse your children by trying to shatter their sense of identity.

Schools can also be a horrendous source of bullying. That needs to stop.

Ashley Hallstrom had been living as a woman for six years, yet her therapist had only recently granted her the letter she needed to get her surgery. The whole "gatekeeper" mentality to life-saving healthcare needs to come to a stop. Hell, it would be nice if medical schools actually taught something in their curriculum about Trans healthcare, but they don't.

Transgender people face an uphill battle under the very best of circumstances. If we transition after puberty, we are dealing with a body that has betrayed us, and it is monumentally difficult, painful and expensive to fix.

Adding hatred and bullying from family, school, church, police, city and state laws and our doctors can be just too much to bear.

People are dying!

Depression and hopelessness are a lethal combination. I wish there was something I could say that would matter, that would change hearts and minds.

We aren't deviants or freaks. We are just like you. We want the same things you do. We laugh, we fall in love, we dine out, we listen to music. We want a piece of the American dream just like you do.

Please, we need to give hope to those who feel hopeless. My heart is breaking for those who just give up. Two years ago, I went to the Transgender Day of Remembrance at Cathedral of Hope. As we laid rose after rose on the altar and heard the hundreds of names of transgender murder victims and the gruesome way they died, I cried until I just couldn't cry anymore. Last year, I didn't go. I just can't take it.

Until we can figure out why the state of Texas has a bulls eye on us, or why the Baptist church thinks Jesus has it in for us, or why people feel the need to kill us because of who we are, the best I can do is to please ask you to get help if you are feeling hopeless.

There is a number you can call: Trans Lifeline at 877-565-8860. There are people on the other end who understand. Please call them.

I care about you and want you to live. You matter. I hope things get better. Until then, hang on a little longer.

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

Feedback

Don't mortgage our children's future

If a car salesman told you that you could trade in your Ford Focus for a new Lexus, but your payments would not go up, what would you be thinking? If you've been around the block a few times, I bet you'd be wondering, "What's the catch?"

Dallas ISD currently has \$2.7 billion in debt (the highest of any Texas district) and they're asking voters to approve another \$1.6 billion with no tax

increase. What's the catch?

The catch is a balloon financing structure that shifts the principal payments to the end of the term. While initial payments are low and can be met by the current tax rate, the last three payments total \$800 million and will require a significant increase in tax revenue.

The crisis is coming not in 20 years, when the final payments are due, but in six to eight years, when the district needs another bond package to repair and improve crumbling schools. The proposed bond maxes out DISD's credit cards and we can only afford to make the minimum payment. This leaves few options for future needs, none of

them pretty.

But what about the kids? Don't the schools need repair now? Yes, and there are several things the district can do to tighten up this bond package to make it affordable.

First, the attendance boundary committee must meet to see where lines can be shifted to move students from overcrowded schools to underutilized schools. The proposed plan calls for \$660 million for new schools and additional classrooms for a student population that is essentially flat.

Second, rethink some of the expensive program-driven changes, such as the \$130 million career and technology center at Pinkston. What

federal and private STEM grants could be tapped to provide the expensive equipment needed to train tomorrow's workforce?

Finally, this bond package is the brainchild of the former administration. Shouldn't our infrastructure investment align instead with the new superintendent's vision for the district's future?

Demand a better plan. A vote against is not saying never, it just says "not this plan." Trustees have said that if this bond proposal fails, they will rework it and bring it back in May. So do it for the kids; go to the polls and vote NO. The students and your wallet will thank you.


Audrey Pinkerton, Dallas

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the diva's

DIVA

For drag icon Charles Busch, life is a cabaret, ol' chum (so come to his cabaret)

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

"I'm feeling very smug," Charles Busch purrs from his New York apartment. Right before we talked, New York City was under a storm warning where city fathers and assorted fatalists encouraged residents to hunker down, stock up on canned goods and prepare for the worst.

"Whenever they think there might be some storm a-brewin', we get notices in the lobby of my building to fill your bathtub with water. I'm running all over the city to get the last chicken legs, the last bottle of water, five cans of refried beans. They act like it's the apocalypse. Well, for the very first time, I didn't fall for all the emergency warnings. And it's a beautiful day!"

That discussion leads into a thread about the zombie apocalypse, the sci-fi movies of the 1950s where Martians were stand-ins for Commies, and how in the 1980s, aliens were cute and helpful, like E.T. and those *Cocoon* creatures. That triggers a discussion of gauging the political tone of the nation and feelings of security based on our pop-culture consumption. And on and on and on.

Such is the rangy, engaging and sprightly experience of talking to Charles Busch.

You can expect more of that — as well as some songs and, of course, glamorous drag — when he arrives in Dallas for four shows of his one-man cabaret, *A Divine Evening with Charles Busch* at the City Performance Hall.

"I have survived a career in cabaret just because every 20 years I dabble in it," he says, "but for the last three years, it has really been my career. What I love about cabaret is being intimate and unguarded and honest, as opposed to being in a play and doing a specific role in a particular situation. I like the flexibility with cabaret so I know where I'm going. I take my cues from my audience."

"The challenge is, since I am in drag, I don't want that to be some sort of a mask. But I have done this so many decades, it's not much of a 'transformation' anymore — I'm more like an old Philco TV set: just pop up the brightness, adjust the contrast and let me go."



He makes it sound easier than it is, of course, though a lot of talents seem to come easily to Busch. In addition to drag and cabaret, he's a well-regarded character actor on TV (memorable as an AIDS patient on HBO's *Oz*) and in movies, a playwright and screenwriter (he starred in his film adaptation of *Die, Mommie! Die!*, and won a Tony Award nomination for writing *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*) and is a pop-culture junkie and camp icon (among his many twisted plays are *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* and *Psycho Beach Party*). But his true calling may be some-

thing that few people know about.

"I think my greatest talent — more than acting or writing — is: I am brilliant at pitching an idea," Busch says. "My father was a salesman, and I got the gene. Over the years, I have pitched *and sold* about eight different TV pilots — 100 percent — to Showtime, HBO, CBS. Every time I go in the room, I walk out with a deal."

Acting OUT

Actor/activist Jim J. Bullock, pulling himself up by his own 'Kinky' bootstraps

SCOTT HUFFMAN | Contributing Writer
scott_in_dallas@yahoo.com

"One of the things that has been a huge gift to me is my resilience," out actor (and former Texan) Jim J. Bullock, 60, says. "I am a resilient person in life. A good thing about this — and a bad thing — is that when something hits you, you don't let it stop you. You just keep moving."

Bullock has experienced his share of career ups and downs. During the 1980s, he appeared in the abruptly-canceled ABC sitcom *Too Close for Comfort* following the death of its star. The show was subsequently revived as one of the first TV series for first-run syndication. During the '90s, Bullock co-hosted *The Jim J. and Tammy Faye Show*, a television talk show with former televangelist and gay icon Tammy Faye Messner. The program — one which Bullock calls "before its time" — was short-lived.

"Some [actors] have a long run," Bullock says. "Some tend never to be out of work. For most, though, you hit it and it falls off. You are lucky if you ricochet around. I've been lucky to ricochet. I'm still ricocheting, I guess."

Bullock, an actor known largely for his comedic talent, has been very candid about the serious topic of his HIV status. In 1985, Bullock received a positive HIV diagnosis. Fortunately, he bucked the odds, maintaining an undetectable viral load without the help of medication — a fact that made it easier for him to move forward.

"When I found out [I was positive] in 1985, it was a death sentence," Bullock says. "There was really no hope that anyone could give you. It was completely the worst news that you could get. I am so blessed. And I hate that word a lot. I've been so fortunate that I've never had to deal with it. In whatever way one looks at that word, I feel extremely blessed with my health."

In high school, Bullock, a church choir soloist, knew that he loved performing. During his sophomore year at Oklahoma Baptist University, the young actor was cast in a student production of the musical *Godspell*. The small but powerful production enjoyed a much longer run than anyone anticipated and soon took on a life of its own. The engagement eventually became the actor's first professional theater job and confirmed his budding desire for an entertainment career.



"This musical was crazy how it started off as this Christian school production," Bullock says. "It actually went to the nationals and won festivals. It got bought and produced by a dinner theater in Dallas in the summer of 1976. It was very instrumental for me in deciding that this is what I am here for. After my sophomore year, I decided I wasn't going to go back [to college]. I was going to study at the Lee Strasberg Theater Institute in L.A."

In the national tour of *Kinky Boots*, which opens this week at Bass Hall, Bullock plays George, the manager of a failing shoe factory. Charley, the company's owner, has a chance encounter with a drag queen and decides to begin manufacturing women's high-heeled boots in men's sizes. In more ways than one, Charley's strategy to meet the needs of this underserved niche market reverses the fortunes of both the company and its employees.

"The whole theme of the show is about forgiveness and accepting people for who they are," Bullock explains. "As a gay person, it speaks volumes to me. I love everything that this show is about. It's so exciting to get to do something like this. And when you get to couple it with something that you love and believe in, it's the icing on the cake."

Another one of the show's themes is the relationship between fathers and sons, especially their differences, which also resonates strongly with Bullock.

"My relationship with my father was not bad at all," Bullock says, "but with any son, straight or gay, there is a chord that is struck with your

KINKY BOOTS

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■ BULLOCK Page 25

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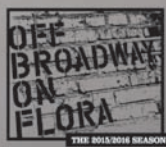
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L+S books

Obama through a rainbow lens

Don't Tell Me to Wait: How the Fight for Gay Rights Changed America and Transformed Obama's Presidency by Kerry Eleveld (Basic Books, 2015) \$26.99; 330 pages

When then-Sen. Barack Obama made his first run for the White House in 2008, he campaigned for LGBT support by pledging to overturn the military's discriminatory Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy, and to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act. And even though candidate Obama stood steadfastly by professed belief that marriage was "a sacred union" between one man and one woman, he did support "civil unions" that would provide same-sex couples with federal protections and benefits.

So on that November night in 2008, when Obama stepped onto that stage in Chicago to claim the presidency and make history, the LGBT community, for the most part, rejoiced with him.

"It's been a long time coming but tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America," the president-elect declared that night. And his LGBT supporters believe that "change" included good things for them.

But it didn't take long for the rainbow shine to begin to wear off the newly-elected President Obama.

It started with Obama asking anti-gay evangelist Rick Warren to give the invocation at his inauguration. And it quickly became clear that repealing Don't Ask, Don't Tell was not the priority for Obama's administration that his LGBT supporters had believed it to be.

Yes, the president and First Lady Michelle Obama did host the first-ever LGBT Pride month reception at the White House. But that very same month, the Department of Justice submitted an infuriatingly anti-gay brief in a lawsuit challenging DOMA. The LGBT bloggers and press jumped on the brief, putting it out there in such a way that even the mainstream press had to take note. And the president's support in the LGBT community slid even further.

But that was also the beginning of the change. The president and his administration began, slowly but surely, to find their footing on LGBT issues, leading up to that moment on June 26 this year when President Obama said, "This morning, the Supreme Court recognized that the Constitution guarantees marriage equality. In doing so, they've reaffirmed that all Americans are entitled to the equal protection of the law. That all people should be treated equally, regardless of who they love."

In just eight short years, President Obama had gone from calling marriage a sacred union between a man and a woman, to calling the Supreme Court's marriage equality ruling "a victory for America," from having right-winger Rick Warren deliver his inaugural invocation to bathing the White House in rainbow lights to celebrate marriage equality.

And now, journalist Kerry Eleveld is offering



an in-depth, behind-the-scenes look at Obama's first four years in office in her new book *Don't Tell Me to Wait: How the Fight for Gay Rights Changed America and Transformed Obama's Presidency*.

Eleveld, former news editor for The Advocate magazine, spent four years covering Obama for that magazine, first on the campaign trail and then in the White House. She even interviewed Obama three times, including one interview in the Oval Office. Out of those years was born *Don't Tell Me to Wait*, part personal memoir and part political history.

Eleveld opens the book with an introduction set in Chicago on Nov. 4, 2008, where she recalls her own mixed emotions at watching Obama elected even as Prop 8 won in California, and moves through those turbulent four years during which

the president's popularity among his LGBT constituents rose and fell and rose again.

But *Don't Tell Me to Wait* is far from an ode to Obama. In fact, it is more a tribute to the activists who held steadfast and insisted on holding the president's feet to the fire, keeping him — and his administration — accountable for the promises he made.

It is an engaging account of one journalist's experience in covering an historic campaign and an even more historic first term in office. Eleveld doesn't shy away from including her own part in the dramas that played out, like when she asked a question on DOMA during a White House press briefing that put the issue on the mainstream press' radar.

But she puts more emphasis on the efforts of other journalists, bloggers and activists and on how those efforts changed the course of Obama's first term. And the prolific footnotes included throughout make it obvious the book is well-researched; there are, in fact, some 95 pages of notes at the end of the book.

Don't Tell Me to Wait is an easy read, well-written and clear despite some of the convoluted politics it is detailing. And in the years to come, when all people remember are the victory speeches and the White House wrapped in rainbow lights, it will serve as an important reminder of the truth of how the battle for equality was fought and of those who deserve the credit for the victory.

— Tammye Nash

KERRY ELEVELD SIGNING
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7 plays, 1 theme

MBS Productions resurrects Theatre of Death

Seven plays, one theme, all in less than two hours — That's what you get in MBS Productions' Theatre of Death, on stage through Nov. 8 at the Stone Cottage Theatre in Addison.

"Theatre of Death" is a collection of plays from the genre known as "Teatro Breve" — or Brief Theatre — that began in Medieval Spain, explains Mark-Brian Sonna, the MBS — and the artistic director — of MBS Productions. The popularity of Teatro Breve had died out by the early 1900s, he explains, but the genre was rediscovered by modern playwrights who began to revive Brief Theatre about a decade ago.

Sonna says he always takes a moment to explain to Theatre of Death audiences that Teatro Breve originated as a form of street theater. Performers would clear a small area to act out a short play then collect tips from those who had stopped to watch. "There was basically no set, except for maybe a chair or a table, limited costuming, and it was customarily performed barefoot and in natural light," Sonna says. "In our production, we honor those traditions, and we will be presenting the show by candlelight only."

MBS Productions first presented Theatre of Death in October 2004, Sonna said. Each version includes short works centered around the theme of death, as befits the Halloween season.

The production was an annual event for the first years, but in 2012, it shifted to a triennial schedule, he noted. Each time it is presented, Sonna includes different plays, choosing from "the vast cannon of Spanish language plays as well as some contemporary works written in this style," he said. "We have produced plays from Peru, Italy, Mexico and even from the United States, reflecting the ever-growing popularity of this ancient theatrical form."

This year is no exception. This year's line-up includes two plays from the 14th century, one from around 1550 and one from around 1660. The other three are modern plays, with two of them being brand new, including one Sonna himself wrote.

On top of that, two of the plays have distinctly gay plots, including one from 1550. Yes, a gay play from 1550.

The Mask, written by Lope de Rueda circa 1550, is a bawdy comedy about a simpleton who



MBS Productions adds to the Halloween season with "Theatre of Death," seven short plays all on the theme of death, and all performed by candlelight.

shows his boss what he believes to be a strange mask that he found. It is, in fact, something much more gruesome than a mask and the boss man had a hand in its diabolical origins. This will be a world premier of this translation of the play, and Sonna says that the dialogue and interaction between the simpleton and his boss throw a decidedly gay tint to the play.

The other gay play is *A Date With Mick*, a brand new play by Thomas Bertino, in which a casual hook-up between two men, seeming strangers, takes a very brutal twist. Sonna won't say much more in an effort to preserve the shocking surprise twist of this world premiere production, but he does say it is sure to keep the audience on edge.

This year's Theatre of Death also includes the world premiere of Sonna's own *The Haunt*, about a husband and wife having a late-night discussion about her infidelity; world premiere of this translation of *Romance of Count Alarcos*, an anonymous 14th century work; a world premiere of this translation of *The Fool* by Juan Matos Fragoso (circa 1660); and an encore performance of MBS Production's world premiere of Alejandro de la Costa's 2004 play, *13 Minutes*.

The seven plays are bracketed by incantations, Sonna explains: one at the beginning to summon the spirit of death, and another at the end to release that same spirit of death. There is also a 15-minute intermission. Due to subject matter, violence and language, the show is rated R.

There will be two special shows: On Halloween night, Oct. 31, all audience members will receive a trick-or-treat bag and there will be a costume contest at intermission. On Dia de los Muertos, Nov. 1, at 2 p.m., there will be special refreshments served at intermission. ■

— Tammye Nash

Theatre of Death

Stone Cottage Theatre, Addison
Conference and Theatre Center;
Through Nov. 8.
MBSProductions.net

■ BULLOCK, From Page 21

father. At the end of the musical, they touch back on that. It's just this beautiful moment that I wasn't expecting. It's a moment when goosebumps set in and you get a lump in your throat."

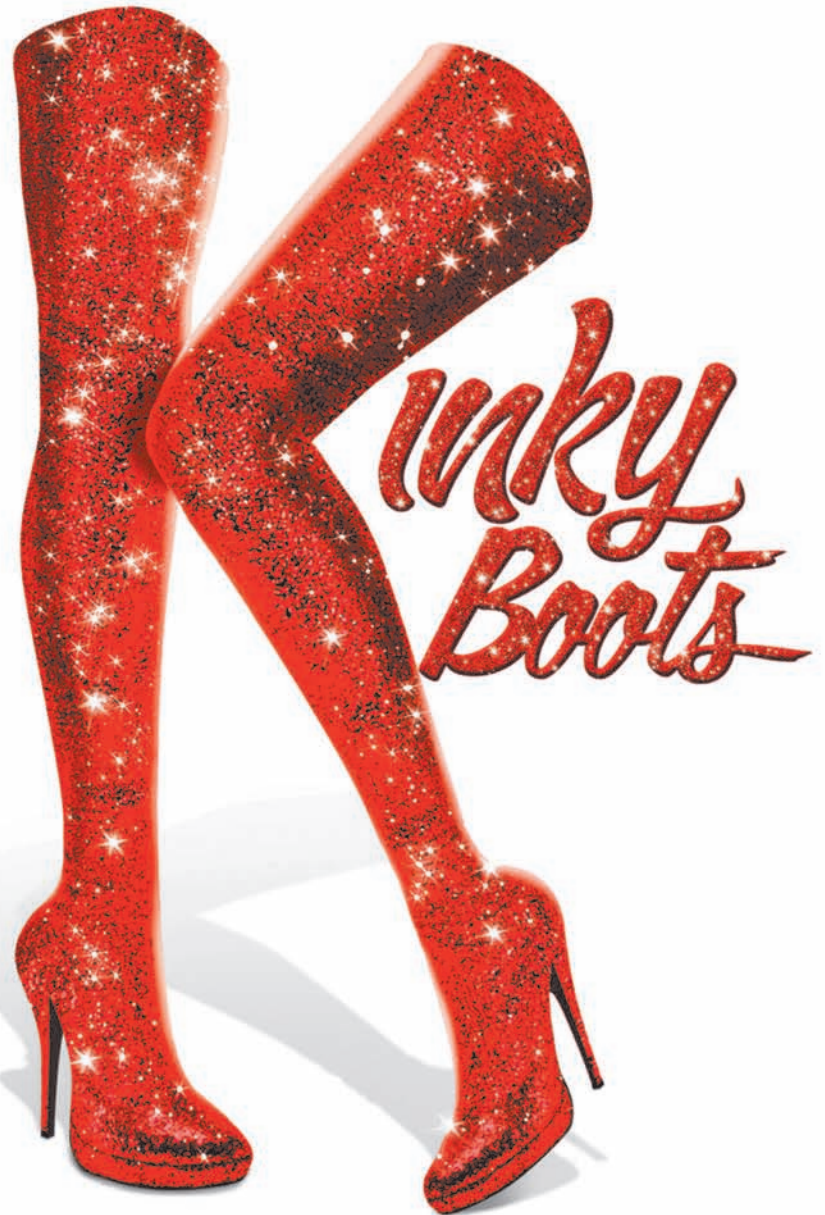
As a child of the '60s, Bullock grew up without openly gay role models on television. The closest he had were the minimally-closeted comedian Paul Lynde and fussy *Lost in Space* character Dr. Zachary Smith. For this reason, the actor is especially touched when gay fans tell him that they were able to connect with his flamboyant character or affirm that he, as an openly gay television actor, made an impact on them.

"I do think I was among the first," Bullock says of being a gay television personality. "I don't think, though, I can say that I was the first, like the Neil Armstrong of the gays. I just know I have had a lot of people come up to me over the years and say to me that I was hope for them."

And, as for regrets, Bullock has few.

"I don't have a lot of regrets, because I think we go down the road we need to go down," he says. "My life could have been so much easier if I had done things differently. But I've needed to learn what I've needed to learn. From career and finances to being gay and positive, everything is there for a reason. They are all different links in this chain that make up our lives." ■

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Saugatuck

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Although they maintain a relatively low profile outside the region, the charming and artsy “twin towns” of Saugatuck and Douglas are the most significant gay resort destination in the Midwest. A little more than two hours from Chicago (three from Detroit), this laid-back area offers a bounty of urbane restaurants, handsome B&Bs, dapper boutiques and antique shops, and more than 25 high-quality art galleries, as well picturesque beach frontage on Lake Michigan. The pace here is pretty chill — it’s not a nightlife-driven singles destination but rather a picturesque, all-American community that affords visitors the opportunity to get away from it all while still enjoying access to plenty of great diversions.

Generally, when people mention Saugatuck they’re also referring to the neighboring village of Douglas. They share the same very helpful tourism office; the Saugatuck-Douglas Visitors Bureau is actually where many of the area’s gay-owned businesses and homes are. The towns are separated in part by a wide expanse of the Kalamazoo River, which forms a large lake that’s popular for boating and kayaking. From one village center to the other, it’s just a mile’s drive or stroll, and it’s also a mile from either community to Lake Michigan.

Historically, Saugatuck claimed more of the area’s shopping and dining, but Douglas’ smaller downtown has gentrified rapidly in the past few years, and now the main drag, Center Street, is lined with interesting businesses. In Saugatuck, you’ll find most of the shops and restaurants clustered around a roughly eight-square-block area along the waterfront, which is lined with boat slips. The two-town region is highly compact and accessible, although a handful of gay-owned accommodations are in outly-

ing areas, a 10- to 20-minute drive away.

There are a plenty of fun things to do in the area. You can make the 20-minute drive to Fenn Valley Vineyards, which has been producing award-winning wines since 1973. Or stop by Fennville’s Virtue Cider, the maker of artisan farmhouse-style hard ciders that have gained a following throughout the Midwest. The Saugatuck Center for the Arts is an exceptional resource, presenting nationally known musicians and comedians, and first-rate professional musicals and plays, through its Mason Street Warehouse theater company (there’s also a farmers market held on the grounds in summer on Monday afternoons). And if you’re in an outdoorsy mood, consider paddling around town in a kayak — Big Lake Outfitters can set you up with rentals. For a little more exercise, climb the 282 steps to the top of the area’s highest sand dune, Mt. Baldhead, from which you’ll enjoy stunning views of Lake Michigan.

Downtown Saugatuck has no shortage of noteworthy dining options. A major favorite for breakfast, Ida’s Red Cottage is as much fun for people-watching as it is for enjoying the fluffy pancakes and hearty omelets. Phil’s Bar and Grille is a great spot for a well-prepared lunch or dinner; the kitchen specializes in upscale versions of Midwestern American fare, like potato-crusted walleye with Dijon cream and double-cut lamb chops charbroiled with a pomegranate gastrique. Marro’s Italian Restaurant, serving authentic Italian fare and superb thin-crust pizzas, is another local favorite. Enjoy live music in the piano lounge most nights.

As coffeehouses go, Uncommon Grounds is a truly stellar operation, and a great friend of the local LGBT community. It’s a good place to pick up an over-stuffed sandwich, smoothie, light

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breakfast or delicious carrot cake, in addition to all sorts of espresso drinks made with high-quality, house-roasted beans and homemade syrups. The sunny deck out front is nice for ogling passers-by.

In downtown Douglas, the outstanding Everyday People Cafe is an unpretentious neighborhood eatery, but the kitchen turns out superb, creative contemporary American fare with global influences — Korean-style braised pork cheek with Michigan maple and Meyer lemon confit. There's a great wine list, too. Gay-owned Zing Eat Drink is a stylish spot with a hip bar up front, two different romantic outdoor seating areas, and an art-filled dining room. It's a hot spot early in the day for house specialty Maryland crab-cake Benedicts and cranberry-walnut French toast. In the evening, enjoy a glass of wine or a cocktail, and tuck into a plate of cedar-planked salmon or grilled meatloaf with caramelized onion jam. Lots of LGBT revelers stop in here for happy hour or drinks before continuing their partying just down the street at Dunes Resort.

Craft-beer lovers should stop by Saugatuck Brewing Co. to sample the expertly made local brews, such as hoppy Singapore IPA and crisp Oval Beach Blonde, while relaxing on the expansive patio and nibbling on tasty pub fare. In the historic part of downtown, Respite Cappuccino Court is another great little spot serving first-rate java, tasty breakfast bowls and salads, and tempting baked goods.

When it comes to nightlife, the only game in town is the 20-acre Douglas Dunes Resort, which has a large and fun disco, a cocktail lounge and video bar, a game room, a huge private sundeck and bar with a large pool and lush foliage, and a piano cabaret. The largest gay resort in the entire Midwest, this highly popular resort has a great range of accommodations options, including large two-bedroom cottages, simple and contemporary standard rooms in two motel-type buildings, and even bargain-priced "bunk rooms" ideal for singles. The accommodations are nicely

maintained, and some rooms have fireplaces and hot tubs.

One relatively recent development has been the transformation of some of the area's old-timey motor courts into smartly furnished, mid-century-modern boutique inns. Innkeepers Steve Laughner and Rob Goeke have done a wonderful job with a pair of these properties, the Pines Motorlodge — which is more centrally located in Douglas and is right near Lake Kalamazoo — and The Saugatuck, which enjoys a quieter setting nestled beneath pine trees a short drive from town. Also gay-owned and highly recommended is the Blue Star Motel, which is within walking distance of Douglas shopping and dining, and their newest accommodation, the Starlite Resort, which opened this past spring.

You'll find no shortage of historic B&Bs in the area, too. A stately 1890 Queen Anne on the edge of downtown Douglas, the Kirby House is one of the region's most elegant properties. There's a new restaurant and wine lounge on the ground floor, J. Paul's, which serves tasty tapas and cheese-and-charcuterie boards.

One exceptionally gracious property in this part of the world is the Belvedere Inn, a regal 1913 mansion designed by a colleague of Frank Lloyd Wright. Innkeepers Shaun Glynn and Pete Ta run this spectacular hideaway, tending carefully to guests' needs (they also operate a lovely three-room vacation house, called the Bellevue Harbour House, overlooking the riverfront in Saugatuck).

Inside the Belvedere, you can choose from among 10 richly furnished rooms and suites, and rates include an opulent breakfast as well as afternoon tea. Glynn is also the chef at the Belvedere's superb restaurant, which serves such rarified Continental cuisine as roasted butternut squash and crab bisque, and pan-roasted, lightly curried monkfish with saffron risotto. If it's a romantic getaway or a special-occasion dinner you're celebrating, the Belvedere is your answer. ■

— Andrew Collins

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■ BUSCH, From Page 28

The one wrinkle in this skill? "Nothing's ever been shot," he says. "I wrote a Lifetime movie and I thought it was pretty good [but it didn't get made]. When I saw some of the other stuff they did put on I thought, 'Really?!? They passed on mine and took that?!'"

Over time, however, Busch has come to peace with it. "Looking back at some of the pilots, I think, eh that's OK. After years of having a chip on my shoulder about it, I came to the brutal, cruel realization that my pitches are better than what I deliver. I don't think my strengths are what is required in TV writing ... though years ago I sold to HBO

a 13-part miniseries about the mounting of a Broadway musical — there was a story within a story, and the music was going to be written by Stephen Schwartz." It didn't go into production, though a decade later, *Smash* ran for two seasons on NBC.

"Before it's time," Busch sighs.

Some of these hurdles have soured him a bit — one reason he's more cabaret star now than playwright. But the frustrations come and go.

"If I had spoken to you a month ago, I would have been very melodramatic and said I had retired from the stage! But suddenly now I'm working on *two* plays. One thing I'm working on will be at a theater where I've had a relationship for nearly 40 years. I called the woman who founded it — she's as eccentric as her theater —

and said, 'Can you get me four weeks in mid-March/April next year for a new show?' She said yes, so now I have to write it! So don't listen to anything I say too seriously."

Busch's Dallas performance will be right around Halloween, with two shows on Oct. 31. (Two is rare for him: "I'm the kind of whore who's only good for one fuck a night — though actually, I did two shows in Philadelphia recently and the second fuck was better — I was

all warmed up and lubricated," he says.) You might think a Halloween show in drag is perfect timing. But Busch feels differently.

"I'm in drag for cabaret — there's really no reason I *should* be in drag, to be quite honest, but as a

friend said, 'It's like buying a ticket to Disneyland and finding out Space Mountain is closed,' he quips. "But it's always been a bit of a bore doing a show on Halloween. Halloween's always been a busman's holiday — every day is Halloween in my world."

What should audiences expect, then?

"I come out and I look like Ginger on *Gilligan's Island* but I tell funny stories about my own experiences and sing a collection of songs ranging from the Beatles to the Great American Songbook," he says. "I'm not the *best* singer, but I am a very good storyteller and I sing those songs I can tell a story about. So you come away feeling like you're in my living room. I do want to make a success of it — I'm no Coy Covington, but still I hope people come out." ■

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DEETS: Dallas City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. 7:30 p.m. \$25. NTSO.org/product/season-concert-1-opera.



Thursday 10.29

The Year We Thought About Love Screening and Fundraiser for Youth First

Resource Center hosts an exclusive screening of the movie *True Colors*, the oldest queer youth theater company in the country. Portion of proceeds benefits Youth First.

DEETS: Studio Movie Grill Dallas Royal Lane, 11170 N. Central Expressway. 5:30-7 p.m. \$10. For tickets and more information visit Tugg.com/events/37831.



Wednesday 10.28

Evening of Laughter Kickoff

Designer Edo Popken hosts a Legacy Counseling Center/Leslie Jordan kickoff event with hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and a chance to snag some gems from Joe Pacetti's affordable men's jewelry line, His World Collection.

DEETS: Edo Popken, 1523 Dragon Street. 6-9 p.m.

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ARTSWEEK

THEATER

Creep: The Very Very Sad and Unfortunately True and Completely Fabricated Tale of Jack the Ripper.

The world premiere of the original musical by Dallas' Donald Fowler. *Final weekend.* Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Dear Liar. Queer playwright G.B. Shaw and Mrs. Patrick Campbell shared a legendary correspondence, brought to life in this epistolary play. *Final weekend.* Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. WingSpanTheatre.com.

The Ghosts of Sleepy Hollow. A world premiere presented by Dallas Children's Theater. Rosewood Center

for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through Oct. \$14.

Harbor. This family comedy closes out Uptown Players' 2015 season. *Reviewed this week.* Kalita Humphreys Theater. 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Oct. 25. UptownPlayers.org.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill. Denise Lee plays blue giant Billie Holiday giving her last-ever concert before her tragic death at 45. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through Nov. 1. JubileeTheatre.org.

The Mountaintop. Play about the final hours of Martin Luther King Jr. Studio Theatre of the Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Nov. 15. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Bad Jews. A relationship comedy about family. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Nov. 1. StageWest.org.



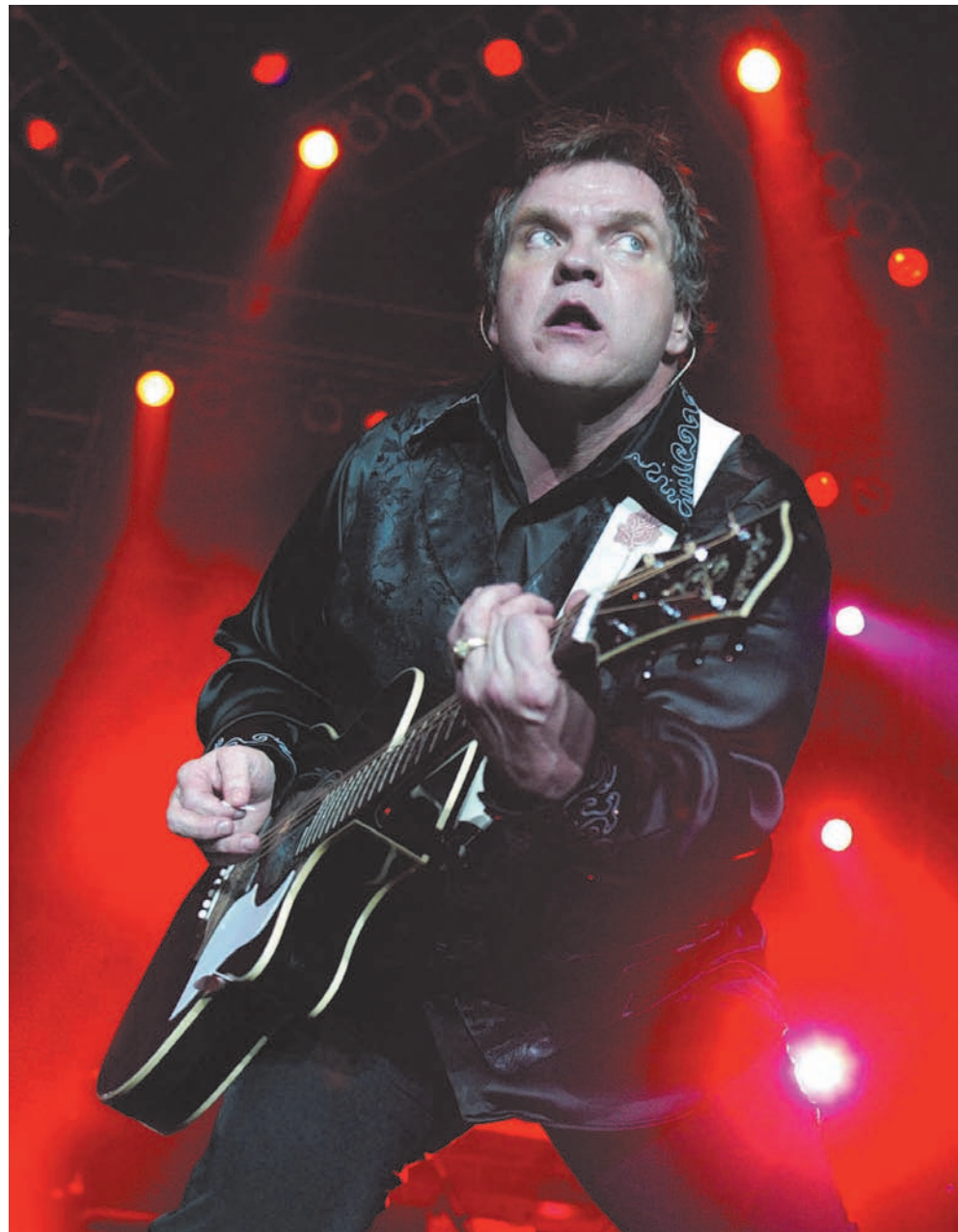
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Meat Loaf performs live in concert at the Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie on Oct. 28

Theater of Death Created and conceived by Mark-Brian Sonna. Seven short plays, dating from the Middle Ages till the present day all dealing with death. Some are funny, some scary, and others just plain weird. And the entire show will be done by candlelight. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. Through Nov. 8.

FINE ART

N.S. Harsha: Sprouts, reach in to reach out. A site-specific mural, the first in Dallas for the Indian artist, transforms the main corridor of the DMA. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 21. DMA.org.

International Pop. A survey of pop art, the distinctive modern movement of the 1960s. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Jan. 17. DMA.org.



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Giuseppe Penone: Being the River, Repeating the Forest. Through Jan 10. Nasher Museum and Sculpture Garden, 2001 Flora St. 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Tues.–Sun. \$10. Through Jan. 10.

Kehinde Wiley: A New Republic presents first retrospective of gay artist's work. The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. \$10. Free for members and on Sundays. Through Jan. 10.

New Wave exhibition features contemporary artists addressing contemporary issues at the Goss-Michael Foundation, 1405 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Dec. 11.

FRIDAY 10.23

COMMUNITY

Panoptikon. The weekly retro disco dance party, presented by Lord Byron. Red Light, 2911 Main St. Doors 9 p.m.

Dian Malouf Trunk Show benefitting the Family Place from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. at NUVO, 3311 Oak Lawn Ave. Ste. 101. Also on Oct. 24.

HALLOWEEN

Screams. The 20th season of the outdoor frightfest. Screams Park, 2511 FM 66, Waxahachie. Fridays–Saturdays through Halloween. \$27. ScreamsPark.com.

Dark Hour Haunted House. Gay-owned chills attraction with multiple sinister-themed areas. 701 Taylor Drive, Plano. Open select nights through Halloween. 7 p.m.–midnight. \$26-up. DarkHourHauntedHouse.com.

SATURDAY 10.24

SPORTS

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

FILM

Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince. Come dressed in your house robes, and join your favorite characters for an evening of magical fun. Explore the various departments within the Ministry of Magic such as Mystical Creatures, Magical Crafts, and Enchanted Writing. We're celebrating all things Harry Potter with scientific experiments and a showing of the movie. Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, 1600 Gendy St., Fort Worth. Also on Oct. 30, Nov. 7 and 14. Film at 6 p.m. and 7:40 p.m. in the Omni Theater.

TUESDAY 10.27

THEATER

Kinky Boots. The Tony-award winning musical comes to Fort Worth. Bass Hall, 555 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Through Nov. 1. BassHall.com.

THURSDAY 10.29

CABARET

Judy Chamberlain Jazz. The jazz vocalist's weekly cabaret performance in the back room of Zippers Hideaway, 3333 N. Fitzhugh St. 9 p.m.

BROADCAST

Project Runway. The latest season of competing designers is underway. Lifetime at 8 p.m.



Art Theatre Centre presents *The Rocky Horror Show*. 5220 Village Creek Dr., Plano. 10:30 p.m. \$15 advance or at door. \$12 members. Artcentretheatre.com

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Girl on Girls

Jenny Block: Sidestep lust at first sight and you might end up with love that lasts

You both swipe right. You have a handful of mutual friends Facebook reveals. You agree to meet up. You don't believe in love at first sight. But, on the other hand, lust at first sight . . .

You have a drink. You go to a happy hour with mutual friends. It's starting to get late. You kiss in the parking garage and your brain is moving a million miles a minute.

You are wondering if this could actually be something. And, if it could, how to not ruin that possibility. The kiss was intense and for a moment you think about asking your date back to your place.

Don't.

Sure, there are stories out there of people who sleep together on the very night they meet and live happily ever after. But there are more stories that go precisely the opposite direction.

I have a confession: I fall fast. I fall in and out, fast. So I have to be super careful. It's really easy for me to get so far ahead of myself that I can live out an entire relationship between texts.

And the only thing that sex does is complicate that. A lot.

I met my girlfriend, Lacey, on Tinder. Our first date was basically what I described above. Our second was the next night at Black Tie Dinner. Yes, in a hotel. Where I had a room. And where the alcohol and warm fuzzy feelings were both flowing freely.

Lacey may be 17 years my junior, but she's the smart one. She declined staying the night after that second date. I'll never forget what she said to me: "I don't swap DNA with people I don't know."

I love that. I love the literal of that, and the figurative.

It's probably not the best idea to get physical with someone you don't know just in terms of health and safety, although I have certainly done it and sometimes it's been really fun.

But it's also not the best idea to put the intimacy cart before the connection horse, if you will, not to mention how much fun it is to wait. Sure, it was only 10 dates or so later that we did have sex. But those dates were so much fun, filled with excitement and expectation and the kind of flirting that makes me giddy.

They were also filled with all of the "getting to know you" stuff that needs to happen, about who you are and what you want — in life and in a relationship. Without that, sex and desire become your base. And, as we all know, sex and desire can wax and wane. But love and trust and respect, all of the really juicy relationship stuff, can and should be the solid ground on which a relationship can stand and grow.

So, how long do you wait before you have sex with someone you like? Until you know if you really like them.

I know, I know: That's about as ambiguous as it gets. But I mean it.

Are you excited to see them, or just to see them naked? Are you excited to go on new adventures, or just see how adventurous they are in bed? Are you excited to share stories and ideas and futures, or just bodily fluids?

There is nothing — NOTHING — wrong with the latter in each case. Have sex. Have fun. Move on.

But if it's the former, if you've gotten to the place where you want to get into their mind and not just into their pants, you just might be ready for something real. And taking your time before you play will give you a better chance in the long run.

In the meantime, enjoy the tease. That's half the fun. Make out. Keep your clothes on. Tease about what's to come.

It's not about waiting a long time. It's not about



how long you wait. It's about waiting at all: Waiting until you can clear your head at least a little and sort out just what it is that you want to explore with this person.

Lust is at its headiest in the first moments you meet. See how hand-holding and making out and snuggling, as well as having dinner and going dancing, and seeing an art show feels. Then decide if you're ready to get to it.

Trust me, if you do that, when you do decide to get down to business, it just might be the best first-time sex you've ever had. It certainly was for me!

Jenny Block is the author of the new book *Wow! Discovering Your Ultimate Orgasm*.

Have a question about sex you want Jenny to address? Email it to GirlOnGirlsJenny@gmail.com.

Photo courtesy StephGrantPhotography.com



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

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

this week's solution

O	D	O	R	W	E	L	D	G	N	A	W		
D	E	B	T	A	V	O	W	A	R	O	S	E	
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Alyssa Edwards, above, entertained the Gaybingo crowd, including Ignacio and Alex, below.



Making the **SCENE** the week of **Oct. 23-29:**

- **Halloween Block Party:** On Cedar Springs Road from 7 p.m.-2 a.m. on Saturday.
- **Alexandre's:** No Label on Friday. Chris Chism on Wednesday. Alicia Silex on Thursday.
- **BJ's NXS!:** Join backyard grill master Ray Demps from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Brick/Joe's:** American Horror Story Hotel on the big screen on Wednesday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** Dallas Red Foundation holds a food drive for Legacy Founders Cottage at 6-10 p.m. on Friday with special drinks and giveaways by Stoli.
- **Changes:** Imperial Court show at 8 p.m. on Friday.
- **Club Reflection:** Trinity River Bears meeting at 2:30 and cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday. Imperial Court Halloween Fantasy Pageant at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** Candidate for Mr. Fall Fricio show at 7 p.m. on Friday. United Court of the Lone Star Empire voting at 7-10 p.m. on Friday and In-Town Show at 7 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Rainbow Lounge:** Cameron from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** Ashley Bradberry Band on Friday. Mi Diva Loca on Saturday. Kathy & Bella at 3 p.m. and Bad Habits at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** Halloween back lot party and costume contest with Jada Fox at midnight on Saturday. Dallas at New York Giants at 3:25 p.m. on Sunday. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/category/photos. Scene Photographs by Chad Mantooth & Leo Cusimano.

The LEAP Spooktacular at ilume



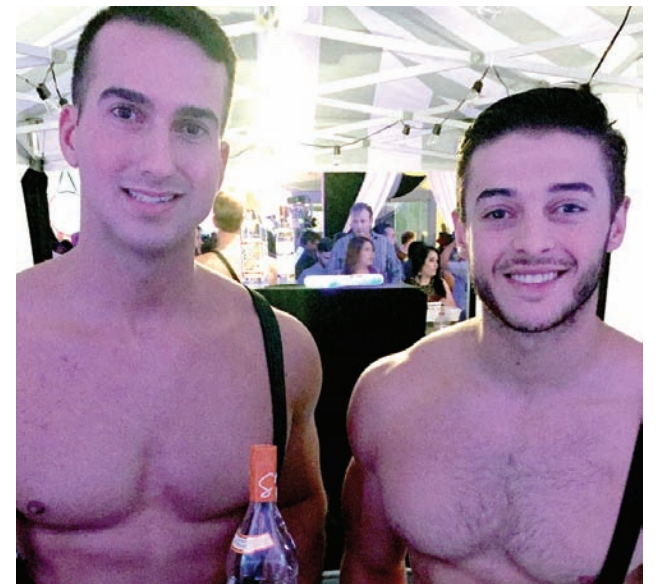
Getting their Halloween at the LEAP Spooktacular at ilume were Rebecca and Marty, above, Phillip and James, center, and J.W., bottom.





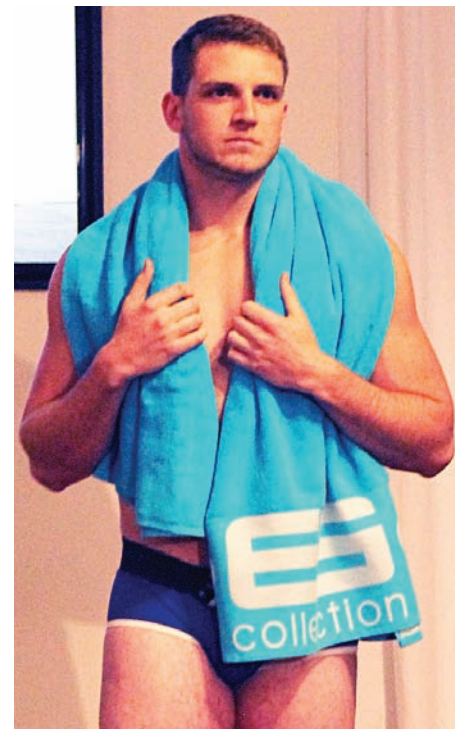
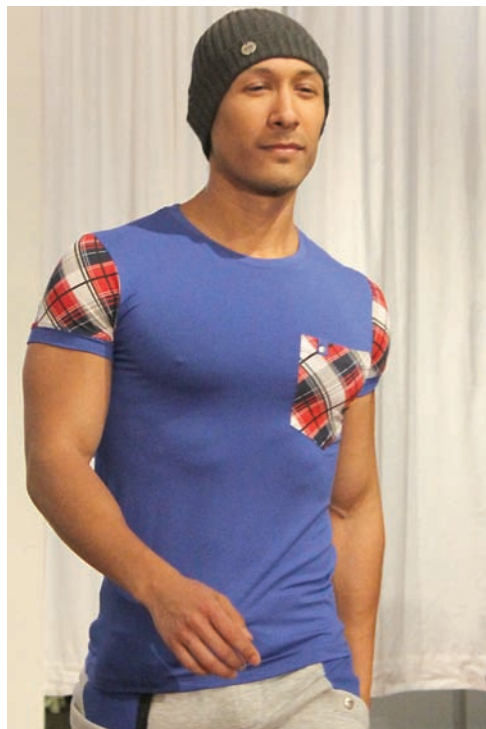
Party 'Under the Big Top'

Presented by Impulse. Photos by Jose Hernandez of JH Photo Dallas



Shane, Don and Billy and a friend celebrate Flower Reign's one-year anniversary on The Strip, left. Designer Robert Verdi, right, also stopped in for the celebration.

Fashion show at ES Collection on Cedar Springs



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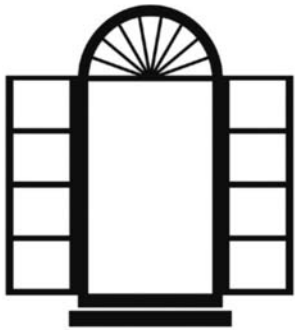
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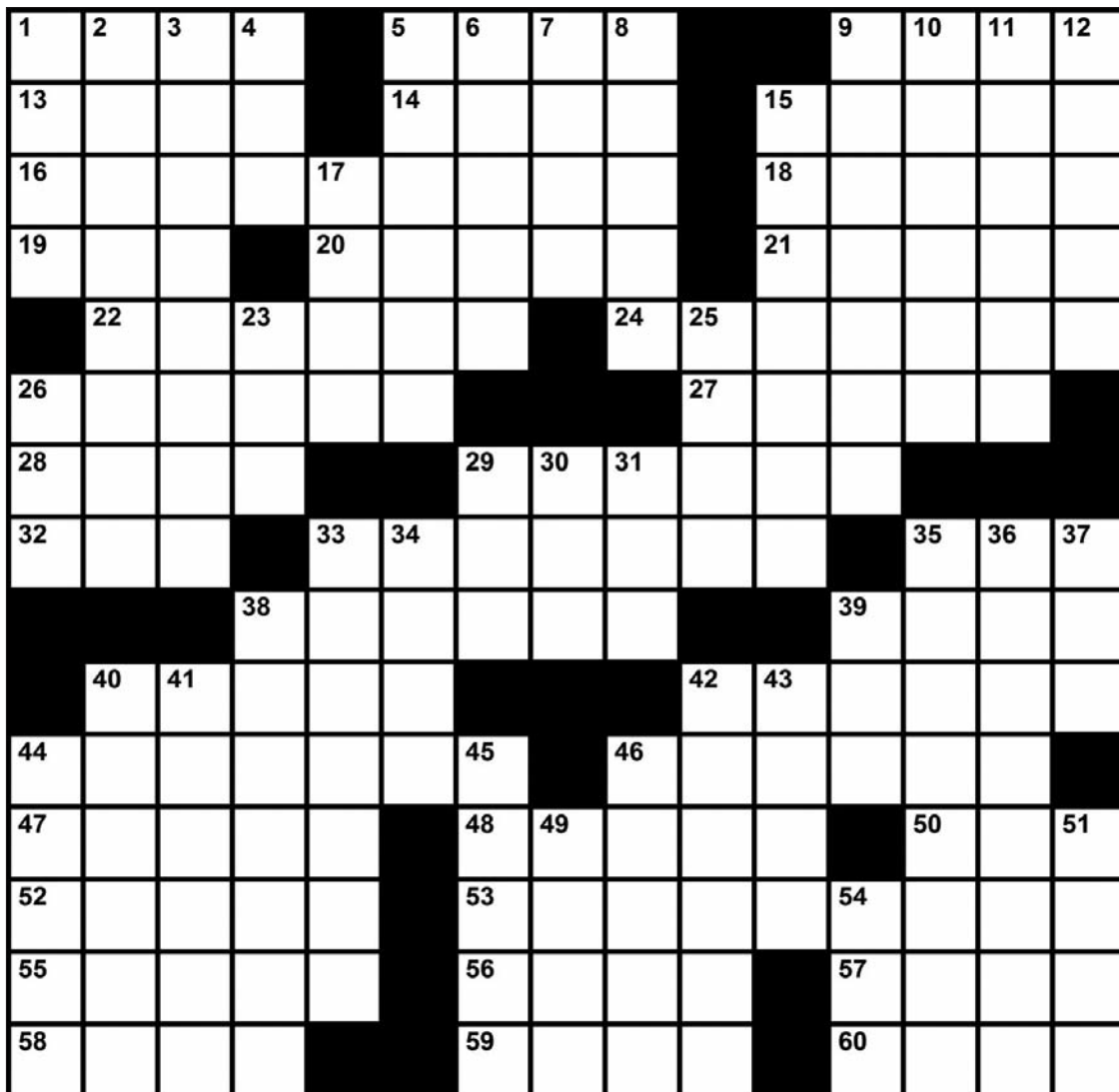
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Mr. Renovator

Solution on page 35

Across

- 1 A strong one may be found in a gym
5 Poet Angelina ___ Grimke
9 Eat beaver-style
13 Arrears
14 Say it's so
15 Became erect
16 Start of a quote from 26-Across
18 Bob Marley, e.g.
19 Composer Rorem
20 Porn director Francis
21 Put six feet under
22 Chip features
24 Queer
26 With 27-Across, YouTube star
who just came out (anagram of
"Mr. Renovator")
27 See 26-Across
28 Tickle pink
29 Revolting activity for pirates
32 Hrs. in California
33 More of the quote
35 "Peel ___ grape"
38 Wesley of *To Wong Foo, Thanks For
Everything! Julie Newmar*
39 Road imperfection
40 More of the quote
42 End of the quote

44 Tufts of hair near openings

46 Medicine show product

47 No longer lying with one's partner

48 Novelist Puzo

50 When repeated, a 1953 Cole Porter
musical

52 Mae West, notably

53 Song by 26-Across

55 Infraction fees

56 Hand job, for one?

57 *Margaret Mead* ___ *Me Gay*

58 Mireille of *Big Love*

59 Bette Davis feature of song
60 Judy Garland's "Meet Me ___
Louis"

Down

1 Norse war god

2 Langston Hughes' *Dream* ___

3 Like a Boy Scout to his master?

4 U.S.P.S. employee's beat

5 Singer-pianist Fats

6 They escaped from Pandora's box

7 *The Avengers* villain

8 Weenie

9 Corn hole?

10 "Our" in a crime name

11 In the rear, of a seaman

12 "___ Family"

15 Dr. Robbins of *Grey's Anatomy*

17 Linking toy

23 Disc from Netflix

25 Words said while holding a pair
of queens

26 Meas. for Stephen Pyles

29 AAA handout

30 Milk, so to speak

31 Contraction in a carol about
gay apparel

33 Butt plugs, e.g.

34 Like three men that visited Mary

35 Neil Tennant enthusiast, e.g.

36 Green stones

37 Quick on the uptake

38 Poems of Samuel Butler, e.g.

39 Engage men in shorts

40 Goose of the Baseball Hall of Fame

41 Male member, at LLEGO

42 Sounds at a toast

43 *The ___ in Winter*

44 Social blunder

45 Lay low

46 Use a rubber

49 "Off with you!"

51 Nureyev's refusal

54 Quebec compadre

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