Wendy Davis throws hat in ring

Fort Worth's political star finally declares she'll seek governor bid

Joel Burns still mum about Senate run for Davis' seat

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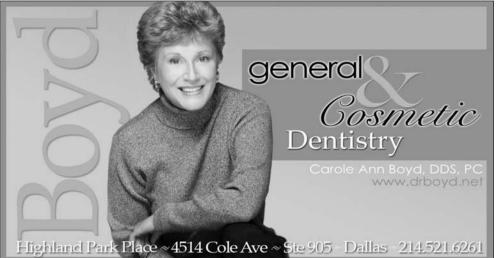
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HEARING THEM OUT | Garland Mayor Douglas Athas, left, speaks to LGBT activists Wednesday night after they spoke to the entire Garland City Council. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

LGBT residents address Garland City Council on DART and nondiscrimination ordinance

Following the walkout by Garland DART board representative Michael Cheney on Sept. 24 before a vote on healthcare benefits for same-sex partners at the transit agency, LGBT Garland residents and other area activists attended a Garland City Council meeting Wednesday, Oct. 2.

Two Garland residents and Dallas Gav and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink addressed the council. After the meeting concluded, Mayor Douglas Athas and two councilmen spoke to the group in the council chambers.

Lerone Landis told the council he lives in Garland with his husband and their 4-year-old daughter. He said he was a daily DART rider and was disappointed to learn that it was Garland's representative who prevented the healthcare equalization plan to pass

To show its commitment to diversity, he urged the Garland City Council to pass a nondiscrimination policy for its own employees and for city residents.

Carmarion Anderson said she was embarrassed to be a Garland resident after Cheney's stunt at the DART meeting.

"We live here and pay our taxes here," she

She said she expected equal treatment for herself and for DART's LGBT employees.

Fink called Cheney's action at the DART meeting "shameful." She encouraged the council to pass an ordinance that would cover city employ-

"Be on the cutting edge and bring new business to the city," Fink said.

The practice at the council is to not address speakers directly as they make their allotted three-minute presentations. However, the three statements were made at the end of the meeting and the mayor came to introduce himself and talk to the group afterward.

Resource Center spokesman Rafael McDonnell, who was also at the meeting, spoke to the mayor earlier in the day about the issues.

He said he believed the opposition to the DART healthcare plan among Garland officials is not rooted in homophobia but in the city's fiscal conservatism. Athas agreed it was unfair for DART to be covering unmarried heterosexual partners and not same-sex partners.

"The council was certainly aware of Mr. Cheney's actions," McDonnell said.

Athas told Dallas Voice last week that he spoke to Cheney and was opposed to the DART plan. His opposition to the plus-one plan is that it's open to abuse because the plan could cover nieces, nephews or anyone else and the agency had no way to monitor it.

But Athas said Wednesday night that the city would consider the idea of a nondiscrimination ordinance.

"We have a lot of lesbian and gay employees," he said. "We would never allow that sort of discrimination."

He said he had never heard a request from any of the city's lesbian and gay employees for a nondiscrimination ordinance. But he called the ordinance "nothing to rush into because no one's come forward" with a complaint.

Fink told the mayor that most Fortune 500 companies have a nondiscrimination policy and look to relocate in cities that have similar policies. She said that the city may not have received any complaints, but many people looking for work may have skipped applying in Garland because they have no protections.

McDonnell said he received an email from Athas Thursday morning, telling him the next step is to have Human Resources look over Garland's nondiscrimination policies.

The mayor called the city extremely fiscally conservative. McDonnell said an ordinance is a good way for a city to avoid a discrimination lawsuit.

-David Taffet





























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Davis makes bid official

Fort Worth senator tells Texas voters she's ready to be governor, while Joel Burns begins discussions about going after her Senate seat

ANNA WAUGH I News Editor waugh@dallasvoice.com

HALTOM CITY — State Sen. Wendy Davis finally confirmed Thursday what millions of Texans have hoped and wished for: that she's running for governor.

Amid hundreds of supporters at the Wiley G. Thomas Coliseum in Haltom City, where she graduated from high school, Davis said she'd seek the Democratic nomination.

"Today we start a new journey together," she told the crowd. "We can make our great state even greater."

Davis, 50, said when she walked across that stage 32 years ago, she never thought she'd be on it again announcing her bid for governor. She said the opportunities afforded her to attend college and make something of herself should be a promise all Texans can expect.

"With the right kind of leadership, the great state of Texas will keep its promise, that no matter where you start, no matter how you start, that place has nothing to do with how far you can go," Davis said.

The news was hardly a surprise.

Davis has remained in the national spotlight after she shot to political stardom over the summer with her 12-hour filibuster on an abortion bill, becoming the Democratic favorite to replace Gov. Rick Perry in the governor's mansion in 2014. Perry is not seeking re-election.

But Davis is not new to controversial stances. In 2011, her filibuster on education cuts forced a special session and made her a Democratic hero. That same session she authored an LGBT-inclusive version of an anti-bullying bill. The LGBT protections were removed before passage.

Chuck Smith, executive director of statewide LGBT advocacy group Equality Texas, welcomed Davis' announcement.

"Wendy Davis has been an ally and a supporter of pro-equality legislation throughout her career in the Texas Senate," Smith said. "The reality is that LGBT-specific pro-equality legislation will never become law in Texas until we have a governor who will sign it into law."

Her public support for LGBT issues goes back to her time on the Fort Worth City Council, where she voted in favor of the city's nondiscrimination ordinance in 2000. She later appointed openly gay Councilman Joel Burns to the Zoning Com-



WANTING WENDY | After months of speculation, state Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, announced her run for governor Thursday, Oct. 3, at Wiley G. Thomas Coliseum in Haltom City surrounded by hundreds of supporters who chanted 'Wendy, Wendy' throughout her speech. (Patrick Hoffman/Dallas Voice)

mission. Burns went on to win her council seat after she stepped down to run for the Senate in 2007.

Burns is the favorite to replace Davis again for her District 10 seat. Burns said Thursday that while he's considered running for her seat, he would consider it more seriously in the coming weeks

"I will be talking with my family, constituents and with Tarrant County business and community leaders over the coming days and weeks about our future together and how we can best keep strong representation for Tarrant County neighborhoods while moving Texas forward," Burns wrote in an email to Dallas Voice.

Any Democrat will have an uphill battle in the Republican-leaning district. Republicans have lined up to take a shot at reclaiming Davis' Senate seat for Republicans after Kim Brimer lost to her in 2008.

For Davis, not a newcomer to a challenge, will have to ramp up her fundraising in a red state that hasn't seen a Democratic governor since Ann

Richards, almost a quarter century ago.

Davis' biggest opponent will be Attorney General Greg Abbott, who's running as the Republican favorite. She raised \$1 million in a few weeks after her summer filibuster, but Abbott has more than \$20 million in the bank.

Abbott released a statement after Davis finished her speech, welcoming her to the race and looking forward to "presenting the clear differences and debating the important issues that will preserve the economic miracle in Texas."

A poll released this week by Texas Lyceum, a nonpartisan, nonprofit group, shows half of voters haven't decided whether to support Davis or Abbott. Of the voters who've made up their minds, Abbott leads Davis by 29 percent to 21 percent.

Still, political leaders believe she can raise the funds and connect with voters to bring out Democratic support for a win in 2014.

"Not only is she the right candidate, but she's the candidate to lead us to a victory," Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats President Felipe Guttierez said.

As a longtime LGBT champion, Davis' entry into the race will only heighten the LGBT community's presence in the political arena.

"We know we have a true advocate for LGBT folks in Texas with Wendy," Guttierez said.

Abbott has tirelessly fought against the LGBT community from his recent threats to file a lawsuit against San Antonio for its nondiscrimination ordinance to challenging two gay divorce cases now before the Texas Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, no Democratic hopefuls have come forward for lieutenant governor. State Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, has been mentioned as the top contender to join Davis. Van de Putte is also an LGBT ally and has been mum on whether she'd join Davis on the Democratic ticket, only saying she'd think about it after Davis decides.

While Democrats await future political announcements in the wake of Davis' formal bid, her candidacy only means that more LGBT-friendly candidates will eye statewide office.





localbriefs

Equality TX estate planning seminar

Texas law gives preferential treatment to next of kin and "traditional" families. There is virtually no default protection for LGBT families.

With current laws in Texas that prohibit the freedom to marry, same-sex couples need to know about ways to better protect themselves and their

Equality Texas is presenting an estate planning for the LGBT community program about issues dealing with property ownership, wills and other documents.

Amy Ford from New York Life and Equality Texas Executive Director Chuck Smith will present the program on Oct. 5 at 2 p.m. at Greenland Hills United Methodist Church, 5835 Penrose Ave. RSVP to Amy Ford at 512-844-7907 or at AE-Ford@ft.newyorklife.com.

Reverchon restoration dedication

Stonework built by the Works Progress Administration in Reverchon Park in the 1930s has been restored. Councilmen Adam Medrano and Philip Kingston will attend the ribbon cutting to celebrate the restoration on Oct. 5 at 10 a.m. Tours of the stonework follows the ceremony.

The WPA constructed three sets of stonework from 1935 to 1937: the Iris Bowl near the park's recreation center, the Pecan Grove park entrance and Hillside Terrace, a series of stairways and

seating areas adjacent to the Katy Trail. The restoration cost \$2.1 million.

The 36-acre Reverchon Park opened in 1915 as Turtle Creek Park and was later renamed for botanist Julien Reverchon and expanded to 46 acres.

GLBT chamber expo

The North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce is having a Business Expo Mixer on Oct. 10.

The mixer takes place at the Renaissance Hotel, 2222 Stemmons Freeway on from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Exhibitor tables are still available at \$100.

General admission is free to the public. For information, visit GLBTchamber.org.

AIN's Great Gatsby

AIDS Interfaith Network is hosting its annual The Great Gatsby, an afternoon of decadence, dressed in 1920s style.

AIN provides prepared meals and transportation services to its clients and operates The Daire Center. AIN serves more than 2,000 men, women and youth who have HIV/AIDS and makes 5,000 contacts with at-risk individuals through outreach and HIV prevention.

The Great Gatsby takes place at the North Dallas home of Faye Briggs on Oct. 13 at 3 p.m. \$100. Ticket price includes admission, open bar and heavy hors oeuvres. For more information, visit AINGreatGatsby.com.

pet of the week / FAITH

Faith is a beautiful Labrador mix who was transferred from a local city shelter to Operation Kindness for a new beginning. This lovely girl is friendly, playful, attentive and walks very well on a leash. She loves to run and would love to have an owner who loves running, too. She gets along well with other dogs and will make any family a wonderful companion. Come meet this gentle girl and give her the home she deserves.

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





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Exxon takes 'small step forward'

Company extends healthcare plan to married same-sex couples, but few see it as real change in its views toward LGBT employees

DAVID TAFFET I Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

Despite ExxonMobil beginning to offer healthcare benefits to same-sex spouses with a valid marriage license, the Human Rights Campaign doesn't foresee changing its Corporate Equality Index rating from minus-25.

Deena Fidas coordinates the annual HRC business-rating guide.

"My response is tempered," she said. "These are not domestic partner benefits. The reality is still ExxonMobil has consistently refused to amend their equal opportunity policy."

The company announced late last week that it would allow same-sex spouses of legally married couples to enroll in its insurance plan, starting this week. But the company hasn't changed any of its other policies and doesn't include sexual orientation or gender identity in its Equal Employment Opportunity policy.

Since marriage is not legal in Texas where the oil company is based, employees at the Irving headquarters or exploration and producing operations in Houston would have to travel across the country to obtain a marriage license. Upon return, they'd have to out themselves at a company that doesn't guarantee their protection, Fidas said.

She called the announcement "a small step forward."

The new benefit was announced on Sept. 27. Open enrollment for healthcare began Oct. 1. If a couple wanted to take advantage of the healthcare plan, they would have had to travel over the weekend to get married.

Fidas said she tried to get clarification from ExxonMobil if marriage by same-sex couples would be considered an event for purposes of enrollment. That would allow a newly married spouse to enroll during the year and not have to wait until the annual open enrollment.

The company didn't respond to her question. Resource Center CEO Cece Cox wondered if the change was a PR stunt or simply an announcement of something they're legally obli-

In September, the Department of Labor issued guidelines that said legally married gay or lesbian couples can participate in employee benefit plans, even if the state they live in doesn't recognize same-sex marriage.

"Not a lot has changed in my opinion," Cox

She noted that the company has eliminated benefits and rights for employees brought in from Mobil and XTO Energy that have still not been restored.

Cox said the resistance by ExxonMobil to add nondiscrimination to its EEO policy illustrates the continuing need for the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

New York state Comptroller Thomas Di-Napoli has been behind a shareholder initiative for the past four years to add nondiscrimination to the EEO policy. The comptroller oversees the state retirement fund that currently owns more than 13 million shares of Exxon worth \$1.2 bil-

Since 2010, DiNapoli has reached more than 30 agreements with companies in the state's portfolio to implement equal-employment policies that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

George Wong spoke at the annual ExxonMobil shareholders meeting in Dallas representing New York's retirement fund, arguing that without a nondiscrimination policy, the company won't draw from the largest employee pool, putting it at a competitive disadvantage.

DiNapoli has argued that if ExxonMobil does business in New York, it doesn't have the right to pick and choose which New York-issued marriage licenses to honor for its employees. In addition, the company is violating the state's nondiscrimination law.

"Today's announcement by ExxonMobil shows the tide is continuing to turn in corporate America," DiNapoli wrote in a statement about the healthcare benefit. "This is a very positive step for the LGBT community and a vindication of years of efforts by shareholders and activists across the country."

He called discrimination against LGBT employees "simply not good business."

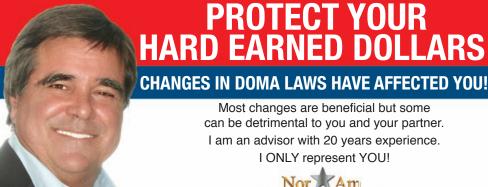
Eric Sumberg, a spokesman for DiNapoli's office, said they would decide by spring whether to file another shareholder resolution to include LGBT protections in the company's EEO policy.

"We're certainly going to be examining what the new policy means in relation to the written EEO policy," Sumberg said.

ExxonMobil's minus-25 score on HRC's CEI reflects points taken away for "responsible citizenship." Opposing shareholder resolutions related to promoting an inclusive workplace or donating to organizations whose primary mission are to advocate against LGBT equality are "public blemishes" that result in 25 points being deducted from the score. The company loses points each year for opposing the shareholder

If ExxonMobil added LGBT protections to its EEO policy, HRC would likely stop giving the company the 25-point penalty. In addition, it would get 15 points for adding sexual orientation and 15 points for adding gender identity and might even get 15 points for healthcare coverage for a total of 45 points.

For the 2013 CEI released last year, Chevron scored a perfect 100. Shell rated 95 and BP received 90.



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Catching the LifeWalk bug

Longtime AIDS Arms volunteer created his own team last year after helping with the event for years

ANNA WAUGH I News Editor waugh@dallasvoice.com

Over the past two decades, Joey Avila has spent countless hours volunteering with AIDS organizations, but none of that time has been quite as addictive as his time with LifeWalk.

Avila has volunteered for AIDS Arms' annual 5K LifeWalk fundraiser, now in its 23rd year, for nine years. He helped with everything from setup to parking until last year when he decided to raise money and walk himself.

"Last year I said, 'You know what, put on your walking shoes and jump in and let's do this thing," he said. "So now I got the bug."

His participation with AIDS organizations goes well beyond his time with LifeWalk.

Avila's friend Mario became ill in 1987. He was later diagnosed with AIDS and his family kicked him out, so Avila moved in with him to help. One night Mario became so ill, he needed to go the emergency room. Avila then convinced Mario's aunt to take him in so he could die among his family and friends. He died shortly after his diagnosis.

Avila's experience taking care of Mario without enough services to help AIDS patients in Dallas led him to volunteer with AIDS organizations.

"After that happened, I thought this can't be happening to people all the time," Avila said. "There's got to be a stop to it. Unfortunately, there weren't enough agencies back in that time to reach out and help as many people as they do now."

But in 1989, he was diagnosed with HIV and he needed to find help for himself.

"My whole world just stopped and I thought, 'Oh my god,'" Avila recalled. "Back in the day, five years max is what they were giving people Ito livel."

He thought he had syphilis and went to get tested at Dallas County Health and Human Services. When the nurse informed him that he had HIV, Avila said he asked what he could do and what resources there were for him.

"The nurse said, 'I don't know what to tell you and you need to find out on your own' and just walked out and left me in the room," he said.

Avila later remembered that someone had mentioned AIDS Arms and the services they offered to help HIV-positive people. He became a patient and soon after started volunteering



SHARP SHIRT | Joey Avila won first place in the team T-shirt contest last year. His shirt featured the names of people he and his friends knew who had died from AIDS over the years, including his friend Mario, whom he took care of while he was ill in the late '80s. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)

with the organization that had helped save him when he had nowhere else to turn and no help from Dallas County.

"One thing led to another and since then I've been volunteering with them," he said.

He now serves on the Dallas County Ryan White Planning Council allocation committee, a position he's held since 2000.

His involvement with AIDS Arms includes his solo LifeWalk team, which raised more than \$600 last year. His T-Shirt design, which listed the names of people he and his friends knew who had died from AIDS, won him the best team shirt contest.

Kelly Green, senior LifeWalk co-chair, said about 3,000 people are expected to participate at

this year's event on Sunday. As of Tuesday, Oct. 1, about \$360,000 had been raised from teams toward the organizers' fundraising goal of \$475,000.

Green said organizers are going to interview walkers during the first part of the route in Lee Park about their experiences this year and why they decided to participate.

They're calling it Live from LifeWalk and it'll be broadcast in front of BJ's NXS and online. The interviews will also be released on DVD after the walk.

"We're hoping it brings more memories," Green said. "The idea is to create a more memorable walk."

For Avila, the event has helped him raise many for an agency that he's benefited from for years.

"It's given me the opportunity to give back to this agency that has given so much to me," he said. "It gives me the opportunity to feel like I'm giving back to somebody instead of feeling like I'm taking, taking, taking."

23rd annual LifeWalk

LifeWalk begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6, at Lee Park, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd.
People can register starting at 11 a.m.
Broadcast of Live from LifeWalk will be from 1:15-1:45 p.m. at TinyURL.com/LWLive13.
For more information, visit LifeWalk.org.









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Fort Worth events turn into Pride month

As number of events moved to October this year, Fort Worth will celebrate Pride month beginning with the parade this weekend

DAVID TAFFET I Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

October has become Pride month in Fort Worth as a number of events have moved to coincide with the parade and popular picnic staged by the nonprofit Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association

Q Cinema, which has been held in June in the past, moved to October. International Gay Rodeo Association will be in town later this month. AARP scheduled a seminar at Celebration Church on how the new healthcare law affects LGBT families. And the city is holding a diversity training panel in conjunction with Pride month.

The 32nd annual Tarrant County Pride Parade is expected to be the largest with more entries than last year's record-setting number.

The route will move one block west but remains

in Downtown Fort Worth for the third year. The change is due to construction on Main Street. The staging area remains on Weatherford Street at Taylor Street but the parade proceeds down Houston Street, a block west of Main Street.

Tina Harvey, president of TCGPWA, said this year will be the largest Pride with two more parade entries than last year. The fastest-growing category of groups is straight allies, which includes a number of welcoming and affirming churches.

The parade steps off at noon and follows Houston Street to West Seventh Street. The street festival at General Worth Square on West Ninth Street begins at noon and continues until 6 p.m.

A group of students from Saginaw who started a gay straight alliance in their high school will march with a number of other high school GSAs, three college GSAs and a contingent from Brite Divinity School.

The Saginaw students have endured increased bullying and even claimed death threats since they started the GSA in their school.

Harvey said she hoped the protesters from a church in Venus stay away this year. Two years ago, they interfered with Mayor Betsy Price's car

■ FORT WORTH, Page 19



STRAIGHT BUT NOT NARROW | A Fort Worth PFLAG group marches in the Tarrant County parade last year. Straight allies are the fastest-growing group of parade entries this year. (Chuck Marcelo/Dallas Voice)





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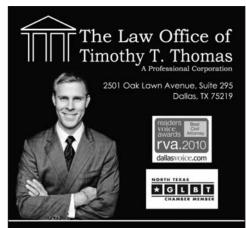


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PRIVATE CLASS | To protect her wife, the spouse of an Air Force captain wanted her name withheld and sent the above photo of themselves at their wedding as-is. (Courtesy photo)

UT San Antonio won't give in-state tuition to Air Force captain's wife

University officials may be following state law, but Lambda Legal says federal law requires that the spouse receive the discounted tuition rate

ANNA WAUGH I News Editor waugh@dallasvoice.com

SAN ANTONIO — The University of Texas at San Antonio is refusing to give in-state tuition to the spouse of a local military officer.

The spouse, who asked that her name be withheld because of her wife's position, said her wife is a captain in the Air Force and they've lived in Texas since June. That's not long enough of a residency to receive in-state tuition, but state and federal law have provisions that all military personal, spouses and dependents can receive in-state tuition

But when the spouse applied, she received word on Sept. 27 that her in-state tuition had been denied per UTSA's legal department. Her quest for a reason has gotten her nowhere with university officials.

"They had no precedent for accepting a samesex spouse under in-state tuition and they've never denied a spouse of any other variety," she said. "Basically, nobody really knows why the decision was made. It was just made by a rogue guy in the legal department or it was a UT System decision."

UTSA spokesman Joe Izbrand said the situation is a "complex issue that deserves thoughtful deliberation and it is still under review."

"UTSA is proud to be nationally recognized as a military friendly university," Izbrand said in an emailed statement to Dallas Voice. "We are equally as proud to be a university whose core values include inclusiveness and respect. We are committed to providing a diverse and positive environment in which all of our students, faculty and staff can thrive."

The spouse was told this week that UTSA didn't make the decision. Instead, it came from The University of Texas System.

UT System spokeswoman Karen Adler said the decision was "issued at the campus level, not by the UT System." When asked if the system has a policy for same-sex spouses of military personnel, she said it didn't have one.

Paul Castillo, staff attorney at Lambda Legal's Dallas office, said he's aware of the situation but isn't sure what the university's reason was behind its decision.

"At this point, we're taking information and validating what's going on before we make any commitment [to take the case]," he said.

Texas has a state law that provides a military waiver for service members and their families to receive in-state tuition under the Texas Education Code. But the state doesn't recognize same-sex marriage

But under the federal Higher Education Opportunity Act, all public institutions that receive federal funds from the U.S. Department of Education must provide in-state tuition to members of the armed forces and their spouses. With the federal government now recognizing same-sex marriage after the Defense of Marriage was struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in June, Castillo said the university must give the spouse in-state tuition.

"The act was intended to ensure members of the armed forces and their families do not lose any educational opportunity when they're called to active duty," Castillo said. "Under the federal law, as long as the spouse is active for a least 30 days, the member and spouse are entitled to the in-state tu-

■ SAN ANTONIO, Page 19

All about her



DAZZLING DIVAS | Angela Amos, left, and TeeDee Davis launched Dallas Her Pride last year as a weekend of events that were geared toward women during Dallas Black Pride. (Photo courtesy of Teedee Davis)

Feeling largely ignored by festivities. two women add a feminine touch to Dallas Black Pride's celebration

RICH LOPEZ I Contributing Writer Getrichindallas@gmail.com

In the bustle of Dallas Black Pride weekend, a healthy dose of parties and workshops provide both entertainment and empowerment to the community. But for an event that gets questioned about its own celebration apart from Dallas Pride in September, a further division was being felt within the ranks.

While female attendees weren't excluded from the celebration, according to Teedee Davis and Angela Amos, there was definitely a gap in the experience. So, they did something about it.

Dallas Her Pride launched its inaugural campaign in 2012, providing a distinct outlet for women attending and spearheaded by Davis and Amos. Although involved with creating female-based curriculum for close to a decade now, they saw the time to brand it so that women were just as visible as men in the goings-

"Even though we had been involved that long, it was time to start Her Pride last year," Davis said. "Events were geared toward the guys as our needs seemed to be lost. So not only are we patrons, we're event planners and we thought we'd go ahead and start giving an outlet to women to have a better and more worthwhile

connection to Pride."

Dallas Southern Pride and DFW Pride Movement are the two groups that put on Dallas Black Pride. DSP is more of a circuit party, where DFW Movement, a nonprofit, started planning more informational and entertainment events five years ago.

Amos has been involved with Dallas Black Pride since its late '90s inception and Davis marks her as a pioneer. But even today, Amos considers the pace of the evolution of this week's

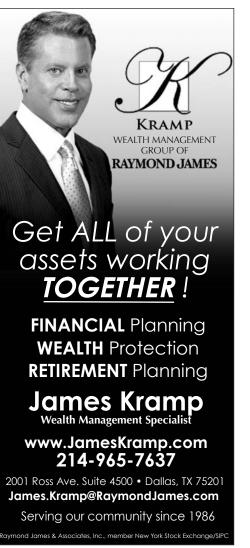
"We're taking little steps at a time but obviously something was missing," she said. "I think we're in a good space today. Ours isn't a separate celebration. We've reached out to Dallas Southern Pride and DFW Movement and integrated into the entirety of it. And they've embraced it."

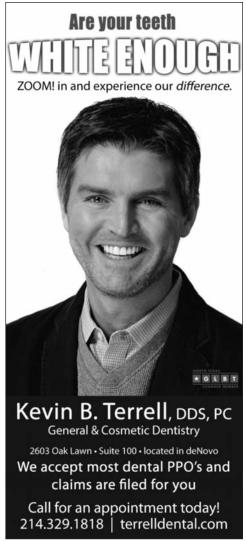
Outside of the two primary organizations, Dallas Her Pride has teamed up effectively with the Park Inn Radisson as their host hotel and venues such as Sue Ellen's, Cherries and the Brick, which is the official nightclub for DHP.

And if last year was any indication, 2013 could easily mark another successful turn.

"Before last year, there wasn't a way to gauge attendance, although we knew that the weekend would have about 10,000 patrons in total," Davis said. "But last year, we could tally Web hits, party attendance and even hotel rooms to determine that we accounted for about 2,000 women at Pride. And we think we can increase that this year."

■ HER, Page 17







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texasnews

Dallas man urges caution on apps after attack



ON THE MEND | After facial reconstruction surgery, Arron Keahey now has a metal eye socket, but parts of his face are still numb from nerve damage, which may be permanent. (Photo courtesy of WFAA)

Police are investing brutal beating in Springtown as hate crime, while victim waits to see if some of the injuries sustained are permanent

ANNA WAUGH I News Editor waugh@dallasvoice.com

Aaron Keahey has spent the last month recovering after an encounter on a phone app nearly

Keahey, 24, starting talking to 18-year-old Brice Johnson on the app MeetMe on Labor Day. Keahey, who lived in Dallas at the time, was staying with family in Springtown, a small town about 70 miles west of Dallas in Parker County, for the hol-

The two started chatting in the early morning and kept messaging for about an hour until they agreed to meet in person. Keahey then drove the 15 minutes to Johnson's house.

"I don't remember if he said he was bisexual or if he said he was gay, so I just took him as some guy that usually dates girls but is undercover about his sexuality," Keahey told Dallas Voice.

ATTACK, Page 18

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■ **HER,** From Page 15

Working with teams of volunteers, the Her Pride co-chairs' first goal when planning 2013 was to simply make sure they could get as many people on board as possible.

"We had to rally the troops and get our volunteers and our counterparts on board with the vision," Amos said.

But Davis and Amos admitted to starting late in their planning, which hit their own pockets to bring in a distinguished panel of experts and celebrities.

"In order to get funding, we had to have started earlier so we were behind the 8-ball already," Amos said. "And not having our 501(c)(3) non-profit status yet, we just needed to do something. So we just paid for it ourselves."

DHP events are referred to as episodes and the empowerment episode would be The Conversation on Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Downtown. Davis and Amos funded the panel. The panelists include Dallas' Dr. Stephanie McVea, performer Tajir S. Hawkins, former Houston Comets assistant coach Alisa Scott, and former WNBA All-Star and 2000 gold-medal Olympian Chamique Holdsclaw, who now serves as an advocate for healthy living, education and mental health due to her own struggles with depression. The Conversation will be moderated by Q-Roc Ragsdale.

Her Pride episodes (which began on Thursday with a VIP *Scandal*-watching party) run Friday with both the fashionable Seduction party at the Park Inn and The Player's Ball at Cherrie's both kicking off at 10 p.m.

After The Conversation, DHP switches gears with its annual pool party at the host hotel followed by The Black Affair at the Crowne Plaza Downtown at 10 p.m. This event hosted more than 700 attendees in 2012 and this year features Houston burlesque troupe Feline Noir.

"We're so excited to see our sisters in Houston add to the party and expand the celebration," Davis said.

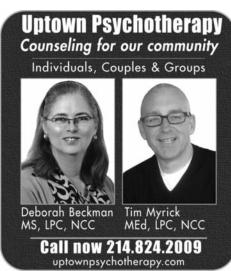
Also on Saturday, the Brick hosts the centerpiece party The Greatest Show On Earth, featuring DJ Solo and fire dancer Qoqo Phoenix. DHP teamed with Moscato Music Lounge to complete the weekend with a live music event on Sunday at Sue Ellen's.

"Everyone can come and let their hair down and enjoy great music," MML founder Nik Ceo said. "It's the perfect close because it brings the community and even the straight world together for the thing we all love — music."

But Davis and Amos remind people that first and foremost, the focus is women, as well as to have events that aren't just for African-American gay women, but for all races, and even the men are welcome to come out.

"We didn't add another Pride," Amos said.
"We're very conscious of the event as a whole. We are adding to the experience and we like to say Dallas Her Pride is inclusive of all but specific to the women."

For more information, visit DallasHerPride.com. For more Dallas Black Pride events, visit DallasSouthernPride.com and DFWprideMovement.org.







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texasnews

ATTACK, From Page 16

But when he arrived, Keahey said Johnson was upset and attacked him. He only remembers meeting him before the memories go dark.

"When I showed up, I only remember talking to him for like a minute," he said. "All I remember is that happened and I woke up in the hospital four days later."

Keahey's injuries included brain trauma, nerve damage and broken facial bones. The pressure on his brain made doctors doubt he would even survive.

"They didn't expect me to make it through the night," he said.

Keahey had to have facial reconstruction surgery and has a metal eye socket now. He couldn't walk for three weeks and recently stopped using a walker. The nerve damage caused the right side of his nose and area around it to go numb and his right hand to shake. He said doctors expect to know if the damage is permanent in six to 18 months.

Keahey was taken to the hospital by Johnson, who was arrested by police for the attack on Sept. 10. He was charged with aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury, a second-degree felony. He has since been released on a \$25,000 bond. If prosecutors seek a hate crime enhancement under state law to a first-degree felony, he could face five years to life in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine, ac-



BEATING THE ODDS | Keahey was unconscious for four days after the attack, which doctors didn't expect him to survive. (Courtesy photo)

cording to the Texas Penal Code.

Johnson doesn't have a previous criminal record, according to public records.

Springtown police Lt. Curtis Stone, the investigator on the case, said he is investigating the attack as a hate crime. Stone said he's not sure what the motive behind the assault was, but he's waiting on the transcripts of Keahey and Johnson's chat on the app.

"It is being investigated as a hate crime," he said. "It won't be determined as a hate crime until it goes to trial and prosecutors can evaluate it."

Stone said when Johnson brought Keahey to

the hospital, he told police he was supposed to meet Keahey, but he heard a car alarm go off and found Keahey in the trunk of his car, badly beaten. But the story didn't make sense and police later found out that Johnson was responsible for the attack.

"During interviews, he did admit to the initial part of the assault," Stone said. "He remembers starting to assault him and then he blacked out."

There's currently no evidence to suggest that other people helped Johnson.

"Is it possible that there were more people involved? Yes," Stone said. "But there's nothing at this time to prove that there was anyone else."

Police departments report bias-motivated incidents to the FBI under the federal Hate Crime Statistics Act. Online records show the Springtown Police Department hasn't reported a hate crime to the FBI in more than a decade.

Stone said this type of violence is not common in the small town.

"I've been here 11 years and this is the first [possible hate crime] that I've worked on," he said.

Although the investigation is focusing on the possible bias in the case, Keahey said he knows

he was targeted because no other explanation makes sense to him.

"He didn't take my wallet, he didn't take my money," he said. "[Hate] was the reason behind it. Why else would he say I'm bisexual or gay and then have you show up and come to the house and then all of sudden decide to do that to you?"

Keahey said when he normally chats with guys on the app, they either talk to him or say they're not gay.

He said Johnson kept telling him he wasn't straight and if he changed his mind about meeting when he got to his home, he likely would've said something rude or beaten him up to make him leave, not nearly killed him.

Keahey hopes Johnson pays for the attack and anyone else who may have helped assault him.

"Honestly, I just hope he sits in prison. I don't care how long. I don't care if it's five years or 25 years," he said. "I just hope that everyone involved gets caught."

Keahey has moved to Springtown to be with family while he recovers, but he said he plans to move back to Dallas soon to start his life again.

But after all he's been through, he said his trust in people has greatly diminished. And he wanted to talk about his experience so other people would be careful in the future.

"Don't trust people on the Internet," he said. "I believe the more people talk about these things, the less they'll happen."



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FORT WORTH, From Page 13

along the parade route. Last year, police began a no-tolerance policy and arrested the protesters when they stepped off the curb.

"Until we can walk down Main Street without protesters, I'll be there," Harvey said.

She said she was proud of the gay and straight Saginaw students not giving in to bullying and harassment and marching proudly with others.

"I want these kids to grow up and be their complete selves," she said.

Harvey calls the city's parade family-friendly. She said when Price saw the level of intolerance coming from protesters, she assigned the plainclothes no-tolerance police unit to patrol the parade route.

While the largest increase in participation is coming from churches, only one bar is participating — 1851 Club in Arlington. None of the Fort Worth bars will be represented.

But Tarrant County's LGBT groups will also be out in force.

Cowtown Leathermen will provide the color guard leading the parade. ROTC — Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps — will provide some traditional parade entertainment.

Harvey said Texas Gay Rodeo Association will try something unusual for a parade.

"There will be a moment of silence for all those unable to come out, for those who suffer bullying and discrimination and in memory of all those we lost," Harvey said.

The Rev. Wendy Wortham will conduct a commitment or unification ceremony for couples at the county courthouse at the beginning of the parade route at 10:30 a.m. She's invited couples who participate in the ceremony to march with her in the parade.

"I want couples to have the dignity and respect of having a ceremony," she said.

Wortham became involved in the community through her accountant, Tom Anable, who was a founder of Fairness Fort Worth and died last year.

"I want to put the community in a good light," she said. "We're regular people."

After the ceremony, Wortham will give couples a certificate and participants will share cake.

At the Fort Worth parade, not only are Democrats planning to be out in force as they were in Dallas, but Harvey said Libertarian candidates are also planning to march.

On Sunday, the Pride picnic takes place in Trinity Park. Fort Worth's picnic traditionally attracts even more people than the parade.

Live entertainment includes the trans band Chix, country singer Jeff Black and Elizabeth, a local 17-year-old performer.

Harvey is hopeful this year's activities will show a profit that can be used to fund an education scholarship for LGBT students. She said information about applying will be released in November.

The parade steps off at noon on Oct. 5 at Houston Street from Weatherford to Seventh Street. The Street Festival is from noon-6 p.m. in General Worth Square on Houston Street at Ninth Street. The Pride picnic is from noon-6 p.m. on Oct. 6 in Trinity Park.

■ SAN ANTONIO, From Page 14

ition."

The spouse's wife has been active in the Air Force for 13 years. The two were married last year in Washington. Since same-sex marriage wasn't legal in the state then, the two returned in July to legally tie the knot.

Castillo said he's not sure whether university officials went by state law to deny the spouse the tuition rate and were unaware of the federal provision, or if officials didn't honor the federal re-

quirement. He said it's possible federal officials could handle the situation.

"It's quite likely that this could come to the attention of the U.S. Department of Education," Castillo said.

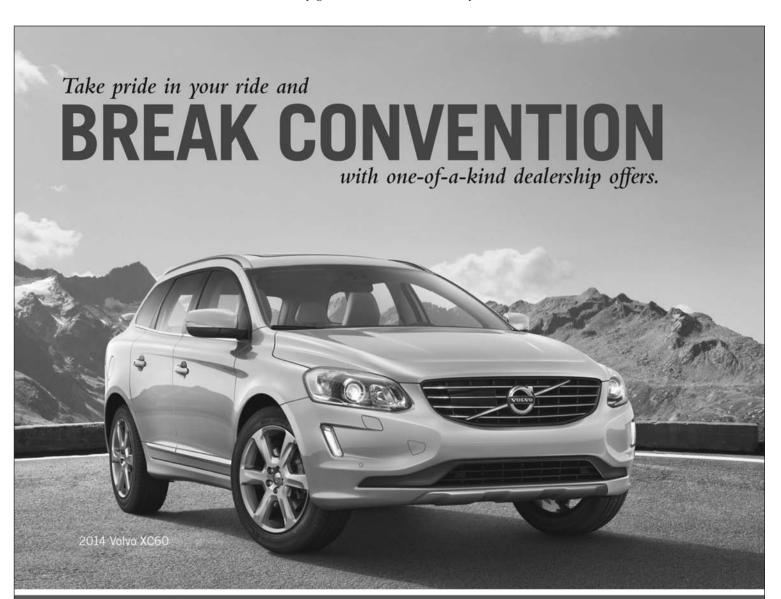
The spouse also attends San Antonio College for undergraduate nursing courses. When she submitted the paperwork for in-state tuition a month ago, she said officials didn't look twice at her form.

"They gave it to me," she said. "They didn't

even blink an eye. They just took the form, signed it and that was it."

While the spouse is only taking one class at UTSA toward a Ph.D. in medical anthropology, with a difference in tuition rates of about \$3,400 to \$1,200, she said she's fighting the denial of in-state tuition based on principle.

"I'm only really raising a fuss because it's the principle of the matter," she said. "It seems like it's going to set precedent so other people don't have the same issue."



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viewpoints

The measure of a man

ILSb-ICBB board was right to reverse trans exclusion, but there's more to being a man than anatomy

find it ironic that the current kerfuffle about the rules changes in the International LeatherSIR/boy and International Community Bootblack (ILSb-ICBB) contest fell so close to the anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The irony has less to do with the march than with a statement made by one of the icons of the Civil Rights movement, the late Martin Luther King Jr.

King once said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Well, this has certainly been a time of challenge and controversy for the leather community. The rules change that stipulated that contestants for the Leather Sir and boy titles must be "bioborn male" reversed a change from 2007 when the contest moved to San Francisco. Since then, the stipulation

was only individuals who identified as gay males may compete.

Now, I am happy to report that the board of ILSb-ICBB has reconsidered its rules change and have dropped the "bio-born male" requirement. Even so, we are now left with a lot of folks who are hurt and angry at having been relegated to the status of "other" in a community that prides itself on inclusion and acceptance.

The whole thing brings me to the question answered by King many years ago. What is the measure of a man?

It is a question that has haunted me since the T got added to the acronym LGBTQ, and I think I have come to terms with it. My feelings on this have evolved, and so I will accept that the board of ILSb-ICBB has evolved as well, albeit very quickly. But the matter is still worth examining.

Before reading further, understand that this is going to be about sexual attraction and gender identity, so it might disturb some readers and that's probably a good thing. Bothering people has always been a way to spark conversations that lead to change.

Being a gay man, the concern for the equip-

ment between a man's legs has always been an obsession. As a leatherman, I have written two books on details of just how to torture and delight a man by focusing on those organs, so it surprised me when I awakened to the fact that plumbing does not make the man. Oh, I admit I do still love those "dangly bits" in the context of a BDSM scene, but they are only one aspect of what I find as masculine. I know lots of men who have sufficient equipment, but ex-

hibit anything but masculine energy.

And that energy is what drives the attraction for me. There is an aggressive strength that is uniquely male, and it has very little to do with genitals and everything to do with attitude. There is a confidence a man exudes that, in its most positive sense, is almost magnetic. There is a physical bearing that shouts "maleness" and that is every bit as important as a bulge in the jeans.

These are both inward and outward signs of masculinity, but I have found them present in most of the trans men I know. To the world and to themselves, they act, look and feel every bit as much a man as I do.

I have had the privilege to know several of these men before they transitioned. I knew them as women first, yet I always thought of them as men. I watched as their bodies changed and as they fulfilled the lifelong dream of making their outside match their inside. It was an amazing gift for me, and it helped me along in my evolution.

I have many friends who have made that transition, and to a man, each has proven their courage and character. Making a decision to devote the time, energy and resources to go through surgeries, counseling and ongoing treatments to be who they knew they really are is inspiring. Some of them are famous, some are just everyday men, finding their way in the world. Some of them are gay and others attracted to women, but never would I think of them as anything but male. It is who they are.

I have friends who I have "played" with in a BDSM scene, in spaces that were reserved for "men only," and the only question I have ever heard was, "who was that hot guy you were flogging?" It was obvious to everyone that they not only looked masculine, but they were men.

So again I am glad the board of ILSb-ICBB has reversed its decision regarding my brothers who were born female. I sincerely hope they will come to know why their decision outraged so many people, not just in the "trans community," but in the leather community as a whole. As a community and as men, we are all greater than our "parts."

I am delighted they have arrived at the decision to move from standing in comfort and convenience to a better place in the face of challenge

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and board member for the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at DungeonDiary.blogspot.com.



Hardy Haberman Flagging Left



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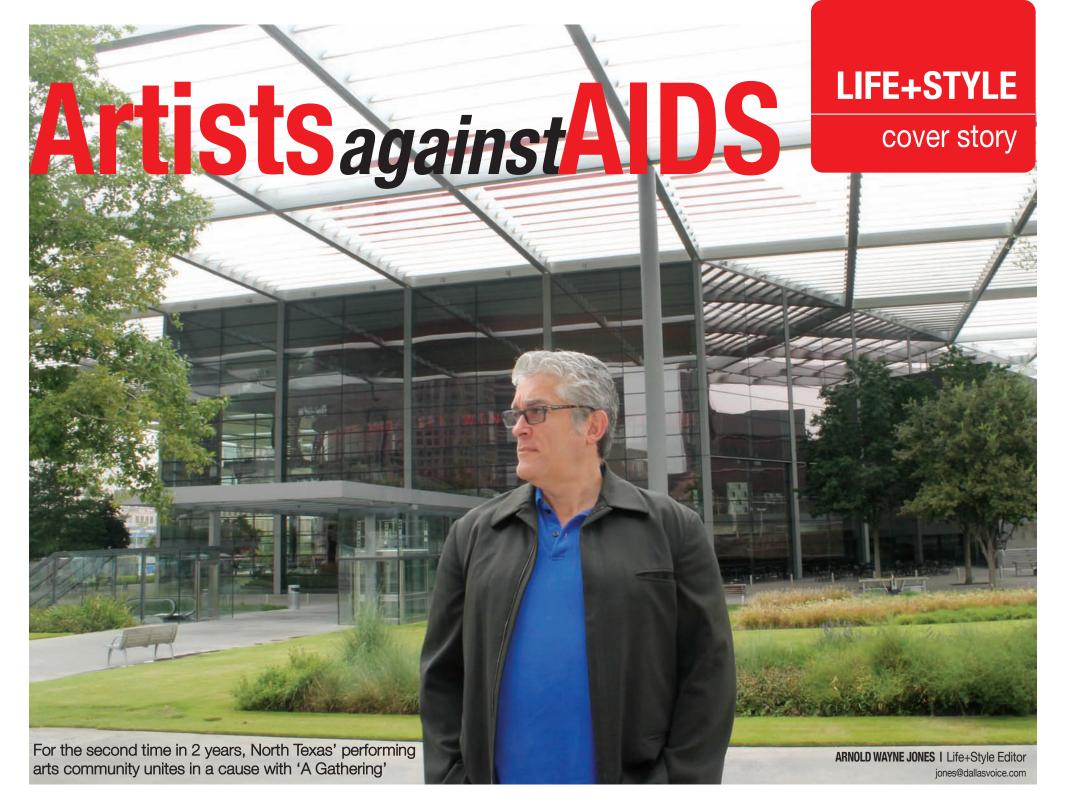


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he first thing Charles Santos wants to impress upon everyone he meets is this: HIV/AIDS is still a serious problem.

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1980s and early '90s, when AIDS victims fell like flies; we may have developed a cocktail that helps keep people alive but which does not cure the disease; we may have gotten allies as unlikely as George W. Bush to become defenders of AIDS research and treatment. But we still have a long way

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search and treatment. But we still have a long way to go. And HIV is as much a health concern now as it ever was — even if a lot of people don't seem to realize.

Santos, the executive director of TITAS, pounded that drumbeat two years ago, during the yearlong 30th anniversary commemoration of the AIDS crisis, when he first staged *A Gathering* at the Winspear Opera House. At the time, Santos attempted a feat of a scope rarely witnessed in the local performing arts community: He marshaled together nearly a dozen groups, from the Turtle Creek Chorale to the Dallas Theater Center to the Texas Ballet Theater, to perform a benefit for four "Everytheater".

major HIV treatment nonprofits across North Texas.

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Santos "hadn't really planned on doing a second one," but it wasn't long after *A Gathering* ended that he realized it would not — could not — be the first and the last such benefit. Earlier this year, he decided it was "time to do another."

Perhaps without even realizing it, in the interim Santos has been compiling in his mind "a catalog of music that I

wanted to build a show around." Sometimes it was a song; sometimes a singer; sometimes a dance set to a specific piece of music.

"I reached a point where I thought, 'There's a show here,'" he says.

This summer, Santos sent out an open invitation to nearly a hundred arts leaders to what he called "A Gathering gathering" at his home: a brainstorming session to see if they could pull it off again, and if so, how they could make the event different.

It wasn't hard to generate excitement for *A Gathering*, part 2. "Everybody wanted to do it," he says. "Everybody said, 'Count us

in.

The *Gathering* gathering itself ended up being a major element in structuring the show. Santos invited all in attendance to share their own histories and experiences coping with HIV/AIDS: As a survivor, a caregiver, an observer. They recorded those sessions and, without attributing them to individuals, Chris Heinbaugh with AT&T Performing Arts Center and Joel Ferrell with the Dallas Theater Center set about turning those stories into a script. (It's a similar process the creators of *A Chorus Line* used to construct their stories in the lives of dancers.)

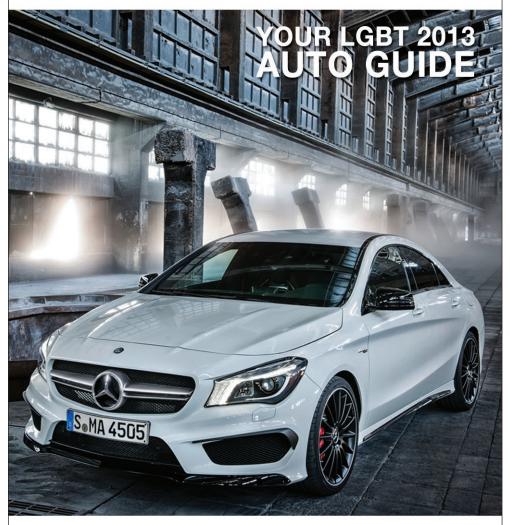
"There were artists, performers and service providers; a wide range of ages — those who had lived through the plague and those who knew little about it," Heinbaugh says about the session. "We started talking and sharing, and it just kind of unfolded from that."

The script (which is still a work in progress) includes spokenword segments built around three themes: faith, generations and family.

ARTISTS, Page 28

COME TOGETHER | Charles Santos stands in front of the Winspear Opera House less than a week before a dozen local arts groups will converge to present the second performance of 'A Gathering,' a collaborative benefit for area AIDS charities meant to raise awareness of the ongoing issue of HIV in the community. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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The 26th Dallas Video Festival starts next week with a new venue (The Alamo Drafthouse in Richardson) and countless new films. Among those are several documentaries with gay subject matter (reviewed below), but part of the fun of a festival lies in discovering new things (one I wanna see? A documentary about the incredible physicality of sprinter Usain Bolt, called *Miracle Body*), so explore — and enjoy a bite and a beer at the drafthouse.

Dallas Video Festival at the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, 100 S. Central Expressway, Richardson. Oct. 9–13. For details, visit VideoFest.org.

United in Anger. In March of 1987, Larry Kramer delivered a fiery speech that, two days later, led to the creation of ACT UP, the most radicalized of the gay-rights groups in the early years of AIDS activism. Within the first few months, hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people with AIDS and their supporters had mobilized fist-shaking protests and marches in New York, from the investment banks on Wall Street to the halls of Sloane-Kettering hospital to the FDA itself. They were mad as hell, and they weren't gonna take it any more.

United in Anger is both a video history of that

period — with tons of archival footage of early grassroots meetings, marches and TV coverage — as well as current-day interviews with the lucky survivors who had a hand in getting ACT UP off the ground. The problem is, if any of this sounds familiar, it's because journalist David France made *How to Survive a Plague*, a documentary about the exact same topic (the founding of the movement) just last year ... and it was nominated for an Oscar for best documentary.

That's quite a context in which *United in Anger* has to operate, and while it ably covers the same material, it lacks *Plague*'s sense of drama and structural power.

But Jim Hubbard's film still manages to stand

on its own. Celebrated folks like Peter Staley, Vito Russo, Michelangelo Signorile, Tom Kalin and others are profiled or interviewed, as well as Kramer himself, and the film tackles tangential issues, such as the poster art (some shockingly explicit) used to get the word out and how the meetings became a social outlet for many folks, as well as insights into how the group eventually fractured. *Screens Oct. 11, 9:45 p.m.*

Lucky. Lucky has the look of a modern urban kid

— the body art, the piercings, the knit snood over a fluorescent Mohawk — but even she takes it further than most. Her ink includes face tattoos, and metal pokes from every orifice on her head. John Mayer sings a woman's body was a wonderland; for Lucky, it's a canvas. (She looks for work as a model, without much luck.)

Lucky has decorated her exterior so no one looks close enough at her interior: A gay, orphaned, homeless single mom and product of "the system." Despite its handheld simplicity, the film is ambitious, tracking several years in her volatile life: Her dreams, strength and resilience in the face of seemingly endless adversity.

Screens Oct. 13, noon.



GAYS ON FILM | 'Lucky,' about a homeless lesbian, left, and 'United in Anger,' a history of ACT UP, above, play at Dallas' 26th Video Fest.



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Altar boys

Q Cinema opening night film 'Southern Baptist Sissies' captures the show's intimacy

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor iones@dallasvoice.com

Like Tom in Tennessee Williams' Glass Menagerie, the primary narrator of Southern Baptist Sissies, Mark (Emerson Collins), tells his story through the foggy parallax of memory. He recounts that innocent time from tween to teen when he and three peers — best friend TJ (Luke Stratte-McClure), simple Andrew (Matthew Scott Montgomery) and flamboyant budding

drag queen Benny (Willam Belli, of Ticked Off Trannies and RuPaul's Drag Race) — dealt with the complex emotions of burgeoning sexuality in the context of a repressive church environment. Such conflicts can never end well.

At least they don't when Del Shores is writing and directing. It's gotten to where you can hardly differentiate Shores-theplaywright from Shores-the-gay-damaged-former-Baptist. Film and theater have become a form of public therapy for him, working out issues related to the homophobia and hypocrisy of the church while sharing his coping mechanisms with others similarly scarred in the name of reli-

Q CINEMA

Southern Baptist Sissies kicks

off Q Cinema's 15th season as the opening night film Thursday

at the Rose Marine Theater,

1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth.

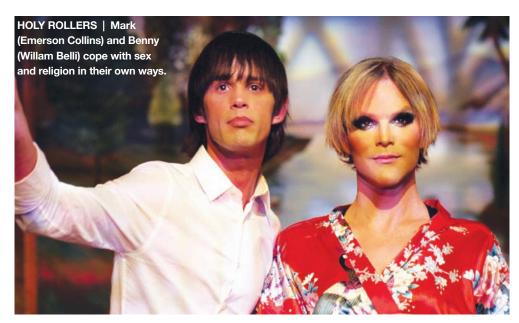
Oct. 10-13. QCinema.org.

Sometimes, it all comes across as heavyhanded (he's not really subtle with his imagery, such as two boys having sex while their writhing hands clutch a huge crucifix). More often than not in his shows, someone dies or commits suicide while a piano solo plays languidly in the background. But Shores also knows how to pivot from hilarious one-liners to pungent, painful silences without giving you whiplash. Sometimes, sharp observations cross over into mawkish

> melodrama, but usually the emotions feel earned.

Consider the characters that resonate most strongly as fullyformed people: Odette and Peanut, played by Shores veterans (and comedy icons) Dale Dickey and Leslie Jordan. They play two

drunken barflies lurking around some nameless gay piano bar for backsliding Baptists ("I'm not a lesbian — I'm an alcoholic," Odette clarifies). They share witty, withering observations: About the rough trade in the bar (most of whom Peanut seems unusually familiar with), about their own sordid, shadowy histories (Odette recalls an endless series of "unfortunate incidents I'd rather



not discuss right now"), about their relationships with the church. Dickey and Jordan's expert timing and palpable chemistry allow them to toggle effortlessly from sardonic bitterness to heartbreaking anguish without losing the audience.

But while these peripheral characters carry much of the comedy, the boys provide the plot's impetus as they explore (sometimes with pretty explicit nudity and sex) their urges, and the effects it has on them.

Unlike, say, Sordid Lives, SBS is basically a filmed stage production (you can see the audience members; they are seated in pews). The technique melds the intimacy of film with the spontaneity of theater; there's an immediacy to

the action that doesn't seem false, merely stylized.

Southern Baptist Sissies is a movie chockfull of specificity, from the hymns to the Bible verses to the numerous Dallas-based references (Cedar Springs, the Rose Room... even Dallas Voice), and Shores has updated a lot of the dialogue to provide a structure around which the actors all of them quite good — tap into archetypical issues of confusion familiar to many gay people, such as rationalizing how fooling around with another man doesn't make you gay (you can't be gay — you're Christian!). If just the idea of that hits home with you, you're exactly who should be seeing this movie.

Dallas Theater Center

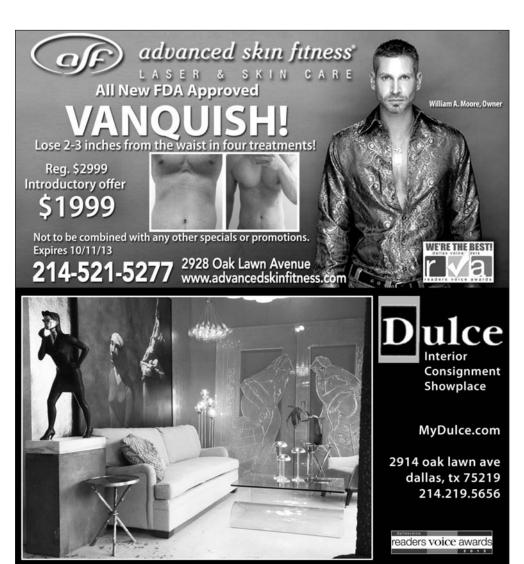
KICKS OFF THE SEASON WITH A PAIR OF POWERFUL PLAYS PERFORMED IN ROTATING REP

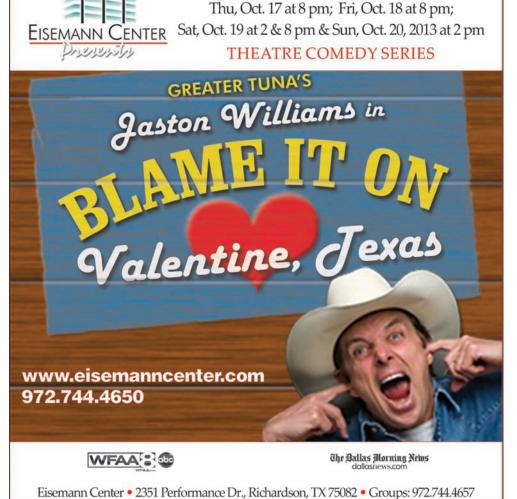


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Shop 'til you drop

Dallas fashionista Gregg Asher leads the 'charge!' on 'Million Dollar Shopper'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES

Life+Style Editor jones@dallasvoice.com

Gregg Asher wants to make one thing perfectly clear: The dress he wears in the premiere episode of the new reality show *Million Dollar Shopper* is a *man's* garment. And like every bit of clothing he wears, it's from his own wardrobe.

"I don't ever wear dresses, but if a designer puts a man's dress down the runway, I'm gonna wear it!" he proudly crows. There's something liberating about wearing a one-piece and running around. It's breathable!"

But, I point out, he ruins the comfort by walking around in 6-inch stilettos.

"Well, you have to keep it real," Asher concedes. "What can I say? I like to be taller." (For the record, the dress was the only item of menswear he *did* have on in that scene, though he's happily being a gay man — he likes being a *gurrrlll*, but "I never want to be a girl — I don't want cramps.")

Asher sticks out even on the streets of New York City, where much of the series, which begins Thursday, was shot. So you can imagine how, growing up in small-town Arkansas, Asher made an impact digging through bargain bins looking for couture. But the Dallas-based fashionista and personal shopper always likes to have fun with fashion.

"I love sparkle and rhinestones, so I always try to throw some of that in there," he says. "I have fun with fashion, rather than take it too seriously. I was lighthearted with it — you have to have fun, [especially] when you're spending that kind of money. Tayler is more like the man of the group and I'm more like Crissy from *Three's Company.*"

Tayler is Asher's best girlfriend "from a hundred years ago," the second half of the only team on *Million Dollar Shopper*, the Weinstein-produced series for Lifetime that, on each episode, matches personal shoppers with clients who have more money than taste, and hopes to show where a retail consulting can up the level of style with limits

"This isn't really a styling show, it's a shopping show," he says. "We always do a look-over through [the client's] closet to see what they love, but if they want a bathing suit and maybe



TEAM RETAIL | Dallas fashionista Gregg Asher, right, and his best girlfriend Tayler, make up the only team of personal shoppers finding luxury items for the customers on the new Lifetime reality show 'Million Dollar Shopper.'

are too old for what they want," they might suggest something that is more body-flattering than they would choose for themselves.

"I think everyone has their own taste level, and it's why a lot of these people are open to having people guide them," he says. But guidance doesn't always translate into tastefulness.

"The fact is, the woman [in the premiere] was getting an award for philanthropy, and yet she thought it was appropriate to wear a bustier [to the awards banquet]. I can't even imagine what was going through her mind. It's not every day

you'll find someone who's not a hooker who knows where to find a bustier." (He ended up calling Cyndi Lauper to get her advice.)

Asher admits that the show — which he hasn't seen yet — doesn't entirely reflect how personal shoppers really operate. He didn't pick his clients, for instance, and the producers allowed for more back-and-forth shopping trips to extend the drama. "There are episodes where we did take pictures and send images" to the client, though they may not make the final cut. "But they all really did have money,

and they were buying with their credit cards."

Asher is no novice to reality

TV. You can catch him in the background of several different series. In fact, he came to join the cast of MDS when a friend of his was auditioning for The Real

"She was not chosen [for Real Housewives], but I was put in the back pocket as a person who had some fashion background. So when they decided [to make MDS], having me was a nobrainer," he says.

Housewives of New York City about five years ago.

Asher has spent six or seven years personal shopping, originally in Dallas to help out Tayler, who is based in New York. But every few weeks he flies up to assist with her Big Apple clients as well. (He'll next be in New York the week before the premiere, attending a dinner party held by producer Harvey Weinstein to honor the cast.)

Weinstein's full-throated support of the show gives Asher hope that a second season will follow the initial six-episode commitment to MDS. If so, it would give him the chance to do something he really wanted to this season: Showcase Dallas ladies.

"Everyone has such faith in it, I think they are

already plotting for a second season, and if they do, we're looking to get two Dallas women to go abroad with us. That's something to look forward to — it needs some Dallas girls in it," he says.

He admits he's slightly nervous about the reaction — reality TV "really opens you up to some scrutiny and criticism," and his boyfriend, while supportive, "is a little antsy about it all." But Asher hopes his eye for style comes across as luxurious and opens up more opportunities to share his fashion sense with the world.

"I would love to make a line of products that my family in Arkansas can have a piece of," he says. "And I have some great looks in me that will blow some minds."

MILLION DOLLAR SHOPPER Series premiere airs on Lifetime,

Oct. 10 at 9 p.m.

Herrrreee's Gianni! (And Donatella)

My two most hated phrases in entertainment journalism? (1) "A surprisingly good performance by Bruce Willis." (When will you cease being surprised he can act?) (2) "Raquel Welch is still beautiful at age x," where x equals any age since she turned 40. I mean, she's gorgeous and all, and not 22 anymore, but when will you stop noticing that?

Well, the answer may well be "never." I hate that cliché, but damn if it isn't true. Welch plays the mama of Gianni and Donatella Versace in Lifetime's House of Versace, another in the network's racy biopics. This one's a twofer: Gianni (Enrico Colantoni), the gay designer murdered by stalker Andrew Cunanan in 1997; and even more so Donatella (Gina Gershon), his sister who took over the luxury line after his death.

Ever since Maya Rudolph's languorous caricature of the style icon on Saturday Night Live, it's been impossible to look at the Botoxed fashionista and not see her as a self-parody. That changes with Gershon's performance; she embraces its camp, then supersedes it. Gershon sinks into the role, thick-as-marinara accent and all. And Colantoni — whose relationship with his sexy boyfriend Antonio is directly and un-

provocatively addressed — bears an eerie resemblance to the real Gianni while convincingly evoking his

The script doesn't do justice to Gershon's man-eating turn or Welch's inherent glamour. As with many mainstream TV movies, it relies on predictable conflicts and trite melodrama too often. But the pearly elegance and glitzy behind-the-scenes fashion insights, plus its iconic female stars, make this catnip for gays. Arnold Wayne Jones

Three stars. House of Versace premieres Sunday at 7 p.m. on Lifetime.



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L+S community

ARTISTS, From Page 22

"These themes kept coming up: People would say, 'Back in the day' or 'Back then' and we saw a generational theme: Heinbaugh says. "There were themes on family — parents in particular, finding out their son or daughter had AIDS, or would even learn both that they were gay and had AIDS for the first time."

Another theme was what role faith played in both people's understanding of the disease as a spiritual crisis and how to deal with it practically. "You heard the type of reaction from the Jerry Falwells, but there were also churches opening the door for people and responding with compassion," Heinbaugh says. "For me and Joel, putting these together was about using those stories for the foundations of what we wrought."

A lot of discussion was about the worst period, when friends "were dropping left and right," Heinbaugh says. One of his colleagues, a 23-year-old man who attended the meeting, told Heinbaugh the next day that he "had no idea — didn't have a clue of what went on. 'I felt so stupid,' he said."

But *A Gathering* isn't meant to be chastising and sad. On a basic level, it is also a celebration of hope and life when confronted with great personal trauma. Toward that end, the music plays a significant role: Numbers being performed include compositions as diverse as Chopin's Prelude No. 4 in E minor to "I'll Cover You" from *Rent* (a number Santos insists will bring the house down) to Aretha Franklin to songs from the TV show *Smash*.

Putting together community benefits, especially for AIDS causes, is nothing new to Santos. When he was in Austin, he produced such a benefit, concentrating on dance, which is Santos' own background before he entered arts administration.

"We recited factoids, both positive and negative, about HIV/AIDS," he says — such as rates among demographic groups and the cost on human lives. It was, he concedes, occasionally dour.

As the 30th year of AIDS neared in 2011, Santos and Heinbaugh were discussing what they might do to address the anniversary. They came up with the idea of a "book show — one not as random as simply factoids," he says.

Within three months, the show — also called *A Gathering* — was mounted, drawing together 11 local arts groups and 175 performers.

"That was the hardest thing I've ever done, and the proudest I have ever been," Santos says.

A Gathering 2013 has grown. It's added another group (the Dallas Symphony Orchestra)



and the headcount will grow to about 200–225 artists, including around 135 members of the Turtle Creek Chorale, who will participate in the massive event, which will get a full rehearsal only once before taking to the stage of the Winspear.

"The stage will be set up like a musical performed in concert," Santos explains. "The chorale will be there on risers the entire time."

All of the collaborators are local artists or Dallas natives — which was also true of the last *Gathering*. Gary Lynn Floyd serves as musical director, and among the soloists will be Patty Breckenridge, M. Denise Lee, Mel Arizpe and Liz Mikel.

"This is an opportunity to give these talents a chance to perform on the stage of the opera house," Santos says. (It is not just actors and singers — or even gay people — who will be participating. Members of the community at large have been tapped to give readings.)

The most impressive thing, however, for both Santos and Heinbaugh, was not just "tell[ing] a really unique story of survival, or grief, of loss; but of having on one stage a dozen of the best performing arts organizations and 200 of the best artists at one time," Heinbaugh says. "This is collaboration. Everyone checks their egos at the door. When you are working with the level of professionals we have, from Booker T. to the DSO and DTC, they come wanting to do their best. And when you have Liz [Mikel] and Denise [Lee] in the



room, and you have a sing-off? Well, I'm surprised the windows didn't blow out of the Wyly."

Still, it was important that the performance not be a retread of the last one, nor a spectacle for spectacle's sake. "It's not about topping what you've done," Santos says. Instead, he's tried to keep his eye on the goal: Reminding people that, despite all the progress we have made in the treatment of HIV and survival rates among PWA, there's still a long way to go.

"We don't need to preach to the converted," he says. "The event is meant to inspire people to continue to talk about [HIV/AIDS] in a pub-

lic way."

Groups participating in A Gathering 2013 include: AT&T Performing Arts Center, Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing & Visual Arts, Bruce Wood Dance Project, CharlieUniformTango, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, the Dallas Opera, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Dallas Theater Center, SMU Meadows School of the Arts, Texas Ballet Theater, TITAS and the Turtle Creek Chorale. Everyone involved has volunteered their time and services.

All proceeds from the event will benefit AIDS Arms, AIDS Interfaith Network, AIDS Services of Dallas and Resource Center.

Tasting notes Oishii set to reopen; The Joule gets new eatery

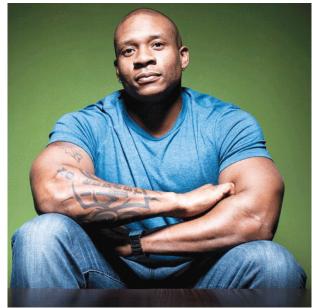
Ai Sushi Sake Grill has already opened along Cedar Springs, and another Asian restaurant in the gayborhood is set to re-open. Oishii has been shuttered during its renovation, but the popular sushi bar on Wycliffe will reveal its new look starting Oct. 22, if all goes as planned.

Charlie Palmer at the Joule is gone (with plans to reopen in another Dallas location), and Consilient Hospitality — which has taken over the space — will open its new concept, CBD Provisions, on Oct. 10. Coincidentally, Central 214 chef Graham Dodds has just left the Palomar restaurant to join Consilient. Maybe that's where he'll end up?

On Sunday, **Oak** launches its new Exquisite Dinner Series from exec chef **Richard Gras**. The first, a seven-

course menu that will showcase local ingredients, begins with a cocktail hour at 6:30 p.m. and includes optional wine pairings. \$125 person (+\$50 with wine).

Blaine Staniford, chef at Fort Worth's excellent Grace restaurant, has recently opened a new casual concept down the street called Little Red Wasp (think of a Vespa). The bistro-style space holds up to 100 diners, but is meant to be more



intimate.

Hunky former *Top Chef* contestant **Tre Wilcox**, pictured, who left as chef at **Marquee Grill** in Highland Park Village last year, will be cooking on Oct. 11 as part of the Chef's Dinners Series at **The Wine Poste** in the Design District. The five-course dinner with wine pairings costs \$125. Reservations can be made at WinePoste.com.

— Arnold Wayne Jones





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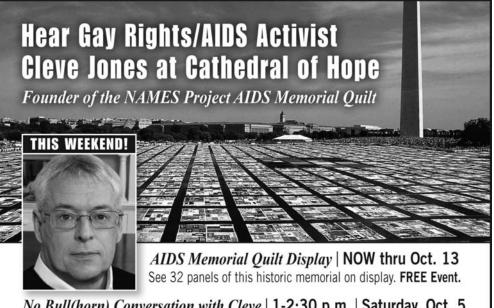
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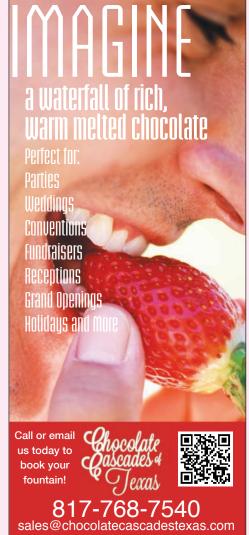






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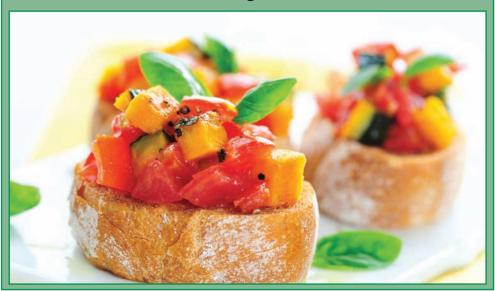








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LIFE+STYLE

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Friday 10.04

'The Lion King' will be DSM's final State Fair musical

It's a tradition that goes back a long way: Every fall, the Dallas Summer Musicals closes out its season with a month-long run of a show that has come to be called The State Fair Musical. But as of 2014, that relationship ends, and DSM will end its season before the fair kicks off. That makes *The Lion King* the last time you have to fight fair traffic to see a show at the Music Hall — and the tuneful, extravagant production (with music by Elton John and eye-popping costumes and direction by Julie Taymor) is a fitting swan song. Hakuna Matata, everyone!

DEETS: Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. Oct. 2–20. DallasSummerMusicals.org.



Friday 10.04

Miss Sophia McIntosh yuks it up for Dallas Black Pride

DFW Pride Movement marks its fifth anniversary with a slew of events this weekend, from performances by locals like Jurni Rayne to discussions led by activist Cd Kirven to appearances by celebs like *Noah's Arc* actor Rodney Chester. But we're most looking forward to seeing drag comic Miss Sophia McIntosh deliver her unique cross-dressing humor

DEETS: Doubletree Campbell Centre, 8250 N. Central Expressway. \$15–\$25. DFWPrideMovement.org.

Saturday 10.05

Out 'Torchwood' star John Barrowman in Dallas for ComicCon

It's time again for Dallas ComicCon, the thrice-yearly congregation of fanboys, nerds and all forms of comic book lovers. As always, the guest list is extensive and — for true devotees of pop culture — pretty awesome, from Lou Ferigno to Steven Yeun to Jaime Bamber. But for the gay community, the real draw is probably John Barrowman, the B'way song-and-dance star who also happens to play bisexual immortal heartthrob Jack Harkness on *Torchwood*, as well as a villain on the new hit *Arrow*. He'll be signing autographs Saturday afternoon.

DEETS: Irving Convention Center, 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd. Oct. 4–6. SciFiExpo.com.



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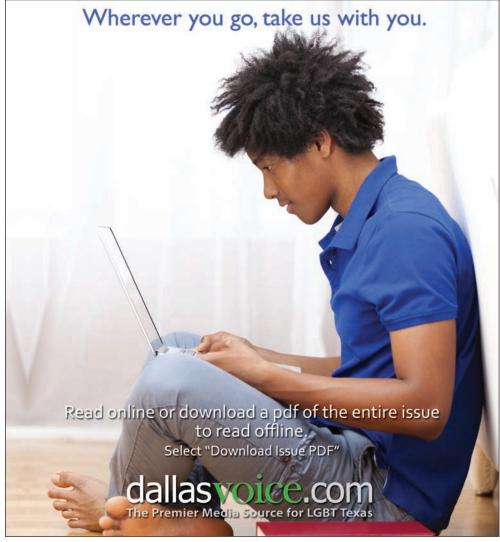
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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

THEATER

Assassins. Just in time for the 50th anniversary of the Kennedy assassination, Theatre 3 mounts Stephen Sondheim's acclaimed musical about infamous killers, including Oswald. Reviewed this week. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Oct. 27.

Altar Boyz. A jaunty musical about a Christian rock band ... including one closeted gay singer. Presented by Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. *Final weekend.* TheatreArlington.org.

Detroit. Two couples, new neighbors, begin a friendship that veers out of control in this dark comedy, presented by Kitchen Dog Theater. *Reviewed this week.*The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through Oct. 26. KitchenDogTheater.org.

The Lion King. The magnificent Disney production, featuring music by Elton John, returns, courtesy Dallas Summer Musicals. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through Oct. 20. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Profanity. Trans playwright Sylvan Oswald's period drama gets its world premiere. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Through Oct. 12. Undermain.org.

A Raisin in the Sun. Dallas Theater Center presents the acclaimed classic by lesbian author Lorraine Hansberry about an African-American family striving for the American Dream. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Oct. 27. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Clybourne Park. This racy, unofficial sequel to *A Raisin in the Sun* follows up with the white folks on the other side of the story; Tony winner for best play. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Oct. 27 (in previews through Oct. 10). DallasTheaterCenter.org.

The Sunshine Boys. Neil Simon's classic comedy. Greenville Center for the Arts, 5601 Sears St. Final weekend. ContemporaryTheatreOfDallas.com.

FINE ART

Objects of Desire III. The return of the exhibit of art work with lustful appeal. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. Final weekend. Free. ilumeGallerie.com.

The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece: Masterworks from the British Museum. A collection of marbles and pottery and bronzework from Greek antiquity focusing on the human form, especially the male nude. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. *Final weekend*. Special exhibition fee: \$16. DallasMuseumofArt.org.

Ai Weiwei: Circle of Animals. The controversial Chinese artist reimagines zodiac figures of the Chang dynasty. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Free. CrowCollection.org.

FRIDAY 10.04

PRIDE

Dallas Black Pride. Events from two unrelated groups — Dallas Southern Pride and DFW Pride Movement — present gay Pride for the African-American community. For events and schedules, visit DallasSouthernPride. com and DFWPrideMovement.org.

FINE ART

PAWS for a PURRpose. An art show and preview auction reception for the pet charity, with words by Ronald Radwanski. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Suite 107. 7–10 p.m. Free. ilumeGallerie.com.

Edges of insanity

Two suburban couples are having a neighborly cookout when **Detroit**, pictured, opens. It's a familiar scene, but this one is rife with tension. The more affluent pair, Mary (Tina Parker) and Ben (Ian Steck), are having financial troubles occasioned by the economic downturn, but are keeping up a brave face; the poorer couple, Kenny (Jeremy Schwartz) and Sharon (Jenny Ledel), are newlyweds who met during



rehab, and have few expectations from life. There's a sexual tension in the air (even a same-sex attraction, as you later find out), but it all has the patina of *Leave It to Beaver*, but its reality is closer to *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

This is the kind of subversive dark comedy that is Kitchen Dog Theater's speciality, and they have a cast well-suited for the task. Parker is Dallas' resident master at the tightly wound woman unraveling before our eyes in a drawn out ballet of exquisite pain, but she's got an able protege in Ledel, who's feathery frame belies volcanic emotional tumult. Schwartz and Steck keep up with them every step along the way as the luxuriate in Clare Floyd Devries' inventive set and Tim Johnson's precisely timed direction. As far as plays about how the stressors of modern life can drive us to the brink, it's as sharp and rewarding as you'll likely find.

Another show that deals with how mental illness manifests itself in destructive ways is at Theatre 3. **Assassins** is a puzzle: Perhaps Sondheim's most accessible score — it's basically a series of folk ballads about wannabe presidential assassins — but no hit songs and many lyrics that don't quite work. An edgy subject matter ("Come see mentally disturbed murderers portrayed comically in a carnival atmosphere!") isn't new to Sondheim — *Sweeney Todd*, about a serial killer in Victorian England, is still our greatest musical — but the diverse elements don't really gel in this mounting.

Still, performances by Terry Dobson as the sad, crazed loner Sam Byck; Jason Kane as the narrating "proprietor;" and Marisa Diotalevi as housewife and would-be gunner Sara Jane Moore deliver so much nervous energy, you can overlook a lot of its flaws.

- Arnold Wayne Jones

Detroit at The MAC, 31210 McKinney Ave.; through Oct. 26. KitchenDogTheater.org. Assassins at Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St.; through Oct. 27. Theatre3Dallas.com.

COMMUNITY

Screams. The Halloween theme park introduces the Hotel of Horror for its annual frightfest. Screams, 2511 FM 66, Waxahachie. Open weekends through Oct. 27. \$27. ScreamsPark.com.

COMEDY

Dysfunctional Divas.

Steven Jay Crabtree performs his one-man, multi-character comedy show. Pocket Sandwich Theater, 5440 E. Mockingbird Lane. Friday–Saturday at 11:15 p.m. \$20.

CABARET

Listen to My Heart. The music of gay songwriter David Friedman is performed. Uptown Theater, 120 E, Main St., Grand Prairie. Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. UptownTheaterGP.com.



HE SPINS, YOU SCORE | DJ David Knapp spins at Dallas Eagle for Score, sponsored by Dallas Purple Party.

ogranizations brings together a dozen arts organizations in dance, music and the spoken word. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 7 p.m. Tickets from \$12. ATTPAC.org/Gathering.

SATURDAY 10.05

COMMUNITY

Score with DJ David Knapp. Dallas Purple Party presents this fundraiser for local HIV/AIDS charities. Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. \$5 donation requested.

Tarrant County Pride Parade and Street Festival.

Parade steps off at noon and runs down Houston Street to 7th Street. Street festival in General Worth Square from noon–6 p.m.

SUNDAY 10.06

WORSHIP

Cathedral of Hope. Gay-rights pioneering activist Cleve Jones will speak at both service at the United Church of Christ congregation. 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

COMMUNITY

LifeWalk. The 5K walk begins in Lee Park at noon.

Pride Picnic. Trinity Park, Fort Worth. Enter across from Botanic Gardens. Noon–6 p.m.

DINING

Taste of the Nation. Stephan Pyles and Bruno Davillon are the honorary chefs, and Dean Fearing, Matt McCallister, Kent Rathbun and more are cooking at this fundraiser to fight child hunger. The Crescent Club, 200 Crescent Court. 6:30 p.m. \$500. NoKidHungry.org.

MONDAY 10.07

BENEFIT

A Gathering. The second fundraiser for HIV/AIDS



Tinvurl.com/dvevents.



Tinyurl.com/dysubmit.

WEDNESDAY 10.09

Dallas Video Festival. The 26th annual celebration of video art opens at a new venue with several gay-interest screenings. Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, 100 S. Central Expressway, Richardson. Oct. 9–13. VideoFest.org.

THURSDAY 10.10

THEATER

Happy Days. Beckett's bizarre, hilarious two-character dark comedy about a preternaturally perky woman. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Oct. 10–26. WinsSpanTheatre.org.

FILM

Q Cinema. The 15th annual gay film festival in Fort Worth opens with a screening of Del Shores' film version of *Southern Baptist Sissies*. Rose Marine Theater, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. QCinema.org.

this week's solution

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360show.com *UPS STORE — 3824 Cedar Springs, #101; 214-683-8466. WOODYS GROOMING LOUNGE - 5610 Lemmon Ave.; 214-522-2887; woodysgroominglounge.com.

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A Couple

Dave Browssam

"He's No Help"

of guys

WHAT ON EARTH

WELL, MAYBE NEXT TIME I'LL PICK UP

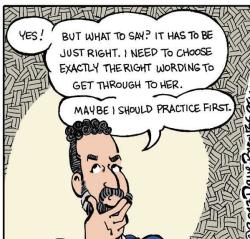
W-WOULD YOU?

THE CLEANING ... AND HAVE A

TALK WITH HER.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
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THAT WOMAN AT THE DRY CLEANERS. SHE ACTS AS THOUGH I'M YOUR PERSONAL ASSISTANT... OR YOUR SECRETARY!







Solution on page 35

Across

- 1 Like an erect nipple
- 5 Boston ball handlers, briefly
- 10 Move the ball between your legs
- 14 Toward shelter
- 15 Hawaiian howdy
- 16 Boat bottom
- 17 Knock around
- 18 Stick it to
- 19 Prefix that means "queer"
- 20 Former partner of Julie
- 22 Start of a quote by 20-Across
- 24 Editor Roshan
- 25 David Fisher does it on Six Feet Under
- 26 Fish formation
- 29 Satisfy fully
- 31 Breakfast spread
- 32 Mary had a little one
- 34 Rocket guy Wernher von ____
- 39 More of the quote
- 42 Rear follower
- 43 Jack of old oaters
- 44 Rowing team
- 45 Avoid premature ejaculation

IT'S LIKE IT NEVER OCCURRED

TO HER THAT I MIGHT BE DROPPING

OFF YOUR SHIRTS BECAUSE WE LIVE

TOGETHER, NOT BECAUSE I WORK

FOR YOU!

- 47 Asks on bended knee
- 49 Showy cock's partner

- 53 Colorado neighbor
- 54 More of the quote
- 57 End of the quote
- 61 Opera highlight
- 62 Avoid capture
- 63 Yellow-brick way
- 64 Slightly
- 65 They're green when plucked
- 66 Not nuts
- 67 Is left with
- 68 Opening
- 69 Land of the leprechauns

Down

- 1 Do damage to
- 2 It's for skin
- 3 Not fantastic
- 4 Whoopi's Ghost dance partner
- 5 Because I Said So comic Maggie
- 6 Dana of MacGyver
- 7 Petty of A League of Their Own
- 8 The folks over there
- 9 Deemed appropriate
- 10 Top choice
- 11 Give a gentle push
- 12 "Are you calling me ___?"
- 13 Stratagems
- 21 Saint, in Rio
- $23\ \mbox{Year}$ in the reign of Gaius Caesar
- 26 ___ Like It Hot
- 27 Family group
- 28 Bunch of stallions
- 29 Refine ore
- 30 Mamma Mia! band
- 33 Processes wine or cheese
- 35 A real stud
- 36 Star quality
- 37 Brought into play
- 38 Randy Shilt's area
- 40 Couch potato
- 41 Least meaningful
- 46 Kushner's ___ in America
- 48 Restroom, for short
- 49 Local at a leaning erection site
- 50 Act badly
- 51 Black key for Elton John
- 52 They may be clitoral
- 53 Dairy outlet?
- 55 Touched down
- 56 Nick Adams' Johnny
- 58 The Lion King sound
- 59 Request for permission
- 60 Rosie O'Donnell's Exit to ____





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LIFE+STYLE

scene



Jake and Josh at the Dallas Eagle.

The Brick brings in special guest DJ Otis Mack on Oct. 5 for Dallas Southern Pride. ... Dallas Bears holds its monthly club night at **Dallas Eagle** on Oct. 4. **Leather Knights** has its club night on Oct. 5 and **Dallas Girls of** Leather monthly meeting is on Oct. 6. Candidates for the United Court of the Lone Star Empire put on a show on Oct. 5 benefiting the Sharon St. Cyr Fund and AIDS Services of Dallas featuring Craig Bolson, candidate for Emperor XXXIX. ... Alexandre's celebrates Girls Night Out with Peggy Honea on Oct. 4 and welcomes Andrea Dawson on Oct. 5. ... Mustache Envy performs at Sue Ellen's on Oct. 4 and Chix appears on Oct. 5. Win free tickets on Oct. 10 to see **Jessie Ware** perform from her critically acclaimed release **Devotion** at **South Side Music Hall** on Oct. 17. ... JR.'s Bar & Grill launches Get Wet Wednesdays with an album debut party for Krewella's Get Wet CD on Oct. 9. ... Meet the producer and actresses from the film God Complex: Artemis at Eden Lounge on Oct. 5. Mi Diva Loca performs and there will be door prizes and mystery gift boxes for the first 25 guests. Bella & Darla perform on Oct. 6 for the going away party for Sexi Chocolate. ... Tarrant County Gay Pride Parade steps off at noon on Oct. 5 along **Houston Street** in Fort Worth. The street festival at **General Worth Square** takes place from noon-6 p.m. Fort Worth's **Pride Picnic** runs all afternoon in Trinity Park on Oct. 6. ... **DFW Pride Movement, Dallas** Southern Pride and Her Pride events take place in Dallas all weekend for Dallas Black Pride. ... LifeWalk steps off at 1 p.m. on Oct. 6 in Lee Park. Register in the park all morning. Talk on camera about the walk in front of BJ's **NXS!** during the walk. Celebrate after the walk back in **Lee Park**.

To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/Category/Photos.



Friends at Sue Ellen's.



Jason and Chanel at BJ's NXS!



Ashley at the Tin Room.



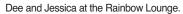
Aaron at Station 4.



Henry at JR.'s Bar & Grill.

■ More Scene photos on next page







Ruben and Daniel at Alexandre's.



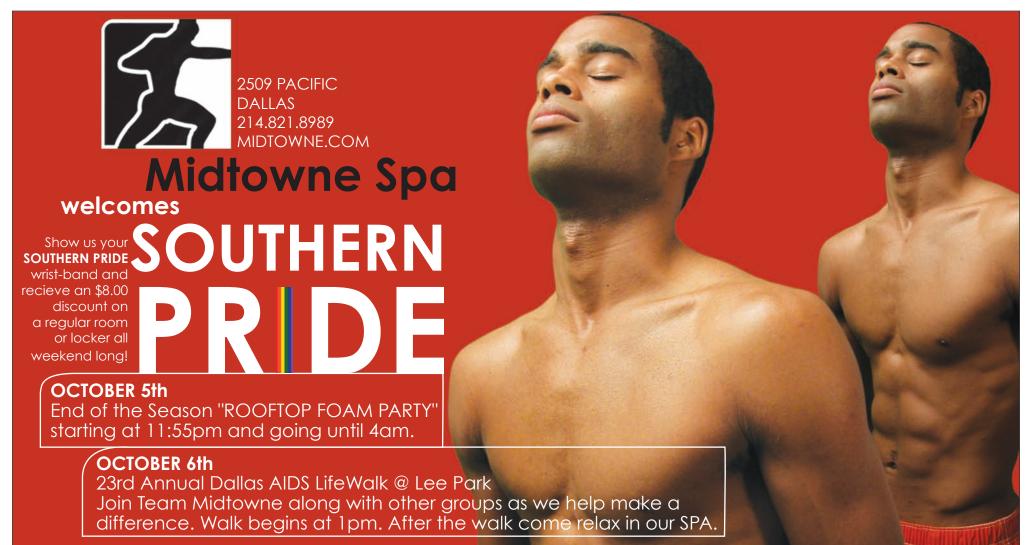
Chad, Jason and James at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Friends at TMC: The Mining Company.



Chad, Chanel, Shane and Jerry at the Round-Up Saloon.





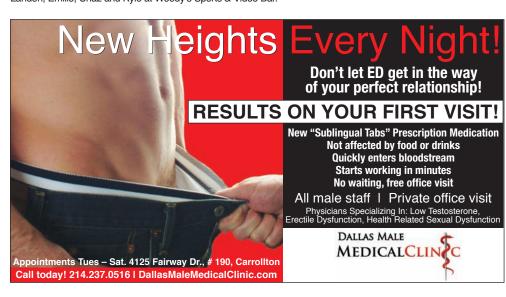




Marcelo, Kyle, Eli and Juan at the Tin Room.



Landon, Emilio, Chaz and Kyle at Woody's Sports & Video Bar.







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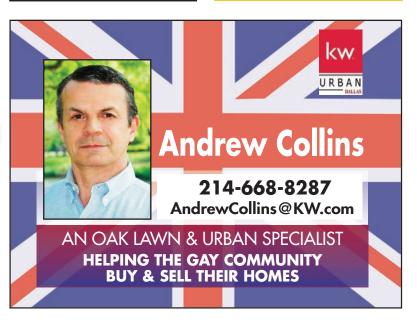
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More information on LHT is available at www.legalhospice.org. For a complete Job Description, send a request to: jobs@legalhospice.org. Applicants should submit one pdf document that includes a cover letter summarizing their qualifications, experience, salary requirements and motivation for applying, a resume, and 3 letters of reference to: jobs@legalhospice.org. Applications will be received and reviewed until the position is filled.

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North Texas GLBT Chamber **Business EXPO Connections Mixer** October 10th from 4:30pm to 7:30Pm http://northtexasglbtchamber.chambermaster.com/Events/details/businessconnections-mixer-10-10-2013-25

IF SOMEONE IS **BULLYING YOU** OR SOMEONE ELSE

PLEASE tell your school teachers. principle, counselors, and parents. After it is proven that the person you turned in is a bully then you will receive a \$100 reward from Debra's Bully Busters. Negative name calling and harassment about sexual orientation or anything else is harmful to all of our children. Whether they are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or straight. We are working to raise money now. Please contact me on Facebook anytime at Debra Henry - Wear.

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Claiming Our Faith As members of the

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HRC's Religion and Faith Program

seeks to engage all faith traditions in a

deeper dialogue on questions of fair-

ness and equality for LGBT Americans

and our friends. The focus will be a

panel discussion, with audience Q&A,

seeking to involve local faith communi-

ties in an open discussion to build a

faith-based movement. The faiths rep-

resented in the panel members consist

of Jewish, Muslim, Baptist, Mormon,

and non-denominational

Meeting Date

Date: Thursday, October 17, 2013

Place: Resource Center

Time: 6:30 – 8 PM

For more information, please contact:

Marketing Committee

marketing@hrcdfw.org



Do you wanna ride? JOIN SPECTRUM MOTORCYCLE RIDING CLUB, the largest GLBT motorcycle group in the region. Please visit:

spectrum-mrc.com to learn more."

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DIVA Volleyball Fall League 2013 Come Play with Us! Contact: vpmembership@divadallas.org or visit www.divadallas.org

Society for companion animals need volunteers. Please contact office@societyforcompanionanimals.org

Dallas, TX 75204 214-826-7278 **POKER** Freeroll Poker Tournaments In the gayborhood

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Rainbow Wedding Network, LGBT Wedding EXPO Sunday, September 29th from 12:30 to 3:30pm Renaissance Dallas Hotel Here is the Rainbow Wedding Network's Dallas EXPO information. Check it out. Dallas Voice will be a sponsor. http://www.samelovesamerights.com/index .php?option=com_content&view=article&id =120&Itemid=149

1920's Swanky Party to Heat Up Dallas The DeWitt Family Presents: The Great Gatsby...Some Like it Hot AIDS Interfaith Network will transport you to the time of swanky parties and fashion, all benefiting AIN. Come dressed in 1920's inspired style, and the chicest dressed man and woman are set to receive an award. Tickets are \$100 and include drinks, hors d'oeurves, and valet parking. More information can be found at www.aingreatgatsby.com or by contacting Gretchen Kelly at 972.672.4730 When: Sun, Oct. 13, 2013, 3-6 p.m. Where: The Home of Faye C. Briggs, 5909 Desco Dr., Dallas, TX 75225

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