

dallasvoice

The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas | DallasVoice.com | [f](#) [t](#) DallasVoice | Established 1984 | Volume 33 | Issue 9 | FREE | Friday, July 8, 2016

As the last 'last call' looms at his iconic Oak Lawn bar, Howard Okon looks back at 35-plus years in the business

ERIK

by Tammye Nash
Page 8



Love at first sight.

Dream convertibles do come true: the 2017 S-Class Cabriolet is unmatched in style, innovation and luxury. And with the top down, its inner beauty captures the heart of any admirer.

#TogetherWeDream

Mercedes-Benz
The best or nothing.



2017 S550 Cabriolet shown in Lunar Blue metallic paint with optional equipment. ©2016 Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

For more information, call 1-800-FOR-MERCEDES, or visit MBUSA.com.



10

headlines

TEXAS NEWS

- 8 The Brick/Joes to close
- 9 Nuvo celebrates its 30th anniversary
- 10 400,000+ celebrate Mexico City Pride

LIFE+STYLE

- 14 Ecuadorian novelist appears in Plano
- 17 Queer Queens of Comedy come to TX
- 18 Evan Rachel Wood speaks out

ON THE COVER

Design by Kevin Thomas



14



17

departments

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|-------------|
| 6 | The Gay Agenda | 21 | Calendar |
| 8 | News | 24 | Cassie Nova |
| 12 | Community Voices | 25 | Scene |
| 14 | Life+Style | 28 | Classifieds |

dallasvoice.com
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Builders SURPLUS
Smashing High Prices!
YEE HAAA!!!
The Largest Selection of Cabinets, Doors, Vanities and Tubs in the DFW Area
Save 40% - 60%
2610 West Miller Rd • Garland • 972-926-0100
5832 E. Belknap • Haltom City • 871-831-3600
www.builderssurplustexas.com

CHEATERS BEWARE!

We Investigate

- Infidelity
- Insurance Fraud
- Financial Fraud
- Surveillance
- Corporate Fraud
- Data Recovery



214-662-1006 • texasgumshoe.com

general & cosmetic dentistry
CAROLE ANN BOYD DDS
4514 COLE AVE, STE 905
DALLAS, TX 75205
214-521-6261 • DRBOYD.NET

CHAD WEST, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
Personal Injury
Criminal Defense
Car Accidents • Bail Bonds
DWI Record Sealing • LGBT Issues
Four years running winner of Best Criminal Defense Attorney by the readers of Dallas Voice!
BEST LAWYERS LIST
Call for a FREE consultation
214.509.7555
900 W. Davis Street, Dallas TX 75208
www.ChadWestLaw.com



I'm glad people understand what unconditional love is!

Spa & Grooming Play Care • Boarding Walking • Home Visits

Downtown 408 S. Harwood St 214.741.4100
Oak Cliff 2406 Emmett 469-930-9827

thepetropolitandallas.com



Proudly Gay Owned & Operated!

2ND ANNUAL Summit on lgbt aging

The Second Annual Summit on LGBT Aging, an event held by the Coalition for Aging LGBT, will shine a bright light on the situation facing the aging LGBT communities in North Texas, featuring the presentation of a recently-fielded research report on the many issues we face. The Summit will also include lively, action-oriented break out sessions that will dig more deeply into areas of primary concern – housing, legal/financial issues, legislation, transgender-specific issues, caring and wellness, and social spaces and support.

The goal of the Summit is to further explore the needs of the aging LGBT population in North Texas and to continue to develop a plan of action to better address those needs. As the senior LGBT population continues to grow, we feel a great urgency to make sure that each aging person can live their life with dignity, respect and without fear of discrimination.

OUR PLATINUM SPONSORS



www.cfa.lgbt

instantTEA DallasVoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea



Got a pet? Send your pic!

On July 15, we're publishing our annual "Pamper Your Pets" edition, and we want to fill up our Scene pages with pictures of our readers with their own pampered pets.

So send us a pic of you and your pet if you want to be considered for inclusion in Scene next week. You can send the photos to the Dallas Voice Facebook Page via message, or email them to calendar@dallasvoice.com. Photos must be at least 600 points wide at a resolution of 240 dpi to be eligible for publication in our print edition.

Maybe it's time for your "15 Minutes"!

— Tammye Nash

One Cub Scout troop promotes heterosexuality in a whole new way

Remember when the Boy Scouts of America were discriminating against lesbian troop leaders even if they were moms with kids in their troops? And throwing out teens who came out?

You know — They had to set a moral example, all in the name of family values and honesty.

Well, the Scouts changed their policy slowly. First they'd let scouts who came out as teens finish their Eagle Scout level and wait until the next week to give them the boot. Then they decided parents of gay scouts weren't so bad, and then gay employees could stay.

And through all those changes, the sky didn't fall and Boy Scouts of America still promoted truth, justice and the American way.

In the year since the Irving-based Boy Scouts of America finished changing their discriminatory policies against LGBT troops and employees, my have things changed.

According to a report by ABC News, one Cub Scout troop near Denver has a new sponsor — Hooters.

One Cub Scout mom was surprised when her 7-year-old came home wearing some Hooters attire. Others expressed outrage as pictures of Cub Scouts with waitresses in Hooters uniforms showed up on Facebook.

Apparently, a local Hooters restaurant volunteered to help the Cub Scout troop. In addition to making a financial donation, they sent volunteers.

However, things went a little awry when a "group of trained volunteers mistakenly wore the wrong attire" to a local Cub Scout camp. How were these well-meaning volunteers to know that they weren't supposed to work with 7-year-olds with their boobs hanging out?

Well, maybe BSA policies haven't really changed. After all, the experience promoted heterosexuality and must have scared the crap out of the scouts who are gay, whether they're out or not.

We didn't bother asking BSA's spokesman in Irving for comment, because he hasn't returned a call to Dallas Voice since the whole Cub Scout mom incident when Jennifer Tyrrell, who was kicked out of Scouting for being a lesbian, came to town to protest.

— David Taffet

Ken Paxton files injunction against federal guidances protecting trans students

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced on Wednesday, July 6 that Texas is leading a 13-state coalition asking for a preliminary injunction to block enforcement of "Obama's bathroom rules."

"Obama's bathroom rules" refer to a list of guidances issued earlier this year by the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice to help school districts avoid discriminating against transgender students. Paxton and other right-wingers — including Chief Protector of the Bathrooms Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick — insist that those guidelines, along with Fort Worth Independent School District's comprehensive policy for interacting and protecting transgender students, put women and children in danger by allowing men to use the same public restrooms and locker rooms as long as the men/boys are willing to declare that they feel like a woman/girl that day.

Federal officials have noted that school districts that insist on discriminating against transgender people risk losing federal money because such discrimination violates Title IX, the federal law that prohibits sex-based discrimination in schools. Federal officials and federal courts have already determined that "sex" in this case means gender and includes anti-trans discrimination.

Paxton said, in his press release, "The nation's schools, and every place of employment, are now in the crosshairs of the Obama administration, which maintains it will punish those who do not comply with its orders. Schools are facing the potential loss of funding for simply exercising the authority to implement the policies that best protect their students. Every employer is now being threatened for not bowing to anyone that identifies as the opposite sex."

The press release then goes on to explain that the Obama administration is "attempting to rewrite Congress' use of the term 'sex' in multiple federal lawsuits to now include 'gender identity.' If successful this radical change simultaneously opens up all intimate areas within schools and workplaces to members of both sexes."

— Tammye Nash

ONE



COMMUNITY

Out of the Closet Thrift Store

3920 Cedar Springs Road

Dallas, TX 75219

(214) 599 - 2173

Monday - Saturday: 10:00 - 7:00pm

Sunday: 10:00 - 6:00pm

AHF

.ORG

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF PETS

WHEREVER THEIR SHELTER MAY BE.



FOR A LIMITED TIME, WHEN YOU BUY
SELECT PRODUCTS AT HOLLYWOOD FEED
WE WILL GIVE THEM TO SHELTERS.

*Hollywood
Feed*



THE GAY AGENDA

Have an event coming up? Email your information to Managing Editor Tammye Nash at nash@dallasvoice.com or Senior Staff Writer David Taffet at taffet@dallasvoice.com by Wednesday at 5 p.m. for that week's issue.

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM with this week's guest is former Dallas City councilwoman **Veletta Lill**; **United Black Ellument** hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; **Core Group Meeting** every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the Treymore Building, 4038 Lemmon Ave, Suite 101; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org.

JULY

• **July 8: High Tech Happy Hour**
Open to everyone. From 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Maracas Cocina Mexicana, 2914 Main St.

• **July 9: Teen Pride Volunteer Orientation**
Volunteer orientation "Teen Pride: A Celebration For All" volunteers from 10-11 a.m. at Oak Lawn Branch Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road.

• **July 9: Workout of the Day for Orlando**
Crossfit Heat hosts a community workout and fundraiser for the Orlando LGBT community. Proceeds benefit Equality Florida's Pulse Victim Fund. 8-10 a.m. at 810 S. St. Paul St.

• **July 10: Holocaust survivor speaks**
If you have never heard survivors tell their stories, this is your chance at 12:30 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St #100.

• **July 14: Upstairs Inferno**
Q Cinema presents the Fort Worth premiere of Robert Camina's film about the largest gay mass murder — until last month. 7 p.m. at Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. \$8.

• **July 16: Quinceanera Gaybingo**
Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center

pet of the week / AMELIA

At just 2 months old, sweet little **Amelia** has already cemented her reputation with staff and her foster parents as "literally the perfect kitten." She likes to sit in your lap, and loves to cuddle and play. Move quickly for your chance to be the lucky person who gets to give Amelia her forever home.

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



BANKRUPTCY SPECIALIST



Julianne Parker
Attorney

CONVENIENT OAK LAWN LOCATION
EZ PAYMENT PLAN
FREE CONSULTATION
FREE PARKING
Saturday Daytime and Evening Appts.

214 855-7888
Offices in Dallas, Texas

We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for Bankruptcy Relief under the Bankruptcy Code.

Board Certified, Consumer Bankruptcy Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information, call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.

• **July 16: Youth Vigil for Pulse**
LGBTQ youth and allies rally including reading of the victims names, open mic, youth speakers and performers from 4-7 p.m. at Legacy of Love Monument.

• **July 16: Night of Stars benefiting LifeWalk**
Raven, JujuBee, Krystal Summers, Nova Starr, Vanity Storm, Sienna Silver and others guests perform to benefit Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund LifeWalk team 8:30-10 p.m. at The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave., #120. \$20.

• **July 17: Drag Star Divas for Orlando**
The North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce partners with The Rose Room and Drag Star Diva to present Drag Star Divas for Orlando, a benefit for the victims of the shooting in Orlando, a drag extravaganza featuring an all-star cast, 6-9:30 p.m. in The Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. There is a \$5 suggested donation at the door, and the event is open to those 18 and over. Visit bit.ly/Divas4Orlando for more information.

• **July 19: Log Cabin Republicans meeting**
Former Dallas County GOP Party Chair Wade Emmert speaks on the challenges for the Republican Party. Social at 6:30. Meeting at 7 p.m. at Coal Vines, 2404 Cedar Springs Road.

• **July 20: Holocaust survivor speaks**
If you have never heard survivors tell their stories, this is your chance at 12:30 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St #100.

• **July 21: One Night Only: Songs and Stories from the Turtle Creek Chorale**
The Dallas Way fundraiser with a program of Turtle Creek Chorale stories and songs at 7 p.m. at The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets \$10-25. Sponsorships available.

• **July 21: Northeast Patrol Division breakfast**
Wellness and safety breakfast for those 55+. Jill Turner, President of Cooper Healthy Living, speaks. Doors at 9 a.m. and program at 10 a.m. at Harry Stone Rec Center, 2403 Millmar Dr. Free breakfast for first 200 who respond to bervin.smith@dps.ci.dallas.tx.us or 214-202-6255.

• **July 23: Summit on LGBT Aging**
Second annual summit is a joint venture with

GALA North Texas. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Southern Methodist University Plano Campus, 5326 Tennyson Parkway, Plano. cfa.lgbt.

• **July 24: The Brick Closing Party**
The Brick/Joe's, 2525 Wycliff, will close after 25 years with a farewell party with owners Howard Okon and Greg Parrish who are retiring.

• **July 25: High Tech Happy Hour Christmas in July**
Benefits The Senior Source. A \$50 gift card to Target or Walmart will help a senior purchase personal items and a \$100 check will purchase and install an air conditioning unit. From 5-7 p.m. at Two Corks and a Bottle, The quadrangle, 2800 Routh St. #140.

• **July 31: Holocaust survivor speaks**
If you have never heard survivors tell their stories, this is your chance at 12:30 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St #100.

AUGUST

• **Aug. 10: Black Tie Sponsor Appreciation Party**

Black Tie Dinner holds its sponsor appreciation party at Brendan Bass Showroom, 2001 Irving Blvd.

• **Aug. 10: Holocaust survivor speaks**
If you have never heard survivors tell their stories, this is your chance at 12:30 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St #100.

• **Aug. 19: Cabaret & Cabernet**
Sammons Center for the Performing Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd., presents Cabaret & Cabernet, featuring emcee Tracy Fulton along with Denise Lee, Linda Petty, The Larry Petty Combo, Teddy and Lorena Davey, Jay Gardner, WT Greer, Sheran Goodspeed Keyton, Keran Jackson, LaLa Johnson, Carolyn Lee Jones, Shelley Kenneavy, Pam Musgrove and Diana Savage. Wine tasting at 7:30 p.m., performances at 8 p.m. Admission is \$400 for a table of eight; \$300 for a table of six, available by calling 214-520-7788 and online at bit.ly/CabaretAndCabernet.

• **Aug. 20: Turtle Creek monthly clean up**
Join Turtle Creek Association's monthly clean-up of the shores of Turtle Creek. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Beasley steps at Hall Street and the Katy Trail. clarke@turtlecreekassociation.org.

• **Aug. 20: Flame Games Gaybingo**
Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information,



Filmmaker Robert Camina, pictured here at the Dallas premiere of his film 'Upstairs Inferno,' will be in attendance at the Fort Worth premiere of the film. The documentary tells the story of what was the largest gay mass murder in American history until last month. Q Cinema presents the film at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 14, at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. \$8.

call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.

• **Aug. 21: Holocaust survivor speaks**
If you have never heard survivors tell their stories, this is your chance at 12:30 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St #100.

• **Aug. 25-26: Sister Helen Holy**
Sister Helen Holy headlines her own benefit show for Legacy Counseling Center saving sinners at Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. \$45-100 plus sponsorship opportunities. HelenHoly.com.

• **Aug. 27: Austin Festival and Parade**
Festival at Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Jesse E. Segovia St., Austin. Parade starts at the state capitol.

• **Aug. 31: Black Tie 30-Day Countdown**
Black Tie Dinner counts down to its big event at MG+BW Showroom, 4519 McKinney Ave.

SEPTEMBER

• **Sept. 4: Broadway Brunch**
Leslie McDonel performs to benefits AIDS Services of Dallas. VIP meet and greet at 11:30 a.m., brunch at 12:15 p.m. and performance at 1:30 p.m. at Texas Discovery Gardens in Fair Park.

• **Sept. 10: North Texas Pride**
North Texas Pride Festival will be held from 1-

8 p.m. at the Louisiana Street Grill, 350 E. Louisiana St., in downtown McKinney. There will be vendor booths, kids' activities and dancing. For information visit NorthTexasPride.org.

• **Sept. 10: Turtle Creek monthly clean up**
Join Turtle Creek Association's monthly clean-up of the shores of Turtle Creek. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Beasley steps at Hall Street and the Katy Trail. clarke@turtlecreekassociation.org.

• **Sept. 17: Pride and Fabulous Gaybingo**
Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information, call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.

• **Sept. 17: Teen Pride**

• **Sept. 18: Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade**
Steps off at 2 p.m. at Cedar Springs Road at Wycliff Avenue. The route continues down Cedar Springs to Turtle Creek Blvd., then west to Maple Ave.

• **Sept. 18: Festival in the Park**
Following the parade, the festival takes place in Reverchon Park, 3500 Maple Ave.

Last call



Howard Okon, left and Gary Parrish



Longtime Dallas bar owner Howard Okon looks back on 35-plus years in the business as he prepares to close the Brick, his final bar

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

When the Brick/Joe's closes its doors at the end of the night on Sunday, July 24, it will be the end of an era — last call not only for a bar that's been around for 25 years, but also for a bar owner who has been part of Dallas' LGBT nightlife scene for more than 35 years.

The Brick/Joe's — which first opened on Maple Avenue 25 years ago, before moving to its current location at 2525 Wycliff Ave. — will go out with a bang, owner Howard Okon said this week. "We have something special going on every night right up through the very last day," he said.

This Saturday, July 9, Dannee Phann Productions and Impulse Group Dallas present a special show benefitting One Orlando. The show will star Jaidynn Dior Fierce, Jiggly Caliente, Chevelle Brooks, emcee Kennedy Davenport and more. Doors open at nine and the show starts at midnight.

"The Night of Stars" on Saturday, July 16, a special show presented by the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund and starring Raven, JujuBee, Krystal Summers, Nova Starr, Vanity Storm, Sienna Silver and more, benefits GDMAF's Miss LifeWalk contestant, Vanity Storm. (See the Gay Agenda, pages 6 and 7 for details.)

Thursday, July 21, the Brick hosts the Mr., Ms. and Miss Rodeo Naked pageant, benefitting the Dallas and Fort Worth chapters of the Texas Gay Rodeo Association. The event starts promptly at 6:30 p.m. and includes a silent auction and Rodeo Naked merchandise sales.

The club's final Saturday night, July 23, will be dedicated to "Red — Summer Night's Dream," presented by the Dallas Red Foundation and starring *Drag Race* star Cynthia Lee Fontaine, 2016 Miss Red Raquel Blake, Gloria Devine, Onyx Anderson, Nicole O'Hara Munro, Dallas Sheraton and G-Licious G. All proceeds benefit Legacy Counseling Center.

And on Sunday, July 24, the bar says so long with a day-long farewell party. As the website says, "Please join us all day Sunday, July 24, as we reminisce, greet old friends and have one last 'blow-out' party." The bar opens at 3 p.m., and the party lasts til 2 a.m., with DJs, spotlight performers, dancers and more.

The charity events, Okon said, are one of the things he will miss most about being in the bar business.

"I couldn't begin to tell you how much money we've helped raise and how much we've given over the years," he said. "Anyone who needed a

fundraiser, we tried to help. It was important to us, to me. It was a way for us to give back to the community that supported us all these years."

But, Okon continued, the biggest gap the Brick's closing will leave is as an entertainment venue for LGBT people of color.

Okon recalled a time back in the 1980s when he and fellow bar owner and friend Joe Elliott — longtime owner of Jugs and the person for whom the "Joe's" end of the Brick is named — went to another LGBT nightclub in Dallas. As they were standing in line, he said, he noticed that African-Americans were being turned away at the door because they couldn't provide three different forms of photo ID.

"But we — Joe and I — we weren't asked for three different IDs. But of course, we weren't black. Hell, I don't think I have three different forms of ID today!" Okon said. "I remember being so mad about that, thinking how wrong that was. Being of Jewish heritage myself, I was never raised to treat people that way, and I just couldn't understand how we as a [LGBT] community that had faced so much discrimination ourselves, could discriminate against a part of our own community."

That's what prompted him and Elliott to open Rapps, back in 1989. The bar — first located off Maple on the airport side of Inwood and later moved to a space in the same block where the Brick is now — catered specifically to the black LGBT and same-gender-loving community.

The Brick, since it first opened, has also welcomed people of color, Okon said, adding that his bars helped start the black Pride celebration, now known as Dallas Southern Pride. "It made me sad, all those years ago, [to see the African-American LGBT people] treated so badly. But I am very glad that we were able to give them a safe place to party, a place to be themselves, for all these years. I think that's the biggest void we will be leaving, giving them a place to call their own."

Okon also played a role in giving Dallas' lesbians "a place to call their own," even though many women don't realize that. It started back in 1981, when he was moving his bar, Patrick's, from its original location on Fitzhugh to a larger space on Oak Lawn. A woman named Sandy Myers came to him then with a proposition.

"Sandy had been my cleaning lady, and when we were getting ready to move, she came to me and said, 'Howard, give me this place. Let me start a women's bar here. I promise you I'll make money and I'll turn it into a place that's really something.' So I did. I financed her to get started, and she did exactly what she said she would do."

That bar he helped Sandy Myers start was Buddies, which later moved first to Mahanna and then into a space on Maple Avenue — across the parking lot from the original Brick, in a location that had previously housed another Howard Okon bar, The Wave. When Buddies closed in 2009, it was the longest-running women-owned lesbian bar in the country.

In the 1990s, when his old friend Joe Elliott needed a place to move her bar, Jugs, Okon leased her space in

LAST CALL, Page 13

Nuvo: 30 years and still going strong



Nuvo's new interior. (Turk Studio courtesy Jeff Wright)

Oak Lawn gift shop opened with one location in Austin back in 1986

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Nuvo owner Jeff Wright said he based the concept of his original Austin store on several shops in New York and on Arresta, a store owned by Ken Knight on the corner of Reagan Street and Cedar Springs Road in Dallas.

"I used to come to Dallas for fun," Wright said. "I went to Arresta and it was like I entered an oasis."

The original Nuvo opened on Guadalupe Street, just north of the University of Texas campus in Austin.

After looking around the city for the right location to open his new store, Wright said he found what he thought was the perfect location. At the time, that space was occupied by a women's clothing store.

But as his partner, Jon Bonsignore, said, Wright was a great salesman. He found a different location where he thought the clothing store would do well and convinced the owner of the women's store to move. Wright took over the lease on Guadalupe Street and opened Nuvo 30 years ago this past week.

Bonsignore said not only did Wright get the location he wanted, but the clothing store thrived in its new location. But Arresta closed on Cedar Springs Road a little more than a year later.

"Lots of people who came in [to Nuvo in Austin] after Arresta closed said there was no fun place to shop in Dallas," Bonsignore said.

The Austin store was doing well and it made

sense to open in a Dallas location, Wright said. And he and Bonsignore didn't have to look further than the old Arresta space to find the perfect location. They opened Nuvo in Dallas in July 1988.

Nuvo has always been a great place to find gifts and original cards, but the merchandise mix has evolved over the years. When they arrived in Dallas, Bonsignore said, the customer was more sophisticated.

In Austin, they carried a line of earrings for \$30, which they sold mostly to college students. In Dallas, customers asked for higher quality, so they upgraded their line to the \$200-to-\$1,000 range. They've been carrying product from some jewelry designers for 20 years.

Bonsignore said in the early 1990s, duvets became popular on beds. So, "We had several people in Dallas make bed skirts, shams and duvets for us," he said. At one point, they had three beds in the store to display the linens.

But as big linen companies started doing duvets, sales dropped. "That business dried up for us as fast as it erupted," Bonsignore said.

In Austin, Nuvo carried T-shirts. In Dallas, Union Jack, Off the Street and other stores were all selling T-shirts, so the Dallas store dropped that category in the Cedar Springs store pretty quickly. "As our merchandise mix became more sophisticated, T-shirts didn't belong in the store," Bonsignore explained.

Dinnerware was another item that had a good run, until their primary supplier was purchased by a larger company, which put an end to the line's innovative products. But as bookstores in Dallas have become rare, coffee table books have grown as a category for Nuvo.

NUVO, Page 11

Get a smile you can wear with
PRIDE
ZOOM! in and experience our difference.

Kevin B. Terrell, DDS, PC
General & Cosmetic Dentistry

2603 Oak Lawn • Suite 100 • located in deNovo
We accept most dental PPO's and claims are filed for you

Call for an appointment today!
214.329.1818 | terrell dental.com

FREE
INSTANT ACCESS TO DALLAS
AND THE NATION'S TOP GAY
& LESBIAN REALTORS

www.GayRealEstate.com

Find Your Perfect Agent Online:
WWW.GAYREALESTATE.COM
1.888.420.MOVE (6683)

Providing compassionate medical care in North Texas for more more than 25 Years!



Brady L. Allen, M.D.

David M. Lee, M.D.

Marc A. Tribble, M.D.

Donald A. Graneto, M.D.

Eric Klappholz, NP

Peter Triporo, NP



UPTOWN PHYSICIANS

GROUP

Comprehensive
HIV/AIDS management

STD testing and treatment

PrEP counseling
and treatment

General adult medical care

Uptown Tower, 4144 N. Central Expy • Suite 750, Dallas, TX 75204

214-303-1033 • www.UptownDocs.com

New patients are currently being accepted. Most major insurances accepted.

Marchando con orgullo

An estimated 400,000 people attended Mexico City's June 25 Pride parade, including Dallasite Max Nuñez

JESUS CHAIREZ | Contributing Writer
editor@dallasvoice.com

A massive crowd, estimated to be more than 400,000 strong, attended Mexico City's 38th annual Gay Pride Parade, officially known as the Marcha del Orgullo LGBTTTTI (Lésbico, Gay, Bisexual, Transgénero, Travesti, Transexual e Intersexual) on Saturday, June 25.

The wall-to-wall LGBT Mexicans enjoyed their Pride activities on streets that aren't blocked off with steel barriers to keep people off the street. In México City's Pride parade, there is no sitting and watching as everything passes by. It's a march down México City's main street, Paseo de la Reforma.

The parade begins at the monument of the Angel of Independence (Monumento a la Independencia) situated in México City's gayborhood, La Zona Rosa (The Pink Zone), and situated in front of the U.S. Embassy. From the Angel, the march moves along to end in front the Presidential Palace in El Zocalo, the city's main square, with speeches and entertainment.

As with all parades, Mexico City's Pride parade brings out a variety of people — young, old, osos (bears), people with wigs (lots of wigs!) and, of course, those in makeup. Even gay nudists were participating this year, or at least people without clothes.

Though there were families in attendance, parade organizers have never placed restrictions on parade participants to make the event more "family-friendly."

Dallas native Max Nuñez, who has been an announcer at Dallas' Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade for the past eight years, attended México City's Pride parade for the first time this year. Though he has had plenty of experience in Dallas' Pride parades, he couldn't help but get

Max Nuñez of Dallas was wowed by the size of Mexico City's Pride parade., (Photo by Jesus Nunez)



emotional a couple of times as he walked in not only in a gay parade, but a parade that totally reflected his culture and heritage.

Nuñez said México City's Pride parade far exceeded his expectations, giving him an "overwhelming sense of unity and love that was palpable and electric."

Nuñez also said he was impressed with how large the parade was and how long it lasted. It "went on and on and on, a that party didn't seem stop," he said.

(Nuñez will once again be an announcer at the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, set for Sunday, Sept. 18, at 2 p.m.).

To view more pictures of México City's pride parade, visit Chairez's Flickr page at [Flickr.com/Photos/JesusChairez](https://www.flickr.com/photos/JesusChairez/).

Jesus Chairez is a former Dallasite now living in Mexico City. He was a producer and host of U.S.'s first bilingual LGBT Latino radio show, *Sin Fronteras* on KNON 89.3 FM; from July 4, 1993 to July 3, 2005. Chairez is also a published author, "Queer Brown Voices," a collective of Personal Narratives of Latina/o Activism. Chairez is a now freelance writer and can be reached at facebook.com/JesusChairez



NUVO, From Page 9

Wright said the company expanded once more to a Houston location. But after tiring of having to travel constantly between the three stores, he and Bonsignore decided to close the Houston location, which was under-performing, and they sold the Austin store. Then three years ago, Nuvo in Dallas moved from its original address on Cedar Springs Road to its current Oak Lawn Avenue location, two blocks away.

Bonsignore said they hadn't really wanted to move. But they had been in the Cedar Springs Road location for 25 years and their lease was coming due. It was time to give the store a fresh, new look, starting with the need to replace the

black vinyl tiles that had been in the store since it was Arresta.

Bonsignore and Wright had always had a good relationship with their landlord, and they expected her to renew the lease and split the cost of the remodel, something common in retail leases. They planned on work being done nights so that the store wouldn't have to be closed more than a couple of days.

Instead, Bonsignore said, the landlord told them that if they tore out the tiles, the space would have to go through complete asbestos abatement. Everything in the store would have to be moved out and the space closed for several

weeks. They had no place to move some of their large fixtures or store merchandise during the remodel and they didn't want to be closed that long.

Still, "The idea of moving was overwhelming," Bonsignore said.

They found a location they loved, in the building with Parigi, and when the landlord heard they were looking for a new space, he said, "Oh, God, we would love to have you."

So rather than close, they moved two blocks away.

They hired movers who specialize in moving fine pieces. One table was so big, the only way

they were able to move it was by lifting it on furniture dollies and rolling it down the street.

Wright said the new location is so quiet compared to their old space: "It's nice not hearing fire engines." He also likes the glass in the front and back of the space, and he loves having parking in the back that they share only with Parigi.

Wright said he and Bonsignore have talked about retiring. But that discussion always ends with the question, "What would we do?" Most of their staff has been with them for years, and they want those employees to know they can have a career at Nuvo.

"I guess we'll be here til we drop," Wright said. ■



Eugene Tseng, D.D.S.
Cosmetic & General Dentistry

Truly Trusted
Dental Care.

3300 Douglas Ave • Suite A • at Hall Street
Call today: 214.855.0789

IMMIGRATION

Same-sex couples and Individuals
Green Cards ♦ Fiancé Visas ♦ Citizenship
Waivers ♦ Appeals ♦ Deportation Defense

OLINGER LAW, PLLC
LYNN S. OLINGER

Board Certified Immigration Law Specialist

Serving the LGBT community for 15+ years

214.396-9090

www.lsolaw.com



Cute, Reliable & Affordable...



Unlike your ex-boyfriend!

Hendrick
Volkswagen

FRISCO

Your community
representative is
David.Alldredge@
HendrickAuto.com



5010 State Highway 121 Frisco, TX | 469.287.8872 | 469.744.5674 | hendrickvwfrisco.com

administration

Leo Cusimano Publisher | 114
Terry Thompson President | 116
Jesse Arnold Office Manager | 110

editorial

Tammye Nash Managing Editor | 113
Arnold Wayne Jones Executive Editor Life+Style | 129
David Taffet Senior Staff Writer | 125

Contributors: Chris Azzopardi, Jenny Block, J. Denton Bricker, Jesus Chairez, Alicia Chang, Lawrence Ferber, Hardy Haberman, Shelley Hamilton, Scott Huffman, Lisa Keen, Cassie Nova, Mikey Rox, Howard Lewis Russell, Terri Schlichenmeyer, Leslie McMurray, Mathew Shaw, Mark Stokes, Jef Tingley, David Webb, Casey Williams
Photographers: Kat Haygood, Chuck Marcelo, Cassie Quinn

advertising

Chad Mantooth Advertising Director | 131
Kris Martin Advertising Account Manager | 115
Jesse Arnold Classified Sales | 110

National Advertising Representative
Rivendell Media Inc. 908-232-2021

art

Kevin Thomas Art Director | 119
Craig Tuggle Graphic Designer | 132

multimedia

Stephen Mobley Social Media Manager | 123
Israel Luna Video Producer
Brad Pritchett DTVtv Host

circulation

Linda Deprieter Circulation Director | 120

founders

Robert Moore | **Don Ritz**

affiliations/memberships

Associated Press - Associate Member
National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association
Houston Press Club
Certified LGBT Business Enterprise



©2016 Voice Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprint rights are available only by written consent of the publisher or managing editor.

Dallas Voice is published weekly on Fridays. Each reader is entitled to one free copy of each issue, obtained at official distribution locations. Additional copies of Dallas Voice may be purchased for \$1 each, payable in advance at the Dallas Voice office. Dallas Voice may be distributed only by Dallas Voice authorized independent contractors or distributors. No person may, without prior written permission of Voice Publishing, take more than one copy of each Dallas Voice weekly issue.

Subscriptions via First Class Mail are available at the following rates: Three months (13 consecutive issues), \$65. Six months (26 consecutive issues), \$65. One year (52 consecutive issues), \$130. Subscriptions are payable by check, cashier's check, money order, Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover.

Paid advertising copy represents the claim(s) of the advertiser. Bring inappropriate claims to the attention of the publisher. Dallas Voice reserves the right to enforce its own judgments regarding the suitability of advertising copy, illustrations and/or photographs.

Unsolicited manuscripts are accepted by email only. To obtain a copy of our guidelines for contributors, send a request by email to editor@dallasvoice.com.

■ commUNITY voices

Trump and his magical thinking

You can't fight hate with hate, and hate's all he has to offer

So much anti-LGBT dumbfuckery has emerged after the shooting of 102 people, of which 49 were killed, by a man with a military-style assault weapon at Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando.

There has also been much love and support for LGBT people and rainbow flags a'flyin' — literally and figuratively. And that's nice. But, man, the anti-gay stuff is just especially exhausting to read through and think about right now.

But I do it for you, dear reader. And while there were a lot of potential Creeps, many of them were pretty small fish, all things considered. So I chose a big fish, albeit one with very tiny hands.

As has been established, one of the first things Donald Trump did after the shootings was to hop on Twitter and basically congratulate himself "for being right on radical Islamic terrorism." Granted he followed that with "I don't want congrats," but I doubt he really meant that. As one of the most narcissistic people ever to run for president, I'll bet he gets a boner every time he's praised.

On June 12, the Tweet that came before read, "Horrific incident in FL. Praying for all the victims & their families." Which is an appropriate thing to say.

But it doesn't really mean shit because from that moment on Trump has been using the Orlando shooting for political gain, namely by crafting the narrative that President Obama and soon-to-be-President Hillary Clinton are somehow softies for terrorists, and that since terrorist groups like ISIS hate LGBT people, Obama and Clinton basically hate LGBT people, too.

"Hillary Clinton can never claim to be a friend of the gay community as long as she supports immigration policies that bring Islamic extremists to our country and who suppress women, gays, and anyone else who doesn't share their views or values," Trump said in a June 13 speech.

In other words, since Trump, who doesn't even support marriage equality, hates Muslims he's a far better presidential choice for gays.

"Ask yourself who is really the friend of women and the LGBT community. Donald Trump with actions, or Hillary Clinton with her



D'Anne Witkowski

Creep of the Week

how much he hates brown people.

It looks like Trump is engaging in some magical thinking here. Apparently he believes that everything he says comes true. I, for one, am very relieved that is not the case.

On June 14 Trump tweeted, "Thank you to the LGBT community! I will fight for you while Hillary brings in more people that will threaten your freedoms and beliefs."

words?" Trump continued.

I don't know what actions Trump is talking about since he has no "actions" to show for his supposed support of LGBT people. He has not done a single thing but run his mouth about

Not sure what he's thanking LGBT people for, but support certainly isn't it. LGBT voters support Clinton by a mile.

Some individual LGBT people have expressed their support for Trump following the Orlando shooting. Fear makes people to do stupid things.

And Trump is happy to capitalize on fear. In fact, his campaign wouldn't exist without it.

On June 17 he promised via Twitter, "More attacks will follow Orlando."

Perhaps Trump has dreams where he stops the next attack, flying through the air and stopping bullets with his bare tiny hands. But as far as actual policies go, all Trump has is anti-Muslim rhetoric that inflames hate and inspires bigotry.

You can't fight hate with hate, and yet that's all Trump has to offer. And LGBT people have had more than enough hatred, thank you. ■

D'Anne Witkowski is a freelance writer and poet and a writing teacher at the University of Michigan. She writes the weekly "Creep of the Week" column for Q Syndicate.



Dannee Phann brought outstanding shows to the Brick, often featuring *Drag Race* stars

the Brick's building on Maple. Later, as Elliott's health was fading, her long-time partner broke up with her, stealing the bar away in the process.

"She owned Jugs," Okon said of the girlfriend. "But I was the landlord. I told her, 'I'm gonna open a small bar in the space at the other end of the building, and I'm gonna call it Joe's, and it will run you out of business.' That's exactly what happened. I gave Joe that space to open up Joe's, and all the women were loyal to Joe, so Jugs was gone in no time."

Even when it wasn't doing much business, even after the Brick moved to Wycliff, Okon kept Joe's open, tagging the name onto the small bar at the end of the new space on Wycliff, all to honor the memory of his friend, who died of cancer and heart disease on Dec. 27, 1999.

Okon's legacy in the Dallas LGBT nightlife scene dates back to the early 1980s when he opened his first bar, Patrick's, on Fitzhugh. In addition to Rapps, the Brick and Joe's, he has also owned The Wave, Moby Dick's and the Box Office. He was one of the founding members of the Dallas Tavern Guild, the association of Dallas LGBT bar owners that stages the Dallas Pride parade each September, and he has fond memories of other bar owners and employees through the years.

"I made so many friends through the years in this business," Okon said. "Joe and Sandy of course. Gary Monier [of the Cruise Inn], Denis Weir and Frank Caven [of Caven Enterprises], Bill Hargis [of The Eighth Day and The Cove], Ray Martin [of High Country]."

"We were more than just business associates back then. We were friends. We were competitors, yes. But we were friendly competitors, and we worked together for the good of the whole community when we could," Okon said.

"We've been through a lot over the years, good times and bad," he continued. "We came through the AIDS epidemic when we watched so many of our friends die. But we made it through all of it, and it's been good overall."

Just as he remembers fondly the other bar owners he has known, Okon said he will always remember and love the people who have worked for him, in all his bars.

"It was the people who made it special," he said. "It's always been the people. There are people who worked for me 30-something years ago, people who paid their way through school work-

ing as barbacks and bartenders in my bars, and now they are doctors and lawyers. I am proud of all of them. I like to think we set them a good example and helped them become who they are now."

Okon said he and his partner — in business and in life — Greg Parrish are retiring from the bar business, at least as far as owning and operating a bar is concerned. But, he said, he would be willing to help out if some of his employees decide to open their own place.

"Our employees have always been so good, so

loyal. If they right location came around, and one of them wanted to open their own bar, I'd back them," he said.

But for now, Okon said, he and Parrish want to take some time to relax, and to spend more time enjoying their home in Hawaii. But they aren't leaving Dallas for good.

"It's good to go out on top," he said. "But just because we are retiring, that doesn't mean we're pulling up roots and leaving Dallas. We'll be around. We're closing this one book, yes, but just so we can open a new one."

**SATURDAY
JULY 16, 2016
6-10 PM**

BRICK
2525 WYCLIFF AVE @ TOLLWAY

NIGHT OF STARS

The many talents of
MARK ALAN SMITH
7 - 8:15pm

**THEN PERFORMING
8:30 - 10PM...**

RAVEN

JUJUBEE

**VANITY
STORM**

**KRYSTAL
SUMMERS**

**SIENNA
SILVER**

**MC
NOVA STARR**

**HEIDI
LIQUEUR**

**Suggested donation of \$20 per person or \$100 for table of 3. Donate at the door or www.gdmaf.org.
All money raised goes to support Vanity Storm - GDMF's Miss Lifewalk contestant for 2016.**

The write stuff

Cesar Baquerizo's mission to expose the horrors of gay conversion therapy

Cesar Luis Baquerizo has a soft spot for underdogs. It's an attitude borne from experience. Born in Quito, Ecuador, Baquerizo has lived most of his life with a 90 percent hearing loss. And he grew up gay in a culture that still takes a macho attitude about sexuality — so much so, that within the last decade, his native country has undergone several scandals about gay “conversion therapy” centers that go to extremes to “cure” people of their homosexuality.

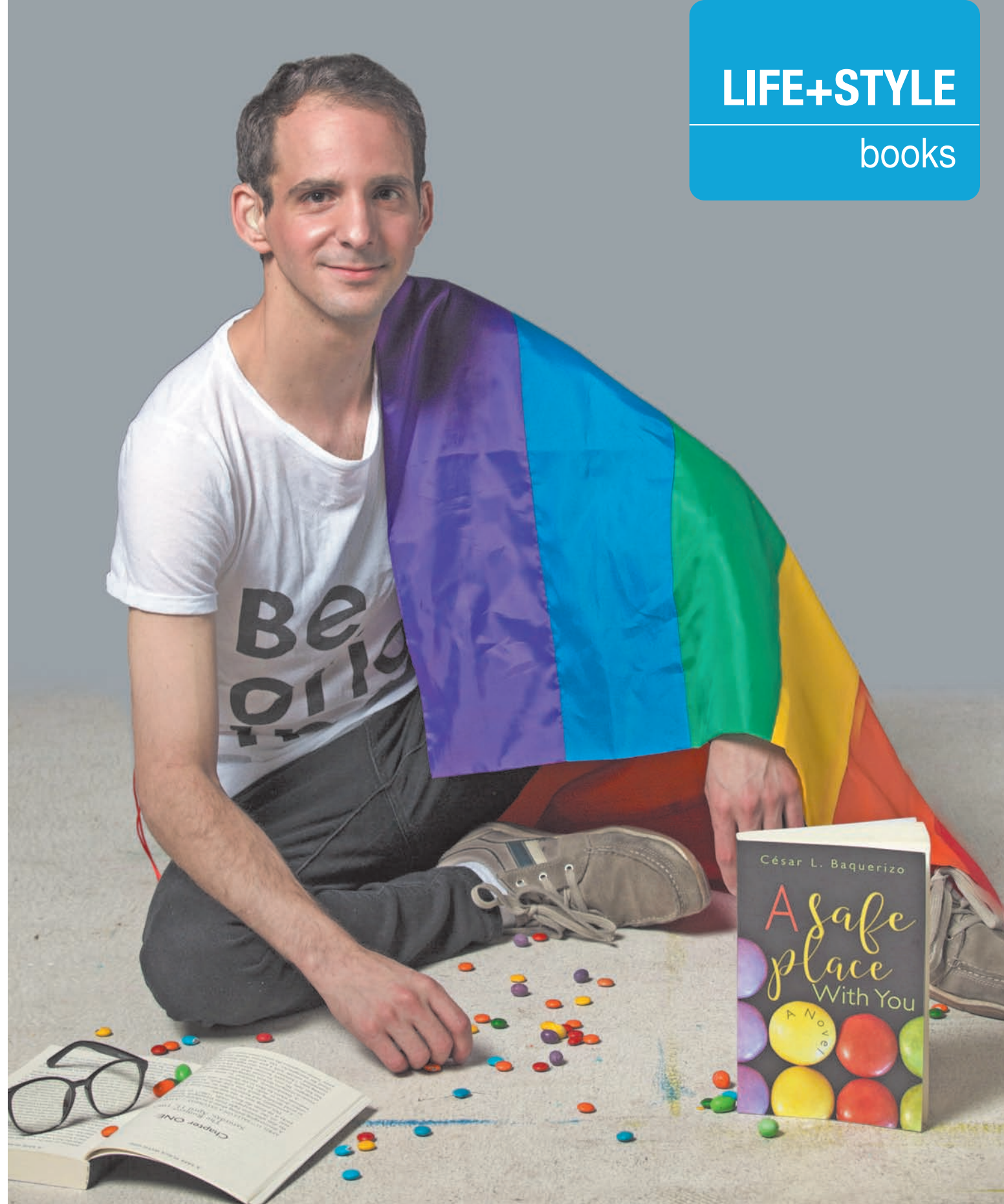
Baquerizo was so moved by the tales of abuse in these clinics that in 2011 — at age 25 — he began writing *A Safe Place with You*. A sweeping novel that spans the founding of a (fictional) conversion clinic in the 1970s and goes up to the present day, *A Safe Place with You* tells a compelling story about a young man who provides light to his fellow “patients” while detailing the hypocrisy and damaging attitudes that have demonized homosexuality.

Against the odds, he spent years trying to find a publisher for the English-language version of the book. “Rejections were always there — it was a tough time and very bad emotionally,” he says. “On my last attempt, I found myself with an acceptance letter. I remember jumping around with so much happiness.”

Earlier this year, Baquerizo finalized the English-language translation, and started his own North American book tour, which brings him to the Barnes & Noble in Plano this Saturday.

“What brought me here is my dream to spread my message about the horrific practice of conversion therapy,” Baquerizo says. “The reality is, only in Vermont, California, New Jersey, Illinois, Oregon and the District of Columbia is conversion therapy on minors banned. That means 45 states don’t protect youth LGBTQ that are rejected by their own family and sent to these horror experiences. Reparative/conversion therapy is a dangerous practice that destroys and distorts psychologically and spiritually LGBTQ youth. *A Safe Place with You* is about the journey to love yourself and encourage self-acceptance.” ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones



Dallas Voice: You’ve had a journeyman career, but you’ve said writing this book was a dream come true. Did you always want to write this book, or did you just feel you needed to tell a story, and this is the one that came to you? Cesar Baquerizo: Well, writing a book is a dream I wanted since I was 14. I started writing back as a kid in my primary school, but more like a hobby. It was an activity I used to entertain myself so I could explore my creativity.

Writing *this* book came to me unexpectedly. When I first found out about the illegal clinics that were operating to “cure” homosexuality, it really impacted me. I felt that need to do something — to act up so I could create more awareness about the dangerous and awful practice that is conversion therapy. I got inspired to create a fictional world with fictional characters that are in fact not that different from our current

reality. I do need to tell *this* story so I can make a good difference to reach people’s heart to allow them to be placed in the LGBT [person’s] shoes, so they can understand how does it feel to be right there with my characters.

Speaking of the clinics: How much research did you do?

How much of the details are based in fact? When I first started writing the Spanish version in August 2011, it was difficult for me to research directly with the patients, because most of the victims did not give their whereabouts or their names for [personal security reasons]. The victims’ testimonies and the information from the health ministry of Ecuador [accounts] about the illegal clinics published in newspapers helped me and inspired me to write *A*

A SAFE PLACE WITH YOU

Barnes & Noble,
2201 Preston Road.
July 9, 2 p.m.

■ CESAR Page 16

IT'S ONLY A PLAY

by
Terrence
McNally



JULY 15 - 31

Thursday-Saturdays at 8 p.m. • Sundays at 2 p.m.
Kalita Humphreys Theater

Uptown Players

214-219-2718
uptownplayers.org



MEDICAL PRACTICE OF
Dr. Steven M. Pounders

Swimsuit Season!

We have a solution for you!
The newly FDA cleared “Strawberry”
inch loss cold laser is now available.

Lose 2-3 inches in Your First Session
Quick Results In a Short Period of Time
10-20 Minute Relaxing Treatment Times

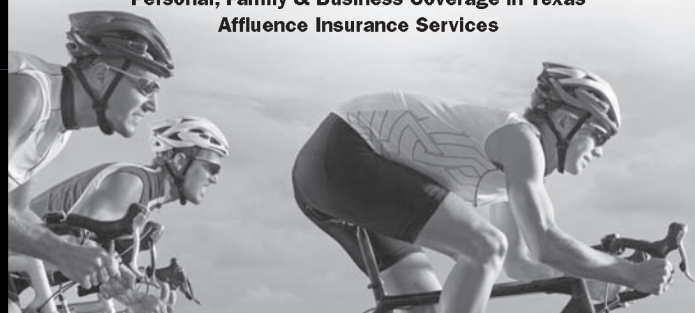
No Pain, No Discomfort
Non-invasive, No Surgery
No Recovery or Downtime
Affordable Treatment

214-520-8833 | 3500 Oak Lawn, Ste. 600 | drpounders.com

Breakaway to Great Service!

BestInsuranceEVER.com

Personal, Family & Business Coverage in Texas
Affluence Insurance Services



Mark Bigham, Principal Agent



11520 N. Central Expy., Ste. 112, Dallas, TX 75243
214-838-6180 • Mark@BestInsuranceEver.com



HOWDY YA'LL!
WE'RE BACK!
MR., MS. & MISS
RODEO NAKED PAGEANT
Proceeds benefit TGRA Dallas and Fort Worth.

\$5 Cover/Door
Thursday, July 21, 6:30pm Prompt
BRICK DALLAS
2525 Wycliff Avenue, Dallas

Sunday, Aug. 14, 6:30pm Prompt
CLUB REFLECTION
604 S. Jennings Ave., Fort Worth

Silent Auction • Merchandise Sales

Great Prizes, Awards & Fun Fun Fun!
Brought to You by The Rodeo Naked™ Clothing Co.

L+S books

■ BOOKS, From Page 14

Safe Place with You. It was after I published [in Spanish] that I got the chance to have conversations with survivors of these very real clinics and their stories ended up similar [to what] I wrote. They later let me know how they identified with my characters.

So there's nothing autobiographical about it? I'm not necessarily telling my life story, but there are some parts based on my own experiences in coming out, what I felt about the Bible, about the society. Also, each of my characters have something and different sides of me. I can say that I wrote and created all my characters like alter egos.

So, do you personally know anyone who went through conversion efforts? I have a dear friend, who is so brave and inspiring, who told me that in late 2014, his father wanted to put him in a center to “cure” his homosexuality. His father never told him directly, but it was like a conspiracy [in his] family. Luckily, his sister warned him, “Be careful.” He was paranoid everywhere he would go because he knew how hundred of these clinics were discovered by the health of minister [in 2011]. So he decided to leave the country. He now resides in Canada and lives proudly, married with his long-time boyfriend, who is from Ecuador, too. Their story inspired me even more to come forward to talk about these issues.

I [also] met a guy who confessed me that he was forcibly taken by his family to a center where he suffered both physically and emotionally. It was a nightmare for him. Luckily, his parents took him out months later. [But] many families will say nothing to see their sons “healed” from their “bad behavior.”

What is the state of gay rights or gay acceptance like in Ecuador — or Latin America in general — now? Is it getting better? Well, the problem is that these centers are hidden. I can't tell how many of these clinics may still exist in Ecuador or around the world. They may even exist in your own proverbial backyard. We have protection laws against LGBT discrimination [in Ecuador], but still we have a lot to do in our society to stop violating our rights. It's important to speak out [and be] more visible about these issues that destroy LGBT youths' lives. The reality is that most LGBT people here are influenced by the views of the society and are obligated to still live in the closet. They even have to create a double life to make their families proud, to receive the inheritance and to “protect” their family's name. The rest of us who aren't closeted do our best to show our diversity and to inspire the closeted ones that there is nothing wrong in them and there will be always someone who will accept and understand their true identity.

I don't try to generalize about my country or to

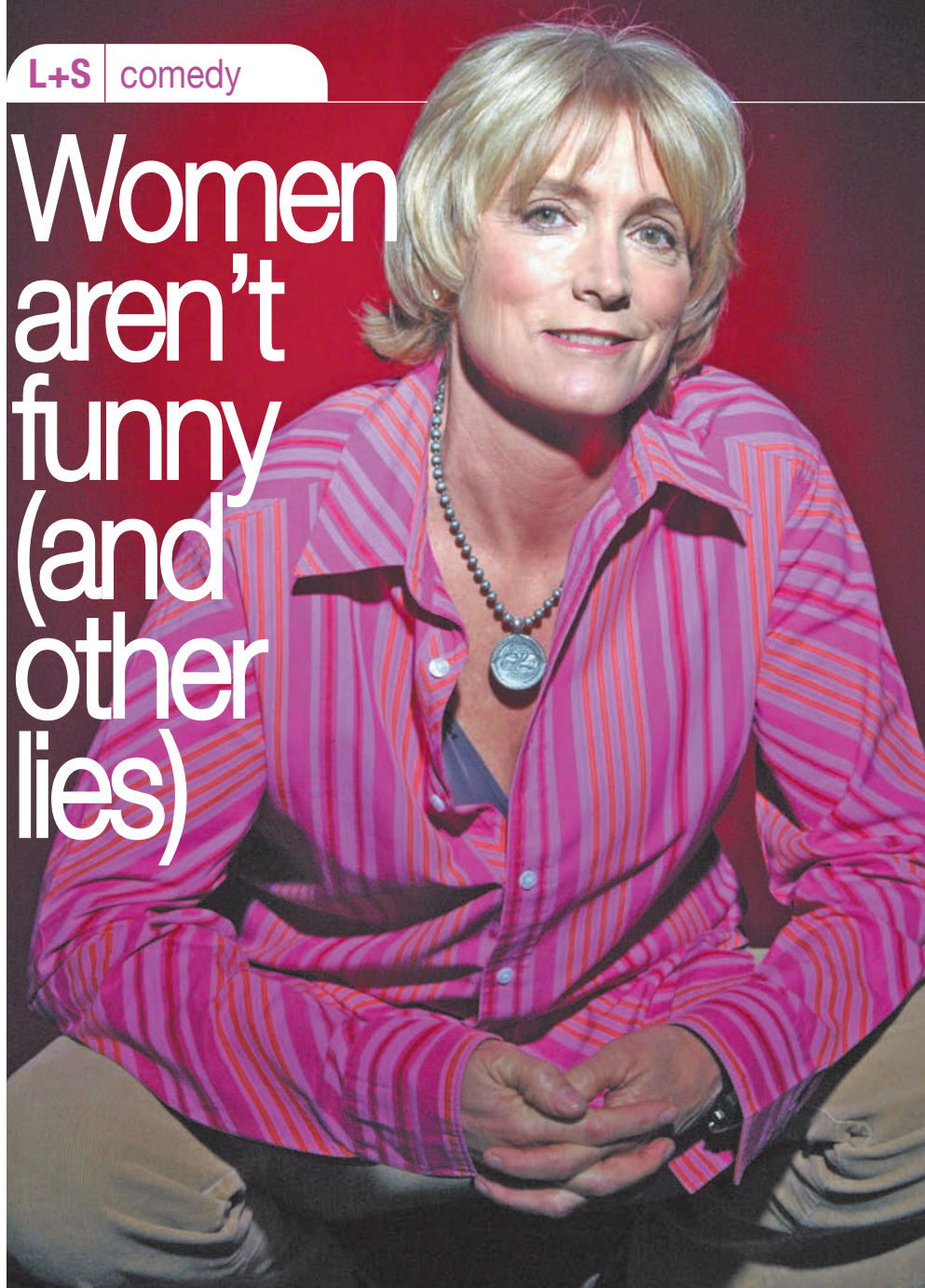


judge someone, but what I'm sharing are facts that need to be known in order to stop spreading the misconception about what is sexuality — which is diverse. We are all here with our different sexual orientations and we shouldn't be ignored. The reality is that most LGBT people are influenced by their views of society and religion, which don't let them experience the journey of humanity where they get to find, discover and know who they are.

You've been 90 percent deaf most of your life. Has that informed your novel? Or your identity as a gay man? Do you have an “outsider” quality based on both of these? I identify myself with all my particularities. Being gay is not the only thing that makes me. I'm more than that. Each part of me shows the rest how the same we are, because we are all different. I'm deaf, too. I did experience being an outsider in my teenagers years for being gay and deaf. At that time, I felt [like I wasn't] part of the deaf community for not knowing ASL signs and [I wasn't] part of the gay community for not seeing anyone being openly proud. I struggled a lot to fit in this society because I couldn't relate or identify myself with anyone. But I managed to find myself proudly as part of both communities when I realized there were more people like me. I believe that we can make a big change all together by [making] our diversity more visible so everyone can see us, especially the kids, who are the ones that are going through the hard times alone. I'm learning ASL signs little by little and I enjoy new experiences.

There's a strong romantic component to your book. Is that just your Latin roots coming through? Oh, I always have been romantic, a dreamer and an adventurer. I like to have new experiences. I like to work hard because it makes me feel alive. I'm romantic because I like to think that loving someone with a lot of affection and to want to make that person your everything — it's a beautiful feeling in life.

Women aren't funny (and other lies)



Funnylady Poppy Champlin brings Queer Queens of Qomedy Tour to Texas

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Being a standup comedian is difficult business. Being a gay standup is even harder. But being a gay *female* standup? You're talking Herculean effort there.

I mention this to Poppy Champlin, who has been making her living as a comic for a quarter century. As recently as just a few years ago, I note, there was a controversy when a Chicago club owner was quoted as remarking that women "just aren't funny."

"You're saying it nicely," Champlin sighs. "That's been going on for a long time. Yet Ellen DeGeneres just got the Mark Twain Award — the highest award for comedy! Ellen has a brilliant mind. It's not your sex, it's your *mind* — what your mind does with subjects and information and twists them — that makes a good comedian. Women have great minds, just like men do."

Not that men and women think the same way. She admits that "men have a different mentality. I suppose that's dictated by their cocktail of testosterone. There is a different sensibility to our humor. When I'm performing on men's cruises, I play a bit more risqué and dirtier. I always say to them, 'I'm gonna push the envelope to the edge' ... and then they move the edge!"

So I push it even further. Women are a bit more timid about sexual stuff. They want to keep it in the brown zone."

Carving out the audience that appreciates her humor — and during our conversation, she's

very funny — has been as much a part of shaping her career as honing her timing. "It's been a hard road as a female comedian and a lesbian comedian. I eventually said, 'Fuck you' [to straight audiences] — I decided I'm just gonna play to my tribe. And by tribe, I am really saying lesbians." (Not that she doesn't want and enjoy gay men to laugh it up with the ladies — every-

QUEER QUEENS OF QOMEDY

Hyena's, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane (next to the Angelika). July 10. 7 p.m.
HyenasComedyNightclub.com.
QueerQueensOfQomedy.com

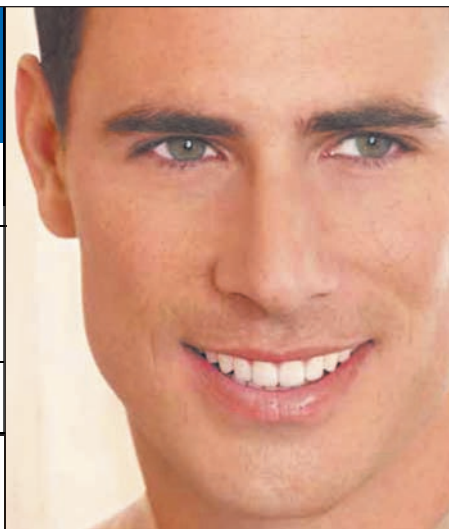
THERE'S SOMETHING
ABOUT HIM YOU
JUST CAN'T FORGET

General Dentistry | Reconstruction
Cosmetic | Implants

 **invisalign**® 
PREFERRED PROVIDER

ToddBrownLeeDDS.com
5470 W. Lovers Ln. Dallas | 214-352-2777

BEST BEST BEST BEST BEST BEST BEST BEST
DDDDDDDDDD
2005 2007 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015



INCOME TAX RETURNS



RON ALLEN CPA, PC

- Former IRS Agent/ IRS Negotiations
- Individual and Business Tax Returns
- Same-Sex Marriage Issues
- QuickBooks Pro Advisor On Staff
- First Consultation Free
- Certified Public Accountant



2909 Cole Ave. Suite 119 • Dallas, TX 75204
214.954.0042
ron@ronallencpa.com • www.ronallencpa.com

Lose fat fast... in private!

An efficient 25-minute audience-free workout designed by Cooper Institute Certified Personal Trainers, to increase metabolism, build muscle mass and burn fat.

6-week Gut Buster Boot Camp \$19

Visit our website for details! privateworkout.com

PRIVATE WORKOUT

Dallas
214-865-6153
5400 Mockingbird

Plano
214-865-6153
4701 W. Park Blvd

Las Collinas
214-865-6153
4835 N. O'Connor

Flower Mound
214-865-6153



Custom Airbrush Tanning!
Walk-ins Welcome • No Appointment Necessary
Tanning starting at \$22

UV Tanning | Versa Spa PRO

TAN
DALLAS

Visit our website: TanDallas.com

5400 E. Mockingbird @75 Central • 214.821.9500



VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES!

The Ballot is now online for the

2016 DALLAS PRIDE GRAND MARSHALS!



Please go to **DallasPride.org** and vote for your favorite community leaders to be the **2016 Grand Marshals of Dallas Pride.**

Use your social media and promote your favorite candidate.

Voting starts Friday July 8 - July 29
The winners will be announced in August.

VOTE NOW!



<http://dallaspride.org/grand-marshals>

L+S screen

Wood on fire



Bi actress Evan Rachel Wood, who teams with a queer crew for a powerful new movie, talks Orlando massacre, sci-fi and tea with Elizabeth Warren

Openly bisexual actress Evan Rachel Wood is fired up lately about the Orlando massacre, misconceptions about bisexuality, and her role in the post-apocalyptic indie, *Into The Forest*.

Headed up by queer female dream team Ellen Page, Wood, and director Patricia Rozema (*When Night Is Falling*, *I've Heard The Mermaids Singing*), the film is based on Jean Hegland's 1996 post-apocalyptic novel. Living in the remote, woodsy Northwest with their father, siblings Nell (Page) and Eva (Wood) find all power and technology has suddenly gone down due to a mysterious event, but that's the least of their problems when a tragic accident, shifty strangers, and a horrific crime strike their once idyllic corner of the woods. (The film is currently available via VOD and will run in select theaters later this summer.)

Raised in Raleigh, N.C. (her father, David Ira Wood, is a local theater icon), Wood, 28, is probably best known for playing Mickey Rourke's estranged lesbian daughter in 2008's *The Wrestler*, a lusty Sapphic vampire queen in HBO's *True Blood*, and a debauched adolescent in her 2003 breakout *Thirteen*. She came out as bisexual in a 2011 *Esquire* interview, dated Kate Moennig of *The L-Word* (whom, she says, remains a best friend), and on June 10 this year made a YouTube video to clear up misconceptions about bisexuality and share her personal tale of revelation.

"There is so much shame that comes with that 'bisexual' label, so I was like, I'm not going to be ashamed or silent," she remarks. The mother of a nearly three-year-old son (dad is actor Jamie Bell, whom she amicably parted with in 2014), Wood chatted by phone about post-apocalypse existence, the Orlando tragedy, her turn as an android in HBO's upcoming sci-fi series *Westworld*, and which political figures she'd go on a date with.

—Lawrence Ferber

Dallas Voice: As a North Carolinian, are you rolling your eyes about the HB2 bathroom bill, transphobia and other horrible GOP legislation going on down there lately? Wood: Oh my God. I can't even. It's embarrassing. When I grew up there we prided ourselves on being a progressive southern state. It's really disturbing to see this happening.

Ellen Page brought both you and Rozema on *Into The Forest*. Was the fact she was also openly queer an element that helped convince

you to sign on? Well, the script really drew me, and it was just a really pleasant coincidence that me and Ellen and Patricia are all out. We had a few giggles about it, like that's pretty cool, but no. It worked out that way.

So what issue does the movie address that most compelled you? How disconnected we are from our primal nature and how we relate to our environment. No one really knows or is taught how to live off the land, to forage for food, to survive without all the luxuries and conveniences of a soft bed

Wood, right, appears in her new film with fellow out actress Ellen Page, left.

or gas. Too often we don't ask ourselves the question of what would happen if you didn't have those readily available. They are luxuries. I felt it was a reminder of what's really important when all the things are taken away — in this case, two sisters and the love they have for each other, because that's what's keeping them alive.

This is a big spoiler to those unfamiliar with the book, but it needs to be touched on. There's a scene where Eva is raped, and it's downright painful to watch. Can you talk about that?

That was really intense. We did that in one take. The only thing important to me was how it was shot. I didn't want to glorify it in any way or take away from the emotional trauma by focusing on just what's happening physically, because I think that's part of the problem of what's happening with rape culture. People think it's not a big deal because you're still alive afterwards and it maybe only lasted 15 minutes. But what they don't understand is it's not the physical trauma that's most damaging. Of course, it's damaging, painful and horrible, but it's the emotional scars rape leaves that take a lifetime to deal with and come back from. You lose a part of yourself, it's taken from you and it's really hard to get back. I think that's what we showed in the film. You see this girl just disappear slowly and when that happens you're in such shock your body doesn't know how to handle it and you kind of leave.

Did you and Ellen discuss the Orlando massacre when it happened last month? She was one of the first people I contacted. I tried to make a point of reaching out to a lot of my queer friends, because obviously this is devastating for everyone, a blow to us all, but I think it cuts a little bit deeper to those who feel it could have been them. It's devastating and we were shaken up by it, but I view myself as a person who can stay strong in the face of despair and ignorance. This is one of those cases where I got really scared and sad, but then angry in a good way because it was motivation and inspiration. I'm just done hiding, I'm done walking on eggshells, and I think a lot of people feel that way but I also have a desire to show and give people as much love as possible.

Let's shift gear to some lighter topics for a bit, shall we? Who are your current celebrity

crushes? You know what? I met Jamie Lee Curtis yesterday and I've got to say she is a babe! I was so speechless and starstruck, and I've been so in love with her for so long and she was even more beautiful in person.

How about Nick Jonas, who has been happy to court the gay boys as well as the girls? Oh, I don't know enough about him and what he's doing!

Elizabeth Warren? Would you say yes to a wine and cheese date with her? I love her. Oh, hell, yeah! She's great.

And Bernie Sanders? Sure! Can he bring the bird? [Laughs] I'd date them all except Trump."

Are you Team Hillary? Ummm... As opposed to Trump? [Laughs] Politically, getting involved in the press is very dangerous right now. I'm not voting for Trump!

Whose life story would you most like to play? Janis Joplin. It's a dream forever and ever, and [the response is always] like, oh you're too pretty. Dude, movie magic! She's just incredible to me.

What can you tell me about your character in *Westworld*, and are there LGBT characters? Absolutely. It's based in the future, and it's going to be much more fluid [sexually], so of course that's there. My character is a "host." I think what's going to be really cool about the 'hosts,' because we don't like to use the word robot, is they would be more fluid and genderless. It's going to blow people's minds. The writing impresses me the most, it's so intricate, deep, an existential nightmare and very much based in reality. It's set in the future but based on real technology we're developing now, looking at the state of humanity and where we're at, what we consider entertainment, and why we're so attracted to darkness. It's taking a good, hard look at that.

As a mom of what you call the raddest son, what is your wish for your child's future? More tolerance, empathy, kindness and communication. That's a reason I had children. Sometimes people think, "I'm not going to have a kid because everything's so messed up," but I felt here's my chance to put something good into the world, raise a good man and for him to be the change. That's a lot to put on him, but that's how it works.

■ COMEDY, From Page 17

one is welcome at her shows.)

Which is why Champlin is delighted that her Queer Queens of Comedy Tour — which kicks off Sunday at Hyena's in Dallas before heading to Austin, San Antonio and Houston — isn't just showing audiences the talent that's out there, but doing it in mainstream venues.

"These are straight clubs [we are playing at] that usually cater to a straight male audience, which is the way comedy has been for a real long time," Champlin says. "But they see I can bring in the audience."

Partly that's because standup — which started its heyday in the late 1970s — is always looking for the next big funny thing. And that's becoming gay humor, from the likes of Ellen and Tig Notaro, among others.

"I think they are finally hearing from gay comedians cuz other kinds of humor are all tapped out," she says. "You gotta come up with new stuff all the time."

Gay comedians find common ground with accepting straight audiences by showing the uni-

versality of experiences — something that was hard to sell just a decade ago.

"Ellen [is amazing] but has always been really clean — she doesn't really talk about gay stuff. I was not going to be wildly out and gay in my show, but I talk too much about sex and my relationships. If I can't say 'my girlfriend,' I don't have an act. It's about the girlfriend because that's where people connect. They want to hear about that stuff. I tell them, 'My mother was horrendous and continues to be. I'm 50-plus and still get the when-will-you-be-getting-a-boyfriend speech.'" Everyone can relate to that.

The "qomedy" tour will feature Champlin and three other female standups, specifically tapped to appeal to Texas audiences. She will be joined in Dallas by Sandra Valls and Mimi Gonzalez, both Latinas. She intentionally wanted a contrast to her last Texas show, which included comedian Vicki Shaw.

"Vicki's from Texas but really white — like, Casper the Ghost white," Champlin says. "So am I — I'm practically a pilgrim."

Hey, funny is funny. ■










**An open and affirming church
where everyone is welcome.**

10:30am Sunday Worship

Great Wedding Site!

Oak Cliff, 2527 W. Colorado Blvd., Dallas, TX 75211
214-623-8400 • www.promiseucc.org







PAMPER YOUR PET

COMING JULY 15TH!

From Felines to Canines,
the latest dish on our furry friends
and faithful companions.

A REAL TREAT!

AD SPACE DEADLINE: MONDAY, JULY 11TH!

Contact us Today!

214-754-8710 | advertising@dallasvoice.com

1825 Market Center Blvd #240 | Dallas, Texas 75207

dallasvoice

The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

COME AND MEET THOSE DANCING FEET

42ND STREET



JUNE 28 - JULY 10
MUSIC HALL AT FAIR PARK
THRU SUNDAY ONLY!

www.dallassummermusicals.org
CALL: 1-800-514-ETIX (3849)
GROUPS 10+: 214-426-GROUP

JULY 12 - 17
BASS PERFORMANCE HALL
OPENS TUESDAY!

www.basshall.com
CALL: 817-212-4280
GROUPS: 817-212-4248

Photo by Joan Marcus





Friday 07.15 — Sunday 07.31

McNally makes second appearance with Uptown Players' 'Only a Play'

Uptown Players' most recent production was the drama *Mothers & Sons*, written by playwright Terrence McNally. Well, McNally is back at the Kalita ... in a far less serious tone. *It's Only a Play* is his riotous recount of behind-the-scenes as a Broadway company awaits their opening night review from The New York Times. B.J. Cleveland and Chamblee Ferguson lead the cast

DEETS: Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. UptownPlayers.org.

Thursday 04.14 — Thursday 07.21

Asian Film Festival of Dallas back for 15th season

The Asian Film Festival is one of Dallas' longest-running celebrations of the visual image, and focuses on both films and filmmakers from China, Thailand, Japan and the rest of the Pacific Rim. This year's fest — its 15th — kicks off with a party in the Foundation Room at the House of Blues, but all the films will play for a week at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station.

DEETS: Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane. AsianFilmDallas.com.



I'm glad people
understand what
unconditional love is!

Spa & Grooming Play Care • Boarding Walking • Home Visits

Downtown
408 S. Harwood St
214.741.4100

Oak Cliff
2406 Emmett
469-930-9827

thepetropolitandallas.com



Proudly Gay Owned & Operated!

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

Festival of Independent Theatres. The 18th annual showcase of smaller local companies returns with six troupes producing unique shows. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. July 8–30. For a complete lineup, visit FestivalOfIndependentTheatres.com.

Dreamgirls. The hit rock musical, a thinly-disguised version of the making of the Supremes and Motown, becomes the Dallas Theater Center's summer family show ... for funky families. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through July 29. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Hair. The hippie rock musical (with nudity!). OhLook Performing Arts Center, 1631 W. Northwest Highway, Grapevine. July 8–22. OhLookPerform.com.

Jekyll & Hyde. R.L. Stevenson's tale of madness and personality. Bedford Boys Ranch, 2819 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. July 8–31. OnstageInBedford.com.

A Kid Like Jake. Second Thought Theatre closes its season with this area premiere about a little boy who prefers Cinderella to G.I. Joe. Bryant Hall on 2nd Street, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through July 23. 2TT.co.

Old Time Music Hall. Theatre Britain's musical revue and fundraiser. Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 Ave H., Plano. Through July 17. Theatre-Britain.com.

Pinkalicious. A musical about the joys of overdoing it with color. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through July 17. DCT.org.

Psycho Beach Party. Coy Covington stars in this campy Charles Busch play. *Final weekend.* Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Theatre3Dallas.com.

42nd Street. The classic insider musical about Broadway. *Final weekend in Dallas; moves to Fort Worth.* Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. Through Sunday. Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. July 12–17. DallasSummerMusicals.org. BassHall.com.

FINE ART

Rebecca Warren: The Main Thing. A mid-career retrospective of the British visual artist and sculptress, in 20 diverse pieces. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through July 17. DMA.org.

Vermeer Suite: Music in 17th Century Dutch Painting. A lovely original Vermeer is among the seven paintings in this intimate exhibit exploring themes in Dutch art. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Aug. 21. DMA.org.

Eye of the Collector. An exhibition of the quirky tchotchkes and unusual trinkets of nine people prove the axiom that every object tells a story. Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. Through Sept. 5. PerotMuseum.org.

FRIDAY 07.08

COMMUNITY

Mr. and Ms. Great Plains Olympus Leather Contest.

Title contest for those in the leather/BDSM/fetish community. Meet and greet Friday at 7 p.m., public contest, cocktail party and results Saturday at 6 p.m. Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. Friday and Saturday. GreatPlainsOlympusLeather.com.

SATURDAY 07.09

COMMUNITY

Wiener Fest 2016. Get a hot dog and support the nonprofit Team Friendly DFW. Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. 3 p.m.

BOOK SIGNING

A Safe Place with You. Ecuadoran author Cesar Luis Baquerizo signs copies of his new novel, which is about the hazards of conversion therapy.



Patrons at New Orleans' Up Stairs Lounge gay bar, before the arson that killed more than 30 people 40-plus years ago. 'Upstairs Inferno,' a film about those events, makes its Fort Worth premiere Thursday.

Read the interview on Page 14. Barnes & Noble, 2201 Preston Road, Plano. 2 p.m.

SUNDAY 07.10

COMEDY

Queer Queens of Comedy. Poppy Champlin, Sandra Valls, Mimi Gonzalez and local guest Chris Guzman perform standup. Read the interview with

**1 Month
FREE**
with promo code:
DALLAS



Your place or mine?
The mobile hookup site for gay and bi men

*Offer expires 31st December 2016

Visit **Squirt.org** on your mobile to hookup today

Champlin on Page 17. Hyena's, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane, . 7 p.m. [QueerQueensOfQomey.com](#). [HyenasComedyNightclub.com](#).

TUESDAY 07.12
FILM

The Band Wagon. As much as film lovers swoon over *Singin' in the Rain*, this musical — starring Fred Astaire and Cyd Charisse in her best film role — is in every way its equal. A gem you have to see. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

THURSDAY 07.14
CABARET

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

FILM
Asian Film Festival of Dallas. The 15th annual film fest focusing on Asian films and filmmakers. Kick-off party at the Foundation Room at the House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. 9 p.m. Screenings at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane. July 14–21. [AsianFilmDallas.com](#).

**browse**

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvevents](#).

**submit**

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit](#).

Upstairs Inferno. The Fort Worth premiere of the award-winning documentary by Dallas filmmaker Robert L. Camina, about what was, before the Orlando shooting, the largest mass-murder of gays in American history. Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. 7 p.m.

FRIDAY 07.15
THEATER

It's Only a Play. A backstage comedy by Terrence McNally. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. July 15–31. [UptownPlayers.org](#).

this week's solution

F	R	E	E		A	D	H	O	C		C	A	N	A	
G	O	L	F		S	W	E	A	R		A	N	A	X	
S	E	L	F		S	E	E	T	O		N	A	I	L	
				I	W	I	L	L	S	U	R	V	I	V	E
B	I	G	G	E	S	T				P	H	A	S	E	
E	G	O	I	S	T		A	D	I	O	S				
A	L	I	E				T	R	U	E	D		D	O	A
C	O	N	S	T	A	N	T	C	R	A	V	I	N	G	
H	O	G			I	N	U	I	T			I	T	S	A
				E	M	O	T	E		J	A	C	K	E	T
	T	O	M	E	I				D	E	V	I	A	T	E
D	A	N	C	I	N	G	Q	U	E	E	N				
O	B	I	E		T	A	T	E	R		I	N	E	Z	
F	L	O	E		E	V	I	T	A		T	A	T	S	
F	E	N	D		D	E	P	O	T		Y	M	C	A	

Alternatives

NEW FINE ARTS



Huuuuge DVD
Reduction Sale!
Prices \$4.99+

Adult Toys • Gear • Extenders
Pumps • Tools for ED • Lubes • Leather
Fetish • DVD Rentals & Sales

1720 W. MOCKINGBIRD LANE • DALLAS, TX 75235 • 214-630-7071
(enter in rear behind New Fine Arts) | [www.sexysite.com](#) | OPEN 24/7



XXV

Red Zone XXV

Friday 7/15/16 @ the STROKE of Midnight!
Leave your towel, and your inhibitions, at the door!

THE CLUB DALLAS
Good. Clean. Fun.

A PRIVATE MEN'S CLUB/SAUNA
2616 Swiss Avenue | 214-821-1990 | [www.theclubs.com](#)

Cassie Nova

Cassie gets serious about Orlando

Hey, y'all. When I sit down to write my little ol' column, I usually write about whatever has been on my mind, or I go in the general direction of giving advice to others. After all, this did start out as an "Ask Cassie the drag queen anything" kind-of-deal. Well, since no one has asked for advice in a few weeks — apparently I have solved all of your problems and you are all living a life free from a need for advice — I will talk about the only thing that has been on my brain as of late.

On June 12, some asshole went into Pulse nightclub and killed 49 beautiful souls and wounded many more. I'm not going to talk about the absolute need for gun control and a policy change that will make it hard for bad guys, hell-bent on death and destruction

to get their hands on weapons whose only purpose is carnage. Hell, if the politicians won't listen to the families of people killed by automatic weapons, what chance does a drag queen have? The whole situation is so frustrating and embarrassing for us as a country.

The evening of June 12, I contemplated not going to work and doing my job as an entertainer. There had been such a horrible dark cloud over all of us that day. Part of me just wanted to curl into the fetal position and stay in bed all day, but us "girls" take the old adage, "The show must go on!" very seriously. Suck it up buttercup and do what you do. I found that being out that night helped me immensely.

I was in awe of the turnout that night. I had friends that don't come out that often show up and tell me they felt it was important to be out that night. I'm glad they were there. On the way to the club, I remember thinking, "This is scary, and I hope I am not scared tonight to be onstage." Once there, the fear was nowhere to be found. It was our job that night to help take our minds off the horrors of that morning, and al-

though it may have briefly left our minds, it still weighed heavily on our hearts. I wish I were more eloquent in those situations, I hope the crowd knows how much it meant to us that they were there. I love my community and was very proud that night to be a part of it.

The next morning, I woke up, turned on the television and cried leaning more details. Facebook was awash with stories and posts that just felt like a gut-punch. A showgirl friend who worked at Pulse posted that she was OK but lost many friends. My husband was at work, so I was home alone that day. I felt completely overwhelmed by grief. I know the shooting happened in Florida but it felt close.

I have never struggled with depression. I've been in a bad mood, felt ennui and been heartbroken over many things, but I have never felt an all-encompassing depression like I felt that day. My heart hurt, my brain wouldn't stop going to dark places and I felt physically sick. If that is what people that struggle with depression feel like daily, I will never think of depressed people the same way.

Thank god for my Freakshow at JR.'s that night. Once again being around my people helped. The bar was full of our Monday night regulars and even more people that I have never seen out on a Monday. The show was light hearted and fun but what it did for my own personal morale, helped shoo away my dark cloud. Not completely — June 12 created a dark cloud and a change in all of us that will be there forever, but it made my dark cloud manageable.

On that Tuesday morning, I woke up and did the same thing I did on Monday, but instead of getting depressed, I got angry. I was angry at the lack of chatter on Facebook from my straight friends and family. I have quite a lot of straight folks that I am friends with on Facebook. Some of them I am related to, some that I went to school with, some are friends that I have known all my life and some are random Cassie fans that I feel a connection with. Many of these people post on Facebook and social media, prayers for everything. When the horrible terrorist attack happened in Paris, there were prayers for Paris. Many of them even changed their profile pic to the Paris flag. When the little boy fell into the gorilla enclosure and the poor animal was killed, there were prayers for the families and zookeepers even for the other gorillas that might miss their friend. But when the one of the worst terrorist attacks in American history happens... SILENCE!

I was confused and heartbroken and pissed off. Are we not worthy of your prayers because we are gay? Do they not care because it happened at a gay club? Are they so torn or worried what others might say if they show support for the gays? Can they not see past the fact that many of the people killed were gay and just see them as human? I wanted an outpouring of anger, heartbreak and support from my straight allies but all I felt was abandonment with the exception of a few.

Yes, I know it's just stupid Facebook and I know I am on it way too much, but it is a valid way of getting a feel for what is being felt in our world. You know how scientists use frogs as a way of determining the health of an ecosystem. Facebook, to me, is like that

frog and our frog is sick or dying.

Over the next few days, I heard from some of the more important members of my family and felt a little better. Then I got a message, through Facebook, from a woman that I have always considered my other mother. In fifth grade I became best friends with her sons and from then on they always made me feel like family. I received this message exactly when I need it.

James, I have been thinking about you a lot since the horrific event in Orlando. I want you to know that I know you, I know your heart. I know that you are struggling with this level of hate and prejudice. There is no sense to be made if it. It has always been out there, but not to this extent. I can't imagine how you must feel having a job where you are supposed to make people laugh and let go of the hurt and pain of a prejudiced society. My heart goes out to you. I am so sorry that this prejudice exists. I am sorry that you, while hurting have to carry the weight of finding a way to make people laugh and entertain them while suffering. You are so kind, sensitive, caring and giving. You gave Les and I so much joy for so many years. I don't have the words to heal your pain, fear or physical hurt right now. But, I do want you to know that you are loved. Your "family" is loved and I wish for you the strength to be strong and courageous right now. My heart is heavy for you and the Community that has been there for you and loved you for so many years. You are an amazing young man. We love you and will forever. When you are ready, we would love to have you and your husband over for a group hug. Mamma Perry.

Sometimes we just need to feel that others are thinking of us, praying for us, love us. I took strength from her words and hope you will too.

This week I got a little deep into my feelings and haven't felt very funny. I promise next time to try not to be such a Debbie Downer. I love you all.

Remember to always love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova.

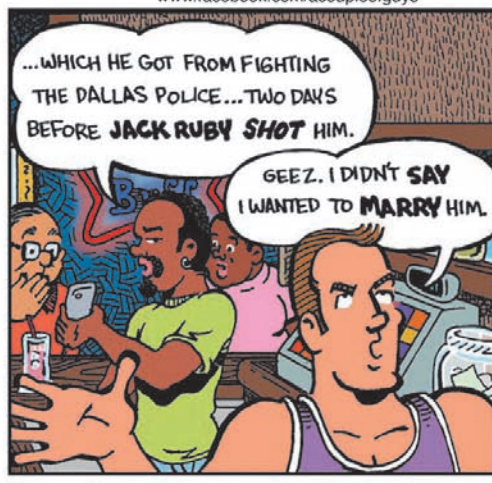
If you have a question of comment, email it to AskCassieNova@gmail.com.



e-mail: acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com



www.facebook.com/acoupleofguys



© 2016 Dave Brusseaux





Girls' fun day at Sue Ellen's.



Alyssa makes the scene on The Strip.



John and Mike at Marty's Live.



Club Stallion's dancing men.



Dennis Rodman and friends on the patio at Sue Ellen's.



Handsome staff at Woody's Sports and Video Bar.

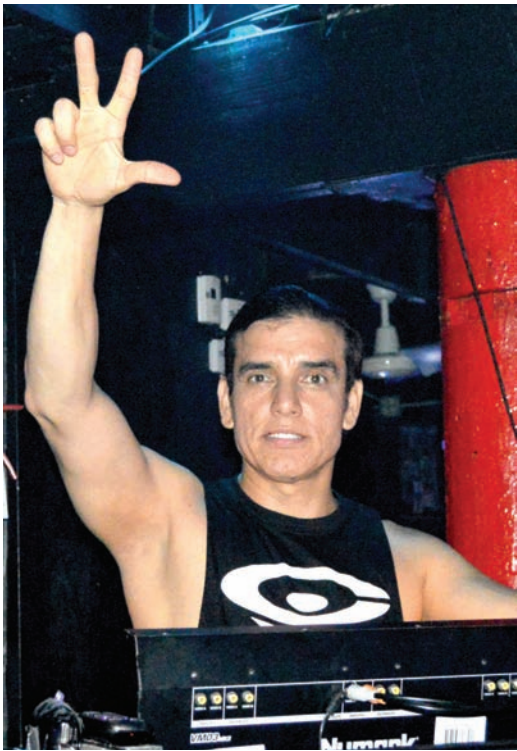
Making the **SCENE** the week of **July 8-14**:

- **Alexandre's**: Kristen Majors on Friday. **K-Marie** on Saturday and Tuesday. **Chris Chism** on Wednesday. **Illumin** on Thursday.
- **Brick/Joe's**: Benefit for Orlando with Kennedy Davenport, Jaidynn Diore Fierce, Jiggly Caliente Brooks and LaTrone McNae on Saturday.
- **Club Reflection**: The Green Team presents Linze Serell and others with MC Nancy Peoples on Sunday benefiting LifeWalk.
- **Dallas Eagle**: Mr. and Ms Great Plains Olympus Leather contest on Friday and Saturday. Discipline Corps club night at 10 p.m. on Friday. National Leather Association club night at 7 p.m. on Saturday. United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents Studs & Stilettos Gone Wild benefiting the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund at 8 p.m. on Sunday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill**: Cassie's Freak Show with Athena, Ana Budjitt, Daphne and Bleach on Monday.
- **Rainbow Lounge**: The Illusions of Rainbow presents Tommie Ross as Diana Ross at 9 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Sue Ellen's**: Bad Habits on Friday. Straw Hat Society on Saturday. Customer Appreciation Night with Bella at 4 p.m. and Jessica Lynn at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
- **The Rose Room**: Rising Star with Kelexis and Your Highness on Thursday.
- **Two Corks and a Bottle**: Show Tune Night with David Carpenter on the piano from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesday. ■

Scene Photographers: *Kat Haygood*



Taking out the trash ... a dirty job, but somebody's gotta do it.



Handsome men on the staff at Marty's Live.



Working at Dallas Eagle makes you smile.



Hanging out in Oak Lawn.



Patio time at Dallas Eagle.



Joy and Britt get cozy.



Date night on The Strip.



Getting friendly at Pekar's.



Making beautiful music at Sue Ellen's.

COMING JULY 29th!

Unique Families
Unique Relationships
Unique Issues

AD SPACE DEADLINE
MONDAY, JULY 25TH!

dallasvoice
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

CONTACT US TODAY!

214-754-8710 | advertising@dallasvoice.com • 1825 Market Center Blvd #240 Dallas Tx 75207

Midtowne Spa

2509 PACIFIC AVE • DALLAS 75226
214.821.8989 • MIDTOWNE.COM

Everything is better in the dark!

BLACKOUT PARTY Saturday, July 9th 11pm to 4am Flashlights Provided.	ULTRA VIOLET BLACKLIGHT PARTY Saturday, July 16th - 11pm to 4am Glow Sticks Provided.
---	--

dvclassy

DVClassy » On Facebook and Twitter
to advertise » 214.754.8710
to shop » dallasvoice.com/classy



classy index »

REAL ESTATE
Realtors
For Rent
For Sale
Mortgage
Movers
INSURANCE
EMPLOYMENT
HOME SERVICES
General
Air Conditioning/
Heating
Cleaning
Painting
Plumbing
SERVICES
General
Auto
Financial
Professional
PERSONAL CARE
Hypnosis
Salons / Stylists
Pharmacy
Psychotherapists
MASSAGE
PETS
TRAVEL
ANNOUNCEMENTS

REAL ESTATE

Realtors

TheCondoGuy.com

SRealty.biz

Andrew@ClayStapp.com

DallasGayAgent.com

REAL ESTATE

Realtors

GayOakCliffAgent.com

dfwluxuryagent.com

MarkManleyRealtor.com

REAL ESTATE

For Lease

*N.E. Oak Lawn
5047P*

2 Bedroom residence in a predominately lesbian and gay, small quiet gated community. Recently renovated inside and out. Mediterranean front with beautiful landscaping. 4 inch door casings, 7 inch baseboards, crown molding, ceiling fans and track lighting. Individual heat and AC. Gay owned & managed. Avail. NOW!
2 Bedroom \$915/Mo.
+ elect. and ins.
The Villas on Holland
4210 Holland Ave., #107 at Douglas
214-770-1214

REAL ESTATE

For Lease

Bella Vaux

A new sophisticated upscale community in the heart of Oak Lawn!
Leasing office open daily 'til 6pm
3280 Cedar Plaza Lane
214.751.8777 • bellaveux.com

DallasVoice.com
OUTntx.com
DigitalSeltzer.com

Coming July 15, 2016!

Extra! Extra! Exciting news! Starting in July, Dallas Voice Classifieds will become MarketPlace, your calling card for LGBT Texas business. MarketPlace will be your one-stop shop for all your professional service needs. The new upgraded colorful look will feature business card sized ads in print, online, mobile and social media. For more information on advertising with us, visit www.dallasvoice.com/marketplace.

JESSE ARNOLD

Classifieds Sales



PHONE:
214.754.8710
EXT. 110

FAX:
214.969.7271

E-MAIL:
arnold@dallasvoice.com



MarketPlace
Your calling card for LGBT Texas business
For information on advertising call us at:
214-754-8710 ext. 110. Visit us online at:
dallasvoice.com/marketplace

dallasvoice
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Insurance

**Your
Ad
Here**

Real Estate

Place your business card
in the MarketPlace section for
as low as \$34 and reach loyal
readers throughout North Texas!

Your Ad Here

Real Estate

Contact a MarketPlace
representative at
marketplace@dallasvoice.com
or 214-754-8710 x110

Your Ad Here

Home Services

Your Ad Here

Real Estate

Your Ad Here

REAL ESTATE

For Lease

STEVENS PARK VILLAGE



Nicely updated 2-1-2. Fireplace. Crown molding. Wood floors! Trendy tile in kitchen. Bdrms open to an enclosed porch. Deck & koi pond. Lushly landscaped. Trees. Sprinkler system. Minutes to downtown & Bishop Arts. Walk to golf course.

\$275,000

Call Greg Hutchinson, agent.

(214) 566-8143



EMPLOYMENT

WANNA BE A VIRGIN AGAIN?

Virgin Couriers, a Fun LGBT Owned Company is hiring full time couriers.

Must Have: your own vehicle, VALID DL and proof of insurance.

Make excellent money and enjoy your job too! Call 214-703-9600 • Experience preferred

Club Dallas is now accepting applications for maintenance / floor person. 8am to 4pm, basic carpentry a must. Applicants must be willing and able to pass a drug screening test prior to employment. Starting wage is \$10/hour. Please apply in person at.

Club Dallas
2616 Swiss Ave
No phone calls please.

AIDS Arms, Inc.

is looking for a **Compliance Officer**. Candidate should have a Master's degree. Interested candidates should complete on online application at <https://aidsarms.companycareersite.com>

NOW HIRING!



Station 4 is now accepting applications for experienced floor staff and bar backs. Weekend hours and stunning benefits. Secure a career in the service industry. Apply at

3911 Cedar Springs Rd. or visit Caven.com or partyattheblock.com

EMPLOYMENT

STATION FOR LEASE

Immediate Opening!

Hair dresser, massage therapist or esthetician with existing clientele **ONLY**. Nice room!

For more information or to make and appointment, please call The Landmark Salon at 214-505-0022.

**Mention this ad for 1 month
FREE RENT or \$175.00/wk rent.
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.
DEPOSIT REQUIRED**

AIDS Arms, Inc.

is seeking a Medical Assistant (MA) with clinical experience. Candidates must have Hepatitis B vaccination prior to hire date.

Interested candidates should complete an online application at <https://aidsarms.companycareersite.com>

AIDS Arms, Inc.

is seeking a registered nurse with HIV clinical experience to be a medical case manager. Bilingual in English and Spanish is preferred. Interested candidates should complete an online application at <https://aidsarms.companycareersite.com>

Dallas non-profit agency

seeks full-time, motivated professional to provide outreach services to those at risk of HIV.

Nights, Evening, and Weekend work required. Salary 31-33K + benefits.

**Send resume:
hr@dallascouncil.org**

HOME SERVICES

Moving

Dale's Area Movers

Oak Lawn • Dallas

214-586-1738

RICKY'S MOVING HOMES & APARTMENTS

24 hours 7 days a week

★★★ Call Anytime ★★★
214-586-8022 or 214-580-6700

Advertising rates
starting as low as

\$27 per week

214-754-8710

ext. 110

**DALLAS VOICE
CLASSIFIEDS**

HOME SERVICES

Painting

THE PAINTER

SPECIALIZING IN INTERIOR PAINTING

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE
FREE ESTIMATES
EXTREMELY METICULOUS



TONY R.
972-754-1536

TONYRTHEPAINTER@NETSCAPE.COM

HOME SERVICES

Moving



TREEHUGGERBOXES

HOME SERVICES

Moving

MOVING? NEED MOVING BOXES?

Tree Hugger Boxes

Provides Inexpensive,
Gently Used Quality Boxes and
Eco-Friendly Moving Supplies.

Save 50 to 75%!!

Delivery Available

2273 Vantage St. | Dallas 75207
605 S. Sherman St. Ste 605D | Richardson 75081
www.TreeHuggerBoxes.com • 214-384-1316

VOTED BEST MOVERS 5 YEARS & COUNTING!

Fantastic Moves

214.349.MOVE

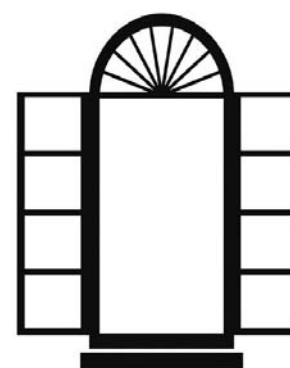
Experience Counts!

20+ YEARS SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY
www.FantasticMoves.com



HOME SERVICES

Window Treatments



Window-ology®

We Have Window Coverings Down To A Science
Blinds, Shades, Shutters and More...

Chris Saunders

Serving Dallas and Fort Worth
www.windowology.com

Call or email for a free quote:

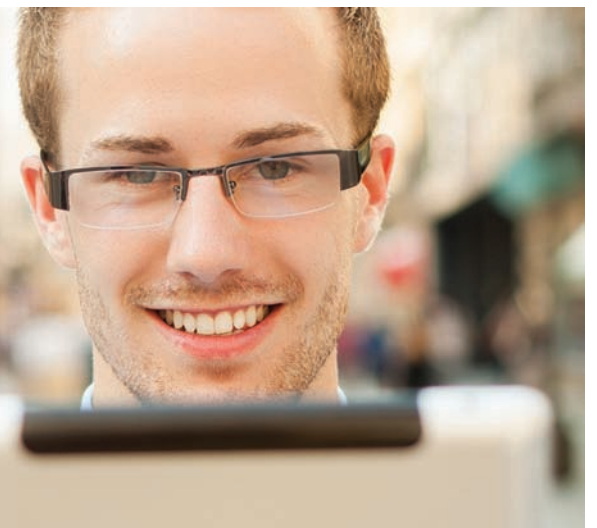
Office: 817-370-1513 Cell: 817-789-3414
windowologytx@yahoo.com

For Instant News
dallasvoice



Like us on
Facebook

snap.vu/ui7w



DallasVoice.com
OUTntx.com
DigitalSeltzer.com

HOME SERVICES

Air Conditioning & Heating

HOME SERVICES

Air Conditioning & Heating

PERSONAL CARE

Therapy

PETS

SERVICES

Salon

LET US COOL YOU DOWN!

JadeAir
AIR CONDITIONING
& HEATING
SERVICE • SALES • INSTALLS
ALL MAJOR BRANDS
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Goodman
PROMPT
EXCEPTIONAL
SERVICE!

SERVING THE LGBT COMMUNITY FOR OVER 20 YEARS!

214.522.2805
214.923.7904

JadeAirDallas.com

BBB

Need A Therapist?

Edward Richards
M.A., L.P.C.

3 Critical Qualities You Should
Expect From Your Therapist!

- A therapist who is non-judgmental & compassionate
- A therapist who participates and gives you feedback
- A safe environment in which to be open and discuss your feelings.

214-766-9200 wellmind.net

Looking for a new cuddle buddy?

Find your perfect match at the

DFW Humane Society.

Adoption is the loving option

972-721-7788

<http://www.dfwhumane.com>

The Landmark Salon Special Offer for New Customers

\$35 Haircut for new customers
FOR A free woman's haircut with
paid color. *\$35 cut available
for walk-ins only. Cut & color by
appointment only. Please mention
this add Call: 214 505-0022.

RESEARCH STUDY

RESEARCH STUDY

HEALTH

Yoga

Do You or Someone You Know SUFFER FROM ITCHY SKIN DUE TO ECZEMA (Atopic dermatitis)?

If so, you are not alone. Eczema is a condition that causes skin to become itchy, red, thickened, cracked or scaly. Eczema can appear on many areas of the body, usually on the hands, feet, arms, and legs.

Millions of people of all ages struggle with eczema and the social and emotional toll it causes. In severe cases, eczema can cause severe physical discomfort disrupting your work and home life.

Dermatology Treatment and Research Center is currently looking for men and women aged 18 and older who suffer from eczema (atopic dermatitis) to participate in a research study evaluating a study medication for relief of the itchiness associated with eczema.

If you qualify you will receive study medication and study-related medical care at no cost to you.

You may also receive compensation for your time and travel to the Research Site.

For more information call:
972-661-2729 x228

Do You Suffer From Hives?



Research for Relief: A Clinical Research Study

If you have hives that have not gone away, even after more than 6 weeks of antihistamine treatment, you may want to try an investigational drug.

To find out if you qualify to join the Research for Relief team, call:

Study coordinator: Charles Kundig
Phone number: 972-661-2729 x229

Printed in USA 7/15

Brian Roel

Incalls | Outcalls
Massagetherapybybrian .com
214-924-2647

MASSAGE

Full Body Massage By Chad
SWEDISH MASSAGE
SUMMER SPECIAL!
\$35/Hr. \$55/1.5 Hr.
469-855-4782
ARAPAHO / TOLLWAY
MassagesByChad.com
10am-10pm Everyday • 18 years Experience

DallasVoice.com
OUTntx.com
DigitalSeltzer.com

Animal Diagnostic Clinic

Proud Supporters of GLBT
VCA SPECIALTY
ANIMAL HOSPITALS

Specialty Services

- Abdominal & Thoracic Ultrasonography
- Video Endoscopy
- CT Scan
- Fine Needle Aspiration & Biopsy

4444 Trinity Mills Rd., Suite 202
Dallas, TX 75287
972-267-8300
adcdallas.com

PETS

Animal Adoptions:

4 year old maltese male - \$60,
all other dogs - \$75,
Kittens (himalayan gray male,
tuxedo cat male, black and
gray female) - \$40 or
\$60 for two, cats - \$30
All spayed and neutered, shots,
wormer, microchip with lifetime
registration, one month
free veterinary care

Glenda,
972-293-7767

WEDDINGS



LET'S GET MARRIED!

Reverend Cecil Blackburn, Officiant
Wedding Planning & Coordination Too!

Call 214-971-0399

TARGET MARKETING

Dallas Voice Classifieds
214-754-8710 ext 123

GROW

Your Business!

DALLAS VOICE CLASSIFIEDS 214-754-8710



ANNOUNCEMENTS

POKER

Freeroll Poker Tournaments
In the gayborhood British Beverage Company
Mondays Game Starts at 7:30
Nightly Prizes & Gift Cards
For More info go to:
pocketrocketsdallas.com

HARDLINE
ALL MALE LIVE CHAT
ALL ACCESS
FREE TRIAL!
214.270.1300
DALLAS 972.220.0709
OTHER CITIES 1.877.510.3344
HARDLINECHAT.COM
DOWNLOAD NOW
APP

**FREE TO LISTEN
AND REPLY TO ADS**
Free Code:
Dallas Voice

1-888-MegaMates™

FIND REAL GAY MEN NEAR YOU

Dallas:
(214) 615-0100
Ft. Worth: (817) 282-2500
www.megamates.com 18+

Advertising rates
starting as low as
\$27 per week
214-754-8710
ext. 110
DALLAS VOICE
CLASSIFIEDS



Need a little help to get through your day?
Check out the Dallas Voice Massage
and Personal Care Classified Ads.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for Catholic Mass

for the LGBT community
First Sunday of each Month
Dignity Dallas Mass held at
CATHEDRAL OF HOPE
Interfaith Peace Chapel, Lower Level
dignitydallas@hotmail.com
972-729-9572 www.dignitydallas.net

Pegasus Squares,

an LGBT Square Dance Club,
meets every Sunday from
2:30pm-4:30pm at the Dallas
School of Burlesque, 2924 Main
St. Dallas. Beginner lessons start
in October. Contact **Rob Miller**
at **682-238-3442** for more info.
or visit pegasus-squares.com.

Volunteer Needed!!

Be part of an exciting team
and make a difference in
someone's life. Volunteers
will be trained to conduct
HIV outreach in the
GLBT community working
along side of trained Risk
Reduction Specialists.
For more information contact
Sonny Blake
@ 214-522-8600 Ext. 236

q-puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
			20	21						22				
23	24	25							26					
27							28	29						
30						31					32	33	34	
35					36	37					38			
39					40						41			
			42						43	44				
	45	46						47						
48						49	50							
51						52					53	54	55	56
57						58					59			
60						61					62			

Gay Anthems

Solution on page 24

Across

- 1 1997 song of Ultra Nate
- 5 For this, for Caesar
- 10 Water-to-wine town
- 14 Spencer-Devlin's sport
- 15 Word after "pinky"
- 16 Some have it to grind
- 17 Word with gratification or abuse
- 18 Care for
- 19 Polished surface, for drag queens
- 20 1978 song of Gloria Gaynor
- 23 Claim of some porn stars
- 26 Moon position
- 27 Narcissist
- 28 Lorca's "Later!"
- 30 What you could get caught in
- 31 Brought into alignment
- 32 Film noir classic
- 35 1992 song of kd lang
- 39 Take too much of
- 40 Alaskan language
- 41 Culture Club's "___ Miracle"
- 42 Be a ham in *Hamlet*?
- 43 It may be leather or strait
- 45 She hoped Gibson was gay in
What Women Want
- 47 Family member, to a homophobe

48 1976 song of ABBA

- 51 Off-Broadway prize
- 52 Spud, in slang
- 53 Lesbian character in *No Exit*
- 57 Ice in the sea
- 58 1979 Broadway debut
- 59 Beauty that's only skin deep?
- 60 Provide, as for oneself
- 61 Place for a pickup
- 62 1978 song of Village People

Down

- 1 3-pointers to Kopay
- 2 Lesbian opponent of Wade
- 3 Wing for Philip Johnson
- 4 Scarecrow and more
- 5 Lend a hand
- 6 Didst reside
- 7 Command to one's bitch
- 8 Stallion's supper
- 9 Bet middler?
- 10 Kahlo painting, perhaps
- 11 Erotic diarist Nin
- 12 Easily screwed
- 13 Trucker's rod
- 21 Bentley of *American Beauty*
- 22 Mary's MTM girlfriend

- 23 Literary lesbian Sylvia
- 24 Home near polar bears, perhaps
- 25 Auctioneer's word
- 28 *Glee* character Abrams
- 29 The vas, for one
- 31 Threaded fastener
- 32 "Iron Mike" of football
- 33 First appearance
- 34 Material for nice stones
- 36 Elizabeth Taylor's *The Last ___ Saw Paris*
- 37 Rubbed with oil
- 38 Neighborhood
- 42 Hosted the Oscars, for example
- 43 Taunt with homophobic slurs, e.g.
- 44 Caesar's salutation
- 45 Pool parlor fixture
- 46 Cocktail ingredient
- 47 On account of
- 48 Remove from the head
- 49 Put out
- 50 Bit of gay advice?
- 54 Locale for Brando's *Apocalypse Now*
- 55 And that's not all
- 56 Half of a Hollywood name

Dallas Theater Center

"SLEEK, SHINY, AND SOULFUL... DTC'S DREAMY MUSICAL SPARKLES AND SINGS"

-CultureMap.com

"AN ELECTRIFYING HOMAGE TO ARTISTS WHO CHANGED THE WORLD"

-The Dallas Morning News



DREAMGIRLS

Book and Lyrics by **TOM EYEN** Music by **HENRY KRIEGER** Directed by **JOEL FERRELL**
Choreographed by **RICKEY TRIPP** Music Direction, Music Supervision and Conducting by **MICHAEL O. MITCHELL**

THRU JULY 24 • WYLY THEATRE

AT&T PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Cast members of *Dreamgirls*. Photo by Karen Almond.

\$18 Tickets On Sale Now! DallasTheaterCenter.org

(214) 880-0202



Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District



American Airlines



JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

LEXUS

