

dallas voice

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ICONIC

**Tasha Kohl on her
40-year career in drag**
by Tammye Nash, Page 10

IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY®

This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ **Worsening of Hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking BIKTARVY. Do not stop taking BIKTARVY without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults. It can either be used in people who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before, or people who are replacing their current HIV-1 medicines and whose healthcare provider determines they meet certain requirements.

BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS.

Do NOT take BIKTARVY if you also take a medicine that contains:

- ▶ dofetilide
- ▶ rifampin
- ▶ any other medicines to treat HIV-1

BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- ▶ Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- ▶ Have any other health problems.
- ▶ Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if BIKTARVY can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- ▶ Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ Those in the “Most Important Information About BIKTARVY” section.
- ▶ **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 BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ▶ **The most common side effects of BIKTARVY** in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

These are not all the possible side effects of BIKTARVY. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking BIKTARVY.

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.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with BIKTARVY.

HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY 1 time each day with or without food.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- ▶ This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- ▶ Go to BIKTARVY.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5.
- ▶ If you need help paying for your medicine, visit BIKTARVY.com for program information.



Get HIV support by downloading a free app at
MyDailyCharge.com

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BIKTARVY® is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in certain adults. **BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.**

Ask your healthcare provider if BIKTARVY is right for you. To learn more, visit [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.biktarvy.com).

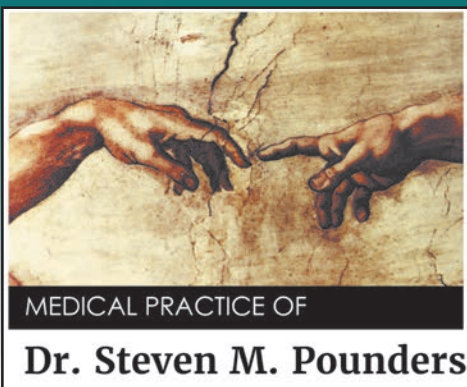
Please see Important Facts about BIKTARVY, including important warnings, on the previous page and visit [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.biktarvy.com).

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Tasha Kohl.
Photo by Evelyn Murphy.
Design by Tammye Nash.

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ASD breaks ground for new housing units



AIDS Services of Dallas broke ground on Tuesday, Feb. 11, for its new independent living facility at 511 N. Lancaster Road. The units will house ASD residents who no longer need the assisted living services provided at Hillcrest House, Ewing and Revlon, but do still need affordable housing.

ASD CEO Traswell Livingston credited Don Maison for having the foresight to purchase the property. Maison, who retired a year ago, had a stroke last fall. He was at the groundbreaking using a walker.

Speaking at the groundbreaking, Dallas

County Commissioner John Wiley Price said he's been fighting this fight with the community for 25 years. He said ASD turned the neighborhood into one of the hottest real estate markets in Dallas.

Dallas City Councilman Chad West called it a great day for affordable housing in Dallas, and Dallas County Commissioner Theresa Daniel said an event like this is one of the best parts of her job.

The renovation of the property will create 12 one-bedroom units. The additional construction will add four more. The renovation is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

— David Taffet

LGBT Chamber presents city with check for rainbow crosswalks

The LGBT Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Feb. 12, presented the city of Dallas with a ceremonial check for \$128,250 to pay for the rainbow crosswalks that will be installed along Cedar Springs Road.

Among those presenting the check were LGBT Chamber CEO Tony Vedda and fundraising committee chair Chris Luna. Caven Enterprises CEO Greg Kilhoffer also attended. Caven and the Cedar Springs Merchants Association were the largest donors to the fund.

Council members Adam Medrano and

David Blewett were among those accepting the payment. Cedar Springs Road divides their districts. Council members Adam McGough and Chad West were also on hand for the presentation.

Additional money has been collected that the LGBT Chamber will hold to pay for upkeep to the crosswalks. Vedda said road crews and utility workers who dig up the street are required to return the road to its previous condition. Since that's not gonna happen, the Chamber will maintain them.

Construction along Cedar Springs — including new landscaping, new sidewalks, markers at each end of the entertainment district, new traffic lights and more — began earlier this year and is scheduled to continue through the fall. Those upgrades to the neighborhood are being paid for by bond money. The crosswalks will be the last pieces installed and are entirely funded by donations.

— David Taffet

Design District gets new live music venue

"With a name like HiFi Dallas, we'd better have great acoustics," says Ben Weeden, chief operating officer of the clubs and theater divisions of Live Nation. The live performance venue business he runs — which includes Dallas' House of Blues and about 100 other spaces across the U.S. — is a volume business... and he's not talking decibels. It's about pairing the right bands with the right venue and the right market at the right price.

"We will do a drag show one day and heavy metal bands the next," Weeden says of his egalitarian approach to reaching customers.

But none of that matters if people don't like to go there.

Which is why he has high hopes for HiFi, scheduled to open May 15 with a blowout party and lineup of bands that deliver a spectacular experience ... if all goes well.

About three months before opening night, the venue is still deeply under construction — or really, renovation. Situated along Stemmons next to the Mavericks building, on the fringe of the Design District, the location is a former furniture warehouse that has been largely gutted and reconfigured for performance needs. The general admission floor has been swapped out for an all-new one designed to support bouncing fans; a stage has been built and elevated; the upper level, with reserved mezzanine seating and a VIP lounge (and V-VIP lounge for uber-celebs) awaits finish-out. But the promise of extravagance is present.

As with HOB, there will be food but not a sit-down service; rather, it will feature "the kind that tastes good, not good for you," Weeden jokes — i.e., high-end pub-grub like burgers, popcorn shrimp, chicken strips and flatbreads... plus, of course, many beverage selections. This is a party space first and foremost.

The size, Weeden believes, will serve a niche in Dallas, which he calls the fourth-largest market in the country: An 1,100-capacity live music venue (about 800 main floor, 250 on the tier).

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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MARCH 2020 PRIMARY ENDORSEMENTS

Listed here are all of the candidates we as a body have **endorsed**. Though they may not all be in your district, you may easily go to dallascountyvotes.org and look up a sample ballot! Dallas county now offers voting centers which means you can vote at any polling place in the county no matter your district!

IMPORTANT DATES

- ✓ Early Voting: **February 18th-28th, 2020**
- ✓ Election Day: **March 3rd, 2020**

FEDERAL

U.S. President
No endorsement*

U.S. Senate
Amanda Edwards

U.S. Rep. District 3
Lulu Seikaly

U.S. Rep. District 24
Kim Olson

U.S. Rep. District 30
Eddie Bernice Johnson

U.S. Rep. District 32
Colin Allred

U.S. Rep. District 33
Marc Veasey

STATE

Railroad Commissioner
Chrysta Castañeda

TX Supreme Court, Chief Justice
Amy Clark Meachum

TX Supreme Court, PI 6
Larry Praeger

TX Supreme Court, PI 7
Staci Williams

TX Supreme Court, PI 8
Gisela D. Triana

TX Criminal Appeals Court, PI 3
Elizabeth Davis Frizell

TX Criminal Appeals Court, PI 4
Tina Clinton

TX Criminal Appeals Court, PI 9
Brandon Birmingham

LOCAL

TX House District 66
Sharon Hirsch

TX House District 67
Rocio Gosewehr Hernandez

TX House District 100
Primary Race**
Jasmine Crockett

TX House District 103
Rafael M. Anchía

TX House District 105
Terry Meza

TX House District 107
Victoria Neave

TX House District 108
Joanna Cattanaach

TX House District 109
Carl Sherman, Sr.

TX House District 113
Rhetta Andrews Bowers

TX House District 114
John Turner

TX House District 115
Julie Johnson

5th Court of Appeals, Place 3
Bonnie Lee Goldstein

5th Court of Appeals, PI 6
Craig Smith

14th Judicial District, Civil Court
Eric V. Moyé

95th Judicial District, Civil Court
Monica Purdy

162nd Judicial District, Civil Court
Maricela Moore

254th Judicial District, Civil Court
Sandre Street Monciffe

Criminal District Court, PI 2
Nancy Kennedy

Criminal District Court, PI 3
Alison Grinter Allen

Criminal District Court, PI 4
Dominique Collins

Sheriff
Roy Williams, Jr.

Tax Assessor-Collector
John R. Ames

County Commissioner, District 1
Theresa Daniel

DCDP Chair
Carol Donovan

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*The following national campaigns called in: Buttigieg, Sanders, Steyer, & Warren

**SDD has endorsed Lorraine Birabil for the HD 100 Special Election on 1/28/20, not to be confused with the March 3rd, 2020 primary election

Pol. Ad. paid for by Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. Treasurer: Anthony Storck

THE GAY AGENDA



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

FEBRUARY

• Feb. 14: Valentines Day

• Feb. 15: Heart On Gaybingo

From 5-9 p.m. at The Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. MyResourceCenter.org.

• Feb. 15: Red Tie

Dinner, dance, silent auction and raffles is an ally-friendly fundraiser for Celebration Church on the Lake's outreach program. Last year, money went to buy school supplies for area schools and to a local food bank, a pet rescue, the tri-county library and more. From 5:30-11 p.m. at The Legacy Event Center, 2205 W. Main St., Gun Barrel City. Tickets available online at COTL.church. \$50.

• Feb. 15: Classic Chassis lunch

Classic Chassis Car Club gets together for lunch at noon at Original Market Diner, 4434 Harry Hines Blvd.

• Feb. 15: Love Equality

An event benefitting Equality Texas is a night of celebration and dancing with drinks and light food from 8-11 p.m. at Seven for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd., Suite 107. Tickets at Secure.Everyaction.com.

• Feb. 15: Impulse Group

An Impulse Group five-year celebration with cocktails, music and dancing, dinner and presentation at 7 p.m. at Sixty Five Hundred, 6500 Cedar Springs Road #200. Impulsegrp.org.

• Feb. 15: The Lesbrarian

A night of dinner and comedy with Karyn the Lesbrarian performing her compilation of Library Humor of the Day from 6-8:30 p.m. at El Noa Noa, 1915 N. Central Expressway, Plano. \$8 through Eventbrite. \$10 at the door.

• Feb. 16: Dallas Bears Teddy Bear Auction

Auction benefits AIDS Services Dallas. Item drop off begins at 3 p.m. and auction starts at 7 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 17: President's Day

Honoring our presidents who haven't been impeached.

• Feb. 17: Voices of Women Poetry Contest

Join The Women's Chorus of Dallas at a rehearsal for Voices of Women VI and write a poem inspired by your visit. Judge Edyka Chilome will select winners in two categories — student and adult — to receive a cash prize and be featured at Voices of Women VI: Travelin' Voices on March 5 at Moody Performance Hall. TWCD rehearses at 7 p.m. at Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd.

• Feb. 18: Monthly Classic Car Happy Hour

Bring your classic and park in the reserved area behind TMC for happy hour at 6 p.m. at JR.'s Bar & Grill, 3923 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 19: PrimeTimers

Lunch at 12:30 p.m. at the Charco Broiler, 413 W. Jefferson Blvd. Info at 214-218-0912.

• Feb. 20: THRIVE movie night

Movie night, with dinner from 6-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 20: Discussion on Tap

For those seeking to explore their spirituality in a safe space, a discussion of various biblical and theology topics for those who have been hurt or pushed out of organized religion from 6:30-8 p.m. at Cantina Laredo, 6025 Royal Lane.

• Feb. 21: DFW Federal Club Happy Hour

Love is Love. Join HRC DFW Federal Club at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, 300 N. Houston St. Parking in the garage is \$8.

• Feb. 21: Toast to Life Sponsor Party

MyResourceCenter.org.

• Feb. 21: LGBTQ Global Symposium on Equality and Human Rights

A coalition of Dallas-based

organizations presents a symposium on equality and human rights. A diverse group of LGBTQ and ally presenters will highlight Dallas' rich history of moving from openly opposing to vocally championing human rights and equality from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Southern Methodist University. Tickets at DFWWorld.org.

• **Feb. 22: Turtle Creek Chorale gala**
Idina Menzel performs at a gala benefiting the Turtle Creek Chorale at 7:30 p.m. at The Statler, 1914 Commerce St. TurtleCreekChorale.com.

• **Feb. 22: AOC Benefit Dance Concert**
AIDS Outreach Center presents Dance TCU, DBDT: Encore, Jordan Fuchs Company, Texas Ballet Theater and more at 7:30 p.m. at Studio Theatre in Erma Lowe Hall. \$20, students \$5. 817-257-4255 for reservations.

• **Feb. 23: PrimeTimers**
Games in Plano at 2 p.m. For address and directions call 214-218-0912.

• **Feb. 23: The Icon Show**
Tasha Kohl presents The Icon Show, featuring Cassie Nova, Evah Destruction, Porter Bella Graves and Mulan Alexander. 7 p.m. in the Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets available online at Icon9.BPT.me.

• **Feb. 25: Get Centered Tour**
Tour Resource Center and learn about

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** at 1 p.m. on Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with **David Taffet**, **Lerone Landis** and the late **Patti Fink**. This week's guest is Equality Texas CEO **Ricardo Martinez**; **Silver Pride Project Coffee and Convo** for LGBTQ+ seniors meets Mondays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road, Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Grauwlyer Park Branch Library, 2146 Gilford St. Wednesdays for Breakfast Club from 10 a.m.-noon at Reverchon Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave. and Thursdays for Rainbow Rec from 10 a.m.-noon at Reverchon Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave.; **Unwired Group of Crystal Meth Anonymous** meets Sunday at 5:30 p.m.,

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. First Monday is birthday night at 5750 Cedar Springs Road; **Core Group Meeting** every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the **Fuse** space in the 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org; LGBT square dancing group **Pegasus Squares** meets the second and fourth Sunday from 2-4 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. For more info, email [\[gmail.com\]\(mailto:pegasussquares@gmail.com\); **Dallas Frontrunners** meet for a walk or run at Oak Lawn Park, near the intersection of Turtle Creek and Hall Street, every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Saturday at 8:30 a.m.; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** practices and develops speaking and leadership skills from 6:30-8 p.m. on Mondays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews; **Thrive**, program of Resource Center for LGBTQ adults 50+ support group every Monday from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by free lunch at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road; **Lambda AA** meets at noon, 6:30 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 11 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 6525 Inwood](mailto:pegasussquares@</p>
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Road. Call 214-267-0222 for details; **LGBT Sex Addicts Anonymous** meets at 6 p.m. every Friday at 1919 Independence St., Room 19, Plano. 972-316-9188 for details; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** gay-identified Toastmasters group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at the First Unitarian Church, 4015 Normandy Road (does not meet on Mondays that are holidays); **United Black Illument** hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **DVtv in Spayse**, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4-5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.

its programs from 5-6:30 p.m. at 5750 Cedar Springs Road. MyResourceCenter.org.

• **Feb. 25: Steve Grand**

Steve Grand performs benefiting the Suicide and Crisis Center at 7:30 p.m. at the Bob Hope Theatre, Owen Arts Center, 6101 Bishop St. \$75-150. Tickets at SteveGrandDallas.com.

• **Feb. 25: Same-sex partner grief group**

Grief group for those who have lost a same-sex partner through death from 6:45-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• **Feb. 25: PrimeTimers**

Dinner at 7 p.m. at Alfonso's Italian, 718 N. Buckner Blvd. #222. Info at 214-218-0912.

• **Feb. 27: Let's Talk**

THRIVE's Let's Talk topic is Keeping Active. Snacks provided from 6-8 p.m.

at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• **Feb. 28: Go Red for Women Luncheon**

The American Heart Association luncheon features Dr. Suzanne Steinbaum who's devoted her career to early detection, education and prevention of heart disease at Omni Dallas Hotel, 555 S. Lamar St. GoRedForWomen.org.

• **Feb. 28-29: Austin Car Club meet up**

LGBT car clubs from around Texas meet at LaQuinta Inn, 11901 N. Mopac Expressway, Austin. ClassicChassis.com.

• **Feb. 29: Understanding Transgender Identities and Realities**

Deepen understanding of transgender topics and practice skills to be a great ally from 6-9 p.m. at First Unitarian Church of Dallas, 4015 Normandy Ave. \$10. Register at dct.org/andiboi.

pet of the week / Coco



Meet **Coco**, a 5 1/2-year-old, male bulldog mix weighing 90 pounds. He's a big, lovable guy with the sweetest personality. He's

a gentle giant that loves to cuddle with people and hold hands. Once you start petting him, he will give you his paw for some hand-holding. He walks very well on his leash, rides great in the car and is friendly with everyone he meets. If you're looking for a big, friendly giant to take naps with, he is the one for you! Coco has been neutered and microchipped and has all of his age-appropriate vaccinations. Come meet him today.

Coco is waiting for you at the SPCA of Texas' Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas, 2400 Lone Star Drive (near I-30 and Hampton Road). Hours are noon-6 p.m. Sun-Wed and noon-7 p.m. Thurs-Sat. Regular adoption fees are \$150 for puppies and kittens aged 0-6 months and \$75 for adult dogs and cats aged 6 months or older. Fee includes spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, a heartworm test for dogs six months and older and a FIV/FelV test for cats 4 months and older, initial flea/tick preventative and heartworm preventative, a microchip, 30 days of PetHealth Insurance provided by PetHealth, a free 14-day wellness exam with VCA Animal Hospitals, a rabies tag and a free leash. Call 214-742-SPCA (7722) or visit today.

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What becomes a legend most?

Drag legend Tasha Kohl talks about the early years — and keeping the creativity going 40 years later

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

I am a huge fan of drag — drag queens, drag kings, all kinds of drag. It is a fascination that goes back nearly 40 years, back to the first time I walked into Joe Elliott's bar, The Landing — down off Cedar Springs Road on Pearl Street — and saw my very first drag show.

What a cast that was: The Lady Shawn, Diva Sanchez, Kandy Delight, those cute backup dancers and, of course, Tasha Kohl.

One particular number that I remember all these many years later, Tasha came out onto the stage in a long, frilly gown worthy of Tammy Wynette or Loretta Lynn at the CMAs, with five or six blonde wigs' worth of hair piled atop her head in a 'do that would have done Dolly proud. She strutted around the stage, "singing" Donna Fargo's country hit, "You Can't Be a Beacon If Your Light Don't Shine." As a fan of all the country divas, including Donna Fargo, I was delighted.

And then came the coup de grace: The chorus started — "You can't be a beacon if your light don't shine" — and all of a sudden, a myriad of tiny, colorful Christmas lights woven throughout that mountain of hair begin to blink on and off.

The crowd, as they say, went wild. And I became a Tasha Kohl fan for life.

I recalled that memory recently for Kohl Faulkner — Tasha's "boy name," and he laughed, "Oh my god. That was back when I had to plug into an outlet backstage and then drag that extension cord all over the stage while I performed!"

When all was said and done, The

Landing didn't last too very long. But Tasha Kohl, who's star was very much still rising back in those days, is still around — and not just still going strong, but going stronger than ever.

On Sunday, Feb. 23, Tasha Kohl brings her Icon show to The Rose Room inside S4.

Getting started

It was, Kohl notes, "never my intention to be a female impersonator." But once he tried it, he was hooked.

Kohl was a theater major in college when he was first introduced to the world of drag. A female friend — who he didn't know at first was a lesbian — invited him to go with her to a drag show in Fort Worth. "I said, 'But I'm not gay,' and she said, 'Oh yes, you are.'" So he went, and "I was mesmerized by it. It was just so amazing!" Kohl said.

Eventually, his friend suggested he do drag himself, and after a bit of convincing, he agreed. And one night, on amateur night at Aub's Mexican Food Restaurant, Steakhouse, Disco and Show Bar, a career in drag was born.

Yes, that really was the name of the place. It was in Fort Worth, about three or four blocks south of what later became the 651 (and then the Rainbow Lounge) on South Jennings Street, and "It was a dive," Kohl said. Entertainers dressed in the kitchen then walked across the restaurant to where they had cleared out a corner and put down black-and-white tiles to create a "stage" where they performed. There was no DJ, he said, so "the girls would put 25 cents in the jukebox and perform to whatever songs they had."

Kohl, barely out of his teens, was "the original toddler in tiaras," he said.

The restaurant/disco/show bar owners — a lesbian couple — were so impressed that they offered the newly-birthed "Tasha Kohl" a regular gig. She would perform Friday and Saturday nights for \$15 a show and free drinks. It was the free drinks that sealed the deal, Kohl said.

All photos by Evelyn Murphy



Before too long though, Kohl was offered a job as a puppeteer with a company that traveled the country putting on shows. For a country boy raised in Mansfield, it was a chance to see the bright lights and big cities he longed for, and he jumped at the chance.

Eventually, though, the country boy was ready to go back to Fort Worth, and when he did, he got back into the world of drag. Kohl was soon offered a Thursday gig at The Split Image, a lesbian bar. Then he got a Sunday gig at a different bar and eventually entered the Miss Gay Fort Worth pageant, which Lindsey Love won.

Kohl had only been back doing drag "for about six to nine months" when he decided to enter the Miss Gay Dallas pageant. The pageant had recently been opened up to entertainers who lived not just in Dallas County but in any of the counties adjacent to Dallas County, and

Kohl hoped that entering it would get him exposure — and maybe even some work — beyond Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

Kohl said he entered the pageant just hoping to be seen, but then — "Holy shit! I won!"

Immediately, he was offered a regular gig at The Landing, then Dallas' premiere show bar. Although The Landing only lasted a couple of years in all, it proved to be a stepping stone to an even bigger career. It was also the place where, thanks to show emcee and Miss Gay America 1980 The Lady Shawn, Tasha Kohl earned the nickname "the body without a mind!"

While competing at a pageant, Kohl met Naomi Sims, and one of Naomi's backup dancers was Kohl's then-boyfriend's best friend, creating a connection between Kohl and Naomi that became a close friendship. That friendship

led to Tasha Kohl becoming a regular cast member and part of the legendary Fantastic Five at The Copa in Houston: Tiffany Jones, Naomi Sims, Donna Day, Hot Chocolate and Tasha Kohl.

Kohl continued to live in Fort Worth, traveling to Houston each weekend for the shows.

The lineup had started out as the Fabulous Four — Tiffany, Naomi, Donna and Chocolate, Kohl said. “People thought at the time that I had replaced Tiffany Jones in the Fabulous Four, but that’s not true,” he explained. “I worked with [Tiffany] for a year or two at the Copa, and we were the Fantastic Five. But then Tiffany died of AIDS, and we were the Fabulous Four again.

“Tiffany Jones was the first person I actually knew to die of AIDS,” he added. “That was the beginning of the nightmare time.”

Tasha Kohl’s career continued to boom throughout the 1980s and into the early ‘90s. She won Miss Gay Texas America in 1982, Miss Gay Mid America and Miss Gay America in 1984, and then in 1991, still at the top of her game, the first Texas Entertainer of the Year and then the first National Entertainer of the Year titles.

But despite all Tasha’s successes, it was a time of darkness and sadness for the Texas LGBTQ and drag communities.

Kohl moved from Fort Worth to Dallas, and the boom continued “until about 1993,” Kohl said. “By that time, I had just taken so many hits. I had lost so many friends. Lady Shawn had even moved in with me for a while at the end of her life. That was a very hard thing to deal with.

“But when Naomi died [in November 1992], that was like the final straw.”

The darkness and the sadness began to take over.

Burdened by the loss of so many friends and by the question, “Why them, and not me,” Kohl began a downhill slide. “I was always an alcohol abuser,” he said. “But when things got worse, I became an alcoholic. There was just so much more drama and sadness that went with it all then.”

By late 1993/early 1994, Kohl “went into seclusion, working just enough [as a hair stylist] to pay the bills. Everybody [in the drag world] thought I was dead.”

The seclusion lasted for more than a decade — until August 2008, when “out of the blue, I got a call from somebody looking for legendary drag queens to perform on a cruise. They wanted me

and Hot Chocolate. I don’t know why, but I agreed to do it.”

The cruise consisted of three shows a day, three numbers a show, and it was a time when “my alcoholism was at its height,” Kohl said. “I would wake up and drink vodka to get leveled out, then I would drink wine all day — 24 hours a day for seven days.

“I made \$1,700 for the cruise. That didn’t cover my liquor bill.”

After the cruise, Kohl continued to perform here and there for about a year, and he continued to drink heavily — until August 2009: “Aug. 3, 2009 — that’s when I went into detox.”

After detox, Kohl joined a gay 12-step program in Dallas. The group regularly staged drag shows to raise money, and when those in the group realized that he was actually Tasha Kohl, “They were like, oh bitch, you are IN the show!” he recalled.

Now clean and sober, Kohl said, he continued to do the cruise gig for nine years, ending up as show director before it was all said and done. And when it was done, his boyfriend, Temor Tucker, urged Kohl to keep on performing.

“Temor said, ‘You’re still relevant. So you should get out there again and perform.’ But I had been doing it all myself, and I told him if I were going to start performing regularly again, I would need a promoter. He said, ‘What does a promoter do?’ I said, ‘You sell tickets.’ And here we are.”

Mixing old and new

While the Icon shows started out as a vehicle for bringing back the “old school” drag performers — like Hot Chocolate, for example — Kohl said this month’s show was cast specifically in an effort to “broaden the appeal.”

The Icon Show still targets an “older” audience; “I know there are plenty of people out there who love a good drag show, but who don’t want to be out all night, waiting for a show that doesn’t even start ‘til 11!” Kohl said. “I mean, I am 63, and I don’t want to be out that late anymore!”

So Icon starts earlier — “at 7 p.m. on the dot” — and is over by 9 p.m.

But at the same time, Kohl said, “I also want to reach out to a younger crowd. That’s why I am bringing in some of the newer entertainers.” That includes Cassie Nova as emcee, *Dragula* star Evah Destruction, trans woman Mulan Alex-

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Captain Kirk and the good we do

William Shatner is known for his iconic role in *Star Trek*, but he says his only real legacy will be what he does for others

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William Shatner has been boldly going in the entertainment industry for nearly 70 years now. Check his “Filmography” entry on the International Movie Database, and you find 243 acting credits, starting with his role as “A Crook” in 1951’s *The Butler’s Night Off*. That’s not even counting his 25 producer credits, 18 writer credits, 13 director credits and 16 soundtrack credits.

And there’s more! Miscellaneous crew,” two credits; composer, one credit; music department, one credit, thanks, five credits; self, 434 credits; archive footage, 67 credits.

Whew.

But all those roles and credits notwithstanding, for many people, Shatner is and always will be Captain James T. Kirk of the Starship Enterprise from the 1960s TV series *Star Trek*. And on Saturday, Feb. 15, he will be at the Pavilion at the Toyota Music Factory in Irving to host a screening of *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*.

“It is a great show,” Shatner said of the event during a recent interview. “*Wrath of Khan* is, arguably, the best of the *Star Trek* movies. So you get to see a great movie, then I will come on stage and answer questions and have some fun with the audience.

The traveling event started Wednesday, Feb. 12, in Nashville and made stops in Tulsa and Norman, Okla., before Saturday’s show in Irving. Shatner and the film then go to Houston on Sunday, Feb.

16, before heading across the Atlantic for eight dates before coming back to the U.S. Back-to-back shows in Glasgow and Dublin, March 9 and 10, are already sold out, as are shows in London and Cardiff on March 16 and 17.

The film screening at the various dates on the tour features enhanced sound and video. “That alone would be enough” to make the screening a special event, Shatner said. “But afterward, I am going to come on stage [along with a local celebrity], and it’s going to be a full hour of entertainment and telling stories. It will be wonderful fun for the audience, a wonderful evening of fun in the theater.”

The fact that Shatner, who will be 89 in March, can take a 37-year-old movie on tour and still sell out shows is testament to the staying power of the *Star Trek* franchise. The original series ran for three seasons from September 1966 to June 1969. Since then, there have been seven more TV spinoffs (with another in

the works) and 12 feature films — and there’s no indication it will stop there.

But what is it that made *Star Trek: The Original Series* a hit in the first place, and what gives the whole franchise — and Shatner himself — such staying power?

“There is no definitive answer to that,” Shatner said of the original series’ success. “Maybe it was the intrigue of a good science fiction story and affection for the cast.

“My thought is that coming down this road we are on is a fearful thing to our planet and our civilization. The next 50 years will tell a lot about how we survive as human beings,” he continued. “The fact that [the original] *Star Trek* series exists 300 years from now suggests that we get past all this and that the technology that got us into it will eventually get us out of it.”

Star Trek as a whole, Shatner said, offers up “an element of hope, hope for enlightenment, an awareness that climate change is devastating the earth, an awareness of how precious life is.”

Shatner noted that the original series “was one of the first shows to actually show the diversity” that makes life so interesting — a portent of things

to come.

“Maybe its being Pollyanna, but I am looking at things now that wouldn’t have been thought of 30 years ago, even 10 years ago,” he said. “We had a black president for eight years, and now we have a [truly viable] gay candidate. I’m not saying we don’t have so far to go still. We’ve certainly got a great deal further to go, and we need to go there.

“We have accomplished so much. Yes, we are in a holding pattern right now. But that will end. The future is diversity.”

Beyond the TV and movie screen

While most people may think first of *Star Trek* when they think of Shatner, the fact is that he has worked with numerous charitable organizations and events, donating thousands — and helping raise thousands more — to charities ranging from Habitat for Humanity to St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital

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SMU to host LGBT global symposium



Cece Cox

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
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When Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro visited Dallas, no one thought any good could come out of his stay. Everyone hosting him at the time denied having anything to do with his visit, and the folks at Dallas City Hall washed their hands of any involvement.

The World Affairs Council provided the diplomatic protocol for the events that occurred while Bolsonaro was in town, but only did so because of its contract with the city WAC officials said. But they ended up with a black eye for having hosted the homophobic and transphobic head of state whose policies have caused an epidemic of transgender murder in Brazil.

In the wake of that, Resource Center

CEO Cece Cox suggested the World Affairs Council sponsor what will be the LGBTQ Global Symposium on Equality and Human Rights. SMU's Dedman School of Law and Cox School of Business, along with the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, Resource Center and others, are sponsors.

The event will be held at Southern Methodist University, home of the Bush Presidential Center, which at the time denied having any connection to the Bolsonaro visit, even though the Brazilian president spoke there at a hastily arranged event.

Bob Satawake will introduce a panel on Equality Through Diplomacy that includes his husband, Wally Brewster, who served as ambassador to the Dominican Republic under President Barack Obama. Ambassador Miguel H. Diaz, who served as Obama's ambassador to the Holy See, and Ambassador Michael Guest who served as an open gay man as President George W. Bush's ambassador to Romania, will also be on the panel moderated by KXAS Channel

5 news anchor Brian Curtis.

Helen Kennedy, executive director of Egale Canada, that country's national LGBT rights organization, will deliver a keynote. Kennedy was one of the founding members of Canadians for Equal Marriage. Canada was the fourth country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage.

Five local leaders will participate in The Dallas Quest for Equality, telling the story of how Dallas' LGBT community fought for equal rights. Cox said that the fight for equality was fought differently in Dallas than most cities but resulted in one of the earliest non-discrimination ordinances in the country.

The panel includes Mike Anglin, who was a founder of the Texas Human Rights Foundation, Black Tie Dinner, Razzle Dazzle Dallas and, more recently, The Dallas Way. It also includes Ray Jordan, an adjunct professor at SMU and an ordained UCC minister; Candy Marcum, a counselor who founded Oak Lawn Counseling Center, which became the first AIDS agency in Dallas; Chris

Luna, a former Dallas mayor pro tem and current vice president of legal affairs at T-Mobile; and Cox, who is CEO of Resource Center.

Executives of multinational corporations will address the hurdles and financial benefits of having an inclusive and diverse workplace. They include Beth Gerwe, North Texas inclusion leader for Deloitte; Dr. Paul Hain, chief medical officer and divisional senior vice president of market delivery for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas; Julia Wada, group vice president of corporate strategy and innovation for Toyota Financial Services; and Michele Thatcher, senior vice president of global employment law and chief of human rights at PepsiCo. Justin Nelson, president of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce, will moderate.

Tickets are available on the World Affairs Council website, dfwworld.org. The \$25 price includes breakfast and lunch. The event takes place in Crum Auditorium in the Collins Executive Building, 3150 Binkley Ave. on the SMU campus. ■

Abounding Prosperity

Inc. celebrated National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on Feb. 7 with the grand opening of the HOPE Health and Wellness Center at 1619 Martin Luther King Blvd. Pictured are: Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Adam Medrano presenting a proclamation from Mayor Eric Johnson honoring the new center to API CEO Kirk Myers and HOPE Executive Director Tamara Stephney; Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins presenting Myers and Stephney with a proclamation from the Dallas County Commissioners court; and the actual ribbon cutting with ASP Cares Pharmacy Director Rex Green, representatives from the office of the assistant secretary for health, Medrano, Jenkins and Dallas City Councilman Adam Bazaldua. (Photos courtesy of Abounding Prosperity Inc.)



Love at long last

Childhood friends reconnect
in love, marriage

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
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John Steele and Patrick Dixon grew up in Refugio, north of Corpus Christi. Their fathers knew each other in the oil field.

"His dad was my Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church," Steele said of Dixon's father.

But the two boys never got

too close. Steele was, he said, "careful. ... I had to make sure no one found out about me."

Dixon, for his part, remembers Steele's "beautiful brown eyes and his smile. He seemed to be the man about town. I thought about him all of the time," Dixon said.

Both men knew they were gay in high school. But they lived in a small town in the 1960s and early '70s, so they certainly weren't out.

Steele, a year ahead of Dixon in school, left Refugio to become a theater major at Texas A&M. From there, he moved to Plano, teaching at Plano High School





for 25 years. Today, Steele owns his own company, Alternative Living Choices, helping older people with independent living, assisted living and other care options.

Dixon attended Trinity College where he also majored in theater. He moved to New York and eventually to L.A., where he did casting for television shows, like *Murphy Brown*, and other projects. He now works in NBC's legal department.

The last time the two had seen each other was at Dixon's wedding in Dallas. Steele, who was still not out, figured Dixon wasn't gay, since he was marrying a woman, and moved on with his life. But, Dixon said, his marriage was never sexual. He and his wife lived together two years and before eventually going their separate ways.

For a while, Steele thought he'd date around until he found "the right girl." But finally, at age 32, he came out as gay. He purchased the book *The Best Little Boy In the World*, probably the most popular coming out story at the time, at Crossroads Market, and it was that book, he said, that changed his life. Reading it made him sob.

"Finally, I had to deal with my life," Steele said.

Dixon carried on a long-term relationship with a man in New York who eventually died of AIDS. Here in North Texas, Steele had several short-term relationships once he came out.

The two men didn't see each other for 38 years.

They finally reconnected when Steele was in Refugio for his sister's funeral. Dixon happened to be in town visiting his family at the same time. He was in a relationship at the time, but he knew that relationship was coming to the end of its run. So when he heard that Steele was in town, Dixon realized it might be one last chance to connect with Steele, and he went to the visitation the evening before the Steele's sister's funeral.

But Steele wasn't there. The next morning, before the funeral, Steele's nephew told him a guy from his high school class had been at the funeral home the night before. Dixon planned to attend the funeral but missed it because someone told him the wrong time.

And yet, he said, he knew "this was my last chance to find happiness and

love" with his first love. So he passed his phone number along through the funeral director.

Steele got the number, and he and Dixon kept calling each other — and both kept missing the other's calls. By the time they finally connected, Steele was back in Dallas and Dixon had returned to L.A.

About a year-and-a-half later, Steele was involved in a serious accident and spent an extended period in the hospital. He was finally able to leave the hospital in April, and Dixon arranged to come see him in Dallas in June.

That was 2014. They hadn't seen each other since 1976.

And yet, Dixon said, "We picked right up where we left off. We just did some great talking."

And part of that "great talking" included Dixon telling Steele, "I've loved you since we were 16."

Dixon returned to Los Angeles, but the two men continued talking regularly, later starting regular visits back and forth. They became engaged in June 2015 and got married in 2018.

They were going to have a private wedding in Napa, just the two of them, with a wedding officiant Dixon knew conducting the ceremony. But 18 of their friends decided to come join them for the celebration.

Today, Steele continues to live in Dallas, running his business and serving on the board of Ed-U-Care. He said he speaks to his husband every day, and they get together once a month, sometimes for as much as two weeks at a time.

Steele said Dixon plans to retire in the next year and move to Dallas. Dixon said he isn't sure when he's planning to retire, but when he does, he may just move to Dallas. While that was the only difference in their stories, they both agree they've never been happier.

Dixon calls this easing into living together. And both agree that their time apart makes the time together so much better.

Steele said he has no regrets about his life: "This happened at the right time in our lives," he said.

Dixon said Steele told him, "I never believed I'd be able to fall in love with a man and have this life together." ■

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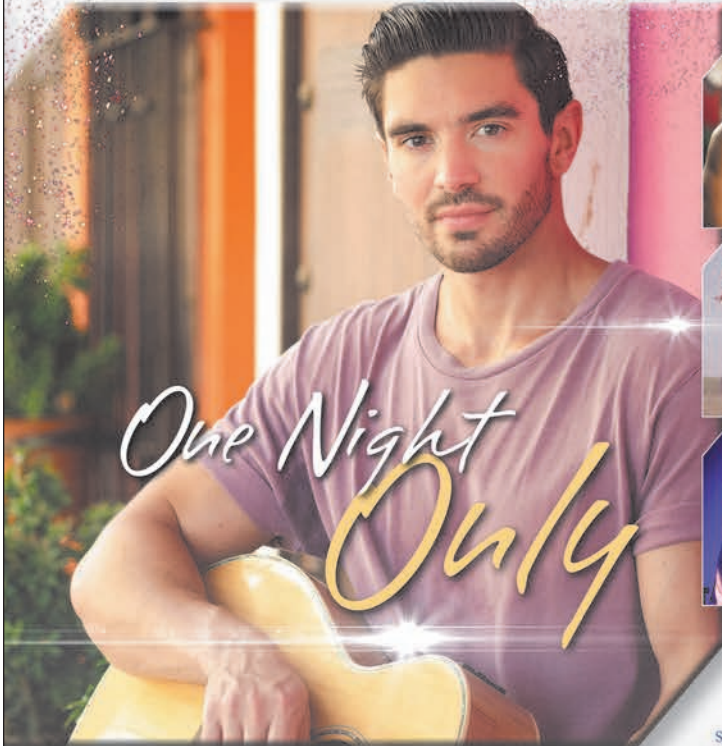
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THE OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY LOCATION



LEGEND, From Page 11

ander and Porter Bella Graves. Porter Bella is a cis-female drag queen, marking a first for Kohl's Icon shows.

Paving the way

Looking back, Kohl said, "I never really thought I was talented. I just kept trying everything to find my special 'thing.' I've never been a beauty queen, and I am certainly no dancer."

It was the comedy numbers that helped establish Tasha Kohl — "There's no cooler high than to make people laugh with you," Kohl said — but at the same time, "you can't sustain a career just on comedy."

"So, I think the key is creativity. Just keep on coming up with something new and different."

Kohl said, he realizes that he and the performers he worked with back in those early days helped pave the way for the drag as mainstream entertainment, that they helped set the stage for TV shows like *RuPaul's Drag Race* and *Dragula*. And while he is "grateful to be a part of that



history," that was not what he had in mind when he started.

"In all honesty, I was not trying to pave the road for anyone else. I wasn't working for some noble cause; I just wanted to pave the road to get to where I wanted to be," Kohl admitted. "I was 20 years old! I didn't know about any noble fucking cause! I just wanted to be a drag star!"



KIRK, From Page 12

to Red Cross and many others. He also breeds and shows horses — American Saddlebreds and quarter horses — and has put that love of horses to good use in his charity work, including through the Hollywood Charity Horse Show.

So how does Shatner himself think people will remember him when he is gone — for his work in the entertainment industry and his role in birthing the Star Trek universe, or for his charity work?

Well, he says people aren't actually going to remember him at all.

"Fifty years from now. I will be forgotten," Shatner said. "That's the truth of the matter. I had a dilemma a couple of years ago; [longtime friend] Leonard

Nimoy had died and was being buried, and I had committed to a Red Cross fundraiser at the same time.

"I chose to go to the fundraiser, because, as I said to the audience there, Leonard Nimoy and I and everyone else will be long forgotten. What will be remembered, what will be everyone's legacy, is our deeds," he said. "If you help somebody, if you do some good thing, that reverberation resounds until the end of time. You affect one person; they affect another."

"A piece of entertainment is like ashes blown away in the wind. Every person's legacy depends on the good they do in the world."

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Log Cabin: Making progress?

By now, most everybody knows that the Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, an LGBTQ Republican organization, have once again had their request denied to have a booth at the Texas GOP state convention, set for May 14-16 in Houston. I — like most people, I think — was not the least bit surprised to hear this news. After all, Log Cabin has been asking for a booth at the state convention, and state GOP officials have been telling them no for as long as I can remember.

My first reaction — again, like most people's, I think — was, so what? Why does Log Cabin keep trying? And how on earth can any self-respecting LGBTQ person identify as Republican in the first place? Especially these days, when our community — and in particular, transgender people, the most vulnerable segment of our community — are being targeted right and left with hate and discrimination.

That's my first reaction. But when I stop to think about it, I have to admit, I am wrong to be so dismissive and judgmental.

First of all, this year wasn't just like all the years before. There were a couple of significant differences, as Marco Roberts, board secretary for Log Cabin Republicans of Texas and president of Log Cabin Republicans of Houston, points out.

This year, Roberts told me, Log Cabin had two applications before the state party: The first was the usual request to have a booth at the convention, and the second one, a "brand new" request, was an application for coalition status.

"The Republican Party of Texas has a couple of ways to associate with them," Roberts explained to me in a recent telephone interview. "One is as an auxiliary, but now there is a brand-new category called a coalition. ... It is a less involved association."

Both applications fell short. But, Roberts stressed, neither was rejected outright.

"That is a point that I hope doesn't get missed in all of this," he said. The applications were not voted down; they were tabled.

And yes, the outcome is the same:



Tammye Nash
From Where I Stand

believes that this year's vote is a hopeful sign for the future.

"We had a significant measure of support, not just from the party as a whole, but from different organizations and different leaders across Texas," he told me.

Supporters included Texas Congressman Dan Crenshaw, who is "very socially conservative but who also believes the party should be reaching out to every possible voter," as well as a number of party officials, especially younger Republicans.

In fact, Roberts believes Log Cabin probably had more supporters than detractors. But, "there are a lot of arcane rules that come into play, and opponents can use those rules and maneuvers to table a vote or sideline it. In the end, rather than have a vote specifically against Log Cabin Republicans, the better choice was to table it," he said.

This whole process, Roberts said, signals that change is happening. "There is a new generation of folks coming in, and things will change," he told me. "Our country is becoming much more diverse, not just ethnically but in our beliefs, too. A growing number of Republicans recognize this. And I believe that with each subsequent vote, the numbers in our favor will continue to grow."

I agree with Mr. Roberts: Change is happening. But is it happening fast enough? Are we moving forward fast enough to overcome the backlash that always accompanies progress — the kind of backlash I think the Trump administration exemplifies?

Roberts disagrees that Trump and his

administration are anti-LGBTQ. "Donald Trump waved the Pride flag in a way no [Republican] candidate has ever done at a convention. He initiated a global initiative to decriminalize homosexuality around the world. No candidate has ever done that, either. I would say he's not just *not* anti-gay, but that he is actually pro-gay."

At least, not right now. But

Roberts be-

lieves that this year's vote is a hopeful sign for the future.

lieves that this year's vote is a hopeful sign for the future.

Personally, I believe that any pro-LGBTQ actions Trump' has taken have been surface-level pandering with no lasting or significant impact. Anything positive he may have done for our community or for individual LGBTQ people has been more than outweighed by the negative policies put in place and actions taken by Trump or those in his administration.

I see nothing positive in or about Donald Trump. He is a failed businessman and a bigot with an over-sized ego and a severely under-sized IQ who is using the presidency to line his own and his children's pockets while selling our country's integrity to the highest bidder.

BUT ...

But, Donald Trump and his administration are not the entirety of the Republican Party. Mitt Romney proved that. Other Republicans of conscience continue to prove that. It would do our community good to remember that if we really want to make significant, lasting progress, we need support from all sides — including the GOP.

That's why, even if we disagree with them, we must not turn our backs on Log Cabin Republicans. "We will continue with the rational dialog," Roberts said of his organization's efforts with the GOP. And if we as an LGBTQ community want to achieve true equality, we need to support their efforts — or at least not laugh and turn our backs on them. ■

Tammye Nash is managing editor of Dallas Voice. Opinions expressed here are hers only and do not reflect official policies or opinions of Dallas Voice or Voice Publishing

Steve Grand: No regrets



Out since the dawn of his career, the handsome singer breaks from the 'country' label and talks openly about his struggles with depression

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

If you're familiar with Steve Grand through his 2013 viral video "All American Boy," or just his reputation as an active gay rights champion and prolific Instagrammer, chances are you think of him as "that hunky gay country music singer." And for the most part... you'd be wrong.

Oh, he's gay all right. And definitely hunky. And yes, he sings. But "other than 'All American Boy' and 'Stay' — my first big singles — my music isn't really 'country' at all," Grand sighs. True, he went to college in Nashville, and he does enjoy the confessional-narrative appeal of a good country song. But being pigeonholed in a single genre wasn't his goal.

"I got pegged as a country singer early on, but it wasn't a label I embraced. I usually introduce myself as a singer-songwriter," he says on the phone from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, where he's been performing since December in a 110-seat cabaret theater for an unplugged singer-piano-guitar solo show ... not exactly the noisy honkytonk you might expect. "I always have to spend so much time trying to explain who I am [musically]. I like to say the best way to understand what I do is to listen to me."

North Texans will get the chance to do just that this month, when he interrupts his residency south of the border for a one-night-only concert in Dallas as the featured entertainment at a fundraiser benefiting the Suicide & Crisis Center of North Texas. And Grand is looking forward to showing his fans who he really is. He doesn't plan to make too many changes for the performance at Bob Hope Theater on the SMU campus. He will perform songs off both his albums (all of which he

wrote or co-wrote), as well as instantly identifiable covers of songs by the likes of Elton John and Billy Joel.

"I'll probably keep it stripped down — I can get a pretty full sound out of [my voice] and a guitar and piano. I may throw in a track song or two, but I always feel so cheesy playing just a track. I *want* to accompany myself. People sometimes ask, how do you do both of those at the same time? But for me, it's easier than singing on my own."

The opportunity to perform at the event has resonance for Grand personally.

"Suicide prevention is something I care a lot about," he says. "I have been dealing with depression and anxiety since I was a teenager and have been doing talk therapy since then. I'm no standout — a lot of us have [similar] struggles. But this is about acknowledging that and facing it and coping with it. But mental health issues [rebound] in the gay community, which struggles at higher rates with suicide and depression."

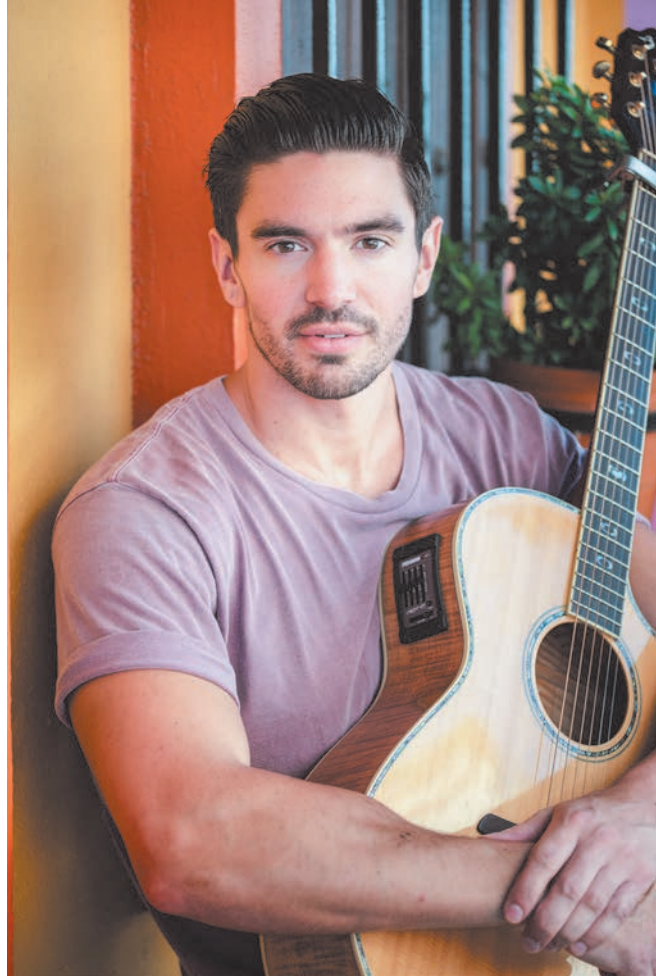
When it comes to anxiety, it might even bear noting that Grand's Dallas appearance will take place just before he hits that monumental milestone of gay maturity: His 30th birthday.

"It'll be one of my last shows in my 20s!" he laughs. "Lately I've been feeling bad that I missed out being someone in their early 20s. I never connected to being a regular teenager. Sometimes I'm like, 'Fuck! That window in my life is closed now.' And you can't ever turn it back. I wonder, should I be doing more [typical 20-something stuff]? I don't know. I don't want to do it in this moment but I don't see the point of doing it if I don't feel like it."

"Yet in some ways, I have been anticipating turning 30 for the last five years, so I feel like I swallowed that pill a long time ago. I always remember my dad saying his 30s were hard — he went into a depression at that time. I always had that in the back of my mind. But I don't dread it. Everyone I've dated has been considerably older than me. Even in high school, all of my friends were older. I liked people a little more mature and interesting who

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have something to teach me. I feel like I'm better at enjoying life the older I get."

One thing he has not shied away from is being open about his sexual orientation. Even though it was less than seven years ago when he burst onto the cultural landscape, Grand was praised for having the gumption to be openly gay in the music industry. But it never occurred to him to do otherwise.

"[Music] for me is primarily about expressing myself and being heard and understood. When I was growing up, I didn't feel heard or under-

■ STEVE GRAND Page 26



ARNOLD PACETTI'S CHARITY AWAKENING

When Arnold Pacetti first moved to the United States from his native Chile in 2015, he spoke no English and knew nobody except a cousin. But he hunkered down to learn English, set up a business and absorb the culture.

Eventually he met Joe Pacetti, a long-time Dallas-based philanthropist active with numerous causes. And Arnold's world opened up.

"When we met, I didn't know all about [Joe's charity work]," Arnold says. Joe introduced him to the world of philanthropy and civic engagement.

"For me it was a different experience — what rich people do to help people. But it's not about being rich — it's about helping people in all sorts of situations in any way you can."

When the Pacettis (they married last year) attended an event for the Suicide & Crisis Center of North Texas, its mission struck a chord with Arnold. He met a woman who told a story about suicide that sounded familiar: Arnold had personally prevented the suicide of a friend. So he decided he wanted to become involved. That's how he and Joe undertook getting Steve Grand to Dallas for a performance and fundraiser.

"I'm passionate for everything I do, but it's still new for me," he says. "I'm very private, even about helping people, but you make the time [to let others know about your passion]. You have to decide if you want to watch TV or dedicate your time investing in [nonprofit work]. It has helped me find ways to change my perspective."

Changing perspectives is one way to combat depression; and educating others — and talking about it — is the first step.

"The show is the motivation to give money" to the center, Arnold says. "It's a mentality of 'Hey, make the donation! It could affect you or someone you know.' And the concert is a bonus. But once people get together to talk about [depression and suicide], you can change things."

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Out musician Mary Gauthier on her most meaningful projects

The devastating *Rifles & Rosary Beads* by lesbian singer/songwriter Mary Gauthier is a product of Gauthier's association with Darden Smith's non-profit organization Songwriting with Soldiers, in which servicemembers are teamed with professional songwriters. For Gauthier's album, she collaborated with male and female soldiers for a majority of the tracks. Two of the songs, including the devastating "The War After the War," were written by military wives whose soldier husbands returned from the battlefield wounded.

Gauthier, who might be best described as a queer Lucinda Williams, has a history of bringing listeners to tears (check out 2010's *The Foundling*), but *Rifles & Rosary Beads* takes that ability to a whole new level. We spoke with her prior to her upcoming Fort Worth concert.

— Gregg Shapiro

Dallas Voice: *Rifles and Rosary Beads*, the 2018 album you're touring in support of right now, was nominated for a Grammy. What does such an honor mean to you? Mary Gauthier: I don't know! It always is nice to be singled out for an honor like that. Mostly it means that I have to keep going to work every day. There's no magic bullet that changes my job. I just have to keep going to work and doing what I do. Try to find the next story that's important for me to tell.

What can you say about the genesis of the *Rifles and Rosary Beads* project? It's a collection of songs co-written with members of the military and their families. The songs are true stories that have been lived by people that I've sat down and written with. I listen to their stories and bear witness to what they're going through and turn their life into a song.

Do you think your history of musical collaboration led you to this in a way? Yes, I do. I think my own personal story helped me be able to understand some of what they're going through. There's definitely a good match; me and people who have struggled. I'm able to sit in the story and listen without being afraid and bear witness without judging.

After creating a project such as *Rifles and Rosary Beads*, with its powerful images and message, how does it make you feel, as both an artist and a citizen, that we are once again on the precipice of wars with Iran and North Korea? To stay out of the politics of it, I would say there is a tremendous burden on those who serve. We have a responsibility to be very careful before we send them into yet another endless conflict that we're not even sure why we're fighting. Less than 1 percent of our population serves and those people are carrying the weight for all of us, whether we acknowledge it, understand it or even realize it. Having listened to them and sat with them over the last seven years, and those who are still in active duty, we should think long and

hard before getting embroiled in another nightmare scenario that has no endgame. We should never go in unless we have a plan on how to

get out. That didn't happen in Iraq and Afghanistan. We're still there. I've seen the human cost on our women and our men, not to mention what's happened to people in Iraq and Afghanistan. The civilians and their children. It's a very somber decision to go to war, and I take it very seriously.

A little more than 20 years ago, you released your second album, *Drag Queens in Limousines*. It was at a time when there weren't a lot of people singing about or paying tribute to drag queens, let alone making them part of the title of an album. Fast forward to today when *RuPaul's Drag Race* is one of the most popular shows on TV, especially with straight women. Do you still have drag queens in your life, especially the kind you sang about taking you in when you needed help? Life has changed. I'm 58 years old. I don't live at the bars like I used to. I'm a folk singer going from town to town. But I've always had a strong pull towards outsiders and folks who live outside of what's considered normal — creative types, the rebels and misfits. People who push culture forward have always been of interest to me. When I was young, I spent a huge amount of time in the gay bars. I got sober when I was 27. I'll be 30 years sober this year. The reason I go to bars now is for music. I haven't been spending much time in the clubs or going to drag shows or doing that thing that I used to. But I lived it for a long time and I've always loved genderqueers and people who pushed the

■ MARY GAUTHIER Page 26

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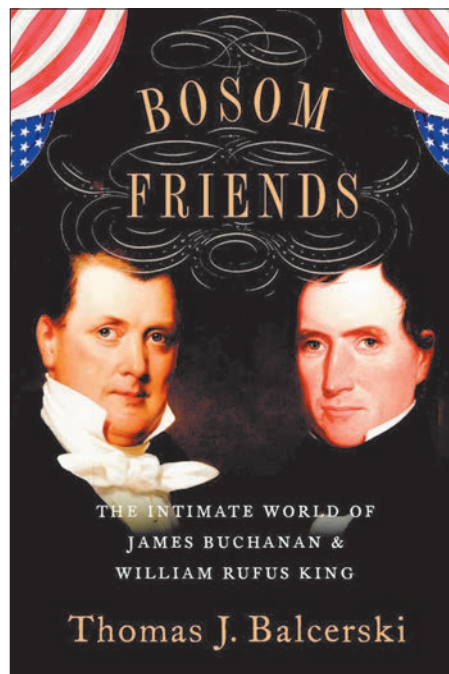
***Bosom Friends: The Intimate World of James Buchanan & William Rufus King* by Thomas J. Balcerski (Oxford University Press 2019) \$34.95; 337 pp.**

In the years prior to the Civil War, our nation's capital was very much a work in progress: roads were little more than mud; neighborhoods were far apart, and, indeed, Washington, D.C., was a swamp to which most congressmen had

to travel. Since nearly all were land-owners elsewhere, few elected officials brought their families to the city with them; those who came solo needed places to live, so boardinghouses, called messes, sprung up to house the politicians.

It was at one such "mess" that William King met James Buchanan.

King was born to be a politician: Educated at the University of North Carolina, he almost immediately went into politics after graduation. He was a social man and very charming, but he never married, blaming it on a broken



heart over a princess who was angered by a perceived insult. (Balcerski hints that the princess story was a convenient ruse.)

Buchanan was also educated and politically-minded, but his personal life differed: He was engaged to be married,

but a misunderstanding caused his fiancée to call off the nuptials. Before Buchanan could patch things up, she fell ill and died. For the rest of his life, he, too, claimed that a broken heart kept him from marrying.

At that time in history, says Balcerski, homosexuality was strictly forbidden, but deeply "intimate" friendships between men were common and even encouraged. It seems likely that King and Buchanan formed one of these while living at the mess, partaking in debates together, and working in D.C. Their "bosom friendship," however, appeared *exceptionally* close; tongues wagged, and others publicly teased the politicians for their particular bond.

But were they lovers, as rumors have claimed for over 170 years? Inconclusive, as you'll find from reading *Bosom Friends*. There are many reasons to think either way; although Balcerski says they weren't, evidence otherwise is tantalizing. To get there, though, will take some rock-climbing.

To understand the lives of King and Buchanan, one must inherently understand politics, of which much of this

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book consists. This is necessary, since it also shows division between the two men, ultimately both physically and emotionally; the scrappy political competition in which they engaged; and an untraversable gulf of disagreement — facets that, individually and together, are fascinating. Readers will clearly see the affection between the two men here, though we'll never completely know the true nature of it; possibly-argument-settling written communication between the two disappeared shortly after the Civil War.

That sets up a delicious double-mystery that leaves you to make up your own mind: letters lost or tossed? *Bosom Friends*, or more than that? If you're curious to know, this book will keep you tethered to your chair.

***Name Drop: The Really Good Celebrity Stories I Usually Only Tell at Happy Hour* by Ross Mathews (Atria Books 2020); \$26; 225 pp.**

From the time he was a little boy growing up in a farm community in Washington state, Ross Mathews wanted to have friends that were celebrities.

He imagined what it would be like to hang out with them and gossip... and then, *it actually happened.*

Now he says he hates when people name drop. But honey, he has stories. His celebrity circle started when he was an intern on *The Tonight Show with Jay*



Leno, which sent him to report on the Olympics three times, leading him to start a blog. And that's how he became BFFs with Rosie O'Donnell. They've been fast friends ever since, though it was she who "made [him] sleep with a Republican."

He worked with Chelsea Handler on *Chelsea Lately* and, because of where the show was filmed, he met and became friends with the Kardashians, who were filming their reality show in the same building. The Chelsea gig also gave Mathews the opportunity to be on the sidelines when his beloved Seahawks won the Super Bowl in 2013. That was the year he also got to play celebrity matchmaker.

He had a chance to meet two of the Spice Girls. He got a quick-click photo op with Celine Dion. He met Omorosa and scooped every rabid reporter on TV; he met "Liza with an OMG" and spent all night talking with Christina Aguilera. But "not every celebrity story is going to end like a fairy tale where the famous person and I end up bonding..." says Mathews. Especially when it's Barbara Walters, Faye Dunaway or

Elizabeth Taylor.

No doubt about it, *Name Drop* is fun. It's got the feel of a Friday night at your bestie's house, where the snacks on the kitchen counter are bottomless and so are the skinny 'ritas, and you scream yourself hoarse in mock horror and real laughter at the stories you're told. It's got the kind of gossip you want about the stars you love (or love to hate), spilled with a little snark and a charming amount of awe. It's got an absolute (and absolutely relieving) sense that *being famous* sometimes doesn't make a person *act* famous — although sometimes, it does. And it's got "Rossipes" (Rossipes!) you can make to go along with your reading.

Like a red-carpet walk with a broken heel, though, *Name Drop* sometimes limps. Mathews is funny and punny but not both simultaneously. Alas, the puns are too much, too overwhelming, so feel free to groan and ignore them. The dishy tales you get in this book are way more fun; in fact, if you love boy-meets-girl-celebrity tales, you'll find that *Name Drop* is a great collection. ■

— Terri Schlichenmeyer



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stood; music was a way of taking that painful feeling and turning it into something beautiful. Since music is about telling my stories and being truthful, I never entertained the idea of not having [my sexuality] out there. Love and romance are an important part of what I want to say as an artist, so I need to be [open]. It's not that what I sing about is unique to gay people; you still connect with it. Why is it different I am singing about a man?

"And I didn't have a label or manage-

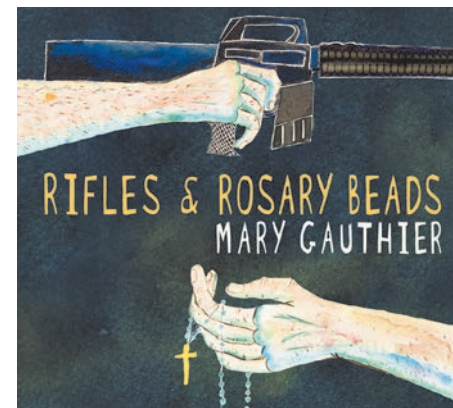
ment to tell me what to do. Oh, people told me their opinions, like, 'You're going to limit your audience.' And the truth is, my audience is exclusively gay men. But I'm fine with that — I'm just happy my music resonates with *anyone*. You don't really get to choose [who likes your music] — if it was all straight people and no gay people, that would be weird!"

Still, even he — at the ripe ol' age of 29 — is somewhat gobsmacked about how much the culture has evolved,

even since he was a new sensation.

"It's kinda wild — back in 2013, [coming out] was still a big deal, but now on YouTube is all this stuff about gender. It's so beyond [what the public discourse was just a decade ago], it's like a different universe. It's the next generation of people fighting for their rights. It's their truth and I respect it. We're all trying to get through."

Special appearance by Sister Helen Holy, VIP tickets include a meet-and-greet with Grand, as well as a picture with him.



■ MARY GAUTHIER From Page 22

envelope. It's always been interesting to me. I've always rooted for those brave souls that get up there and do it their way and do it different. My heart is always with those people.

Have you had time to think about what you might do for your next album?

No, I'm in the middle of writing a book right now. That has my full attention. It's called *Saved by a Song*. I'm working on the manuscript, and that's where my focus is. Musically, I really don't know what's next. I do want to get this book moved along. I'm writing it for St. Martin's Press. In February, I'm just going to be in the writing chair getting his book as far along as I can get it. When I turn in that first draft, I'm sure I'll start thinking about where I need to be musically next.

Bill Lee, the Governor of Tennessee, is planning to sign an anti-LGBTQ adoption bill into law. As both a Nashville resident and an adoptee, please say something about that.

I hope that he doesn't! It's a very ill-informed and misunderstood decision that he's making. There's a lot of pressure on him from conservative churches who don't understand who we are and don't know what incredible parents we would make. A gay person, a gay married couple who wants to adopt have put considerable thought into this. It's a very planned and well thought out decision, and they should be treated like any other couple in the adoption process, vetted and chosen based on merit. But they should never, ever be excluded because they're gay. That's just prejudice, and it's wrong.

In addition to being a songwriter, you have also made a name for yourself as a teacher, leading songwriting workshops. What do you like best about the workshop experience?

I love talking about songwriting. I love talking about songwriting with songwriters that are committed to learning the art and the craft. I'm a huge believer in this work as a way of telling important stories that need to be told. I like working with writers who want to get in there and really work and learn and become better at what they do. As a teacher, it brings me great joy to be able to do that.



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Saturday 02.22

Celebrate western dance in 10th anniversary Bruce Wood gala

The acclaimed dance company, fresh off a New York City performance, presents two nights of Cowboy Songs, a collection of iconic Western dances created by founder Bruce Wood. Broadway arranger Joseph Thalken, Mesquite-raised country singer-songwriter Sonny Franks and Fort Worth native Ginny Mac (formerly of North Texas Grammy-winning group Brave Combo) help celebrate the intricate boot-scootin' and two-steppin' performances in this rustic-style fundraiser and performance. Seating is limited to 130 guests per night for this hoedown benefiting the company's educational mission.

DEETS: Bruce Wood Dance Gallery, 103 Howell St. 7 p.m. BruceWoodDance.org.



Wednesday 02.19 – Saturday 03.14

Second Thought explores tusks everlasting

Second Thought Theatre launches its new season with *Mlima's Tale*, a thought-provoking play that addresses the conflict of the illicit ivory trade. After poachers strike down Mlima, an ancient and legendary African elephant, his spirit remains ever-present within his severed tusks, which circulate through the international black market. Two-time Pulitzer-winner Lynn Nottage wrote this piece to explore the complexities surrounding global consumerism, human greed and ancestral history.

DEETS: Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3400 Blackburn St. SecondThoughtTheatre.com.



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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

Andi Boi. World premiere play written and directed by Bruce Coleman about trans youth. Presented by Dallas Children's Theater. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. *Final weekend.* DCT.org.

The Band's Visit. Based on the hit arthouse film, this 10-time Tony Award winner about an Egyptian police band that spends a day stranded in Israel is full of rich music. *Reviewed this week.* A co-presentation between Dallas Summer Musicals and AT&T Performing Arts Center. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Feb. 23. DallasSummerMusicals.org. ATPAC.org.

Little Women. Umpteenth adaptation of the 19th century novel. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through March 1. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

One Man, Two Guvnors. A Mod 1960s farce. Circle Theatre, 230 W. 4th St., Fort Worth. Through March 7. CircleTheatre.org.

To Be Young, Gifted and Black. Just in time for Black History Month, Jubilee Theatre stages this play from the writings of Lorraine Hansberry. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 23. JubileeTheatre.org.

Zombie Dearest. One of the camp melodramas at Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. *Final weekend.* PocketSandwich.com.

INSTALLATION

PY1. A light and music pop-up installation, with two shows (Through the Echoes and the family-style Stella: The Time Machine Journey) it also becomes a late-night dance club with themes on select weekend nights. 1550 Convention Center Drive, Arlington. Through March 1. Visit PY1.com for details.

FRIDAY 02.14 — VALENTINE'S DAY

SATURDAY 02.15

COMMUNITY

FrontRunners. Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 8:30 a.m. in Turtle Creek Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

MONDAY 02.17

CABARET

Mama's Party. Amy Stevenson's weekly show featuring talented singers. Mainstage, 222 E. Irving Blvd., Irving. 7:35 p.m. \$10.

TUESDAY 02.18

FILM

Gilda. Rita Hayworth's charisma was never more in evidence than in this classic film noir set in South America. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series, which now includes a matinee. Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village,

3699 McKinney Ave.
Screens at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 02.19

COMMUNITY

FrontRunners. Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 7:15 p.m. in Turtle Creek Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

The Queer Off All Stars: The Winter Games. Contestants from season 1 and 2 return for this elimination-style talent show for the queer community. Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. 10:30 p.m.

THEATER

Mlima's Tale. Second Thought Theatre kicks off its 2020 season with this play by two-time Pulitzer Prize-winner Lynn Nottage about the black market ivory trade. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Feb. 19–March 14. SecondThoughtTheatre.com.

THURSDAY 02.20

CABARET

Glitterbomb Denton. Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday, now at a new locale and new time. Andy's Bar, 122 N. Locust St., Denton. 8 p.m.

THEATER

SpongeBob SquarePants The Musical. The hit Broadway musical makes its North Texas debut. Bass Performance Hall, 325 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Feb. 20–23. BassHall.com.

this week's solution

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Cassie Nova

Hell's fires and beef jerky

Hello all. Today is a beautiful day. I don't know what the weather is like the day you read this, but as I write this, it is a gorgeous day. I want to be outside throwing sticks or balls, and occasionally one of my dogs would bring it back. I want to sit in the sun and absorb as much vitamin D as I can and not just have it forced into me. (Well, honestly, I don't mind a little forced D on occasion.) I want to relax and read a magazine or a good book on the patio, listening to nature and feeling Zen as fuck.

Nope, I am full of shit. If I weren't writing this, I'd probably be inside sitting in the dark watching some bullshit on Netflix and wishing I had done more with my day. So let's make the most of it.

So, a few weeks ago I went to Zestfest. This is the fourth year in a row that my merry band of masochists and I put ourselves through this. Zestfest is a "festival" of vendors that have all things spicy — things ranging from seasonings and hot sauces to whiskey and beef jerky. Seriously, they have anything you can think of — and a lot of things you would never think of — spiced up for your nerves.

They also have cooking demos, quasi-famous chefs and products for sale.

Every year we go, we tend to get just a little more adventurous. This year, that was a huge mistake. Now, I love spicy food. I literally put the spicy version of that Slap Yo Momma seasoning on just about everything, except cereal and ice cream. My husband, who couldn't take any heat when we first got together, now eats food just as spicy as I do.

Remember that show Roswell? The alien kids put Tabasco sauce on everything they ate. I thought I might be an alien. I always thought the spicier the better — until this last Zestfest.

So, my friend Chad and I spent the first hour or so of Zestfest walking around, trying everything the vendors asked us to try. We found this smoked salsa that was amazing, a chipotle mustard that we had to have and a hot sauce that was made with sweet potatoes. Almost everything we tried that day was so good.

We like to walk the whole place first and try just about everything, then go back to buy the things we really liked right before we leave. Nobody wants to walk around with bags weighing you down.

While walking around, we see this stand that has beef jerky. I love beef jerky. I especially like the kind that is dry and has more of a crunch than a chew. Beef jerky that feels fatty or eats like an overcooked piece of steak is not my go-to jerky. I mean, I will still eat it, but it's not my first choice.

Any who, this stand had every flavor of jerky you could think of — taco flavored, Bloody Mary flavored, lemon pepper flavored — and they were all amazing. Seriously, it was some of the best jerky I have ever



had. The couple working the booth encouraged me and Chad to try them all, so we kind of went crazy. Then we see, all the way down on the end, one that said very simply, "reaper jerky" — not in all caps or in a red or fiery font; just very plainly: reaper jerky.

We were feeling good. By this time we had a couple of beers and a few samples of some spicy whiskey, so we were feeling no pain — that was, until the reaper jerky.

We used their little tongs, and Chad put a couple of little pieces of the reaper jerky in my palm and put a couple of little pieces in his. We cheered like those little hunks of meat were a shot, then we happily tossed those little bitty tiny pieces of the devil's dick into our mouths.

I immediately knew we had made a mistake.

I've never been pepper sprayed, but I imagine it is similar to eating reaper jerky.

My lungs started to burn before my mouth did. My eyes started to water, and then, through my tears, I see Chad. He is blood red and dripping sweat. We looked like every cartoon you have ever watched where they eat something spicy. I kept picturing Yosemite Sam in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, screaming, *My biscuits are burnin'! My biscuits are burnin'!*

The real problem was that the heat just kept building. It felt like it just kept getting hotter and hotter. We were in public, so I was trying to act like I wasn't dying. But I was seconds away from being in a fetal position on the floor crying for Mommy.

The couple working the booth were at first glance a really good-looking duo — she was lovely, and he was kind of a daddy, tatted, bearded and buffed. But after the reaper jerky, I saw them for what they really were: devils from hell. She had a tail and horns, and his beard and tattoos were actual fire.

Devils, I tells ya!

Then they had the audacity to tell us, "Oh yeah, that's a little spicy." Ya think?!

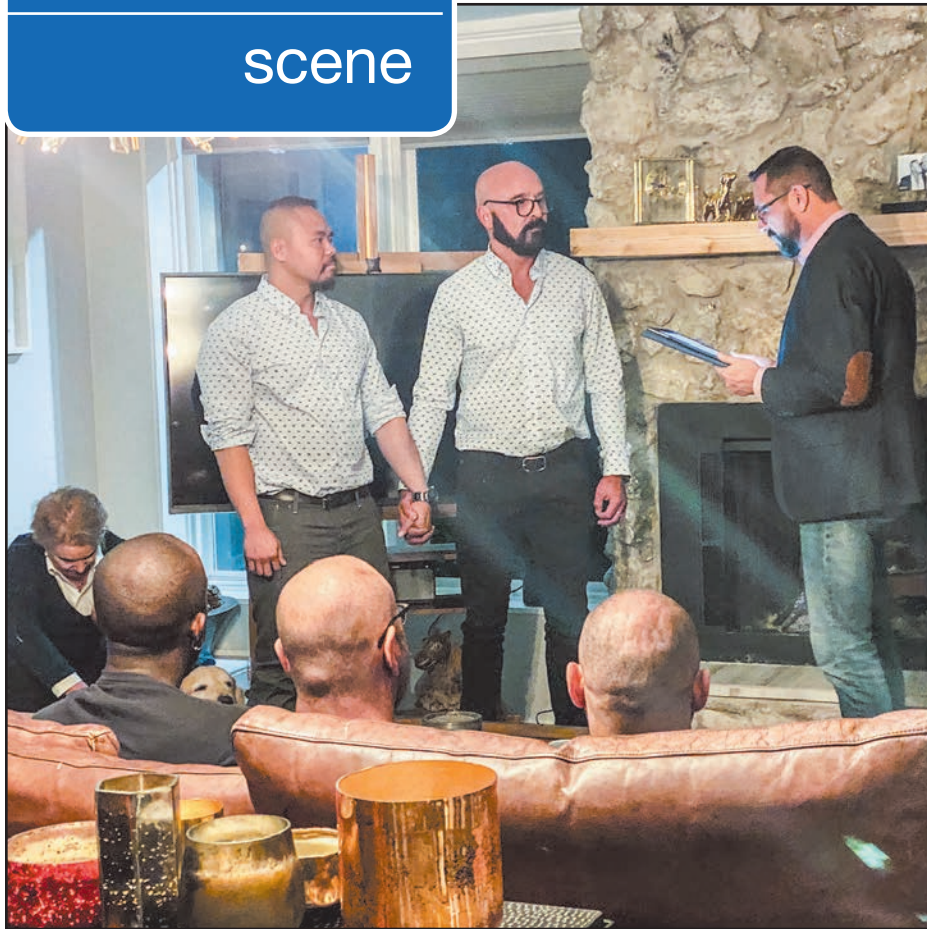
As Chad and I are almost on our knees, our savior, Jeremy, comes from out of nowhere with pints of milk for us both. For the record, beer makes it worse. I don't know it was the carbonation or what, but beer made it feel like bubbling acid in my mouth.

Now, I don't drink milk, like ever, except cereal milk. But that pint of milk was the best thing I have ever put into my mouth hole. It didn't happen all at once, but it almost immediately had a neutralizing effect on that devil jerky. It took about 20 minutes to get back to feeling somewhat normal, but I don't think I could actually taste anything for about 24 hours.

And speaking of 24 hours later — all I will say is, "LAVA!" Fucking reaper jerky made me feel like I was gonna die ... twice! Sorry to over-share, but it is the truth.

So, who wants to go to Zestfest with us next year? It's fun!

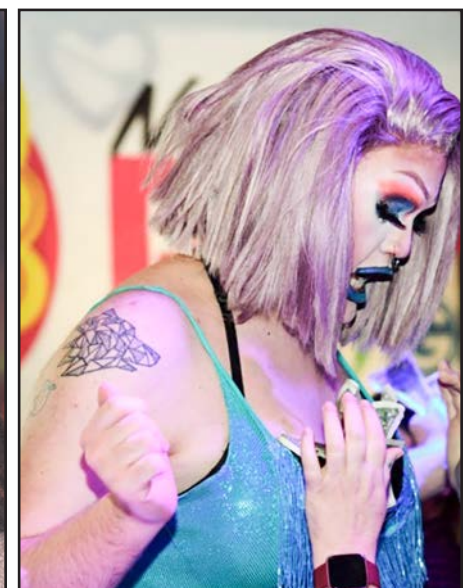
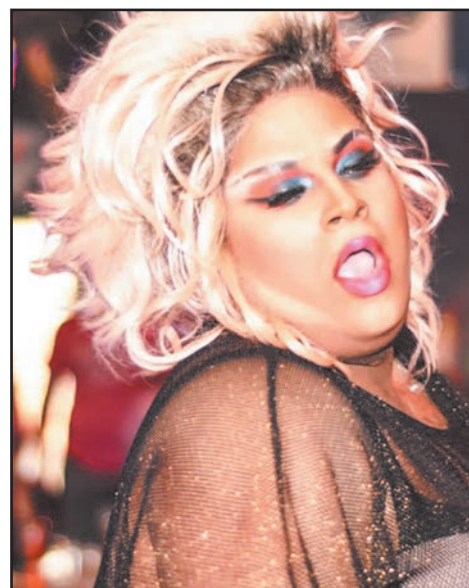
Remember to always love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova



John Erdos and Louis Koay - 5 Year Vow Renewal

North Texas Gay Bingo

Photos Courtesy Deni Jo Baker, DJB Productions



Making the SCENE the week of Feb. 14–20:

- **1851 Club:** Ronnie Skyy Mikyles, Kristie Davenport and Candi Carrol on Friday. Mulan Alexander, Sapphire Davenport and Lana O'Hara on Saturday.
- **Alexandre's:** Terry Loftis on Friday. Mescaline Americans on Saturday. Wayne Smith on Sunday. K-Marie on Tuesday. Vero Voz on Wednesday. Chris Chism on Thursday.
- **Club Changes:** Divine Miss Divas in Love Stinks Drag Show at 10:30 p.m. on Friday.
- **Club Reflection:** Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington presents the Broken Heart Show at 7 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** Discipline Corps Club Night at 10 p.m. on Friday. Onyx: Central Southwest Chapter Club Night at 10 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Havana:** Sunday Funday with Mayra D'Lorenzo.
- **Hidden Door:** S.L.U.T.S. Club Night on Wednesday. Cher-e-oke on Thursday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** Cassie's Freak Show on Monday. Double Trouble featuring Raquel, Bleach, May May and Mulan on Tuesday. Dream Girls on Thursday.
- **Liquid Zoo:** Drag Brunch with host Sapphire Davenport, with show time at 2 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Magnum:** Throwback Thursday with DJ Joze.
- **Marty's Live:** Sexcapade with DJ Rudeboy Dallas and Nicole O'hara Munro.
- **Pekers:** The Miss Gay Texas Pageant System Presents: Who Shot Cupid? with food at 4 p.m. and show at 5 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** Kathy & Bella at 3:30 p.m. and Tyla Taylor at 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tuesday Bluesday with Tyla early on Tuesday, and later, the Tuesday Tease.
- **The Rose Room:** Jasmine Masters on Friday and Saturday. Miss Gay Dallas Supreme at 5 p.m. on Sunday. \$5 cover.
- **Urban Cowboy:** Rahr Pint Night – Love Edition at 7 p.m. on Friday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** Jada Pinkett Fox at 11 p.m. on Thursday.

Scene Photographers: *Kat Haygood* and *Chad Mantoath*

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Photos by David Taffet



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Teen Pride Main Event at Peacock Theater



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DJ Comes Out

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13
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59	60	61						62			63			
64								65			66			
67								68			69			

Solution on Page 28

Across

- 1 F.W. Murnau film title that means "forbidden"
- 5 Network for *The Ellen Show*
- 8 DJ who just came out
- 14 Biblical garden
- 15 As ___ *Like It*
- 16 Garments for private showings
- 17 Fruity drinks
- 18 Had a meal
- 19 Earhart of the air
- 20 Dark fantasy with DJ
- 23 Beatles manager Brian
- 24 Barely move?
- 27 Easy-cook item
- 29 Hole edge for Sheehan
- 31 Sea bordering Kazakhstan
- 34 Kahlo's that
- 35 Bette in *The Little Foxes*
- 37 Tribal symbol
- 39 With 57- and 67-Across, alternate history series with DJ
- 41 Sargent and York
- 42 Apple or potato
- 44 Suffix with erect
- 46 Armless garment
- 47 Request for Vanna
- 48 Place to say

"Ooh, long!"

- 51 Sprints at the Gay Games
- 53 Drop F-bombs on, e.g.
- 57 See 39-Across
- 59 Samantha's witchy cousin
- 62 Threesome on a sundial
- 63 It gets a gel hard
- 64 Not digital
- 65 %, briefly
- 66 One on Boulanger's staff?
- 67 See 39-Across
- 68 U-turn from NNW
- 69 Barrymore of *Boys on the Side*

(or single to Gomer?)

- 10 Fred's first partner
- 11 Like a one-incher, in Dogpatch
- 12 Island necklace
- 13 FICA funds it
- 21 Jane Spahr's title
- 22 Mil. sub-division?
- 25 Gertrude's partner
- 26 "Lola" band
- 28 Baseball term
- 30 Proust's *Remembrance of Things* ___
- 31 Razor choice
- 32 Like balls
- 33 Cruising, maybe
- 36 Manually stimulate?
- 38 Antifreeze ingredient
- 40 Rubber attachments
- 43 In difficult times
- 45 *Charlotte's Web* author
- 49 "Just ___ thought"
- 50 Liberate's nickname
- 52 Refine metal
- 54 Demanding standard
- 55 A marble player may shoot it off
- 56 Let fly
- 58 Beats, barely
- 59 Baudelaire's bag
- 60 Doe in *Bambi*
- 61 Dorm VIPs

Down

- 1 Style Tracy Turnblad's hair
- 2 Come out correctly
- 3 Makes a Road Runner noise
- 4 Ruffles
- 5 Film noir poison
- 6 One who studies pansies
- 7 Bird feeder food
- 8 Period in David Kopay's sport
- 9 Without a scratch

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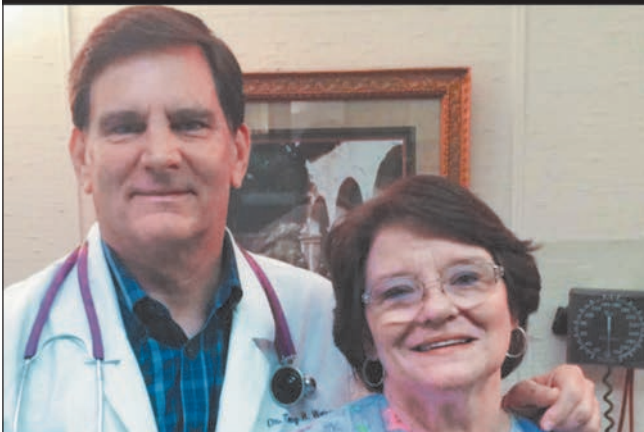
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