Back to the scene of the crime

40 years after an anti-gay hate crime, Robert Camina seeks justice
Filmmaker's upcoming documentary explores forgotten mass murder of 32 gay men

High court hands down historic victories for LGBT equality, but what does it mean for Texas?

DOMA goes down

Day of Decision special section begins on Page 6
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headsline

- DAY OF DECISION
  6 Gay Texans to benefit despite ban
  8 500 gather for Cedar Springs rally
  10 Binational couples finally get relief
  17 Longtime couples react to rulings

- LIFE+STYLE
  22 Jazsmyne Kelli on Voice of Pride
  24 The Tenors perform at the Winspear
  27 Uptown show opens at Kalita
  28 Pittsburgh is more than ‘QAF’

- COVER ART
  Cover photo by John Wright

department

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People's filibuster of Texas Senate was democracy at its finest


On the morning of June 25, Texas state Sen. Wendy Davis began a 13-hour filibuster of Senate Bill 5. The bill would have eliminated abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy and required all abortions be initiated in what amounts to surgical centers. This bill would force the closure of all but a handful of abortion providers in the second biggest state in the union. Women in rural areas would have to drive hundreds of miles to exercise their right to have an abortion.

At 11:18 a.m., Sen. Davis began her filibuster. Her goal was to keep talking until midnight to essentially kill the bill during a special session of the Texas Legislature. No bathroom breaks. No leaning on her desk. No sitting. Gov. Rick Perry put abortion as one of the many issues for lawmakers to address during the session.

Shortly after 10:30 p.m., Texas Republican senators used a series of parliamentary tactics to forcibly end Sen. Davis’ filibuster. Democrats in turn used a series of tactics to delay a vote on SB 5 but their tactics were running out as 11:45 p.m. approached.

I sat in the Senate gallery looking directly at Sen. Davis and her democratic colleagues. I will never forget the desperate look on those lawmakers’ faces. The filibuster had come so far and only 15 minutes remained. They were staring right at us. We knew something had to be done to kill SB 5.

But what could the citizens seated in the gallery do? We aren’t lawmakers. We were a group of men and women, grandparents, students and professionals. Voters elected the people below us to debate and decide legislation like SB 5.

The answer came to us shortly after 11:45 p.m.: Use your voice. The spoken word (even yelling) is arguably one of the most democratic tools in a citizen’s arsenal. Voting is an action in a democracy but yelling is truly an expression of democratic principles.

People around me also started asking: “What if we scream for the next 15 minutes? Can we help Sen. Davis and the democrats kill SB 5? “Can we create enough noise to make voting impossible?” As we heard a vote commencing, on what appeared to be a motion to begin voting on SB 5, instinct took over. We started screaming.

I stood on the front row of the Senate Gallery, looking directly at Sen. Davis. Holding two fingers in the air (a no vote symbol that senators use), I screamed at the top of my lungs to help delay the passage of SB 5.

Our yells were heard around the world. Twitter lit up with people from California to New York discussing the protest. The major broadcast networks aired updates and footage of the people’s filibuster. Dozens of videos were immediately posted on YouTube, including one I recorded.

As I recall, the chants ranged from “Wendy, Wendy” to “Shame on you, Shame on you” (referring to Republican’s ending Sen. Davis’ filibuster). But the chant that resonates with me the most is “10 more minutes, 10 more minutes, 10 more minutes.” When I heard that, I understood that the entire gallery (99 percent of whom were total strangers to me) had the same thought and was working in unison: delay, delay, delay this bill until midnight when it dies as the special session ends.

As the gallery was being cleared by security after midnight, I knew we won. We screamed for 15 minutes straight. Dozens of screaming voices muddied the waters. Our democratic expression of yelling truly affected legislation.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst acknowledged the bill’s failure and said “an unruly mob, using Occupy Wall Street tactics, disrupted the Senate from protecting unborn babies.” No, Lt. Governor, we aren’t an unruly mob. This is how democracy is supposed to work. Citizens rise up and speak out (even in the Senate gallery) as our leaders take us down a dangerous path.

On June 25, the citizens of Texas won. For the first time in our history, the people successfully filibustered. It might be a temporary victory because the governor has called another special session to deal with unfinished business. However, we succeeded in one aspect: the eyes of the world are now upon Texas.

— Jose Andres Araiza
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Gay Texans to benefit despite ban

Experts say married couples who reside here will receive some federal rights, predict high court will address legality of state amendments soon

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
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While LGBT advocates across the country lauded the U.S. Supreme Court’s historic rulings in two marriage equality cases this week, same-sex couples in Texas wondered how long it would be until they could receive the full benefits of marriage.

The Supreme Court struck down Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act as unconstitutional in United States v. Windsor, requiring the federal government to recognize married same-sex couples and provide them with the full benefits of marriage.

The court ruled in Hollingsworth v. Perry, the challenge to the constitutionality of California’s same-sex marriage ban Proposition 8, that supporters of the amendment didn’t have standing to appeal. That means same-sex marriage will resume in California but the ruling will not bring marriage equality to other states.

Only a sweeping decision on the merits in the Prop 8 case would have allowed Texans to marry if the court had found all state marriage amendments unconstitutional. But the rulings’ significance is not lost on Texas, as LGBT advocates say the momentum from the Supreme Court will bring marriage equality to the state — and nation — within a few years.

Equality Texas Executive Director Chuck Smith said the wave of support for marriage equality will only grow in Texas.

“I think these rulings also add to the positive momentum that already existed,” Smith said. “Having the U.S. Supreme Court say that it’s unconstitutional to treat couples differently, that’s a huge opinion. And while it did not extend that opinion in order to change our state constitution, it’s a really strong argument.”

With the record number of pro-LGBT bills filed in the Texas Legislature this past session, including legislation to repeal Texas’ marriage amendment in the House and for the first time in the Senate, Smith said equality is resonating with lawmakers. A two-thirds majority in both chambers is required to place the amendment on the ballot for a vote, which would be repealed if a majority of voters support overturning it.

“The effect may not be as complete as if you lived in a state where your marriage was recognized,” he said. “It’s going to be a little bit challenging for a while to figure all this out because it’s going to be on an agency-by-agency and benefit-by-benefit basis. … I would not assume that just because you live in Texas you won’t see the benefit or some change from the decision.”

Upton said some benefits are allotted to couples based on where they were married and others based on where they live. In some instances, like immigration for same-sex couples and military spousal benefits, will go into effect regardless of
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Dr. Parveen Kaur, AHF Provider
Over 500 gather for Cedar Springs rally

DAVID TAFFET I Staff Writer
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Speakers at a Day of Decision Rally on Cedar Springs encouraged the jubilant crowd to remember the past and look to more rights in the future as they celebrated the Supreme Court’s historic rulings in cases challenging the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8.

By the time the rally got under way at 7 p.m. on June 26, more than 300 people surrounded the Legacy of Love Monument at Oak Lawn Avenue. Several hundred more joined as speakers rejoiced over what the high court ruling will mean in their lives. Police closed off two lanes of Cedar Springs Road and a lane of Oak Lawn Avenue. Others stood on the lawn across the street at the Melrose Hotel and in the Walgreens parking lot. It was the largest rally the city has seen since one at Dallas City Hall in response to Prop 8’s passage in 2008.

"Today is a day for celebration," said organizer Daniel Cates of GetEQUAL TX.

Trans activist Oliver Blumer called the ruling a win for the transgender community as much as for gays and lesbians. He said the decision helps break down barriers and eliminate prejudice.

Beau and Major Jiminez talked about the irony of the Supreme Court ruling coming a day after a court appearance regarding a marriage protest arrest a year ago.

The couple applied for a marriage license from Dallas County. When they refused to leave, they were arrested for trespassing once the building closed for the evening. The court offered to lower the charge to a class-C misdemeanor with a guilty plea this week, but Major is refusing to plead guilty.

He compared his legal plight with that of DOMA case plaintiff Edie Windsor.

Windsor was charged with a tax bill because her partner was a woman. She would have no tax bill if her partner was a man. Major said he would have gotten a license if his partner was a woman but was arrested because his partner was a man.

Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink thanked the allies who have stood with the LGBT community for years. She talked about how meaningful it was for her that her sister always supported her.

“We appreciate all the allies who said, ‘we love you, we’re with you,’” she said.

She told the allies who had gathered for the rally, “We need you.”

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas President Omar Narvaez said he had just gotten back from Austin where he attended state Sen. Wendy Davis’ filibuster of an abortion bill in Austin. He led a round of chants of “Wendy” that was as enthusiastic as other chants for equal rights.

Narvaez used the filibuster to illustrate the importance of voting. He said that by voting allies into office, marriage equality will come to Texas.

The Rev. Steve Sprinkle called the median where the crowd stood and surrounding neighborhood “some of the most hard-won land in America.”

He asked the crowd to remember those who didn’t live to see the new “rights and responsibilities” granted by the Supreme Court.

“More hate crimes have been carried out against LGBT people here than anywhere else in Texas,” he said. “We got here because of our predecessors. They died without seeing what we see now.”

View more photos and watch video from the Day of Decision rally at DallasVoice.com.
He mentioned the names of people who had been killed in Oak Lawn, but then finished on an optimistic note, encouraging the group to march down Cedar Springs.

After more than an hour of speakers, an impromptu march down Cedar Springs began with police escort and ended two blocks away at JR.'s Bar & Grill.

Two elected officials and a former city councilman attended at the rally.

District 14 City Councilman Philip Kingston called the decisions “pretty great.” He said the mayor interrupted the council meeting that morning to announce each of the Supreme Court rulings.

Although he had not been scheduled to speak, he took the mike to address the crowd and said the LGBT community has new allies on the council.

County Commissioner Theresa Daniel stood in the crowd and said she was there just to be part of the celebration. She was among the commissioners who declared June Pride month in Dallas County, a first for any county in Texas.

“Gaining federal rights is a huge step,” she said and called the court ruling “the right thing to do.”

She said that when she speaks to groups, she likes to remind them that the Pledge of Allegiance ends with “liberty and justice for all.” She called the rulings a demonstration of that fundamental American principle.

Former City Councilman John Loza said, “The court rulings lay a foundation for a challenge to the Texas amendment, which prohibits recognition of couples for any reason.”

He said the divide on the Supreme Court shows how important it is to vote, because the president appoints the justices.

“I hope people remember,” he said.

LGBT Task Force member Pam Gerber said she saw people around the city celebrating the decisions all day.

“No matter where I went today, people were coming over and saying congratulations to me,” she said.

The rainbow flag flew at Dallas County Democratic Party Headquarters near Fair Park. The Omni Hotel in Downtown Dallas marked the rulings by lighting the hotel in rainbow colors Wednesday night.

Lynn Walters, executive director of Hope for Peace & Justice pointed out the ruling is just a partial victory.

“While the SCOTUS ruled against federal discrimination, they left state discrimination in place,” Walters said. “While it is a partial victory, it means that far too many same-gender couples will continue to suffer discrimination in states like Texas.”

The Dallas rally was one of hundreds that took place across the country.

In Denton, about 150 people rallied on the Courthouse Square at 6 p.m. The rally lasted about an hour and after marching around the square, the crowd celebrated at Mable Peabody’s, according to Kat Ralph of Keep Denton Queer.

In Austin, former state Rep. Glen Maxey and Equality Texas Executive Director Chuck Smith organized a celebration on 4th Street. In Houston, a large group gathered at the office of Mitchell Katine to watch as the decisions were announced. Katine was the attorney for John Lawrence and Tyrone Garner whose case overturned all sodomy laws. The announcement of the DOMA and Prop 8 cases came on the 10th anniversary of the landmark Lawrence v. Texas. In Tyler, a group of about a dozen people from Tyler Area Gays gathered downtown.

Elsewhere around the country, in San Francisco, where marriage will resume within weeks, hundreds sat in the lobby at City Hall awaiting the Supreme Court decisions. That night, City Hall’s rotunda was lit up in rainbow colors and thousands filled Castro Street to celebrate.

In New York, plaintiff Edie Windsor held a news conference at the LGBT Community Center in Chelsea at noon. Some celebrated at the Stonewall Inn, the Greenwich Village bar where the Gay Rights Movement began with a rebellion against police raids in 1968.
Binational couples finally get relief

More than 1,600 in Texas, some of whom have fought to stay together for decades, should now have path to citizenship thanks to DOMA ruling

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
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After 17 years together, Cannon Flowers and Ratiq Salleh were ready to leave the U.S. had the Defense of Marriage Act not been found unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court this week.

“For some, the ruling was an act of equality,” Flowers said. “For us, it really is our lives.”

Since they’ve been together, Salleh always maintained legal immigration status. That involved obtaining visas six times, originally with student visas and most recently with an entrepreneur’s visa. Legal fees, education, travel to the embassy in Singapore every two or three years to renew the required investment for his current visa has cost the couple more than $1 million.

Flowers said things have gotten better over the past few years in some ways.

“I met with Obama’s staff two times on this topic,” he said. “I sat in the White House talking about our personal lives and how this law was affecting us.”

He said that 10 years ago, that wouldn’t have happened. But Salleh and Flowers, who live in Dallas, aren’t married yet and visa renewal time is affecting us.”

Rachel Tiven, executive director of Washington, D.C.-based Immigration Equality, called the ruling “game-changing” and “good news for everyone.” She said the DOMA ruling is definitive because immigration law recognizes marriages that are valid where celebrated.

Other issues, such as whether married couples living in Texas will file a joint federal tax return or whether civil unions and domestic partnerships apply to immigration cases, have yet to be decided. But on immigration, the law is clear. A couple married in a marriage-equality state or country is recognized nationally for immigration purposes. And now that DOMA is gone, that law applies to same-sex couples.

Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano affirmed that in a statement issued Thursday afternoon.

“Working with our federal partners, including the Department of Justice, we will implement today’s decision so that all married couples will be treated equally and fairly in the administration of our immigration laws,” Napolitano said.

But not every couple will qualify immediately. Some are not legally married.

Tiven said couples planning to apply must marry first. She acknowledged the risk of travel for someone without documentation, but said the Obama administration has already issued progressive new rules for dealing with couples.

The application process involves two forms. The I-130 recognizes the U.S. citizen as the legal spouse and the I-485 is the application for a green card based on spousal recognition.

“The forms are already non-gender specific,” Tiven said.

She recommended anyone applying visit the Immigration Equality website and read the detailed frequently asked questions and then speak to an attorney before filing the paperwork, calling immigration law “very complicated.”

Dallas immigration attorney Stacy Webb also advised couples to contact a knowledgeable and experienced attorney who will look at the specifics of the case.

Webb said one step in the path to citizenship through a green card is proving the marriage is valid. That includes presenting documents like joint financial records, bills and even photos.

“If the marriage is less than two years old, there’s a presumption of marriage for immigration benefits rather than for valid reasons,” he said.

Webb also cautioned anyone in the country on a student visa to proceed with caution. That visa presumes the intention of returning to the home country. A marriage could invalidate the student visa.

Rick Ziraldo lives in Dallas with his partner Kenny Hill. Ziraldo’s here on a student visa and Hill said the couple plans to marry over the summer so they can apply for Ziraldo’s green card.

“We’re lucky,” Hill said. “We’ve had the ability to keep him in school the last six years.”

Ziraldo is finishing a doctorate in biomedical engineering at UT Dallas. The couple met in Australia where they had a brief, whirlwind romance. Nine months later, they met for a weekend in Venice and the spark was still there. After Ziraldo finished his bachelor’s degree at an Italian university, he obtained a 90-day U.S. visa to visit Hill in Dallas.

When they decided to remain together, they returned to Italy to obtain a three-year student visa and Ziraldo enrolled at Richland College. Hill said they will consult with an attorney but they plan to marry and continue to call Dallas home.

Jennifer Wigle said the DOMA decision ends the uncertainty in her marriage. She said she and her wife Elizabeth Allen, who live in Katy, are ready to settle down and have kids, but they didn’t want to do that while she had to reapply for a visa every couple of years.

Wigle is in the U.S. on a visa that allows her to work but she said it has quite a few stipulations. She has to work only in her field and the job requirements must specify her particular degree.

“There were plenty of jobs I’m qualified for, but couldn’t apply for,” she said.

Had DOMA not been struck down, she and her wife were planning to move to Canada where she is a citizen and could sponsor her wife. Since the ruling, Wigle participated in an Immigration Equality phone conference and plans to speak to an attorney soon.

Immigration judges have been anticipating the high court’s DOMA ruling. Earlier this year, Judge Richard R. Ozmun denied an application of asylum to Khalil, a gay Jordanian man who wanted to remain in Dallas with his American partner. But while denying asylum, he acknowledged Khalil’s relationship with his partner, Alex Diaz, and Diaz’s family. Ozmun issued a withholding of removal order with some encouragement for their future together in the DOMA ruling he expected.

Ozmun told Khalil, who asked that his surname be withheld, that if DOMA is declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, they could marry and apply for a green card.

“Amazing news,” Khalil said after the DOMA ruling. “I’ve been blessed.”

He said Diaz has told him over the last five years that things would change, but during that time he got discouraged. After the ruling, he said he suddenly felt more stable than he’s been since coming to the U.S.

“We already share everything,” he said. “But now we can buy a house together. We can buy a car together.”

The ruling came on Khalil’s 27th birthday.

“What a perfect birthday gift,” he said.
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What is COMPLERA?

COMPLERA® is a prescription HIV medicine that is used as a complete regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV medicines before and who have an amount of HIV in their blood (this is called “viral load”) that is no more than 100,000 copies/mL. COMPLERA contains 3 medicines — rilpivirine, emtricitabine, and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate. It is not known if COMPLERA is safe and effective in children under the age of 18 years.

COMPLERA® does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking COMPLERA. Avoid doing things that can spread HIV-1 to others: always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids; never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them; do not share personal items that may contain body fluids. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information you should know about COMPLERA?

COMPLERA® can cause serious side effects:

• Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include feeling very weak or tired, unusual (not normal) muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain with nausea or vomiting, feeling cold, especially in your arms and legs, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.

• Serious liver problems. The liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and fatty (steatosis). Symptoms of liver problems include skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored bowel movements (stools), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach pain.

• You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking COMPLERA for a long time. In some cases, these serious conditions have led to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any symptoms of these conditions.

• Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection. If you also have HBV and stop taking COMPLERA, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. COMPLERA is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take COMPLERA?

Do not take COMPLERA if you have ever taken other anti-HIV medicines. COMPLERA may change the effect of other medicines and may cause serious side effects. Your healthcare provider may change your other medicines or change their doses.

Do not take COMPLERA if you also take these medicines:

• anti-seizure medicines: carbamazepine (Carbatrol, Equetro, Tegretol, Tegretol-XR, Teril, Epitol); oxcarbazepine (Trileptal), phenobarbital (Luminal), phenytoin (Dilantin, Dilantin-125, Phenytek)

• anti-tuberculosis medicines: rifabutin (Mycobutin), rifampin (Rifater, Rifamate, Rimactane, Rifadin) and rifapentine (Priftin)

• proton pump inhibitors for stomach or intestinal problems: esomeprazole (Nexium, Vinovo), lansoprazole (Prevacid), dexlansoprazole (Dexilant), omeprazole (Prilosec), pantoprazole sodium (Protonix), rabeprazole (Aciphex)

• more than 1 dose of the steroid medicine dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate

• St. John’s wort (Hypericum perforatum)

If you are taking COMPLERA you should not take other HIV medicines or other medicines containing tenofovir (Viread, Truvada, Stivadon, Atripla); other medicines containing emtricitabine or lamivudine (Emtriva, Combivir, Epivir, Epivir-HBV, Epivir-TC, Truvada, Atripla, Stivadon or Truvada); rilpivirine (Edurant) or adefovir (Hepsera).

In addition, tell your healthcare provider if you are taking the following medications because they may interfere with how COMPLERA works and may cause side effects:

• certain antacid medicines containing aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate (examples: Rolaids, TUMS). These medicines must be taken at least 2 hours before or 4 hours after COMPLERA.

• medicines to block stomach acid including cimetidine (Tagamet), famotidine (Pepcid), nizatidine (Aid), or ranitidine HCl (Zantac). These medicines must be taken at least 12 hours before or 4 hours after COMPLERA.

• any of these medicines: clarithromycin (Biaxin), erythromycin (E-Mycin, Ery, Ery-Tab, PCE, Pediazole, Ilosone), fluconazole (Diflucan), itraconazole (Sporanox), ketoconazole (Nizoral), methadone (Dolophine), posaconazole (Noxofood), teicoplanin (Ketek) or voriconazole (Vfend).

• medicines that are eliminated by the kidneys like acyclovir (Zovirax), cidofovir (Vistide), ganciclovir (Cytovene IV, Vitaran), valacyclovir (Valtrex) and valganciclovir (Valcyte).
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COMPLERA is for adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before and have no more than 100,000 copies/mL of virus in their blood.

Ask your healthcare provider if it’s the one for you.

These are not all the medicines that may cause problems if you take COMPLERA. Tell your healthcare provider about all prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements you are taking or plan to take.

Before taking COMPLERA, tell your healthcare provider if you:
- Have liver problems, including hepatitis B or C virus infection, or have abnormal liver tests
- Have kidney problems
- Have ever had a mental health problem
- Have bone problems
- Are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn child
- Are breastfeeding. Women with HIV should not breastfeed because they can pass HIV through their milk to the baby. Also, COMPLERA may pass through breast milk and could cause harm to the baby

COMPLERA can cause additional serious side effects:
- New or worsening kidney problems, including kidney failure. If you have had kidney problems, or take other medicines that may cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may need to do regular blood tests.
- Depression or mood changes. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms: feeling sad or hopeless, feeling anxious or restless, have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself.
- Changes in liver enzymes. People who have had hepatitis B or C, or who have had changes in their liver function tests in the past may have an increased risk for liver problems while taking COMPLERA. Some people without prior liver disease may also be at risk. Your healthcare provider may need to check your liver enzymes before and during treatment with COMPLERA.
- Bone problems can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do additional tests to check your bones.
- Changes in body fat can happen in people taking HIV medicine.
- Changes in your immune system. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having new symptoms after starting COMPLERA.

The most common side effects reported with COMPLERA are trouble sleeping (insomnia), abnormal dreams, headache, dizziness, diarrhea, nausea, rash, tiredness, and depression. Some side effects also reported include vomiting, stomach pain or discomfort, skin discoloration (small spots or freckles) and pain.

This is not a complete list of side effects. Tell your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you notice any side effects while taking COMPLERA, and call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit http://www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Additional Information about taking COMPLERA:
- Always take COMPLERA exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Take COMPLERA with a meal. Taking COMPLERA with a meal is important to help get the right amount of medicine in your body. (A protein drink does not replace a meal).

Stay under the care of your healthcare provider during treatment with COMPLERA and see your healthcare provider regularly.

Please see Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information with important warnings on the following pages.

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What is COMPLERA?

- COMPLERA is a prescription HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) medicine that is used to treat HIV-1 in adults
  - who have never taken HIV medicines before, and
  - who have an amount of HIV in their blood (this is called ‘viral load’) that is no more than 100,000 copies/mL. Your healthcare provider will measure your viral load.

(HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome)).

- COMPLERA contains 3 medicines — rilpivirine, emtricitabine, tenofovir disoproxil fumarate — combined in one tablet. It is a complete regimen to treat HIV-1 infection and should not be used with other HIV medicines.

- It is not known if COMPLERA is safe and effective in children under the age of 18 years old.

- COMPLERA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. You must stay on continuous therapy to control HIV infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.

- Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions about how to prevent passing HIV to other people. Do not share or re-use needles or other injection equipment, and do not share items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal fluids or blood.

What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?

COMPLERA can cause serious side effects, including:

- Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take COMPLERA or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:
  - feel very weak or tired
  - have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
  - have trouble breathing
  - have stomach pain with nausea (feeling sick to your stomach) or vomiting
  - feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
  - feel dizzy or lightheaded
  - have a fast or irregular heartbeat

- Severe liver problems. Severe liver problems can happen in people who take COMPLERA. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:
  - your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
  - dark “tea-colored” urine
  - light-colored bowel movements (stools)
  - loss of appetite for several days or longer
  - nausea
  - stomach pain
  - You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking COMPLERA for a long time.

- Worsening of Hepatitis B infection. If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take COMPLERA, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking COMPLERA. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before. COMPLERA is not approved for the treatment of HBV, so you must discuss your HBV with your healthcare provider.
  - Do not let your COMPLERA run out. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your COMPLERA is all gone.
  - Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider.
  - If you stop taking COMPLERA, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking COMPLERA.

Who should not take COMPLERA?

Do not take COMPLERA if:

- your HIV infection has been previously treated with HIV medicines.

- you are taking any of the following medicines:
  - anti-seizure medicines: carbamazepine (Carbatrol, Equetro, Tegretol, Tegretol-XR, Teril, Epitol); oxcarbazepine (Trileptal); phenobarbital (Luminal); phenytoin (Dilantin, Dilantin-125, Phenytek)
  - anti-tuberculosis (anti-TB) medicines: rifabutin (Mycobutin); rifampin (Rifater, Rifamate, Rimactane, Rifadin); rifapentine (Priftin)
  - proton pump inhibitor (PPI) medicine for certain stomach or intestinal disorders: esomeprazole (Nexium, Vimovo); lansoprazole (Prevacid); omeprazole (Prilosec, Zegerid); pantoprazole sodium (Protonix); rabeprazole (Aciplex)
  - more than 1 dose of the steroid medicine dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate
  - St. John’s wort (Hypericum perforatum)

- If you take COMPLERA, you should not take:
  - Other medicines that contain tenofovir (Atripla, Stribild, Truvada, Viread)
  - Other medicines that contain emtricitabine or lamivudine (Combivir, Emtriva, Epivir or Epivir-HBV, Epivirac, Trizivir, Atripla, Truvada, Stridil)
  - rilpivirine (Edurant)
  - adefovir (Hepsera)

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?

Before you take COMPLERA, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have or had liver problems, including hepatitis B or C virus infection, kidney problems, mental health problem or bone problems

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn child.

Pregnancy Registry. There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.

- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. You should not breastfeed if you have HIV because of the risk of passing HIV to your baby. Do not breastfeed if you are taking COMPLERA. At least two of the medicines contained in COMPLERA can be passed to your baby in your breast milk. We do not know whether this could harm your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

- COMPLERA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how COMPLERA works, and may cause serious side effects. If you take certain medicines with COMPLERA, the amount of COMPLERA in your body may be too low and it may not work to help control your HIV infection. The HIV virus in your body may become resistant to COMPLERA or other HIV medicines that are like it.
Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:
- an antacid medicine that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. If you take an antacid during treatment with COMPLERA, take the antacid at least 2 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA.
- a medicine to block the acid in your stomach, including cimetidine (Tagamet), famotidine (Pepcid), nizatidine (Axid), or ranitidine (Zantac). If you take one of these medicines during treatment with COMPLERA, take the acid blocker at least 12 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA.
- any of these medicines (if taken by mouth or injection):
  - clarithromycin (Biaxin)
  - erythromycin (E-Mycin, Ery, Ery-Tab, PCE, Pediazone, Ilosone)
  - fluconazole (Diflucan)
  - itraconazole (Sporanox)
  - ketoconazole (Nizoral)
  - methadone (Dolophine)
  - posaconazole (Noxafil)
  - telithromycin (Ketek)
  - voriconazole (Vfend)
- medicines that are eliminated by the kidney, including acyclovir (Zovirax), cidofovir (Vistide), ganciclovir (Cytoxan IV, Vitarset), valacyclovir (Valtrex), and valganciclovir (Valcyte)

What are the possible side effects of COMPLERA?

COMPLERA can cause serious side effects, including:
- See “What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?”
- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure, can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Your healthcare provider should do blood tests to check your kidneys before starting treatment with COMPLERA. If you have had kidney problems in the past or need to take another medicine that can cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may need to do blood tests to check your kidneys during your treatment with COMPLERA.
- Depression or mood changes. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:
  - feeling sad or hopeless
  - feeling anxious or restless
  - have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself
- Change in liver enzymes. People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus infection or who have certain liver enzyme changes may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening liver problems during treatment with COMPLERA. Liver problems can also happen during treatment with COMPLERA in people without a history of liver disease. Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your liver enzymes before and during treatment with COMPLERA.
- Bone problems can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do additional tests to check your bones.
- Changes in body fat can happen in people taking HIV medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the main part of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effect of these conditions are not known.
- Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine.

The most common side effects of COMPLERA include:
- trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- abnormal dreams
- headache
- dizziness
- diarrhea
- nausea
- rash
- tiredness
- depression

Additional common side effects include:
- vomiting
- stomach pain or discomfort
- skin discoloration (small spots or freckles)
- pain

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of COMPLERA. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 (1-800-332-1088).

How should I take COMPLERA?

- Stay under the care of your healthcare provider during treatment with COMPLERA.
- Take COMPLERA exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Always take COMPLERA with a meal. Taking COMPLERA with a meal is important to help get the right amount of medicine in your body. A protein drink does not replace a meal.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking COMPLERA without first talking with your healthcare provider. See your healthcare provider regularly while taking COMPLERA.
- If you miss a dose of COMPLERA within 12 hours of the time you usually take it, take your dose of COMPLERA with a meal as soon as possible. Then, take your next dose of COMPLERA at the regularly scheduled time. If you miss a dose of COMPLERA by more than 12 hours of the time you usually take it, wait and then take the next dose of COMPLERA at the regularly scheduled time.
- Do not take more than your prescribed dose to make up for a missed dose.

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about COMPLERA. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can also ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about COMPLERA that is written for health professionals, or call 1-800-445-3235 or go to www.COMPLERA.com

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the state someone lives in.

President Barack Obama released a statement Wednesday, instructing agencies to review their policies and provide legally married same-sex couples with benefits quickly.

“This ruling is a victory for couples who have long fought for equal treatment under the law; for children whose parents’ marriages will now be recognized, rightly, as legitimate for families that, at long last, will get the respect and protection they deserve,” Obama said. “And for friends and supporters who have wanted nothing more than to see their loved ones treated fairly and have worked hard to persuade their nation to change for the better.”

The Department of Justice, Department of Defense and Department for Health and Human Services released statements this week to reiterate that they would offer benefits to all military and federal employees and their same-sex spouses over the coming days. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said he would oversee the agencies implementation to ensure the federal laws affected by the ruling comply.

“The Court’s ruling gives real meaning to the Constitution’s promise of equal protection to all members of our society, regardless of sexual orientation,” Holder said. “This decision impacts a broad array of federal laws. At the President’s direction, the Department of Justice will work expeditiously with other Executive Branch agencies to implement the Court’s decision.”

As agencies decide how benefits will work with same-sex couples across the nation, Upton said those rules will be under scrutiny when couples move from state to state and therefore gain and lose benefits based on residency. He said the Supreme Court will ultimately have to decide if states should recognize marriages across state lines, which is something many people expected from the Prop 8 case, but the standing issue was a problem because private individuals, not state officials, were defending the law.

“This will get back up to the Supreme Court. I’m not so sure that some of them weren’t ready to handle the Prop 8 case but the standing issue was pretty obvious,” Upton said. “I think that the right case could get back up there and I think there’s still a good chance that you might see five justices who would strike down one of these state discrimination laws.”

As for domestic partner benefits in Texas, Upton said the DOMA case had nothing to do with state recognition of marriage. But several agencies took Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott’s opinion that they violated the state constitution’s marriage amendment into consideration and waited on the court’s ruling to decide whether to offer them, such as DART, which is expected to bring the issue back up for discussion on July 9.

“Now that you’re going to get to experience the full effect of being married, I think that’s going to put more pressure on the states that don’t give you anything at all, including Texas,” Upton said. “An issue that’s still waiting to be addressed in Texas is same-sex divorce. Abbott intervened when a Dallas couple filed for a divorce four years ago. The case, along with an Austin lesbian couple’s case, went to the Texas Supreme Court, but the court hasn’t decided whether to take the case in more than two years.

Jody Scheske, the attorney representing both couples, said many people thought the court was waiting on the U.S. Supreme Court rulings before deciding to take the case. But the court doesn’t have a timeline for taking cases and isn’t required to explain why there’s a delay.

“It’s a bit of mystery as to why the court hasn’t made a decision, not about the case but whether to take the case,” Scheske said. “Clearly the DOMA decision is momentous but I don’t have any way of knowing if that will help encourage the Texas Supreme Court to act or not.”

He said the Austin couple was already granted a divorce, but the Dallas couple was only granted jurisdiction for a divorce, but never actually received one. If the court doesn’t take the case, the couple can appeal or find a court with the jurisdiction to grant them a divorce. Scheske said it’s a problem that couples across the nation will face as more same-sex couples can marry in other states but can’t dissolve the marriage in their home state.

Upton said the problems for states to decide marriage will create so many hiccups that the Supreme Court will be forced to take another case one day because marriages will be valid and then invalid.

“I think that’s going to become unworkable,” Upton said. “It’s going to become unworkable for business, it’s going to become unworkable for families. I think the states are going to start getting pressure to find a solution to find some solution for that patchwork.”
Paving the Way | Louise Young and Vivienne Armstrong have been together 42 years and were married in California. Jack Evans and George Harris have been together 52 years and hope to marry in Texas.

‘We have been waiting a long, long time’

Pioneering local couples say they never thought they’d see the day when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriage

ANNA WAUGH | News Editor
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Longtime Dallas couples rejoiced with the nation this week when the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the Defense of Marriage Act and returned the Proposition 8 case to the district court.

Longtime activist Jack Evans said he and his partner of 52 years, George Harris, never thought they’d see the day when the court ruled in favor of marriage equality.

“We have been waiting a long, long time and I never did envision this in my lifetime,” Evan said. “I knew if it happened eventually, but in my lifetime I had never thought that this was going to be possible. I never did think we would see DOMA removed and Proposition 8 dismissed.”

Evans remained hopeful during the months leading up to the decision, but said they were still a surprise because of the many ways in which the court could rule. But the waiting paid off, he said, because the rulings were a win that will only push the rest of the country forward.

“This was an out and out victory,” he said. “There were no conditions to either of the issues.”

The court didn’t rule on the merits in the Prop 8 case, instead deciding that the measure’s backers lacked standing and creating a pathway for marriages to resume in California.

Pioneering Dallas lesbian activist Louise Young married her partner of 42 years in California in 2008 — before Prop 8 passed. She said marrying her partner was “a historic milestone in our lives” and she was pleased that the state would once again have marriage.

“To leave the Justice of the Peace office in California with a stamped, sealed legal document was nothing we ever envisioned when we met,” Young said.

She called the Day of Decision “a day beyond our wildest imagination” that would only lead to more rights for LGBT Americans. She recalled a Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance retreat in 1977 where a group of activists shared their visions and goals for progress. Back then, marriage wasn’t even uttered, she said.

“A wave of optimism has washed over me about how quickly we will gain our rights,” she said.

But for Mark “Major” Jiminez, the wait for equality won’t end soon enough. Jiminez and husband Beau Chandler had a wedding last fall after being arrested in July for criminal trespassing because they refused to leave the County Records Building without a marriage license. Chandler later received deferred adjudication and community service for the Class-B misdemeanor, but Jiminez, who was arrested again for the same charge in August, had his cases postponed again this week.

“We’re thrilled that the Supreme Court ruled in favor for both cases, but we know that here in Texas we still can’t legally get married,” Jiminez said. “And that is going to continue to be our fight. We’re not going to go chasing for a marriage license in other states. …We’re going to continue to demand our rights in Texas.”

Jiminez said they were surprised the court didn’t rule in the Prop 8 case and issue a wide ruling that would have found all state marriage amendments unconstitutional.

“We’re both just dumbfounded that there wasn’t a sweeping motion that made it equal for everybody in all 50 states,” he said. “This is ridiculous that in some states you can be equal and in other states you cannot. That is not a United States at all.”

Young suggested that Jiminez and Chandler should file a lawsuit based on the DOMA case — which didn’t challenge Section 2 that deals with state recognition — to have the Texas anti-gay marriage law declared discriminatory and unconstitutional since they were denied a license in the state.

But the couple is focused on changing Texas for now, encouraging others to be visible, contact their state representatives and even brainstorming for a march on Austin for marriage equality.

“We know that we have a fight but we’re still very thrilled [about the rulings],” Jiminez said. “We see this as a victory and it’s putting us one step closer to the direction that we need to be, but we obviously still have a fight on our hands here in Dallas and in Texas.”

For Evans and Harris, who haven’t been married in any marriage-equality state, they’re still waiting to legally wed in Texas, a reality they hope to see in their lifetime because of the progress of the historic rulings.

[The rulings] will invigorate the movement in education and discrimination of any kind and put us on an equal standing of our straight peers,“ Evans said. “This will open up acceptability in families and in business and all relationships. This just eliminates hate and any reason for hate.”
Keeping up the good fight

Chance, timely meeting with leader from black civil rights movement serves as reminder that struggle for equality may never really end

For most of the last 10 months, and twice a month since March, you’d find me many Tuesdays afternoons at the downtown headquarters of Dallas Area Rapid Transit. Since last August, DART has been pondering whether or not they should offer domestic partner benefits to their LGBT employees.

At this week’s meeting, I was reminded how the struggle for progress is endless — and even when facing a setback, the only thing you can do is go forward, boldly and confidently. A chance meeting with someone from my past reminded me of that.

Board members have heard cost estimates and endured presentation on top of presentation. Since March, they’ve heard from around two dozen members of the LGBT community on why DART board members should approve the benefits.

Some of the speakers on partner benefits have been calm, rational and appealed to the board’s heart. Others have excoriated the board for not using their heads and choosing to postpone the discussion until after this week’s Supreme Court marriage rulings. This should mean that DART will take up the benefits issue at their next meeting, July 9th.

So, about that chance meeting — in the 1990s, the DFW-area radio station I worked at aired a Saturday evening talk show hosted by civil rights activist the Rev. Peter Johnson. He came to Dallas in the late 1960s to head the local office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Before that, he marched through the South alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. — and Johnson still carries the scars and injuries he suffered in the “Bloody Sunday” march on Selma, Ala. bridge in March 1965.

I hadn’t seen him in nearly 20 years, until Tuesday’s DART board meeting. On the day that the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a major portion of the Voting Rights Act — an act Johnson and countless others helped work for with shoe leather and bodily sacrifice — he and a half-dozen other people addressed board members. They spoke about a program to hire ex-cons to clear unused DART right-of-way tracks, in exchange for keeping the scrap metal and railroad ties for resale. The program would cost DART nothing, yet the agency has delayed implementing it for TWO YEARS. Remember, the board has only been kicking around partner benefits for 10 months.

After the board meeting wrapped up, Johnson came over to congratulate the four speakers on partner benefits, and said, “This is an issue of justice, and I stand with you.” I briefly spoke, and I was surprised he recognized me after nearly 20 years. Then he and his group of speakers went to discuss the parole issue further with DART staffers.

This week’s Supreme Court rulings on marriage may finally spur DART to act on partner benefits, but since the rulings don’t affect Texas law it’s not clear how the board will decide. What about other issues of importance to the LGBT community? It will still be legal to fire someone who is LGBT in over half the U.S. It doesn’t help protect our youngest community members enduring bullying, nor our oldest members forced back into the closet to live in a nursing home. It doesn’t help our transgender sisters and brothers, whose rights to vote are threatened by an I.D. law that went into effect hours after the Supreme Court ruled on the Voting Rights Act.

There’s no easy way to put this — it’s been a challenging Pride Month. We’ve endured the debacle over the equality resolutions at Dallas City Hall, shenanigans in Austin over women’s rights and Tuesday’s Supreme Court gutting a major piece of civil rights legislation like a fish. Our marriage victories serve as a sweet counterpoint to the earlier events, and remind us that we have work to do for LGBT people to be equal in the Lone Star State.

Johnson’s presence at the DART board meeting reminded me that the quest for civil rights — regardless of skin color, who you are and who you love — is never-ending and requires eternal vigilance, even on your worst days. You might think you’ve won a particular battle, but the truth is some battles are never truly won. Even on your best day, there are still people to defend and causes to champion. So celebrate and cheer what the LGBT community has achieved on marriage … but there are many, many struggles ahead before we are equal in the eyes of the law.

Rafael McDonnell is communications and advocacy manager, Resource Center Dallas. He can be reached at RMcDonnell@rctexas.org.
Political and Social Inclusivity and Equality

LGBT studies have opened doors (and minds) to leading corporations and organizations, which in turn have recognized the value of their LGBT employees through the establishment of equal hiring policies and domestic partner benefits. This has been a catalyst, leading to sweeping changes in political and social inclusivity.

Keep LGBT Publications and Websites in Business

Demographic reports also influence marketing investment. Virtually absent until recently, we now see a growing variety of a products and services represented in LGBT media, celebrating our diversity. Ads keep LGBT publications and websites in business, serving their communities with independent news and information.

Funding Community Events and Charities

Beyond simply advertising, though, these companies support us in many ways, including sponsoring community events and funding community-based charities in order to earn our loyalty.

Taking an annual pulse on market trends through surveys helps demonstrate the LGBT community’s growing power, and influences positive change.

Everyone who completes the survey by June 30, 2013 may enter into a drawing to win one of five US $100 cash prizes, or designate a non-profit charity to receive the prize.
Dallas filmmaker Robert L. Camina has become, without really trying, the unofficial documentarian of 40th anniversary events in gay history. His 2012 film, Raid on the Rainbow Lounge, began on the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, when law enforcement officers stormed into a Fort Worth gay bar and started an avalanche of controversy. Officials claimed they had no idea of the significance of the date to the gay community and its parallels in sparking the gay rights movement. But history followed the story.

And now, Camina gets to follow history again. Earlier this week, Camina announced his latest project on the 40th anniversary of another milestone in gay culture, albeit one less familiar to most people than Stonewall.

On June 24, 1973, in New Orleans, a gay bar known as the Upstairs Lounge was firebombed, and 32 individuals were killed — most presumably gay men. It qualifies it as the largest mass murder of gays ever in the United States.

And Camina bets that you've never even heard of it.

"I think it’s important we honor our history," Camina says. "We know about Stonewall, Harvey Milk, Matthew Shepard. But there is so much more to us."

A killing of this magnitude, should have, even 40 years ago, triggered a national reaction. So why the obscurity?

"It was ‘just the gays — what does it matter?’" Camina opines. "There was blatant homophobia that existed in the media, in the police and fire departments, within the church not allowing services for the victims — the bodies were thrown into a pauper’s grave. News reporters [at the time] made jokes about it on the radio. It was just the queers — it didn’t hold a headline."

Some of that anonymity was even orchestrated by the gay community of NOLA, who didn’t want it in the headlines. Some still don’t.

But Camina felt it was a story he had to tell.

"Sometimes you find a project, and sometimes the project finds you," he says. "That’s how this came to be."

At the beginning of the

A DOOR TO OUR HISTORY | Robert L. Camina stands outside the building that once housed the Upstairs Lounge in New Orleans, the site of the largest mass murder of gays in U.S. history.
HALF
of all
page loads
come from
smartphones

How does your site look on a mobile device?
Integrate your web approach for desktop, tablets and mobile.

DigitalSeltzer.com
REFRESH YOUR DIGITAL BRAND
Even though the title of the game show Jazsmyne Kelli once hosted at The Brick is called Are You Smarter than a Drag Queen night, Kelli feels more like a combination of Wheel of Fortune’s Pat Sajak and Vanna White as she would read questions to contestants and then get to do some fabulous presenting where needed. But there’s one thing she mentions whenever the show starts: “I am not a drag queen,” Kelli says — always.

She stopped hosting the show last year, but has replaced it with karaoke host duties. Whatever her adventure, she’s enjoying the ride.

The past year or so has been a significant one for Kelli, and hosting Smarter was indicative of her growing presence in the community. While she’s no stranger to the Dallas scene — she performed and competed in drag at the clubs for years — Kelli, as a trans woman, finds herself returning to her original calling.

“When I’m singing onstage, I’m quite nervous,” she says. “It doesn’t matter who either, because I’m a pretty shy person actually. I don’t need to absorb the spotlight, but I want to make the audience feel good. I want to entertain peo-
A SONG IN HER HEART | Jazsmyne Kelli was proud to be the first trans semi-finalist at VOP last year, but her singing career continues. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

“...it was a little shocking but I was honored,” she says. “And interestingly, I got a lot of support after that.”

While making the rounds, Kelli began meeting other contestants along with bar owners of venues she says she likely wouldn’t venture into. When, Michael Doughman, Dallas Tavern Guild’s executive director, announced at the Dallas Eagle that Kelli would advance to the semifinals, he said Kelli was the first trans person known to have advanced so far. She was shocked — not because he made the announcement, but because she realized she was the first.

“Seeing how so many of us do make the drag rounds, it was a little shocking but I was honored,” she says. “And interestingly, I got a lot of support after that.”

Riding high on the support, she entered the semis, but that would not be her night. She placed out of the 10 who advanced to the finals. She admits not making the cut bothered her.

“After that, I couldn’t let it rest in my head,” she says. “I kept asking myself, ‘Where did I go wrong? What could I have done better?’”

Two days later, though, came a phone call.

“When I saw [Doughman’s name on Caller ID], I kid you not, I knew why he was calling,” she says. “So I composed myself and called him back and he told me I was in due to a disqualification of another singer. I just knew it for some reason. I felt like something bigger wasn’t done with me yet.”

She laughs because when she remembers that gave her less than two weeks to prepare, she almost didn’t need it.

“We call that in the industry being ‘drag ready,’” she chuckles. “I felt that gave me some advantage because I graduated Drag 101 a long time ago.”

VOP veteran Angie Landers took the top prize last year, but to say Kelli “lost” would be a misstatement ... at least as far as she’s concerned. She’s discovering a few more people know who she is and also realize that she actually represents the trans community, but she does recognize the positives behind being the first at something. She dissociated herself from drag pageants so the lines wouldn’t be misleading and is now “just being a woman.” And that’s what she hopes people might get out of knowing just who Jazsmyne Kelli is.

“I only want to represent who I am as an individual but also dispel some stereotypes of trans women. We’re regular women, we go shopping, we have positive relationships,” she says. “I don’t want people to look at me as transgender. I want them to think, ‘She’s a talented lady.’”

That she is.

For more information on Voice of Pride, visit DallasTavernGuild.org/Voice_of_Pride.asp.

Dave Koz ‘Summer Horns’

The trouble with much contemporary jazz is that it sometimes doesn’t even try to differentiate itself from Muzak. Instrumental renditions of familiar tunes come off like they were only made to play as background noise to our lives. But Dave Koz turns up the volume and steps to the front with fellow horn players Richard Elliot, Mindi Abair and Gerald Albright on his new CD, Summer Horns (Concord Records).

Koz and friends revisit the ’60s and ’70s for an eclectic collection of instrumentals that receive crystal clear production by Paul Brown. Earth Wind and Fire’s “Got To Get You Into My Life” is made with thrilling results by the rich saxophones at work that could easily be mixed into the original. When the four take on Chicago’s “25 or 6 to 4,” the tune holds up the swelling strength of the early hit. These guys were respectful to these songs but added the right touch of their own character to deliver something fresh.

The album falters in Tower of Power’s “So Very Hard to Go,” and sadly, Michael McDonald’s vocals don’t help. The late, great Dave Brubeck’s signature song “Take Five” gets the treatment, but it lacks imaginative effort. Still, the album recovers strongly with the funk-fused Stevie Wonder cover “You Haven’t Done Nothing” and “God Bless the Child,” which ironically both feature vocal performances by Jonathan Butler and Jeffrey Osborne, respectively.

Many smart choices were made in Summer Horns. Koz mixes seamlessly with the other three, but none shrink out of sight. This is far from elevator music — indeed, if it played in one, it might be tough to get off on your floor.

Two and half stars

— Rich Lopez

Two and half stars
The Tenors have shared the stage with the likes of everyone from Neil Young to Paul McCartney to Justin Bieber. They've performed on Oprah (along with Celine Dion, no less) and had tea with the queen. Not just any queen — the queen. Of England.

In other words, the four fellows who make up the Tenors — Fraser Walters, Remigio Pereira, Victor Micallef and Clifton Murray — are stars, albeit unlikely ones. In an entertainment world full of glitz and stripper poles, the quartet's mix of classical and pop music has found an ever-growing audience (with gay appeal), and as they tour behind their third album, *Lead With Your Heart*, they continue to thrill audiences with a repertoire of standards, lesser-known songs and originals.

Life with the Tenors is a much different world than the one Clifton Murray — he’s the one with the piercing blue eyes and boy band good looks — grew up in. Murray grew up in a small, picturesque town in British Columbia, where his parents owned a fishing resort. Murray’s mother ran the kitchen and dining area, he says, while his brother and father acted as fishing guides. Every night during his childhood, Murray would dress in a “red bow tie, shiny shoes and shorts that matched the curtains,” and serve dinner to the resort guests, while his father entertained.

“My father would take his guitar out and start playing those singer-songwriter tunes,” Murray recalls during a recent interview. “I’d watch him entertain the guests, telling stories and jokes. Around 12 years old, I was peeking through the kitchen door and my father called me out and said, ‘It’s your turn, boy.’”

Murray took to entertaining immediately. “That night he started singing along with me and there was a connection there I felt with him and the audience that really stuck with me.”

As much as he loved singing, the strapping 6-foot-2 gym rat felt his life pulling in another direction as he grew up. An exceptional athlete, Murray received a rugby scholarship to The University of Victoria, but his sports career ended when he was diagnosed with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy — an enlarged heart. Suddenly, he had to switch gears.

“It took a lot of soul searching,” Murray says. “I realized that I needed to follow my first love, which was performing and entertaining.”

Murray worked his way up. He joined a gospel choir in Vancouver, polished his solo material, and even took several acting jobs along the way, including spots on *Reaper*, *Boston Legal* and *The L Word*, as well as a stint on *Canadian Idol*. “All that led to being with The Tenors,” Murray says. “So if it wasn’t for my heart condition, I wouldn’t be with the group. So I’m a living representation of ‘leading with your heart.’”

*Lead With Your Heart*, from which Murray and the rest of his Tenor brethren will be culling songs during this tour, represents a step forward for the group. Along with performing their versions of songs by Elton John and Bob Dylan, the Tenors have shared the stage with the likes of everyone from Neil Young to Paul McCartney to Justin Bieber. They’ve performed on Oprah (along with Celine Dion, no less) and had tea with the queen. Not just any queen — the queen. Of England. In other words, the four fellows who make up the Tenors — Fraser Walters, Remigio Pereira, Victor Micallef and Clifton Murray — are stars, albeit unlikely ones. In an entertainment world full of glitz and stripper poles, the quartet’s mix of classical and pop music has found an ever-growing audience (with gay appeal), and as they tour behind their third album, *Lead With Your Heart*, they continue to thrill audiences with a repertoire of standards, lesser-known songs and originals.

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Tenors wrote their own songs for the album. Combining an almost operatic sensibility with a poppy rhythm track, the title track especially highlights the group’s aesthetic as their voices intertwine.

“There’s something about when you’re reaching for those high notes, it’s just like we are in life reaching for our dreams or goals or reaching for answers, maybe there’s some type of connection with that feeling and that soaring, reaching feeling of when you’re listening to a tenor go for those high notes,” Murray says.

It’s that kind of philosophical bent that discerns Murray from other pop stars. His voice is thoughtful and confident, but never condescending. He seems to take everything in stride.

“I’m always grateful for right now and realizing that, who knows what’s going to happen tomorrow. I never thought I’d be in a tenor group four years ago, when I was pop singer.”

But really, Murray landing in this group makes sense. Not only was his father musical, but his grandfather, George Murray, was a famous Irish tenor (of course) on Cross Canada Hit Parade, which aired in the ‘50s and ‘60s. Clifton never met his grandfather, but George Murray still remains a presence in Clifton’s life.

“I was at a show in Riverside, Calif., and after the show an elderly gentleman came up to me and said, ‘The last tenor I ever knew of was George Murray,’” Clifton says. “He didn’t realize it was my grandfather! We started chatting and it turns out he was the cameraman for Canadian Broadcasting. It was beyond coincidence.”

Clifton, his father and the elderly man ended up hanging out a few weeks later, watching old clips of George. It was the first time Clifton had ever seen footage of his grandfather.

“If you have the will to look a little deeper at the world around us, you realized we’re all connected and what you put out comes back,” Clifton says. “And that’s the great thing about being in this group is, we’re constantly sending out positive energy and it’s coming back to us. We’re just very thankful and we’re just trying to keep our hearts open to the wonder that surrounds us and let it affect our music.”
year, someone familiar with *Raid on the Rainbow Lounge* approached Camina, feeling his skills at storytelling and interest in gay rights made him “the perfect person to tell this story.” He was quickly hooked. “This story really struck a nerve on so many levels. I feel we can raise the consciousness of the people with this,” he says.

The Upstairs Lounge was known as a gaudy and fun gay bar in 1973, notable for its elaborate curtains and pop culture posters decorating the walls, as well as being air conditioned in the sweltering Crescent City. On the afternoon of June 24, following a beer bash as patrons commemorated the still-new gay Pride month, someone threw an incendiary device into the space. A back door was opened, causing a backdraft, which quickly spread the flames. The famed curtains ended up fueling the blaze. Complicating matters: There was only one entrance stairway and one exit. Once the stairs were lit, “it became a tinderbox,” Camina says.

Thirty-two people eventually died, some from immolation, some from smoke inhalation, some from injuries sustained when they jumped from an upper-story window to escape the fire. Even today, three of the fatalities were never identified — probably because their families never wanted to come forward and acknowledge their gay relative.

Recounting these stories has plainly affected Camina. His voice cracks and his eyes well up as he explains the anniversary service, held just this week.

“It was really emotional — probably more than I was prepared for,” he says. “The magnitude of the tragedy really hit me when I went outside the Upstairs Lounge and imagined the mood 40 years ago: The smell of the soot, the sadness, the heaviness. It kind of overwhelmed me, the anxiety of it all, putting myself in their shoes.”

Camina recalls two especially poignant deaths. In one instance, a bartender heroically led several of the patrons through a back service route. After he had successfully emerged, the bartender realized his boyfriend was not among the survivors. He rushed back into the burning building. “They died together, their bodies found next to each other,” Camina says.

Another image is also emblazoned on Camina’s memory. The pastor of the local Metropolitan Community Church tried to escape through a window, but became trapped between the burglar bars that had been recently installed. “He got wedged in the bars and was burned alive, crying out, ‘God no!’”

No one was ever prosecuted for the crime; the police had a suspect, who committed suicide before he could be fully investigated and charged. As a result, many familiar with the circumstances have never felt a sense of closure. Camina hopes this film, which he has titled *Upstairs Inferno*, might provide that.

He’s on the mission now. Until August, *Upstairs Inferno* is the subject of an online crowd-funding campaign through IndieGoGo.com (he’s already more than a third of the way to his goal).

“... No, not gay history. In our history as a nation. Why limit it?”

To contribute or learn more, visit UpstairsInferno.com or IndieGoGo.com/projects/upstairs-inferno.
Fever pitched

’Songs’ doesn’t remain the same; ‘Flashdance’ is more like ‘Silly Elliot’

Generally speaking, I’m not a fan of song cycles, the theatrical equivalent of rock concept albums. Typically, they are songs linked only because they come from the same composer, sometimes loosely connected with a common theme. If I wanna see that, I can go to a cabaret and listen to a single artist interpret whichever songs he or she wants. The idea of stringing together an author’s work seems more like a resume builder than a piece of theater. (Its value is mostly a question of whether the composer is one worth listening to.)

But we have to acknowledge that Uptown Players — from its Broadway Our Way fundraiser to shows like last year’s Hello Again and the prior season’s Forbidden Broadway — has proven itself the major exponent of the revue structure, and the best at making it work. And making is work is just what they do with Songs from a New World.

In Jason Robert Brown, you have a man with his feet firmly in the theater world, given a Tony Award for Parade. He knows his way around a song, which can rival Sondheim for complexity, but most of the time they seem to rely on predictable internal rhymes and changes in time signature. And they go on too long. The pop song is really a 3½ minute miracle: Verse, chorus, verse, chorus, bridge, verse, chorus, coda. Brown often doubles that length, and songs go on way too long.

But something special happens in between the words: The images. Director Coy Covington and multimedia engineer H. Bart McGehee have pulled together a video component that underscores all the songs, turning a song (sung by Walter Cunningham) about an inner-city basketball player determined to make it into a metaphor for Jason Collins’ coming out; Cunningham also takes the lead on the penultimate number, which makes the story of the AIDS quilt all the more relevant.

There are many such moments in this quick (less than 90 minutes) and evocative show, with great music direction by Kevin Gunter and a surprisingly simple yet versatile set from Rodney Dobbs. It gives life to the song cycle format as only Uptown Players can.

When it comes down to it, all any stage adaptation of the 1983 cheesefest Flashdance needs are legwarmers, the “Maniac” scene and a curly-haired welder who takes her bra off under her blouse. If they added unicorns and a laser fight on the moon, I probably couldn’t say with authority they got that wrong. That’s because the film, for all its iconic imagery, is not a classic by any stretch; gay folks have long since associated Jennifer Beals more for The Word than that.

The stage musical of Flashdance, now at Fair Park, has all of those images, plus Irene Cara’s Oscar-winning song, and still fails to resonate. Probably that’s because it has no sense of humor about itself, like The Wedding Singer or Xanadu. One line like, “Those legwarmers are so hot! They will go out of fashion” would wink to the audience that this is a trifle, a time capsule meant to be joyously cheesy, not serious theater. Alack! No such luck.

In part, Flashdance can’t decide if it wants to be Gypsy (stripers with hearts of gold!), Burlesque or Billy Elliot — more like Silly Elliot, with an awkward subplot about one of the dancers named Gloria (and the equally awkward shoe-horning in of the Laura Branigan song) and a predictability even if you haven’t seen the film.

On the plus side, the young cast has the energy of a fusion reactor, and the men are all hot-bodied muscle hunks. Maybe that will distract you from songs so interchangeable, they might have been composed by Lego. But I doubt it.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Once one of the country’s pre-eminent industrial powerhouses, with a population of nearly 700,000, Pittsburgh (visitpittsburgh.com) has, like many similar American cities, changed considerably over the past few decades. Although now less than half its size compared to its heyday, this hilly and historic metropolis in the Ohio Valley is enjoying a dramatic renaissance, with a number of formerly downcast neighborhoods now abuzz with hip restaurants, indie shops and rehabbed factory buildings, apartments and row houses.

Having received a bump in gay visibility during the years it served as the setting of TV’s Queer as Folk (which was actually filmed in Toronto), Pittsburgh has also steadily developed into a very popular weekend destination among LGBT travelers.

Gays and the arts

The gay community is well-integrated within the mainstream population. The city has numerous theaters with artsy and gay-themed films and a high appreciation of alternative culture (consider that two of its top attractions are the Mattress Factory contemporary art museum and the Andy Warhol Museum). The city also hosts the Pittsburgh International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival each October, and the fast-growing Pride Theater Festival took place over two weekends just this month.

It’s architecturally notable, too: You can’t miss the city’s most remarked-upon skyscraper, PPG Place, a neo-Gothic monolith designed by the late gay architect Philip Johnson. Nearby, Liberty and Penn avenues form the spines of a 14-block Cultural District of theaters and performance halls housing the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Ballet and the Pittsburgh Opera. You’ll also find numerous theaters, including the gay-popular Cabaret at Theater Square.

South of downtown, the city rises sharply above the Monongahela River toward Mt. Washington, a workaday neighborhood with spectac-
ular views of downtown. Ride up the slope via the Monongahela Incline, which leads to a viewing platform and a small museum. A short drive east is the bohemian South Side, a repository of funky shops, galleries and eateries that once anchored Pittsburgh’s Lithuanian and Polish communities.

East of downtown, Oakland was built from the gobs of money generated during Pittsburgh’s industrial heyday and today contains hospitals, universities and high-tech firms. More east still is Shadyside, a gentrified patch of neatly kept yards and attractive old homes, many of them gay-owned. Ellsworth Avenue has several gay-popular eateries and businesses, and more chi-chi Walnut Street holds mid- to high-end chain stores.

Pittsburgh’s dining scene has blossomed, especially in some of the hip, outlying neighborhoods like Lawrenceville, East Liberty and Bloomfield. Along Butler Avenue in Lawrenceville, you’ll find all sorts of cool eateries: Coca Café (CocaCafe.net), which also has a branch in the Mattress Factory Museum, serves modern American fare and is a great pick for brunch; Cure (CurePittsburgh.com) is known for innovative, meaty fare, including pig’s cheek ragout and ox-tail ravioli; and Tamari (Tamaripgh.com) is a gorgeous space acclaimed for artful Asian-Latin fusion fare, such as tamales with chicken, Chinese sausage and green curry. In Garfield (near East Liberty), Salt of the Earth (SaltPgh.com) serves fine renditions of farm-to-table cuisine.

In the Strip District, lesbian-owned Pamela’s Diner, aka P&G’s (Pamelasdiner.com) is a fine spot for hearty breakfast fare and delicious sandwiches at lunch. There are other branches in Squirrel Hill, Shadyside and Mt. Lebanon. And the original Primanti Bros. (PrimantiBros.com) has been doling out huge sandwiches, topped ridiculously but deliciously with French fries and cole slaw, since 1933.

The elegant Eleven Contemporary Kitchen (ElevenCK.com), which is well-suited to special-occasion meals, is part of the gay-friendly Big Burrito (BigBurrito.com) group, which operates several slick, lounge-y restaurants around town, including the fun Pan-Asian restaurant Soba and the colorful and lively Cal-Mex restaurant Mad Mex. For a terrific meal near downtown’s gay bars, check out Meat & Potatoes (MeatAndPotatoesPgh.com), a lively gastropub serving sophisticated yet accessible burgers, sweetbread tacos, bone marrow with grilled bread and other carnivore-driven delights.

As QAF fans know, the 900 block of Liberty Avenue downtown has a few of the city’s top gay nightlife options, including neighborhood-y There Ultra Lounge; the popular and long-running Images video bar, and 941 Saloon, which has an after-hours upstairs section that pulses into the late-night hours.

Relatively new Cruze Bar (CruzeBar.com) in the Strip is a popular dance club in an attractive space — it’s arguably the snazziest gay bar in the city. Low-keyed Real Luck Café (RealLuckCafe.com) is nearby, draws a mix of men and women, and serves pub food and drinks. A few blocks away is the popular gay bathhouse, Club Pittsburgh (ClubPittsburgh.com). On nearby Polish Hill, Donny’s Place is a country-western dance bar with a pool hall drawing a mixed-gender crowd. Downstairs is a guy-oriented basement nook known as Leather Central.

Shadyside’s quintessentially queer video lounge and cafe, 5801 Ellsworth (5801videolounge.com) is a hip but friendly place for cocktails, good home-style cooking and great conversation, and nearby Spin draws a similar, mostly gay mix of scenesters, young professionals and fairly collegiate sorts. In increasingly trendy Lawrenceville, the Blue Moon is a fun and welcoming spot with fun videos on TV, karaoke, and an easygoing crowd, and Cattivo (Cattivo.biz) — especially popular with lesbians but friendly to all — stands out as a great place both to drink and eat (expect pizza, hoagies, strombolis and the like).
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Check out our contest tab for a chance to win tickets to **Depeche Mode, September 20** at Gexa Energy pavilion!
Friday 06.28
Printmaking artist debuts at ilume
Antonio Diaz Cortes, the Mexico-based artist, has turned printmaking into an art. How exactly? Well, that’s exactly what you can see at the ilume Gallerie. The showroom opens a new exhibit of his work (titled, appropriately, Antonio Diaz Cortes: The Art of Printmaking) on Friday with an artist’s reception. But if you miss the opening, don’t worry — the show runs through most of July.


Tuesday 07.02
DTC goes to Neverland with ‘Fly’
The Dallas Theater Center concludes its current season, as has become its habit, with a family-friendly show getting an extended run. This year, it’s a new retelling of J.M. Barrie’s classic Peter Pan, called Fly. Jeffrey Seller, a three-time Tony Award winner, directs this premiere, which begins previews on Tuesday before its formal opening on July 12.

DEETS: Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. July 2–Aug. 18 (in previews through July 11). DallasTheaterCenter.org

Wednesday 07.03
Addison Kaboom Town starts holiday a day early
We all know Independence Day is the Fourth of July, but Addison doesn’t — that’s why it has its big celebration a day early, with Kaboom Town taking place with fireworks and more on Wednesday. That really just doubles your chances to blow something up this week.

DEETS: Addison Circle Park, Addison Circle. 5 p.m.–midnight. Free. AddisonTexas.net.

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THEATER


Avenue Q. The hit from last season and fall returns for an unlimited run in its Theatre Too space. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Open-ended run. $10–$40. Theatre3Dallas.com.


Songs for a New World. Song cycle presented by Uptown Players. Reviewed this week. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through July 7. UptownPlayers.org


The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs. Dallas Children’s Theater presents a musical for the entire family. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Through July 14. DCT.org.

FINE ART


Connecting Dallas to the Holocaust. A temporary exhibit at the Old Red Courthouse in cooperation with and curated by the Dallas Holocaust Museum. 100 S. Houston St. $8 admission, $4 special exhibit fee. Through July 14. OldRed.org.

Focus: The Great Trinity Forest and Trinity River. This group show features photography from several nature photographers. Sun to Moon Gallery, 1515 Levee St. An artists’ reception takes place Saturday, 5–8 p.m. 214-745-1199.


FRIDAY 06.28

COMEDY

David Alan Grier. We feel a weird connection to the actor-comedian, in part because he’s hilarious (remember the “Men on Film” sketch on In Living Color?) and in part because former Dallas actor Cedric Neal understudied Grier on Broadway in Porgy and Bess. Either way, Grier performs a series of sets this weekend at the Addison Improv, 4980 Belt Line Road, Suite 250, Addison. June 28–30.
CONCERTS
Barry Manilow. The man who writes the music — and got started in the Continental Baths playing backup for Bette Midler — brings his patented sound to Verizon Theatre, 1001 Performance Place, Grand Prairie. Doors open at 7 p.m. $10–140.

DINING
Social Club Dinner: Dallas White Party. A “pop-up” dining event, where attendees are advised of the location of a dinner hours before it takes place and are invited to decorate their own tables and dress according to the theme: White Party. To sign up for the dinner (at 7 p.m. Friday), visit SocialClubDinner.com.

COMMUNITY
Panoptikon 7th Anniversary Party. Tonight, the gay dance party Panoptikon, which has been a regular event in the Deep Ellum area, celebrates its 7th anniversary with a move, now official, into Oak Lawn. The event opens at its new home every Friday with a mix of retro dance mixes, synth-pop and industrial, with every third Friday still being Disco v. Retro Night. Club Exklusive, 4207 Maple Ave. 9 p.m.–2 a.m.

SUNDAY 06.30
WORSHIP
Cathedral of Hope. Traditional service at the United Church of Christ congregation. 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. CathedralOfHope.com.
The ONE Church, 5427 Philip Ave. Services 6 p.m. Dallas1Church.org.

TUESDAY 07.02
THEATER

COMMUNITY
Classic Chassis Car Club. Ojeda’s 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. 214-446-0606.

WEDNESDAY 07.03
FIREFWORKS
Kaboom Town. Addison gets started early with its fireworks festival, Addison Circle Park, Addison. Free. 5 p.m.–midnight.

THURSDAY 07.04 — Happy Independence Day!

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Holy Trinity! A group exhibition of photos reflecting life in the Trinity Forest and Trinity River opens this weekend, with an artists’ reception on Saturday at the Sun to Moon Gallery. (Photo by Scott Miller)
CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

Twin sisters Eppie Lederer and Pauline Phillips — better known as advice columnists Ann Landers and Abigail Van Buren (“Dear Abby”), would have turned 95 on the Fourth of July. Lederer died in 2002; Phillips just this past January.

CANCER: Jun 21–Jul 20
You can’t take this on if you’re already overly involved with something else. On the one hand, you’ve got something that looks like what you’ve always dreamed of; and on the other hand, you’ve bumped into the last thing you expected.

LEO: Jul 21–Aug 20
Things couldn’t have come at a better time. After a long wait, you now see why there had to be a delay. Without having to give it too much thought, whatever it is that finally showed up at the end of the rainbow is giving you a chance to start all over.

VIRGO: Aug 21–Sep 20
You don’t have time to worry about how others are going to handle things. Sometimes you just have to trust the fact that they can get the job done without you.

LIBRA: Sep 21–Oct 20
You can’t expect to get results if you aren’t willing to look outside the box. For many of you, this could mean coming to the realization that others never meant any harm.

SCORPIO: October 21–Nov 20
Knowing how much to bring to a situation has become an issue. You see exactly what needs to happen; even so, others see it differently and they have a right to their opinion. What would help more than anything would be to step back and look at who this belongs to.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 21–Dec 20
No matter how much the past seems to interfere with the present, in the here and now you have it in your power to forgive and forget. Don’t hold people hostage over the water under the bridge; that stuff is done.

CAPRICORN: Dec 21–Jan 20
It’s hard to say where you’re at with things. On the surface life is going along just fine. You’re so good at handling whatever it is that you’re engaged in, one would never guess that the bigger part of you is hardly there for it.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21–Feb 20
You’ve already figured out that this is going to require a lot of sensitivity and compassion. Part of you is ready to be there for people and another part of you wishes they could figure out how to be there for themselves.

PISCES: Feb 21–Mar 20
Nobody expects you to be 100 percent there for things that have run their course. In the midst of a transition you are already on to the next thing. Don’t let anyone tell you how to make your exit, but don’t leave any loose ends.

ARIES: Mar 21–Apr 20
The way things are going, you’re wondering why you ever had a problem with your current issue. For the next few months whatever you couldn’t seem to pull together in the past is going to come together in a way that will reaffirm your belief that this is all worthwhile.

TAURUS: Apr 21–May 20
You could get irritated, or you could just forgive those who know not what they do. I would forget it and take the high road — because you aren’t in the mood and you haven’t got the time to stoop to that level.

GEMINI: May 21–Jun 20
Too much well-meant advice isn’t ringing true because whoever’s dishing it out doesn’t have to live your life. What no one seems to understand is you have your own way of doing things.
Kinky Quote

Solution on page 33

Across
1 Chicago Bears wear them on their knees
5 Dances the horizontal mambo with
10 Lou Grant’s paper
14 “Climb ___ Mountain”
15 Bellybutton type
16 Prefix meaning “half”
17 Close by
18 “The Queen of Mean” Helmsley
19 “How queer!”
20 “Underground” org.
21 Issue supported by Kinky Friedman
23 Bearing
25 Lesbos and more
26 Skater Orser
27 Solving puzzles and such
31 Start of what 21-Across means, from a straight point of view
33 Relieved sighs
34 Plied with pinot, perhaps
35 Thompson of Angels in America
39 More of what it means
41 Workplace for Michelangelo
44 Come together
45 Jack of nursery rhymes

Down
1 Shadowy area
2 Companion piece to “Like a Virgin”?
3 Come close to your partner, perhaps
4 Neighbor of Leb.
5 Like rays caught at South Beach
6 Nephew of Disney’s Donald Duck
7 Exotica director Egoyan
8 Gershon of Bound
9 Lightly burn
10 Belief in the Divine Miss M?
11 Show a really good time
12 They may be spitting
13 ___ one’s time (waits)
21 Decent chap
22 Park of Queens
24 Slangy refusals
27 Model’s asset
28 Doubleday of baseball fame
29 Voyeurs, e.g.
30 Cry of pride
32 Boob, to a Brit
35 Salt’s saint
36 Nitwit
37 Female rubber
38 Gave in
39 Pass out
40 Frat hazing sounds
41 Property of one who has balls?
42 “Jeopardy!” host
43 Gay Pride event
45 “Take it off!”
46 Desires, with “after”
48 “Beat it!”
49 Scroll at Beth Chayim Chadashim
50 Holds title to
51 Ice in the sea
55 Nero’s “Of God”

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An amazing display of delicately crafted jewelry and picture frames, light catching paperweights, fluid sculptures, spectacular bowls and platters, stunning wall art and extraordinary vases will be on display at JR’s Bar & Grill on June 30 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Prices range from $10 to $400 and 10 percent of the proceeds benefits Resource Center Dallas. ... Carlos Saenz performs at Alexandre’s on June 28 and Londex closes out the month’s performances on June 29. Fourth of July weekend begins on July 3 with Anton Shaw and on July 4 with Spencer West and So Strung Out. ... Begin the weekend with the Dive softball and PSSA tourney party on June 28 at BJ’s NXS with complimentary hamburgers and hotdogs on the patio. Then catch Ace’s retirement party on July 2. ... Voice of Pride comes to the Rose Room on June 30. ... S4 holds its Pre-7/4 Party. When else but on 7/3. ... Paco Estrada appears at Sue Ellen’s on June 28, Barefoot Hippies on June 30 and Bella and Darla on July 3. ... Texas Gay Rodeo Association presents Miss Firecracker at Dallas Eagle on June 29. Miss Wanda hosts Eagle Amateur Talent Night on July 2. ... Gary Floyd, Denise Lee and Peggy Honea appear on the rooftop at Eden Lounge for an afternoon performance on June 30. On July 4, watch the fireworks from the rooftop. ... Dallas Woody’s Xplosion presents Extra Innings at Woody’s Sports & Video Bar on June 30. ... Mable Peabody’s Beauty Salon & Chainsaw Repair in Denton holds its first annual Disco Night on June 29 with prizes for best costume and best dance. Suggested attire is Saturday Night Fever. ... Condolences to all of Whitney Paige’s family, friends and fans.

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