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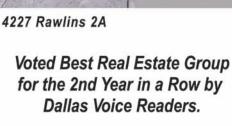


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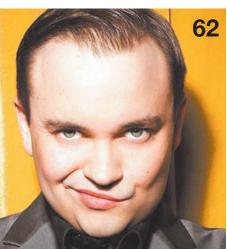
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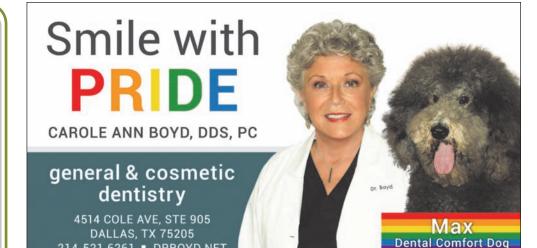


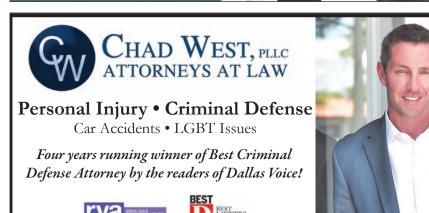
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### Man who survived Pulse shooting found dead in Tampa

A man who made it safely out of the Pulse nightclub after the shooting started in the early morning hours of June 12 was found dead at a birthday party last weekend, according to reports by The Advocate.

Chris Brodman, 34, was at a birthday party in Tampa early Sunday morning, Sept. 11, when someone found his body in the backyard of a residence on Garden Lake Circle. Paramedics who reported to the scene at 1:17 a.m. attempted to resuscitate Brodman, but he was declared dead shortly afterward.

Officials with the Hillsborough County Medical Ex-



Chris Brodman

aminer's Office told the Advocate in an email that the body showed no signs of violence and that the "final conclusion of the official cause of death is pending additional forensics and toxicology examination."

Brodman had said that he was smoking a cigarette that night at Pulse nightclub when he heard the first gunshots ring out. He thought at first it was just the beat of the music, but when he saw the bloodied bodies began falling, he took cover under a table until he was able to run to safety across the street, according to the Advocate.

Brodman said later that surviving the shooting had given him a "new lease on life," and that he intended to go back to school, travel abroad and live his life to the fullest. He had even gotten a tattoo over his heart to commemorate the victims at Pulse.

—Tammye Nash

### NCAA pulls events from North Carolina; **GOP** spokeswoman issues rant

Texas lawmakers looking to jump on AG Ken Paxton and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's anti-transgender train need to take a good look at what happened this week in North Carolina, which became the posterchild-state for anti-LGBT hate earlier this year with

On Monday, Sept. 12, officials with the NCAA announced that seven NCAA championship games originally slated to be held in North Carolina are being moved out of The Hate State. That includes NCAA men's basketball tournament games that would have been held in Greensboro, the 2016 Division I Women's Soccer Championship, the 2016 Division III Men's and Women's Soccer Championships, a 2017 Division I Women's Golf Championships regional, the 2017 Division III Men's and Women's Tennis Championships, the 2017 Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship and the 2017 Division II Baseball Championship.

In announcing the decision, NCAA officials said HB2 would preclude North Carolina cities from quaranteeing an "inclusive atmosphere" for all, according to The Charlotte Observer.

NCAA President Mark Emmert said, "Fairness is about more than the opportunity to participate in college sports, or even compete for championships. We believe in providing a safe and respectful environment at our events and are committed to providing the best experience possible for college athletes, fans and everyone taking part in our championships."

N.C. Gov. Pat McCrory, who signed HB 2 into law and has steadfastly defended it despite the everbuilding negative impact it has had on his state, had issued no statement on the NCAA decision as of

But Roy Cooper, the Democrat running to replace McCrory as governor wasted no time in criticizing McCrory and the North Carolina GOP. His campaign spokesman, Ford Porter, told the Observer, "It seems that almost every day, we learn of a new consequence of HB2. Hosting NCAA championship events has long been a point of pride for North Carolina."

North Carolina's state Republican Party, however, had no qualms in blasting the NCAA and once again defending HB 2. Spokeswoman Kami Mueller said: "This is so absurd it's almost comical. I genuinely look forward to the NCAA merging all men's and women's teams together as singular, unified, unisex teams. Under the NCAA's logic, colleges should make cheerleaders and football players share bathrooms, showers and hotel rooms. This decision is an assault to female athletes across the nation. If you are unwilling to have women's bathrooms and locker rooms, how do you have a women's team? I wish the NCAA was this concerned about the women who were raped at Baylor. Perhaps the NCAA should stop with their political peacocking — and instead focus their energies on making sure our nation's collegiate athletes are safe, both on and off the field."

Her response brought in swift and mostly disgusted reactions. Chad Griffin, president of Human Rights Campaign, called Mueller's statement "sickening," and said the North Carolina GOP should "apoloaize immediately."

-Tammye Nash

### Texas blogger honored by GLAAD

TransGriot blogger Monica Roberts was honored by GLAAD San Francisco at a Sept. 8 gala.

Houston-based Roberts has written for Dallas Voice and has been blogging on issues of importance to transwomen of color for 10 years.

In its announcement, Nick Adams, GLAAD's direc-



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tor of transgender media wrote:

"Monica Roberts has used her blog to become a powerful voice for trans women of color and all trans people for the past 10 years. Monica has consistently spoken out about the discrimination and violence faced by our community, and she's shined a light on trans people, especially people of color, when other blogs and media outlets would not. We are thrilled to honor Monica for her work and for her contributions toward accelerating acceptance for all trans people."

David Taffet

### ACC follows NCAA's lead, pulls championships games from North Carolina

Just two days after the NCAA announced it is moving all its 2016-2017 championship events out of North Carolina, the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) announced Wednesday, Sept. 14, that it is following

The two college sports conferences made the move because of North Carolina's anti-LGBT House Bill 2 — legislation hastily approved by lawmakers and signed by Gov. Pat McCrory last spring which negates all local LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination laws in the states and forbids transgender people to use appropriate public restroom facilities.

"The ACC Council of Presidents made it clear that

the core values of this league are of the utmost importance, and the opposition to any form of discrimination is paramount," Commissioner John Swofford said, as reported by The New York Times. "Today's decision is one of principle."

Four of the ACC's 15 members are in North Carolina, and the conference has its headquarters in Greensboro.

- Tammye Nash

### **Murder on Maple Avenue** near Kaliente

According to a Dallas Police report, DPD responded to a shooting call at Maple and Hondo avenues early on Wednesday, Sept. 14, "where they found the victim, a Latin male 21-years-old, suffering from gunshot wounds. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he died from his injuries. The victim's name is not being released pending his next of kin being notified about his

The report doesn't say at which corner the man was found. Kaliente is on one corner and a Jack in the Box is on another. Freeway Motors, a body shop, is across Maple Avenue.

Police are asking that anyone with information regarding this murder contact Detective Chaney at 214-671-3650 or Crime Stoppers (214) 373-TIPS. CrimeStoppers will pay up to \$5,000 for information

- David Taffet



Adam Medrano joined Rainbow LULAC and Congregation Beth El Binah to distribute school supplies to three Oak Lawn school on Sept. 9.

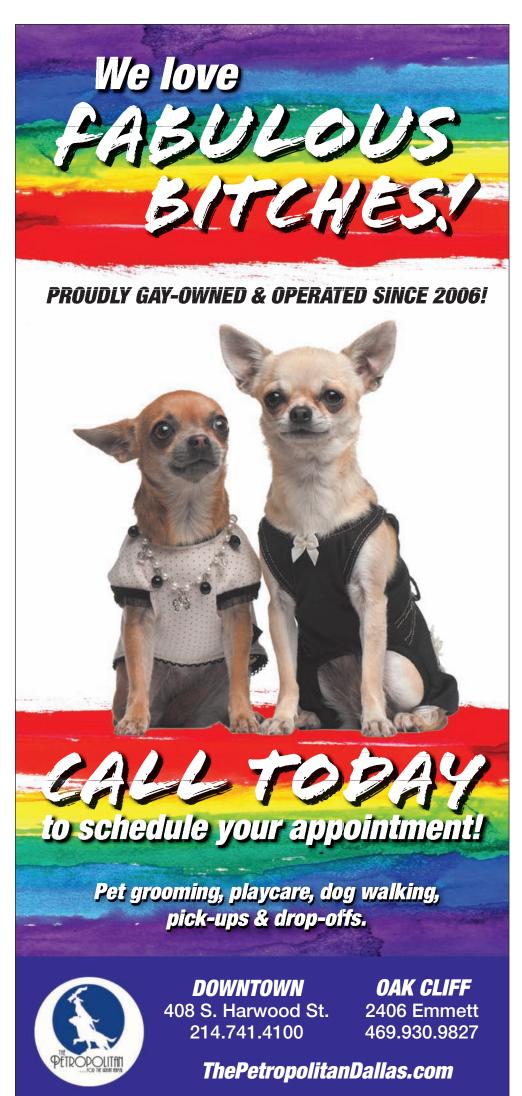
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### THE <mark>Gay</mark> agenda

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. The Gay Agenda

• Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM. This week's guest is Christopher Soden and Logen Cure talking about Gertrude Stein, Allen Ginsburg and more; 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.

### **SEPTEMBER**

• Sept. 16: 8th Annual Red Party

Dallas Red Foundation presents recording artist J Sutta perform at the annual party that benefits Legacy Counseling Center and Founders Cottage from 8-11 p.m. at Sixty Five Hundred, 6500 Cedar Springs Road. \$49.

### • Sept. 16: Band Against Cancer

Sarah Cannon Cancer Institute and Medical Center present Band Against Cancer: The Sarah Cannon Tour, featuring Martina McBride and friends, with special guests Thompson Square, Cassadee Pope and Hudson Moore. At Verizon Theatre, 1001 Performance Place, Grand Prairie. Doors open at 6 p.m. Purchase tickets, ranging from \$34.75-\$125, at Verizon Theatre box office, online at AXS.com or by phone at 888-929-7849.

### • Sept. 16: After Dark

Drinks, divas and desserts with wine tastings and dessert stations benefiting the Turtle Creek Chorale from 8-11 p.m. at 3015 at Trinity Groves. \$75.

TurtleCreekChorale.com/after-dark.

• Sept. 16: Purple Does Dallas Pride

### pet of the week / SPIKE

**Spike** is a sweet kitten. She had a hard time keeping up with her sisters in the beginning, but now she is just as likely to be the kitten jumping on the other kittens - or batting at her mom's tail!

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



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Purple Foundation presents Score with DJ Alyson Calagna from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. at Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave.

- Sept. 16: HRC September Mixer From 6-8 p.m. at Times Ten Cellars, 6324 Prospect Ave.
- Sept 16-17: Learn Reiki healing seminar From 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. at 3415 Dartmoor Drive.
- Sept 16-18: Literary Soul Symposium
  This year's theme is Using Literature as
  Building Blocks for Growth. Authors and
  presenters from L.A., Houston, San Francisco,
  Dallas and elsewhere. Friday from 7-9 p.m. at
  Checkered Past Winery, 4901 S. Lamar St.
  Saturday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at South Dallas
  Cultural Center, 3400 Fitzhugh Ave. Sunday
  closing brunch from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at
  Ziziki's, 4514 Travis St. # 122. Register at
  literarysoulsymposium.myevent.com.
- Sept. 16-24: Pride Performing Arts Festival Uptown Players hosts its fifth annual arts festival for Pride with plays, including two world premieres from the company's first-ever Pride Write Play Writing Competition, a staged reading and cabaret acts. Kalita Humphries Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. UptownPlayers.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

Teen Pride: A Celebration for All, for LGBTQ youth ages 13-19, takes place from 2-7 p.m., at Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, 3014 Oak Lawn Ave. Includes youth speakers, an open mic, culture show-and-tell, a live game show, free food, an art competition (email art@rlc365.org for details), entertainment, prizes, hames and more. Admission is free for LGBTQ youth and allies, with a suggested \$5 donation for adults accompanying youth. For information call 469-666-REAL or email pr@rlc365.org.

- Sept. 17: Once in a Blue Moon dance Women only Pride dance at 7 p.m. at Dancemasters Studio, 10675 E. Northwest Highway.
- Sept. 17: Pride Dance

Dannee Phann Productions presents Pride Dance from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. at Marty's Live, 4207 Maple Ave.



CMG Insurance Group recently donated \$5,000 to Jonathan's Place, a North Texas nonprofit providing a safe, loving home and specialized services to abused, abandoned or neglected children, through Safeco Insurance's Make More Happen Award program. CMG Insurance Group earned the cash award for Jonathan's Place for the company's volunteer work with the nonprofit agency. The \$5,000 total includes a \$4,000 donation from Safeco Insurance, and another \$1,000 earned by getting "cheers" on a story about Jonathan's Place that CMG Insurance Group Agent Nancy Aguayo had placed on the Safeco.com website. Safeco's Make More Happen Award recognizes independent agents demonstrating extraordinary volunteerism for a nonprofit organization. This past year, from personal contributions and donations from customers, CMG Insurance Group donated 28 Easter baskets for the children of Jonathan's Place, and CMG is now working on a similar donation program for back-to-school. Pictured are, from left, Lando Cole and Tai Green with Jonathan's Place; Derrick McGlothin, Nancy Aguayo and Carlos Clark with CMG Insurance Group, and Bodie Spangler with Safeco Insurance.

• Sept. 17: Purple presents Shine

Purple Foundation presents Shine pool party with DJ Roland Belmares from 2-9 p.m. at Sisu Uptown, 2508 Maple Ave.

- 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
  The festival takes place from noon-7 p.m.

The festival takes place from noon-7 p.m. in Reverchon Park, 3500 Maple Ave. \$10. Children 12 and under free.

• Sept. 18: Family Pride Zone

A safe space for LGBT parents and their kids from noon-7 p.m. in Reverchon Park, 3500 Maple Ave. \$10. Children 12 and under free.

• Sept. 18: Blues Under the Stars

Blues artist Larry Lampkin performs at Blues Under the Stars at the Labyrinth Walk Coffee House on Sept. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Oak Cliff, 3839 W. Kiest Blvd. A \$10 donation is requested.

• Sept. 18: Purple presents Spectrum
Purple Foundation presents Spectrum wi

Purple Foundation presents Spectrum with DJ Joe Gauthreaux from 4-10 p.m. at The Patio at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road.

• Sept. 18: Peace Day Dallas

The Dallas Holocaust Museum observes International Day of Peace with three Holocaust survivors speaking. Max Glauben at 11 a.m., Fred Stauss at 1 p.m. and Jack Repp at 3 p.m. at 211 N. Record St.

### • Sept. 18: Families to Freedom

Stephanie Hollman of Real Housewives of Dallas speaks at fundraiser for LGBT-inclusive domestic violence organization Families to Freedom from 3-5 p.m. at Bella Juna Hall, 11834 Harry Hines Blvd. \$125.

• Sept. 20: Log Cabin Republicans

New county party staff will attend the meeting which begins at 6:30 p.m. at Coalvines, 2404 Cedar Springs Road.

• Sept. 20: Stonewall Democrats

Dallas County Chair Carol Donovan speaks at 6:30 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St.

• Sept. 21: Pride Reading

Pandora's Box Poetry Showcase presents a reading of Gertrude Stein, Alan Ginsberg and other queer poets reflecting on ecstasy, rage, woundedness, ferocity, bravery, affection and erotic marvels at 8 p.m. at the Contemporary Theatre of Dallas, 5601 Sears St.

- Sept. 23: Celebrate Bisexuality Day
- Sept. 23: World AIDS Day launch C.U.R.E. introduces the recipients of this year's Open Hearts Awards from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Bungalow 5, 1201 Oak Lawn Ave. \$20.

• Sept. 23: 5 Factor

Resource Center honors partners of the community from 7-9 p.m. at 7 for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd. #107. Tickets at RCDallas.ejoinme.org.

• Sept. 24: HIV/AIDS and Testing Workshop

St. James A.M.E. Church in Denton, in partnership with the Learning Institute of Family Education and University of North Texas Zeta Beta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma, holds its fourth annual "Building Healthy Relationships: HIV/AIDS and Testing Workshop." The workshop theme is "Get Informed, Get Tested and Get Treated," and the event is designed to increase awareness of HIV and AIDS in the community. AIDS Arms Dallas will provide free testing. For information call Mary C. Taylor at 940-441-5530 or 940-387-1223. The workshop takes place from noon-3 p.m. at the church, 1107 E. Oak St. in Denton.

• Sept. 24: Furball

The SPCA holds its annual black tie fundraiser. Sit at a Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas table by registering at GLFD.org/spca. Seats are \$200.

• Sept. 24: Kayak Eco-Tour

An Audubon guide leads a bird and wildlife adventure at Joe Pool Lake. All equipment provided. \$30 members. \$40 non-members. From 9-11 a.m. at 1570 FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

## We Stand with Hillary

Dallas Voice issues first political endorsement in 32-year history, backing Clinton for president

TAMMYE NASH I Managing Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

For the first time in our more than 32 years in business, Dallas Voice this week issued an endorsement in a political race when Publisher Leo Cusimano announced that the media company is endorsing Hillary Clinton for president of the "As publisher of Dallas Voice, I am endorsing Hillary Clinton because she is the most qualified candidate and a leader that understands our issues," Cusimano said.

He continued, "The stakes have never been so high for our community. Our families and marriages are at risk. We need to work together to elect the only candidate that is willing to defend our community and promote our fight for equality.

"We still have battles to fight in the name of equality, from employment nondiscrimination to transgender rights," Cusimano said. "Hillary was a co-sponsor of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and she celebrates diversity.

so-called conversion therapy" for minors, support funding for "safe and welcoming shelters" for homeless LGBT youth and "take on bullying and harassment in schools."

She also said she would "end discriminatory treatment of LGBT families in adoptions, and protect LGBT elders against discrimination."

Clinton has also promised to continue support open military service by LGBT people and to, as commander-in-chief, "upgrade service records of LGBT veterans dismissed due to their sexual orientation." She said she will "fight for an AIDS-free generation," protect transgender rights and make it easier for transgender people to change gender

York, Clinton supporting federal hate crimes legislation and federal employment nondiscrimination legislation, and advocated for "an end to restrictions that blocked LGBT Americans from adopting children."

In her first campaign for the Senate, Clinton said she supported the Defense of Marriage Act, which prohibited federal recognition of same-sex marriage, but that "same-sex unions should be recognized and that same-sex unions should be entitled to all the rights and privileges that every other American gets," according to Politifact.com.

In 2000, Clinton spoke in support of civil unions for same-sex couples, and in 2004, she spoke on

the Senate floor against a federal constitutional amendment banning legal recognition of same-sex marriages, while at the same time defending "the sanctity of marriage" as the union of one man and one woman.

Over the years, as public opinion shifted, so did Clinton's stance on same-sex marriage. After leaving her position as secretary of state in 2013, she publicly announced her support for same-sex marriage. And on the day the U.S. Supreme Court issued its landmark ruling on marriage equality, Clinton changed her campaign logo to rainbow colors and tweeted: "Every loving couple & family deserves to be recognized & treated equally under the law across our nation. #Love-MustWin #LoveCant-Wait."

As secretary of state, Clinton enforced stronger anti-discrimination regulations within

the State Department, declaring on the global stage that "gay rights are human rights, and human rights are gay rights." She led the effort to pass the first-ever U.N. Resolution on LGBT Human Rights, launched the Global Equality Fund, ended State Department regulations that denied same-sex couples and their families equal rights, helped implement LGBT-friendly workplace policies, and updated the State Department's policy so that transgender individuals' passports reflect their true gender.



Hillary Clinton

United States.

"Dallas Voice offers a direct and fervent endorsement of Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton," Cusimano said. "Politics is never easy, but the decision to endorse in this pivotal time is essential."

He noted that Dallas Voice is making the endorsement in conjunction with other LGBT news media outlets in the National Gay Media Association. He also said that he, personally, is endorsing Clinton, as well.

"We stand with Hillary."

In her campaign, Clinton has pledged to "fight for full federal equality for LGBT Americans," according to her official campaign website. She has promised to push for passage of the Equality Act, continue President Obama's executive actions supporting equality, and support "efforts underway in the courts" to end discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation "in every aspect of public life."

The Democratic nominee has said she will "end

markers on ID documents, while also investing in more training for law enforcement, focusing on "fair and impartial policing, including in interactions with LGBT people."

Clinton has said she will take the fight for LGBT equality to other nations, promoting LGBT human rights and making sure that America's foreign policy is inclusive of LGBT people, including increasing the country's investment in the Global Equality Fund to advance human rights.

As a U.S. senator representing the state of New



Alan Ross Texas Freedom parade has always been colorful. This year, organizers expect a record number of entries.

# Pride on parade

Rain won't stop Pride parade, Festival at Reverchon, and extra security measures will keep everyone safe, organizers say

TAMMYE NASH I Managing Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

Rain or shine, the largest Pride parade in Dallas history will hit the streets of Oak Lawn on Sunday afternoon, while the Festival in Reverchon Park also goes on as planned.

The 33rd annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade steps off at 2 p.m., and the Festival in Rever-

chon Park runs from noon to 7 p.m.

"We are already working on our back-up plan, our Plan B," Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Michael Doughman said earlier this week as weather forecasters predicted a growing chance of rain for parade day on Sunday, Sept. 18. "If it rains, nothing changes with the parade. We will just have to rearrange the layout of some parts of the festival

"The rain never seems to really deter the crowd anyway," he added. "People don't seem to mind the rain, and the upside is, it usually turns cooler if there's rain. Besides, the weather forecasts change all the time around here. Last year, there was a 60 percent chance of rain for parade day, and

all we got was a little sprinkle on that Saturday as we were setting up in the park, and nothing on Sunday.

"We have our game plan in place. Everyone already knows what to do if we go to Plan B," Doughman declared. "That's the life of an outdoor event."

Doughman said the 2016 Pride parade will have, counting the VIP and sponsor entries, about 128 entries in all. "That's the biggest it's ever been," he said. "We have a lot of new corporate entries this year, like Mercedes Benz Financial. And Police Chief David Brown's appearance in the parade will likely be his last public appearance before he retires."

While there will, as usual, be plenty of participants who walk or march along the parade route, or who traverse Cedar Springs Road riding homemade floats, this year's parade should also have a record number of professionally constructed and decorated floats, too.

"Clyde Watts with Lone Star Floats [on Westmoreland Road] tells us this is the most floats he's ever built for the Dallas Pride parade. He said he built somewhere between 35 and 40 floats, which is a record number. And of course, that doesn't count the floats that the participants build and decorate themselves," Doughman said.

PARADE, Page 41

## Davis to keynote Spirit of Texas brunch

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Former Texas Sen. and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Wendy Davis will be the featured speaker at Equality Texas' 10th annual Spirit of Texas brunch and awards presentation set for Sunday, Sept. 25 in San Antonio.

Davis spent nine years on the Fort Worth City Council before representing District 10 in the Texas Senate from 2009 to 2015. She was a staunch ally of the LGBT community throughout her tenure in both positions, including voting for the city's ground-breaking nondiscrimination ordinance in 2000. She gained national attention in June 2013 when she staged an 11-hour filibuster to kill legislation severely restricting abortion rights.

In 2014, Davis ran against Republican Greg Abbott, the then-incumbent attorney general, for governor but lost.

Since leaving the Texas Senate, Davis has founded Deeds Not Words, an advocacy organization focused on empowering millennial women on issues of gender equality, including equal pay and reproductive freedom.

The event will also feature the presentation of awards to advocates and allies of Texas' LGBT

Phyllis Randolph Frye, known as the "Grandmother of Transgender Law," will receive The An-

chor Award, given each year to "an outstanding Texas advocate whose activism on the local level and beyond has proven invaluable to the cause of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender equality in

Frye in 2010 became the first openly transgender person in the country to be sworn in as a judge, which she was sworn in as a city of Houston associate municipal judge. She is also an Eagle Scout, a former member of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets, a U.S. Army veteran, a licensed engineer, a licensed attorney, a father, a grandmother and a lesbian wife.

She transitioned in 1976 and has been one of Texas' — and the country's — foremost transgender rights activists in the 40 years since.

Texas Sen. Jose Rodriguez will receive the Advocate Award, given each year to "an outstanding public servant whose high ideals include a dedication to equal rights" for LGBT Texans and who has "a steadfast reputation for supporting issues of equality for all Texans."

Rodríguez represents District 29, which includes the counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis and Presidio. In 2015, he authored SB 148, which sought to remove "homosexual conduct" from the Texas Penal Code, SJR 13 which sought to remove the Texas constitutional amendment defining marriage, and SB 256, a comprehensive non-discrimination bill providing protections in employment, housing, and public accommodation.

Google will receive Equality Texas' Vanguard Award, presented annually to "an exemplary business [that] has demonstrated a commitment to LGBT equality in the state of Texas through fair employee policy and/or community advocacy."

Equality Texas is recognizing the Internet giant for having made "diversity and inclusion a corporate priority, both internally and in the tech industry."

Google was the first company to provide full coverage of transgender employees' healthcare, and the Gayglers, an employee resource group comprised of LGBT Googlers and their allies, not only lead the way in celebrating Pride around the world, but also inform programs and policies, so that Google remains a workplace that works for

"This year, Google created a way for anyone to enjoy Pride, especially the millions of people around the world who don't have the ability to take part, with #Prideforeveryone," according to a statement issued by Equality Texas. "The immersive virtual reality experience utilizes Google Cardboard and follows Gayglers and allies as they march in Pride parades around the world."

Micki Gamez, on-air personality for iHeart radio, Hot 104.5, the Beat ATX and Pride Radio,



Wendy Davis

will be the emcee for the Spirit of Texas Brunch, and the event will also feature appearances by the Momma Bears for Equality, Kimberly Shapplet and Ambre Briggle, two Texas mothers with transgender children.

Equality Texas' 10th annual Spirit of Texas Brunch takes place Sunday, Sept. 25, in the Rosenberg Sky Room, 847 E. Hilderbrand Ave. in San Antonio. The event begins with a VIP Reception from 10:30-11:30 a.m., and the brunch from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$135 per person; VIP tickets are \$150 person. For information EqualityTexas.org or call 512-474-5475.



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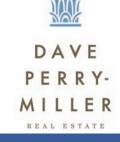


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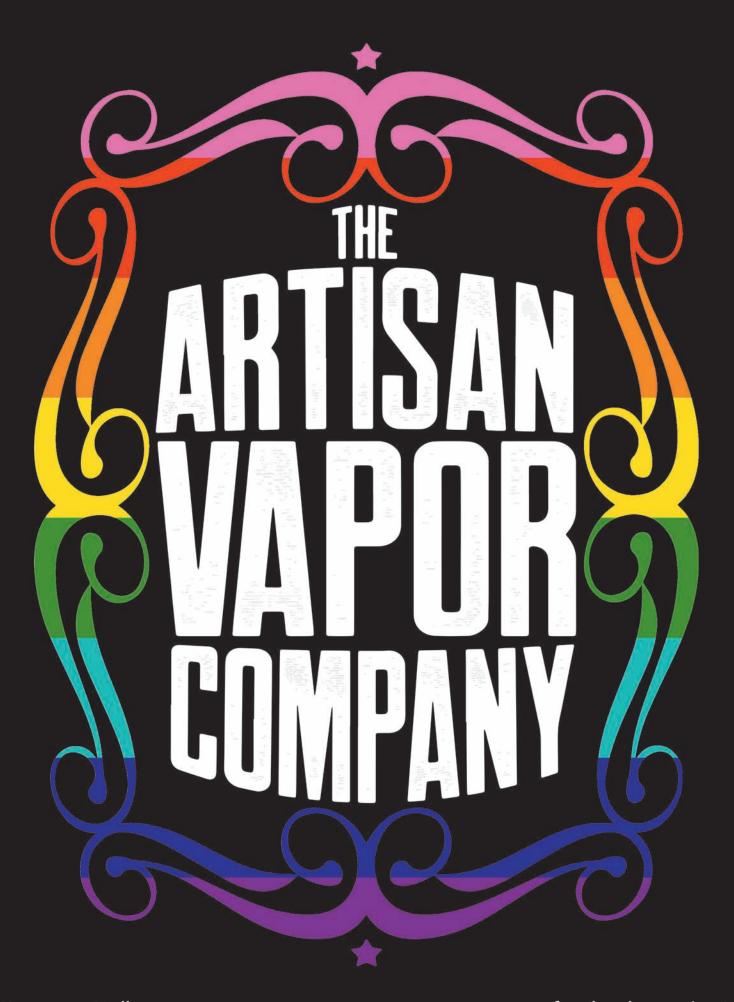












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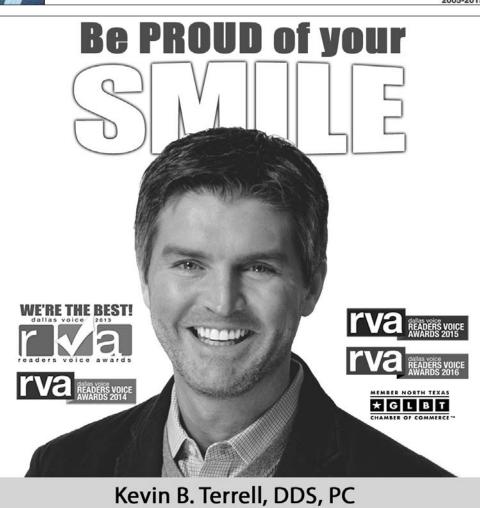




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Carlos Cascos

## **Voting while trans**

Even after voter ID law changes, transgender people still face barriers in casting their ballots

JAMES RUSSELL | Contributing Writer james.journo@gmail.com

On July 20, a federal appeals court struck down parts of Texas' stringent voter identification law after a multi-year legal battle regarding its constitutionality. The United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans agreed with a previous decision the

VOTING, Page 20



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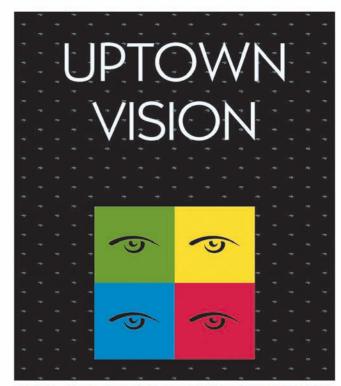


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law violated the Voting Rights Act.

Supporters of the law, both in Texas and around the country, argued requiring photo identification was necessary to combat voters attempting to vote multiple times using different identities. Yet an investigation conducted by Arizona State University's News21 showed scant evidence of instances of voter fraud or prosecution by the state.

On Aug. 10, a federal judge approved a deal reached between the state and civil rights groups to accommodate and educate voters about the various forms of identification available. Part of those efforts include accommodating voters who cannot obtain one of the seven required forms of photo identification, according to Texas Secretary of State Carlos H. Cascos.

Under the court order, a voter may vote by signing a declaration known as a Reasonable Impediment Declaration at the polls, explaining the voter was unable to access a photo identification and stating that the voter is the same person on the presented one of several forms of supporting form of identification.

But the barriers facing transgender voters

Even before the voter identification law be-

came law in 2011 — over the objections of Democrats and civil rights groups, including the Transgender Education Network of Texas transgender people faced plenty of legal, economic and social barriers to have their identity recognized, much less exercising their right to vote.

'This law would make transgender persons out themselves at the polls," former TENT Executive Director Katy Stewart told Dallas Voice at the time.

The National Center for Transgender Equality in 2014 reported while photo identification laws create additional barriers for anyone who can't obtain the required ID, additional hurdles exist for transgender people. In Texas, for instance, because of state laws and conservative judges, changing your name on one of the supporting documents permitted by the state — like a utility — can be a hassle. To change a birth certificate, driver's license or simply change your name requires a court order in your home county.

That's relatively easy in liberal counties like Dallas or Travis. But what about in staunchly conservative counties like Collin or Tarrant?

Good luck.

According to a 2012 Williams Institute report, 41 percent of transgender people who have transitioned did not having an updated driver's license. 27 percent of transgender citizens who have transitioned reported that they had no identity documents or records that list their current gender.

The state has not made it clear if voter education efforts include outreach to transgender people. (In fact, anti-LGBT Republican Attorney General Ken Paxton has sealed the documents related to what exactly those efforts include.)

According to Cascos' office, if the voter's name on the approved photo identification or supporting document does not exactly match the voter's name on the voter registration card, election officials now can review if the name and identification are "substantially similar."

But social stigma and misunderstanding among the general public about transgender people continues, including at the polls.

In fact, the NCTE report states "many poll workers [will] challenge transgender people about the accuracy of their ID, often based on their appearance."

Poll workers often are given major discretion when it comes to working with voters.

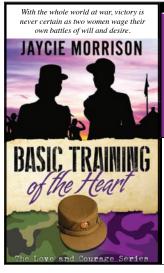
State officials warned in a recent letter that they are not to question the voter's impediment to accessing a photo identification.

"You may not question...the reasonableness of any claimed impediment or the truth of the declaration," according to the San Antonio Express-News, which obtained the letter. After signing the Reasonable Impediment Declaration, poll workers must allow the voter to "cast a regular ballot."

But Brandon Beck, a professor at Texas State University and board chair for Transgender Education Network of Texas Voters, remains cautious.

"I'm glad that efforts are being made to allow more people access to voting. I'm curious to see how these changes play out. The major concern for trans people is still the connection to photo ID," Beck wrote via e-mail. "If we do not present the same as when our photo was taken and haven't the means to get a current photo ID, will we be able to vote?"

Beck and others will see when early voting begins October 24. Election Day is November 8.



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# Illuminating the best part of us

SURVIVORS

Grand Marshal Todd Maria uses rugby as a vehicle for serving the LGBT community

> TAMMYE NASH I Managing Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

> > For Todd Maria, being chosen as grand marshal of the 2016 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade was a huge surprise, and an honor that has made him even more determined than before to contribute to his community.

> > > MARIA, Page 25

## Striving to be a model of integrity

OFFERING SUPPORT Grand Marshal Burke Burnett is

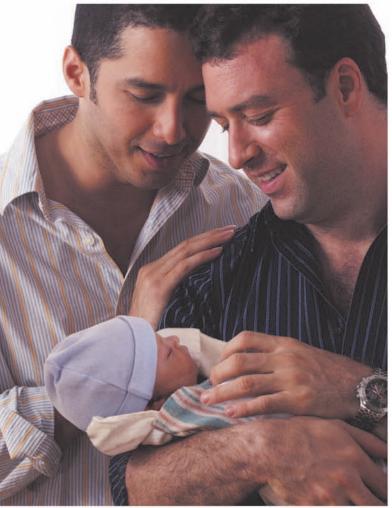
> TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor ash@dallasvoice.com

building a legacy for his sons

For Burke Burnett, just being nominated as grand marshal of the 2016 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade was "amazing." But to actually have been chosen by a community vote to be grand marshal was "beyond amazing, a huge honor."

BURKE, Page 24

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BURKE, From Page 22

"There are so many great examples of LGBT leadership in Dallas, so many great leaders who weren't nominated, so I am tremendously honored to have been chosen," Burnett said.

Burnett said he has drawn inspiration from many of those people he cites as great examples of leadership, especially activist C.D. Kirven.

"She's founded multiple LGBT nonprofits, fought tirelessly for equal rights for same-sex couples and families, spoken at the U.S. Supreme Court [during hearings on the Defense of Marriage Act and California's anti-gay Proposition 8], and is a member of the Dallas City Council's task forces on domestic violence and LGBT issues," Burnett said.

"I'm honored to be one of the grand marshals of this year's parade," he continued, "but it is an understatement to say that C.D. is infinitely more deserving. It's a shame that Dallas has never had an African-American grand marshal. C.D. is just one of the many examples of admirable African-American leaders in this community."

Another of his role models, Burnett said is Tim Johnson, managing director of Kitchen Dog Theatre and a Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse board member. "Watching Tim juggle his many service commitments in the

arts and recovery communities is nothing short of amazing," Burnett said. "He's passionate, creative and genuinely altruistic — all of which make him extremely inspiring to be around. I'm lucky to call him a friend."

Other role models include John Schoggins, a microbiology profession at UT Southwestern "doing cutting-edge research on how the Zika virus infects brain cells," who is also an out and proud gay man."

There's also Dallas County Assistant DA Craig McNiel, Burnett said, with whom he has worked over the last year to "achieve a more secure community in Oak Lawn." Burnett said McNiel is a veteran and chair of the DA's LGBT Task Force, and "I feel safer knowing he's working on our side."

He said he has also had a chance this year to get to know Dr. Oliver Blumer. "I don't know anyone in this city who does more for the trans community than him. He's a role model for standing up for what's right, no matter what."

Burnett describes himself as "just a normal guy — a dad, a husband." He works in the health care industry, and he and his husband, Justin Carrier, and their sons, — 18-month-old Caleb and 8-month-old Cody — attend Lovers Lane Methodist Church.

But Burnett never forgets how his own life was shaped by an act of anti-gay violence, and because of that he helped found and volunteers with Survivors Offering Support, a group that started last fall in response to a rash of attacks on gay men in the Oak Lawn area.

It was that brutal anti-gay attack in October 2011, Burnett says now, that "put me on a different path in my life. It shaped who I am now, in a sense. That attack was the catalyst for me moving to Dallas [in the fall of 2012], the catalyst for changing the way I live. I don't drink now, and I don't hang out at parties at 2 a.m. It's not my fault that I was attacked then. But I am not the same guy I was in 2011."

Burnett says he moved to Dallas a year after the attack "to kind of start my life over. I found a great set of friends here, a wonderful support system. And the gay community here has always been great to me. It really feels like home here in Dallas, especially in the Oak Lawn neighborhood."

He met Carrier shortly after moving to Dallas. The two were married in 2014 and almost immediately began building their family. Burnett says he and his husband were thrilled to be in the delivery room when Caleb was born in Nevada in February 2015, and again in Decem-

ber that year when Cody was born in Frisco.

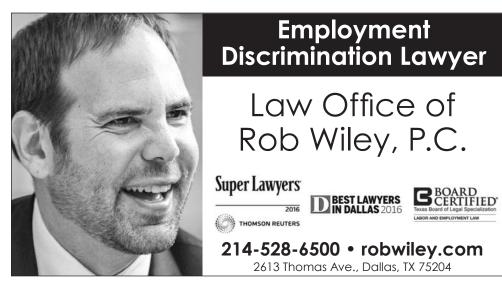
He and Carrier "moved to the suburbs" when their sons came along, but Burnett admits that he really misses living in Oak Lawn, the place he first called home in Dallas. So when the attacks began last fall, he says, he was immediately moved to do something to help the survivors.

"Being attacked myself really lit a fire in me to help other people," he says. "There are a lot of issues where LGBT people aren't safe, a lot of situations where LGBT people aren't protected."

Burnett said he also hopes his efforts to make the community safer will be part of a lasting legacy he will someday leave for his children.

"The legacy I hope to create for my boys is one of integrity, doing the right thing for the right reasons even when no one is watching," Burnett said. "They'll be looking to me as an example of how to be a good man for the rest of their lives, and if I can instill in them integrity, then I will count that as my life's greatest success.

"My family — my sons and my husband — is my everything," he said. "I pray that everyday when I go out and try to make a positive impact, their world is better because of it." ■









MARIA, From Page 22

Maria's efforts in leading Dallas' Lost Souls gay rugby team to a Challenger Cup championship at the international Bingham Cup competition this year helped cement his election as one of two grand marshals for the Pride parade. But he said recently he has been inspired by the work of others to contribute his own efforts to the community.

"My inspiration comes from an eclectic cumulation of the cultured minds and brilliant hearts of those around me in our community," Maria said.

"I have watched Daniel Iwanski-Sanchez and the team of angels at Resource Center's Food Pantry help others that may need a hand because of limited resources," he said. "I've admired Richard Curtin [as Edna Jean Robinson] and Michael LaMasters for leveraging their talents as entertainers to motivate and inspire others to simply follow their dreams by being themselves."

Maria started playing rugby about 15 years ago, and he founded the Lost Souls team in 2011, spending the last five years as both coach of and player for the team.

Even though it is a rough sport that, he admits, takes a toll on his body, it is also "a big part of who I am." And this year, that dedication

paid off when Maria and his team traveled to Nashville to compete in the 2016 Bingham Cup tournament, bringing home the Challenger Cup championship.

The Bingham Cup, held every two years, is the international gay rugby championship tournament, named after Mark Kendall Bingham, a college rugby player who was killed in the Sept. 11, 2001 crash of United Airlines Flight 93, and is known as one of the heroes aboard that plane who fought back against the hijackers and kept from crashing the plane into the Capitol. The Challenger Cup is the Division 3 championship trophy in Bingham Cup competition.

Although some might see the Lost Souls as just another sports team, Todd says it has always been about more than just playing a game.

"Lost Souls has always been about community," he says. "We play hard, and we have a lot of fun. But we know we are bigger than just ourselves."

Noting that the team has always contributed through toy drives at Christmas, school supply drives and food drives, Maria adds, "It has been wonderful to see our community involvement grow through the years, just as our level of play has grown."

Maria, who describes himself as a nurse by

trade, was born and grew up in Hawaii. His work took him first to Philadelphia — where he first got involved in rugby — before he eventually settled in Dallas. He went back to school, getting a master's degree from the University of Texas at Arlington, and gave up the life of a traveling nurse to work as an administrator in a Plano hospital.

Here in Dallas, he met his partner, Caleb Hand, and the two of them have been together for seven years.

"I have lived in Dallas since 2005, and I love it here," Maria says. "It's the best city I have ever lived in, just amazing. I don't think people who are from here really appreciate this city for it is — a unique environment filled with opportunity."

Being nominated as grand marshal was "just overwhelming," Maria says. And when they learned he had been chosen by the community vote, "Caleb and I both cried," he adds. "I think I was more surprised by it, and Caleb was more proud. It was so wonderful to know what I had been working for had been recognized."

But Maria is quick to add that winning public accolades has never been the real goal. "You don't start a project — any project — just for the notoriety of it. You do it to do good things for

your community," he says. "Being recognized this way is just icing on the cake."

Maria said that his coming out experience was "much like others, in that I was uncertain how those around me would hear and handle my truth." But now that his truth is out there, he hopes to use it to make a lasting impact on the LGBT community.

"I want to leave a legacy of inclusion, compassion and empowerment — a legacy of generously giving back to our community," Maria said. "Rugby has been a way to bring communities together by cultivating an environment where anyone can play a sport, no matter who you are. I want to be a part of continued change and acceptance that recognizes the measure of one's humanity by the content of their character and their contributions to society, rather than solely based on who we love."

Maria said he is "honored to be a part of this Pride celebration with Burke Burnett and our community leaders. But remember, it's not Pride if you are not proud of yourself, your friends, your family and your community. This Pride, we come together recognizing our solidarity through our pride. We shone a light on love and not on hate. It's this light that illuminates the best part of us."



### Be proud and embrace diversity: Hug an attorney





## **Marching with Pride** for breast health

Solis Mammography wants to bring its message encouraging regular check-ups to the LGBT community

**DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer** taffet@dallasvoice.com

Solis Mammography is sponsoring a float in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade in an attempt to bring greater breast cancer awareness to the lesbian community.

Lesbians tend to have a higher risk of breast cancer, possibly because they're less likely to have had a pregnancy, to have breastfed or to use birth control. In addition, obesity, smoking and alcohol abuse that affect some lesbians are additional factors increasing the risk of breast

About 230,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015. Of those, 50,000 were women under the age of 50.

For people with insurance, mammograms are fully covered for women over 40. Under the Af-



Watch for the Solis float in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade on Sunday.

James Polfreman, CEO of Solis Mammography, said he attended last year's Pride parade with his now-fiancé. He was impressed by the energy and enthusiasm of the crowd, and noted the large number of women there. And as an advocate for equal rights, he suggested participating in this year's parade as an opportunity to showcase the importance of breast health to women in the LGBT community.

"No woman really wants to get a mammogram; what women want is to know that they are healthy and all clear for another year," Polfreman said. "We know, however, that for those who find an abnormality [and are] in need of treatment, the earlier she detects it, the better her treatment options are — including potentially minimizing or eliminating the more invasive treatments.'

fordable Care Act, mammograms should be free with insurance regardless of deductible and with no co-pay. However, only 51 percent of women with insurance take advantage of this benefit, according to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

The earlier breast cancer is diagnosed, the better the treatment options available. The average size of an anomaly when found in a woman who gets regular annual mammograms is the size of a pea, while the average size of a breast anomaly found by a woman doing self-breast exams is the size of a

Lesbians are less likely to have health insurance, according to the American Cancer Society. In addition, research shows that those lesbians who do have insurance still avoid mammograms because of fear of discrimination if they reveal their sexual orientation to a healthcare provider or because they

have actually had negative experiences with doctors

Breast cancer occurs slightly more frequently among white women than among black women, but the mortality rate is higher for black women. Breast cancer is more common among Jewish women of eastern and central European origin (Ashkenazic Jews), probably because of the presence of BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutations. Breast cancer occurs less frequently among Hispanic women, who also have a lower mortality rate, but it still remains the leading cause of cancer death for this group.

The Susan G. Komen Foundation does offer some encouraging statistics: The mortality rate from breast cancer decreased by 37 percent from 1990 to 2013. This is probably due to early detection and improved treatment.

Solis Mammography is a network of breast screening and diagnostic centers, based in Addison and with 21 locations in North Texas, and 31 centers total in four states. The company prides itself on "delivering exceptional patient care and peace of mind in breast health," according to the Solis website.



"The specialized radiologists with whom we work are focused exclusively on providing the very best in breast screening and diagnostics," the website notes. "Solis has instituted the use of several innovative technologies to help facilitate patient engagement at key touchpoints, including scheduling, registration and the prompt delivery of results. We understand that a breast exam can be an anxious time for a woman, which is why we strive to make our patients as comfortable and relaxed as possible before, during and after their visit."

The company first began 30 years ago when Dr. Timothy Freer opened the first Women's Diagnostic Center. The company grew quickly to five locations across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, and "with the goal of bringing this same level of patient-focused care to a larger population, our business name evolved in 2005 to the Solis brand." Solis has since grown to 31 locations in four states, with 21 of those locations here in North Texas.



## Pride parade goes international



UK, Canada standing up for LGBT rights in Dallas, worldwide

KAREN BELL | British Consul General and SARA WILSHAW | Canadian Consul General

This weekend the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, Dallas' annual Pride parade, will showcase new, international friends. For the first time since the celebration began 33 years ago, two foreign governments — Canada and the UK — will have representation, standing up for LGBT rights worldwide.

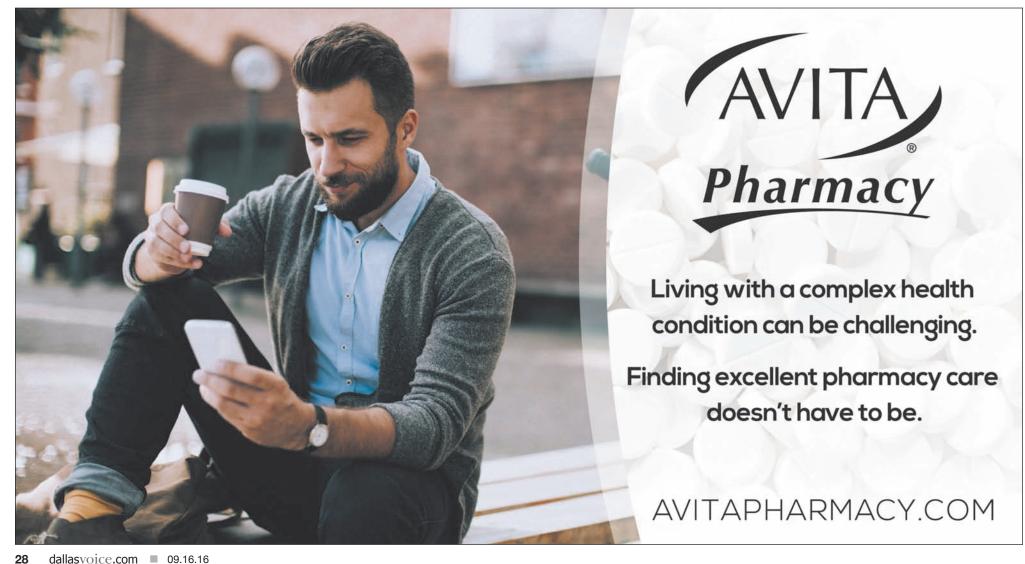
Britain and Canada have a lot in common; our countries share a common language and even a queen.

But more importantly, we share the same democratic values, especially when it comes to human rights. We recognise that LGBT rights are a fundamental pillar of human rights and

by embracing love in all its vibrant forms, our countries are stronger and more prosperous.

We know that businesses and economies flourish when workforces and communities are inclusive and respectful and people are able to be themselves.

In 2015, the UK received the highest score in



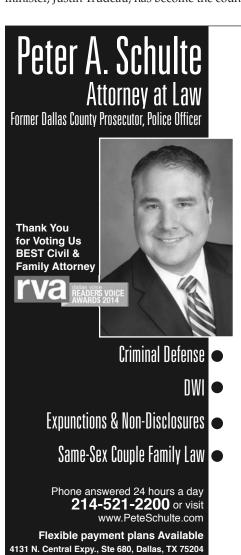
Europe for LGBT rights from the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association. The UK government has recognized civil partnerships for more than a decade and equal marriage since 2014.

Canada enacted same-sex marriage legislation more than a decade ago, becoming the first country in the western hemisphere to do so.

There is no denying the progress that has been made in reaching equal rights for LGBT people worldwide. We are privileged to represent countries where the LGBT community is protected by law from discrimination. But we recognize that the fight is far from over. There are still parts of the world where it is a crime to be a gay, lesbian or transgender person. Our diplomatic and international development colleagues in those countries are working to change that.

No one should have to suffer any discrimination because of their sexual orientation or identity. We have all seen how a community suffers when discrimination and hatred are expressed in the form of violence.

Marching in the Pride parades is nothing new for our countries. The UK has been the first foreign government to participate in 11 local Pride events across the U.S. In Dallas, the UK shares that honor with Canada, whose prime minister, Justin Trudeau, has become the coun-







Karen Bell, left, and Sara Wilshaw

try's first sitting prime minister to march in Pride parades across Canada.

Our participation in the Dallas parade demonstrates our commitment to the human rights of LGBT persons by raising this issue on the world stage and inviting other countries to follow suit. We look forward to marching on Sunday, shoulder to shoulder with members of the Dallas LGBT Community — rainbow flag held proudly in one hand, Union Jack and Maple Leaf raised high in the other.



## **Before Stonewall**

A look at the earliest roots of the LGBT equality movement in the U.S., and the evolution of Pride

Dallas' LGBT community will celebrate the 2016 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 18, marking the commemoration of New York City's Stonewall Riots in June 1969 and a special moment in Texas' gay legal history. Most people view the spontaneous riots as the birth of the modern-day gay rights movement, but that's not the whole story.

The three days of riots that took place at the Stonewall Inn beginning June 28, 1969, in Greenwich Village — when New York City police officers attempted to raid the club frequented by drag queens, male hustlers and butch lesbians — represented a turning point in the gay rights battle, but not the beginning. The melee that shocked police officers and sent them scurrying for backup followed years of advocacy by early pioneers of social change in the United States and the rest of the world.

In 1924, the nation's first gay rights group,



David Webb The Rare Reporter

The Society for Human Rights, formed Chicago, the major city in the first state to strike down a sodomy law (in 1962). The first national gay rights group, the Mattachine Society, was organized by Harry Hay in

1951 in Los Angeles. Hay, who was also a communist activist, was largely inspired by Alfred Kinsey's publication in 1948 of Sexual Behavior in the Human Male, which revealed homosexuality to be far more widespread than society previously understood.

Lesbians also entered the picture in the 1950s with the formation of the Daughters of Bilitis in San Francisco, followed by a national organization of the same name in 1956. In 1966, the National Transsexual Counseling Unit in San Francisco became the first transgender organization in the world.

Gay activists in Europe and other countries simultaneously formed groups and sought changes, making it a worldwide effort that progressed steadily and solidly before it exploded

U.S. gay activists in the 1950s and 1960s, who favored the term "homophile" rather than "homosexual" to describe their organizations, often advocated assimilation into mainstream society through educational efforts directed at both heterosexuals and homosexuals. Facing an anti-gay legal system, they sought non-confrontational strategies before the volatile social and political movements of the late 1960s, including the anti-Vietnam War protests, began influencing the LGBT community and its leaders as well. Many of the early gay activists participated in the movements for equality for ethnic groups and women, including the issue of reproductive

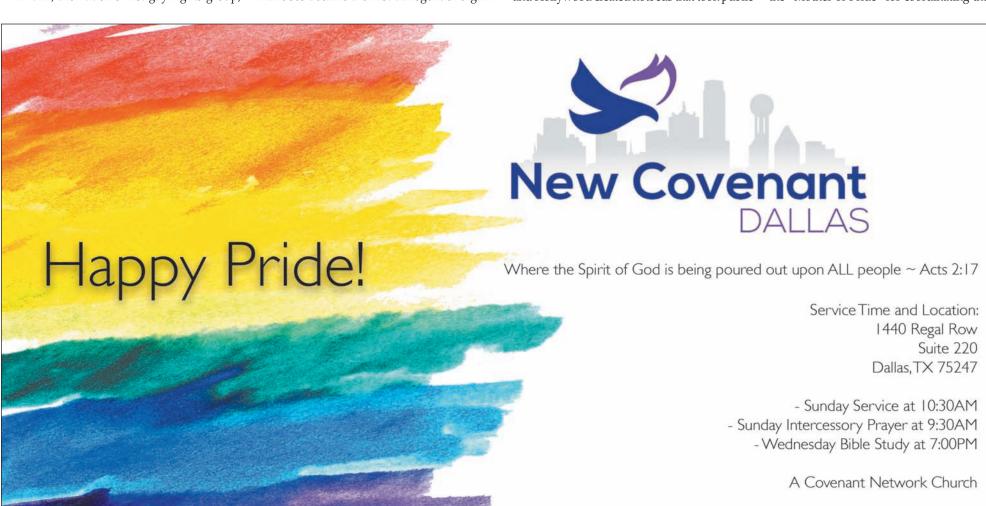
Sociologists speculate that the massive worldwide push for social change and the liberal environment of Greenwich Village, San Francisco and Hollywood created hotbeds that took public

officials by surprise. Prior to the Stonewall riots, LGBT people put up little resistance to oppression from police that flourished everywhere.

As word of the Stonewall Riots spread across the United States and around the world in 1969, thanks to international news agencies, it sparked amusement among many readers and horror among some older LGBT community members in conservative areas — like Dallas — who feared reprisals from local police officers. At the same time, it inspired admiration and unrest among younger LGBT people, and within two years gay rights groups existed in every major U.S. city, as well as Canada, Europe and Aus-

In November of 1969 the Eastern Regional Conference of Homophile Organizations met in Philadelphia and proposed the first gay Pride parade, to be held in New York City to commemorate the Stonewall Riots. Activists at the meeting pledged to encourage other LGBT communities across the nation to also stage parades, and they coined the term "Pride." Bisexual activist Brenda Howard became known as the "Mother of Pride" for coordinating the pa-

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rade and proposing a week of celebratory events to enhance the march.

The first Pride parades were held June 27, 1970 in Chicago and the next day, June 28, in New York City, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Many of the marches proclaimed "Gay Liberation Day" and "Gay Freedom Day" before they evolved into the universal "Gay Pride Day" in the 1980s.

Another pivotal movement occurred in 1973 when the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its official list of mental disorders, reversing its classification in "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual" in 1952 as a mental disorder. Gay groups across the United States banded together and stressed the importance of that determination to counteract resist-

**Left**: The first gay Pride parades were held in June 1970 in New York (pictured), Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Dallas' first Pride parade was downtown in 1972.

**Middle**: Harry Hay, left, brushes the cheek of his partner, John Burnside, at their San Francisco home in July 2002, at their home in San Francisco. Hay, who founded The Mattachine Society, died in

ance by opponents such as conservative religious leaders and bigots like celebrity singer Anita Bryant, who led a fight against LGBT equality in Florida.

Today, Pride parades take place in countless cities worldwide. Most are held in June to commemorate the Stonewall Riots. Dallas holds its

October 2002 at the age of 90. (Ben Margot/Associated Press)

Right: Lifelong partners Phyllis Lyon, left, and Del Martin founded the Daughters of Bilitis. The two women became the first same-sex couple to be legally married in California in June 2008, shortly before Lyon's death in August that same year. They had been together 55 years.

parade in September to celebrate federal Judge Jerry Buchmeyer's condemnation of the sodomy law as unconstitutional and also to take advantage of cooler weather in addition to recognizing the importance of the riots.

Dallas' first gay parade took place in 1972, three years after he Stonewall Riots, in downtown Dallas. It attracted several hundred people. The next one was not staged until 1980, and the annual parade — now named for longtime Dallas Tavern Guilde Executive Director and parade coordinator Allan Ross — takes place in Oak Lawn where most of the city's gay and lesbian bars operate. It attracts tens of thousands of spectators.

The Stonewall Riots gave a boost to a civil rights movement that was well underway in 1969 but struggling to gain the sort of widespread attention and support needed to change minds and hearts in large enough numbers to make a difference That summer night in New York City, the most marginalized members of the early LGBT community changed the course of history.

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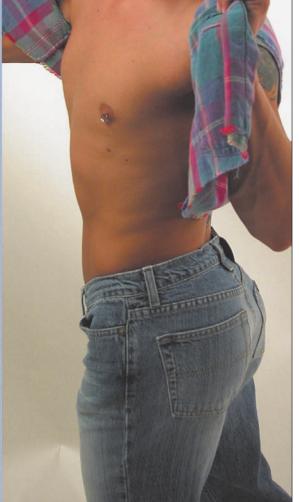
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# **OLUMC opens its doors for Pride**

Teen Pride moves to the church to bring youth to the center of the LGBT community



**DAVID TAFFET I** Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

A fence may be up to protect the lawn at the Melrose Hotel, but across the street at Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, the doors will be wide open on Pride parade day.

As they have been doing for several years, church members will set up a table with water for thirsty parade-goers, who are welcome to sit on the steps or bring a blanket and watch the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade from the church's grass lawn. And the doors will be open for anyone who needs a restroom.

In addition, this year the church hosts Teen

"We're excited about our multicultural theme this year," said Teen Pride founder Amanda Robinson. "We're including different types of cultures to create unity in a safe environment that's welcoming to everybody."

The event is for teens ages 13-19 and takes place on Saturday, Sept. 17 from 2-7 p.m. in a fenced area outside the church to provide more security. The event is free for teens and \$5 for adults accompanying a teen.

Entertainment for the afternoon includes DJ Azzie and a salsa performance. Drag performers, the musical group Sixteen Abandon, dancers and the rap group YBT perform in a late afternoon talent show.

Robinson said not only will security be better than last year when protesters came onto church property at Cathedral of Hope in an attempt to disrupt the event, the new location brings youth down to the heart of the LGBT community.

The Rev. Ben Hensley, who runs OLUMC's music ministry, has been working with Robinson on Teen Pride logistics. He called Teen Pride a natural fit for the church.

"About a year ago, we went through the process of being in ministry with this neighborhood," he said.

"We very concerned with teen homelessness, especially LGBT teen homelessness."

Hensley said his job is just to make sure there's a safe place for LGBT teens to go. Because of the property's layout, there's not a lot of room for protesters to congregate legally.

On Pride day as well, Hensley said, the church hopes to provide a safe place for teens to watch and enjoy the parade.

OLUMC Senior Pastor the Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler has called her church's location at the corner of Oak Lawn Avenue and Cedar Springs Road "the best corner in the city of Dallas," and is delighted youth will be at her church the day before the parade.

Earlier this year, Oak Lawn UMC affiliated with the Reconciling Ministries Network, whose goal is full inclusion of LGBT people in the church. So on parade day, when the church again will be marching, Hosemann-Butler said she invited members of other area Methodist churches that aren't yet reconciling to march with them.

She said she's torn between marching — which she did once and "had a blast" doing it — and staying at the church to distribute water and help welcome people. If it's a particularly hot day, the



The Rev. Anna Hosemann-Butler, left, with Gregg Smith at the church's Reconciling Ministries sign.

church will welcome people inside, offering respite from the sun.

Paramedics will be stationed in the church's outreach center to tend to anyone who might need them, especially if there's a heat or alcohol-related problem. Last year, they had a scare when an ambulance was delayed because of the crowds and traffic, so this year, the church decided to have medical help on hand.

"One way or another, most folks come through this corner," Hosemann-Butler said.

Over the past few years, the church has become such a hub of parade activity that 50 church members will be working in and around it.

"Don't ever not be hospitable, because you'll never know when you'll meet an angel," the pastor said, quoting the book of Hebrews. She added that she's met a number of those angels on parade day.

"It breaks my heart when a young person comes over for a bottle of water and says, 'Am I really welcome?' or 'Thank you for not giving up on us," she said.

Hosemann-Butler described parade day as one of the happiest days of the year for her church.

"It's become a vital ministry for our people," she said.



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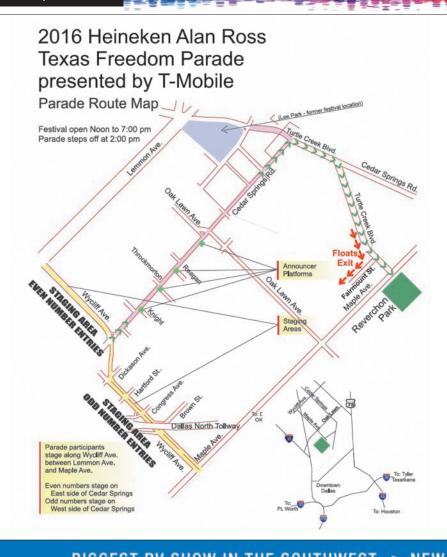


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# Family Pride Zone expands



and more—painting returns to the Family Pride Zone at the Festival in Revercheon Park on Sunday

**DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer** taffet@dallasvoice.com

After a successful return of the Family Pride Zone last year, this year's space will be bigger with more entertainment.

One addition to the Family Pride Zone is Choo Choo Express, a train that will circle the perimeter of the covered playground area throughout the

Puppeteer Dennis Lee will bring Nana Puddin for a show he calls edu-tainment. It's entertainment with a message.

"Kindness matters," Lee said. "Words are im-

Lee said his anti-bullying message is personal because he was the skinny kid with big ears who played with puppets. He puts on more than 400 shows a year and has performed in Central America, Brazil and Canada, but Dallas is home and he's performed hundreds of shows in schools and churches throughout North Texas.

He said he's especially looking forward to parents coming over to say they saw him perform when they were kids.

Critterman presents two "safari encounters," his most popular show that features six or seven facinating small creatures. The shows are at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. and are geared for children of

Among the most popular events last year were old fashioned picnic contests — tug of war, sack races, ring toss, soccer goals — and other ativities like rocket stomps, oversized checkers and hula

Bubble machines, airbrush artists, balloon artists, sno cones, bounce houses and costume characters will keep kids and their parents busy throughout the afternoon. A face painter and glitter tattoo artist will be on site from 1-5 p.m.

Entry to the park is \$10, but those under the age of 13 get in free. There's no additional charge to get in the Family Pride Zone, but organizers said since there will be young children, dress appropriately, and no coolers or alcohol will be allowed.

Chili's will be serving from its kids menu with 10 percent of sales going to Family Pride Zone. For the second year, Toyota is the presenting sponsor along with Dallas Voice and Rainbow Round Up.

Family Pride Zone opens at noon and remains open until 7 p.m.



PARADE, From Page 15

The parade will — as it has since the early years — start at the intersection of Cedar Springs Road and Wycliff Avenue, with participants lining up down Wycliff toward the Maple Avenue intersection. Entries will then move southeast down Cedar Springs, across Oak Lawn Avenue to Turtle Creek Boulevard, turning south there to Maple Avenue before ending up at Reverchon Park, where the Festival will already be in full swing.

It is the Festival in Reverchon Park that faces the largest number of changes should weather forecasts hold true and the rain comes. That's because the city's parks department has some "very strict policies about driving [on the grass] in the park if the ground is wet," Doughman said.

"We already have a secondary location planned for the main stage, and we will need to re-arrange some of the booths. If it does rain, the Family Pride Zone won't be able to have the train they had planned, because it would be too heavy to drive it across the grass to the sidewalk in that area, and Toyota wouldn't be able to park their display truck on the grass," he said. "Other than that, nothing would be cut from the festival at all."

One of the big draws of this year's festival, which will feature more than 130, will be the main stage performance by singer/songwriter and reality TV star Erika Jayne. Since 2007, Jayne has had eight singles reach No. 1 on the U.S. Billboard Hot Dance Club Play chart. She released her latest single, "How Many Fucks?," this past April.

Jayne is also one of the stars of The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills.

Other performers will include Mi Diva Loca, the duet of Mel Arizpe and Laura Carrizales, the 2010 Dallas Voice of Pride duet winners, and the country-rock party band Big City Outlaws, along with this year's Voice of Pride winner, Alvaro Ramalho. In between, local DJs will keep the party going.

Doughman said the menu of available foods and beverages will be expanded this year, as has the shuttle system moving Pride partiers from the Cedar Springs strip to the park and more.

"The shuttle bus system will be a huge asset," Doughman said, adding that the large buses that had trouble navigating narrow streets and tight turns between The Strip and Reverchon Park last year have been replaced with smaller, more agile 36-passenger shuttles. The shuttle routes have also been expanded, with buses taking people back and forth between the Legacy of Love Monument, at Cedar Springs and Oak Lawn, and Reverchon Park, and also between the park and the various LGBT nightclubs in the area.

(A map of the parade route and a list of parade entries can be found on pages 38 and 39 of this issue of Dallas Voice. The Official Guide to Dallas Pride 2016, distributed earlier this month with Dallas Voice and available at locations around Oak Lawn, has additional information on parade entries festival booths and more.)

Admission to the festival in previous years has been \$5, but this year it goes up to \$10. Doughman said the increase — which organizers discussed with community members first — will help cover

the costs of bringing in Erika Jayne to perform, and also the costs of additional security measures.

"We talked to people around the community, and said we could either keep the admission fee for the festival at \$5 and go only with local talent, or we could go up to \$10 and bring in a biggername artist," Doughman said. "Everybody said increase the price and bring in a bigger name. We've gotten a lot of positive responses."

The additional security, he continued, was something that not just parade organizers wanted, but that city — and federal — officials insisted on.

"When we started planning for this year, [the shooting at Pulse nightclub in] Orlando hadn't happened yet," Doughman said. "As the year as gone on and things have happened, Homeland Security has put even more regulations in place regarding events like this. That means we need more officers, SWAT, an advance team, a shadow team — and that starts really eating up the money.

"We had been expecting this to be a banner year," Doughman continued. "We were expecting to be able to give significant donations to our beneficiaries — AIDS Interfaith Network, AIDS Services of Dallas and Legacy Counseling Center. And we still may get that. It just depends on the weather and people's commitment to attend and participate."

Doughman acknowledged that the shooting in Orlando and other situations, including the tense atmosphere surrounding this year's presidential contest, may have some people on edge. But, he reassured, security surrounding the event will be better than ever.

One aspect of increased security efforts is a ban on bringing non-transparent bags and backpacks into the park.

"If you bring a bag in, it doesn't have to be plastic but it does have to be see-through. Security at the gate has to be able to see into whatever bag you are carrying, to see what's inside," Doughman said, noting that bans on coolers and glass containers were already in place.

The measure, he added, "shouldn't come as a surprise to anybody. Most people know that's already the policy at most places, like ATT Stadium and The Ballpark in Arlington, even the concerts at the American Airlines Center. It's nothing out of the ordinary."

That change, like others, Doughman said, "aren't meant to inconvenience anybody. It's just part of the effort to make all of us, all of our events, safer. There are extra layers of security in place this year, and some of those things we're not at liberty to talk about. But we are trying to create an environment that sends the message that we are taking the steps necessary to make sure you are safe and can have a good time and still not take the energy out of the event.

"You don't have to worry, and we don't have to worry now, because we are doing everything we can to make sure you have a safe and enjoyable weekend."

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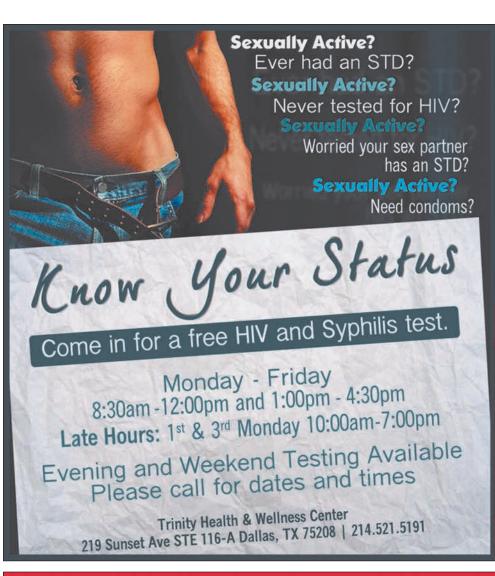


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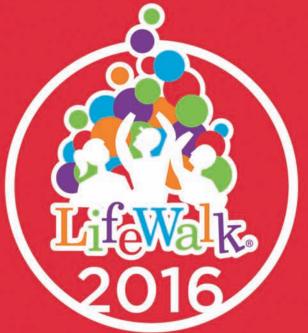
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# Former FW resident killed in Miami

Tom Lang, husband of former Samaritan House CEO, has died after a confrontation with a homeless man

**DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer** taffet@dallasvoice.com

A homeless man in Miami has been charged with murder in connection with the death of Tom Lang, 71, husband of former Samaritan House CEO Steve Dutton.

Police arrested Evans Celestin, 38, and charged him with battery on a person 65 or older, felony battery and drug possession after Lang was injured in a confrontation between the two men. The charge was elevated to second degree murder several days later after Lang died.

Celestin is being held without bail.

The confrontation happened Wednesday, Sept. 7, as Dutton and Lang were walking on Flagler Street in downtown Miami, a few blocks from their home on Biscayne Boulevard. Dutton told police he had seen Celestin causing disturbances downtown on several occasions, and when he saw him again that day, he took a picture of him to give to police.

Dutton said Celestin saw him take the photo and crossed the street to confront him and Lang. He said Celestin walked around him and pushed Lang down.

Lang hit his head on the pavement when he fell and began to bleed from his ears. Paramedics transported Lang to a local hospital where he died of his injuries three days later on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Funeral services for Lang will be held at Lena Pope Chapel, 3131 Sanguinet St. in Fort Worth



at 6 p.m. on Oct. 24.

Celestin has been arrested at least 29 times, according to the Miami Herald, mostly on trespassing

and drug Steve Dutton, top left, and Tom  $c\ h\ a\ r\ g\ e\ s$  . Lang. Evans Celestin, inset. (Photo Dutton said courtesy Miami Dade Corrections.) he'd seen

Celestin hassling residents and store patrons along Flagler Street, where new stores and restaurants have been opening in recent years.

Samaritan House in Fort Worth was founded in 1991 as housing for people living with HIV/AIDS. Dutton headed the organization for 20 years and retired in 2012. He and Lang then moved to Miami.





### **Gay man found dead near Peabody Clinic**



Dallas Police are investigating the murder of Mitchell Polk, a gay man whose body found Aug. 23 outside an abandoned, boarded-up building off Peabody Avenue in South Dallas, near AIDS Arms' Peabody Clinic.

Polk's body was reportedly found naked with a gash in his head.

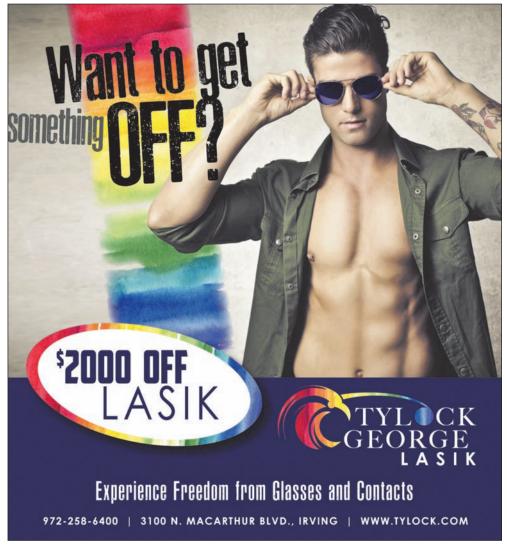
The body remained unidentified for several days, until a friend filed a missing person report on Polk.

Funeral services were held Sept. 3 at Cornerstone Baptist Church on MLK Jr. Boulevard.

Mitchell Polk









program growing quickly, director says

Officials with Resource Center's new Behavioral Health Program this week said the program builds on the agency's existing counseling program, expanding it beyond what's been offered in the

"We're seeing greater need than in the past," said Program Director Scott Martin, explaining the neeed for the new service,

The new program handles clients with greater counseling needs than in the past, Martin said, including substance abuse, depression and transgender issues.

The original program, which continues to operate, is a partner-



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ship between the center and Southern Methodist University. Because interns provide the counseling, that program primarily works with clients dealing with issues that require shorter-term sessions.

Martin said he has been surprised by the number of calls that have come in since the clinic opened at Resource Center's new building on Cedar Springs Road in July. He said he's received quite a few calls from parents whose children are transgender, and that he's been pleasantly surprised that those parents have been supportive and were simply calling to get their teens the help they need.

Quite a few other calls have been from corporate human resource departments seeking drug or alcohol counseling for their employees. Again, Martin said, he's been pleasantly surprised that HR officials calling for help aren't asking about the sexual orientation of their employees. The Behavioral Health Program is not restricted to LGBT clients, Martin noted, adding that among the first people to access the new service have been several straight clients.

Martin sees his program as a hub in Resource Center's web of programming. While he said there are a number of other fine counselors in the community and other quality counseling centers, like the ones operated by Texas Health Resources where Martin worked before joining Resource Center, his program has a distinct advantage: clients have easy and immediate access to the center's other support services and programs.

When a teen comes for counseling on trans or coming out issues, for example, Martin can supplement his counseling sessions by introducing the client to Youth First. Those with addiction problems might benefit by attending the meth recovery group that meets several times a week at the center. Those considering transitioning may want to talk to and interact with people who are in different stages along the way in that

"I can walk them over to GEAR," Martin said, of his transgender clients. And the center's Nelson Tebedo Clinic offers hormone treatment under the care of local physicians.

Even though there's been no public announcement of the new program, and no publicity around it, Martin said the program has been so successful since its July opening that two more staff members will be added in October. In addition, space in the old community center building will be renovated with additional counseling rooms, so two more positions can be added this winter.

Martin said the Behavioral Counseling Program is also connecting Resource Center with other agencies throughout Dallas. The center is working closely with the Cohen Veterans Network, which provides mental health care for veterans at locations in five cities at no cost. Locally,



Tom Martin outside the new Resource Center on Cedar Springs Road.

it opened a clinic in Addison this year. Martin said the Addison clinic is partnering with Resource Center to use the center as its LGBT specialist.

The Behavioral Health Program begins its intake process with a free assessment session. The program runs with a fee for service and most major insurance is accepted.

In the assessment, Martin said, he discusses options. He'll transfer someone who needs detox before counseling or who is suicidal to the proper treatment hospital. Or he'll look for an alternative for someone whose insurance won't cover his counseling program.

As the program continues to grow, Martin said he continues to be surprised by the variety of clients accessing the service. He said he expected relationship problems to be one of the major issues his staff would face. Gay men, he said, tend to request a gay male counselor, probably because they expect to discuss sexual issues are are more comfortable talking about that with someone with similar experiences.

He said it's interesting that since the marriage equality decision, he's seen an increase in samesex couples have coming forward to ask for help with their relationships.

"Since we're more validated," he said, "we have more permission to ask for help."

To schedule a free assessment with Resource Center's Behavioral Health Program, call 214-393-3640.



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Dr. Jason Gillman.

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# **AIDS Arms presents** 7 papers at Ryan White conference

The Dallas agency offered insight into their successful treatment of Hep C, homelessness and more to control HIV

**DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer** taffet@dallasvoice.com

Seven scientific studies written by 11 staff members were presented at the 2016 National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment in Washington, D.C. in August.

The theme for this year's conference was

"Forward Momentum: Accelerating Access. Optimizing Care. Transforming Public Health," in recognition of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs commitment to the national HIV/AIDS strategy, focused on decreasing new HIV infections, reducing HIV-related health disparities and improving access to HIV care and treatment without stigma and discrimina-

Among the papers was one on Hepatitis C treatment outcomes at AIDS Arms' Peabody and Trinity clinics, prepared by the agency's medical staff and presented by lead researcher, Dr. Jason Gillman.

Gillman explained that because Hepatitis C



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treatment is so expensive, despite the release of new drugs therapies, few HIV agencies around the country are treating that disease as aggressively as AIDS Arms, which has been a leader in the field. Nationwide, about 25 percent of people with HIV are also infected with Hep C.

Between February 2014 and the end of 2015, the AIDS Arms clinics treated 62 patients for Hep C, Gillman said, adding that new therapies for the disease have shown a 97 percent effective rate in pharmaceutical trials.

However, Gillman continued, his study was looking at real outcomes in a less controlled environment. Because AIDS Arms patients are more likely to also be dealing with drug abuse issues and mental illness and may lack insurance, he said the outcome surprised him.

"Our results were similar to what was in the pharmaceutical studies," Gillman explained, noting that only three patients relapsed with the disease and since the study was completed, new drugs have come on the market.

Explaining that there are "six genotypes of Hep C and each is treated differently," Gillman the AIDS Arms patients that relapsed were retested and showed recurrence of the same

Despite the high cost of treating Hep C treatment for the 62 patients would cost \$6.5 million at retail prices — there was no cost to AIDS Arms thanks to insurance, grants and assistance from the drug companies.

AIDS Arms currently has 144 patients with Hep C. The goal, Gillman said, is to "achieve complete viral eradication."

While "money hasn't been a barrier," Gillman said, the perception that Hep C isn't as much a problem as HIV has created problems. Many patients with Hep C show no symptoms, since it takes longer to get sick from Hep C.

Insurance companies have created problems, too, since some insurance companies require a negative urine drug screen before paying for the three-month one-pill-a-day treatment.

In a new study already underway, Gillman is comparing outcomes for Hep C treatment in active drug users and non-users. He expects that those who are compliant in taking HIV medication would also be compliant in taking a Hep C drug. He'll have those results in October.

In the mean time, he said, "Anyone who comes in [to the AIDS Arms clinics] with Hepatitis C is offered treatment."

### Health, Hope, Recovery

AIDS Arms Care coordinators Ben Callaway and Luis Moreno presented results from a study of Health, Hope and Recovery, another AIDS Arms program, at the D.C. conference. The two men work to ameliorate other issues for clients, such as homelessness, which may prevent clients from successfully treating their

Manisha Maskay, chief program officer for AIDS Arms, said some clients deal with homelessness and may have substance abuse or mental health issues as well. When someone doesn't know where their next meal is coming from, she said, taking HIV meds isn't always a priority. So stabilizing housing for a client can make a big difference in successful treatment of HIV.

Maskay said that AIDS Arms obtained a grant to help understand some of the reasons homelessness will interfere with adherence to a treatment regimen. Those reasons started with difficulty to keep one's possessions safe.

"If you're homeless, the likelihood you can keep your possessions safe is low," she said. That means homeless clients often lose important documents, and without a birth certificate or driver's license, clients have a hard time getting a job or finding housing. Care coordinators help these clients obtain documents and then store them safely.

To get into a shelter, a person has to get in line early enough to be processed and secure a bed. If someone has a late job interview or medical appointment, care coordinators can intervene on behalf of their client with community partners to help secure a bed for the night, Maskay continued.

Most housing programs require a person to

be sober before they will give housing assistance. But if a person is housed, they're more likely to become sober. So, she said, care coordinators have intervened to help those dealing with substance abuse stabilize their housing as they are reducing their reliance on drugs or alcohol.

Care coordinators also work with clients to develop a plan to help them through the process of getting clean and sobers, guiding clients through steps they would need to take but may not understand.

The outcome, in terms of treatment adherence, has been impressive, Maskay said. Those in the program show almost the same rate of viral suppression as AIDS Arms clients in general. In addition, they are getting help dealing with the other issues in their lives.

Program Director Martha Guerrero wrote a paper on AIDS Arms' Viviendo Valiente program.

AIDS Arms is one of 10 sites across the country receiving federal funding to demonstrate and evaluate culturally specific service delivery models. The multi-layered approach uses a combination of community, group and individual interventions, social media by staff and volunteers to promote treatment for those with HIV.

This is one of the first federal public-health initiatives to use a transnational approach.

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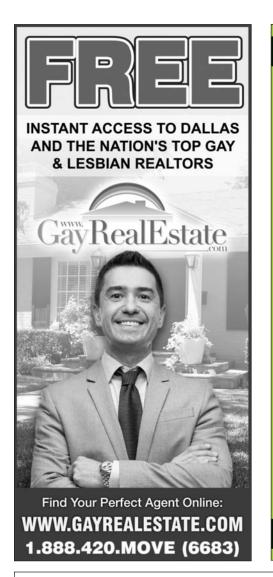
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## **Changing and correcting**



Rafael McDonnell

McDonnell seeks changes with Collin County jail after gay deputy harassed, fired

JAMES RUSSELL | Contributing Writer james.journo@gmail.com

After reading about Derek Boyd, the gay former Collin County corrections officer who lost his job after publicly accusing two nurses working at the jail of harassing him, Rafael McDonnell, communications and advocacy manager for Resource Center, sent an inquiry to the nurses' staffing agency's lead-

Southwest Correctional Medical Group is a unit of the California-based Correctional Medical Group, which according to its website, provides medical, mental and behavioral health care services to county jails.

They currently staff six jails in Arkansas, New Mexico and Texas. Along with Collin County, Southwest Correctional provides medical and mental health staff to Wichita County, two hours northwest of Fort Worth.

Given their contract with Collin County, McDonnell felt obliged to reach out.

"I reached out to [their regional leadership] to see where things stand and offering to provide my services," he said.

In an e-mail dated Aug. 18, McDonnell introduced himself and asked some pointed questions: Does the agency have an LGBT nondiscrimination policy? Do employees undergo cultural competency training inclusive of the LGBT community?

Most importantly, he pointed out, the nurses' conduct in Boyd's case could fly in the face of the Texas Administrative Code regarding nursing training.

"Are SWCMG employees trained on [this code] that prohibits discrimination by all nurses licensed by the state of Texas nursing services based on 'age, disability, economic status, gender, national origin, race, religion, health problems, or sexual orientation of the client served?" McDonnell asked in his e-

Nurses, like other healthcare workers, are held to this standard professionally and legally, McDonnell noted.

"I raise this question because if the allegations of the fired jailer are correct, then this would cause questions about how SWCMG employees treat patients," McDonnell wrote in his e-mail.

He offered his services and requested a meeting the following week. After all, crafting inclusive nondiscrimination policies for governments and corporations is part of his job.

But after waiting a week, he hadn't heard a thing. "I never heard back and was concerned," Mc-Donnell said. So he reached out to the office of state Rep. Rafael Anchia, a Dallas Democrat who represents the district in which Resource Center is located and who is a staunch LGBT ally in the

statehouse.

A few days later, McDonnell got a call from the company's CEO. He then received an email from the company's general counsel, Ben Rice, outlining the company's practices. They do indeed have a LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination policy, Rice noted in the email, which was shared with Dallas Voice. They are also trained on state nursing standards.

In fact, Rice even apologized for the delay.

But McDonnell noticed odd language. The policy protects employees from retaliation based on "gender orientation or identity."

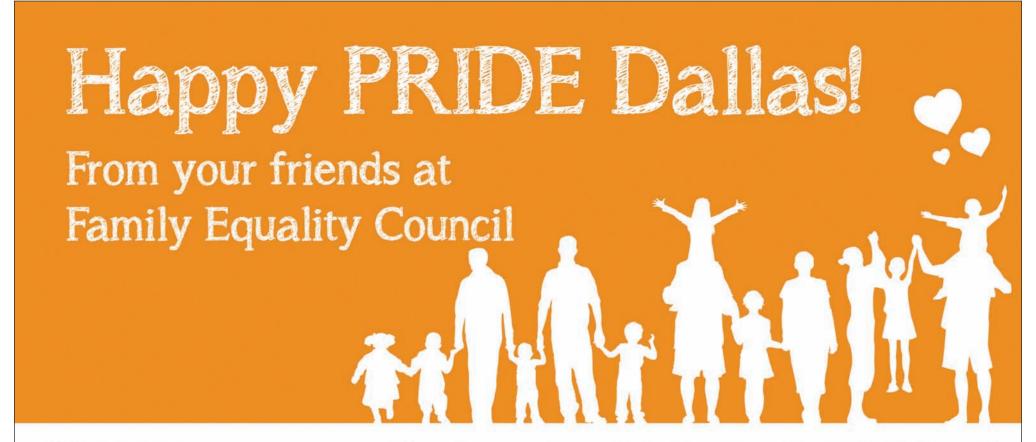
But, McDonnell noted, "they said they are in the process of drafting new language." He said he's seen a sample, and it looks "accurate."

While the initial correspondence took time, Mc-Donnell said he is pleased to see Southwest Correctional Services is working on the policy.

"I was concerned at first because they were not prompt. But they have improved," McDonnell said. "We want to continue the dialogue with Southwest Correctional Services, given their contract with Collin County. We want to make sure they are working within a framework of equity."









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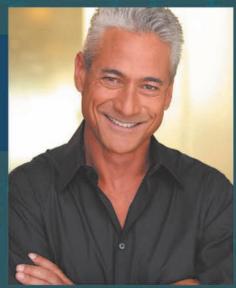
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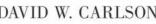














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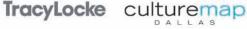
















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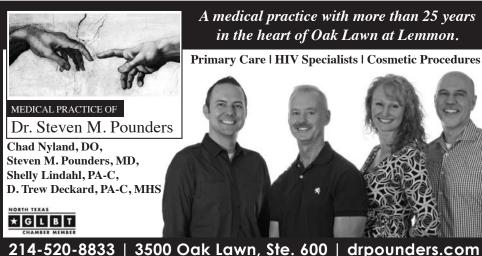
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# Matt Bomer as a transwoman: Should we be pissed?

#### **NEWS ANALYSIS BY BRENT PAXTON**

nash@dallasvoice.com

Some people in the transgender community are upset that openly gay actor Matt Bomer has been cast as a transwoman in the upcoming film *Anything*.

The Mark Ruffalo-produced picture is an adaptation from Timothy McNeil's play of the same name. In the story, Bomer's character strikes up an unlikely friendship with a suicidal southern widower, played by John Carroll Lynch. The two grow very close as they attempt to reconcile their vastly different backgrounds.

So, what's all the fuss about? It sounds harmless, right?

Well ...

If you're familiar with the controversy surrounding Jared Leto's casting as Rayon, an HIV-positive transwoman, in the 2013 film *Dallas Buyers Club*, then you're all too familiar with why some in the trans community are not particularly happy. The issue is that such casting leaves us asking the most glaringly obvious question: With all of the trans actors out there, why not cast trans actors to play trans roles?

That's a very good — and seemingly simple — question. If we lived in an idealistic society were everyone (including audiences) were fully evolved and informed on this issue, the filmmakers might respond with something like, "Of course we should have cast a transwoman. Just what were we thinking? We'll do better next time."

But in reality, the answer isn' so simple, and the filmmakers likely did have a very real and very honest conversation about casting a transwoman in this role. It would be a disservice to over-simply this issue and paint this film as yet another example of society holding the trans community back.

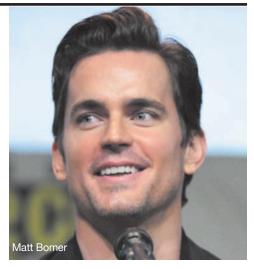
Here's why.

The entertainment industry has a long history of portraying minorities using non-minority actors, usually straight white male actors. Men portrayed woman in Shakespearian times and, long before that, in Ancient Greece. Women simply weren't allowed up on stage.

Up until just recently, white people would dress up in blackface to play African-Americans in stereotypical and offensive ways in minstrel shows and on the big screen. Roles just weren't given to or created for blacks because of deep-seated racism.

Depictions of blacks and women were often over-exaggerated and perpetuated negative stereotypes about both groups (i.e. women as overly emotional; blacks as lazy and criminally inclined).

Obviously — and thankfully — things have changed for both of these groups. Female roles are almost always played by actual women, and African-Americans, likewise, portray themselves. Nowadays, the idea of a white person portraying a black person on screen using black makeup is unthinkable outside of ironic jest (i.e. Robert



Downy Jr. in Tropic Thunder).

But the same can't be said about all minority and/or marginalized groups. The strides made for women and African-Americans have not necessarily lead to a broad great leap forward for all communities.

Interestingly, some historians point out that blackface, as offensive as it was, was actually a step toward inclusion of African-Americans on screen. It's a controversial point, and often overlooked

While it's hard to argue that blackface was good, and while it most definitely was an embarrassing part of our history, it still raises questions about the steps that society takes toward adequate inclusion in the media.

Is casting cisgender actors for transgender roles akin to blackface?

The trans community is one of those segments of our society that is still overlooked and under-represented when it comes to the arts. Yet, we are seeing an uptick in the portrayal of these individuals in film. They just aren't portrayals by actual transgender actors.

Why?

Much like blackface was, cisgender actors playing transgender roles is common practice (i.e. Eddie Redmayne in *The Danish Girl*, Felicity Huffman in *Transamerica*, Hilary Swank in *Boys Don't Cry*). These performances are often the gateway to success for the actors, including Oscar nominations and wins. Jared Leto is the latest example, winning the Academy Award for best supporting actor for his role in *Dallas Buyers Club*.

So, why is it that critics praise cisgender actors playing transgender roles, often calling them brave and bold and ground-breaking?

It's probably because these films are bringing issues to light through cinema, issues that had been delegated exclusively to the news arena.

When it comes to casting, there's a reservation on the part of producers to take a gamble on a relatively unknown transgender actor and the general belief that audiences simply aren't yet ready to see trans actors play trans characters – particularly when it comes to a leading roles. Sad, but probably true for the most part.

There's also an undeniable novelty in seeing an

A-list actor play a trans or gay role in film. Unlike the old minstrel show blackface model used to belittle and stereotype people, these mostly smaller films are socially progressive and tend to be made outside of the traditional Hollywood system. Unlike blackface, they are intended to propel society forward, not hold it back.

It helps the filmmakers to have a star in the film, and it helps the star by showcasing his/her ability as an actor. In the vast majority of cases, the filmmakers who take on this subject matter take the material seriously and approach the stories with honesty and don't intend for the characters to be the butt-end of a joke.

But there are drawbacks.

As trans activist and musician Mya Byrne pointed out in her open letter to the producers of

"We know you have good intentions. But those intentions have far-reaching after-effects that you, as cis men, don't experience. For instance: Have you been chased down the street being threatened with violence and called Danish Girl? I know several folks who have. And this is just the tip of the harassment iceberg we experience when media like this comes out."

Byrne makes has a point that must be discussed. But while she suggests that the film be scrapped altogether, I'd argue that that's not the best approach.

I would argue that what we're now experiencing with the trans community is the same thing we've experienced with the gay community. Acceptance takes time and it comes in strides. Look at Brokeback Mountain (2005) for example. There was very little outcry about Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal not actually being gay. Rather, there was praise for them and the film for portraying gay men as dynamic and complicated people - unlike one dimensional slapstick portrayals of the past.

It was a groundbreaking film that had two big A-list stars portraying gay characters. It was celebrated for its authenticity. And it played a pivotal role in the fight for LGBT visibility on the silver screen. It helped create the more inclusive and open environment that's allowed us to have openly gay actors in Hollywood — something that we seem to now be taking for granted.

On our march toward total inclusion, we must recognize that things do take time and that acceptance and inclusion do not happen overnight.

Is Matt Bomer playing a trans woman a step in the wrong direction? Not necessarily. If anything it's probably a step in the right direction on the very long road to full acceptance and inclusion for the trans community in the entertainment indus-

To pick the film apart and denigrate it because it does not live up to idealistic standards is probably not in the best interest of the community. Why? Because this is all part of the process.

So, should we continue to fight for inclusion of trans actors? Of course. Should trans actors play trans characters in film? Yes, without a doubt.

But publicly attacking the actors, producers and distributors of the film does not lead to more progress. Telling the creators to 'scrap' the film is also not the answer.

Are there strides that need to be made? Yes, of course. The filmmakers themselves are not deny-

### Trans for pay

A list of well-known actors who played transgender characters on screen

• Hilary Swank in Boys Don't Cry (1999) Swank plays Brandon Teena in the true story of an American trans man who was beaten, raped and murdered by men after they discovered he was transgender.

Distributor: Fox Searchlight

• Felicity Huffman in Transamerica (2005) Huffman played a transgender woman who tried to reconnect with her estranged son, played by Kevin Zegers.

Distributor: The Weinstein Company

• Jared Leto in Dallas Buyers Club (2013) Leto starred as an HIV-positive transgender woman in the film that tells the true story of Dallas man Ron Woodruff who, after learning he had AIDS, starts looking for every treatment possible and smuggling unapproved treatments and drugs into the U.S., providing them to other AIDS patients, as well. Leto won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Distributor: Focus Features

#### • Chris Sarandon in

Dog Day Afternoon (1975)

Sarandon played a pre-operative transsexual in the film, for which he won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Distributor: Warner Bros.

#### • Tom Wilkinson in Normal (2003)

Wilkinson stars as Applewood, who after 25 years of marriage shocks his wife (Jessica Lange) when he tells her he wants to transition into a woman. He renames himself Ruth.

Distributor: HBO Films

#### John Cameron Mitchell

in Hedwig & The Angry Inch (2001) Mitchell played Hansel Schmidt, an East German man who falls in love with an American man and they decide to marry so he can escape East Germany. However, the couple needs to consist of a man and a woman, so Schmidt undergoes gender reassignment surgery, but it gets botched. Distributor: New Line Cinema

### • John Lithgow

in The World According to Garp (1982) Lithgow played Roberta Muldoon, a former football player who transitions.

Distributor: Warner Bros.

• Jaye Davidson in The Crying Game (1992) Davidson played trans woman Dil in the film, for which he received an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor.

Distributor: Miramax Films

• Lee Pace in Soldier's Girl (2003)

Pace starred as Calpernia Addams in the film, based on a true story. Addams came out as a transgender woman during her last year in the military.

Distributor: Showtime

ing that. What they are trying to do is tell inclusive stories about trans people in the best way that they

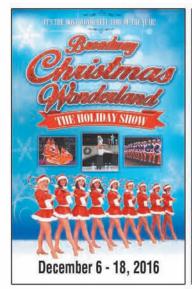
Are we "there" yet in terms of inclusiveness and visibility? No. Are we on the right track? Yes, I believe we are. Brent Paxton is a freelance writer living in Dallas.



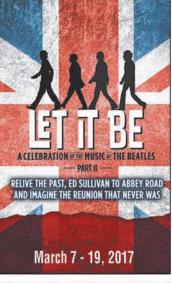
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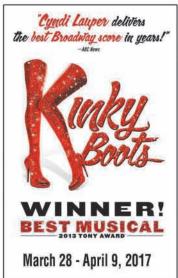


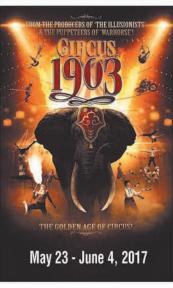


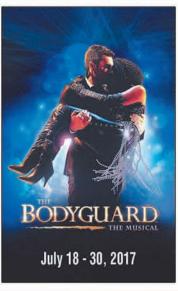


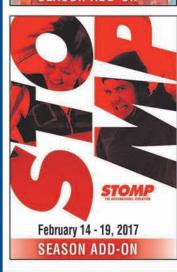


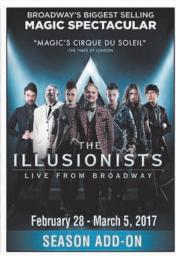
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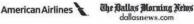














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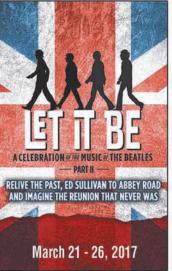
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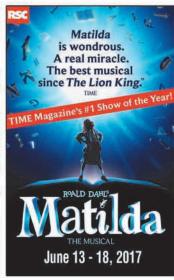


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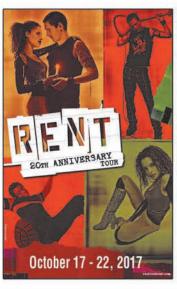
















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### Arizona preacher banned from South Africa

Anderson still plans to visit African countries more welcoming of his anti-gay agenda

### **NEWS ANALYSIS BY BRENT PAXTON**

nash@dallasvoice.com

There's been an anti-gay preacher back in the news this past week. He's Steven Anderson, the head of Faithful Word Baptist Church, an anti-gay congregation that meets every Sunday and Wednesday in Tempe, Ariz. The church's website claims it is an old-fashioned, independent, fundamental, King-James-Bible-only, soul-winning Baptist church.

Preacher Anderson is making headlines because he was recently denied a visa to South Africa due to his repeated hate speech and regularly incitements to violence, especially against LGBT people.

This preacher's resurgence in the news has a lot of people asking, "Who is this guy, anyway?" So let's take a look.

Who is Steven Anderson?

Holocaust-denier Steven Anderson claims to be on "God's mission" to "win souls," while simultaneously suggesting people assassinate President Barak Obama and murder gay people and wishing brain cancer on all LGBT people. His mission, he says, is to return people to the good, ol' fashioned values of yesteryear when people took the word of God at face value, something called Biblical liter-

His sermons have titles like, "The Sodomites Will Never Stop Us," "Why I Hate Barack Obama" and "The Homo Agenda vs. Reality." And their content is even more disturbing than their titles.

Anderson made headlines in June, after the mass shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando that left 49 dead and 53 injured, when he declared there were "50 less pedophiles in this world" thanks to the Orlando shooting. He went on to explain his views on the death penalty by saying, "The biggest hypocrite in the world is the person who believes in the death penalty for murderers but not for homosexuals.'

"The bad news is that a lot of the homos in the bar are still alive, so they're going to continue to molest children and recruit children into their filthy homosexual lifestyle," Anderson said in a video uploaded to YouTube, a video later taken down under the site's rules against "hate speech."

"I'm not sad about it; I'm not gonna cry about it because these 50 people in the gay bar that got shot up were going to die of AIDS and syphilis and whatever else," he continued. "At least these dangerous, filthy predators are off the streets. I'm just trying to look on the bright side."

While most people consider his hate speech repugnant, his followers often accept Anderson's words as those of God himself.

Anderson first brought his church national attention in August 2009, when a member of his congregation, Christopher Broughton, went to an appearance in Phoenix by President Obama carrying an assault rifle and a pistol. Anderson had preached a day earlier to Broughton and others that he "hates Obama" and would "pray that he dies and goes to hell."

The Southern Poverty Law Center has already declared the church a hate group. But Anderson's followers are not deterred. When questioned about his views by openly gay Huffington Post writer Michelangelo Signorile, Anderson responded: "If you're a homosexual, I hope you get brain cancer and die like Ted Kennedy."

Why was he trying to go to South Africa?

Anderson was attempting to go to South Africa this week to speak at anti-gay churches and organizations and take his hate speech international. But South African Home Affairs Minister Mulasi Gigaba wasn't having it, declaring the so-called preacher a "prohibited person" and warning, "If we find him at any of our ports of entry, we will detain and deport him."

It's worth noting that Americans do not require visas to travel to South Africa, but Gigaba revoked Anderson's visa exemption status. This comes at a time when the LGBT community in Africa is having a very difficult time getting traction. South Africa is the only country in Africa to allow samesex marriage, actually doing so before the United States. Sadly, the rest of Africa is not so progressive.

Despite being banned from South Africa, Anderson is moving forward with his plans to visit the continent of Africa, hoping to capitalize on the fears those living in underdeveloped countries, like Botswana, where he's schedule to speak. In Botswana, a country where homosexual acts are illegal, homosexuality is seen as a Western disease and "such lifestyles" as essentially un-African.

Anderson is expected to pander to these beliefs and warn Botswana of the dangers of letting the homosexual agenda take hold in the country.

Why should we care?

Faithful Word Baptist Church and its leader Steven Anderson represent a very scary and very real segment of the population right here in this country. The rise of Donald J. Trump and his hijacking of the Republican Party supports the trend of alt-right groups like this becoming more and more emboldened.

While it may be tempting to look away from such radical extremists, it's important to keep a spotlight on them. Groups like this spew hate and need to be held accountable for their actions and

By bringing these individuals and their congregations to national attention, they will be scrutinized, analyzed and challenged about their beliefs. Letting people know about these hate groups can also be used as a tool to promote understanding.

People often question their own stereotypical beliefs, prejudice and bias when they see it so prominently in others.



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## commUNITY voices

# Let them eat croissants

am in Paris this week on vacation. My partner, Patrick, and I are having a great time L doing the tourist thing. And mandatory with that experience is visiting the Palace of Ver-

How could a gay man miss that?

We arrived in Versailles after a short train ride, and walked to the gates of the chateau. It is overwhelmingly large, and is being meticulously restored by the French government.

The abundance of gold leaf and white stone is almost blinding, and as we trod the cobblestone path to the entrance, it was hard not to stop occasionally and just marvel at the structure.

Once inside, as we toured the many chambers and antechambers, the opulence came non-stop: gold and crystal everywhere, and masterful decorative detail in every nook and cranny.

Part of me was delighting in the artistry of it all and another part of me was feeling a bit queasy — because this over-the-top display of wealth is exactly the kind of garish ostentation displayed by Candidate Trump. Just look at that interview on 60 Minutes, where he sat in a Louis XVI chair in his tacky, over-decorated apartment and you begin to see the similarities.

By the time we had strolled the vast gardens several square miles of private woods and manicured topiary — I began to understand the



Hardy Haberman

our nation owns 85 Flagging Left percent of the wealth. Then beyond that, there is a stratospheric jump to the top 1 percent who own more than 40 percent of the wealth.

French Revolution

more fully. The di-

vision between the

"haves" and the

"have nots" was

stunning — almost

as stunning as

We live in a

country where the

top 20 percent of

today.

Compare that to the economy of France prior to the Revolution, when the top 1 percent of landowners held 10 percent of the land, with the next 2 percent owning 20 percent of the land.

By those standards, they were amateurs compared to the Titans of the American rich.

That leads me to that queasy feeling.

If memory serves, the French aristocracy got into a bit of a tangle and lost their heads — literally. I have to wonder, if they had a propaganda machine as powerful as Fox News, would that have still happened? Or would they instead have been stars of reality TV programs, like Keeping Up With Marie Antoinette or The Vassal.

So even amid the amazing splendor of Versailles, I managed to fall into the trap of thinking about politics!

I guess that should be no surprise for me. What is surprising is how effortlessly one can make comparisons between France before the Revolution and the current economic imbalance in our country, and how easy it is to imagine someone like Trump frittering away the treasury to create magnificent palaces and gardens for his own amusement.

I can easily imagine Trump becoming an imperial president who lives like Louis XVI and pulls the rest of us along for the ride into chaos.

Yes, the French Revolution could happen again, but this time it will be broadcast on the Internet, and spun by Fox News.

There will most likely not be a guillotine, but heads will roll in a metaphoric sense and it will not be a good time for anyone.

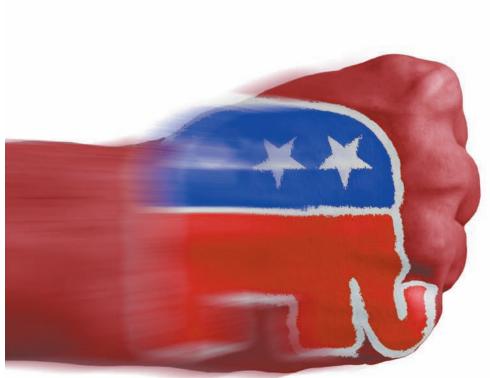
Dire predictions? Perhaps.

But if all we remember about Versailles is its splendor and not its excess, we might just find ourselves re-enacting Les Miserables, only without the stunning music.

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



# We need 2 strong parties





Why this Democrat wants a strong Republican Party

've been a Democrat all my life. I believe in the party's values; I'm pleased when its candidates win elections, and I'm persuaded the country is better off when Democratic ideas get a fair shake in the public arena.

But none of this means that I favor a weak Republican Party. Indeed, just the opposite.

Before my Democratic friends drum me out of the party's ranks, let me explain why.

The short answer is, our nation is stronger and our representative democracy healthier when we have two strong parties. A single political party that's able to dominate public policy-making undermines the give-and-take that's crucial to effective policy and leaves us weaker as a country.

Why is this? Let's start with the big picture.

If you think about the issues we confront from the impact of climate change to the fight against terrorism to rebuilding an economy that serves poor and working families as well as it does the wealthy — it's hard to argue that a single perspective or ideology really has all the answers. None of us, and neither political party, has a monopoly on wisdom.



Lee Hamilton **Contributing Columnist** 

Moreover, this country is huge and varied, and the legitimacy of the political system rests on its ability to give voice to the multitude of concerns and attitudes held by the American people.

Some prefer the GOP's approach,

others the Democrats'. But it's important they all have a political party to turn to. The more people feel that no one represents them or their views, the more alienated they become from the democratic

So the country benefits when two robust parties face off — in elections, in Congress, and in the 50 legislatures. When they can present their views, defend them, adjust them and negotiate, compromise and move forward, we're being well served.

Which brings me to the Republican Party of today. I don't want to get into the split between backers of Donald Trump and the traditional Republican leadership — that's for the GOP to sort out, and they certainly don't want the advice of an old Democrat.

But there's no doubt that the Republican Party has reached a crossroads.

If Trump wins the presidency, he'll be the chief actor in determining the future of his party and what it stands for. If he loses, the GOP will more than likely move back toward its more traditional views as a party that embraces the free market, advocates for a muscular approach to national security, believes in American exceptionalism and our role in leading the world away from chaos, is filled with fiscal hawks who think that we have to curb entitlement programs, and pays attention to a business community that believes trade wars — especially with Mexico or China — would be catastrophic.

I suppose I'm showing my biases here, but I believe that a robust Republican Party will strengthen its willingness to improve and broaden the policy debate and move it away from steps to impede it. This would be a GOP that advocates for limited government, wants to reform our unwieldy tax code and is determined to remain fiscally responsible so that deficits don't ex-

I want to see Republicans tackle our healthcare system by reforming it using market mechanisms. I want Republicans to confront regulations that hamper the formation and growth of businesses, especially small businesses. And I want them to remain inclined toward devolving power away from Washington, giving states more control over such basic responsibilities as highways, welfare and education.

Each of these issues has been at the center of the national agenda for many years, suggesting their difficulty. We need proposals from both sides that are realistic, coherent and based on numbers that

We need parties that are at the top of their game, generating solutions to the issues we confront that can get vetted in Congress and be amended and reshaped to reflect the realities of a divided country.

And we need parties that are prepared to negotiate to move us beyond our current gridlock.

This can best happen when a healthy Republican Party is competing with a healthy Democratic Party. And at the moment, that's not what we're seeing.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



ven as a scrappy little North Texas theater kid of 9, William Blake wanted to sing. He had the kind of high-pitched voice that people would refer to as "boy soprano" — a falsetto that was in no way false, but which history proves men usually grow out of once they pass puberty.

Only Blake didn't outgrow it. He has maintained that powerful alto tone throughout his adulthood.

"To this day, people call me on the phone and think, is that my mother or my sister?" he laughs. "It's sort of maddening. I wish I talked down here" — he fakes a baritone — "but I can't."

Which, actually, is kind of awesome. It has sort of become "his thing." In bars like the now-shuttered Hideaway, he was a popular performer with customers and fellow singers alike — babyfaced, endearing, but with a soulful set of pipes that could rock a smoky cabaret, even as you did a double-take to see who was responsible for that stratospheric wail.

His first professional acting job — he was barely out of college — was in the old Plano Rep production of *Cabaret*, where he played at the cross-dressing role of Mary Sunshine. But Blake had aspirations that went beyond theater. He wanted to see if he could make a career as a singer — his kind of singer. So after releasing to

Dallas audiences an album in 2006, in January 2007 he suddenly packed up and headed for the Big Apple. If he could make it there... Well, you know the

And make it he did. "I certainly don't think that I

had my sights set on Broadway or doing anything onstage, as much as I would have liked that to have happened," he says. "My parents encouraged me to sing and I found my voice gradually. I love performing and telling stories through song and being that kind of vocalist. I hoped people would get me. I just wanted to see what trajectory I was on, and if I should try it."

He got his foot in the door at Don't Tell Mama, the legendary NYC piano bar. "That was my first job," Blake says. But there were lulls, of course, and initial disappointments. He was more in the service industry than showbiz for a while, and admits he was seduced by a regular paycheck. But he soldiered on. "If I could talk to my younger self now, I would say, 'Be patient,'" he says. "You're on the right path, so don't move so astray."

That path led to Michael Feinstein, who gave him his first big break, in 2010, when he sang alongside the acclaimed pianist at Carnegie Hall. Since then, he has regularly performed at piano bars such as The Duplex, appeared on national television singing on a float in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, made it to "Hollywood Week" on American Idol, recorded a live album and generally pursued his dream into a reality.

But despite his Texas roots, he hasn't been

back on stage in Dallas in almost a decade. That changes this month, when he serves as the closing act at Uptown Players' Dallas Pride Performing Arts Festival. It's a homecoming that emboldens him.

The Dallas musical/theater community "was so nurturing. Denise Lee, Gary Floyd — İ call them Mama and Papa — and Liz Mikel were definitely [supportive]. There was something so great about the freedom of the DFW theater scene — to just be able to go for broke and excel. There's so much warmth in Texas that you don't get [in New York] all the time."

On a typical week in New York (depending on the season), he'll perform Saturdays and Tuesdays with his usual cabaret show at The Duplex, then rehearse his signature show featuring the music of Etta James (he's been doing it for more than four years), for about five hours. Then maybe travel to perform, or take a week off. And most of those performances come with what he calls "the Scooby Doo Moment:" He starts his song while cast in shadow, and only when the lights come up do people realize a man is singing.

"Even in Joe's Pub, where we've done it so may times, I can see the cynicism in people's faces [when the lights come up], but by the end, they are up on their feet. But this is the shit we like to do and what makes me me." ("Ruh-roh!"

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William Blake performs Sept. 24. For a full lineup of performances,

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he says is their reaction.)

He has resisted the push to turn his style into a gimmick.

"When people hear me for the first time, they immediately want to make you 'the guy in a dress who sings girl stuff,' which I won't do. This is just my own

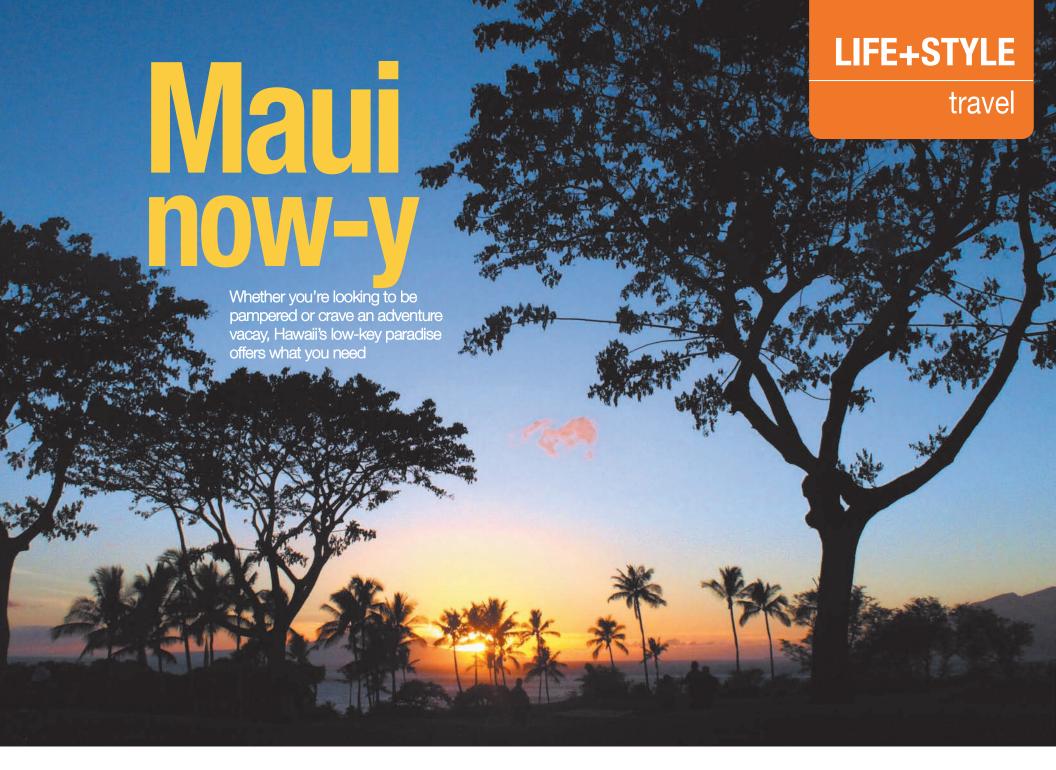
style of singin' a song. I want them to know that I'm not just another white boy who sang blueeved soul — that I had some actual technique."

It will be a discovery for many Dallas audiences, as well. While Blake has many long-standing friends and fans in town, he hopes to attract a younger or newer audience not familiar with his style. It's exciting ... for many reasons.

"I miss everybody," he says. "First and foremost, I am looking forward to seeing my family — I have not held my new nephew yet! My twin sister had her second child [since I was last in Dallas]." And then there is the lineup of songs he has planned — a set-list he was still tweaking when we talked, to reflect his development as a

"I guess what they can expect to see is someone who has grown up — not a 20something anymore, but a man who has matured," he says. "My voice has changed only a little, but my thought process has changed — my outlook and take on life. I want that reflected in the songs I am choosing. I want the program to tell some kind of story. It will be exactly what I am — a funny, kind of humble, self-deprecating old soul to express my thoughts and passions. There are gonna be moments when I tear up, cuz I'm a sappy, sappy guy ... and moments where I'll be sassy because that's who I am, too."





ARNOLD WAYNE JONES I Executive Editor jones@dallasvoice.com

Tf you saw the recent news about two hurricanes bearing down simultaneously on the Hawaiian Islands, you might have thought how scary and vulnerable it feels to be in the middle of the ocean on a small spit of land, thousands of miles from a continent. But then the storms turned out to be tempests in a teacup, and once again Hawaii returns to its vaunted position as a genuine American paradise. You don't need a passport, just a desire to relax on a island getaway.

And while The Big Island is, well, bigger, and Oahu is more populated, Maui is sort of the Goldilocks of this Pacific archipelago: Not too large, not too small; not too remote, not too touristy. As one resident told me, "Maui is the perfect place to do everything ... or do nothing."

That triggered the realization that we each have different expectations on vacation. Some of us want to decompress and be pampered by experts. Some of us want to engage in the culture and do as much for ourselves as we can (that's often less expensive, as

well). So here it is: Maui, the place to go to veg... or live it up. Season to taste.

Maui, shaped roughly like a figure 8, is small enough that you could feasibly spend one full day and drive around its perimeter and up to the top of the Haleakala mountain and still get home before sunset. But despite its manageable size, it's made up of neighborhoods and destinations, each of which offers unique advantages. There any number of different combinations that you could explore — from beachside resorts and spas to condo rentals to Air BnB to luxury hotels to all inclusive resorts. The variety makes it easy to tailor your vacation ... the hard part is deciding

You can, of course, mix it up, but there's no need to; you can always just pick one of the other and do that for the full length of your trip.

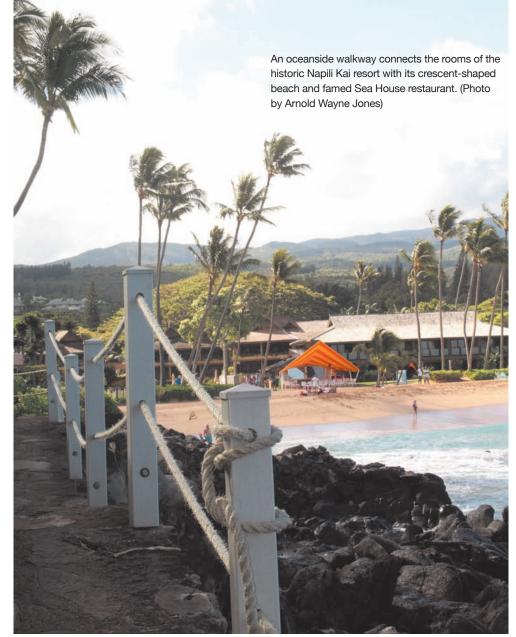
#### Pampered

South Maui — notable for the Wailea/Makena communities is the high-end resort destination. Developed mostly in the 1970s, it's flush with golf courses and roomy, glamorous seaside hotels.

Although all beaches in Hawaii are public, you feel as if you are entering a gated community, where shaded drives take you to open-air lobbies of spacious hotels manned by friendly staffs. The Grand Wailea — massive, and the oldest of the resorts — neighbors the Marriott and the Andaz (the newest hotel) to the west, and the Four Seasons and the Fairmont Kea Lani to the east. All will take good care of you.

The Kea Lani, originally opened as an Embassy Suites, boasts all-suite accommodations, and is boutique in size compared to some of the larger hotels, but the amenities are amazing: Personalized Le Labo toiletries, all-beach views from the spacious balconies and an attentive concierge desk — they give you a cell number to which you can text requests, such as having your car brought around. But if you're staying in the area, you won't need your car much: There's also an oceanside footpath, popular as well with joggers, that links all of the resorts, and the Kea Lani's complimentary shuttle service will drop you off at any neighboring property, take you to the golf course (including its signature restaurant, Gannon's, established by former Dallasite and legendary Maui chef Bev Gannon) and even the Shops at Wailea, a

A sunset view from the golf course in Wailea, where every summer the Maui Film Festival hosts 'Celestial Cinema,' outdoor movie screening in a pristine environment. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



high-end hacienda-like mall.

You might head over to the Shops for casual dining at the longstanding Cheeseburger Grill & Tap Room, which serves a wide selection of pub grub, brews and mai tais; or check out the newer Pint & Cork, a late-night speakeasy-style bar and gastropub with comfort food sourced locally. The Pint & Cork is probably one of the fewer places open late in this area of Maui; the theme is relaxation and slowing down. Attend, though, in the summer, and you can enjoy an amazing outdoor tradition: The Maui Film Festival, which screens new films with celebrity guests (this year included honorees Bryan Cranston, Viola Davis and Michael B. Jordan) in what they call Celestial Cinema: A huge screen on the golf course, where movies run only after the sun goes down. It captures the perfect vibe of the area as a place to chill.

There is no more chill area of Maui, though, than the town of Hana on the East Side. Only 40 miles from the airport, it's accessible only by the Hana Highway, a magnificent coastal drive with breathtaking vistas. It's slow going — not just because most bridges don't permit two-way traffic (you can't be aggressive in your driving), but also because you'll want to stop frequently: To soak in the views, take photos, or even enjoy fresh lilikoi juice, coconut candy or sugar cane from the roadside fruit stands.

While in Wailea/Makena, you can stay put at your hotel (the Kea Lani offers both family and adult-centric pools, including a swim-up bar, as well as on-site beach access), and even get a little exercise and sightseeing taken care of at once with an outrigger canoe lesson — one of the great pleasures of a trip is whale watching and looking for sea turtles — or you can venture a little farther down the coastline for Big Beach/Little Beach. This shady enclave opens into a pale-sand strip called Big Beach, or you can climb over the outcropping of lava to more adult-focused Little Beach, which is clothing-optional, co-ed and very popular with the many gay residents of the island. (More than one told me a typical Sunday would be a towel, umbrella and cooler for the afternoon; later in the day, drummers show up for impromptu jam sessions.)

#### Independent

West Maui is the more do-it-all-yourself side of the island. Anchored by the town of Lahaina, which has a bustling traffic flow similar to any small town you might encounter, it's dotted not just with hotels, but also strip malls and private homes; fine-dining and fast-food options; grocery stores and farmers' markets; general stores,

■ MAUI Page 76





# Ya gotta love **J** Sutta don't cha?

The former Pussycat Doll gets her Pride on at the Dallas Red Party

ruth: One of I Sutta's big career breaks involved her donning a tuxedo leotard and putting out fires with her top hat.

It was 2002, and Sutta — best known as a member of the now defunct R&B/dance group the Pussycat Dolls — had landed a gig as dancer in a Smokey the Bear PSA. She and her co-stars danced through the forest, extinguishing fires in the name of safety.

"Fortunately, that part got cut," Sutta says. "But that's how I met Robin Antin, who started the Pussycat Dolls. She said, 'Cut your bangs — I want you to join my group."

The Dolls started as a burlesque troupe with a popular established residency at L.A.'s Viper Room, but soon grew into one of the most successful pop groups of the 2000s, having sold about 54 million records worldwide, buoyed by their infectious Billboard No. 2 hit "Don't Cha." But the glamorous life didn't come naturally to young Jessica.

"I'm a girl from a small-town part of Miami," Sutta says. "And it literally changed my life overnight. I left the country for the first time, there were fans standing outside our hotels, taking pictures. I danced in front of the pyramids at Giza."

Growing up, Sutta's focus was primarily on dance, but in high school she tore her ACL ... in both knees .... at the same time. What started as a major setback turned into a life-changer.

"My whole life, I thought I was going to New York City to be a ballerina," she says about the injury. "But everything happens for a reason. It was actually the beginning of my journey into different

One of those forms was singing. "I wanted to be Debbie Gibson and Janet Jackson," Sutta now says with a laugh. And she actually ended up meeting one of those idols, when Gibson was playing at the Viper Room during the Pussycat Dolls' residency.

"I was like, 'Debbie! I love your music,' and she was like, 'It's Deborah.'"

Both Gibson and Jackson have something in common with Sutta, besides music itself: All three enjoy a big LGBTQ following, something Sutta holds dear to her heart.

"Growing up, all my friends were gay," she says. "I always felt like an outcast and they felt like an outcast, so we had that in common. It used to break my heart — a lot of my friends' parents tried to beat the gay out of them, literally. They would come to school black and blue.'

That history is one reason why Sutta continues to have a deep connection with the community and why she jumped at the chance to perform at the fundraising Red Party on Sept. 16. It's hardly her first gay gig; in fact, eerily enough, Sutta was slated to perform at a fundraiser for The LGBT Center in Orlando this summer — as luck would have it, the same week following the Pulse nightclub shooting.

"It was awful," she says about the moment she heard the news. "I couldn't stop crying. I felt numb for so many weeks after. It was just too real." (The fundraiser was rescheduled for Feb. 4, and Sutta says she can't wait to return.)

"I feel like the community has been through so much," she says. "We need to heal the community. We have to remember, it may sound corny, but love is truly the only thing that matters in this world."

And that's where Pride comes in. With their focus on dancing and celebration, the annual festivities are the perfect forum for healing. Sutta plans on doing her part.

"I'm bringing all my dancers to Dallas Pride," she says, her voice lifting. "It will be the best show ever! My stage show is where my heart and soul is. It's all about making the audience feel good."

She's even not above a little flirting ... a signature of being a Pussycat Doll, no doubt. "Maybe I'll pull you onstage," she continues. "And I might even kiss you — you never know!"

— Jonanna Widner

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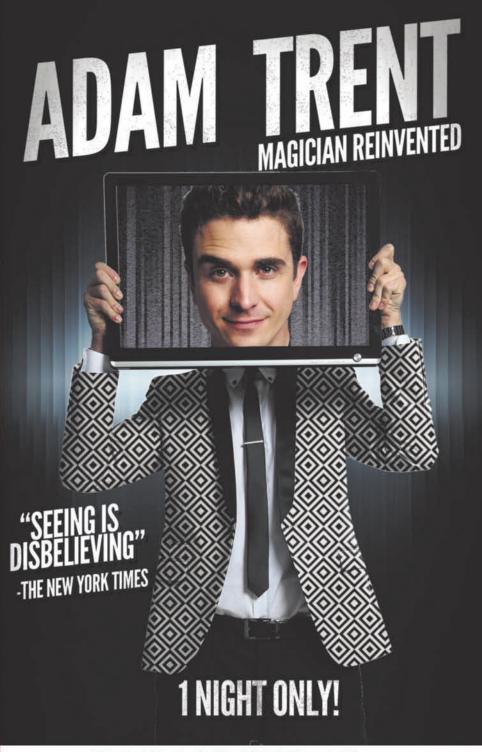


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# Suddenly, Alvaro

Voice of Pride winner Alvaro Ramalho is no stranger to singing



When Alvaro Ramalho's family moved to the U.S. from Brazil nearly 20 years ago, they no doubt expected to find opportunities wide open before them. But you wonder whether young Alvaro ever expected Justin Timberlake to be instrumental in his success.

That's what happened on Aug. 21, however, when — following months of round-robin eliminations - Ramalho bested nine other talented singers to be named the Dallas Tavern Guild's Voice of Pride 2016 winner. He performed three songs — a duet ("Suddenly Seymour" from Little Shop of Horrors) and two solo numbers, including the song "Stay" by composer Scott Alan,

■ VOP Page 71

The 2016 Voice of Pride emerged from this man's vocal chords. (Photo by Kat Haygood)

# You go, twirlfriend!

It took decades, but baton master Bobe McBride has pursued his dream



About 30 years ago, when Bobe McBride was in middle school, he played trombone in the marching band, positioned right behind the majorettes, their batons flashing and glinting in the sun as the majorettes twirled and tossed them. Even though he was there to play music, McBride was immediately transfixed by what he saw in front of him; he decided he'd much rather be doing that than playing an instrument.

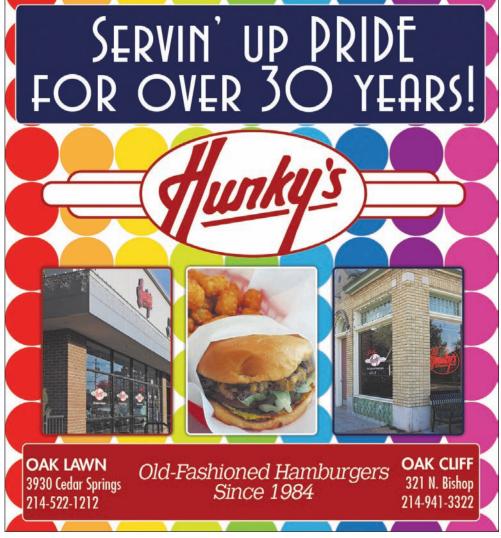
But, he says with a laugh, "I was a black man in the rural South. That was not gonna happen."

Not then, maybe. But now, at age 44, McBride is happily and confidently pursuing a passion. As one of the most decorated masters of baton twirling in the United States, Bobe McBride is a United State Twirling Association (USTA) national and Florida state champion, National Baton Twirling Association Florida state champion and Twirltacular grand champion.

Competitive baton twirling — or "twirl sport"

■ TWIRL Page 91





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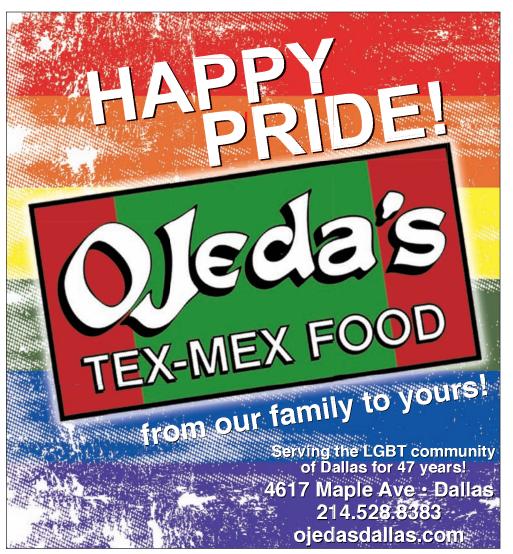


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**L+S** comedy Putting the 'butch' i **Butcher** Lesbian comedian Rhea Butcher is having a moment It's an exciting time to be Rhea Butcher. She costarring with real-life wife (and fellow standup) Cameron Esposito in the very meta Take My Wife, a just-released webseries on the online pay service Seeso, where she plays the wife of ... Cameron Esposito. And she just dropped her debut comedy album Butcher (Kill Rock Stars), which goes a long way to dispel the myth of the humorless lesbian (or that women in general can't be funny). The secret to creating a comedy record that stands the test of time is how it holds up to repeated listens, and **Butcher passes with flying** 

Her brilliantly original perspective — touching on surnames, vegetarianism, pets, pizzle sticks, gender identity, hair, baseball vs. softball and other subjects deserve to be enjoyed by all comedy fans, gay and straight.

We chatted with Butcher recently about her new album and more.

— Gregg Shapiro

Dallas Voice: Who do you consider your strongest comedy influences to be? Rhea

Butcher: When I was growing up, I watched a lot of stand-up comedy, specifically Stand Up Spotlight on VH1. That show was hosted by Rosie O'-Donnell and featured a lot of women, so when I was that age, I really thought women doing stand up was a normal thing. I really liked Rosie, Ellen [DeGeneres], Brett Butler, Elayne Boosler. Then,

when I actually started doing stand up in Chicago, my biggest influences were Maria Bamford and Paul F Tompkins.

Regarding the material on Butcher, how did you know that these were the jokes that you wanted to commit to record for posterity? These were jokes that I have been working on for about five years. I feel like you could work on a

joke forever, but at some point they've got to leave

the nest.

You incorporate your hair into your comedy, as we can hear on "Haircuts and Flight Attendants" on Butcher. I talk about my haircut because cutting my hair short was a big moment for me, as a lesbian. I think for queer people, things like haircuts are a turning point: when I cut my hair it was a big statement to the world. It was also me taking control of my gender. I got to make myself look the way I wanted to look.

You touch on a number of other funny lesbian hot button issues on the disc, beginning with manual transmissions. When you drive a car, do you prefer a manual or automatic transmission, and why did you choose what you did? | do drive a stick. I purchased my car 10 years ago on my own: I researched and test-drove cars until I found the car I still drive today. At the time I wanted a manual transmission because I was still living in the Midwest and wanted the extra amount of control in the snow. It's also great on gas mileage. Now that I live in L.A., it's really just a point of pride that I can even drive stick

You have a great line where you say that you're a vegetarian because you like animals, not because you like vegetables. How true is that? One-hundred percent. I am a Midwesterner through and through.

The baseball versus softball bit is as funny as it is topical. Donald Trump's vice presidential pick Mike Pence recently spoke out against women in the military, so that probably

doesn't bode well for women playing baseball. Do you have hope that that will change in your lifetime? I do have hope for it in my lifetime, because there are many women playing baseball on a professional level, and three of them have been placed on the Sonoma Stompers minor league team: Kelsie Whitmore, Stacy Piagno and Anna Kimbrell. Kimbrell and Whitmore played as the first all female battery [pitching and catching] since the All American Girls Professional Baseball team [from A League Of Their Own] recently. That plus the popularity of Mone Davis and the TV show Pitch debuting on Fox this fall, it's not far off.

Back in the old days, major labels such as Warner Brothers released comedy albums by everyone from Bob Newhart to Steve Martin and Gilda Radner, and more recently Jimmy Fallon. Your album, Butcher, is on hipster indie label, Kill Rock Stars, and recent releases by Sarah Silverman and Tig Notaro are on equally hip indies Sub Pop and Secretly Canadian, respectively. What does it mean to you that comedy has found a home on Kill Rock Stars? Kill Rock Stars has been an influential label to me for years. They have put out such amazing music for so long and when I saw that they decided to move towards comedy, I thought it was a perfect fit. In some ways, the internet has democratized comedy and allowed for so many diverse voices to be heard. Kill Rock Stars is a natural extension of that voice. I am really proud to be on the label and to have the label mates who are featured on KRS.

**VOP,** From Page 68

and JT's "Pusher Love Girl."

"I've always been a huge fan of JT's voice and I got to have a lot of fun vocally with that one,"

Not that he needs to imitate anyone — in the future, young singers might want to imitate him. Ramalho has experience beyond his 26 years. It turned out "four" was the charm for him, as he'd competed at VOP three prior years (rising as high as first runner-up in 2014). But he's been singing since he was a child — originally at his mother's knee, but later in groups. He attended Booker T. Washington High School for the Performance and Visual Arts in Downtown Dallas, "where I was exposed to essentially limitless opportunity to expand my music taste and knowledge," he says. "I got into musical theater, salsa/merengue, opera. My dream role would be Moritz in Spring Awakening — [that show] is full of amazing music. Too bad I'm more of a singer than an actor! But all of these experiences and influences have shaped how I perform."

He traveled in a salsa band, "where we were able to perform for many different audiences." He did musicals. And then he became a singing member of the Turtle Creek Chorale, even scoring a solo during its final concert this past sea-

And of course, his secret weapon as an artist is the support of his boyfriend of six years, Sergio.

"He has definitely been my rock and I appreciate him so much. He not only has the patience to put up with my singing at home all the time, but he encourages me and attends all my performances," Ramalho says.



Unfortunately, the night of his victory he didn't have much time to celebrate. "I had to be at work early the morning after, so I had a couple of tequila shots with some close friends, family, and my boyfriend and then called it a night," he says. But he'll definitely luxuriate in the knowledge of knowing he touched many people with his voice... and will continue to do so.

"With all the negativity in the world, he [VOP competition] provides us a safe space to do what we love to do and forget about everything else for a little while," he says. "And I'd also like to thank the Turtle Creek Chorale for their love and for welcoming me in with open arms this year. This organization has been extremely rewarding to be a part of. Everyone should get season tickets!"

Not a bad way to enjoy Ramalho's singing all year long.

The Voice of Pride concert takes place during the festival inside Reverchon Park following the parade on





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### L+S stage

# In defense of sap

Often maligned as cheesy, 'Camelot' remains a solid, satisfying musical

**ARNOLD WAYNE JONES |** Executive Editor jones@dallasvoice.com

Camelot has long been the reputable musical that it's completely permissible to shit on. It enjoyed a healthy initial two-year run, opening just weeks after JFK was elected and closing less than a year before his assassination, and its presence in the Zeitgeist almost defined his presidency: The White House was Camelot, John the idealistic King Arthur, Jackie his lovely Guenevere. The metaphor was awkward — both stories end in tragedy, though their legacies live on.

Still, many dismiss the Lerner and Loewe musical for being naïve to the point of saccharine: It's talky and sincere and slightly meta, with knowing jokes and a contemporary vibe (well, contemporary for 1960). The score is soaringly lush and romantic. And it didn't help that the film version is pretty terrible.

But I love it.

Full disclosure: It was the first musical I ever acted in during my adolescent stage career, so much of the show is embedded in my DNA. But even decades later, it still manages to choke me up. Call it sappy. It's damn good

theater, especially as presented by Lyric Stage.

This was the team, after all, who perfected the literary musical, first with My Fair Lady (adapted from Shaw's Pygmalion) then the film musical Gigi (after Colette) before settling on T.H.

White's sweeping retelling of the Arthurian legend, a more high-falutin literary take than, say,

J.R.R. Tolkien's version of Norse mythology. They helped redefine the musical format with more structure and high-handedness. Why not tackle the formation of democratic ideals in a colorful pageant, with the specter of adultery adding a hint of *Peyton Place*?

Like My Fair Lady, Camelot rests a lot of the business of the story on the shoulders of a sharptongued hero (King Arthur, here played effortlessly well by J. Brent Alford) who lilts more than sings his songs, while the coloratura vocals rest of the female lead (played by Kristen Bell Williams). In both shows, the leads seem to exists in a sexless romance that gets mucked up when the leading lady gets the hots for another guy (Christopher J. Deaton, a seductive Lancelot). The forbidden love between Ginny and Lance is egged on by the devious bastard son of Arthur, the aptly sinister Mordred (Brandon McInnis).

Although it was a hit during the Kennedy Ad-



Kristen Bell Williams and J. Brent Alford excel as history's first power couple in Lyric's 'Camelot.' (Photo by Michael C. Foster)

ministration, it's easy to see how politically relevant it remains today: A power couple brought down by a sex scandal, whose best intentions end up being ephemeral. Utopia is not sustainable, whether you blame Mordred or Roger Ailes.

One of the digs taken at Camelot is that its

**CAMELOT** 

Irving Arts Center,

3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.

Through Sunday. LyricStage.org.

more about the scenery than the songs, but that's not true in this production. Indeed, aside from one massive twisted tree, the scenic elements are at a minimum, which allows you to concentrate on how Lerner insinuates clever

and occasionally racy lyrics into the numbers; "Take Me to the Fair" may be the show's most under-appreciated song, and this production includes the often-deleted "Fie on Goodness!" (with its hints at rape), though the character of Morgan LeFey (and her number) is entirely excised. Jay Dias, Lyric Stage's phenomenal musical director, apparently couldn't get permissions for that section of the score, which is a shame.

Still, focus not on what they don't have, but what they do: Williams' clarion-clear voice, Alford's Rex Harrison-ish sass, McInnis' oily, The-Joker-As-Anarchist take on Mordred, and an under-valued score. Roll your eyes if you must thinking *Camelot* is old hat; the rest of us will be enjoying a hoot of show.

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Name and age: Kevin Luna, 34.

Occupation: Massage therapist and student Spotted at: Kalachandii's on Gurley Avenue

Rolling stone: Born in Lubbock to an Italian/Spanish father and a Mexican mother, this handsome Cancer spent his first 17 years there until he moved to Denver to be closer to his family; he lived there for 13 years. He moved briefly to California ("for love") for a year, and after that heartbreak, he was back in Lubbock and back in school studying cyber security. He has resided in Dallas for two years.

Pride since his teens: A mischievous kid, Kevin says he was "fast" at 15, the age at which he came out. He admits to sneaking out to gay clubs when he was underaged; he was thrown out a lot, he admits. Once, his mother asked him where he had been and he showed her the curfew ticket he was issued, with the address of a gay club and told her: "I'm gay." "I was always wild," he grins with a flash in his eyes, "and I'm still wild."

**Destination fun**: He loves to travel. Jamaica, Mexico, Hawaii, Panama, Costa Rica, Belize have been some of his destinations; Cabo San Lucas is his favorite spot so far.

Mama's boy: His mother is his best friend; they hang out together and sometimes you can catch them in the casino slots high limit room. "Play big and win big!" "I'm definitely her son. The apple doesn't fall too far from the tree."

The future: Once he is finished with school he plans to work in cyber security and get back onto the dating market. He would also like to try moving to a different country, such as Dominican Republic, Costa Rica or Hong Kong just for something different. But he would never give up his favorite city. "I would come back to Dallas because Dallas now is home forever."





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**LET'S HAVE A KIKI** | The cuisine on Maui, especially traditional 'ko' plantation style such as the kind available from Sam Sato, above, is distinctive; below, an amazing dessert from the landmark Mama's Fish House. (Photos by Arnold Wayne Jones)

#### MAUI, From Page 65

fashion boutiques and surf-and-sand shops for beachwear and trinkets. But the tone is less touristy, with more of a "this is where the locals hang" vibe.

That's similarly true at the historic Napili Kai Beach Resort. With its crescent beach along a protected bay, it feels more like living in your own apartment than renting a hotel room. You can park just outside your door, and leave a sign on the knob to let housekeeping know when you want them to come by, rather than shoo them off when it's occupied.

I relished the independence — no need for turndown service, room service, or any of the froufrou amenities of the Kea Lani. The refrigerator was full-sized, we had a dishwasher, microwave, large coffee pot, toaster and washer-dryer facilities. It's easy to stock up of

supplies and cook for yourself (including a few mixed drinks) and run a load of clothes while taking a dip in semi-private pool. An outdoor grill even lets you throw some salmon, steak or shrimp on the barbie. It's the kind of resort that you want to come back to again and again.

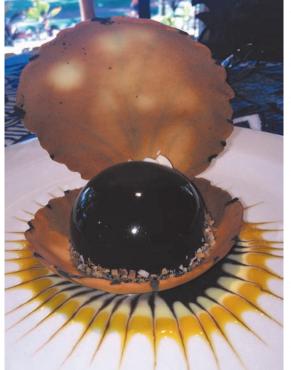
There are tremendous views from most rooms, with the island of Lana'i beckoning in front of you, and Molokai to the right. The onsite restaurant, The Sea House, has been a staple here for more than 50 years — in fact, most of this part of Maui was developed just after Hawaii became a state. It's the older, more settled area of Maui, and feels lived in. It's also wetter, getting more rainfall than other areas, which ensconces you in the old-growth forests and greenery.

You'll definitely want a car on this side of the island, though, as the area isn't as compact as South Maui, especially if you don't want to cook

for yourself. In addition to the Sea House — where executive chef Alex Stanislaw conjures up some elegant surf (as well as turf) dishes, for breakfast, lunch and dinner — there are countless restaurants in West Maui that provide unexpected delights. Among them: Sangrita. You might not consider going from Texas to Hawaii for tacos, ceviche and burritos, but this marvelous cantina from respected chef/owner Paris Nabavi serves some of the best guacamole I've ever eaten, as well as top-notch queso fundito, intoxicating desserts (including corn flan and Maui-made gelato) and an enviable stock of tequila.

Further to the tip of the island is Taverna Kapalua, an Italian bistro in the heart of the Pacific. Gourmet pizzas (and no pineapple!), deftly seasoned raviolis and a winning wine list make this newcomer on the Maui culinary scene a go-to spot.

For old-school food, drive over to Central Maui, at the mouth of the Hana Highway, to experience the one unmissible dining tradition: A visit to Mama's Fish



Little Beach in Makena is a bit of a hike, but its clothing-optional policy makes it popular with the gay community; below, the bronze gate at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center is patterned after nets familiar to local fishermen. (Photos by Arnold Wayne Jones)

House. In the same locale since the 1970s, this landmark is also an elegant boutique inn with gorgeous and comfy décor, full kitchens and the quickest possible access to the restaurant. The menu is updated daily with the fish brought in that morning (with one and mahi-mahi popular dishes). The huge op-

eration still manages to deliver lovely handcrafted entrées (even a "mini-luau on a platter") and desserts.

#### Experience ko

Hawaiian culture is actually an amalgam of many other cultures: Chinese, Japanese, Polynesian, Portuguese and more. That cross-section which no doubt contributes largely to the liberal, accepting, live-and-let-live attitude that makes Hawaii such a welcoming destination for queer travelers — is expressed in the concept of ko. Mi-

grants from all over the world worked the sugar plantations and exchanged their culinary tradi-

tions with each other. The plantations themselves are completely gone now, but plantationinspired food is still one of the richest traditions

The Kea Lani's fine-dining restaurant Ko reflects this style in a sophisticated ways (try the chana-style pupu tray for a sampling). The hearty bouillabaisse of clams, lobster and fresh fish reminds you why you came to an island in the first place. Wash it all down with a tropical

■ MAUI Page 84







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## Walking down memory lane

A spate of gay memoirs shed light on conversion therapy, pro wrestling and two different trans journeys



'Boy Erased' author Garrard Conly (Photo courtesy Colin Boyd Shafer)

#### Boy Erased: A Memoir by Garrard Conley (Riverhead Books 2016); \$27; 340 pp.

From the time he was in fifth grade, Garrard Conley understood that he was a sinner. It became apparent with the thrill he got looking at men's underwear, and the fantasies he had about other boys. Those things made his stomach flipflop, and chilled his soul: "the increasingly blurry God" he'd known all his life would surely send him straight to Hell for being a homosexual.

At least that's what his parents believed. Being gay was one of the worst things imaginable in Conley's Baptist church; his father had received a call to serve the Lord, making homosexuality an even worse "stain" on their family.

Conley tried to will his sexuality away by having a girlfriend, a God-fearing "girl of his dreams" who came from the same Ozarks church community. Somewhat repulsed by her, he tried to ignore his gayness, begging God to take it away.

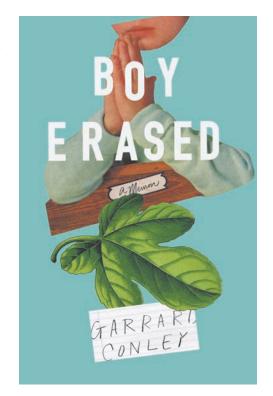
"Pleasehelpmetobepure."

But it didn't work. At college, Conley met a

boy who outed him, shamed him and left him. Told by his father to accept a "cure" or leave his home, family, and education, 19-year-old Conley finally agreed to check himself into Love in Action (LIA), a Memphis "nondenominational fundamentalist... organization" affiliated with Focus on the Family, a "treatment" facility that would "fix" his sexuality.

"I could never count the number of times I'd sinned against God," Conley said, but LIA made him do it; he was asked to investigate family sins, and remember things he needed to forget. He knew he was facing years of constant prayer and shame without his journal, literature or worldly ideas he'd begun to embrace in college; he was suicidal, angry, and he was still gay — but suddenly, with an unlikely source of support.

Boy Erased is one of those books that'll make you think. And think, and think. There are so many nuances, so many things about this book to dislike: Conley says that he recreated from memory much of what happened because of confidentiality rules at LIA. Then again, he ad-



mits that there's a lot he can't remember, or has blocked out. Even his mother refuses to talk about what happened, but what they *do* remember is painfully near-incomprehensible.

And yet, Conley shows so much emotion in this memoir that it's impossible to look away — and that includes a vibrant cord of anger that coexists beside a dawning realization that changes the course of this book. Absolutely changes it.

While it starts slow and the pace remains un





even, this is a story that will niggle at your brain for days and days. Ultimately, love it or not, *Boy Erased* is a memoir that leaves an indelible mark.

#### *In the Darkroom* by Susan Faludi (Metropolitan Books 2016) \$32; 432 pp.

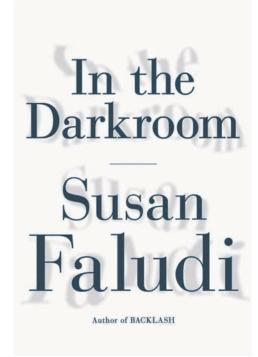
On and off through most of her 40-some years, Susan Faludi had been estranged from her father. Even when he was in the picture, she was wary of him, a "household despot," with a hair-trigger temper and a penchant for violence. She knew him, but she really barely *knew* him so, when she heard from her father for the first time "in years," it was a surprise.

So was the message: Her father had become a woman.

He was born in Hungary in 1927, a pampered son of well-to-do Jews who sent him away as a child for reasons Faludi could only surmise. He'd come of age during the Nazi occupation and, according to stories, had survived through wits and bravery and had saved several lives. Because of her father's reticence and tendency to embellish, though, Faludi never knew if those stories were true.

In September 2004, she boarded a plane to Hungary to meet her father, to learn who she really was, and to fill in the blanks about her.

It was a prickly endeavor: Never one to be forthcoming about her history, Faludi's father dismissed most questions, refusing to discuss them, and she was reluctant to show Faludi any Budapest locales with familial significance. Fa-



ther and daughter argued, Faludi gently prodded, her father pushed back, and she eventually gave Faludi names and places, important (sometimes falsified) documents, but scant insight.

For many reasons, Faludi learned, her father was a damaged soul. She'd been abandoned, misunderstood, terrorized ... or had she been? Was Faludi's father a victim of all she'd endured,

or was she "an extremely effective liar?"

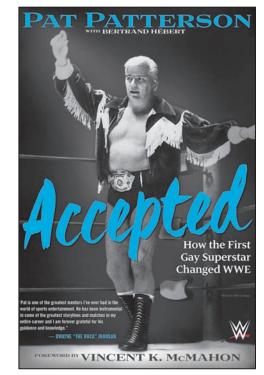
On the surface, *In the Darkroom* is a bit of a struggle to read. It's quite wordy, filled with place names that may not mean much to readers who've never been to Hungary. I gave up trying to make sense of locales, but there's no ignoring Faludi's recreation of her father's Hungarian accent. It's everywhere in the text here, and not-so-charming after a few dozen pages.

And yet, what Faludi finds, what her father admits, feels like a noir whodunit with a different kind of victim. There's intrigue here, derringdo, a deep mystery that still seems unsolved, and a protagonist who's ultimately worthy of surprising sympathy.

That — the psychological heart of this book — arrives like a strobe in a photography studio, flash-flash-flash with the overall picture remaining tantalizingly fuzzy. In the end, I found that irresistible tease was worth overlooking the irritations, so go ahead. Start *In the Darkroom*, and see what develops.

#### Accepted: How the First Gay Superstar Changed WWE by Pat Patterson with Bertrand Hebert; foreword by Vincent K. McMahon (ECW Press 2016) \$26; 258 pp.

Pierre Clermont understood poverty. As one of 11 children (plus parents!) in a two-bedroom apartment in a poor Montreal neighborhood, he was acquainted with wanting: of privacy, of hot water, even of food. He and his younger brother slept in a closet because there was nowhere else



to put them.

Perhaps because he was one of a crowd at home, young Pierre longed to set himself apart and he loved to "create a show and get a crowd to come out and watch." He thought of becom-

BOOKS Page 90





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any Dallas residents have known out club and event promoter Dannee Phann (pronounced "pawn") as a bartender, a manager, and, at one time, even a dancer at a number of local gay clubs. Phann was most recently manager and club promoter at the Brick/Joe's, which closed this summer after an historic run. But as founder of Dannee Phann Productions, he did more than just hire the occasional entertainer and approve a poster or two. Often at The Brick, DPP hosted many featured events, several with former RuPaul's Drag Race contestants and others with entertainers like Miami DJ Kidd Madonny, former American Idol contestant Frenchie Davis and dance-divaturned-reality-TV-star Erika Jayne.

The closure of The Brick may have placed a road bump in Phann's efforts, but it has not stopped them. He has now moved the party to Marty's Live, starting big this weekend when he presents Pride Dance with circuit DJ Mark De-Marko.

"We were the first bar to bring RuPaul's girls to Dallas with Nina Flowers," Phann recalls of his tenure at The Brick. "But Dannee Phann Productions is not just drag shows — we were [also] bringing in circuit DJs. [And] I'm going to the next level."

While Phann intends to host happy hours and club shows regularly at Marty's Live, his business plan also includes expanding to venues like theaters or warehouses, spaces which offer bigger stages and accommodate larger audiences.

And while Phann is considering a variety of entertainment bookings, he intends to continue a focus on drag shows, which currently draw enthusiastic crowds. In fact, after noting audience demographics at recent drag shows, Phann would like to target a wider audience.

"I want to bring shows for a younger generation, both gay and straight," Phann says. "A lot of my crowds are straight who come to see the shows. A lot are 18 and up. We see a young generation following these drag girls around."

While Phann certainly seems to have a sharp

focus on business, a perhaps lesser known fact is that he has also devoted countless hours volunteering his time and energy to produce charity events directly benefitting local LGBT organizations — most notably, events like Purple Party and his own annual

bash, One Night in Bangkok (so-named in honor of Phann's Southeast Asian heritage). Phann's passion for paying it forward, however, should come as no surprise. As the youngest of 12 children — *yup!* — he learned at an early age the power of community.

"I am from a huge family," Phann, who was born in Cambodia and emigrated with his family to the U.S. around 1980, says. "I have about 26 nieces and nephews and probably 15 to 20 greatnieces and -nephews. But there can be only one queen in the house, and that's going to be me—the queen and the black sheep," he laughs.

Phann considers his late mother — who lost her left arm in the Vietnam War but who still reared her children "to be humble and to be grateful" — the inspiration for his work ethic. He also credits her for his philanthropic nature. Through her gay son, his mother's philosophy lives on.

"[Before each fundraiser,] I have a speech I give everybody," Phann says. "I take it from my mom who passed away last year. She was a Buddhist. She would give the shirt off her shoulders. She would say, 'Always do your best and never

think of the worst. The dollar you give is just as important as a thousand dollars as long as you give it from your heart. Be humble about it and expect nothing back. You will have succeeded."

Phann's first Dallas charity event was the inaugural Purple

Party in 2001. Phann describes himself at the time as a "circuit queen" who traveled the U.S. attending similar weekend-long dance parties. Phann volunteered alongside Saul Flores, the Purple Party's founder, to produce the event in the parking lot of The Brick at its former Maple Avenue location, a club at which Phann worked and which Howard Okon, his longtime employer, friend and mentor, owned.

"I grew up without a dad," Phann says. "I always look up to him [Okon] like he's my father figure. I call him Dad all the time. I learned a lot of things from him. We have a lot of memories, way before cell phones were invented and Facebook and all of that."

In 2006, with the support of Okon, Phann launched One Night in Bangkok, his own Asianthemed charity event. Phann considers the annual party a nod to his heritage. It is also an opportunity to introduce the local community to Asian culture in all its colorful splendor.

"I'm Asian, and I want to educate people,"
Phann says. "When I did it [One Night in
Bangkok] at The Brick, people didn't even recognize [the space]. The theme is all of Asia. We
have dragons, umbrellas, lanterns. We always do
bright colors — reds, greens. Just like in any
Asian city you go to, you see a little bit of everything combined."

On a more personal level, Phann considers the annual party his chance to give back to a community that has given him so much. Each year, Phann's fundraising goal is to surpass the previous year's total. This year, the event's tenth, he hopes to raise \$60,000. He also expects this year's party to be the largest.

"Every year, it's getting bigger and bigger,"
Phann says, promising that the event will continue this year. "I haven't announced the location yet. It won't be in a bar because it's getting so big. I need a bigger place to sell the VIP tables and all of that. We will have dragon dancers and Asian fan dancers. It definitely will be bigger."

And when someone with nearly a dozen siblings tells you "bigger," you know he's being serious.

With DJ Mark DeMarko. **Marty's Live**, 4207 Maple Ave. Sept. 17. 9 p.m. \$10–\$30. OneNightInBangkok.org.

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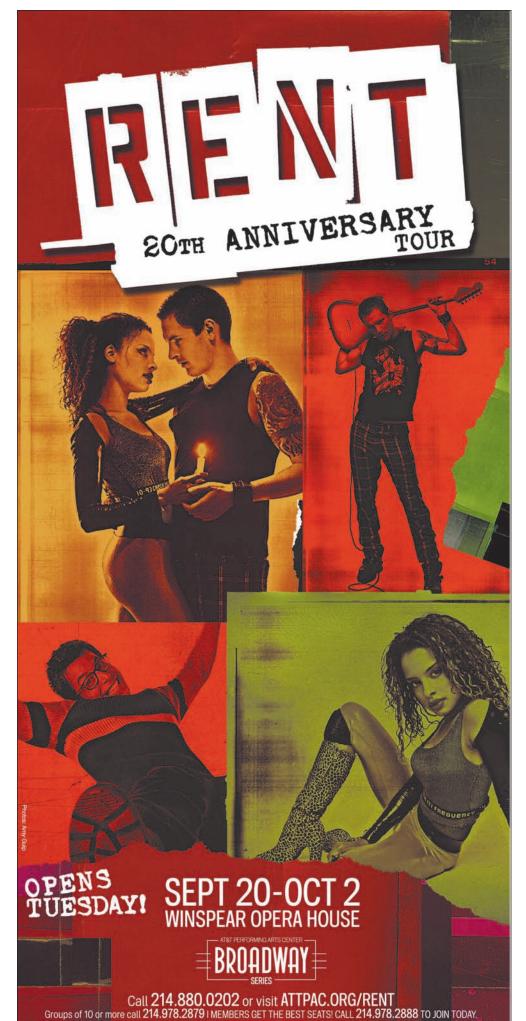




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## Gyro worship

Our drive-by tasting of the trendiest new restaurant: Tha Halal Guys

#### ARNOLD WAYNE JONES

**Executive Editor** jones@dallasvoice.com

Dallas: Buckle of the Bible Belt. A city so conservative and Christian, even the gays flock to church in droves. Why, the thought that Red State U.S.A. would permit Islamic fundamentalism is as unthinkable as... as... well, as the city's largest daily endorsing a Democrat for president.

See? Times change. Dallas may split near the center along liberalconservative lines, but it's also the premiere foodie city in America. We dine out more often. We embrace more chain concepts (Brinker, Romano and Lombardi are all based here) and more chef-y boutique restaurants (Pyles, Fearing, Rathbun are here as well) than just about anywhere on the planet.

So yes, Christianity may thrive here... but who doesn't enjoy a little halal cuisine?

That would explain why there's often a line out the door at The Halal Guys, the traditional Middle Eastern fast-caz resto that opened this summer in the gayborhood. (Halal is basically the Muslim equivalent to Jewish kosher rules regarding food handing and preparation.) It's new to Dallas, although the food cart version has been a staple in New York for a quarter-century. The concept as basic, as most edgy cultural touchstones are: A small menu of gyro (beef) meat, chicken and falafel, served in a pita or as a platter with rice and veggies, plus a few sides and a wedge of baklava for dessert. That's it. If you've spent more than \$15 on yourself, you're a glutton.

The sunny, cafeteria-style setting assemblylines you through a limited but inviting selection of proteins and presentations. You'll probably be tempted on your first visit to overdo it; resist the urge if you can, as you can always come back,



A pita wraps around a luscious preparation of halal beef and vegetables, accented by the signature white sauce. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

line or not. The ingredients are fresh and colorful (and the meat, of course, prepared in accordance with halal rules). Two sauces are available, called simply "hot" (red) and "white" — a proprietary blend that's essentially a spicy mayo. The red version, even by Texas standards, is a peppery concoction. You can get ask for either or both upon ordering; even better, there's a roaming "sauce guy" — an employ who comes around not to refill your water glasses, but to brighten up your meal with an extra dollop. Go ahead, ask for a squirt; that's what he's there for.

Obviously, this is not fancy dining. Soft drinks are self-serve; employes have been friendly but unobtrusive; the baklava (a honey-nutty confection of phyllo, moist and sticky) comes in a plastic clam shell. Who needs fancy? But neither does it convey the whiff of corporatized cuisine, processed and churned out.

It is, rather, addictively delicious. Lean beef

reliant."

(not the more classical lamb, sadly) melts well with the perfectly cooked rice and medley of veggies; white-meat chicken shredded fine with a clean, succulent flavor.

The Muslim holiday Eid al-Adha, the "sacrificial feast," passed earlier this week. Perhaps you

thought of celebrating with a trip to the Halal Guys. But even if you knew nothing of it, it's not a religio-political statement to stop in for a gyro. Palate comes before politics every time. It's the American way.

5444 Lemmon Ave. Open daily 11 a.m.-11 p.m.



#### TASTING NOTES

Helping to celebrate Dallas Pride this week is **Street's Fine Chicken**, which will offer frose frozen rose wine - all weekend long at the restaurant, and during the Parade, while they last.

Also on Pride Sunday in Uptown, **Top Knot** — the marvelous casual restaurant atop **Uchi** on Maple Avenue — begins its Top Knot & Chill Sunday brunch starting Sept. 18, with rose served all day and DJs spinning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

What do John Tesar (Knife), Blaine Staniford (Grace) and Sharon Van Meter (3015 at Trinity Groves) have in common — this month, at least? Both are featured chefs at two of the biggest foodie events of the fall.

First up is Chefs for Farmers, a three-day festival supporting the farm-to-table movement. It kicks off Sept. 23 with the Creme de la Femme Dinner, celebrating women in the food industry. That's followed on Saturday, Sept. 24 with the Street Food Night Market in the Design District. And the main event, on Sunday, Sept. 25, returns to the gayborhood with the no-fuss lineup of chefs preparing signature bites in Lee Park. Joining the above-named chefs for the weekend will be Omar Flores (Casa Rubia), Uno Immanivong (Chino Chinatown), Taylor Kearney (Cedar Grove), Luis Olvera (Trompo), Janice Provost (Parigi), Matt McCallister (Filament and FT33) and Nilton "Junior" Borges. You can get tickets at ChefsForFarmers.com.

You get a week off to attend the Black Tie Dinner, then it's back for more culinary fun with Tesar's 8th annual DIFFA fundraiser, Burgers & Burgundy, the outdoor burgers and wine fest. This year moving to the Ron Kirk Pedestrian Bridge in West Dallas, chefs will deliver their takes on a bite in a bun. Joining Tesar, Staniford and Van Meter will be the just-announced line-up of Jermaine Brown (Julia Pearl), Brian Luscher (Luscher's Red Hots and The Grape), David Fingerman (Madrina), Jacob Williamson (Five Sixty by Wolfgang Puck), Terry Cook (The Palm), Rodman Shields (The Common Table) and Casey Thompson. To get your tickets, visit DIFFADallas.org.

Sept. 16 is the kickoff to Dallas Pride, but it's also Mexican Independence Day, and El Bolero in the Design District will commemorate it with a Mexican surf and turf dish (head-on prawns served with a filet) and enjoy a live Mariachi band from 9-9 p.m. There will also be a tri-colored margarita flight and specials throughout the day. Up in Plano, Mi Dia from Scratch will also mark the holiday with a mezcal margarita speciality drink.

And even though it is still the month of September, Addison Oktoberfest is currently underway through Sunday. Likewise the newly-opened Shake Shack will celebrate Shackoberfest from Sept. 23-Oct. 2 at its Uptown location, with specialty items such as brat burger commemorating German

On Sept. 22, Team LUV will host a Lifewalk happy hour at the Blue Martini in Plano.

The Bourbon Review, a Kentucky-based publication that celebrates the distincting American potable, has named 80 bars nationwide as part of their Best Bourbon Bars in honor of National Bourbon Heritage Month. Dallas' Standard and Pour made the list. You can help celebrate with a nationwide toast on Sept. 30.

Proof + Pantry in the Arts District has launched a long-overdue concept: A three-course theater menu that lets you begin an evening at the Winspear, Wyly, Meyerson or City Performance Hall with a simply, quick but elegant mean, including a cocktail, "The Traveler," for \$45/person. Be sure to request the theater menu when reserving a table.

- Arnold Wayne Jones

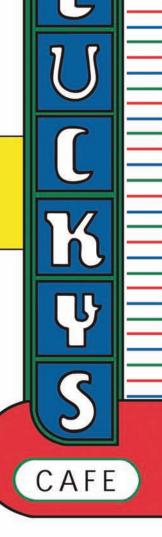
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#### L+S travel

MAUI, From Page 77

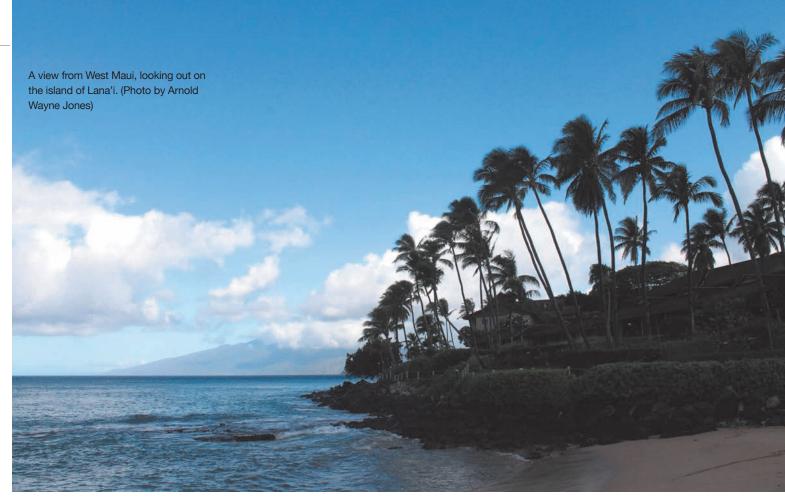
selection of craft cocktails. (If anyone says "pau hana" to you, just agree immediately — it means "let's meet for drinks after work," i.e., happy hour.)

On the less fancy end of ko, Sam Sato's in Wailuku in Central Maui offers up traditional and inexpensive dishes such as saimin (noodle soup), chow fun (beef stir fry), loko moko (a beef patty or Spam, over fried rice and topped with an egg) and some tasty fruit turnovers.

An amazing variation of ko cuisine is at the hard-to-find new storefront diner Tin Roof. Founded by *Top Chef* fan favorite Sheldon Simeon — formerly the exec chef at famed Star Noodle — it's a hole-in-the-wall par excellence, with rice bowls of pork belly, mochiko chicken and spicy street food that's simply magical.

#### **Explore**

If you want to explore the island at your own pace, there are countless activities for such an intimate island. The Upcountry is dominated by Haleakala National Park, which starts at the foot of the Haleakala volcano (like all the islands, Maui is the result of accretion at the top of volcano; only The Big Island, home to Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, still has active lava flows) and shoots up more than 10,000 feet above sea-level. (Measured from its base at the bottom of the ocean, Haleakala would be taller than Mount



Everest.) Many visitors take part in a sunrise or sunset bike trip up or down the mountain,

though it's a dizzying if gorgeous experience to tower over the ocean.

Although the rental car companies officially prohibit it, the Hana Highway effectively contin-











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ues across the far southeast side of the island, which displays a landscape unlike any other. The so-called Seven Sacred Pools, technically part of the national park, is a walkable and tourist-popular attraction, but continue clockwise to see one of the driest areas on the planet, and stop by the small farms and shops selling everything from wine to honey.

You can soar overhead on zipline tours, or go below the surface by signing up for an underwater snorkeling trip. From Central Maui, a harbor offers numerous trips, including a fourhour sail-and-dive to Molokini, a submerged

#### online exclusive

For more exclusive pictures of food and attractions in Maui, visit DallasVoice.com and click on Photos or Travel.

half-moon crater and host to countless fauna, including schools of humuhumnukunukuapua'a, the tiny reef triggerfish that is the official fish of the state.

It's also easy to employ helicopter rides that go over (and sometimes land on) other islands, or book day trips to Molokai or Oahu But really, there's no reason to leave Maui. Every day away is merely paradise lost.

## Tans hero 'Alters' explores a teen beset by superpowers ... and new sexual identity

When a new comic book title issues a "No. 1," collectors often perk up their ears. Getting in on the ground floor of a new imprint is like attending opening night of a new play, or discovering a great new chef. So the comic book Alters which released its first issue this month — might generate some interest. But the superheroine at the center of the story an "alter," this universe's word for a mutant or genetically-enhanced human turns out to have two secret identities: First, teenaged suburban middle son Charlie; second, Charlie's trans identity,

"Comics have had trans characters before, but none like Chalice — the lead in a new superhero book," says Richard Neal, who owns Zeus Comics. "What's refreshing is this window into her sheer joy when she puts on the costume."

Issue No. 1 unfolds with a lot of backstory that writer Paul Jenkins parses out slowly: The presence of "alters" among us, and the insistence of the maniac villain Matter Man that all alters do his bidding. We quickly piece together that





ALTER STATES | Sexy superheroine Chalice, above, and gender-dysphoric teen Charlie, below.

Charlie and Chalice are one, though Charlie hasn't officially come out to his family. By the end, though, Chalice makes her formal appearance: A sexy, kick-ass powerhouse whom no one suspects was born male.

The artwork (by Leila Leiz) makes Chalice seem both powerful and feminine — indeed, one straight male character openly lusts after Chalice not realizing she is actually his friend

Ever since Peter Parker, comic books have routinely shown young superheroes grappling with the real-world troubles of adolescence. This one does the same — but it covers all-new ground. Welcome to the 21st century.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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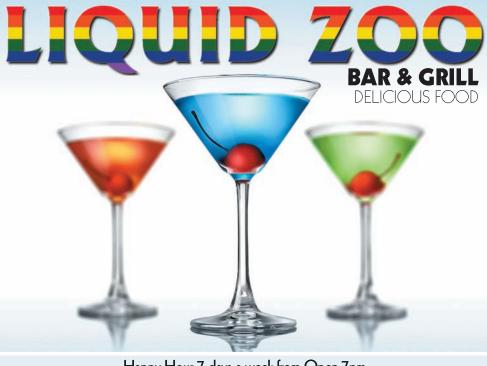
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MASCULIN, FEMININ | BMW's M2, left, takes on Honda's Civic Coupe, below.

#### LIFE+STYLE

auto

## Butch

Fem

BMW M2 versus Honda Civic Coupe: Sexy or sensible?

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer autocasey@aol.com

hat kind of car guy do you prefer: The one who drives a frugal little Japanese coupe ... or the jock who muscles around in a high-powered German rocket? Fuel-efficient eco-friendly hot gay nerd ... or devil-may-care carpe diem bad-boy? It's the difference between hopping in the sack with a handsome gent ever so femme or the sexy hunk that can bench press your mother. Let me help with your quandary.

#### Family tree:

Civic: Trace my family back to the humble little CVCC hatchback. It may not have torn up the track, but it was the fuel economy champ. Since, we've sold by the millions.

M2: I'm a direct descendent of the 2002ti and superpower M3 — originators of the European sport coupe. We win championships and make little boys swoon.

#### Flashy colors:

Civic: Paint her up in hues like Energy Green Pearl or Crystal Black Pearl. The former sounds like an extra-terrestrial power source with the latter evoking a gorgeous drag queen.

M2: Alpine White is a bit Nellie, but Long Beach Blue Metallic conjures visions of 1960s Corvettes and

Chevelles. Thump chests, add rumble, and slurp it up!

#### Packing power:

Civic: I'm too cool for the gym, but my 1.5-liter turbocharged 4-cylinder engine is good for 174 horsepower. And my continuously-variable transmission buzzes like an, um, WeedWacker.

M2: Please gurl, don't be frontin'. I'm packin' a 365 horsepower 3.0-liter turbocharged 6-cylinder engine. Grab hold and row my 6-speed manual transmission.

#### Fuel sippin':

Civic: Sexier looks don't mean thirstier engines, so enjoy 31/41-MPG city/hwy.

M2: I'm no sipper, but given my stride, 18/26-MPG city/hwy. is reason for pride.

#### Celebrity Doppelganger:

Civic: Taylor Swift without the guitar. It's a nice date, but don't think you're getting any.

M2: Arnold Schwarzenegger with the cigar. It has muscles, attitude, and probably a few surprises on the side.

#### Looking pretty:

Civic: Admire its wide chrome prow, squinty LED headlamps, hulking air intakes, chiseled body with flared fenders and fastback roofline. Completely re-drawn, Civic moves from reliable date to hip playmate.

M2: Like a nightmare stripped naked, this baby Bimmer flaunts a twin-kidney grille, quad headlamps, faceted lower grilles and sculpted fenders to make a gym bunny envious. Check that hot rump with lip spoiler and quad pipes.

#### Political candidate:

Civic: Hillary. Little Miss Perfect may not be the fastest or most glamorous, but she's steady and persistent.

M2: The Donald. That dumpster fire is often full of childish rumble, but in the right venue, can be an elegant host.

#### Dating ritual:

Civic: Invites you to McDonald's, but you're surprised to find it's the McDonald's on Wall Street with chandeliers, grand piano and a maître d'.

M2: Tempts you with that blue paint and luxurious interior, but tosses your cookies when the fun takes a turn for the wild side.

#### Fondled infotainment:

Civic: Swipe the floating screen in the dash for navigation, phone and 450 watts of premium audio. Apple CarPlay and Android Auto compatibility let you take it as you like it.

M2: If you want a piece of this, twirl the iDrive knob to conjure navigation and 12-speaker Harman/Kardon audio with a 360-watt amp. And bitch can even tell you which parallel parking spot to wedge your ass into.

#### Comparing stickers:

Civic: To get into this made-over, yet still frugal gerd, tap your account for at least \$19,050 (\$27,321 as tested).

M2: For a little rollercoaster that transforms from worldly sophisticate to full-throated club boy, you'll need \$51,700 (\$52,250 as tested).

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Twenty years ago, Mercedes-Benz introduced the C36 AMG, its first fully-sanctioned model with the aftermarket tuner it now wholly owns. An advertisement created for the Detroit auto

show snickered, "If this were the fifth grade science fair, we'd be the kid who brought in a homemade atomic particle accelerator."

True dat — the car would keep pace with a

Camaro Z28 thanks to its 276 horsepower V6. It's still impressive, but nothing like today's particle accelerator, the GLA45 AMG.

Keeping pace with today's Camaros, the

GLA45 AMG packs a 2.0-liter 4-cylinder engine that delivers 375 horses. All of that testosterone is routed through all-wheel-drive and a quickaction 7-speed paddle-shifted dual-clutch trans-











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With 375 horses under the hood, vou can cruise into this car for as little as \$32,500 ... but the full magilla can set you back more than \$63,000 loaded with options.

mission. Put it in sport mode and you'll see 0-60 mph in 4.3s; slam down the Autobahn at 167 mph with our car's performance package. Fuel economy, should you care, is rated 23/29-MPG city/hwy.

The AMG performance exhaust signals bellycramping theatrics whether burbling in the driveway or wailing off the clouds with foot firmly planted. You'll never get tired of exercising the turbocharger, but your backside and un-

derside get a thumping from the sport-tuned suspension. While stiff, the chassis soaks up city streets relatively well, feeds the song of asphalt directly to your bones on the highway, and slurps up curvy two-lanes. I did a threehour Interstate run and I'd do it again.

The GLA45's design is much more shocking than the C36 was two decades ago, but Mercedes designers are genius at referencing the past without you really knowing. Twin hood bulges come from the 300SL Gullwing, five air vents



with center twists on the dash come from the '70s/'80s SL roadster and the big star in the grille identifies the GLA as a sporting 'Benz. Carbon fiber replaces wood on the dash in our car. If you've never driven a Mercedes, or owned them forever, you'll slip right in.

Still, you know the car is special. It has that slammed AMG Hammer look that's made the sub-brand so famous. As in the S63 AMG I tested last spring, people scatter from the left lane when they see your grille. Red brake calipers behind black 20-in. AMG

alloys are especially fetching. While they grip warm dry pavement like my daughter harpoons blueberry puffs, trade out the summer tires before the first flurry falls. All-wheel-drive won't matter.

You're reminded of the car's seriousness



when your butt and ribs are intercepted by the heated Recaro sport seats. Further confirmation comes from the leather-and-suede steering wheel with flat bottom. I'd keep the steering wheel (awesome), but opt for the standard sport seats unless track days are in your future. Either way, turn up the Harman/Kardon surround audio, open the panorama roof, and hit it. Mercedes' joywheel-controlled COMAND system conjures up navigation with 3D maps and access

to The Cloud while Bluetooth, USB and voice controls add convenience. Check the blind spot assist and rear camera for safety.

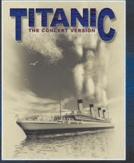
Go for a ride in the GLA45 AMG and you'll know your particles have been accelerated and that two decades have clearly passed.

The GLA starts at just \$32,500, but the GLA45 AMG rises from \$49,900 to \$63,775 as tested. That's a lot of money, but not for a Mercedes with the full AMG treatment.

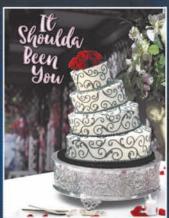




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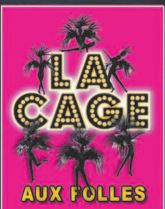
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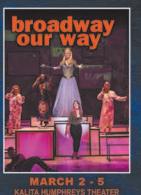
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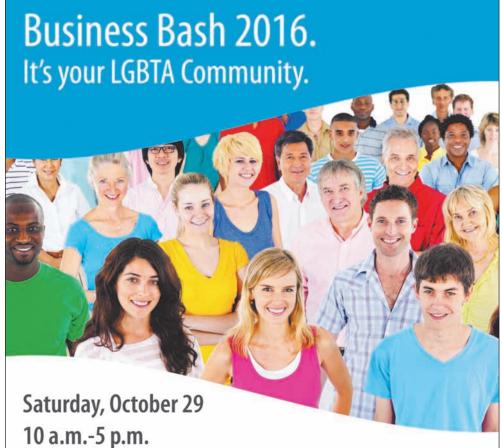
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#### L+S books

BOOKS, From Page 79

ing a priest or joining the circus, so when his mother found a ticket to a wrestling match as a premium with a loaf of bread, Pierre became determined to see that show.

He was right — it was a life-changer. Pierre fell in love with wrestling and, because he knew someone whose father was a promoter, he began training to be a pro wrestler. He changed his name to Pat Patterson and, at around that time, he also began to understand why "girls just weren't doing it for me." He was gay, an ultimate admission that got him kicked out of the family home.

In Boston — his next home of many — Patterson had to learn English while he worked his way up the pro-wrestling ladder. He became the "bad guy" on the mat, and developed a ring persona. Also in Boston, he was set up with a man who "looked spectacular," and with whom Patterson fell in love; he brought Louie Dondero into his act and his life for the next many decades, and they traveled the world on behalf of Patterson's career. And though their relationship and their sexuality might have seemed out-of-place in an über-macho industry like pro-wrestling, says Patterson, "being gay turned out not to be an issue at all."

Or was it? Did it have anything to do with the "scandal" to which he mysteriously alludes? Plenty is said about old friends, old matches, and off-work high-jinks but *Accepted* only merely bumps into that subject about which fans still argue.

But what's in here for non-fans? Not much. Patterson's love of pranks is clear in this book, which makes it mildly entertaining, and there are many times when he points out how times have changed. That's interesting but, for nonfans, those bits are overwhelmed by names, travels, venues, organizations and more names that might not make much sense.

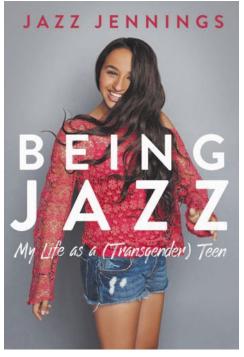
Yes, you'll find a story of an openly-gay athlete at a closeted time in history in this book, but there's a lot to sort through to get there. Nonfans might want to think twice about reading it, but for pro-wrestling followers, *Accepted* is a unanimous decision.

#### *Being Jazz* by Jazz Jennings (Crown Books 2016) \$18; 272 pp.

Since she was small child, Jazz Jennings knew that something was wrong with the way adults were acting toward her. Her parents dressed her in boy clothes, gave her trucks, and said things like "Good boy!" But Jennings knew even before she could speak that they were wrong. She was a girl, though her body said otherwise.

For most of her toddlerhood, Jennings (known then as Jaron) fought against anything that was remotely masculine. At age 2, she asked her mother when the Good Fairy was coming to change her into a girl; Jennings' mother then realized that this probably wasn't "a phase."

At home, the Jenningses were fine with Jaron's girliness, but preschool was different. Even then, there were bathroom issues; the principal of the school made concessions about school uniforms but Jaron wasn't allowed to use



the girls' restroom. Shortly after that, she started calling herself Jazz, and Jazz often wet herself at school

As she grew up, Jazz became an inspiration for many with gender dysphoria. She and her father fought for her right to play soccer with other girls — a battle that took years. She was upfront with friends — and even Barbara Walters on a TV interview — about being a girl in a boy's body. She had plenty of haters, but she learned who her friends *really* were. She still struggles with depression at times, as well as typical teen issues but overall, she's confident. And if she can help other transgender kids, then that's all good,

Who'd ever thought that bathrooms would be such a hot-button issue in 2016? Jennings — who also appears with her family on the TLC reality series *I Am Jazz* — has been dealing with potty parity nearly all her life, which is just one of the topics she tackles in this memoir.

Right from the outset, it's obvious that this is an exceptionally upbeat book. There's almost no poor-me-ing here; even when she writes about struggles and occasional anger, Jennings' cheery optimism is front-and-center. She gives props to her family, praising their easy acceptance and unconditional support, and acknowledging that many trans teens don't enjoy the same familial benefits.

That praise can almost be expected, but I noticed one refreshingly *un*expected thing: because of her honesty and openness, Jennings has become a role model, a status of which she seems nonchalantly abashed but secretly delighted, with a tone of pride there, too. Who could fail to be charmed by such straightforward authenticity?

While this book is supposedly for teens 12-and-up, I think a transitioning twenty-something could certainly benefit from what's inside this book — as well as those who just need an education about the realities of being transgender. For sure, its buoyancy and optimism makes *Being Jazz* all kinds of special.

– Terri Schlichenmeyer

#### **L+S** pride



#### ■ TWIRL, From Page 69

as practitioners call it — has evolved long past the stereotypical Friday Night Lights majorette in white boots and a sparkly vest that most people envision. Twirl sport is a complex, difficult athletic endeavor.

"It's more akin to rhythmic gymnastics," McBride says. "It's a combination of floor exercise, tumbling, keeping an apparatus moving, and developing a style."

Twirl sport competition is judged similarly to gymnastics or diving, with competitors awarded points for execution of moves and skills, with more points awarded based on the difficulty of the skill. It can be incredibly challenging, requiring a combination of aerobic endurance, strength and coordination — something that casual observers may not fully appreciate. McBride cites a movement called an "illusion" as an example.

"It's a one-legged cartwheel where your hands never touch the ground. One leg makes a complete circle," he explains. "When done well it looks so cool."

Advanced twirl athletes often add as many as *four* batons to their routines at one time, adding to the technical difficulty. If they drop a baton while doing a trick, judges subtract points from their final score. Routines can last from 30 seconds to several minutes.

Twirl competitors often translate their talent to entertainment displays as well ... which is what McBride will be doing when he joins up with the award-winning Black Gold Color Guard at this year's Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade during Dallas Pride.

Also marching with the color guard will be the Oak Lawn Band, which will be playing "Safety Dance," "We Are Family," "Firework" and more along the parade route. "All the while, our twirlers will be doing routines and our color guard will be spinning sabres, rifles and flags," say Tony Daniel, public relations director for the Oak Lawn Band.

McBride finally got his chance to dive into twirl sport when he was 24. Driving down the road with a friend, he saw a car with a baton shoe-polished onto the window. Another car passed with similar decoration. Then another. It was clear the convoy was headed to a competition.

"I said, 'I want to go wherever they're going,'" McBride says. His friend grudgingly obliged and followed the cars until they found themselves in the midst of a huge twirl sport competition

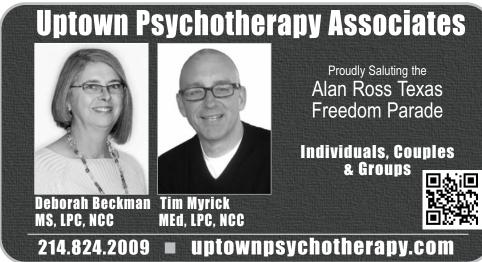
His friend got bored and left, but McBride was

hooked. "I was enthralled," he says. "I stayed all day." He made several contacts at the competition, found someone to give him lessons, and 20 years later, he's got three United States Twirling Association championships under his belt.

The first time he won, McBride says, was the moment when everything came together.

"I did a program to Jackie Wilsons 'Your Love.' I had one drop but it was the one time I felt completely relaxed," he says. "Athletes talk about being in the zone and I've never known was that meant until that moment."

McBride, the color guard and the Oak Lawn Band will all perform Sunday marching in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.



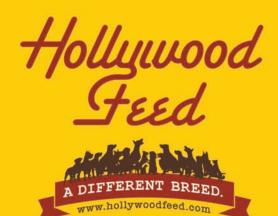


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2:00 pm Along Cedar Springs

Festival in the Park - Reverchon Park

12:00 noon - 7:00 pm

\$10 Admission - Children under 13 accompanied by an adult Free

For More Information, go to www.dallaspride.org





















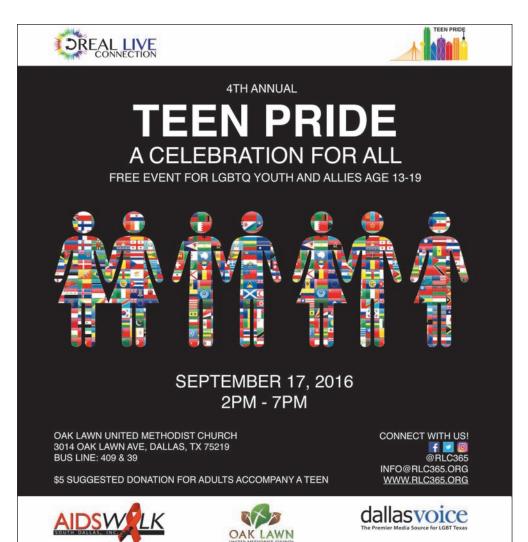












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#### **Saturday** 09.17

#### **NOH8** photo-fundraiser returns

California photographer Adam Bouska tapped into a specific energy when he came out with the concept for his NOH8 campaign — the logo painted on people's faces, their mouths taped shut, protesting the anti-gay Prop 8 legislation. Now, marriage equality is the law of the land, but Bouska's photos still have power. You can join an immense slate of celebrities in having Bouska immortalize you. It's \$40 for a solo shot, or \$25 per person for mutliple participants. And how great that it returns to Dallas during gay Pride?

**DEETS**: W Hotel and Residences, 2440 Victory Park Lane 2–6 p.m.

#### LIFE+STYLE

best bets

## Friday 09.16 **Saturday** 09.17

#### Aspen Santa Fe Ballet settles in for two performances

Hailed as one of the most innovative classical dance troupes out there, the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet combines traditional beauty with a contemporary feel. You get two chances to see them, as they kick of TITAS' 2016–17 season this weekend.

**DEETS**: City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. ATTPAC.org.



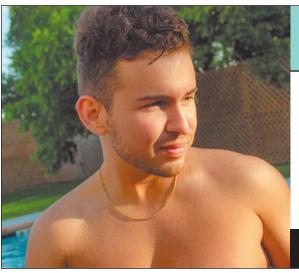
## Friday 09.16 — **Sunday** 09.18

#### **Collin County Home Show** features HGTV star Clint Harp

If Pride partying isn't your thing — if you're more of a homebody — then this is perfect timing for you. The 4th annual Collin County Home and Garden Show arrives in Allen this weekend, with Clint Harp, the furniture designer on the HGTV show *Fixer Upper*, among those in attendance, giving you hints for fall gardening and decor trends.

**DEETS**: Allen Event Center, 200 E. Stacy Road, Allen, AllenHomeAndGardenShow.com.om.





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#### calendar highlights



The iconic musical 'Rent' returns with an historic 20th anniversary production. It opens Tuesday at the Winspear Opera House as part of the AT&T Performing Arts Center's Broadway Series.

#### **ARTSWEEK**

#### **THEATER**

Third Annual PlayPride Competition Festival. A series of six short plays on gay themes, with audiences voting on the winner. Bishop Arts Theatre Center, 215 Tyler St. Through Sept. 25. BishopArtsTheatre.org.

**Dallas Pride Performing Arts Festival**. Fifth annual play festival. Presented by Uptown Players. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Sept. 16–24. UptownPlayers.org.

**Camelot.** Season premiere production from Lyric Stage is Lerner and Loewe's tuneful, colorful telling of the Arthurian Legend. *Through Sunday; reviewed this week.* Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. LyricStage.org.

**Constellations.** Dallas Theater Center opens its new season with this romantic play about an astrophysicist and a beekeeper whose love travels across time and space. Wyly Theatre Studio Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Oct. 9. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Dancing at Lughnasa.** Brian Friel's Tony Award winning play about quaint Irish life. Greenville Center for the Arts, 5201 Sears St. Through Oct. 2. ContemporaryTheatreOfDallas.com

Death the Musical II: Death Takes a Harmony. A. Scott Eckert, one of Dallas' top musical directors and musicians, brings us the followup to his self-penned Death the Musical with this comic sequel. Pocket Sandwich Theater, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. Through Sept. 24. 214-821-1860.

*The Hollow.* An Agatha Christie mystery thriller, set in a spooky estate. Cox Building Playhouse, 11517 H Ave., Plano. Through Sept. 25. Theatre-Britain.com.

An Iliad. Denis O'Hare, the gay Tony Award-winning actor, co-wrote this adaptation of Homer's classic. Final weekend. Presented in the Black Box at Stage West, 821 Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. StageWest.org.

Jesus Christ Superstar. The Webber and Rice rock opera. Final weekend. Casa Manana, 3101 W. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth. CasaManana.org.

So go the ghosts of Mexico, part one — a brave woman in Mexico. Dallas premiere of a trilogy of plays from author Matthew Paul Olmos, this one involved a young woman in Mexico who agrees to become the local police chief when no one else will take the job.

Undermain Theatre, 3400 Main St. Sept. 14–Oct. 8. Undermain.org.

**The Sum of Us.** A gay son lives with his accepting father ... but the father's girlfriend is not as open-minded. Theatre Too, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Sept. 25. Theatre3Dallas.com.

*The Taming.* A female-empowerment political comedy. *Final weekend.* Circle Theatre, 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. CircleTheatre.org.

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Edward Albee's searing American classic, a raucous night with an embattled husband and wife working out their demons. Final weekend. Bedford Boys Ranch, 2821 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. OnstageInBedford.com.

#### BALLET

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. Two nights of the innovative dance company kicks off TITAS' 2016–17 season. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. ATTPAC.org.

**Texas Ballet Theater:** *Carmen* and *Danse a Grande Vitesse.* The local ballet company performs two classic pieces. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St Sept. 16–18. (Moves to Bass Performance Hall in Fort Worth, Oct. 7–9.) TexasBalletTheater.org.

#### **FUNDRAISER**

**Turtle Creek Chorale: After Dark.** A "drinks, divas and desserts" party and fundraiser for the Turtle Creek Chorale, held at Trinity Groves. 3015 Gulden St. 8–11 p.m. \$75. TurtleCreekChorale.com.

#### **FINE ART**

**Pathway.** A new and immense mural by Swiss artist Nicolas Party — a dreamy, cobalt forest of possibly underwater landscapes — occupies the main concourse of the museum, also featuring the pastel painting *Two Men with Hats.* Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 5, 2017. Free. DMA.org.

#### DIGS

4th Annual Collin County Home and Garden Show. Three-day expo of all things related to decorating and gardening in Texas. Allen Event Center, 200 E. Stacy Road, Allen. Friday—Sunday. For tickets and schedule, visit AllenHomeAndGardenShow.com.

#### **FRIDAY 09.16**

#### COMMUNITY

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

Red Party. J Sutta performs at this 8th annual fundraiser for Legacy Counseling Center. Sixty Five Hundred, 6500 Cedar Springs Road. 8-11 p.m.

High Tech Happy Hour. Monthly gay mixer. Sushi Zushi, 3636 McKinney Ave. in the West Village. 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Dallas Buyers Club. CineWilde presents Oscar winning film during Dallas Pride, about a local AIDS activist who bucked the system in the 1980s. Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. 8 p.m. doors, 9 p.m.

#### **CONCERTS**

Martina McBride. The country singer performs. Verizon Theatre, 100 Performance Place, Grand Prairie. 7 p.m. Verizon.TheaterAtGrandPrairie.com

Dallas Symphy Orchestra Gala. Annual dinner, concert and fundraiser. Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. 7:30 p.m. MyDSO.com.

#### SATURDAY 09.17

#### COMMUNITY

Gaybingo. Pride and Fabulous. The Pride edition of the monthly fundraiser and game. Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs. 5 p.m. doors, 6 p.m. curtain. \$25-\$45. MyResourceCenter.org

Gay Day at Six Flags. The Dallas Voice sponsors this annual event at the North Texas amuement park, with special discounts (look in the paper for the ad with the

NOH8 Campaign Photo. Photographer Adam Bouska does an open call shoot for his iconic photos. W Hotel and Residences, 2440 Victory Park Lane. 2-6 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY 09.18**

Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and Festival. The main event of Dallas Gay Pride, along Cedar Springs Road across Oak Lawn Avenue, down Maple Avenue to Reverchon Park. Starts at noon.

#### **MONDAY 09.19**

#### **CABARET**

Mama's Party. Local singer Amy Stevenson hosts her ongoing cabaret series, always with special guests and a good time. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St. Grand Prairie. \$10.

#### **TUESDAY 09.20**

Monty Python and the Holy Grail. The hilarious spoof



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



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



Martina McBride performs Friday at the the Verizon Theatre.

of King Arthur, as only Monty Python can do it. 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.

#### **THEATER**

**Rent**. The 20th anniversary tour of the groundbreaking musical, an adaptation of La Boheme moved to New York during the AIDS crisis. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Sept. 20-Oct. 2. ATTPAC.org.

#### **THURSDAY 09.22**

#### **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.

Glitterbomb Denton. Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday. Mable Peabody's Beauty Parlor and Chain Saw Repair, 1125 E. University Drive, Denton. 9:30 p.m.

#### **BROADCAST**

RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars. The new season of All Stars, with Dallas' Alyssa Edwards in the pack. Airs on Logo at 8 p.m.

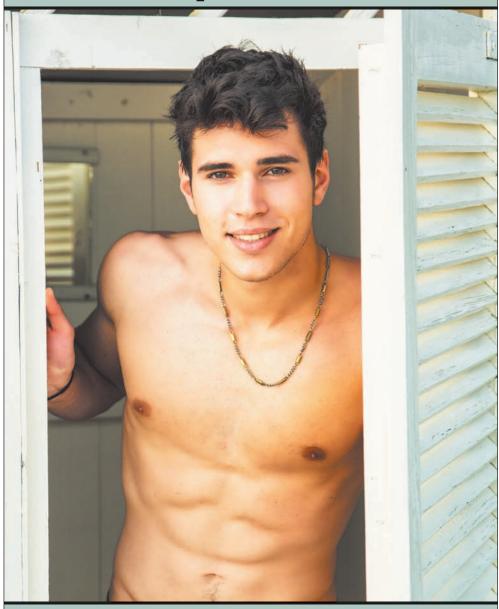
#### **THEATER**

Bella: An American Tall Tale. A world premiere musical, set in the Old West, about an independent black woman who forged ahead at an unlikely time. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Sept. 22-Oct. 22 (in previews through Sept. 29). DallasTheaterCenter.org.

#### this week's solution

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ELECTROLYSIS

Dallas Electrolysis Clinic, Inc.

214-766-8939 | electrolysisformen.com Hair Today Gone Tomorrow 682-593-1442 | htgtelectrolysis.com

#### **EVENT PLANNING**

Trifecta Event Management, LLC 214-414-0995

#### trifectaeventmanagement.com

FERTILITY SPECIALISTS
Fertility Specialists of Texas
817-366-1119 | LGBTfertility.com

#### FINANCIAL PLANNING

Sherman, Judy S. CFBS

1111 S Main St., Grapevine | 817-366-1119

#### Turtle Creek Wealthcare (Doug Simmang) 800-680-6120 | turtlecreekwc.com

Walker, Brian, MBA, CFP, RICP

214-259-2232 prudential.com/us/brian.walker

#### **FOUNDATION EVALUATIONS**

#### Vannier Engineering

972-867-9750 | vannierengineering.com

#### **INSURANCE**

Alex Long Agency (Allstate) 972-570-7000

Allstateagencies.com/AlexLong

Campbell, Todd (Farmers Insurance) 214-420-7500 farmersagent.com/tcampbell2

#### Health Insurance Marketplace

Community Council of Greater Dallas 844-831-9600 | CCCG.org

#### Irvin, M. Angel (Farmers Insurance)

14651 Dallas Pkwy. #110 | 972-367-6200

#### Kelly, James

214-912-8830 | JKelly@FarmersAgent.com Steven Graves Insurance Agency

#### 214-599-0808 | stevengravesinsurance.com Uptown Dallas Insurance Agency

214-871-3145 | uptowndallasins.com

#### **IFWFIRY**

Aura Diamonds at the World Trade Center 214-389-2323 | DesignsByAura.com

#### **LAWN CARE | TREE SERVICES**

Maya Tree & Lawn Maintenance 214-924-7058 | mayatreeservice.com

#### **MEDITATION**

Dallas Meditation Center - Sundays 5pm
Dallas Meditation Center.com

#### MORTGAGE - REFINANCE

PrimeLending

214-926-9583 | ronwatterson.com

#### Ramirez, Armando

214-263-5507

mand or a mirez. supremelending. com

#### **MOVERS**

#### **Fantastic Moves**

214-349-6683 (MOVE) | FantasticMoves.com

#### **NAIL SALONS**

Nailicious Unique by Nature 214-559-3997 | nailicious.com

#### OPTICAL SHOPS

Fashion Optical
214-256-6006 | FashionOpticalDallas.com

OPTOMETRISTS

Dishman, Keith OD 4560 W. Mockingbird Ln. | 214-521-0929

Dr. Eyecare Safir, Allen OD 214-522-3937 | 4414 Lemmon Ave.

Oak Lawn Eye Assoc. Atwood, Randy OD

#### 214-219-3393 | oaklawneyeassociates.com

#### PAINTING/HOME REPAIR

Cooper, Mitch 4919 Gaston Ave. | 972-935-8058

#### PASSPORT SERVICES

#### Passport And Visa Express 972-516-6600 | flyingpassport.com

#### PET BOARDING & GROOMING

Petropolitan
Downtown 214-741-4100 | OC 469-930-9827

#### PHARMACIES

Avita Drugs Specialized Pharmacy 214-943-5187 | AvitaPharmacy.com

#### PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS

#### Daly, Patrick W. MD

Philips, Kay L. MD

3629 Fairmount St. | 214-526-3566

#### 214-363-2305 | ddadoctors.com

Pounders, Steven MD, PA 3500 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 600 | 214-520-8833

#### The Klemow Clinic 214-522-2222 | KlemowClinic.com

Uptown Physicians Group 214-303-1033 | uptowndocs.com

#### **PROMOTIONAL ITEMS**

#### TNT Promotions 214-213-7161 | tntpromos.biz

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#### **PSYCHOLOGISTS**

**SPIRIS Group** 

214-443-7808 | spirisgroup.com

#### **REAL ESTATE**

Atkinson, Steve ABR – Dave Perry Miller 972-733-5209

SteveAtkinson.DavePerryMiller.com

DeuPree, Joe ABR – Scottwood Realty 214-559-5690 | deupreej@sbcglobal.net

Durstine, George – Scottwood Realty

214-559-6090 | georgedrealtor@gmail.com Hewitt & Habgood - Dave Perry Miller

214-752-7070 | | hewitthabgood.com LaPierre, Paul – Centry 21

214-564-7741 | 4saleindallas.com Melnick, Susan – Virginia Cook

#### 214-460-5565 | susanmelnick.com

Nall, Steve – Virginia Cook 214-500-0928 | virginiacook.com/steve-nall

Narey, Jay ABR, ALHS – Keller Williams 972-468-5462 | jaynarey.com

Scott, Danny Alan – Scottwood Realty 972-588-8304 | DannyAlanScott@gmail.com Stoll, Tim – Keller Williams

#### 214-868-2959 | **TimStoll@KW.com**

SHIPPING AND RECEIVING
The UPS Store® (Cedar Springs #3812)
214-520-0005 | theupsstorelocal.com/3812

The UPS Store® (Uptown #5022) 214-965-9226 | theupsstorelocal.com/5022 The UPS Store® (Meadow & 75 #0355)

214-692-7678 | theupsstorelocal.com/0355 The UPS Store® (Greenville #3699) 214-361-7353 | theupsstorelocal.com/3699

#### SURROGACY

TAX RETURN PREPARATION
H&R Block

877-976-9483 | 3sisterssurrogacy.com

#### 214-443-7895 | hrblock.com

3 Sisters Surrogacy

TITLE COMPANIES
Republic Title of Texas, Inc.
214-528-8916 | republictitle.com

#### 214-718-7127 premieressentialservices.com VITAMINS & SUPPLEMENTS

**Premier Essential Services, LLC** 

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Sundrops Vitamins & Nutrition 214-521-0550 | sundrops.com

#### ORGANIZATIONAL DIRECTORY | UlIntx.com

AIDS HOTLINE 214-559-2437

#### **AIDS SERVICES**

**AHF DALLAS WELLNESS CENTER** 7777 Forest Lane, Ste. B122 | 972-383-1060

#### AIDS ARMS INC.

214-521-5191 | AIDSArms.org

#### AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK

AIDSInterfaithNetwork.org

#### AIDS OUTREACH CENTER

Fort Worth, 76111 | 817-335-1994 | AOC.org

#### AIDS SERVICES OF DALLAS

214-941-0523 | AIDSDallas.org

#### **AMELIA COURT**

1936 Amelia Court | 214-590-5647 | AOC.org

#### **GREG DOLLGENER MEMORIAL AIDS**

FUND, INC | 972-743-6323 | GDMAF.org

#### **HEALTH SERVICES OF NORTH TEXAS**

DENTON SOUTH CENTER | 940-381-2313 ELM STREET CENTER | 940-381-1501 **COLLIN COUNTY CENTER | 972-424-1480** HealthNTx.org

#### LEGACY COUNSELING CENTER

214-520-6308 | LegacyCares.org

#### LEGAL HOSPICE OF TEXAS

214-521-6622 | LegalHospice.org

#### NELSON-TEBEDO HEALTH CENTER

214-528-2336 | MyResourceCenter.org

#### **NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS** HIV PLANNING COUNCIL

Fort Worth | 817-321-4743 NoTexasAIDS.org

#### POSITIVE VOICES COALITION

Fort Worth | 817-321-4742 NoTexasAIDS.org

#### RESOURCE CENTER

214-528-0144 | MyResourceCenter.org

#### RESOURCE CENTER FOOD PANTRY

2701 Reagan Street | 214-528-0144

#### **UT SOUTHWESTERN AIDS**

PREVENTION PROJECT

Dallas, 75247 | 469-291-2800

#### WHITE ROCK FRIENDS MINISTRY

214-320-0043 | WhiteRockChurch.info

#### **EDUCATION**

214-821-4528 | GLBTLeap.org

#### **LGBTQA PROGRAM at UT ARLINGTON**

Arlington | 817-272-2099 | UTA.edu/lgbtqa

#### **OUT@COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

214-991-7851 | Out.Collin.edu

#### **SMU WOMEN & LGBT CENTER**

214-768-4792

SMU.edu/StudentAffairs

#### SPECTRUM

214-768-4792 | People.SMU.edu/Spectrum

#### **UNT ALLY PROGRAM**

940-565-2589 | multicultural@unt.edu

#### **MUSIC**

OAK LAWN SYMPHONIC BAND

#### 469-616-0138 | Info@oaklawnband.org

#### TURTLE CREEK CHORALE

214-526-3214 ext. 101 | TurtleCreek.org

#### **WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS** 214-520-7828 | TWCD.org

#### **POLITICAL**

**DALLAS STONEWALL YOUNG** DEMOCRATS | DallasSYD.org

#### LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF DALLAS COUNTY | LPDallas.org

#### LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF DALLAS LogCabin.org/Chapter

#### **METROPLEX REPUBLICANS**

MetroplexRepublicans.com

#### STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DALLAS

214-506-DEMS (3367)

StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.org

#### STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DENTON StonewallDemocratsOfDentoncounty.org

#### TARRANT COUNTY STONEWALL

817-913-8743 | TarrantStonewall.org

#### **PROFESSIONAL**

**ALLIANCE OF DESIGN PROFESSIONALS** 214-526-2085

#### DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN BAR ASSOC. 214-540-4460 | DGLBA.org

972-308-7233 | FedGlobe.org

#### LAMBDA PRIDE TOASTMASTERS

214-957-2011

lambdapride@freetoasthoast.us

#### LEADERSHIP LAMBDA TOASTMASTERS

LeadershipLambda.toastmastersclb.org

#### **LGBT LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR** LGBTLawTx.com | 800-204-2222 ext. 1420

NORTH TEXAS GLBT CHAMBER 214-821-GLBT | GLBTChamber.org

#### **OUT & EQUAL DFW**

Outandequal.org/dallas-fort-worthDFW@ outandequal.org

#### SERVICES

**BLACK TIE DINNER, INC.** 

972-865-2239 | BlackTie.org

#### **COALITION FOR AGING LGBT - DFW**

214-577-7976 | CFA.com

#### DALLAS/FORT WORTH FEDERAL CLUB

214-428-3332 | DFWFederalClub.org

#### **DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE**

214-528-0144 | info@dgla.com | DGLA.com

#### DALLAS SOUTHERN PRIDE

214-405-5475 | DallasSouthernPride.com

#### **DALLAS TAVERN GUILD**

214-571-1073 | DallasPride.org

#### **GAY AND LESBIAN FUND FOR DALLAS**

GLFD.org | 214-421-8177

#### **HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE**

**Community Council of Greater Dallas** 844-831-9600 | CCCG.org

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE of NTX**

#### 214-855-0520 | info@hrionline.org LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND

#### **EDUCATION FUND, SOUTHWEST REGION** 214-219-8585 | lambdalegal.org

SOS - SURVIVORS OFFERING SUPPORT

#### 2701 Reagan St. | YouCaring.com

TARRANT COUNTY GAY PRIDE WEEK president@tcgpwa.org | TCGPWA.org

#### **SOCIAL**

**BATTALION MOTORCYCLE** 

BattalionMC.com

#### **CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB**

214-446-0606 | ClassicChassis.com

#### **COUPLES METRO DALLAS**

214-521-5342 | CouplesMetroDallas.com

#### **DALLAS BEARS**

214-521-5342 ext. 2943 | DallasBears.org

#### DAMN | 214-521-5342 ext. 1739 | DAMNmen.org

#### **DFW FUSE**

214-540-4435 | DFWFuse.com

#### **DISCIPLINE CORPS**

214-521-5342 ext. 1731 | disciplinecorps.com

#### **EAST TEXAS PFLAG**

P.O. Box 130703 | Tyler, 75713 | 903-330-8901

#### **FIREDANCERS**

mikeykeith@cs.com | firedancers.org

#### FRISCO PRIDE

469-324-4123 | FriscoPride.com

#### **GRAY PRIDE**

GLBT Aging Interest Network |214-528-0144

#### IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH

careteam@icfwa.org | ICFWA.org

#### JEWEL | 214-540-GIRL | jewel@rcdallas.org

**LEATHER KNIGHTS** 

214-395-8460 | LeatherKnights.org

#### LVL/PWA CAMPOUT Rick: campout@lvlpwa.com | LVLPWA.com

**MEN OF ALL COLORS** 

#### 214-521-4765 | pulliam\_preston@yahoo.com

NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION info@nla-dallas.org | NLA-Dallas.org

#### **ONCE IN A BLUE MOON**

214-662-4706 | Once-In-A-Blue-Moon.org

#### **PEGASUS SQUARES** 214-444-9696 | PegasusSquares.com

POZ DALLAS | pozdallas@gmail.com

#### PRIME TIMERS OF DFW 972-504-8866

information@primetimers-dfw.org PROJECT TAG (Tyler Area Gays)

#### 903-312-2081 | TylerAreaGays.com

**RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB** 

#### 214-941-8114 | RainbowGardenClub.com **RAINBOW ROUNDUP - LGBT Families**

info@rrup.org | rrup.org

#### **REAL LIVE CONNECTION-TEEN PRIDE** 469-666-7325 | rlc365.org

#### **SAVVY SINGLES NEWS DFW** Singles.meetup.com/2049

SPECTRUM MOTORCYCLE CLUB

#### 214-289-1179 | Spectrum-MRC.com

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS DFW Groups.yahoo.com/group/sindallasftworth

#### dalmusl@yahoo,com UNITED BLACK ELLUMENT

214-760-9718 | UBEDallas.org

#### UNITED COURT OF THE LONE STAR

VALOR LATINO | 214-540-4430 | ValorDallas.com

EMPIRE | DallasCourt.org

#### **WOMEN OF DISTINCTION** Twitter.com/WODDallas

#### **SPIRITUALITY AGAPE MCC**

Fort Worth | 817-535-5002 | AgapeMCC.com

#### **ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH** Garland | AscensionTexas.org

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

214-528-4084

bethanypresby@sbcglobal.net

#### CATHEDRAL OF HOPE

214-351-1901 | cathedralofhope.com

#### **CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT**

Farmers Branch | 972-245-6520 COLight.org

#### CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH

Fort Worth | 817-335-3222

#### Celebration-Community-Church.com **CELEBRATION ON THE LAKE**

Maybank | 903-451-2302 | COTLChurch.org

#### CONGREGATION BETH EL BINAH 214-500-8304 | BethElBinah.org

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH

#### 214-520-9090 CrossroadsCommunityChurch.us

**DALLAS MEDITATION CENTER -**

#### SUNDAYS 5PM DallasMeditationCenter.com

**DIGNITY DALLAS** 972-729-9572 | DignityDallas.net

#### **EAST DALLAS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

214-824-8185 | info@edcc.org | EDCC.org EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE

#### APOSTLE | 214-352-0140 | TheDoubter.org FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH

Fort Worth |817-921-5683 | FOLOchurch.org FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF DALLAS

#### 214-528-3990 | DallasUU.org

THE GATHERING PLACE 214-643-3250 | TheGatheringDallas.org

#### **GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

214-824-2533 | GraceUMCDallas.org **GREENLAND HILLS UNITED METHODIST** 

#### 214-826-2020 | GreenlandHills.org

HARVEST MCC

#### Denton | 940-484-6159 | HarvestMCC.org

HORIZON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST Carrollton | 972-492-4940 | HorizonUU.org

#### INTERFAITH MINDFUL MINISTRIES Plano | InterMindful.com

**KESSLER PARK UNITED METHODIST** 

#### 214-942-0098 | kpumc.org LESBIAN & GAY UNITARIANS | 214-691-4300

LIVING FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

#### 972-546-0543 | LivingFaithDFW.org

**LUTHERANS CONCERNED** 

214-855-4998 | ReconcilingWorks.org

#### MCC OF GREATER DALLAS Carrollton | 972-243-0761 | MCCGD.org

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH 214-352-4841 | MidwayHills.org NORTHAVEN UNITED METHODIST

#### 214-363-2479 | Northaven.org OAK LAWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

#### 214-521-5197 | oaklawn@olumc.org PATHWAYS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST Hurst | 817-803-5941 | PathwaysUU.org

PROMISE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 214-623-8400 | PromiseUCC.org

#### ST STEPHEN UNITED METHODIST

ST. FRANCIS ANGLICAN CHURCH

214-351-1401

972-279-3112 | GBGM-UMC.org/StStephen

817-265-5454 | TrinityMCC.org

#### **UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH** uuc@oakcliffuu.org | OakCliffUU.org

#### **UNITY CHURCH OF CHRISTIANITY**

214-826-5683 | DallasUnity.org WHITE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH

#### 214-320-0043 | WhiteRockChurch.info

#### **DALLAS FRONTRUNNERS**

#### DALLAS INDEPENDENT VOLLEYBALL

214-578-6206 | DIVADallas.org

#### **DIFFERENT STROKES GOLF ASSOC.** info@dsgadallas.org | DSGADallas.org

NORTH TEXAS WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

#### **OAK LAWN BOWLING ASSOCIATION**

10920 Composite Drive | 214-358-1382 OAK LAWN SKI AND SCUBA CLUB

#### **PEGASUS SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL** 972-879-7900 | DallasPSSA.org

**RAINBOW ROLLERS BOWLING LEAGUE** 817-540-0303 | rainbow\_rollers\_league | @

#### TEXAS GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS LAMBDA** 

#### 1-855-BLK-TMEN | BlackTransMen.org

#### 214-345-8230

**CODEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS** 

#### outreach@coda.org | CoDependents.org

#### 817-881-3949 **GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE OF NTX**

**GAY AND LESBIAN ANGER** 

#### MANAGEMENT GROUP 469-328-1980 | Marial33@gmail.com

(Gender, Education, Advocacy &

#### Resources) | 214-521-5124 LAMBDA GROUP OF NICOTINE

**PFLAG-DALLAS** 

#### **PFLAG-FORT WORTH 817-428-2329**

STONEWALL GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

5910 Cedar Springs #116 | Dallas,75235

214-879-0400 | youth@myresourcecenter.org

09.16.16 **dallas**voice

#### FrontrunnersDallas.org

214-632-8512 | ntxwsa.net

#### 214-521-5342(X1769) | OLSSC.org

**OAK LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION** OLTADallas.org

#### vahoo.com

**SUPPORT** 

214-346-2107 | TGRA.org

#### 214-264-0222 | DdallasAl-Anon.org **BLACK TRANSMEN INC.**

#### **CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY NTX**

214-766-8939 (Dallas) 817-834-2119 (Fort Worth)

#### **FAMILY PRIDE COALITION**

#### GALANorthTexas.org

**ANONYMOUS** 214-629-7806NICADFW.org

#### 972-77-PFLAG | info@pflagdallas.org

**SEX & LOVE ADDICTS ANONYMOUS** 214-673-8092

#### YOUTH FIRST

#### Cassie Nova

Cassie offers a happy Pride ... and thoughts on trust in relationships

Happy Pride, everybody! I love this time of year. I love the sense of community that comes with the week of fabulousness that leads to The Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade. At all of the bars and clubs, you can feel the excitement building. This will be the 33rd year for our Pride parade. That is amazing. I hope this younger generation truly understands what a big deal having our parade is to us. I'm proud that I have been in or at the parade every year since I was 18 years old, and this year will be no different. Me and my band of merry Marys will be front and center on the Caven float.

I honestly dislike daytime drag, but I love doing it

for the parade. We get to the club early to get in drag. I usually bring donuts and we paint our mugs and do a couple of shots before we head over to the float. The trek over to the float is always a hurried mess. We bounce and weave through the growing crowds of people, stopping on occasion for the quick pic request. We always think we are late but always get there with time to spare. Then it is hurry up and wait for the parade to start. It is usually pretty hot. Last year was great because Dallas Voice gave all of us these huge fans, so we just stood around and fanned ourselves like the Southern belles we are. It is always exhausting but we are always glad we did it. I hope to see you all there!

Now let's help some folks.

Hi Cassie, I need your advice. Sometimes I overthink everything so I want your opinion on this one. I'm a lesbian and have been married to my wife for two years. I'm older femme, she's younger butch. It was a crazy whirlwind of a relationship, but I have always believed that we are open and honest with

each other in our everyday lives, so I have never checked or questioned her actions or phone calls or texts. But I recently had the opportunity to see and read her emails (which I would never do but did just out of gut feeling); I wish I

I see mostly innocent emails from her ex, very friendly, and my wife's reply was friendly but mentions something about "what might have been." It has been bothering me ever since. I kept it buried deep in mv mind for about a week, then I asked her, "Have you heard from your ex?" and she said, "No, and I'm glad I haven't." So I dropped it and asked nothing more.

It was purely accidental that I saw the conversation between them and in no way do I want to see or check again. I'm usually very open-minded and not jealous so I'm not sure why she chose to lie when I asked her. But now I'm driving myself insane. I don't really want to blow this out of proportion, so do you have any advice how I should handle this situation? Sincerely, ShouldaMindedMyOwnDamnBizness!

Dear Shoulda,

Miss Thing, if your relationship is not strong enough to handle you asking about one email or text message, you might have bigger problems on the horizon. When you are in a committed relationship, secrets are never a good thing. That being said, what was the context of the "what might have been" statement? If she is friends with her ex, maybe she was trying to cheer her up. Maybe she was

having a moment of nostalgia for her younger self. The point is, you don't know because you are not talking to her about it. Trust is such a tricky subject but being open and talking about these things usually work best.

I, of course, am assuming that you are both reasonable adults. If that's not the case, then shit's gonna hit the fan eventually. How much younger is your wife? I find that the younger they are the more they love drama. That's not just for lesbians. I know a bunch of young people that love to blow things up and self-sabotage just for the sake of drama. A truly strong relationship can handle the occasional flare up. Like herpes. Think of a little argument as a herpes on your lip. If you pick at it, it will get worse. If you doctor it and baby it, that bad ol' sore will be gone in

Own up to reading her emails. Apologize, but then ask her what she meant. Put all of your cards and feelings on the table. Understanding will hopefully bring you both closer. Good luck, Cassie.

Hi Cassie, Given that we're a year into marriage equality and more couples are pairing up and eventually transitioning into marriage, I couldn't help but wonder: With gay men notorious for being horn dogs, is it practical to think you're always and forever going to only make love with this one person (as traditional straight marriages like to think), or is it more practical for some couples to evolve into more of a sometimes-open relationship? Most of us have always daydreamed about the standard of the house with the white picket fence and kids or pets... spending our lives with "the one."

I ask this because when I was single, I couldn't count the times I've heard of (or myself have been directly approached by) a partner or partners interested in having some intimacy/playtime with another. Whether the couple has stopped having sex or the sex life has gradually declined, it makes one wonder on the fluidity of a partnered couple's sexual life over

the years when they are totally dedicated to being with each other through the good times and bad and love their partner unconditionally.

Photo by Chad Mantooth

How does one even broach the subject if the other partner is steadfast in their old-fashioned belief system and is adamant about not allowing any type of three-way or outside play ever? It's a delicate conundrum... when you love someone so passionately and want to spend the rest of your life with them, and not hurt their feelings... does it make you a bad person to even think these thoughts sometimes? I like to think it's just us, as loving gay men being human... flaws and all. XOXO, Lost In Space Boy.

Dear Space Boy, I get a lot of questions about three-ways and open relationships and my advice is usually against it. In my personal experience, threeways usually lead to the end of a relationship. Of course, that was in my twenties and they weren't strong relationships to begin with.

You have to ask yourself, how important is that hookup? Would you be OK with someone else touching your man? How would you feel afterwards if your partner got way into it? Is it worth hurting your partner? Would he feel like he is not enough? Would you? There are so many variables that you have to think about before you even broach that conversation. If it is something that is truly important to you, then start that conversation. Talk about it thoroughly before either of you act on it.

I know people in open relationships and it seems to work for them. For some it is the new normal. Times and attitudes about sex have changed. Just think long and hard about it before you get long and hard with a third party. And whatever you do, play safe. Good Luck, Cassie.

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

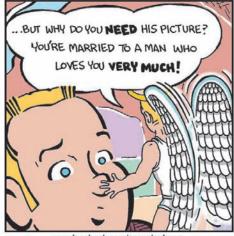
If you have a question of comment, email it to AskCassieNova@gmail.com.

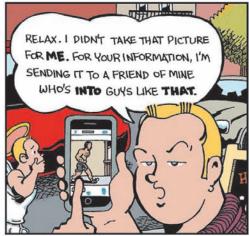




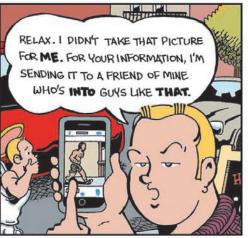












#### LIFE+STYLE

scene



Wayne takes a break at Liquid Zoo



Celebrating a birthday at The Hidden Door



On the patio at Alexandre's

Making the SCENE the week of Sept. 16-22:

- Alexandre's: Three Drunk Monkey on Friday. Chris Chism and the Band on Saturday. Ilumin on Thursday.
- Club Changes: Cowtown Leathermen and Club Changes Turnabout Show at 7 p.m. on Saturday.
- Club Reflection: Cowtown Leathermen cookout at 4 p.m. and Texas Gay Rodeo Association show at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
- Dallas Eagle: Purple Party Pride Edition at 10 p.m. on Friday. MasT Dallas meeting from 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday. DFW Leather Corps club night on Saturday. GLOW Party Pride Edition with DJ C-Rail at 10 p.m. on Saturday.
- Hidden Door: Church at the Hidden Door all day beerfest on Sunday.
- Winslow's on Cedar Springs: Freedom Parade Watch Party on Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Space is limited; call 817-731-6515 for reservations.
- Impulse Group hosts Pride Pavilion at ilume on Sunday. noon-3:30 p.m., with Kennedy Davenport, Fifi DuBois and Coco De'Ball, and beats by DJ PressPlay.
- JR.'s Bar & Grill: Dream Girls with Daphne, Chanel, Alexis, Fantasha and Bronx on Thursday.
- Marty's Live: Wet Willie Wednesday with Dannee.
- Rainbow Lounge: Black & White Party end of summer bash with the Illusions of Rainbow at 9 p.m. on Saturday.
- Round-Up Saloon: Lip Sync Extravaganza hosted by Ron Corning benefits Wings DFW at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.
- Sue Ellen's: Panty Raid on Friday. Ciao Bella on Saturday.
- The Rose Room: Cassie, Asia, Kelexis, Dominique Sanchez, Krystal and Layla on Sunday.
- Two Corks and a Bottle: Show Tune Night from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesday.



Katrina and a friend on the patio at JR's



DJ Mateo on The Strip

Scene Photographers: Kat Haygood and Chad Mantooth



Jake and John on The Strip



Greg strikes a pose at TMC: The Mining Company



Walking tall on The Strip



Fun with friends at the Round-Up Saloon



Amy and Victor at The Hidden Door



Guys' night out on The Strip





Gabriel struts his stuff on The Strip









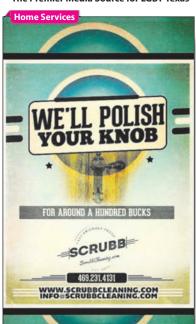


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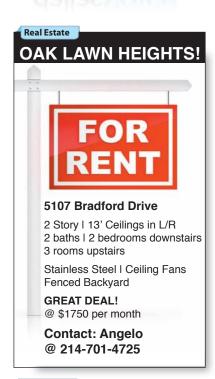






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1 Month Free **Ready Now** 

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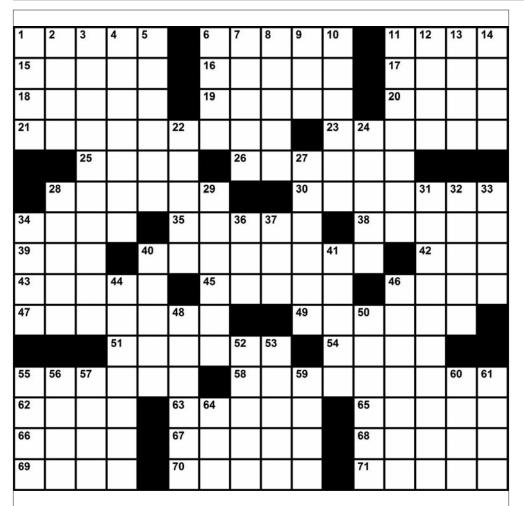








#### q-puzzle



#### **Ben-Her**

#### Solution on page 99

#### Across

- 1 Opportunity for Glenn Burke 6 Pirates of the Caribbean locales
- 11 Cruising areas
- 15 Michael of Miss Congeniality
- 16 Time on the job
- 17 R.E.M. neck attachment
- 18 Alec Guinness play
- 19 South Pacific kingdom
- 20 Roughly
- 21 With 23-Across, documentary in which Ben-Hur's gay subtext was revealed, with The
- 23 See 21-Across
- 25 Paul Simon's "Richard \_
- 26 Lidded box in Six Feet Under
- 28 Convincing
- 30 Getty of The Golden Girls
- 34 Like a 90-pound weakling
- 35 Move barely
- 38 Hunter that comes out at night
- 39 Poet McKuen

- 40 With 55-Across, Ben-Hur actor unaware of the gay subtext
- 42 Solidly behind
- 43 "\_\_\_ roll!" (winner's cry)
- 45 Just for laughs
- 46 Deity on Xena

- 47 Shakespearean sister
- 49 The Queen star Helen
- 51 Brought to an end
- 54 Irene of Fame
- 55 See 40-Across
- 58 Writer of the gay subtext
- 62 It comes out of your head
- 63 Nuts
- 65 St. Teresa's town
- 66 Maria's "do" equivalent
- 67 American Idol judge Paula
- 68 Source of gaiety?
- 69 Drops the curtain on
- 70 Like some porn
- 71 Rims

#### Down

- 1 Current band of the past?
- 2 Actor Diggs
- 3 Kinsey director
- 4 Explanatory tool
- 5 One of the fruits of
- academic success
- 6 Comparison phrase
- 7 Like a tough guy
- 8 Evans of Dynasty
- 9 Wilde tongue, for short
- 10 Piles of pancakes
- 11 Vehicle for Teletubby Po

- 12 Patty Sheehan's average scores
- 13 Recess at St. Mary's?
- 14 "Chim-Chim-Cheree" residue
- 22 Mulholland Drive director David
- 24 Spoil the surprise
- 27 Nose feature
- 28 Former New York governor Mario
- 29 Chases behind
- 31 Interpreting your lover's kisses?
- 32 Two Women star
- 33 Mireille, whose name rhymes with "penis"
- 34 Nice Nellie
- 36 Suffix with southeast
- 37 Fairy's cousin
- 40 Menotti's middle name
- 41 Where Dick Button performed
- 44 Fruity juices
- 46 Came
- 48 Sea off Greece
- 50 Damage severely
- 52 "Great balls of fire!"
- 53 Cushion under your tush
- 55 Leather, essentially
- 56 Genie portrayer Barbara
- 57 It gets spilled at wild parties
- 59 Trust in, with "on"
- 60 Protected, to seamen
- 61 Barrie's Wendy, e.g.
- 64 Org. for sweaty men in shorts



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