Like to exercise? Put a boxing ring on it

Jennifer Buck puts some punch in her workout routine
For trainer and her clients, boxing is both fun and empoweringly feminist

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Change agent

3 years after the Rainbow Lounge, out lesbian Leigh Ann Wiggins is the new LGBT face of the TABC

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**COVER ART**

- Cover photo by John Wright.
  - Design by Michael Stephens.
Gay couple sues airline after dildo taped to top of bag

A gay couple from Virginia is suing United/Continental Airlines after baggage handlers in Houston allegedly removed a sex toy from one of their checked bags, smeared foul-smelling lubricant on it, taped it to the top of the bag and sent it back down the belt.

Michael Hamar at The BLT reports that the couple was returning from a vacation in Costa Rica to their hometown of Norfolk, Va., last year when they had a layover at George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston.

When the gay couple arrived at George Bush, they retrieved their checked luggage and went through Customs. They then rechecked their bags and boarded their flight for Norfolk.

When they arrived in Norfolk, the bag shown above was one of the last to come down the carousel. It was partially open with the dildo showing, and wrapped in clear plastic tape bearing the Continental logo. The bag was left open despite the fact that the zipper still worked, so there was no reason for baggage handlers to tape the bag open.

According to the lawsuit filed Friday, Aug. 24, in Harris County district court, the couple “experienced extreme shock and horror when they observed the above described bag and when observing the surprised and/or laughing faces of numerous onlookers in the baggage claim area.”

Hamar reports that the couple is suing the airline for emotional distress, invasion of privacy and negligence.

“Because of the fact that the sex toy was contained in the bag of a male, and because the employee(s) responsible knew that the bag belonged to a male due to the name tag attached to the bag and the male clothing contained in the bag, there is a high likelihood that these egregious actions were directed towards Plaintiffs because they are homosexual and because they are males,” the lawsuit states.

— John Wright

Would marriage equality pass the Dallas City Council?

Equality Texas has posted a petition calling for the Austin City Council to approve a resolution in support of marriage equality. As far as I know, Austin would be the first city in Texas to do so.

According to the petition, the resolution is sponsored by Mayor Lee Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole and Councilwoman Laura Morrison, and backed by Equality Texas, the Human Rights Campaign, the Anti-Defamation League, the NAACP, and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund.

The resolution will be voted on in September. As of Thursday, the petition had 763 signatures. Sign it by going to TinyURL.com/AustinMarriage.

“Marriage provides legal and economic protections including access to health care, recognition of parental and custodial responsibilities, property rights, and other protections which are vital to the safety and security of every family, and is a powerful and important affirmation of love and commitment and a source of social support and recognition,” the petition states in part. “As the Supreme Court said in the 1967 landmark case Loving v. Virginia, ‘Marriage is one of the basic civil rights of man,’ fundamental to our very existence and survival. Thank you for your leadership in support of the freedom to marry and for sending the message nationwide that the City of Austin values equality.”

One can’t help but wonder how long it will be before a similar resolution is proposed in Dallas. Leffingwell is among the six mayors from Texas who signed a Freedom to Marry “pledge” earlier this year. Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings, of course, is not — even though Rawlings has said he would vote in favor of marriage equality if he had the chance. I’m going to go out on a limb and say that with Rawlings’ support, the votes are there right now, today, on the Dallas City Council to pass a similar resolution. Can you guess who my other seven votes are?

— John Wright
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ARLINGTON — The raid of the Rainbow Lounge put Leigh Ann Wiggins in a bit of an awkward position. On one hand, Wiggins is an out and proud lesbian — and has been since prior to becoming an agent for the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in 2005.

On the other, Wiggins worked closely with two TABC agents who — along with officers from the Fort Worth Police Department — conducted the raid of the Cowtown gay bar on the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

And Wiggins, then stationed with the agents in TABC’s Fort Worth office, said she’d never had issues with them — or anyone else at the agency for that matter — related to her sexual orientation.

“I don’t know that I had a reaction [to the raid] right off the bat, because I got phone calls of course from friends saying, ‘Hey, this is what we heard,’ and then I hear stuff at work,” Wiggins recalls, adding that she attempted to remain neutral. “Really I just tried to distance myself from the negativity, because it was a bad event, but there are a lot of positive things that have come since from that one event. … It was a real negative time for us [TABC], so we really tried to work hard to work through it and move to the next phase and try to find some things to work on to keep it from happening again.

Three years later, Wiggins has become an integral part of that process for TABC, which fired the two agents and their supervisor for their roles in the raid — and later reached monetary settlements with two injured Rainbow Lounge patrons.

This summer, Wiggins was named TABC’s liaison to the LGBT community for District 2 — which covers all of North Texas and most of East Texas. TABC is the only state government agency in Texas with an LGBT liaison, and District 2 is the only area of the state that currently has one.

However, the agency’s new administrator, Sherry Cook, told Dallas Voice this week that she plans to add LGBT liaisons in the other four TABC districts as well.

“I was here during the Rainbow Lounge incident and the time that followed, working closely with [then-administrator] Alan Steen as our agency responded to those events, making policy changes and instituting new training,” Administrator Cook said in an email responding to questions from the newspaper. “I am committed to continuing along that path. I support an inclusive workplace and believe in the importance of making all employees feel safe and valued, regardless of sexual or gender orientation.

“I applaud Major [Robert] Cloud for appointing an LGBT liaison and appreciate Agent Wiggins continuing TABC’s outreach to the LGBT community in North Texas,” Cook added. “I will be seeking out volunteers in the hopes that we can have LGBT liaisons in other parts of the state as we do in headquarters and the Arlington District.”

Carolyn Beck, TABC’s director of communications and governmental relations, said there have been no objections to the LGBT liaison position from those who oversee the agency, including Republican Gov. Rick Perry’s office. Beck, who’s straight, was named the agency’s statewide LGBT liaison in the wake of the raid, but she said she can’t have the same impact as someone like Wiggins who’s in the field.

Maj. Cloud, who’s over District 2, received a written reprimand for failing to follow a TABC policy in the Rainbow Lounge raid. He said he created the LGBT liaison position for North Texas a short time later. But the original District 2 liaison was not a member of the LGBT community, and after she moved to another state the position sat vacant. That’s when Cloud asked Wiggins if she would accept the assignment.

“The fact that she’s a member of the community certainly helps,” Cloud said. “She will certainly be accepted much more readily. I think the dialogue’s going to be more genuine quite frankly.”

Since the raid, Cloud has become an outspoken supporter of the LGBT community.

Along with Wiggins, he recently took part in a panel discussion on the third anniversary of the raid following a screening of the documentary film, Raid of the Rainbow Lounge. And just last week, Cloud attended a candlelight vigil at the Rainbow Lounge for Fairness Fort Worth President Thomas Anable.

“I don’t want anybody to think that the Rainbow Lounge was typical TABC, because it wasn’t,” Cloud said this week. “I’ve been working in bars in the Metroplex for 25 years, and I had a great relationship with the gay bars. In fact, the gay establishments were some of the easiest ones to work.

“Rainbow Lounge came along and it was like, ‘Oh my God,’” Cloud added. “We got hit right in the face with the realization that that segment of the community, a growing segment of the community, had been ignored. Not on my watch ever again.”

As a sign of progress at the agency, Cloud pointed to a promotions ceremony he attended in Austin earlier this year. The partner of a gay TABC sergeant who was being promoted to lieutenant was called up for photographs, participating in the ceremony as though he were a heterosexual spouse.

“I sat there in the audience thinking wow, 10 years ago this would never have happened — ever,” Cloud said. “We’ve come a long way, and we’re going to continue to grow and we’re going to continue to be inclusive and I’m very proud of that.”

Jon Nelson, who took over for Anable last week as president of Fairness Fort Worth, acknowled-
edged that TABC’s response to the raid has sometimes been overshadowed by the city of Fort Worth’s.

But Nelson called the agency’s appointment of an LGBT liaison agent in North Texas “tremendous progress.”

“I think it’s significant because government agencies and private organizations can say what they want,” Nelson said. “They can sound good, but until you put those words into practice, we in our community just don’t know. When you see their actions, when you see somebody on the ground who cares and is part of our community, the level of trust between our community and the TABC is just strengthened exponentially.”

“If you’re somebody who wants to go work for the TABC, and you’re gay or you’re lesbian and you’re not completely comfortable with that, what a wonderful thing it is to be hired on to an organization where you don’t have to hide,” Nelson said.

In addition to appointing the liaisons, TABC has conducted comprehensive LGBT diversity training for each of the last three years — making it the first statewide agency to do so.

Rafael McDonnell of Resource Center Dallas, which has conducted the LGBT diversity training for TABC, noted that Wiggins will become one of the few LGBT liaisons at law enforcement agencies in North Texas.

TABC joins the Dallas and Fort Worth police departments, Dallas Fire-Rescue and the Dallas County Sheriff’s Department among local agencies with LGBT liaisons.

“I think it shows how committed to LGBT inclusion TABC is,” McDonnell said.

McDonnell added that based on feedback from TABC employees who’ve completed the training, he feels it’s needed and has been a success.

Whether the training will continue is likely to be an annual decision by TABC that’s based partly on the budget, but in her comments to the Voice this week, Cook expressed support for it.

“LGBT diversity training creates awareness among our staff who provide service to the LGBT community,” Cook said. “Just as importantly, the training plays a vital role in making sure that our LGBT employees feel like they can be themselves while at work.”

For Wiggins, being herself at TABC was never a problem.

A native of tiny Huntington in Southeast Texas, Wiggins went to work at the Angelina County Jail at 19.

She said she came out as a lesbian at 21 while attending police academy in Kilgore, before returning to Angelina County to work for the sheriff’s department.

“One day I proved that I could do the job, I didn’t have any problems with anybody,” she said.

As a TABC agent, Wiggins is assigned to a three-county region west of Fort Worth. She and her partner are currently buying a house in Weatherford. They are foster parents with two young children whom they eventually hope to adopt.

Wiggins said as LGBT liaison — a role she’s taken on in addition to her duties as an agent — she’s looking forward to being involved in any way she can. Her primary responsibility is to be the contact person for the gay bars and for the LGBT community in the district.

“If they have an issue or a question, need education, anything, then that’s what I’m here for,” she said. “Hopefully they can feel open enough to talk to me about whatever problems they have.”

Wiggins said she’s already visited Resource Center Dallas and several of the gay bars in Dallas, meeting with employees and leaving her contact information.

She plans to meet soon with LGBT liaisons from the Dallas and Fort Worth police departments to discuss how they can work together.

“I’m open to anybody calling me, whether it’s a co-worker or bar owner, citizen or whoever,” Wiggins said. “If they need to talk to me and talk, that’s what I’m here for.

“Hopefully it will help people realize that you can be out at work and not have to feel threatened or worry about anybody treating you any differently,” she said.

Wiggins can be reached at 817-652-5912 Ext. 2433 or Leigh.Wiggins@tabc.state.tx.us.
Copper was originally found as a stray puppy by a senior couple who soon realized that he was too much for them to handle. He was brought to Operation Kindness to find a home where his energy level would be appreciated. He is friendly and playful and will make a great family pet. Please come to the shelter to meet Copper. And bring the kids, because he will make everyone smile.

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FROM STAFF REPORTS

Hope for Peace & Justice has announced Dr. Susan Gore as the organization’s new executive director.

H4PJ said the appointment of Gore, a nationally recognized leader for social justice for LGBT people, signals its continuing commitment to creating a society that demonstrates inclusion for all.

“My career has followed a circuitous path, yet I feel like my new role with Hope for Peace & Justice is what I am called to do,” Gore said in a news release this week. “The support of people like Michael Piazza, Jo Hudson, and so many others adds to my belief that our organization can be a catalyst on many important LGBTQ issues.”

H4PJ is a social justice ministry of Cathedral of Hope that is dedicated to equipping progressive people of faith to be champions for LGBTQ equality. The nonprofit organization achieves its mission through programs that focus on fostering safer schools, HIV/AIDS public policy and transgender inclusion.

According to Steven R. Jolly, H4PJ board chair, Gore’s skills and experiences are an asset that will significantly contribute to the organization continuing its mission.

“Susan brings an impressive portfolio of skill and might to Hope for Peace & Justice,” Jolly said. “We are looking to her to building awareness of our organization as a valued ally and embodied presence in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.”

Gore’s career spans various roles, including work in television, corporate marketing, and as a strategic planning consultant to organizations ranging from the Society for Human Resource Management and Resource Center Dallas to the Unitarian Universalist Association.

“Several years ago I was leading a project on increasing congregational diversity when someone said, ‘You know, what you’re doing is community ministry,’” Gore said. “That simple act of labeling gave me a whole new understanding of why I have committed more than two decades working for LGBTQ equality.”

Gore has lived in Texas twice, coming here first in 1977 to serve as the first full-time female faculty member in the department of psychology at Texas Christian University. In 1981, Gore became executive director of the National Women’s Studies Association.

Since returning to Dallas in 1989, Gore has been a founding member of Leadership Lambda and the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce (formerly the Stonewall Business & Professional Association). She has also served on the board of directors for numerous nonprofit organizations in North Texas.

In 1991, Gore established The Mentor Group, providing strategic planning, communications and diversity leadership expertise to clients such as AT&T, Chubb, Deloitte, IBM, Kendell Jackson, PepsiCo and Texas Instruments.

Today, Gore is a member of the National Advisory Council of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, the bisexuality author for Cultural Detective: LGBT, and editor of Coming Out in Faith, a collection of 15 essays about life at the intersection of being LGBT and a person of faith.

Her passion of higher education continues through her enrollment in the master’s of theological studies program at Brite Divinity School at TCU.

“Passion drives success,” Gore said. “I wholeheartedly believe in the mission of H4PJ and look forward to continuing its success one achievement at a time.”

Susan Gore named executive director of H4PJ
Jenkins’ DP benefits plan hits roadblock

Dallas County judge says officials from Denton, Tarrant threatened to veto eligibility for same-sex partners at recent meeting of regional agency

ANN WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins says disagreements at a recent Public Employee Benefits Cooperative meeting won’t deter him in his quest to offer domestic partner benefits to county employees in 2013.

PEBC, a self-insured government partner agency that helps keep the cost of benefits affordable, is made up of Dallas, Tarrant, Denton and Parker counties, as well as the North Texas Tollway Authority.

Although the PEBC board had a majority in favor of allowing Dallas County to provide the benefits, Jenkins said representatives with Tarrant and Denton counties threatened a veto. As founding members of the PEBC, Dallas, Tarrant and Denton counties have the power to veto new benefits or eligibility changes, which require a board vote to go into effect.

The PEBC board voted down allowing its members to offer DP benefits by one vote last year, Jenkins said.

But this year, he hoped the PEBC would approve them so he could have the Dallas County Commissioners Court, which he chairs, vote on DP benefits before finalizing the budget in late September. The Court has a 3-2 Democratic majority.

The veto threat, however, prevented a vote by the PEBC board because it would waste time and possibly harm Dallas County’s position as a member of the agency. Jenkins said a vote in the near future is unlikely.

Instead, Jenkins is working to find a way around asking for the PEBC’s permission. Jenkins said the plan is to offer the benefits outside of the PEBC because it’s too short notice to find another company with open enrollment coming up soon.

“Because of roadblocks at the PEBC, we are currently looking at options to provide domestic partner benefits for our employees but will have to go outside the PEBC,” Jenkins said. “If we do it through an outside company and not through the PEBC, they can’t veto it. If we can’t win the vote, we’ll win this way.”

District 4 County Commissioner Elba Garcia was appointed by Jenkins to the PEBC this year and is helping Jenkins draft a plan to still offer DP benefits. She said finding a way to offer them outside of the agency would be difficult because of cost and making sure the same benefits that are offered through the PEBC will be offered to the partners of county employees who will use DP.
Rawlings, 12 other council members to ride in parade

Dwaine Caraway’s office says he’ll be at gay Pride despite Cowboys game, leaving Vonciel Jones Hill and Sandy Greyson as only 2 who won’t

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Mayor Mike Rawlings, City Manager Mary Suhm, Dallas Police Chief David Brown, and 12 Dallas City Council members are scheduled to appear in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, according to Michael Doughman, executive director of the Dallas Tavern Guild.

“I am excited to participate in this symbolic event where LGBT pride is honored and celebrated,” Rawlings said in an email statement this week. “But I am also proud to work side by side on the issues that are important to the community.”

Two city council members, Vonciel Jones Hill and Sandy Greyson, are not scheduled to appear in the parade.

A message left in Hill’s council office went unreturned. In 2009, Hill told Dallas Voice, “I won’t be participating [in the parade], and based on my present beliefs, I won’t be participating in the future. There’s no reason I should be castigated for that.”

Asked what those beliefs are, Hill said: “I believe that all people are loved by God, all people are created equal under God, but there are acts that God does not bless. It does not mean the person is any less God’s child. I’m entitled to stand for what I believe, and I don’t appreciate anyone castigating me for standing for what I believe.”

Greyson’s assistant said she believes there’s another scheduling conflict this year.

Greyson signed a letter from city officials that appears in this year’s guide to Dallas Pride, distributed inside this week’s issue of Dallas Voice. Hill refused to sign the letter.

Councilman Dwaine Caraway has missed the parade in the past when a Cowboys game conflicted, but this year he plans to attend.

“The parade’s the only reason he’d ever miss a game,” Caraway’s assistant, Sloan Anderson, told Dallas Voice this week.

The Parade starts at 2 p.m. The Cowboys play at 3:05 p.m.

The mayor will appear for the second time. He is the first mayor to ride on the float two years in a row since Laura Miller. Rawlings is only the third Dallas mayor, after Miller and Tom Leppert, to participate in the parade.


City officials have participated in the Pride parade since the early 1990s when openly gay council members Chris Luna and Craig McDaniel represented Oak Lawn.

Earlier, Sgt. Earl Newsome, a police officer assigned to Oak Lawn who became an unofficial liaison to the LGBT community, marched in the parade and in 1987 was named grand marshal. He was the first city official to participate in the Pride parade.

Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Michael Doughman said gay former Councilman Ed Oakley’s goal when he was elected was for the mayor and entire City Council to appear in the parade.

When Oakley joined the council in 2003, he began talking council members into riding in the parade. By his second year on the council, he had most members on board. Each council member rode in his or her own car.

“It became such a long string of cars as he added members, we put them on a float,” Doughman said.
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By plane or ‘Priscilla,’ LGBT Dems head to Charlotte

Texas falls short of its gay delegate quota by 1, but National Stonewall expects record number of LGBT participants at 2012 convention

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Former state Rep. Glen Maxey is driving to the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte in a van dubbed “Priscilla, Queen of the Convention.”

Eight people will travel in the van, decked out in rainbow colors and an 8-foot banner that reads “Gays for Obama,” through Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina before reaching their destination.

Maxey, who will officially be elected to the Democratic National Committee at the convention, is not a delegate, so he is attending as a page.

“Two old gay geezers are taking six young college kids,” Maxey said.

He said he raised the money for hotel rooms for the students, and everyone was going to fly until he found out that one of the people who wanted to attend was undocumented. Since that student has no identification, he cannot board an airplane.

“Well, Uncle Glen is going to make this a trip,” he said he told them.

When the others worried that Maxey was going to get them killed traveling through Alabama and Mississippi in the conspicuous van, he told them they had no sense of adventure.

“What could go wrong on this trip?” Maxey said.

Other Texas participants planned to travel to the Democratic and Republican conventions in more traditional fashion.

“I’m flying,” said Jeff Strater, a Democratic national delegate who is also a member of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas.

A total of 534 LGBT people were scheduled to participate in the Democratic convention, according to National Stonewall Democrats. That eclipses the record of just over 350 delegates set four years ago in Denver. Of the 534 LGBT participants, 486 are delegates, 23 are alternates, 20 were committee members and five are pages, National Stonewall said.

Carol Cappa, vice president of the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus, is a member of the standing Rules Committee. She was leaving for Charlotte early because the committee meets on Saturday, Sept. 1.

Cappa called this year’s Democratic platform “a great step forward.”

She was looking forward to seeing how the Democratic Party operates at the national level and hoped the platform would “rev up the base to get out to the polls.”

Metroplex Republicans Vice President Rudy Oeftering attended local Republican platform committee meetings earlier this summer and traveled to the Republican Convention in Tampa. He arrived on Tuesday, Aug. 28.

He said attending the local committee meetings was important for interacting with some whose concept of gay people is only what they hear in church.

“We go to get anti-gay language removed,” he said, “and come into contact with people who don’t support us. You realize you are the first openly gay person they’ve ever spoken to.”

But he said the majority of people he has encountered in the Republican Party welcome his participation and he said that’s what he expected to find in Tampa.

While Democrats include LGBT participation in their delegate diversity quotas, Republicans don’t keep count of the number of LGBT delegates and alternates.

The national Democratic Party set quotas for each state to fill with LGBT delegates. Texas missed its quota by one.

“You have to have people willing to run,” Strater said.

He said he was the only gay male that ran for one of nine delegate seats in Senatorial District 23. He said while it was disappointing that Texas didn’t exceed its quota, the delegation would actually include a larger number of gays and lesbians, including people like Maxey and committee members like Cappa and Erin Moore.

Log Cabin Republicans reported about two dozen gays and lesbians participated as delegates or alternates. However, the national gay Republican group had a larger presence in Tampa.

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders, a Republican who is a chair of Mayors for the Freedom to Marry, recorded an ad that was broadcast on local Tampa TV stations throughout the week.

“Marriage strengthens families and we need more of that in this country, not less,” he says in the 30-second spot, framing marriage equality as a conservative issue.

On Wednesday, Log Cabin and Young Conservatives for the Freedom to Marry ran a full-page ad in the Tampa Tribune supporting marriage equality.

“We believe that the freedom to marry is directly in line with the core ideals and principles of the Republican Party — less government, more individual freedom, personal responsibility and the importance of family,” said Log Cabin Executive Director R. Clarke Cooper.

Cooper criticized the marriage plank in the Republican platform, which Family Research Council President Tony Perkins took credit for writing.

“The obsessive exclusion of gay couples, including military families, from the rights and responsibilities of marriage, combined with bizarre rhetoric about ‘hate campaigns’ and ‘the homosexual rights agenda’ are clear signs of despera...
An administrative hearing will be held Friday, Sept. 7, on an application for an alcohol license from Marty’s Hideaway — a new gay bar planned at the site of the iconic Bill’s Hideaway on Buena Vista Street in Uptown.

A neighborhood group is challenging the license application with a list of complaints including traffic, parking, drunk people on the streets after hours, sexual activity, trash, noise, loud music, drugs and breaking into cars.

Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission spokeswoman Carolyn Beck said the agency investigated the complaints and has opted not to join the protest.

For 25 years, a gay bar operated as Bill’s Hideaway in the same location. After it closed in 2009, Paulette Hershner and her son Lonzie leased the property and have spent the past year and a half renovating it. The Hershners also operate the Tin Room and Drama Room in Oak Lawn.

Between 2006 and the closing of Bill’s Hideaway in 2009, the bar was cited for seven TABC violations. Four of those resulted in written warnings. The other three were dismissed without prejudice.

Beck said that if there were violations at the Hershners’ other establishments, that would hurt their application, but their record is clean.

Beck said that an investigator went to the neighborhood both during the day and at night. He reported that during the day, the neighborhood was quiet but at night it was noisy with quite a bit of traffic. Three other bars are within a block of the Hideaway.

“It would be difficult to deny a permit to one location when there are others in the area,” Beck said.

Singer Jason Huff said he would like the Hideaway to reopen.

“Those looking forward to its reopening should be at the meeting,” Huff said.

He said that while noise from music was no problem before, the front building has been stuccoed and insulated during the extensive renovation of the property so he expects less, not more, noise.

A parking lot was added in the backyard of a dental office on Buena Vista Street to bring the club in compliance with city parking regulations.

The hearing for the Hideaway’s liquor license takes place in front of an administrative law judge not connected to TABC.

“Community members get to say why they don’t have a right to a permit,” Beck said.

The judge has up to 60 days to make his decision. Both sides then have 30 days to respond. However, Beck said the business has more rights of appeal than the neighborhood and the Hershners could take their case as high as the state Supreme Court.

“I was stunned it ever got to this point,” Paulette Hershner said. “I never expected it.”

The hearing is set for 10 a.m. on Sept. 7 at 6333 Forest Park Road, Suite 150A in Dallas.
Nelson wants to get more people involved in Fairness Fort Worth

New president expands group’s Board of Directors, seeks to boost community participation after taking over in wake of Anable’s death

ANNA WAUGH | Staff Writer
waugh@dallasvoice.com

FORT WORTH — Fairness Fort Worth is preparing some structural and procedural changes to the organization in the coming months.

The recent tragedy of losing longtime president Thomas Anable has not deterred the group’s five-member Board of Directors, including newly elected President Jon Nelson, from remaining active in Fort Worth and surrounding cities.

Nelson, a founding member of FFW who served as the group’s spokesman since it formed in response to the Rainbow Lounge raid, said his full-time law practice keeps him busy. Anable quit his job as an accountant in 2010 to devote himself to activism. He died Aug. 18.

Nelson said he was pleased to step in after Anable’s sudden death but would look for more input from the LGBT community and its allies for help.

“I was honored to be elected,” he said. “At the same time, it’s a daunting task and I’m going to need more people involved to help Fairness Fort Worth move forward and be productive.”

The first step is to increase the number of board members significantly, he said, adding that he wants its members to reflect the diverse community that values and supports the organization.

“The board will expand to be more representative of the community,” Nelson said. “The structure will change so there are more people involved.”

As for FFW’s initiatives, Nelson said the organization would continue to work with the Fort Worth Independent School District to help create an anti-bullying training program to coincide with its LGBT-inclusive bullying policy. FFW leaders helped the district create a comprehensive policy for reporting, monitoring and preventing bullying. He also said he wants to take FWISD’s policy to other areas of the state that do not include LGBT protections in their bullying policies.

“Fairness Fort Worth is going to move forward but more as a group and less as individuals,” he said.

The Rev. Carol West, FFW vice president, said she’s pleased that Nelson is taking over as president.

“I’m excited about Jon’s leadership and I think he’ll continue to take us to new and broader horizons,” West said. “We’ve done a lot and have got a lot of work to do and will continue the work effective as one that’s specific.”

He also wants to work with other local governmental entities that do not include LGBT protections in their nondiscrimination policies, such as Tarrant County. After that, the group will likely start working with agencies to add domestic partner benefits.

Once new board members are added, Nelson said he wants to have at least three general meetings a year to update the community on FFW’s progress and seek input for future endeavors. He also wants to create committees for projects and areas in which people have an interest, moving the organization forward with additional help and resources.

“I can’t believe the reduction in my acne scars. I thought I was stuck with them forever. Even my friends have noticed the difference. I’m thrilled with the results!” - 75

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benefits outside of the PEBC.

Garcia served on the Dallas City Council from 2001-09, voting in favor of the city’s nondiscrimination ordinance that includes sexual orientation and gender identity. She also helped the city pass DP benefits and plans to help the county pass them as well.

“It’s like the Lord put me there to pass it in the Dallas City Council and to pass it in the Commissioners Court,” she said.

Rafael McDonnell, communications and advocacy manager for Resource Center Dallas, said the county has invested a lot of time and effort into trying to secure DP benefits, realizing that the cost is minimal and voting for equality is the better option.

“Narvaez thought the timing was poor considering the other counties interfering in what Dallas County wants to do,” he said.

The other counties do not have LGBT protections in place in their nondiscrimination policies, so he said those officials wouldn’t understand protecting LGBT citizens on a basic level. He said citizens of those counties should contact their officials to voice their opinion on how they should vote when making a decision that will affect their future benefits options.

Jenkins said he was disappointed in not being able to go through the PEBC for the approval to provide DP benefits but that he was determined to find a way to still offer them as soon as possible.

“To me, domestic partner benefits are fundamentally about equal rights and equal benefits for all of our employees, and that is something that we absolutely have to push forward,” Jenkins said.

“As far as I’m concerned, we will find a way to have domestic partner benefits.”

that’s been started.”

Nelson said another thing he wants to work on is visibility in the larger Fort Worth community, such as finding board members that are involved in several activities and organizations like the Fort Worth Police Department’s new Multicultural Education and Proficiency Committee.

West is on the police chief’s citizen advisory council. She has applied to be a part of the new committee, which the chief came up with, she said.

The committee will bring people from various backgrounds and communities to develop training for new recruits to help them understand different cultures. The committee is still in the planning stage, but she said a training program would most likely be prepared within a few months. She said the training would be in addition to the LGBT sensitivity training police undergo, so the LGBT portion of the new training would be an overview.

“My understanding is it reaches across all boundaries and bringing us all together,” she said. “They’re targeting every community they can find.”

Tori Van Fleet, a transgender FWPD civilian employee who works in the crime lab, said she also applied to help with the new committee. She said it is a good addition because while all police officers undergo the LGBT training, many don’t meet or encounter a trans person.

Van Fleet will also be joining the FFW board. She said Anable asked her to join the FFW board in May, but she wasn’t sure she wanted to get involved with activism again. But now she’s ready and took Nelson up on his offer to join recently.

“They’ve got a lot of good ideas and a lot going on,” she said about the board. “I want to be more than a just a member.”

Spreading out the workload among board members is an appealing idea because many local activists take on so much themselves, she said.

“Everyone’s getting burned out because they’re doing all these things on their own,” she said. “We need more people doing things and people on action committees… It keeps the burnout down.”

CONVENTIONS, From Page 13

tion among social conservatives who know that public opinion is rapidly turning in favor of equality,” Cooper said.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas President Omar Narvaez is a delegate to the Charlotte convention. The Democratic Party platform that will be finalized at the convention calls for marriage equality. Narvaez said he takes pride in the platform, which Moore played a role in shaping as a member of the state and national platform committees.

“I’m looking forward to saying, ‘I am in favor of this platform,’” Narvaez said.

While a number of LGBT events will take place throughout the week including Stonewall receptions and the LGBT caucus, Narvaez and Strater both questioned the timing of HRC’s reception, which will take place during the vote on the platform.

“I was elected to be in the hall during the vote,” Strater said.

Narvaez thought the timing was poor considering the number of pro-gay planks in a document he called “historic.”

Other highlights of the convention, Narvaez said, would include the keynote speech by San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro.

Castro will be the third Texan to deliver the Democratic keynote, after Barbara Jordan and Ann Richards, and the first Latino. Narvaez described Castro as very popular within the party in Texas.

“It’s nice to see some folks on the bench,” he said, referring to the usual lack of any Democrats elected to statewide office since the Richards administration.

Offering a number of events took place during the Republican convention as well.

On Tuesday, 800 guests attended Homocon, sponsored by GOProud at The Honey Pot, a gay club in Ybor City, Tampa’s gay neighborhood.

Among the better known guests that attended were Americans for Tax Reform President Grover Norquist and former Rep. Mark Foley from Florida.
Feedback

On ‘Tom will never truly be gone,’ Page 6, Aug. 24, 2012

I am conflicted by gratitude for Tom Anable’s brief and meaningful work against intolerance and violence against gays and lesbians, and sadness that his life’s seemingly unmanageability and grief was not noticed in time to help him. As the tides of activism in our community ebb and flow from HIV/AIDS, to substance abuse, to violence at the hands of law enforcement, I wonder if we are focusing too heavily on the external wrongs against us (including the Chick-Fil-A silliness, frankly).

Perhaps we would benefit from shifting our perspective to taking a stronger look at the mental health of our community, so that those with depression and despair are not lost forever. This is the third GLBT suicide reported in the Dallas Voice in the past year or so. Remember Debbie who took her life after long discord with her partner? Do you recall Mark B. who overdosed after a long depression?

Imagine if the community energy given to a fast-food chain was directed amongst ourselves—asking, inquiring, sitting and listening to each other so that those who are marginalized within our own community feel validated, affirmed and needed. We must get lovingly tougher with each other. Ask your buddies about how they’re feeling. Ask if they’re on medication AND taking it. Talk directly about his/her substance abuse. Invite someone to join you for coffee. Challenge your friends who are still barebacking. Get in someone’s face with some care and compassion. It may save their life.

Eric Shellhorn
UT Arlington
Via DallasVoice.com

On ‘Developer breaks ground on ilume Park,’ Page 13, Aug. 24, 2012

As excited as I am to learn that the city’s puppies will have another place to shower, I find myself dismayed once more that the LGBT community of Dallas is backing gentrification yet again, and that no one seems to be speaking up about it.

Gentrification, the process of renewal and rebuilding to transform a working-class neighborhood into an affluent one, has always been stereotypically associated with gay men because supposedly they are typically upwardly mobile professionals with disposable income who are stylish enough to prefer the urban life, but I have to ask — is anyone in the LGBT community wondering what’s going to happen to the people who were living in the apartments that were torn down to make room for the puppy showers?

I checked. The ilume’s cheapest apartments — one-bedroom, one-bath, 600-square-foot apartments — start at $1,086 a month. The apartment complex that was there prior to the upcoming ilume Park, Douglas Park, rented their least expensive apartments for $340 a month. I wonder how these former Douglas Park residents are supposed to increase their income more than threefold? Or live now if they can’t? I knew one of their residents. He was on social security and living with AIDS.

When the Crosland Group bought the property of the old Douglas Park apartments, was there even a fleeting moment of consideration for building affordable housing rather than affluent housing? The article doesn’t say why the Douglas Park property was sold and the apartments torn down, but one has to wonder if the reason has anything to do with the rising property taxes and area rents that drove out the decades-old LGBT bookstore, Crossroads Market, as well as several other Oak Lawn businesses and residents.

Yes, I am happy that the look of Oak Lawn is improving. Yes, I am happy to see urban renewal. And I fully expect that those reading this comment will respond that gentrification makes the Oak Lawn area safer, crime-free, drug-free, and makes it look better. But is that an either/or logical fallacy? We have options other than either we leave the crime and drugs and urban blight or we build puppy showers. (And besides, how does it really help the crime, drug, and urban blight problem to render working-class people homeless?)

But am I the only person in our city who lives in the urban neighborhoods of Dallas who is asking this question? I find it hard to believe I’m the only Dallas Voice reader who is concerned about the future of the working-class LGBT community of Dallas.

Cliff Pearson
Dallas
Via DallasVoice.com

Maybe gay Republicans would learn if they lost some of their freedoms

You see, I grew up Republican and my family is still Republican, which is another reason for me having distanced myself from them. I’ve made it known to them and friends alike that my affiliation changed back in the 1980s. I voted for Ronald Reagan the first time. At that time neither party really valued the gay vote because while we were out more as a people after Stonewall, we were not really out. Then came AIDS, and the line was drawn in the sand. Republicans, especially Mr. Reagan, embraced the ideology that it was a gay disease — “God’s wrath on homosexuals for their lifestyle” — while Democrats saw people dying, losing their jobs and being evicted from their homes. The government led by Mr. Reagan was doing nothing to help my friends dying every day. I realized that the party I had grown up with was no longer the party for me since it did not value our lives as human beings.

Yes, we have made progress on many fronts, but it has NOT been because of the Republican Party. To think that a gay person would vote Republican is appalling. Do they think their “Sunday Fundays” at the bar just happened? They didn’t grow up during the time when you entered the bars through the back, off dark alleys. Police used to take down license plate numbers in parking lots. The Rainbow Lounge incident in Fort Worth was reminiscent of those days. Back in those days roughing up queers was fun for police because they couldn’t be held accountable, and after all no one would come forward to complain for fear of losing their job.

So you’re a gay person and will vote Republican? Talk about a slap in the face to those who have come before. What you have been fought hard for and it did not come at the hands of the Republican Party. Maybe if you lost some of the freedom you now enjoy at their hands, you’d better understand.

Gene Covington
Dallas
Via Snail Mail

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COUNT POLL

How important is it for elected officials to appear at gay Pride?

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK’S POLL:
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Most days, you can find Jennifer Buck riding a desk in the advertising department of Belo, a perfectly respectable office job in Corporate America. Which she’s fine with.

But most nights, Buck is increasingly at a job that couldn’t be further from her 9-to-5 routine. That’s when the four corners of her office become a boxing ring. About two months ago, Buck graduated from student to instructor, becoming the first female trainer at the Oak Lawn Boxing Gym.

It’s not the most common of athletic endeavors for women, but spend one round watching Buck in the ring and you’d be hard-pressed to refer to her as “the weaker sex.”

Buck had long enjoyed boxing as a spectator sport, but for working out, her interests ran toward a more traditional regime, such as running and playing softball. But starting in 2010, Buck began training at the gym. The benefits of a boxing workout sent her off the charts physically; eventually, she was sparring with other boxers in the gym — all men.

“I felt they held back a bit on me,” Buck, 38, chuckles. “But after a year and a half of training, I knew I could teach.”

Gym owner Travis Glenn saw potential in Buck — not just as a student, but as someone who could pass along knowledge to a diverse range of students.

“Jennifer is very patient with herself and has a very good eye for detail, which is important for a trainer when adjusting the fine points of a boxing student’s form and style,” Glenn says. “She provides Oak Lawn Boxing with a great opportunity to reach out to specific segments of our community: women — both lesbian and straight — students of color, and students with specific physical challenges. In the long run, this diversity will strengthen us even more as a boxing gym and workout facility.”

The question was whether more women would be interested in taking up boxing. Any misgivings quickly diminished.

“Now I’m working with women on the workout but also trying to get them interested in sparring and actual boxing,” Buck says. In just her first months as a trainer, she has already secured four female students — all of whom, as Buck did, started out brand new to boxing.

But as different as they are from each other, Buck has noticed common factors among them.

“The students are similar in that they want to defend themselves, they want a different workout and they are all over 30,” she says. “Although I’m not sure training is different with women, I think the comfort level works there and there is that woman-to-woman understanding.”

It also helps that they are not surrounded by the usual distractions of a big gym.

“In that environment, men are going to hit on you, but here it’s...
Silver daddy

Rock god Bob Mould embraced his elder status on a raucous ‘Silver Age’

When gay men reach a certain age, there are definitely lines drawn. Whether good (daddy) or bad (troll), they are no doubt distinguishable by labels to anyone not their age.

What makes for the best quality about Bob Mould’s newest release Silver Age is that he basically says “fuck all that” … and then rocks the shit out of your ears.

Mould is alt-rock royalty, dating back to his stints in influential groups Husker Du and Sugar. As they dissolved, he opted to forge ahead as a solo artist; Silver Age is his 10th solo disc, and sounds far fresher than his last few. He’s recharged and vibrant and he embraces his 51 years in full glory, while never playing as a grumpy old man.

Opener “Star Machine” immediately causes pause. As Mould vents on fame and celebrity, is he dismissing the likes of untested supernovas like Bieber and Gomez (You took a number from the star machine) or is he even referring to himself (You tell the world you had to fire the band)? Either way, the guitars drop like bombs into driving rage. But Mould’s melodic work keeps it a legitimate assault; even as a rock manifesto, the album is never tiresome.

The “real” album starts with the title track. Whether he has rediscovered his voice or found a new one, Mould lets the floodgates open with an anthem that dismisses all notions anyone with a touch of grey should slow down. When he belts “This is how I’m never too old to contain my rage over the stacked guitars,” it’s a declaration of glorious depth that is rarely heard. Mould welcomes his 50s with a no-retreat attitude.

On the album’s lead single “The Descent,” Mould trades in one life for a simpler one. As the song and video play out, Mould’s wisdom fosters a rebounding attitude instead of a victimized one. Under theatrical guitar layers, Mould can even dole out philosophical waxing.

Mould told Rolling Stone he “didn’t really have any agenda” on the album, but his natural poetry is hard to ignore. He can’t help but write lyrics that strike chords, even on simple lines like Don’t be scared of change / it may be time to rearrange from “Angels Rearrange.” But the music jets out from “Angels Rearrange.” But the music jets out of the speakers with beautiful abandon. There is a balance that drives as fast as Green Day, but with the soul of Rent.

Where it falters is in production values. Mould’s voice is mixed at the same levels as the music; not good — much of what he says gets lost. This is even more tragic because Mould’s voice never sounded better. He’s polished off his usual gruff for some sweet vocal chops. He’ll never be Robert Plant or Josh Groban, but his wails haven’t been this impressive in a long time.

Silver Age never lets up. On 10 tracks, the tone sticks with fast drums and an orchestra of guitar action throughout, but paced to provide real texture. By the end, you’ve experienced the magic of Bob Mould.

— Rich Lopez

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The Producers could be one of the few shows where the commonly accepted thumbnail description — two men try to put on the worst possible Broadway play and inadvertently wind up with a hit — expressly gives away the ending, but nobody grouses "spoiler alert!" Can you imagine summarizing The Sixth Sense by saying, "It's about Bruce Willis being dead the entire time and not knowing it." (If you haven't seen The Sixth Sense … oops.) Why? Because, in a way, knowing how it ends — seeing the hilarious comitragedy projected start to finish, knowing all along skeevy producer Max Bialystock (B.J. Cleveland) and nebbish accountant Leo Bloom (Brian Hathaway) will fail — only makes it funnier. And sadder.

And what a journey it is, especially in Uptown Players' local debut of the 11-year-old Tony juggernaut, perhaps the gayest musical ever … and that's saying a lot.

The stage version — written and composed by Mel Brooks (with help from Thomas Meehan) — is based on Brooks' 1968 film, but it's savvier, smarter and, of course, has more music. The signature song, "Springtime for Hitler," is here, but so are a host of other catchy earworms: "I Want to Be a Producer," "When You Got It, Flaunt It," "Along Came Bialy" and "Keep It Gay."

About that last one: It's the centerpiece of Act 1, in what easily amounts to one of the funniest scenes ever staged at the Kalita Humphreys Theater. In order to ensure that their show (a musical praising the Third Reich) is a flop, and allowing them to fleece the IRS in the process, Max and Leo hire Broadway's most incompetent director, Roger DeBris (Brad Jackson), ably aided by his "common-law assistant" Carmen Ghia (Peter DiCesare). And for 20 minutes, the laughs don't stop.

As Roger fantasizes about how he could "im-
prove” upon World War II (“They’re losing the war? Too downbeat!”) — dressed, incidentally, in a shimmering gown that makes him “look like the Chrysler Building” — he reaches near orgasmic excitement imagining goosestepping Nazis performing a Busby Berkeley routine.

And then in Act 2, that’s just what happens. The Producers is, even after 40 years, still incredibly inappropiately humorous, making light of the Holocaust and all — and funny as hell. It feeds off its inherent offensiveness, like a vampire, then delivers it back to the audience ten-fold.

It’s not a small show to produce — nor, as it turns out, an easy one to get right. On opening night, the horns section wailed off-key, and the lighting cues were bungled at first. But when it hit its rhythm… well, let’s just say they did something right.

There’s not a weak performance in the production, which is a showcase for talented comedians. Tony Martin, as the insane Nazi refugee and playwright, has a wide-eyed mania that takes the show’s riskiest character (a Hitler sympathizer) and makes him the comic cherry on this banana split. Martin milks every line for a laugh. DiCesare’s snakelike Carmen and Whittney Hennen’s blonde bombshell Ulla are right on target.

But it’s the triumvirate of Cleveland, Hathaway and Jackson who keep you laughing just at the lingering images of the show a week later. Jackson’s “performance” as Hitler — following a pageant of showgirls bedecked in head-dressed costumes of Germany clichés — seems to last forever. I nearly suffered from hypoxia trying to catch my breath.

Hathaway takes an interesting approach to this Leo, portraying him with the movement and style of a cartoon cat — he’s all slinky moves and exaggerated facial contortions. It’s an ebullient performance.

Cleveland was born to play Bialystock. (As soon as Uptown announced the show, the North Texas theater community assumed his casting by acclamation; it was the least surprising casting announcement of the year.) There’s more mugging in the theater than in Central Park on New Year’s Eve, but always for the greater good. In the penultimate number, where Bialystock recounts the events of leading up to his downfall (including the intermission), Cleveland vamps for two minutes, toying with the audience. It’s the kinda had-to-be-there moment theater was meant for. Just like this entire show.

Western couture: Cross-dressing on the frontier

Re-Dressing America’s Frontier Past by Peter Boag (University of California Press, 2011), $40; 257 pp.

Joe Monahan’s neighbors were shocked. The fall of 1903 was short and winter came early. Tough and self-sufficient, Joe had come to the Mallory ranch complaining of illness and he didn’t look good. Shortly after his arrival, he died in the warmth of his neighbors’ home.

The shock came when they went to prepare Joe’s body for burial: Grizzled ol’ Joe Monahan was a woman.

Do clothes make the (wo)man? Are we what we wear? In Re-Dressing America’s Frontier Past, author Peter Boag proves that those questions plagued our ancestors more than history admits.

Boag says that scenarios such as Monahan’s were common in the West in the decades between 1850 and 1920. Cross-dressers, for myriad reasons, were “very much a part of daily life,” and while people tit- tered and talked, general attitudes were based on late-19th-century beliefs on gender. Medical experts eventually claimed that cross-dressing was part of a “neurological disease” called homosexuality, and that “homosexuality was understood as an unfortunate by-product of modernization.”

But button-holing wasn’t so easy…

For women, the frontier was a man’s world. There was adventure and prosperity there, and becoming a man as much as possible was a way to seize opportunity. Safety was another reason for appearing masculine, cross-dressing could be scandalous fun, and it could help escape punishment for criminal behavior.

There were also women who believed themselves to be boys from birth.

For smooth-faced men, it was common to dress as women for dances and parties because biological women were scarce. Men impersonated women to entertain others. In some Native American communities, berdaches were encouraged to embrace femininity. Like some women, males took on girlish appearances to escape crime, and then there were the men who simply wanted to be women.

But for those men, and their female counterparts, life wasn’t easy. Arrests for the “crime” of wearing gender-inappropriate clothing were common and cross-dressers were often shunned. Interestingly, however, their partners (usually same-sex) were generally socially accepted.

That’s pretty fascinating stuff, but did Boag really have to devote 250 pages to it? Re-Dressing America’s Frontier Past is good, but long, with many excellent examples offered to back up Boag’s thesis about why these stories are largely hidden from history. What he found will set Western fans (not to mention screenwriters) on their ears.

And yet the book has its distractions. It’s scholarly and often reads like a dissertation more than a page-turner, which occasionally makes it hard to read if you’re just looking for a peek at hidden history and not a lecture.

That aside, because it uncovers a wealth of stories that are overdue for telling, Re-Dressing America’s Frontier Past is the ticket. If you’re a Western history buff especially, you need to outfit yourself with this book soon.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer
The unique looks of car design often take flight from unlikely sources.

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
crwaudo@aol.com

Earlier this spring, Rolls-Royce sponsored a fashion show in which models wore attire inspired by the company’s motorcars. I showed my partner a photo of one of the women, draped in red fabric, and asked him what she represented. It took him three seconds to identify her as the “Spirit of Ecstasy” hood ornament.

Auto designs can draw their inspiration from disparate fields. Harley Earl looked at the twin tail booms of a P-38 fighter plane and was inspired to create fins for Cadillac, which reached their zenith in 1959. Combined with sharp creases, eggcrate grille and stacked headlamps, fins make any modern Cadillac recognizable.

As I was flipping through photos, I showed him my picture of the 1973 BMW CSI 3.0. “Duh, it’s a BMW!” he exclaimed. While the car is 40 years old, its quad headlamps, twin kidney grille and “Hofmeister kink” in the rear windowline look handsome today.

An early ’60s drawing of the Ford Mustang also posed no challenge, given triple-barrel tailights and C-channel side surfacing. The features debuted on the 1964 1/2 Mustang and are loud and proud on the 200 mph Shelby GT500. Nobody will mistake the VW Beetle either. Dating from 1938, the Beetle isn’t the only famous Vee-Dub. Giugiaro’s two-box design for the VW Golf has proportions so clear a blind German could spy a GTI in the Black Forest.

Mercedes has terms for how it manages design: “Horizontal Homogeneity” and “Vertical Affinity.” The former decrees that all Mercedes in a generation look like part of a family, while the latter describes how each generation has features of previous models (think the three-pointed star, chrome grille, ribbed taillamps and gullwing doors.)

Mercedes isn’t alone. Hyundai’s popular “Fluidic” forms adorn the Sonata, Elantra and Azera; Ford’s “kinetic design” visually links products across the globe. You see the look on the Fiesta, Focus and 2013 Escape.

Designer Tom Peters’ Stingray concept from Transformers is so strongly evolved from Bill Mitchell’s ’59 Stingray racer that you’d know from another dimension it is a Corvette. Thank all things holy that Peters has been tasked with the C7 ’Vette.

“We did the Stingray as sort of a clandestine project. It was intended to be a way for us to capture the essence of Corvette,” he told me. “When the movie producers were looking for vehicles, they saw the Stingray and wanted it.”

Lincoln is in the throes of redifining itself. Designers should seek inspiration from Elwood Engel’s ’61 Continental, famous for its starring role in the Kennedy Administration. The 2013 MKT crossover, wearing an updated waterfall grille, borrows the Continental’s slab sides and shoulderline. More gorgeous Lincolns are promised soon.

Some of this is smart marketing, but the rest is keeping the dream alive. Looking down the hood at a Mercedes star or over seexy Corvette fenders are aspirations someone take a lifetime to realize. One thing is for sure: A half-century from now, you’ll still recognize these enduring design cues — even if draped in silk.

WHAT LINES! | Rolls-Royce’s iconic ornament is reimaged as a woman in red, left, while the CTS Coupe, top, has an unmistakable profile.
just me and them. I think that it feels nice to be in that private setting and not feel like a piece of meat,” Buck says.

Buck’s work in the ring dovetails into her charity work in that she feels it imbues her students with a sense of empowerment. Whether mentoring young people as she formerly did at Youth First Texas or running her nonprofit Women of Swarm — which matches lesbian and transgender women volunteers with nonprofits such as Habitat for Humanity and Paws in the City — boxing and community involvement align with Buck’s passion.

“I really love my job, but if I could do the boxing and the nonprofit stuff full time, I would,” she says. “I think that’s why I’m good at teaching this. Even since my 20s, I’ve worked with women. I grew up with a lot of positive female influences and I was one of the lucky ones who came out without any problem.”

Buck advises those curious about pursuing boxing that it helps to go in having an idea of what you want out of the training. If you think of it just as a workout, you’ll be missing out on the unique skills that Buck brings to the table. Whether novices are looking to get into peak physical shape or devoted gymrats hoping to venture into competitive boxing (as Buck hopes to do), the benefits are greater than just a better bod.

“I didn’t think there would be a mental work-out to this, but I’ve learned that along with endurance, focus and clarity become stronger,” she says. “A big reason for that is paying attention to your opponent and reading their body language. There’s a much bigger package to training than just hitting.”

But if vanity is the only concern, Buck addresses that, too.

“I will say that I can eat what I want and it stays off because of the training,” she says.

---

BUCK
From Page 20

After only two months, Buck already has four female clients following her in the ring.

SHE’S A KNOCKOUT

---

Softball: Dallas ladies at ASANA

Just a week after the softball-playing men of Dallas fought it out in Minneapolis, at the NA-GAAA World Series for men’s softball, the ladies of Dallas did the same in sunny San Diego for the female equivalent, the ASANA tourney. Three Dallas teams — C Division teams After Shock, Rock Chix and Outkasts — attended the week-long sports summit, and while each team played at least six games, none emerged in the leader box.

“They played hard,” says Amy Torrez, one of the coaches of the Rock Chix team. And there’s always next year. After all, Dallas loves its sports teams, and we’ll show up to give it our all.

— Arnold Wayne Jones
Look for the insert in next weeks issue!

Been a few years since you did LifeWalk? Register TODAY!

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Thank You to our Lead Sponsors
Diving in

We freely admit it: Seeing all those finely tuned male specimens at the Olympics swimming and diving in their technologically perfected briefs got us so hot, we felt like jumping into the pool with them. And while summer is trailing off throughout much of the country — at least on the calendar — we know full well how, in Dallas, it’ll be around until October ... and then it’s cruise season. So we started looking for what’s out there in sexy swimwear for the body-conscious Olympian ... or just recent Olympic viewer jonesing for a fix. Hey, it’s Labor Day — you need something new to wear to the pool this weekend.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

PACKIN’ HEAT | What do you get when you combine a shimmering fabric with a revealing hip-hugger cut then top it off with eye-catching patterns? Pistol Pete’s dazzling metallic Liquid midcut (above), or the even racier Steel line featuring a full zipper down the side (not pictured). Prefer a more luxurious fabric? The nylon/Lycra blend of Sauvage’s retro classic lace-up front with racing-stripe piping (right) mimics terrycloth but dries fast. Best of all? It looks great on any body type — always a plus.

> Available at Skivvies, 4001 Cedar Springs Road Suite C, and online at SkivviesDallas.com.

A REASON 2XIST | With solid construction but breathing room and form-flattering sensibility, the swimwear collection from 2xist leads any trip to the shore or that five-star hotel’s infinity pool — they will fit in anywhere. Owning to its variety of styles — from the show-offy bikini cut of the Rio line (above left), to the more modest but sexy boxer fit of Cabo square cut (right), to the shorty boxers of the Ibiza swim short (above center) and the comfortable but plush Maui board shorts (above right) — which garnered me looks on my beach vacation earlier this summer — the selection of styles is only outmatched by the vivid colors and engaging patterns. The worst thing about these trunks? Having to decide which one to wear first.

> Available at Skivvies and online at Shop.2xist.com.
It’s Labor Day weekend, the time when Hollywood tends to slough off its lesser releases in order to burn off the remaining detritus from the blockbusters of summer and cleanse the palate, so it were, for the “prestige” pictures that tend to distinguish the fall.

So you can go to the movies this weekend — there is some good stuff to see — or you can load up on some home viewing options, like these DVD and Blu-ray releases that really aim — and often hit — the gay sensibility.

**Sedona.** Although it’s not set in North Texas, Sedona has an interesting connection to Dallas: Gay filmmaker Tommy Stovall shot his last feature, Hate Crime, here. He has moved farther West for this dramedy, a rambling though engaging tale of two apparently unconnected stories happening in the same town at the same time. In one, high-powered woman exec Tammy (Frances Fisher) tries to deal with being stuck in a small town when she really needs to be back home taking care of business; on another, gay dads Scott and Eddie (Seth Peterson, Matthew J. Williamson) are taking their hits on a nature walk. Only Scott doesn’t wanna be communing with the environment any more than Tammy does. You can probably guess the trajectory the story will take: Both Tammy and Scott learn something about letting go (and repairing their damaged relationships) while coping in a semi-mystical town.

But if the format feels familiar, Sedona is a charming direct-to-video/VOID movie that’s often too well written to be cursed by its lack of daring. Indeed, there are still some surprises (though you can probably figure out the big one before the reveal), and it’s pleasingly acted by a fine cast, and for an indie film, the exterior cinematography is strikingly beautiful. And Stovall so off-handedly addresses the gay content, you almost can’t call it “a gay movie.” It is, rather, a movie about people, whatever their orientation.

**EXTRAS:** Nothing much, but who really needs ’em?

— Arnold Wayne Jones

**Kathy Griffin: Pants Off and Kathy Griffin: Tired Hooker.** Where oh where would comedienne Kathy Griffin be without Real Housewives, Kardashians and her mom? Those are the go-to for the sassy redhead, who loves to talk about “my gays” while dishing about all things pop culture, and usually with a hint of tragedy and fearlessness. Let other comics riff on politics and hypothetical men-vs.-women relationship issues. Griffin’s smart (there is a political bent to a lot of her comedy, especially as it relates to gay issues like same-sex marriage), but she knows how to pander to that demographic of her audience that laps up the supercilious aspects of modern society. And that’s not a bad thing.

The new DVDs of two of her TV specials, linked together in a special “double feature,” actually complement each other nicely. In the first, Pants Off, she previews the Kardashian marriage; in the second, Tired Hooker, she performs its post-
DVD and Blu-ray releases that really aim — and up on some home viewing options, like these there is some good stuff to see — or you can load blockbusters of summer and cleanse the palate, order to burn off the remaining detritus from the wood tends to slough off its lesser releases in home taking care of business; on another, gay a small town when she really needs to be back (Frances Fisher) tries to deal with being stuck in one, high-powered woman exec Tammy happening in the same town at the same time. Ining tale of two apparently unconnected stories West for this dramedy, a rambling though engag-

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Tammy

in one, high-powered woman exec. Tammy

in the second, brother and sister (played by Silverman's real-life sib-

The Sarah Silverman Program: The Com-

plete Series. The crass absurdity of Sarah Silver-

man's prematurely oed Comedy Central series — one day she's licking her dog's butt to under-

stand what he finds so appealing about it; the next, she's an AIDS activist because she just

might have HIV — is what made its genius three seasons a racy rollick. Joined by her "gay-bors" and sister (played by Silverman's real-life sib-

ling), slacker Silverman finds herself in crazy, ex-

aggerated and politically incorrect predicaments

that teach her the wrong life lessons. Remem-

ber when she tried to be a lesbian? Or got suckered into an anti-abortion group? Thirty-two episodes of this type of ridicu-

lousness aren't enough, but they'll have to do.

EXTRAS: Lots! Commentaries from the crew (including Silverman), behind-the-scenes footage, audition videos, animated shorts and a fun Q&A from Comic-Con.

— Chris Azzopardi

Sister Act and Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit. Confession here: Sister Act has long given me the giggles because one of my best — and gayest — memories is linked to it (my 12-year-

old self draped in a white sheet with a black pillow case wrapped over my head, re-enact-

ing "I Will Follow Him" with my girl cousins, hitting those high notes while biology was still on my side). But that's by no means the only reason, no. Marc Shaiman's nuns-on-the-run

revelation, now 20 years old (holy cow!), was so much fun — period — that it made me won-

der why the Catholic church couldn't always have a Whoopi, some dancing and a bunch of musical numbers. Basically, God's house needed to be as gay as this movie, which gets a fab Blu-ray transfer.

Also included is the sequel, with a very young Jennifer Love Hewitt and an awful plot — a sin, for sure.

EXTRAS: Almost none, but who cares as long as Lady Soul's music video for "If My Sister's In Trouble" is included? And it is. God bless them.

— C.A.
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What a ride!

STEVEN LINDSEY  | Contributing Writer
stevenclindsey@me.com

Watching *Cosmopolis*, director David Cronenberg’s latest exercise in the bizarre, it’s hard not to picture legions of *Twilight*-adicted ‘tweens, whose mothers weren’t paying attention when their daughters asked them to buy tickets to the R-rated film, screaming in horror and running for the exits as their imaginary boyfriend Robert Pattinson gets a prostate exam inside his character’s stretch limousine.

It’s comically unnerving scenes like this that make the somewhat self-indulgent film intriguing enough to endure through to the final credits. But knowing it was originally supposed to include a gratuitous shot of Pattinson’s low-hanging family jewels (since, ummm, cut) only adds to the frequent frustration of this dialogue-heavy endeavor that crawls as slowly as his character’s vehicle through New York traffic.

The story follows 28-year-old billionaire Eric Packer (Pattinson) as he journeys across Manhattan in search of a haircut. Along the way, he encounters visitors, including an older woman (Juliette Binoche) popping in for a quickie, and a doctor for Packer’s bend-over-grab-ankle moment. Occasionally, the traffic is at such a standstill that he’s able to pop out for not just breakfast, but also lunch and dinner with his even stranger wife (Sarah Dagon).

Packer eventually gets his haircut (don’t worry, that’s not a spoiler), but the real payoff is a final-act encounter with Paul Giamatti, a mysterious figure from his past now living in unimaginable squalor.

*Cosmopolis* isn’t likely to convert the masses into overnight Cronenberg fans, whose previous works (*The Fly*, *Dead Ringers*, *A History of Violence*) prove far more consumer-friendly. For a movie filled with brief moments of unspeakable violence, explicit sex and a slowly building sense of dread, *Cosmopolis* too often feels stuck in neutral, accelerating rapidly only to abruptly halt once again.

That’s mostly because the overly cerebral conversations come verbatim from Don DeLillo’s novel. There’s a poetic coldness to these exchanges; the interactions only make the audience feel less educated, less important and less powerful than the one-percenters onscreen (which might be the point).

Filled with symbolism, the story from the nearly decade-old novel is almost eerily grounded in the present-day realities of money, power and the revolutionary uprising against those with too much of either. It’s depressing and mesmerizing all at once.

The film’s ultimate reward, however, is the realization that Pattinson is a gifted actor who can fascinate with the simplest of gestures or emotion-filled (and emotionless) gazes. And regardless of material, Cronenberg can deliver a stylized study of the human condition more haunting and cruelly beautiful than probably any other director working today.

Just plan to catch an early showing. Because after *Cosmopolis*, you’re gonna need a drink.

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**PROSTATE WITH SORROW**  | Robert Pattinson plays a weird billionaire with a penchant for rectal exams in David Cronenberg’s unsettling film ‘Cosmopolis.’

R-Patts sparkles in a different way for Cronenberg’s bizarro urban nightmare ‘Cosmopolis’
Good time gay

Gay director Jamie Travis makes feature bow with the potty humor of ‘Bridesmaids’

Last year’s hit Bridesmaids showed that women can get as down and dirty in a comedy with bathroom humor and outrageous antics as the boys can. But the new comedy For a Good Time, Call…, opening Friday, may take that notion even further. Lauren and Katie, two New York women who can’t stand each other due to an unfortunate urine incident, bridge the gap when they set up a phone-sex line.

Out director Jamie Travis and leads Lauren Ann Miller (who also co-wrote the script) and Ari Gaynor talk about the making of the raunchy film that has a heart and a whole lot of dildos. We talked to all three about dildos, the relationship between straight women and gay men and the film’s similarities to Schindler’s List.

— Rich Lopez

Dallas Voice: Obviously this is a comedy, but it has serious issues relevant today. There’s the girl power, a love story between friends and even nods to economic times with the two being creative about jobs. Lauren Ann Miller: Well, we’re really intelligent and smart so we put all that in there from the beginning. Ari Gaynor: It was a lot deeper than Schindler’s List. Miller: What was intentional was the story of female friendship and how people can change your life. This is a discovery film and you think you’re getting a raunchy movie — which you are — but you get more.

Gaynor: I do think you’re being really modest about the script. She and Katie [Anne Naylon] are both smart writers, and without it becoming an issue film, it was layered with these certain realities of today.

Jamie Travis: The love story forms the structure. This is what female friendship looks like and yeah, sometimes people find themselves taking a job they wouldn’t expect to feed themselves.

OK, let’s just get this out of the way. This film had some major cock action — even if the members in question were synthetic. Gaynor: Well clearly we’re not prudish girls!

Travis: I don’t know much about dildos, but for that one scene, it was important the dildo be bigger and veinier than ever should be. The comedy of that moment required a gasp-worthy dildo. You’ll know it.

Miller: Well, some other props were a little more intense but it’s just supposed to be fun and poking fun at the situation and we do that with a gigantic black dildo.

Did you name them? Both: Yes!

Gaynor: There was Earl, the big black one. Kevin, the one her character suggests [my character] to use. And in the scene with the parents, there was like Chad, the big white one….

Miller: I think it’s funny when they have really normal names like Jonathan and Steven.

So in this environment, what made you laugh most? Gaynor: Justin Long for me. I could not keep it together. I thought I’d ruin every single take.

Miller: He was on fire. We had a 16-day shoot so we had to get it together!

Travis: He’s a force to be reckoned with. I will say I didn’t know his immense talent until working with him. He understood the needs of the film.

The cameos were fun. How did you wrangle those? Miller: Sexual favors. But Seth Rogen’s my husband, so it’s OK.

Travis: With the cameos, they were gonna come up with stuff and say things you could never imagine.

Gaynor: Seth went off the rails.
Miller: But Kevin Smith is a friend. Martha MacIsaac is a friend. It was fun.

Did you know each other before the film? Miller: No, but we wrote it with her in our heads. No one else could be Katie.

Gaynor: Oh, God, it was the most flattering offer. When you feel like people get you, it’s such a gift. Right off the bat, it was a meta-experience.

Were you all relating to the characters? Travis: I saw myself in both of them. They are these archetypal characters. Katie is brazen but clearly it’s a façade. I’ve been that person. And I’ve also been Lauren being limited in my perspective sometimes.

Gaynor: There’s a lot I relate to in Katie. I think she’s much more vulnerable than you think. I understand that.

Miller: I hope I’m not as boring and straight and narrow as fictional Lauren. I like to say I’m funny sometimes, like my mom said to me.

Jamie, how did you get to direct this as your first feature? Travis: I always knew women and gay men would embrace this. These are the movies I’m drawn to. I was obsessed with those female-driven comedies of the ’80s as a kid. I felt this was a new and fresh take on that. When I interviewed for this film, I didn’t have much of a sales pitch. I remember saying, “I think you need a gay man to direct this film. So much of what I love is the utter reverence for women.” As a gay man, I had so much access to women. To read a script that captures the intricacies of female friendship, when it felt like I hadn’t seen one before ... how could I not make this?

How did you direct Justin Long in playing the very gay Jesse? Travis: I didn’t wanna put out a movie with a flagrant stereotype. Neither did he. He wanted to use me as inspiration and I was totally on board with that. [Laughs] He’s so alive and unpredictable; you kind of let him go.

Your characters are Jesse’s besties. Who’s the bigger fag hag? Miller: I envision they each do different things. I feel like Lauren and Jesse would have a fancy brunch and shop at Bergdorf’s while he and Katie would go to Shake Shack and vintage shopping in Brooklyn. They each give Jesse something else.

Gaynor: Agreed.

R.L.
**Friday 08.31**

**Second City takes on Dallas at DTC**
The Dallas Theater Center begins its new season and, for the first time since moving to the Wyly, it’s not Shakespeare. Not even close. Instead, local actress Liz Mikel joins members of Chicago’s Second City comedy troupe for this hand-crafted show that pokes fun at Texas and Texans (tailored by some Second City writers, pictured, who visited the city for grist this summer).

**DEETS:** Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. In previews through Sept. 6; full run until Sept. 30. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

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**Thursday 09.06**

**Cliburn launches 50th concert series**
We were all shocked this week by the news of Van Cliburn’s cancer diagnosis, but that only makes the new season of the historic 50th anniversary of the Cliburn Concert Series all the more poignant. Four gold medalists from his acclaimed quadrennial competition, including Haochen Zhang, pictured, will perform along with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra.

**DEETS:** Bass Performance Hall, 435 Commerce St., Fort Worth. 7:30 p.m. BassHall.com.

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**Thursday 09.06**

**Black’s ‘8’ opens Pride Festival**
Dustin Lance Black, pictured, is cute, he’s smart, he’s famous and he’s gay. But the main reason we love him is: He puts all those skills to good political use. His play, 8 — which dramatizes the Prop 8 debacle — was a critical hit nationally last year, and now it launches Uptown Players’ second annual Pride Performing Arts Festival with a one-night-only staging, directed by Rene Moreno.

**DEETS:** Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. 8 p.m. UptownPlayers.org.
FRIDAY 08.31
THEATER
The Second City Does Dallas. The Chicago based comedy troupe teams with the Dallas Theater Center for a scripted-with-improv skewering of all things Big D. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. In previews through Sept. 6; full run Sept. 7–30. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

COMMUNITY
Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous. Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m. 2438 Butler Stuite #108.
Unwired Dallas. Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA) meets for those wishing to quit using crystal meth. New Hope Fellowship Church, 2438 Butler St. 7 p.m. Free. Crystalmeth.org.
FUSE drop-in weekdays for gay and bi guys up to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. Tuesdays–Fridays at 2 p.m. DFWFuse.com.
Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. Fridays–Saturdays and Tuesdays–Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Thursdays at 4 p.m. YouthFirstTexas.org.

SATURDAY 09.01
FINE ART

ARTS
Dallas Handmade Arts Market grand opening. An indoor market for local crafters, designers and artists to sell their products to the public every weekend kicks off with this two-day event in the Design District. 327 Cole St. Saturdays, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sundays 11 a.m.–5 p.m. DallasHandmade.com.

COMMUNITY
SPCA of Texas Pet Grief Counseling monthly program helps those who have lost an animal cope with their loss. Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center at 2400 Lone Star Drive. 1 p.m. 214-651-9611.
Cathedral Couples potluck dinner and social. For location, call 972-252-7124.
Gaymsters bridge club (meet first and third Sundays as well as Tuesdays). Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 2 p.m.

MONDAY 09.03
COMMUNITY
Leadership Lambda Toastmasters meets to im-
prove public speaking and leadership skills. Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30–8 p.m. 214-543-5860.

The Women’s Chorus of Dallas holds rehearsals. Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. 7–10 p.m. 214-520-7828.

Mindful Monday Meditation hosted by Fit for Faith in Classroom A. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

TUESDAY 09.04
COMMUNITY
Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 4–9 p.m. 214-879-0400.
Classic Chassis Car Club. Ojeda’s 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. 214-446-0606.
National Leather Association-Dallas meets. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. NLA-Dallas.org.
Cathedral Ringers handbell rehearsal. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6:45 p.m. Contact Jeremy.crosswhite@gmail.com for more information.
Sista to Sista support group provided by AIDS Outreach Center. Meets every first, second and third Tuesday. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 11:30 a.m. 817-335-1994 ext. 204. AOC.org.

WEDNESDAY 09.05
COMMUNITY
20 Something. For those in the 20s who wish to engage in fellowship and worship. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m.
Youth First Texas groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. 4–9 p.m. 214-879-0400.
Outstanding Beautiful Brothers (O.B.B.) is a new support group to enhance the quality of life for young black MSMs (men who have sex with men) living with HIV, by providing a safe and confidential space to offer support, empowerment and education. Meetings held every first and third Wednesday. Call 214-702-6511 for information and location. 7 p.m.

BROADCAST
Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week’s guest is Dallas City Councilwoman Angela Hunt. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

THURSDAY 09.06
THEATER
8. Uptown Players launches its Pride Performing Arts Festival with this mainstage staged reading of Dustin Lance Black’s play 8, which dramatizes efforts by the Mormon Church and others to enact Prop 8 in California, banning same-sex marriage. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. 8 p.m. UptownPlayers.org.

FASHION
Fashion Night Out. The fourth annual national event called Fashion Night Out, sponsored locally by Fashion Group International of Dallas, returns with a...
VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22
Friends mean well — bless their hearts, if not their brains. Criticizing them will backfire. You need an outlet; save your kvetching for a very trusted and patient friend.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22
Enjoy the fruits of your labor, but don't over-indulge. Too much partying could bring latent problems to the surface. If friends offer advice, the less you like it, the more you should listen.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21
Too much individual initiative can be your downfall, but with forethought, intuition and advice from friends, you can do almost anything. If you're not entirely happy where you're working, get résumés to where you’d rather be.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20
There's a line between flirtation and sexual harassment, and you're a little too frisky. In the right time and place, that can work for you spectacularly, but it could undermine your reputation.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19
Your drive is strong enough to achieve nearly anything. Keep your mind focused on necessary work and away from arguments, especially at home. Sex may not solve problems, but can help you endure them.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18
Your mouth is the magic door to trouble. Think ahead, listen attentively and be very careful about the right time and place to get down and dirty.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19
Trying to be helpful around the house can cause trouble with your partner/roommate. Match actions to words. An argument with a friend can bruise your ego, but brave it and clear the air.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19
If malaise hits, focus on what's bothering you and get into action. Your voice is even louder and more forceful than usual. If you feel a need to yell at others, talk gently with a trusted friend.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20
Playful flirtations are likely to overstep bounds. Optimistic financial plans are way too much. If it looks too good to be true, it is. Get solid, reliable advice before putting your money anywhere.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20
Keep your hands busy, ears open and mouth shut — except in lovemaking. Sex is great, but verbal intercourse can get contentious. Housecleaning is the second best way of working off that energy.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22
Indulge yourself with a massage, a day at a spa, a long leisurely visit at a museum or a scenic hike. The company of a very close, trusted friend is ideal, but solitude is good for the soul, too.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22
Venus brings you more charm and gorgeousness entering your sign on the 6th. She's pretty amped up, so be careful not to overdo it. Are those "friends" laughing with you or at you?

THIS WEEK
Venus enters Leo while in hard aspect to Sun and Jupiter. Yes, there can be too much charm, sweetness and light. Most of the other planets want to get to work. Scale back from saccharine to diplomatic and you can do anything.
Famous Homophobes

Solution on page 37

Across
1 Shakespearean “shucks”
6 Do-overs for Billie Jean
10 Bean and Burke waved theirs around
14 San Vicente of gossip
15 Island of Diamond Head Beach
16 Black and white sandwich
17 Office employee
18 Like an authentic Broadway bio?
19 German capital
20 Candidate Rick who opposed same-sex marriage
22 Anti-family James of Focus on the Family
24 Southwestern plateaus
26 Hot-tempered
27 He blamed gays for Hurricane Andrew
32 Vojta’s confession?
33 Bone in the head
34 Owed
37 Online stat exaggerators?
40 Most queer
42 Fictional detective Spade
43 Circles over Mary and Peter
47 Soprano Gluck
48 He damned homosexuality as “intrinsically evil”
51 “Lil” guy of Dogpatch
54 Stiller’s partner, once
55 Antigay crusader Anita
57 Jimmy who told politicians not to accept campaign contributions from gay people
62 Take to the cleaners
63 Diva’s performance
65 Woman without a woman, e.g.
66 Long, slender instrument
67 Maupin setting for tales
68 Bert’s roommate
70 Vibrators and such
71 Opening for a bopper?

Down
1 Rainbow shapes
2 Cross-dresser in a Kinks song
3 Sherman Hemsley religious sitcom
4 One in a breath mint pack
5 Beach Boys comeback hit
6 Legs-intertwined positions
7 What a stud leaves on a lobe?
8 Thanksgiving da., e.g.
9 Filed for palimony, e.g.
10 Part for a Singer
11 Became erect
12 Caruso or Domingo
13 Father of Chaz
21 Gone With the Wind extra
23 Long ago
25 “Fifth Beatle” Sutcliffe
27 Police at Stonewall, in slang
28 Area east of the Urals
29 Lions or Tigers or Bears
30 Kevin Bacon in Footloose
31 Roadside warning sign
34 Where the salami is hidden
35 Nabor’s branch, on TV
36 State on the Seine
38 Richard Chamberlain’s The ___ Birds
39 Maple fluid
41 Mom’s mate
44 NASA craft
45 What helps health spas live off the fat of the land?
46 Paths where your first mate cruises
48 Came to a head
49 Piece-loving org.
50 Small leather bar?
51 Monastery’s main man
52 Cash inducement
53 Material on a drag queen’s legs
56 Diplomatic trait
58 Myra Breckinridge writer Vidal
59 A girl named Frank
60 Steed stopper
61 Parker of South Park
64 Carnaval locale
End of Summer Luau takes place at the Rainbow Lounge all night long on Sept. 1. Andrea Dawson performs at Alexandre’s on Sept. 5 at 9:30 p.m. Caio Bella appears at Sue Ellen’s on Sept. 1 and CC Cross and Emily Taylor appear on Sept. 2. Mark Alan Smith appears at the Round-Up Saloon every Monday at 10 p.m. and at the Rainbow Lounge each Wednesday at 10 p.m. Free dance lessons begin at 8:30 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon with Juanita. On Aug. 31, Jeffrey Payne talks about his personal story and traversing the globe during his title year as International Mr. Leather 2009 at 8 p.m. at the Dallas Eagle. Then Leather Pride Week continues with Carnivale de Sade on Sept. 1 at 3 p.m. and wraps up on Sept. 2 with a barbecue. Gary Floyd performs on the back patio at Woody’s Sports and Video Bar on Aug. 31 at 8 p.m. On Sept. 1 Carlos Saenz appears at 8 p.m. Start the holiday weekend off at S4 with MegaDance Friday. JR’s Bar & Grill celebrates the new gay NBC show The New Normal with a giveaway on Sept. 4 at 11 p.m. The show premieres Sept. 11 at 8:30 p.m. Get tickets now for Miss Coco Peru appearing in the Rose Room on Sept. 13 and 14 and for Suzanne Westenhoefer appearing in the Vixin Lounge at Sue Ellen’s on Sept. 14. Have a safe Labor Day weekend.

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Wear your tropical attire to the End of Summer Luau takes place at the Rainbow Lounge all night long on Sept. 1. … Andrea Dawson performs at Alexandre's on Sept. 5 at 9:30 p.m. … Calo Bells appears at Sue Ellen's on Sept. 1 and CC Cross and Emmy Taylor appear on Sept. 2. … Mark Alan Smith appears at the Round-Up Saloon every Monday at 10 p.m. and at the Rainbow Lounge each Wednesday at 10 p.m. … Free dance lessons begin at 8:30 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon with Juanita. … On Aug. 31, Jeffrey Payne tells about his personal story and traversing the globe during his title year as International Mr. Leather 2009 at 8 p.m. at the Dallas Eagle. Then Leather Pride Week continues with Karneval de Sade on Sept. 1 at 3 p.m. and wraps up on Sept. 2 with a barbecue. … Gary Floyd performs on the back patio at Woody's Sports and Video Bar on Aug. 31 at 8 p.m. On Sept. 1, Carlos Saez appears at 8 p.m. … Start the holiday weekend off at S4 with Megasalsa Friday. … JR's Bar & Grill celebrates the new gay NBC show The New Normal with a giveaway on Sept. 4 at 11 p.m. The show premieres Sept. 11 at 8:30 p.m. … Get tickets now for Miss Coco Peru appearing in the Rose Room on Sept. 13 and 14 and for Suzanne Westenhoeffer appearing in the Vixin Lounge at Sue Ellen's on Sept. 14. … Have a safe Labor Day weekend.

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Bilingual Case Manager wanted for local housing and supportive services agency serving people living with AIDS/HIV. Strong communication skills and knowledge of Dallas County resources. BA/BS in social work, human services, or related field required and three years of program experience working with homeless population, persons with disabilities, or substance abuse desired. Send resumes to: humanresources1920@gmail.com

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