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  Chaka Cumberbatch as Dee from Rat Queens. Photo by Tammye Nash.
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MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED
Lambda Legal sues TDCJ on behalf of trans inmate

Lambda Legal filed a federal lawsuit on Thursday, Oct. 23, on behalf of Passion Star, a trans woman being housed with male prisoners in the Texas prison system. The lawsuit claims that officials with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice have “displayed deliberate indifference to threats of sexual assault and violence against Ms. Star in TDCJ’s male facilities,” according to a statement released this afternoon.

“Ms. Star has been pleading for protection from rape, beatings, knifings and threats to her life since she entered TDCJ custody as a teenager, but instead of protecting her, prison officials actually moved her closer to the person who was threatening her. The next morning, the gang member attacked Star, calling her a “snitching faggot” and slashing her face eight times with a razor.

Still, prison officials refused to move Star to protection. But instead of taking measures to protect her, prison officials have instead told Star to “suck dick,” “fight or “stop acting gay” if she wants to keep from being assaulted.

Lambda Legal alleges that on Nov. 19, 2013, Star asked TDCJ officials to protect her from a gang member who had told her that he “owned her.” But instead of protecting her, prison officials actually moved her closer to the person who was threatening her. The next morning, the gang member attacked Star, calling her a “snitching faggot” and slashing her face eight times with a razor.

Still, prison officials refused to move Star to protect her.

— Tammye Nash

Jon Buice again denied parole in 1991 gay bashing murder

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles voted on Tuesday, Oct. 21, to once again deny convicted killer Jon Christopher Buice’s request for parole.

Buice, now 40 years old, was one of 10 men — ranging in age at the time from 16 to 22 — convicted of the 1991 murder of Paul Broussard, a Houston gay man who was beaten and stabbed to death after leaving a gay bar in the Montrose neighborhood on July 4.

It was Broussard’s murder that prompted then-Texas Gov. Ann Richards to call a special session of the Texas Legislature to pass the state’s first hate crimes law in 1993.

Andy Kahan, a victim advocate for the city of Houston, said Tuesday, “Since Jon made the deliberate conscious effort to deprive Paul of his life, all we can do in return is to deprive him of his liberty and we at least accomplished that for another year.”

Buice, who admitted at trial that he was the one that inflicted the stab wound that actually killed Broussard, was sentenced to 20 years in prison. He was denied parole in 2005 and in 2009. In 2011, the Board of Pardons and Paroles initially granted Buice’s request for parole but then reversed its decision following an outcry by the LGBT community and his mother, Nancy Rodriguez.

Buice’s was denied parole again in 2012, 2013 and Tuesday, Oct. 21. Raymond Estrada, spokesman for the Board of Pardons and Paroles, said the reason given for denying parole was “the nature of the offense.” He said Buice is up for review again on Oct. 1, 2015.

— Tammye Nash

Time to destroy another landmark in Dallas

The old Cabana Motor Hotel on Stemmons Freeway just outside of downtown Dallas is on the verge of being sold and redeveloped.

The property was purchased by Dallas County in 1965 and was used as a jail until 2009. The property has a storied history. In 1962, Jay Sarno, who developed Caesars Palace and Circus Circus in Las Vegas, built the Cabana and the hotel was owned by Doris Day.

In 1964, the Beatles stayed here on their first North American tour. During the 1960s and early ’70s, it was the place for touring rock acts to stay, including Jimi Hendrix, The Dave Clark Five, Led Zeppelin and The Monkees.

Raquel Welch worked here as a cocktail waitress while modeling for Neiman Marcus.

The hotel is not a registered landmark. The county is negotiating with Lincoln Property Company for its sale.

— David Taffet

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Lambda Legal staff attorney Jael Humphrey.

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— Tammye Nash
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GALA Youth game night

GALA Youth holds game night for LGBTQA middle and high school teens. The event takes place 6–7:30 p.m Sunday, Oct. 26 at 1641 W. Hebron Pkwy, Carrollton.

GEAR October mixer

Renee Baker will tell her story at GEAR’s October mixer at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30 at LaMadeleine, 3906 Lemmon Ave.

Baker was a social worker at North Texas Youth Connection for several years, offering family and youth counseling and case management, and is finishing her internship work after completing her masters in counseling. She also has a doctorate in engineering and worked in radar systems, telecommunication, and airborne reconnaissance for more than 20 years.

After a difficult emotional struggle, Renee transitioned to female, has found peace with herself and is able to pursue her long time desire to be a counselor and dedicate her life to serving others.

DSYD gets out the vote

Dallas Stonewall Young Democrats holds a get out the vote meeting with Sen. Royce West at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28 at Sue Ellen’s, 3014 Throckmorton St. The group promises it’ll be just like a high school pep rally, but in a bar, so nothing like that.

Women’s Yoga class

This beginner-friendly yoga class addresses issues that transgender women may face as they experience the changes in body, mind and spirit that come with transitioning. Teacher Erin Brandao will focus on flexibility, strength, toning and posture as well as breathing and meditation techniques to calm anxiety.

Mats will be available to borrow, but bring yours if you have one. Wear comfortable clothing that you can move in.

Supporting her wife through her transition over the last year has given Erin a unique perspective on how yoga can improve the lives of transgender women.

The class is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29 at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.

Halloween Boo-Bike-Que

Bike Friendly Oak Cliff presents its third annual Boo-Bike-Que, a mountain bike ride, 6–11 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29, at Red Bird Lane and Highway 67. Helmets are required. Bring lights for this after-dark ride. A potluck will be held at the end of the ride. Bring your favorite dish. More info at BikeFriendlyOC.org.

This 2-year-old cute boy is bright-eyed and ready for a new forever home. Kobe is friendly, affectionate and active, and the only thing he asks from his new family is a lot of love and a new squeaky toy once in a while. He’s neutered, vaccinated, microchipped and ready to go and his adoption fee has been waived. Come meet him at Dallas Animal Services and Adoption Center, 1818 N. Westmoreland, 75212. Ask for Kobe #A859790.

The Adoption Center is open 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Mon-Sat, and noon-5 p.m. Sun. All adopted pets are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Standard adoption fees are $85 for dogs and $55 for cats. Discounts are offered on adoption fees for pets over 6 years of age, to any senior citizen that adopts a pet, and to anyone adopting more than one pet at a time. For more information, visit DallasAnimalServices.org or find us on Facebook at Facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices.

Photo contributed by Judi Burnett.
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Drag group is one of the oldest LGBT groups in country—and one of its biggest donors

JAMES RUSSELL  | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Donna Dumae — aka Don Jenkins — calls herself “the oldest drag queen in captivity.” It seems, perhaps, a fitting description for someone who has been involved for most of her drag life with the United Court of the Lone Star Empire, the all-volunteer fundraising group that celebrates its 40th anniversary this weekend, Oct. 24-26, with events at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The weekend’s theatrical events, all fundraisers for the Dallas LGBT community, will also feature Nicole Murray Ramirez of San Diego, her Imperial Majesty Empress Nicole the Great, Queen Mother I of the Americas.

This is the Queen Mother’s first statewide visit to Texas, and she is here as part of the international court’s 50th anniversary celebration.

The UCLSE is part of the International Court System, one of the oldest LGBT fundraising organizations in existence. It comprises nearly 70 courts across Canada, Mexico and the United States.

Each court is a self-sustaining, not-for-profit organization. Fundraising events are typically held at gay and lesbian bars. In the coronation events, typically held once a year, one reign of emperors and empresses pass their crowns onto the next reign, elected by court members. The College of Monarchs comprises former royalty including Dumae and Devon DeVasquez.

DeVasquez, president of the UCLSE board and a former empress, said the court has raised around $500,000 since the 1990s, the first years for which financial records are first available. Beneficiaries of the court’s various charitable endeavors have included Resource Center, AIDS Services of Dallas, AIDS Interfaith Network and others.

This year, Dumae said, UCLSE has raised $70,000 for local organizations.

The International Court’s policy that local courts fundraise only for local nonprofits is one of the elements that sets the court system apart from other fundraising groups.

“We raise money here and it stays here,” said Dumae. “We’re not sending money to organizations like the Human Rights Campaign [the national LGBT advocacy organization], whose work may not directly impact local communities.”

As times have changed, active participants like Dumae and DeVasquez have stuck with the group’s traditions.

The language, local emphasis and colorful presentations are points of pride for court members, as much as they are somber reminders of past LGBT struggles.

The court’s founding is rooted in the struggle for LGBT acceptance. San Francisco gay bar owners in 1965 hosted regular public drag balls. José Julio Sarria was among those who attended.

Sarria, a World War II veteran and openly gay candidate for public office, attended so often that he won the title Queen of the Ball. But presiding over the ball was not enough for Sarria; he eventually declared himself an empress.

Sarria adopted the name “Her Royal Majesty, Empress of San Francisco, José I, The Widow Norton,” a moniker inspired by Joshua Norton who, according to the Encyclopedia of San Francisco, was an eccentric San Francisco resident in the 19th century who declared himself “Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico.”

Sarria eventually created the elaborate court system that grew into the current network of nearly 70 courts.

Dumae said she is proud that the UCLSE was at the forefront of the effort to raise funds to support individuals living with AIDS during the early days of the epidemic.

When “our lesbian sisters began suffering from breast cancer, we began fundraising for breast cancer research,” Dumae continued. “We owed them because they were so helpful toward us [during the AIDS epidemic].”

Ramirez — a former president of the LGBT advocacy organization Equality California and a San Diego human relations commissioner — credited the court system for spurring his LGBT activism.

Ramirez said the ICS has never gotten the credit it deserves, adding, “We’re not public relations-savvy, and we’re not looking for headlines. But we have hearts of gold.”

Some court members said the court system is misunderstood. Dumae said, “There are two types
of ignorance about the court. There are those who don’t get us but don’t ask, and those who don’t want to get us.”

Don Maison is president of AIDS Services of Dallas, which has long been a beneficiary of court fundraisers. He said he isn’t aware of any stigma.

“I really don’t know what the issue is,” Maison said. “They do good work in the community and that’s what is important.”

Resource Center’s Rafael McDonnell agreed. “Some people may not know its rich history of philanthropy. They’re one of the most generous organizations in the country,” he said. “It’s not ignorance as much as misperception.”

For members, the court is a lifestyle and a mission. And they pour considerable resources — from their own pockets — into creating their look and their events.

DeVasquez, who has been part of the court system for nearly nine years, said many in the LGBT community think court members use funds from events to pay for their elaborate costumes and crowns. But that’s not true.

“We pay for our crowns and costumes,” he said. In fact, aside from paying for a mailbox, DeVasquez said the group has barely any overhead. It is members’ way of contributing to the community they live in.

Everyone takes action in some way, Ramirez said. “We just do it in drag.”

FIT FOR A QUEEN | Her Imperial Majesty Empress Nicole the Great, Queen Mother I of the Americas, left, is in Dallas for UCLSE’s 40th Coronation this weekend. (Photos courtesy Devon DeVasquez)
The House That Lee Built | Arlington Hall at Lee Park celebrates its 75th anniversary. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

These days, it’s easy to miss the stately Arlington Hall, situated in the heart of the usually tranquil Lee Park. Skyscrapers overshadow the 17-acre park off Turtle Creek Boulevard. The honks and hums of vehicles barrel down the surrounding streets and the noise of bustling city life remind visitors, should they find the park, that they’re in the heart of a big and busy city.

On Friday, Oct. 24, the Lee Park & Arlington Hall Conservancy, which oversees the campus, celebrates the community center’s 75th anniversary with a lunch and lecture by Gary Scott, the former director of the federal parks service.

Arlington Hall has been witness to Dallas — and American — history. At 75, the hall has seen the neighborhood gentrify and transform. It saw the birth of the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade and activists in the 1960s protesting the Vietnam War. It has survived the widening of Turtle Creek and is now one of the few remaining Southern Memorial Association chapters in the country.

In 1928, the group proposed a large bronze equestrian statue of Lee. And in 1936, after eight years of fundraising, the DSMA commissioned sculptor A. Phimister Proctor. Before the statue’s dedication, the Dallas parks board re-named the park to Lee Park in time for the statue’s dedication by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who opened the Texas Centennial Exposition at Fair Park the same day.

The bronze statue featured Lee on his horse Traveller, accompanied by the mounted figure of a young man representing the youth of the South who fought with General Lee.

During World War II, Arlington Hall hosted as many American Red Cross and USO events as high school proms, debutante events and weddings. But the site has also been a hotbed of activism, sometimes a source of contention among the park’s various stakeholders.

In the late 1980s, when Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Alan Ross wanted to erect an AIDS memorial in Lee Park, he faced considerable pushback. The campus had already been a site for the Dallas Gay Pride Organization in 1983, which has since become the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

According to Voice archives, Ross faced a number of roadblocks — not just from the DSMA, but from city officials, too: “The DSMA argued to the council that Lee Park was not a neighborhood park but a tribute to Robert E. Lee. The Turtle Creek Association said the park would not be suitable for children [if it included an AIDS memorial].” Park board members said they didn’t want to dedicate public land to one specific disease and suggested the memorial be placed at Parkland hospital, the Dallas Morning News reported. They said they didn’t like the precedent the memorial set.”

Finally in July 1990, the park board ruled that the Tavern Guild could erect an AIDS memorial but couldn’t use the words “AIDS,” “gay” or “lesbian.”

But there was one thing that the various stakeholders — including at that point the city of Dallas, the DSMA, the Turtle Creek Association and Dallas Tavern Guild — couldn’t deny: The facility was aging and in need of repair.

After conversations with the city, the Lee Park & Arlington Hall Conservancy public-private partnership formed. In 1998, the conservancy was officially authorized by the city to manage the campus through a bond package and numerous private donations.

A capital campaign launched in 2002 expanded and revitalized the hall. A generous gift from philanthropist Margaret Hunt Hill paid for the addition of a porte-cochere that gave the building a more genteel, southern feel.

The campus grounds, once overgrown and deteriorating, are flourishing, now, and a generous gift from Bobbie Snyder recently allowed the conservancy to build a winding bridge, promenade and viewing deck connecting the park with the city’s flourishing bike trails.

Still nestled in the park is the small but poignant AIDS memorial dedicated to Alan Ross, the man who fought to have it installed in the park: “This living tribute and surrounding beautification project is a gift to Lee Park and the city of Dallas in recognition of the AIDS community of Dallas County,” the plaque reads. Like the park itself, it’s a reminder of the progress and triumphs of Dallas history.
2014 HALLOWEEN BLOCK PARTY

Street Party is FREE and all ages welcome!
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HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST on cedar springs

FRIDAY OCTOBER 31ST

Contest will be held at JR’s, TMC, Sue Ellens, and S4. Pre-registration begins at 9:30pm at each club with contest finals at Station 4.

P A R T Y @ T H E B L O C K . C O M
Brenda Stowe never worked out before. “I’d sit on my tail at home,” she said.

But then came the day she was running through an airport from the car rental to the gate to catch a flight, and, “The lady at the counter asked me if I needed a wheelchair,” Stowe said.

That’s when she knew she had to do something about her weight.

Then she met Danielle Girdano in church.

Girdano is president of D’Fine Sculpting and Nutrition and is a certified master personal trainer. In 2013, she was named a Top 40 executive under 40 by the Dallas Business Journal.

As a trainer, Girdano specializes in a number of areas, including weight loss, exercising with coronary disease and exercise programming for Alzheimers. But her work with her transgender clients is her real passion.

It’s such a passion, in fact, that Resource Center’s GEAR program director, Blair High, said Girdano gave the group $8,000 in scholarship money for members to use for professional fitness training.

Girdano said her program for trans clients came about naturally, because she approaches each person as an individual with different needs and requirements.

“There’s not a cookie-cutter approach,” Girdano said. “There are lots of body types.”

She said when she looked at how she saw trans men and women were exercising, she realized that in many cases they were working hard but getting no results.

Girdano said her philosophy is, “Work smarter, not harder. You can get more benefit with less activity.”

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Girdano said her philosophy is, “Work smarter, not harder. You can get more benefit with less activity.”

Smarter means understanding a person’s body and what results the person wants to achieve. Girdano said she saw trans men often doing exercises to develop their upper bodies without taking their own bodies’ systems into account. She said someone who has had a mastectomy — man or woman — who wants to build upper body strength, should build muscle from the side and not the front.

“Hormones can affect outcomes, but can’t completely change the muscular-skeletal systems,” Girdano said.

When a person transitions, their...
body undergoes a number of changes, Girdano explained. But some things don’t change. As she ran through an exercise routine with Stowe, a male-to-female trans woman, Girdano explained that Stowe’s abdominal cavity is larger than that of someone born biologically female. That’s fine with Girdano: She just adjusts the number of reps or the angle at which the person does those reps or even the type of exercise to compensate.

Girdano hands Stowe an O-ring, which Stowe presses in front of her to turn the O into an oval. Girdano said she likes using this exercise with trans women because it builds tissue, not mass.

When Stowe first began working with Girdano, the issue was weight. “I could never get below 270,” Stowe said. “Trust me,” Girdano told her. And with a change of diet and some exercise, Stowe quickly got below 250.

“The wonderful thing about getting in shape was I dropped three major meds,” Stowe said. As she lost weight, Stowe said she was blacking out. Girdano stopped her workout routines until she got to the doctor to check levels of her medications, including her hormones and testosterone blocker. With lower body fat and less weight, Stowe’s hormones were out of whack.

In addition to exercise, Girdano recommends healthy eating, and said it was especially important for the trans community. “Keep good nutritional habits,” Girdano advises. “The transition will be easier.”

Although Girdano is vegan, she doesn’t recommend extreme changes for her clients. She does suggest her clients try just one day a week without meat. She prefers those who eat meat stick to chicken and fish rather than red meat that’s harder to digest.

Another piece of advice she offers is, “Peel it, don’t unwrap it.” Stowe called the foods Girdano recommends “real foods.”

But even if a diet she proposes restricts calories, Girdano figures in a binge day once a week. She said there’s no reason to sneak it, and she thinks it may have a beneficial effect.

When starting a diet, the body sheds the most pounds during the first week. After a few weeks, the weight plateaus. Girdano thinks that binge day stimulates the body to return to the way it reacted the first week, shedding pounds again.

Again, she has special advice for trans men and women that applies to anyone looking for certain results from their workouts. “Certain foods may interact with hormones,” she said.

She said soy is estrogen-based and acts against testosterone. It can affect energy levels and mood. Calcium interacts with testosterone.

Whether going through a rigorous exercise program or just staying active to maintain your health, Girdano said always drink plenty of water.

For more information on Girdano visit DfineYourHealth.com.
Death

Robert “Rob” Charles Ruhlin, 33, of Dallas died Saturday, Oct. 18, at Methodist Dallas Medical Center as a result of injuries suffered in a traffic accident.

Services will be held at Dettling Funeral Home in Houston at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 24. A memorial will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, at The Magnolia in Dallas.

Ruhlin was born Nov. 1, 1980 in Houston, the oldest child of Judy Mosley Ruhlin and Bruce Michael Ruhlin. From his early years, he was a planner and strategic thinker who enjoyed mastering new activities which would get his little brother in trouble. Where other children had excuses, Ruhlin had a detailed analytical argument reviewing the pros and cons.

He and his family moved to Charleston, W.Va. in April 1990. Ruhlin went to Sacred Heart Elementary School there and graduated Charleston Catholic High School in 1999. In high school, Ruhlin developed his love for playing guitar and drums, and bought his first vintage Cadillac.

Ruhlin graduated from The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, in 2003 with degrees in psychology, philosophy and political science. He received his Juris Doctor from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law on June 11, 2006. Ruhlin received a Master of Law in Taxation degree from the New York University School of Law in 2010 and was licensed to practice law in Texas, New York, several U.S. District Courts and the United States Tax Court.

Ruhlin married his high school sweetheart, Kristen Adele Pinkston, on July 5, 2003. Al- though the marriage ended in 2010, they remained friends and she has custody of their beloved dog, Chip.

After law school in 2006, Ruhlin and his wife moved to New York, N.Y. He enjoyed life in a big city, the only drawback being the small space causing him to part with his classic cars and musical equipment. While working for a couple of small law firms, he attended NYU.

Ruhlin relocated from New York to Dallas in August 2010, with three boxes, a suitcase and a snowboard. In Dallas, he worked for Meadows Collier before starting his own practice and was of counsel with Blanscet, Hooper, and Hale. Most recently he was of counsel with Chad West.

Ruhlin embraced life in Dallas, living on Allen Street where he first moved here, but eventually relocating because he felt like he was the old man in the neighborhood. Ruhlin bought a home in Oak Cliff in 2013 and invested hundreds of hours uncovering its hidden beauty. With room to expand, he began to collect vehicles, guitars, and drums. He loved music, running, snowboarding, traveling on the open road and singing karaoke. He loved being out with people. He loved his extended family, and he always attended reunions, weddings and other gatherings.

Ruhlin was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, William Charles Mosley. He is survived by his parents, Bruce and Judy Ruhlin; his brother, Michael “Mike” Paul Ruhlin; his maternal grandmother, Shirley Laverne Whitley Mosley; his paternal grandparents, William Bradley Ruhlin and Joan Theresa Vanbaugh Ruhlin; and many loving aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.
HISTORY PROJECT | The Dallas Way gave the University of North Texas Libraries a $15,000 donation that will allow the library to triple the amount of LGBT content in the digital library. Six major documents — those of the Texas Human Rights Foundation, Jack Evans and George Harris, Dallas Voice’s original editor Dennis Vercher, Al Daniels, Molly Behannon and Bruce Jaster — are currently in the UNT archives awaiting digitization. Pictured, from left, are: Dreanna Belden, UNT assistant dean for external relations, libraries; Morgan Gieringer, head of special collections at the UNT Libraries and The Dallas Way President Buddy Mullino. UNT Libraries will hold a celebration on Nov. 6.

PRIDE Calendar

October

• Oct. 25: Halloween on Cedar Springs Road
Facebook.com/Events/776039205742083.

November

• Nov. 6: The Truth About LGBTQ Teen Pregnancy and Sensitivity Training
Presented by Real Live Connection. Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak St. 9–10:30 a.m. RSVP to tggreenberg@ntarupt.org.

• Nov. 6: UNT Libraries and the Portal to Texas History celebrate 2.5 million pages
The online repository that includes the LGBT archives celebrates a major milestone. The Forum in Willis Library, 1506 Highland St, Denton. 3–4:30 p.m.

• Nov. 13: Holiday Wreath Collection
Galleria Dallas, 13350 Dallas Parkway. 6:30 p.m. $50.

• Nov. 14: Wanda Sykes with Keith Robinson
Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm St. 8 p.m. Tickets available at TicketMaster.com.

• Nov. 15: Black Tie Dinner
Dallas Sheraton Hotel, 400 N. Olive St. $400. 6 p.m.–midnight. BlackTie.org.

• Nov. 16: Transgender Day of Remembrance Spirit Walk
Walk begins at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road at 6:30 p.m. Entrance of walkers and memorial at Cathedral of Hope at 7 p.m.

November

• Nov. 20: Transgender Day of Remembrance

• Nov. 20–Dec. 20: Story Corps
Recording, preserving and sharing the stories of Americans from all backgrounds and beliefs. Appointments can be made on Nov. 6 at 800-850-4406 or at StoryCorps.org. The recording booth will be in front of the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St.

• Nov. 21: Marc Veasey’s second annual 33rd Congressional District Job Fair
Mountainview Community College, Building E Lobby, 4849 W. Illinois Ave. 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Free and open to the public.

• Nov 23: Gobble til ya Wobble
A Thanksgiving dinner and celebration for LGBTQ youth, young adults, allies and families. Cathedral of Hope 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6–8 p.m.

December

• Dec. 1: World AIDS Day

• Dec. 1: Night of a Thousand Names
CURE honors The Names Project Foundation, Dr. Steven Pounds and Dr. Louis Sloan. Noah’s Event Space, 2151 N. Greenville Ave., Richardson. 6 p.m.
Rapid changes make keeping score difficult

In just two weeks, the number of marriage equality states jumped from 19 to 32, but Texas is not among them.

DAVID TAFFET  |  Staff Writer

taffet@dallasvoice.com

Four U.S. Courts of Appeals have yet to weigh in on marriage equality. Of the 11 districts, these remaining courts — 5th, 6th, 8th and 11th — are generally considered the most conservative.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court refused on Oct. 3 to hear appeals from five states — Oklahoma and Utah in the 10th, Wisconsin and Indiana in the 7th, and Virginia in the 4th — those states and most other states in those circuits have become marriage equality states, bringing the total from 19 to 32 in just two weeks.

Three more states should be marriage equality states soon because of positive rulings in their circuits.

5th Circuit

With two Lone Star State cases combined into one and moving through the court system, LGBT Texans are waiting to see if judges in the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals will follow the lead of other circuit courts so far and rule in favor of equality, or if the 5th Circuit will become the court to issue an opposite ruling and force SCOTUS to take up the issue.

The 5th Circuit Court, with jurisdiction over Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, has agreed to expedite its hearing of cases from Texas and Louisiana after a couple from Austin filed a motion requesting they do so. One of the women involved in the Texas case is pregnant, and she'd like a quick ruling to allow her wife to adopt their new baby at birth.

The Louisiana case is one of just two in which a judge has ruled in favor of a state’s right to define marriage, even if the law discriminates. That judge dismissed the idea of animus — hatred — propelling the restriction. He also dismissed the idea of equal protection in the U.S. Constitution as relevant to the case.

The Texas Supreme Court also heard a case involving same-sex divorce.

Teena Callahan, a family court judge in Dallas, was among the first to rule the federal Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional as part of her decision granting a same-sex couple a divorce. Texas Atty. Gen. Greg Abbott appealed the case and won in the state appellate court. That decision found the marriage was not recognized, so the dissolution of...
the contract between two men should be handled in a court that would handle business disputes.

That decision was then taken to the Texas Supreme Court last November, which still has not issued a ruling after almost a year.

4th Circuit

When the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal from Virginia, the 4th Circuit’s ruling on the side of marriage equality was extended to three other states in the circuit — North Carolina, South Carolina and West Virginia.

South Carolina has so far refused to extend marriage rights and Lambda Legal has filed a lawsuit to force the state to do so.

North Carolina and West Virginia have complied, but North Carolina has filed an appeal.

The case still pending against North Carolina is different than others around the country. Brought by United Church of Christ and the Union for Reform Judaism, instead of by one or more same-sex couples, that suit charges religious discrimination because state law prevents ministers and rabbis from conducting weddings that their denominations allow.

10th Circuit

After the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the Utah and Oklahoma cases, Colorado jumped in as the next marriage equality state.

In Kansas, a judge ordered one northeast county to begin issuing licenses. One lesbian couple got married before the state cut off marriage equality and appealed.

The National Center for Lesbian Rights filed suit when Wyoming refused to issue licenses. After a week’s delay, that state became a marriage equality state.

9th Circuit

California, Oregon, Washington and Hawaii were already marriage equality states in the 9th Circuit.

When the 9th Circuit ruled against the Nevada and Idaho marriage laws, equality extended to Alaska and Arizona after brief appeals that were denied.

In Nevada — the state where prostitution has been legal since the 1800s and gambling since the 1930s — marriage has been more controversial, but the state decided not to appeal.

Claiming moral objections, some Las Vegas wedding chapels on The Strip along with some Elvis impersonators have refused to host same-sex weddings. They face misdemeanor charges of discrimination in public accommodations.

Before it became a marriage equality state, Idaho appealed briefly and lost.

Montana is the 9th Circuit’s only remaining holdout. Montana ACLU filed suit, so that state, along with South Carolina and Kansas should be the next three marriage equality states.

6th Circuit

The Sixth Circuit has heard cases from Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee but has not issued a ruling. That ruling could come at any time.

One Ohio case not appealed involves recognizing spouses for the purpose of a death certificate. The state is complying with that ruling.

8th Circuit

The 8th Circuit already includes two marriage equality states — Minnesota and Iowa. A case was heard in Arkansas and, before that District Court decision was stayed, about 500 couples married.

Cases are pending in lower courts in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Missouri. Although Missouri doesn’t allow same-sex marriage, it recognizes marriages from out of state and is the only non-marriage-equality state to do so.

11th Circuit

The 11th Circuit includes Florida, Georgia and Alabama. Lower court cases are pending in Georgia and Alabama. In Florida, the marriage ban has already been declared unconstitutional by several county courts as well as in U.S. District Court. Florida’s twice-divorced and three-times-married attorney general continues to defend “traditional marriage” as it’s existed since the time Florida’s “dissolution of marriage” laws were liberalized in 1971.

1st Circuit

A U.S. District judge in Puerto Rico ruled this week the territory’s marriage ban is legal. In his ruling, U.S. District Judge Judge Juan M. Pérez-Giménez said lower courts are still bound by Baker v. Nelson, a 1971 case that upheld same-sex marriage bans. He said the Supreme Court can overturn itself, but so far hasn’t.

The ruling is expected to be appealed and would be heard by the 1st Circuit that includes Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode Island — all marriage equality states.
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Vote for competence and integrity, not just party

For too many elections, Dallas Voice readers voted based on the question “Are they with me’ or ‘against me’ as it pertains to gay rights. The main criteria have always been the questions of same-sex marriage and non-discrimination in employment. And therefore, readers aligned with the Democrat Party.

Now that the courts are nearly unanimous in deciding the marriage question, and since major cities and corporations have addressed non-discrimination policies protecting gay people, perhaps it is time to move beyond this traditional paradigm.

I believe it’s time to ask “How qualified, competent and honest is the candidate?”

The answer to this question does not fall neatly within political party lines.

There are a number of candidates on the Republican side that clearly excel, and I will ask you to avoid your tendency to pull the “D” lever at the polls and to vote for them.

They are Ron Natinsky for Dallas County judge, Susan Hawk for Dallas County district attorney, Mike Lee for judge and Lisa DeWitt for judge.

Ron Natinsky won the endorsement of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance when he ran for mayor; and he has a proven record of public and private accomplishments.

I have had far too many Democrats contact me to ask about Ron because they are unimpressed with Clay Jenkins’ Ebola preparedness, the quality of his communication skills during broadcast interviews and his desire to bring thousands of illegal immigrant children to Dallas.

But aside from Ebola, Clay just isn’t working well for Dallas County. The New Parkland Hospital is already a budget mess, and the hiring of a $1 million-a-year salaried director is questionable. If you are concerned with income inequality, that should “rankle your feathers.”

More importantly, Dallas area growth hasn’t come to Dallas County because Clay Jenkins doesn’t know how to attract businesses to our county, and how to avoid the northern county migration.

Susan Hawk has an impeccable reputation and the experience of a prosecuting attorney. She can restore morale and proficiency in the office of the district attorney.

Craig Watkins, on the other hand, has lost all integrity. Are you really okay with the idea that he uses forfeiture funds for personal purposes? Forget whether he is “pro-gay” or not, he has a reputation for being a bully. He fired one well-regarded attorney in his office just for attending a GOP political function. This is the kind of bullying gays should abhor.

Mike Lee is running against Sally Montgomery. It’s one thing to have different views on politics. But it’s quite another to make rulings from the bench that have no basis in law.

The Dallas Observer rated Sally “The Worst Judge in Texas,” and wrote that the 5th Court of Appeals is very busy undoing her decisions. The Dallas Morning News editorial board, once referred to her as “arrogant and capricious.”

And, let’s not forget Lisa DeWitt, who is on the leadership team of the local Log Cabin Republicans chapter.

Are there Democrats worthy of Republican consideration?

Yes, I’m likely voting Democrat in these races:

Mike Collier for comptroller. As a former employee of a Big 8 accounting firm from my early professional years, I appreciate the competence of a CPA in that position. The Republican candidate has no such background. It takes more skills than espousing one’s religious faith to run a comptroller’s office effectively.

Leticia Van de Putte for lieutenant governor. I’m not convinced that Republican Dan Patrick is a good choice for lieutenant governor. GOP friends in the Senate have had less than kind words for him during his primary campaign. Dan is not well liked or trusted among his Austin peers, and I worry that he would become the Republican Harry Reid of our state Senate, creating the gridlock most of us hate in Washington.

Sam Houston for attorney general. Republican Ken Paxton has some legal troubles ahead as was pointed out by his GOP Primary opponent, Dan Branch, that are very serious. Enough said.

So, I ask all the readers this election season: Don’t just vote for a Party. Vote for competence. Vote for integrity. I am.

Robert Schlein is president of Metroplex Republicans, an LGBT Republican organization.
A vision of what could be, if we all turn out to vote next month

I can still remember that moment as if it were just yesterday: I had watched the past two presidential elections with amazement. But never had an election seemed to affect me so personally — in my own state.

You see, back then, although gays and lesbians were making great progress toward marriage equality in other states, in Texas the nation’s longest serving governor, the Republican-controlled state Legislature, both U.S. senators and most of the U.S. representatives were against us. We had no marriage equality and no job protection.

Heck, the establishment was against women and poor people, too.

I admit: I had felt helpless, as if my vote — my voice — didn’t matter. But still, I voted.

As the polls closed, we had only a glimmer of hope. But we had no idea that hope was about to be realized.

A small group of us were watching the election returns at JR.’s. First, the early vote numbers came in and how we rejoiced at the landslide! Then, county by county, we held our collective breath.

Most — but not all — of the rural counties went red, as expected. But the vote count was closer than anyone could have predicted.

But how would the four major urban areas turn out?

The wait was excruciating and the entire bar was on edge, waiting to see what Houston, Austin, San Antonio and Dallas would do.

Then, like a line of dominoes, they fell as something that had once seemed impossible happened. One county after another went blue — definitively so. People in overwhelming numbers — women, lesbians, gays, Latinos, African-Americans — had shown up at the polls and elected Wendy Davis as the first Democratic governor in Texas in 20 years, and only the third woman ever!

It is said, “As Texas goes, so goes the nation.”

A state that had been so deeply red — the hateful, anti-gay, anti-women, anti-immigrant shade — began to change. And so did our country.

No longer was Texas a safe haven for those who would try to oppress women, take away their access to safe healthcare or control their bodies. No longer would the state exclude lesbian, gay and transgender Texans from the benefits and protections heterosexuals enjoyed.

No longer did our students perform at the bottom of the nation but rather they excelled because of the investment we made in their educations. No longer was Texas a state that gave preference to white, heterosexual citizens and instead became known as the Everyone has a Chance State, where each one of us — white and Latino, straight and LGBT, wealthy and poor — had equal footing, was respected, and flourished.

We still had our guns. Churches still decided whether to perform same-gender marriages. But we moved ahead so far. And the nation followed suit.

All because we showed up at that Nov. 4, 2014 election.

*****

So.

This scenario is fiction, a vision of what could be.

This history has yet to be written. But it will be written, in just a few days.

And it could happen.

We are so close to seeing this vision become a reality. But only if you claim the power of your vote.

The future of Texas — and the nation — is up to you.

Todd Whitley is a local activist who can usually be found tweeting (@toddwhitley), holding a picket sign, thrift store shopping, or eating Tex-Mex. Read his blog at tdub68.wordpress.com.
Normal people have nightmares about showing up to school or work naked. I have nightmares about waking up on Halloween without a costume. Yes, really. In my mind, turning up to a masqueraded function without a costume would be a fate worse than death, winter weather and student loans, in that order. I’m kidding. Mostly. As a card-carrying member of the “closet full of costumes and nothing to wear” club, there is rarely a moment where I find myself without a wig within arm’s reach — and I’m not even a drag queen.

But if you’re not the type of person who obsessively hoards rhinestones and e6000, you might be at a loss as to what to transform yourself into on this upcoming All Hallow’s Eve — or even at the Block Party along Cedar Springs on Saturday night.

This is where I come in. My main thrill in life is a makeover. It gives me a sense of control in a world full of chaos. So with that in mind, here are a few quick, easy and pop culture relevant costumes you can throw together in time for the spookiest night of the year … along with some local resources to help you track down all the ingredients for a perfect outfit.

“Anaconda” video references. Oh. My. God. Is there anything more relevant right now than that “Anaconda” video? It was like, Miley who? Nicki Minaj twerked her way to the top of the charts with an earth quaking anthem that paid homage to both Sir Mix-a-Lot and the refined art of booty shaking. If you don’t quite have the, um, assets to pull off one of Nicki’s well-rounded (pun intended) looks from the video, a cleverly executed reference (much like the one seen at New York Comic Con 2014, pictured), might just do the trick.

Ebola patient. I kid. Y’all, this is a public service announcement: please don’t pretend to have Ebola for Halloween. We’re in North Texas, the timing is completely off and you’d probably immediately get hauled off by a truck full of guys wearing hazmat suits. Which would be terrible, unless you’re into that kind of thing. I just felt the need to acknowledge this, because otherwise someone will inevitably make a poor attempt at an Ebola joke this Halloween, and the CDC will get involved and the whole thing will get blown out of proportion just like it did when that guy joked about having Ebola on a plane. Trust me: This is not the way to end up on Buzzfeed. Dressing as Ebola itself, on the other hand …

Emojis. It’s like I woke up this morning and suddenly everyone decided to be emojis for Halloween. It’s al-
Halloween resources

Need more costume inspiration? I polled some of Dallas' most passionate costume connoisseurs — the cosplayers, drag kings/queens and burlesque girls — to find some of the best places to stock up on supplies. Here are some of the top suggestions for supplies:

- Lemmon Wigs and Beauty Supply, 4317 Lemmon Ave.
- Norcostco Texas, 1231 Wycliff Ave.
- Dallas Costume Shoppe, 2905 Main St.
- Dallas Vintage Shop, 1855 North Central Expressway.
- Electric Boutique, 2152 W. NW. Hwy.
- Golden d’Or Fabrics, 10795 Harry Hines Blvd.
- Dallas Spandex Warehouse, 2631 Perth St.
- Rose's Costumes, 5800 I-35 North #508, Denton.
- Magic Etc./Fort Worth Costume, 2007 N. Forest Park Blvd., Fort Worth.
What is STRIBILD?

STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. It combines 4 medicines into 1 pill to be taken once a day with food. STRIBILD is a complete single-tablet regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.

STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking STRIBILD. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing 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.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

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

STRIBILD 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 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, 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 STRIBILD 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 STRIBILD, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. STRIBILD is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you:

- Take a medicine that contains: afluoxzin, dihydroergotamine, ergotamine, methylergonovine, cinnarizine, clofazimine, simvastatin, pimozide, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revario®), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John’s wort.

- For a list of brand names for these medicines, please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.

- Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection, or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:

- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do regular blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with STRIBILD. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD.

- **Bone problems,** including bone pain or bones getting soft or thin, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.

- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV-1 medicines.

- **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking STRIBILD.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

- **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.

- **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start any new medicines while taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

- **If you take hormone-based birth control** (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc).

- **If you take antacids.** Take antacids at least 3 hours before or after you take STRIBILD.

- **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.** It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.

- **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, some medicines in STRIBILD can pass into breast milk, and it is not known if this can harm the baby.

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

Please see Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information with important warnings on the following pages.
STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.

I started my personal revolution

Talk to your healthcare provider about starting treatment.

STRIBILD is a complete HIV-1 treatment in 1 pill, once a day.

Ask if it’s right for you.

STRIBILD®
elvitegravir 150mg/cobicistat 150mg/emtricitabine 200mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

GILEAD
Patient Information

STRIBILD® (STRY-bild)
(evlitegravir 150 mg/cobicistat 150 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

Brief summary of full Prescribing Information. For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

What is STRIBILD?

- STRIBILD® is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD® is a complete regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.
- STRIBILD® does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.
- Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing HIV-1 to others. Do not share or reuse needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

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

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

1. Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Lactic acidosis can happen in some who take STRIBILD® or similar (nucleoside analogues) 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 or vomiting
   - feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
   - feel dizzy or lightheaded
   - have a fast or irregular heartbeat

2. Severe liver problems. Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD®. 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 STRIBILD® for a long time.

3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection. If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD®, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD®. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.

- Do not run out of STRIBILD®. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD® is all gone.
- Do not stop taking STRIBILD® without first talking to your healthcare provider.
- If you stop taking STRIBILD®, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking STRIBILD®.

Who should not take STRIBILD®?

Do not take STRIBILD® if you also take a medicine that contains:
- adeovir (Hepsera®)
- alfuzosin hydrochloride (Uroxatral®)
- cisaipride (Propulsid®, Propulsid® Quicksol®)
- ergot-containing medicines, including: dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Migranal®), ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot®), Ergost®, Medihaler Ergotamine®, Wigraine®, Wigrettes®), and methylergonovine maleate (Ergonate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor®, Altoprev®, Mevacor®)
- oral midazolam
- pimozide (Orap®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®), when used for treating lung problems
- simvastatin (Simcor®, Vytorin®, Zocor®)
- triazolam (Halcion®)
- the herb St. John's wort

Do not take STRIBILD® if you also take any other HIV-1 medicines, including:
- Other medicines that contain tenofovir (Atripla®, Complera®, Viread®, Truvada®)
- Other medicines that contain emtricitabine, lamivudine, or ritonavir (Atripla®, Combi®V®, Complera®, Emtriva®, Epivir® or Epivir-HBV®, Epzicom®, Kaletra®, Norvir®, Trizivir®, Truvada®)

STRIBILD is not for use in people who are less than 18 years old.

What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD®?

STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

- See “What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?”

- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure. Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and while you are taking STRIBILD®. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD® if you develop new or worse kidney problems.

- Bone problems: can happen in people who take STRIBILD®. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.

- Changes in body fat: can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known.

- Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 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 right away if you start having any new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.
The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

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 STRIBILD. For more information, ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:

- If you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis B infection
- If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
  - There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medications during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take STRIBILD.
  - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
  - Two of the medicines in STRIBILD can pass to your baby in your breast milk. It is not known if the other medicines in STRIBILD can pass into your breast milk.
  - Talk with 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:

- STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works.
- Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
  - Hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc)
  - Antacid medicines that contain aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD
  - Medicines to treat depression, organ transplant rejection, or high blood pressure
    - amiodarone (Cordarone®, Pacerone®)
    - atorvastatin (Lipitor®, Caduet®)
    - bepridil hydrochloride (Vascor®, Bepadin®)
    - bosentan (Tracleer®)
    - buspirone
    - carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Epitol®, Equetro®, Tegeitol®)
    - clarithromycin (Biaxin®, Prevpac®)
    - clonazepam (Klonopin®)
    - clorazepate (Gen-xene®, Tranxene®)
    - colchicine (Colcrys®)
    - medicines that contain dexamethasone
    - diazepam (Valium®)
    - digoxin (Lanoxin®)
    - disopyramide (Norpace®)
    - estazolam
    - ethosuximide (Zarontin®)
- flecainide (Tambocor®)
- flurazepam
- fluticasone (Flovent®, Floxan®, Flovent® Diskus®, Flovent® HFA, Veramyst®)
- itraconazole (Sporanox®)
- ketoconazole (Nizoral®)
- lidocaine (Xylocaine®)
- mefloquine
- oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®)
- perphenazine
- phenobarbital (Luminal®)
- phenytoin (Dilantin®, Phenytek®)
- propafenone (Rythmol®)
- quinidine (Neudexta®)
- rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- rifapentine (Priftin®)
- risperidone (Risperdal®, Risperdal Consta®)
- salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol when taken in combination with fluticasone (Advair Diskus®, Advair HFA®)
- sildenafil (Viagra®, tadalafil (Cialis®) or vardenafil (Levitra®, Staxyn®), for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED). If you get dizzy or faint (low blood pressure), have vision changes or have an erection that last more than 4 hours, call your healthcare provider or get medical help right away.
- tadalafil (Adcirca®), for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension
- telithromycin (Ketek®)
- thiocyanate
- voriconazole (Vfend®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®)
- zolpidem (Ambien®, Edular®, Intermezzo®, Zolpidem®)

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

Keep STRIBILD and all medicines out of reach of children.

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

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Gay Ouija expert Robert Murch bridges the realm between historian and mystic renewed fascination with the objects. “When I left UNH, I had 10 boards … and they were all different. I thought, ‘How can there be so many of this one thing?’”

From that simple question began a 20-year journey to give a voice to a talking board. “Talking board” is the general term for the brand name Ouija, for which Murch is one of the world’s foremost authorities. And it all started “because I had too much time on my hands,” he says.

When confronted with the array of boards — all with the commonalities of the letters of the alphabet, numbers, “yes,” “no” and “goodbye,” plus a planchet (the oracular needle that spells out its messages) — Murch decided to do some sleuthing. In the pre-Google era, that meant opening up the Funk and Wagnalls at the public library. “I looked up the history [of Ouija], and found that every encyclopedia had a different history,” he realized. “Yet everyone knows what the word Ouija is and how to play it.” (A horror film with the name Ouija even opens this week.)

Murch’s quest to become the definitive expert out of his mind
Ogun Size (Rico Romalus Parker) is almost the stereotype of the angry black man: He’s a business owner — the best auto mechanic in the neighborhood — for which he’s had to work his ass off his whole life. He stayed out of trouble, but it has left him humorless and focused.

The same can’t be said of his baby brother Osinho (Seun Soyemi), who spent a bullet in the pen. While inside, Osinho met Elegba (Adam A. Anderson), whom he continues to hang with now that both are out on parole. Ogun thinks Elegba is a bad influence, but there’s only so much a brother can do.

The catalog stories pitting brother against brother dates as far back as Cain and Abel, but in Tarell Alvin McCraney’s The Brothers Size — which closes this weekend as the season-opening production of Fort Worth’s Jubilee Theatre — the concept of brotherly love takes on unique and epic dimensions while remaining incredibly intimate. What seems like it might be a formulaic riff on the African-American experience, or the conflict between testosterone-fueled battles for supremacy, develops into a touching rumination on masculinity, identity and the difficulties of being a man today.

The brilliance not only of the play, which races through 75 breathless minutes, but of this staging by Tre Garrett, is how all the diverse elements come together. There’s a mythic element that doesn’t lend itself to easy interpretation; it has biblical references without being programmatic; it addresses the symbols of American slavery and the post-Jim Crow era without drawing bright lines for the audience.

Opening with a drum-beat and African dance, the three men — all muscular and shirtless, imbuing a definite homoeroticism (which emerges throughout the play in flashes) — set off the parameters of the stage with a chain that seems to confine them whatever they do. But rather than seeming heavy-handed, much of these images linger as background — the prism through which the characters experience the tiny indignities and injustices that shape who they are. With Parker’s brutish intensity, you might peg Ogun as an inarticulate bully, but the truth is exactly the opposite. He’s a soulful and articulate character who struggles to convey his understanding of the world to his more naive brother. Soyemi and Anderson are equally impassioned.

The Brothers Size, the first show in Jubilee’s 34th season, is the first installment in a trilogy by MacArthur Genius fellow McCraney, and Jubilee is committed to premiering the next two. That’s a reason to be jubilant.

TRUE BLACK | Osinho (Seun Soyemi), Elegba (Adam A. Anderson) and Ogun (Rico Romalus Parker) forge a tense brotherhood in Jubilee’s regional premiere of the sultry, provocative play ‘The Brothers Size’ by MacArthur Genius fellow Tarell Alvin McCraney. (Photo courtesy Buddy Myers)
With same-sex marriage legal there, Asheville, N.C., soars as a destination

Asheville has become a top weekend destination, too, with a sizable gay following.

Downtown Asheville rests like a saucer balanced precariously amid the slopes of forested hills and mountains. It's an impressively preserved city, with dozens of fine old buildings, many of them striking Art Deco beauties. The surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains account for much of the region's appeal — it's an hour's drive west to reach Great Smoky Mountains National Park. You can also navigate a stretch of the winding, scenic Blue Ridge Parkway, which passes right through the center of Asheville on its way north toward Virginia. Many other state parks and forests are within a short drive, and right in the city you can appreciate nature with a hike through the 10-acre Asheville Botanical Gardens or the 434-acre North Carolina Arboretum.

The downtown area is great for strolling. It's also quite hilly, though, so prepare to get some exercise. Be sure to stop by the Asheville Art Museum, which has a celebrated collection of contemporary American works, and if you're a fan of modern American literature, don't miss the Thomas Wolfe Memorial, which includes a visitor center and the boarding house in which the author of You Can't Go Home Again grew up.

Almost every visitor to Asheville pays a visit to the Biltmore Estate, one of America's few true castles. The 250-room mansion and its resplendent grounds were commissioned by railroad tycoon George Vanderbilt and executed by Richard Morris Hunt in 1895. Touring the mansion's grandiose (if solemn) interior can feel overwhelming, especially on a sunny day, but the 8,000-acre property's outdoor features are arguably its greatest draw — you could easily spend the day sauntering along the 2.5 miles of paths through the gorgeous manicured gardens, or along the many more rugged trails through dense woods and open meadows. Other highlights include the Biltmore Winery, the working dairy farm at Antler Hill Village, and the Outdoor Adventure Center, where you can book a wide range of activities, from river float trips to bike excursions. Right on the property, the luxurious, 213-room Inn on Biltmore Estate offers swank accommodations, and nearby Biltmore Village abounds with upscale shops and restaurants.

Southwest of downtown and northeast of Biltmore Estate, you'll find one of Asheville's more recent developments, the rapidly evolving River Arts District, which is home to both new buildings and converted industrial spaces now filled with art galleries and studios, as well as a handful of cool restaurants and nightspots. The neighborhood extends north along Lyman Street from across the river from French Broad River Park all the way to the I-240 bridge, with plenty of businesses on both sides of the railroad tracks, which bisect the neighborhood.

With its rapidly emerging culinary scene, Asheville has become a favorite foodie hub. Highlights are many, but here are a handful of notables. Chef-owned by a team who trained with famed Spanish elBulli chef Ferran Adrià, Curate is one of the hottest spots in town, turning out authentic tapas with creative twists (consider the Catalan sausage bosadillo or the tender skewered lamb marinated in Moroccan spices). The owners also operate the trendy and eclectic restaurant and cocktail lounge, Nightbell, just around the corner.

Another top table is Rhubarb, a sleekly swish bistro helmed by chef John Fleer and situated across from the Asheville Art Museum. Favorites from the contemporary Mediterranean menu include rabbit-leaf rillettes, octopus a la plancha and chermoula-grilled flat-iron steak. A snazzy spot specializing in locavore cuisine, Table has an intimate, insider vibe and serves tempting victuals like duck confit with carrots, fennel kraut and medjool dates in its handsome street-level dining room. Head upstairs to the Imperial Life bar for lighter late-night snacking and old-school cocktails.

Set inside one of Asheville's landmark 1920s buildings, the Grove Arcade, you'll find a wonderful wine bar and tap room, Sante. On the other side of the arcade, Carmel’s Restaurant and Bar specializes in contemporary seafood and American fare and has a handsome little dining room plus plenty of seating outside along the sidewalk. Next door, you can browse thousands of new and used tomes and sip bubbly at the whimsical Battery Park Book Exchange & Champagne Bar.

Other good bets around downtown include Limones for mod California-Mexican fare (the weekend brunch is particularly popular); Chai Pani, a purveyor of cheap and delicious Indian street food, such as kale pakoras, spicy lamb hash, and bhel puri, a traditional puffed-rice snack; and Wicked Weed, a rambling brewpub on two levels producing outstanding craft beer and great bar food too.

In the hip River Arts District, stop by Wedge Brewing Company not just to sample fine brews but also to nosh from the several excellent food carts — the rotation changes daily. (El Kimchi, which appears Mondays and Saturdays, is a highlight, serving Korean-Mexican fusion fare.) There’s also live music and, during the warmer months, an outdoor cinema.
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ASHEVILLE, From Page 30

back eateries, including Biscuit Head, where you can tuck into a plate of fluffy biscuits prepared in a variety of ways (sweet potato-coconut gravy, with fried green tomatoes and poached eggs); and Oyster House Brewing, a fun little neighborhood spot that specializes in Southern pub fare.

Good spots for casual snacking include City Bakery Café, an airy space with a few tables on the sidewalk and superb sandwiches; Dobrá Tea, a Czech-inspired tearoom with tasty Middle Eastern food; and funky Izzy’s Coffee Den, which fits the bill for high-octane java, craft beer and simply hanging out and people-watching. French Broad Chocolate Lounge handcrafts exquisite truffles, caramels and bars of chocolate—you can also sip wine, beer and coffee in a cozy lounge space.

One of the most venerable indie bookstores in the South, Malaprops Bookstore and Café has a large LGBT section and a nice little coffeehouse inside. And also very popular with the gay crowd, Edna’s of Asheville is on the north side of the city and serves terrific coffee drinks, breakfast fare and sandwiches.

Virtually all of Asheville’s nightspots, including many of the drink-centric restaurants described above, have a strong following with the LGBT crowd. There are also a few predominantly gay hangouts, the largest being the Grove House Entertainment Complex, a rambling building that contains Scandals dance club, the Boiler Room live-music venue, and Club Eleven on Grove for events and parties. Nearby Club Hairspray is beloved for its kitschy interior, entertaining drag (queen and king) shows and friendly vibe. Drawing a mostly male crowd, O’Henry’s is a fun neighborhood hangout that’s particularly popular with bearish types and fans of leather—the bar has been going strong for more than 35 years and adjoins neighboring dance bar, the Underground. Downtown bar-hoppers might want to stop by Smokey’s After Dark, a laid-back, no-attitude neighborhood spot that’s fun for shooting pool and meeting locals. And women-owned Tressa’s—with live jazz and blues, comedy, and dancing—has a loyal following in the LGBT community.

Asheville has several inviting, gay-friendly inns, from upscale historic mansions to cozy Arts and Crafts cottages. The city’s most renowned accommodation is the Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa, one of the nation’s foremost historic hotels, which has been fully restored to its original 1913 Arts and Crafts design. You’ll find one of the South’s most impressive spas on the lower level, and restaurants and bars offering panoramic views of the city skyline and surrounding mountains. Among the dining options, don’t miss Edison, which serves tasty small-plates fare (goat-cheese flatbread, an awesome burger with bacon jam and American cheese) and terrific craft beers. Even if you don’t stay here, sitting in the grand lobby before the enormous fireplace, and looking out over the countryside from the terrace is a real treat. Herb and rose gardens surround the 1889 shingle-style White Gate Inn & Cottage, one of the city’s gay-owned properties (commitment ceremonies are frequently held here). The romantic, antiques-filled rooms have Wi-Fi and flat-screen TVs with DVD and CD players—they’re named for poets (Whitman, Wilde, Sandburg, etc.), and one cottage has a gas fireplace and full kitchen. Also gay-owned and a 10 to 15-minute drive north of downtown, the 1847 Reynolds Mansion B&B has 13 beautiful rooms and full kitchen. Also gay-owned and a 10 to 15-minute drive north of downtown, the 1847 Reynolds Mansion B&B has 13 beautiful rooms and terrific service, the Hampton Inn Asheville-Tunnel Road ranks among the best of the city and serves terrific coffee drinks, breakfast fare and sandwiches.

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DEALERSHIP OF DISTINCTION
Grief & love

A heartbreaking novel of loss, and a how-to guide for parents of gay children

All I Love and Know by Judith Frank (Wm. Morrow 2014) $27. 432 pp.

It wasn’t until they were mid-flight to Tel Aviv that Matt Greene had time to process the phone call that came the day before. He remembered dully that he’d been the one to break the news to his partner, Daniel, that Daniel’s twin brother Joel and sister-in-law were dead by an act of terrorism.

When they were younger, Daniel and Joel were nearly opposite: Daniel was the quiet twin, while Joel was the center of attention. There’d always been rivalries, but Joel was supportive of Daniel’s sexuality, and Daniel was overjoyed when Joel married Ilana. By the time 6-year-old Gal and baby Noam were born, he and Joel were getting along better than they ever had; even so, Daniel was surprised when Ilana told him that she and Joel wanted him to raise the children, should anything happen.

But Daniel wasn’t sure how he’d do that. He and Matt were a couple, but doubt lingered whether Matt could co-parent with him. Matt had strong political ideologies, which also bothered Daniel, since he was committed to raising Gal and Noam with a love for Jerusalem — but first, they’d have to weather a court battle against the children’s maternal grandparents, who he and Daniel could take care of. Until they forgot to take care of their relationship.

Heartbreaking. That’s one word that describes All I Love and Know. Other words: desperate and urgent. And long … very, very long.

Indeed, author Judith Frank packs between these covers a story that spans well over a year, and it can feel like it, too. Just when you think you must be near the end, another thread begins anew. There are also three or four surprisingly (for a book like this) explicit scenes that I wasn’t expecting.

So why did I bother to finish it? Because it’s so good. Frank describes the depths of grief so keenly that it’s hard not to feel it in your own gut. When her characters find self-capability that they didn’t know they had, we’re delighted, too. And when clashes happen, we take sides.

Those are all signs of a decent book with a slight case of newer-author-itis, and that’s something most readers will find forgivable.

This is a Book for Parents of Gay Kids by Dannielle Owens-Reid & Kristin Russo (Chronicle Books 2014). 519. 240 pp.

When your child tells you he’s gay, it can come as a bit of a shock … even if you kinda knew already. But as much as you love your gay son or daughter, you’ll have a thousand questions, so you may wanna pick up this book.

Two little words (“I’m gay”) can cause much confusion for you, but it may be new to your child, too. He may’ve only recently understood who he is. What to do can pose hurdles, which the authors seek to minimize.

Knowing your child is gay is not license to broadcast it; telling others depends on many factors, especially how your child feels. Expect changes in your child, but remember that she’s still the same kid. Know your child’s rights in schools, restrooms and bullying issues. Talk to your child about sex, and be firm on house rules. Keep a close eye out for any signs of depression. Be patient, strive for understanding, and talk, talk, talk.

Springing from the authors’ helpful website (Everyonelsgay.com), this book offers succinct advice, sensible comfort, and a glossary of terms that the authors encourage parents to know. I liked that it’s comprehensive and not overwritten, and that it’s browse-able and not necessarily meant for cover-to-cover reading. That’s helpful, because the questions you may ask now are “very different from the questions you may have a year from now.”

— Terri Schlichenmeyer
things mystical — you’ll as likely see him on
ghost-hunting TV shows as you will consulting
with the Smithsonian Institution. Because de-
spite his fascination, Murch is as much historian
as occultist.

Although he recently appeared on *Ghost Ad-
ventures*, and he admits “it was scary being [in
the location they filmed],” he did not play a
ghostbuster himself. “I told them, ‘I’m not going
to go ghost hunting with you — I’ll either laugh
or scream like a little girl, and neither do I want
to see on television.”

Part of his mission is to debunk the Ouija
board as an ancient or even supernatural object
itself.

“Talking boards, of which Ouija is the most
popular, didn’t really exist before around 1886,”
he says. “Ouija itself is a brand — it turns 125
years old next year. That’s a long time for some-
thing to be continuously sold. [The brand] was
acquired by Parker Brothers in 1966, and from
1966 until 1991 it was made in the Witch City,”
i.e., Salem. Since 1991, the company has been
owned by Hasbro, meaning Ouija and Optimus
Prime have the same address. Though Murch is
clearly more impressed by the former.

“There are a lot of legends about talking
boards. The man who patented Ouija, Elijah
Bond, had a sister-in-

law, Helen Peters, who
was a medium,” he ex-
plains. “She really in-
vented the Ouija, but
she has been erased
from history” until
Murch discovered her.
She’s even the one who
named it when she asked, during the first play-
ing of the game, “What should we call you?”
and the “board” spelled out O-U-I-J-A, suppos-
edly an ancient Egyptian word meaning “good
luck.”

In the late Victorian era in the U.S. — despite
its foreign-sounding name, Ouija has always
been an entirely American invention, and is still
made in the U.S. — folks were more open to the
possibility of communicating with the other
side, in part because the people of that time
were more personally connected to death,
Murch believes.

“Everyone dies — there’s no escape from it,”
he says. “Ouija hasn’t changed, but our comfort
level with death has. Coming off the Civil War,
there was massive death — everyone lost some-
one. People just went away to war and didn’t
come back, or you’d have 12 children and six
would die. Death was such a part of your life,
talking to [the recently passed] was like, ‘Duh!’
But we are not comfortable with death now as
we were … except the pop culture aspects it,
which makes Ouija cool.”

In fact, Ouija is often the gateway for children
to experience the supernatural for the first time.

“The Ouija board is most people’s first experi-
ence to the paranormal, whether at a slumber
party, or after a few drinks at a college party. It’s
around because we want to believe in it — and
for $19.99, you get unlimited text messages to
the other side … and no roaming charges or
data overages,” he jokes.

The corollary to a cell phone isn’t accidental.
The boards themselves have often been imbued
with their own mystical abilities, but Murch —
who knows they are simply cardboard and plas-
atic — finds this fear misguided.

“What’s different about the Ouija board than
any other spiritual communication device is that
we give it this immense power,” he says. “People
get into arguments on their phones and say or
hear terrible things, but no one thinks [those
emotions] live inside the phone. The board is
just the telephone; the door that gets opened is
inside you. In my collection, I’m more interested
in everything related to these people [who in-
vented Ouija].” Their letters, their photographs
— that’s the story. Still, even in a digital age,
people can relate to Ouija.”

As a massive collector of boards, though, he
must have a favorite. He does … sort of.

“My favorite is always the next one,” he
says.
Sunday 10.26

Chefs for Farmers gets into the aphrodisiac biz with Oyster Bash

The foodie group Chefs for Farmers got a bit fishy this year, with its inaugural Oyster Bash. Top local chefs will ply their skills with these succulent bivalves at this charitable event. It’s BYO glass, so arrive with your sippin’ vessel and a hearty appetite. Dallas Voice Executive Editor Arnold Wayne Jones is one of the hosts this year, and will be judging some of the items. What did he have to say about this honor? “Aww, shucks.”

DEETS: Dallas Farmers Market, 1010 S. Pearl St. 2–6 p.m. $85. Tickets must be purchased in advance at ChefsForFarmers.com.

Saturday 10.25

Halloween comes about a week early to gay Dallas

So, Oct. 31 is the official All Hallows Eve — for pre-pubescent trick-or-treaters in store-bought costumes. But gays are better than that. We turn it in a par-tay! Of course there’s the Street Party along Cedar Springs, but there’s also the amazing haunted house that is Dark Hour in Plano. This gay-run fright factory is open eight months of the year, but what could be better than going on the haunting eve when dressing in drag is expected?

DEETS: Dark Hour Haunted House, 701 Taylor Drive, Plano. 7 p.m.—midnight. From $26. DarkHourHauntedHouse.com.

Friday 10.24

Dallas Opera opens season with ‘Figaro,’ ‘Salome’

It’s always a big soiree when the Dallas Opera opens its season — almost like a wedding. So why not kick it off with Mozart’s The Marriage of Figaro? This captivating comedy is a world favorite, and it will get an intriguing adaptation with Dallas Theater Center’s Kevin Moriarty serving as director. And if you can’t get seats opening night, no worries — it runs through Nov. 9, with Salome (opening night: Nov. 30) in repertory.


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Jeremy Pierce liked our Drama Room post with the comment “Chad always has the T”
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THEATER

Bonnie & Clyde. The recent musical adaptation of the famed Dallas bandits of the 1930s makes its regional debut. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Nov. 2. WaterTowerTheatre.org.


Dante: Purgatorio. The annual theater of the dead production from MBS Productions, adapted from the great epic poem about escaping Hell. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15690 Addison Road. Special performances on Oct. 31 and Nov. 2. (Día de los Muertos). Through Nov. 8. MBSProductions.net.


Shear Madness. Comic mystery in Theatre 3’s downstairs space where the audience helps solve the crime. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. (in the Quadrangle). Extended through Nov. 16. Theatre3Dallas.com.


FINE ART


COMEDY

Dysfunctional Divas. Steven Jay Crabtree’s Halloween edition of his assortment of female characters. Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. Friday and Saturday, 11:15 p.m. 214-821-1860.
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Billy shows off his Italian; ‘Below Deck’ hottie shows off everything

Big Mama Masters was recently talking to me about her favorite TV shows. “You know, Ellen’s wife is on Scandal!” It took me a moment to realize she was talking about Portia de Rossi. Obviously I know Portia is married to Ellen DeGeneres, but I must confess I don’t immediately think of her as a wife — a failing on my part. A similar thing happened a month ago, when I reported about John Barrowman taking the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. I said that the ice was hoisted above him by someone I referred to as his hot jockstrap-clad boyfriend. A reader took issue with this: “Wow, how did [Barrowman’s] husband feel about that?” My response was a terse, boyfriend/husband, potato/potahto.” Although I personally don’t put much weight on labels, I can see where my attitude is bit too bisé. Some people worked awfully hard for the right to certain labels.

Speaking of Ellen, a couple of weeks ago, a reader asked me about Ellen’s “gardener,” Nick. While she was trying to get cast in Magic Mike XXL, I told you that his name was Bill Reilich, told you where he came from and even posted quite a few nude photos of him. Last week, Ellen had Nick/Bill on the show to do some shirtless apple-picking. Just then, a phone call came in from Channing Tatum saying he was cast in the flick. Although you’ll get to see him on the big screen eventually, you’ll surely not see as much as you can of him right now on BILLYMasters.com.

Bundled in with the Jennifer Lawrence hacking scandal is news that nude photos also exist of Nick Hogan. Admittedly, the market for these pics is much more limited, but it hasn’t stopped some outlets from referring to Nick as “the first male celebrity to be hacked for nude photos.” I take issue with the word celebrity, but I’ll gloss over that. If you want to see the photos, I’ll post them on the website. On the other hand, some people leak nude photos (and videos) for their own purposes. Take David Girton, who appeared on Big Brother last year. He was the hot surfer dude with long blond hair and a rockin’ bod. For unknown reasons, he’s been sending people nude photos of himself. But he didn’t stop there. He’s also leaked some videos where he can be seen pleasuring himself, and I must say, they are certainly pleasurable. Because I think it’s important to share pleasure, you can check ’em out on our website.

What’s the difference in a few words? Ask the Vatican. Last week, the Eleventh General Assembly of the Extraordinary Synod on the Family issued a report on the official Vatican website. The unofficial translation contained the following: “Homosexuals have gifts and qualities to offer to the Christian community. Are we capable of welcoming these people, guaranteeing to them a fraternal space in our communities? Often they wish to encounter a Church that offers them a welcoming home. Are our communities capable of providing that, accepting and valuing their sexual orientation, without compromising Catholic doctrine on the family and marriage?”

This translation has since changed. Specifically, the part about “welcoming these people” has been excised. Two explanations have been offered. First, the report was a “working document” and not an official statement. Second, the unofficial translation was inaccurate. As someone whose Italian is above average, I decided to look at the original. The phrase in question is, “Siamo in grado di accogliere queste persone.” The verb accogliere literally means “to accommodate, greet or receive in one’s house.” So while “welcome” is perhaps a loose translation, it is nonetheless accurate. And it does seem to echo Pope Francis’ response last year when asked his thoughts on the topic of homosexuality: “Who am I to judge?” Too bad the synod didn’t adopt the report in the final vote.

A German performance artist has announced a new project which is raising quite a few eyebrows. Mischa Badasyan’s project is entitled Save the Date. His artistic plan is to have anonymous sex with a different man in a semipublic place every day for a year. Why? Oh, it’s really confusing — something about how public, sterile places make people feel more isolated. Therefore, by having sex with different people every day, his body will become a virtual community. place, like a bank … which accepts numerous deposits and withdrawals. He also says his project will promote safe sex and the use of condoms. So he’ll really be more like an ATM.

Three dancers who were dismissed from Cher’s Dressed to Kill Tour have filed a lawsuit against the superstar for wrongful termination, and have specifically accused her of racial discrimination. It started during casting when choreographer and dancer Kevin Wilson suggested that they hire someone described as “a minority female dancer.” Cher allegedly said, “We have too much color onstage” and directed Kevin to hire a blond Caucasian girl. Wilson further states that Cher instructed him “not to cast anymore dark-skinned black dancers on the tour.” Wilson did as he was told, but he and two others were fired, purportedly because of “budget cuts.”

Our Ask Billy question comes from Jasper in Kansas City: “I’m pissed at the charges on Below Deck — specifically, getting rid of David [who got engaged on the show to porn superstar Trevor Knight]. But Logan and Kelley are pretty hot. What can you tell me about them? Gay or straight? You must have some shirtless pics.”

Logan is the new guy who some people thought was gay, but he’s apparently straight. Far more interesting is Kelley Johnson, pictured, another deckhand who is hotter than hot. Imagine my surprise when I received a lead on some rather revealing photos of Kelley. And imagine my delight when I saw these photos were not only revealing, they full-facial and explicit. And imagine the joy you’ll have when you check out the close to double-digit inches at BILLYMasters.com.

When we’re giving new meaning to the phrase “all hands on deck,” it’s time to end another column. If you have a question you’d like me to tackle, send it along and I promise to get back to you before Ellen opens up a male strip club!

Until next time, remember: One man’s filth is another man’s bible.

Have a question for Billy? Email it to him at Billy@BillyMasters.com.
Making the SCENE the week of Oct. 24–30:

Halloween Street Party: on Cedar Springs Road on Saturday 8 p.m.–midnight.

Alexandre's: William Blake on Friday at 10 p.m. Mi Diva Loca on Wednesday at 9 p.m. Alicia Silex on Thursday at 9 p.m.

Best Friends Club: Halloween Bash on Friday at 8 p.m. with Blythe and DJ Phanz.

Club Reflection: Texas Gay Rodeo Association cookout on Sunday at 4 p.m. and show and underwear auction at 7 p.m.

Dallas Eagle: United Court of the Lone Star Empire coronation weekend Out-of-Town Show on Friday at 5–9:30 p.m. Meet courtiers from all over the U.S. and Canada. Halloween party and costume contest on Saturday at 9 p.m.–2 a.m. United Court victory party and show at 3–10 p.m.

JR's Bar & Grill: Edna Jean's Rotten Tomatoes Show with Edna Jean, Onyx, Chanel and Alana on Tuesday.

Rainbow Lounge: Sunday Funday hosted by Kiana Lee.

S4: SchoolDaze — College Night on Thursday.

Sue Ellen's: Coles Whalen on Friday. Ciao Bella on Saturday. Cami Maki and the Conspirators on Sunday. Mercedes the Voice on Wednesday.

Woody's Sports & Video Bar: Woody's Horror Story Freak Show on Saturday. Watch Washington at Dallas on the big screen on Monday at 7:30 p.m.

To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/category/photos. Scene Photographer: Kat Heygood.
Bears get into the Honey Pot at Dallas Eagle.

Pole dancer at Marty’s LIVE.

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AIDS Interfaith Network’s Great Gatsby Party

Willam, left, escaped the zombies at Station 4, but comedian Wendy Ho fell victim to Zombie Rita, center, and Zombie Bobby caught Victim Valerie, right.

Andy and Blake at Cherries.

Andrew and Ricky at JR.’s Bar and Grill.
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on or visit pegasus-squares.com.
Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows

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Across
1 Matthew Warchus film about strange bedfellows
6 Weeps with abandon
10 Org. of guys who are knock-outs?
13 ___ Eclipse
14 Goal for Sheryl Swoopes
15 Like a pale face
16 “It’s the end of ___”
17 She’s cock-eyed in South Pacific
19 Protest in 1-Across
21 Snatch
22 Bentley of American Beauty
23 Circle segment
26 Ed Wood role
29 Bit of hope
32 Composer Ned
35 Tongue, to a French teacher
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40 Like a masochist’s partner
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2 Wood of the Stones
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7 Basketball to Eliza Doolittle?
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9 Catty quality
10 V-J Day ended it
11 Catch some rays at South Beach
12 Fork over, with “up”
13 ___ Eclipse
17 She’s cock-eyed in South Pacific
19 Protest in 1-Across
21 Snatch
22 Bentley of American Beauty
23 Circle segment
26 Ed Wood role
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66 Actor Bill of 1-Across

24 Caesar or Antony
25 Belief summary
27 De Wolfe of design
28 Gate fastener
29 One to ten, e.g.
30 The ___ and the Ecstasy
31 Streisand’s cross-dressing movie
33 Biblical Samuel’s mentor
34 OR workers
36 Director Van Sant
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44 ‘That’s ___ quit!’
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51 Slang for vagina
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53 “Son of Frankenstein” character
54 Privy to
55 Bottomless
56 Bad penny
59 Speed limit letters
60 Place for porking?
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