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36 | Issue 19 | FREE | Friday, September 13, 2019



The **BIG** September Issue

Read about Alyssa Edward's
BIG adventure
on Page 14



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DFW Theater Critics Forum announces 2018–19 honorees

This weekend, eight local theater critics, including me, gathered in an East Dallas manse to hash out our collective favorites from the previous 12 months of theater. Multiple “winners” are announced, but no one artist is singled out.

Out theater pro Blake Hackler was singled out not only for acting (for *Twelfth Night* and two plays by Caryl Churchill), but for best new play for the current production of *What We Were*, the only winner still running ... which is, of course, the nature of theater.

But some winners stretch back to late last year, including Uptown Players’ *Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika*. Broadway legend Betty Buckley, who is from North Texas, was named one of the best actresses of the year while appearing in the national tour of *Hello Dolly!*; next week, she exits the show after more than a year. Shannon McGrann had a great season, too, singled out for her output in four productions, most recently *The Cake*; her costar Sonny Franks was also cited.

The forum also cited for special notice several former local practitioners for past performances — the late Katherine Owens of Undermain, Teatro Dallas’ retired artistic director Cora Cardona and, significantly, former Water-Tower AD Joanie Schultz, who was ousted after only two years but made a substantial impact during her tenure.

This list, of course, is merely a collective decision among a varied group. For full list of honorees, see DallasVoice.com.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

LGBT seller of domain names is open for business

PrideLife, a new e-commerce store focused on domain names and the first ever LGBT-owned registrar, has delivered its soft launch to coincide with the annual gathering of LGBT-certified businesses at the 2019 National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce’s International Business & Leadership Conference in Tampa.

PrideLife is now open for business at GetPrideLife.LGBT.

According to a press release announcing the soft launch, PrideLife “aims to disrupt the traditional registrar business, taking a fresh approach to the new crop of domain options and opportunities they can offer. Diversifying the domain name eco-system and making domain identifiers work harder for businesses and organizations is PrideLife’s uncontested and niche focus in the industry.”

Afilias, the registry operator of .LGBT, has partnered with PrideLife to promote the first Internet address created specifically for the LGBT community.

— Tammye Nash

Oklahoma gay man found murdered

An Oklahoma City gay man was found dead in his garage apartment on Friday, Sept. 6, and family members say they believe he was murdered by someone he met on a dating app. KOCO News Channel 5, the ABC affiliate in Oklahoma City, reports that officers found John White, 28, dead in a garage apartment in southwest Oklahoma City after responding to a call for a welfare check. KOCO News said that because there were signs of a fire, arson investigators are working with homicide detectives on the case.

They reported that someone had stolen White’s car — a gold 1999 Toyota Avalon with tribal tag CHO-8775 — his phone and his dog,



John White

a mini schnauzer/yardie mix named Gizzy. White’s sister said he was a “big advocate” on LGBT issues and was known to let people in need stay at his home with him. But the family also said they don’t think his murder was a hate crime.

White’s grandmother, Joann Kapella, told KFOR-TV that he had used the dating app Grindr three days before his body was found, and that she had told him then she was concerned for his safety.

Oklahoma City police have asked that anyone with information call the Homicide Tip Line at 405-297-1200.

— Tammye Nash

“Under Attack”: Why are you getting this message on the Dallas Voice website?

Those of you visiting the Dallas Voice website earlier this week got a specific message when you first came to the site:

“Checking your browser before accessing dallasvoice.com.”

And you were probably wondering what was up with that. Well, here’s the deal: DallasVoice.com is under attack and has been for some time. The company that maintains our website, Cascadia Web Services, explained to us that someone — we don’t know yet who it is — has launched a DDoS attack against us. A DDoS attack basically is a coordinated attack

that uses tens of thousands of servers to constantly visit the site for the express purpose of overloading the bandwidth and crashing the site. When that happens, our legitimate visitors get an “Error 521 Website is down” message.

And that is extremely frustrating — for you and for us.

As of press deadline Thursday morning, Sept. 12, our techs have been able to thwart the attack and remove

the “checking browser” feature. They have also corrected a couple of glitches within the site that were caused by the DDoS attacks. So you should have no problem visiting DallasVoice.com.

That does not mean, of course, that whoever has been trying to crash our site has quit and gone away. As diligent as we and our tech guys are, the attacks could start again at any time. So, if you visit DallasVoice.com and notice any problems, please let us know. You can contact me at nash@dallasvoice.com. And thanks for sticking with us and letting us be the voice of our community.

— Tammye Nash

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THE BIG 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.

SEPTEMBER

• Sept. 13: LGBT Leadership Institute

The GLBT Chamber of Commerce Foundation Leadership Institute develops leadership skills for LGBT and ally professionals and provides an historical view of the LGBT community in a nine-part program. Second Friday of the month from Sept.-May. \$1,500. Info at GLBTChamber.com.

• Sept. 13: DFW Pride Happy Hour

The DFW Pride Happy Hour a monthly networking and social event from 5:30-7:30 p.m. hosted by North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and is open for all to attend. For more information go to GLBTChamber.com.

• Sept. 13: Luck Be A Lady

Vampire Court of Dallas and The Bad Girls Club hold a casino night to support North Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking from 8 p.m.-midnight at Viva's Lounge, 1350 Manufacturing St. Suite 120. \$20 at Eventbrite. DallasVC.org.

• Sept. 13-15: Dallas Otter Weekend

Second annual Mr. Dallas Otter Contest at 7:30 p.m. and Dallas Otter Weekend Kick-off Party at 10 p.m. at The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. Dallas Otter Art/Gear Clothing Exhibition at 8 p.m. and Fur Trade dance party at 10 p.m. at Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. Sunday Funday and charity showcase at 3 p.m. at Woody's Sports and Video Bar, 4011 Cedar Springs Road. OtterWeekend.org.

• Sept. 13: PrideScape 2019 with Dev

Pride Scape 2019 featuring Dev at Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Caven.com.

• Sept. 14: Dallas Heart Walk

Heart Walk 2019 begins at 8:30 a.m. from the base of Reunion Tower. DallasHeartWalk.org.

• Sept. 14: TAG Street Cleanup

Wear closed-toe shoes and sunscreen and bring gloves. TAG provides trash bags, grabbers and water. Meet at 9:30 a.m. in front of Tyler Public Library, 201 S. College Ave., Tyler. TylerAreaGays.org.

• Sept. 14-15: Spooky Spectacle

Kick off the Halloween season with a convention featuring horror, paranormal, sci-fi, cosplay, metaphysical

and other exhibitors from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday at Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth. \$10. SpookySpectacle.com.

• Sept. 14: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

Fundraising event brings Federal Club members and friends together for dinner and conversation. Contact SandyW@dfwfederalclub.org.

• Sept. 14: Night of Stars

Team Metro presents Thorgy Thor of RuPaul's Drag Race will be joined by a cast of local performers with VIP reception at 5 p.m. and showtime at 6:30 p.m. at The Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. \$25 advance. \$30 at the door. \$50 VIP. GDMAF.org/STARS.

• Sept. 14: Prime Timers

Brunch at 11 a.m. at Mama's Daughters Diner, 6509 W. Park Blvd., Plano. RSVP. 214-218-0912. For more information go to PrimeTimersWW.net/DFW.

• Sept. 14: Brunchin' in N'awlins

New Orleans style jazz brunch featuring cuisine by Chef Blythe Beck benefiting Dallas Hope Charities at 10:30 a.m. at 2616 Commerce Event Center, 2616 Commerce St. \$75. DallasHopeCharities.org/events/brunch-for-hope.

• Sept. 14: Enough is Enough Event

The African American Museum will be hosting a forum against violence and provide resources to those effected by acts of violence from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 3536 Al Lipscomb Ave. For more information call 214-616-8456

• Sept. 15: Rainbow Roundup 7th Birthday Swim Party!

Bring your floats and picnic lunches to 10110 Shoreview Road, Dallas, where the KayCee Club will be hosting a party from 1-5 p.m. and will have a snack bar open and a bar for adult beverages to be purchased. (no outside fast food allowed and no glass is permitted) No RSVP required.

• Sept. 15: Out in The Park

Six Flags Over Texas celebrates Pride with their annual Pride celebration day at 2201 E. Road to Six Flags St. in Arlington, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., this year with a special picnic for event ticket holders from 2-4 p.m. For tickets visit SixFlags.com/OverTexas and use promo code OutInThePark.

• Sept. 15: ADL Walk Against Hate

Walk with Team HRC DFW at 8 a.m. at American Airlines Center, 2500 Victory Ave. WalkAgainstHate.org.

AGENDA, Page 13

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 state Rep. **Jessica Gonzalez; 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.; **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 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 Tuesdays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews; **Thrive support group** from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by mixer every Monday 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 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.

**Saturday, Sept. 14:
Night of Stars**

Come to the Rose Room to see emcee Kelexis Davenport and *RuPaul's Drag Race* veteran Thorgy Thor, as well as a host of other wonderful performers, in a night you won't soon forget as they raise money for the GDMAF's LifeWalk team, Team Metro. So get out there, see a show and raise some money for good cause. See listings for more information.



**Wednesday, Sept. 25:
LGBTQ+ Town Hall Meeting**

The Dallas Police Department hosts a town hall from 6-8 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center, giving LGBT community members a chance to meet with Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall and Dallas County District Attorney LGBT Liaison Philip Clark. See listings for more information.

**Saturday, Sept. 21:
A Taste of Summer
Bake-Plant-Art Sale**

The annual AIDS Services of Dallas bake-plant-art sale has come around, so go down to Hillcrest House and shop to help raise money to put an end to HIV. See listings for more information.



**Sept. 27-Oct. 20:
State Fair of Texas**

It's State Fair of Texas time again! Go out and have some fun. Be sure and wave at Big Tex! For more information visit BigTex.com.



**Tuesday, Sept. 24:
Vision of Equality
luncheon**

Come down to the Resource Center's Vision of Equality fundraising event to learn what Resource Center does and to raise money to help the resource center continue its good work. The free luncheon starts at 11:30 and runs through until 1 p.m. See listings for more information.



**Sunday, Sept. 15:
Rainbow Roundup 7th Birthday Swim Party**

Bring your floats and picnic lunches to 10110 Shoreview Road in Dallas where the KayCee Club will be hosting a party to celebrate Rainbow Roundup's 7th birthday. No RSVP required. See listings for details.

**Sunday, Sept. 29:
Turtle Creek Chorale**

Turtle Creek Chorale presents "To All the Women We've Loved Before," a one-time concert at the Meyerson Symphony Center. Tickets begin at \$25. See listings for details.



**Sunday, Sept. 15:
Walk against Hate**

Join the Anti-Defamation League in the Walk Against Hate, a community event where you can join together as a city to fight hate everywhere. Starting in Victory Plaza at 8 a.m., you will walk two miles to promote community and diversity. See listings for more information.



**Saturday, Oct. 12:
Leslie Jordan:
Over Exposed**

Come see the award-winning actor and comedian Leslie Jordan at the McFarlin auditorium and help raise money for the Legacy Counseling Center. See listings for more information.



**Tuesday, Sept. 17:
Fundraiser for Sweet Savage**

Betty Neal presents a fundraising show at Marty's Live featuring Kennedy Davenport, Tasha Kohl and others of your favorite performers. All tips will help Sweet Savage with medical bills and expenses. See listings for details.



**Oct. 11-13:
Women's Chorus of
Dallas Reunion Weekend**

The Women's Chorus of Dallas celebrates 30 years of music with a weekend-long reunion. See listings for details.



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AGENDA From Page 10

• Sept. 16: Stonewall Democrats of Rockwall

Stonewall Democrats of Rockwall meets at 7:30 p.m. at Harry Meyers Community Center, 815 E. Washington St., Rockwall. For more information, contact Patti or Heidi at sdrockwall@att.com.

• Sept. 17: Stonewall Democrats of Dallas

Largest Democratic club in Texas meets at 6:30 p.m. at Mattito's, 3102 Oak Lawn Ave. For more information visit StonewallDemocratsofDallas.org.

• Sept. 17: Fundraiser for Sweet Savage

Betty Neal presents a fundraising show in which all tips to Kennedy Davenport, Tasha Kohl and others assist Sweet Savage with medical bills and expenses. Begins at 10 p.m. at Marty's Live, 4207 Maple Ave.

• Sept. 17-18: Texas Justice: Brandon Woodruff

Screening of the documentary Texas Justice: Brandon Woodruff at 6:30 p.m. at Capitol LaQuinta, 300 E. 11th St., Austin. Delivery of petition to reopen Woodruff murder case to Texas Court of Criminal Appeals at 8 a.m. Meet at LaQuinta.

• Sept. 18: Prime Timers

Lunch at 12:30 p.m. at LaMadeleine, 3906 Lemmon Ave. RSVP 214-218-0912.

• Sept. 18: Preston Hollow Democrats Meeting

Join the Preston Hollow Democrats to hear a legislative update from Texas Senator Royce West and Dallas County Tax Assessor John R. Ames starting at 6:30 p.m. at Walnut Hill Recreation Center. For more information visit ThePHD.org.

AGENDA, Page 31

pet of the week / PANDA BEAR



Meet **Panda Bear** a 9-year-old pit bull/boxer mix weighing 65 pounds. He's a big boy with a lot of love to give. He's very sweet, affectionate, loving and friendly with everyone he meets. Panda

Bear adores being petted all over, going for leisurely walks, doing tricks for treats and spending time with humans. He's gentle, easy-going and totally laidback. If you're looking for a cuddly companion, he's the pup for you. Panda Bear has been neutered, microchipped and has received all age-appropriate vaccinations. Come meet him today.

Panda Bear is waiting for you at the SPCA of Texas' Russell H. Perry Animal Care Center in McKinney, 8411 Stacy Road. Hours are noon-6 p.m. Sun-Wed and noon-7 p.m. Thurs-Sat. Regular adoption fees are \$125 for puppies and kittens aged 0-6 months and \$60 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 PetPlan, a free 14-day wellness exam with VCA Animal Hospitals, a free year-long subscription to Activ4Pets, a rabies tag and a free leash. Call 214-742-SPCA (7722) or visit today.

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Alyssa's BIG adventure

This issue of *Dallas Voice* is our "BIG September Issue," and who better to grace the cover of our BIG Issue than one of the biggest names in drag, Alyssa Edwards, aka Justin Dwayne Lee Johnson, star of stage and screen.

Alyssa Edwards already had nine drag pageant titles to her name and had been featured in the 2008 documentary *Pageant* by the time she appeared as a contestant on Season 6 of *RuPaul's Drag Race* in 2013, then returned in *Drag Race All Stars 2* in 2015. Since then, she has become an international drag star, performing in the Werq The World tour with other *Drag Race* alums as well as solo gigs in Europe and beyond. Alyssa/Justin has also starred in a Netflix docu-series called *Dancing Queen* that focused on Alyssa's drag career as well as Justin's personal life and his role as owner, mentor and artistic director of Beyond Belief Dance, his award-winning dance studio in his hometown of Mesquite. And Alyssa is now the spokesqueen for an exclusive eyeshadow palette with Anastasia of Beverly Hills and led Camp Tazo for Tazo Tea.

Alyssa/Justin took a few minutes recently to answer a few questions for *Dallas Voice* about their busy life and what's up next for this drag superstar. ■

— Tammye Nash

Dallas Voice: You've always kept busy, it seems. But these days it seems like you must not have a minute to spare, between your dance studio, drag and all your other projects, like your Anastasia Beverly Hills eyeshadow palette and the Tazo Tea Camp Tazo and everything else. How much time do you have to spend on the road these days? Do you get to have any time at

home to just unwind and relax? Justin Johnson, aka Alyssa Edwards: After appearing on the tube, my life truly has been a whirlwind of an adventure. This year, I promised myself to maintain a healthy balance of touring, teaching and taking time to unwind.

The goal is to work smart and efficient, and I seem to be working while I sleep! But when you enjoy what you do, it doesn't seem like work. I'm loving being a homeowner and spending quality time with myself and my tribe.

There have been 11 seasons of *RuPaul's Drag Race* and four of *Drag Race All Stars*, and of all the entertainers that have been on all 15 seasons combined, you have been, if not THE most successful, at least one of the most successful, post-*Drag Race*. What is the secret to your success? What makes you stand out? My ability to remember what my granny always told me and what Dr. Seuss noted: Why fit in when you were born to stand out!

Passion, Purpose and Perseverance.

Haus of Edwards has made a pretty good showing on *Drag Race* beyond just you. Shangela is another breakout star, and Plastique Tiara certainly made an impression in Season 11. Who are some other members of H.O.E., and are you all still close? I mean, all of you are very busy with your own careers now, so how important is H.O.E. in your lives? There are many people that make up The Haus Of Edwards family tree. Even if we don't get to see or speak to one another as much as we'd like, when we do we pick right up where we left off. I am very proud to have our first H.O.E. representation on the premiere season of *Drag Race UK*, Cheryl Hole.

Your show *Dancing Queen* was a big hit, and last month you announced there will be a second season. What can we expect to see this time around? I'm very proud of *Dancing Queen* as it's a true personal labor of love that cannot be just rushed and thrown on the screen. The importance of every moment needs to in-

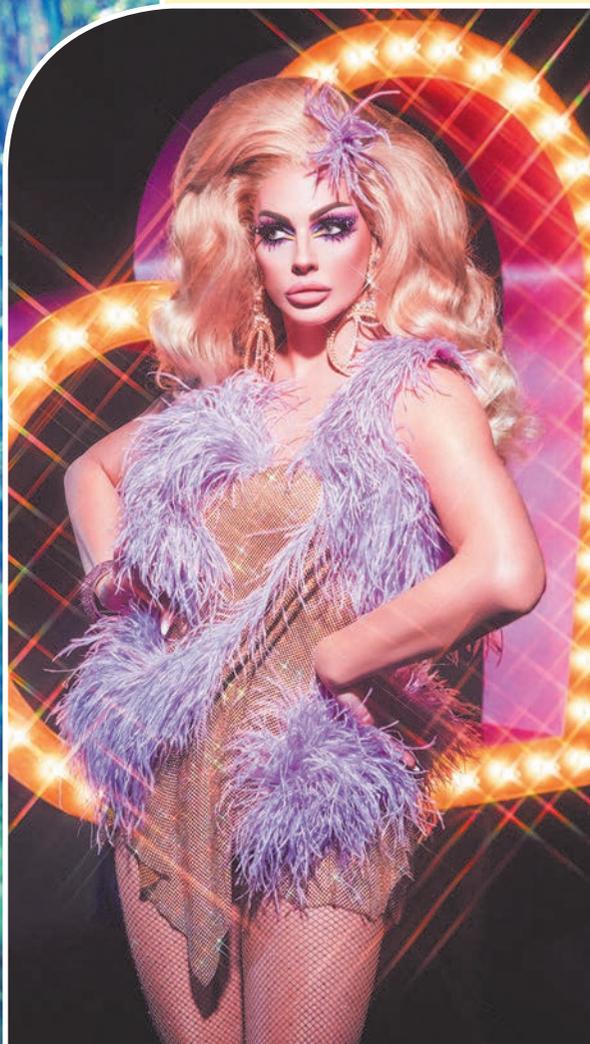




clude the reality of life. I'm confident it'll be ready when the timing is just right. Stay tuned folks; it's getting good!

A lot of people look up to you, for a lot of different reasons. Who do you look up to? I'm proud of the man I've blossomed into. Especially during the cloudy days, I still remained present with a smile. I'm a fighter and lover of life.

And last but not least, what's next for Justin and what's next for Alyssa? What have you not done yet that you want to do? Tell us what to expect from Alyssa in 2020. My book of life is already written, it's just now being read aloud. And I'm conquering every dream, one day at a time; 2020 is gonna be an AMAZING year.



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— Tammye Nash

1. Cathedral of Hope



Cathedral of Hope

Cathedral of Hope began life on July 30, 1970 when a group of 12 people gathered in a private home to talk about establishing a congregation of the newly-minted Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. A little less than a year later, in May 1971, the Rev. Richard Vincent was elected as the first pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas.

Through the years, that church has grown and changed. The congregation bought its first property in 1976 at 2701 Reagan, and in 1987, the Rev. Michael Piazza was chosen as senior pastor. Under his charismatic leadership the church

changed its name to Cathedral of Hope MCC and moved to a new multi-million-dollar facility at 5910 Cedar Springs Road and grew to claim the title of “largest LGBT church in the world.”

Cathedral of Hope disaffiliated with UFMCC in 2003 and became an independent congregation for a short time before joining the United Church of Christ denomination in 2006.

Today, under the leadership of the Rev. Neil G. Cazares-Thomas, Cathedral of Hope has entered a new period of growth and transformation and continues to be a spiritual leader, not just for the LGBTQ community, but for North Texas as a whole.

CathedralOfHope.com

2. The Turtle Creek Chorale



The Turtle Creek Chorale



Resource Center

Turtle Creek Chorale was birthed in 1980 when 30 men performed as a chorus at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Tim Seelig led the chorus for 20 years, spurring growth in membership, in performance and in recognition. Today, under the leadership of Artistic Director Sean Baugh, TCC — which identifies primarily as a gay men’s chorus but welcomes all men and those that identify as male, regardless of sexual orientation — boasts a membership of more than 200 and includes three smaller ensembles: Chamber Chorus, Camerata and SoundBytes.

Turtle Creek Chorale is the most recorded men’s chorus in the world, with 38 albums. It has been featured in two feature-length documentaries including one that received an Emmy, has performed twice at Carnegie Hall, sold out concerts in Barcelona, Berlin and Prague, has performed for Queen Elizabeth II Texas governors and city mayors, and has shared the stage with Liza Minelli, Joan Rivers, Dr. Maya Angelou, Sandi Patty, Gavin Creek, Jennifer Holliday, Nikki Blonski, Margaret Cho and Seth Rudetsky. The chorale has also won numerous awards, including the Crystal Hope Award, the Peace Center Award and the 500 Inc. Ken Bryant Visionary Award.

Turtle Creek Chorale is celebrating its 40th — XL — Anniversary this year and

kicks off its XL Season on Sept. 29 with “To All the Women We’ve Loved Before” at The Meyerson Symphony Center.

TurtleCreekChorale.com

3. Resource Center

Founded in 1983 as the Foundation for Human Understanding as a program of the Dallas Gay Political Caucus (which is now the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance) the agency now known as Resource Center was established with a focus on education and service and the goal of achieving equality for LGBTQ people in North Texas and beyond. By the mid-1980s, the organization had shifted its focus to including fighting the growing scourge of HIV and AIDS, creating the AIDS Resource Center in 1985, which offered legal services, a food pantry, emergency funds and more. Three years later, the Nelson-Tebedo Health Clinic for HIV treatment, clinical drug trials and HIV testing was added, and today that clinic has expanded its service to include case management, HIV prevention and transgender health services.

After the offices on Cedar Springs were damaged in an arson fire in 1989, the organization moved the clinic and food pantry into spaces on Cedar Springs Road and purchased the MCC of Dallas’ former facilities at 2701 Reagan to house the rest of its programs, naming the facility the John Thomas LGBT Community Center.

The organization changed its name to Resource Center of Dallas in 1998, then shortened that to Resource Center in 2013. In May 2016, Resource Center opened its new state-of-the-art community center at 5750 Cedar Springs Road, under the leadership of CEO Cece Cox.

Today, the facilities on Reagan Street house the Health Campus, including the nutritional services and hot meals programs, HIV case management and insurance services and the new LGBTQ

Health Clinic with Dr. Gene Voskuhl. Dental services for people living with HIV/AIDS are available at Dental Health on Forest Lane.

More than 1,200 volunteers and a paid staff of more than 61 people make Big D's Resource Center one of the largest centers of its kind in the United States. More than 60,000 people use the center through its programs and services each year. Those programs and services include the Nelson-Tebedo Health Clinic for those with HIV and other STDs; behavioral programs including mental health and substance abuse counseling, training seminars and workshops and counseling and support groups for a wide range of communities including LGBTQ youth, LGBTQ seniors and transgender men and women; a dental clinic; the new LGBTQ health clinic with Dr. Gene Voskuhl; nutrition services for those with HIV, a PrEP program, the community center and much more.

Resource Center also remains a leader in advocating for the LGBTQ community and for those with HIV/AIDS.

MyResourceCenter.org

4. Black Tie Dinner



Black Tie Dinner

In 1982, a small group of North Texas lesbians and gay men came together for a relatively small and quiet black-tie dinner event that ended up producing a donation of \$6,000 for the Washington, D.C.-based advocacy organization, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. But it didn't stay small and quiet for long. Today, Dallas-Fort Worth's annual Black Tie Dinner is the largest and most successful event in the U.S. supporting HRCF, each year raising more than \$1 million, which is divided between HRCF and local beneficiary organi-



Stonewall Democrats of Dallas

zations. It is also the only dinner of its kind that also supports local beneficiaries. Through 2018, Black Tie Dinner had distributed more than \$23 million to its beneficiaries.

As befitting the largest event of its kind, Black Tie has, through the years, featured some of the biggest names in entertainment, advocacy and politics as honorees, entertainers and speakers. Those names include Gov. Ann Richards, Maya Angelou, Lily Tomlin, Dustin Lance Black, Debra Messing, Greg Louganis, Elizabeth

Birch, Sharon Stone, Judy Shepard, Alan Cumming, Bishop V. Gene Robinson, Cyndi Lauper, Chely Wright, Beto O'Rourke and many more.

This year's Black Tie Dinner, with the theme "Be," will be held once again at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel on Nov. 2. Don Mason, who served as head of AIDS Services of Dallas for some 30 years before retiring at the end of 2018, will be honored as the recipient of the 2019 Kuchling Humanitarian Award. Award-winning actor Billy Porter is also being honored at the event.

BlackTie.org.

5. Stonewall Democrats of Dallas

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas was conceived in October 1996 by Christy Kinsler and Gary Fitzsimmons, who brought together a group of North Texas LGBT political activists, in response to a high-profile donation by the LGBT Republican group Log Cabin Republicans in a local race, to create a Democratic Party organization focused on advocating for LGBT equality within the local and state party. That founding group included Michael Milliken, Bill Fry, Sunny Erwin and Al Daniels. And it was Milliken who, for the first several years, provided the funding necessary to keep the fledgling organization afloat.

Today, Stonewall Democrats of Dallas is the single largest Democratic club in Texas and the third-largest Stonewall Democrats chapter in the U.S., with hundreds of members, both LGBTQ and straight allies and including a number of locally-elected government officials. Stonewall Democrats mission is to make sure Democratic candidates and officeholders are sensitized to the political needs of the LGBTQ community, to promote the party's message of economic justice and social progress within the LGBTQ community, to encourage LGBTQ participation in the political process at all levels, and to facilitate the election Democratic LGBTQ allied candidates.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas meet once a month, and membership is open to all people — LGBTQ or straight — who support the organization's mission.

StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.org

6. Openly-LGBTQ Elected Officials

As we said before, Dallas is known for having a large, cohesive and effective LGBTQ community. That's because the Dallas LGBTQ community is and long has been especially astute in the political arena.

Craig McDaniel became Dallas' first openly-gay city councilman in 1993 when he was elected to represent District



State Rep. Julie Johnson

14, which includes the Oak Lawn gayborhood. But while he was the first, he certainly wasn't the last. Ed Oakley, for example, served on the council from 2001 to 2007, representing an Oak Cliff district. In 2007, Oakley ran for mayor and made his way into a runoff against Tom Leppert. Oakley eventually garnered 42 percent of the vote in the runoff, losing to Leppert. But had he won, he would have been the first openly-LGBTQ mayor of a top 10 city, and his high-profile campaign helped pave the way for Anise Parker, who was elected as the 61st mayor of Houston in 2010.

Today, there are three openly-gay men on the Dallas City Council: Mayor Pro Tem Adam Medrano now in his fourth term representing District 2, Omar Narvaez now in his second term representing District 6, and Chad West, elected to his first term representing District 1 earlier this year.

Dallas County is responsible for electing two of the five openly-LGBTQ members of the Texas Legislature, too. Glen Maxey became Texas' first openly-LGBTQ legislator when he was elect-

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BIG events coming up:



LifeWalk, Tarrant County Pride,
Dallas Southern Pride,
Pride in Wilmberry

LifeWalk

When LifeWalk steps off from Turtle Creek Park this year, Prism Health North Texas wants participants to Connect to the Cause. They'll do that with large visuals set up in a tent in the park that will explain the services the agency has available.

Some of the services usually associated with Prism Health NTX are STI testing, case management and the pharmacy attached to the Oak Cliff Clinic. But services at the agency are expanding rapidly, said Tori Hobbs, chief marketing and development officer.

A new pharmacy at the South Dallas Clinic will open on Oct. 1. And primary care for transgender people is a new service. While Prism Health NTX has always treated trans people with HIV, the new service is primary care for any trans person and patients with or without insurance are being accepted. Security is important, so details of where and when the trans primary care clinic will be held are only given with an appointment.

An insurance financial assistance program helps people with HIV who are patients of Prism Health NTX who are eligible for health insurance but are hav-

ing difficulty making the payments, and there is the Behavioral Health program is for current patients of Prism Health NTX who are HIV-positive or who are on PrEP. The Empowerment Program offers group counseling and activities while providing a safe space for socializing. Hobbs said many people become self-isolating after an HIV diagnosis and the program is designed to build confidence.

Teams have been working through the summer to raise money for LifeWalk. The annual putt-putt golf tournament through the bars on Cedar Springs Road and the Miss LifeWalk competition have already taken place. The DFW Sisters held a pool party that raised thousands of dollars.

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Thorgy Thor and a cast of local entertainers perform at the Rose Room at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 at the door and benefits the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund's Team Metro which raises money for LifeWalk. And GDMAF is one of the beneficiaries of LifeWalk funds. AIDS Services Dallas, another LifeWalk beneficiary, holds a bake-plant-art sale at Hillcrest House, 834 N. Marsalis Ave. from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sept. 21.

A fundraising evening of karaoke takes place at Barbara's Pavilion, 325 Centre St. in Oak Cliff on Sept. 28. Pay to perform or to make someone else perform. Or pay to get out of performing. Either way, the money benefits LifeWalk. In addition, Campuzanos is giving 20 percent of all sales on Tuesday, Sept 24 from 6-10 p.m. but tell them you've with Lifewalk as a way to say thanks.

BIG or small we love them all!

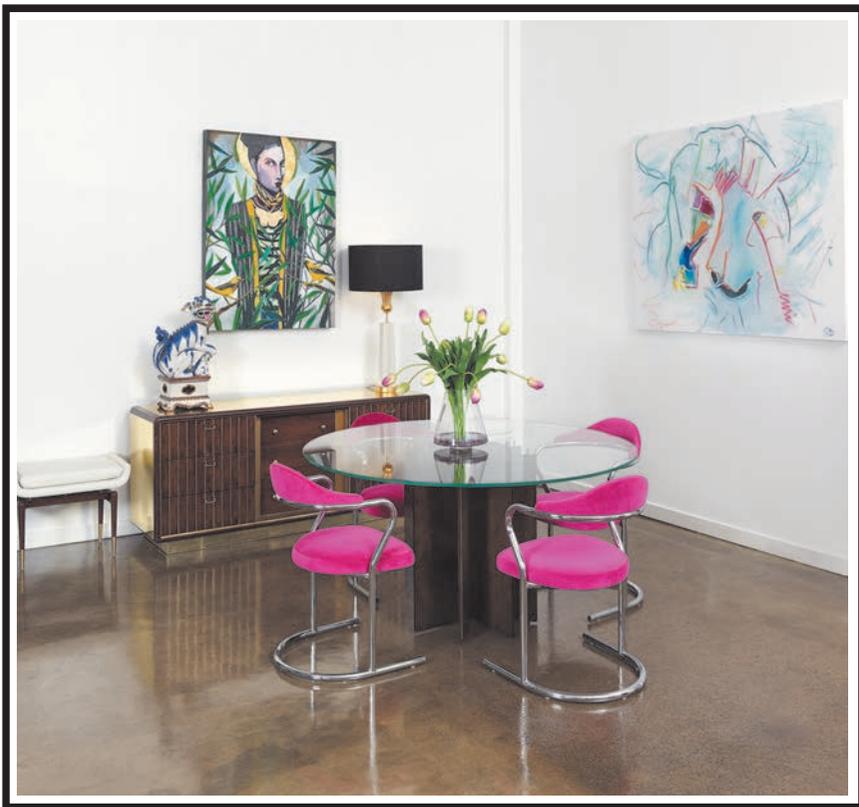


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In addition to lead sponsor Prism Health NTX and AIDS Services Dallas and GDMAF, the Turtle Creek Chorale AIDS Fund, Dallas Hope Charities, Dogs Matter and Tuckers Gift are LifeWalk beneficiaries. Turtle Creek Park and the Connect to the Cause tent will open at 11 a.m. on Oct. 6. HIV testing will be available. Anyone getting tested will get a free LifeWalk fan. Food trucks, vendors and activities will fill the park. The walk steps off at 1 p.m.

Anyone who's carrying a red ribbon in memory or in honor of someone can tie the ribbon to a tree at the end of the walk. There's no registration fee to walk in this year's LifeWalk. "It's not just about raising money," Hobbs said. "It's about awareness."

So register at no charge. Registration includes a free LifeWalk T-shirt. "If you believe in the cause, make a donation," Hobbs said.

According to the LifeWalk website, more than \$325,000 has already been raised. More than 20 people have each raised more than \$1,000 and the top 50 fundraisers have raised more than \$150 each.

The top fundraiser is Terry Bax, who heads Team Clover. He's been raising money for LifeWalk for years. With more than three weeks to go before the event, he's already closing in on \$100,000.

LifeWalk.org

— David Taffet

Wimberly Pride

The tiny town of Wimberly, just southwest of Austin off I-35, will see its first-ever LGBT Pride celebration next weekend, Sept. 20-21. The celebration will include a Pride March, the Community Pizza After Party and the Longleaf After Party.

The Pre-Pride Kick-off Party, hosted by Wimberly Pride, will be from 7-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21, at The Leaning Pear, 111 River Road, No. 10, in Wimberly.

Saturday, Sept. 21, starts with the Pride March Pre-Party presented by Gays of Hays from 5-7 p.m. at Blanco Brew, 14200 RR 12 in Wimberly. A total of 10 percent of proceeds for the day will go to Freedom Legacy International, an organization dedicated to fighting sex trafficking of children.

The Wimberly Pride March, hosted

by Wimberly Pride, steps off at 7 p.m. Saturday, and it will be followed by the Community Pizza After Party, hosted by Wimberly Pride from 7:30-11:59 p.m. at Community Pizza and Beer Garden, 111 Old Kyle Road, Ste. 330.

The Longleaf After Party, with music by Nakia and hosted by Wimberly Pride and Longleaf Craft Kitchen+Bar, takes place from 7:30-11:59 p.m. Saturday at Longleaf Craft Kitchen+Bar, 314 A Wimberly Square.

Check the Wimberly Pride Facebook page for more information.

Facebook.com/WimberlyPride

— Tammye Nash

Dallas Southern Pride

The 2019 Dallas Southern Pride Black Pride/Ball House and Pageant Weekend begins Tuesday, Sept. 25, with the LGBTQ+ Town Hall with Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall and the Dallas County District Attorney's Office's LGBT liaison, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the MLK Jr. Recreation Center, 2922 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Dallas.

The HIV Prevention Trials Network 092 Stakeholders Engagement Convening happens Thursday, Sept. 26, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Sheraton Suites Market Center, 2101 N. Stemmons Freeway, and the Dallas Southern Pride welcome reception will be from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Doubletree by Hilton Market Center, 2015 Market Center Blvd. The evening concludes with the Miss DSP Pageant, from 8:30 p.m.-midnight in the Grand Ballroom at the Doubletree.

Friday begins with the Ball House and Pageant Conference from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Doubletree, with a Lunch and Learn session presented by Gilead Sciences from noon-2 p.m. at the Sheraton. The BHAP Awards Gala will be from 6-11:30 p.m. at the Doubletree.

Saturday's activities include brunch from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Sheraton, then continue with the weekend's signature pool party from 4-8:30 p.m. at Cedar Canyon Dude Ranch, 4523 University Hills Blvd. in Lancaster. The party features entertainment by It's Ya Boi Kandie and music by DJ Rudeboy.

The evening winds up with the Mega Party from 10 p.m.-5 a.m. at Gas Monkey

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New Holocaust museum opens in Dallas



The new Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, above, opens Sept. 18. Restoring the boxcar, below. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

In the new facility, human rights includes LGBT rights

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The new Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum opens on Wednesday, Sept. 18, and it is one of the few in the country that features a permanent exhibit on LGBT rights.

The new building downtown in the West End is the third version of the museum that was founded more than 40 years ago by Holocaust survivors who moved to Dallas after World War 2. Originally located in the basement of the Jewish Community Center, the museum's main feature was an actual boxcar used to transport victims to concentration camps.

When the museum moved to an old warehouse building on Record Street in the West End in the 1990s, it was renamed the Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance. In renaming the museum, community members felt we could do better than just tolerating or putting up with each other.

The new museum, located on Houston Street across the DART tracks from the old museum, includes exhibits



about the Holocaust but also features the Human Rights Wing and the Pivot to America Wing.

The Human Rights Wing documents how the world progressed after the Holocaust. Among the installations will be one documenting 10 historical and contemporary genocides.

The Pivot to America Wing traces the repair process for groups and individuals in American history. Slavery and human trafficking, African-American rights, disability rights and more will be examined, along with LGBT rights.

The Beyond Tolerance Theater will inspire visitors to confront their own biases and consider responses to it. ■

Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, 300 N. Houston St. opens Sept. 18. Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$16. Closed on Rosh Hashanah (Sept. 30-Oct. 1) and Yom Kippur (Oct. 9).

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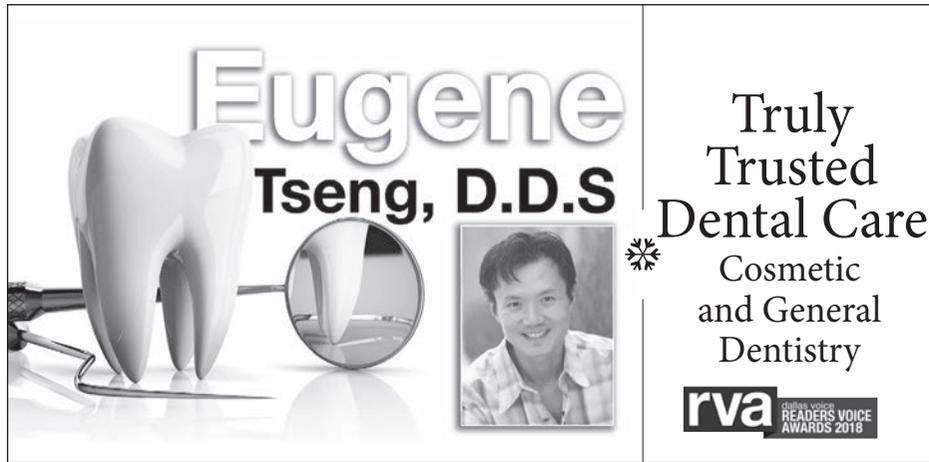
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Service with a smile

Guest services manager at Six Flags loves his job

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

When members DFW's LGBT community heads to Six Flags Over Texas on Sunday for Out at the Park, they can do so knowing that many members of their rainbow family are Six Flags employees working to keep the amusement park fun and friendly for all, including Jeremy Bushek, manager of guest services and the national support center at Six Flags.

And, Bushek said, he will be at the front gate greeting guests on Sunday.

Bushek began his career at Six Flags in 2001 in food services and worked as a park trainer for a few seasons. Since then, he said, "I've done every job there is to do." And that includes operating just about every ride in the park — other than the trains, at least not as the engineer.

Bushek said the Mr. Freeze: Reverse Blast roller coaster is his favorite of the rides, because the operator has to control two different tracks, so it's more complicated to operate. Another of his favorites was the bumper cars. Because his supervisors knew how much he loved the bumper cars, he got to operate it the full last day it was open, he said.

His other favorite is Batman The Ride, another roller coaster, because, he said, he grew up on DC Comics. "It was one of the reasons I wanted to work here," he added.

As guest services manager, Bushek oversees a staff of more than 200. He takes care of complaints — everything from "I didn't get my discount" to "someone was rude" to "the lines are too long" — as well as passing along the compliments.

"And we definitely appreciate the compliments," Bushek declared.

His office will reward team members who've been mentioned by guests for providing particularly good service. Providing directions may seem like a simple thing, but when someone takes the time to remember the name of the employee that gave them directions and then calls in a compliment, the service must have been exceptional.

Since Six Flags announced two weeks ago it will be now open weekends year-round, Bushek said the park is always looking for new employees. The online application asks what they want to do. But there are all sorts of positions available.

"The park is kind of like a city," Bushek said. "There are all kinds of jobs for all kinds of people."

Bushek said during the interview process, he looks for applicants' reactions and for those who aren't sure what position they'd like but know they want to work at the park. He'll talk to them, he said, and find the right fit.

"This is a great place for a first job," he said.

In fact, Bushek said, he'll hire 15-year-olds who've never worked before to become part of customer service. He said the front gate is a great customer service position with a greater variety of things to do than you'd expect. That includes selling and taking tickets, redeeming coupons, taking compliments and complaints, riding the trams and getting people back and forth to their cars in the massive parking lots.

Planning and executing the park's special events takes months of work. Bushek said the staff is already putting up lights for Holiday in the Park. At last count, there were more than 2 million lights to string.

Bushek doesn't just work at Six Flags' park in Arlington. He oversees guest services in all 26 Six Flags parks in the U.S.



Jeremy Bushek

and Mexico. While many of the problems are the same, each park also has its own specific issues.

Two of the Six Flags parks have hotels associated with the properties. Two parks are independent water parks and other water parks are associated with theme parks. Many of the parks have rides unique to that property. For example, the new Six Flags Darien Lake, between Buffalo and Rochester, has a steeple chase ride that none of the other

parks has.

"It's always fun to explore and see the different parks," he said.

Since he's worked throughout the company, what position would he like next?

"I do a lot for the whole company," he said, and after thinking about it, said, "I love the job I'm in."

Out in the Park is Sunday, Sept. 15. Tickets are available at SixFlags.com/overtexas or at the gate.

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- ▶ **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

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- ▶ Those in the “Most Important Information About BIKTARVY” section.
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- ▶ **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.

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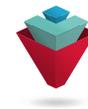
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- ▶ This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
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Everything is bigger in Texas, including LGBTQ politics

North Texas will be battleground for making Texas blue

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



During the most recent legislative session, a small group of law-

makers in the Texas House killed bills supported by the majority of their colleagues, upended traditions and brought a new attitude to the chamber.

Unlike in past sessions, the ones shaping the agenda for 140 days were not in the hardline conservative Republican, 10-member House Freedom Caucus, but instead were members of the newly-formed LGBTQ Caucus.

In total, three out women, including two from Dallas, were elected to serve in the 86th Legislature. Reps. Julie Johnson from Carrollton and Erin Zweiner of Driftwood were among the freshmen lawmakers who flipped Republican-held seats. Rep. Jessica Gonzalez of Dallas defeated longtime incumbent Democrat Roberto Alonzo in the primary.

The three of them joined two out incumbents who easily won election: Reps. Mary Gonzalez of Clint and Celia Israel of Austin.

"The formation of the first-ever LGBTQ caucus was a monumental step forward from last session," said Rebecca Marques, Texas state director for the LGBT lobbying group Human Rights Campaign. "We couldn't have killed anti-LGBTQ legislation without the work of the LGBTQ Caucus. Having people who identify with our community puts a face on these bills and a voice for our community. And we look forward to continuing this work together."

Marques credited the combination of new legislators — including 12 Democrats who flipped previously Republican-held seats — with the relative lack of

attacks on LGBT Texans.

The new Democratic lawmakers played a role in what was seen as a productive and low-key session defined by the camaraderie among Speaker of the House Dennis Bonnen, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and Gov. Greg Abbott and focusing on school finance reform and property tax caps.

The five out women served as the face of LGBTQ Texans, most notably on watering down a sweeping religious discrimination bill. That bill eventually earned the moniker of the "Save Chick-fil-a" bill, after the San Antonio City Council voted against leasing airport space to the fast-food franchise because one council member voiced objection to Chick-Fil-a's anti-LGBTQ religious beliefs.

Each of the five out members made consequential splashes. Mary Gonzalez scored coveted positions on the Appropriations and Public Education committees and the vice chairmanship of the Local and Consent Calendars, where non-controversial bills are sent. She is leading a statewide campaign pushing for voter approval of a constitutional amendment funding the Texas Water Development Board's Economically Distressed Areas Program to provide financing and infrastructure for areas without a reliable water supply.

Johnson was recently named to the House Select Committee on Mass Violence Prevention and Community Safety, formed by Speaker of the House Dennis Bonnen following the mass shootings

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in El Paso, Odessa/Midland and Dayton, Ohio, which left nearly 40 dead in August. The committee will study legislative solutions to prevent further mass shootings ahead of the next legislative session.

Jessica Gonzalez was not afraid to challenge her colleagues on economic inequality and was involved in successful regulations on issues ranging from local topics like pipeline safety to wonky but big issues like spam callers. Both bills passed.

Zweiner dove deep into environmental policy and eminent domain reforms — and gave the body the privilege of hanging out with her toddler Lark on the floor. And Israel, who calls herself a “Transportation chick,” fought hard-won battles on infrastructure and election security.

In total, the caucus leaders passed a dozen-plus bills that have since been signed into law by the governor.

Should they come back next session, the five will return with new friends — most likely more Democrats.

Democrats flipped 12 House seats last cycle. They need to hold those seats and flip nine more to turn the House blue, and the state party is aggressively pushing the importance of seizing control of the House.

The 87th legislative session, which begins January 2021, is a chance for Democrats to shore up their growing base. Why? Because of Decennial redistricting, when legislators draw (or redraw) legislative districts.

Nine may be the magic number, but Democrats think they can actually pick up 10 seats. Another five could be in play as well. In party leaders’ assessment, seats won by incumbents by 10 percent or less are seen as flippable, especially where Republicans at the top of the ballot also under-performed.

Once reliably-ruby-red counties like Collin, Denton, Fort Bend and Hays have either seen Democrats win other offices, such as county commissioner and judicial seats, for example. The math, they think, works in their favor.

Democrats are eyeing Tarrant County, too, after they saw Beto O’Rourke surpass Sen. Ted Cruz in the race for U.S. Senate last year.

The filing deadline to run for office is not until December, but the battle lines begin in North Texas. Democrats need to pick off just two more seats in Dallas County still held by Republicans. Gen-

eral Investigating Committee Chairman Morgan Meyer of Highland Park, who won his 2018 re-election by around only 200 votes, and Urban Affairs Committee Chairwoman Angie Chen Button of Garland, who won by only 1,000 votes last time.

The Democratic primary has attracted three candidates so far. Meyer’s 2018 opponent Joanna Cattnach is running again. So are Tom Ervin and out gay investor Shawn Terry.

That race is likely to be a costly one. Terry posted the largest haul of any challenger in not just the race but the state, raising \$236,000, and he has \$193,000 cash on hand. Cattnach was another top fundraiser among Democratic challengers. She raised \$65,000 and has \$64,000 cash on hand. Ervin raised \$42,000 and has \$26,000 cash on hand.

Meyer is prepared: He raised \$156,000 and has \$192,000 cash on hand.

The other Dallas Republican in danger is Button, who narrowly defeated her 2018 challenger Brandy Chambers last cycle. Chambers is also back for round two.

Rep. Matt Shaheen of Plano is also facing a possible rematch from State Democratic Executive Committee member Sharon Hirsch. And Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence Committee Jeff Leach of Plano is a target, too.

In Tarrant County, Reps. Craig Goldman of Fort Worth, Bill Zedler of Mansfield, Tony Tinderholt of Arlington and the seat vacated by Rep. Jonathan Stickland are seen as flippable.

The only Democrat to file so far against Goldman is Elizabeth Beck Jones, an Iraq war veteran. Sociologist Lydia Bean and Nathaniel Waters have filed against Krause. Lawyers Joe Drago and Ryan Ray, also a Crowley school board member, have filed against Zedler. Ray narrowly lost to Zedler in 2018.

A candidate has yet to formally announce against Tinderholt. Democrats Steve Ridell, a businessman who lost to Stickland by 1,000 votes, and lawyer Gary Whitfield, have filed to run for Stickland’s seat.

Among the threads connecting the bunch of Republican targets are their anti-LGBTQ votes. Some, like Shaheen, Leach, Tinderholt and Zedler, have been vocal. Others, like Button, Goldman and Meyer, have voted against the LGBTQ community, but not tattooed the rhetoric on their foreheads.

The question remains which type of Republican comes back, if any at all. ■



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First term recap

After defeating an incumbent in the primary, Rep. Jessica Gonzalez helped found the LGBT Caucus, passed legislation and developed some strange friendships in Austin

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

State Rep. Jessica Gonzalez said she first thought of running for public office after a traffic accident at NorthPark, when a security officer at the mall ran a red light and hit her. He apologized and called the police. But when they arrived, they began treating Gonzalez like she had done something wrong.

Her mother, who was with her, asked her in Spanish why they were treating her like this, and the police said if she didn't stop speaking Spanish, they'd ar-

rest her.

Gonzalez said she was thinking of going to law school at the time but began thinking she'd like to use her degree to do policy and advocacy work or maybe run for office.

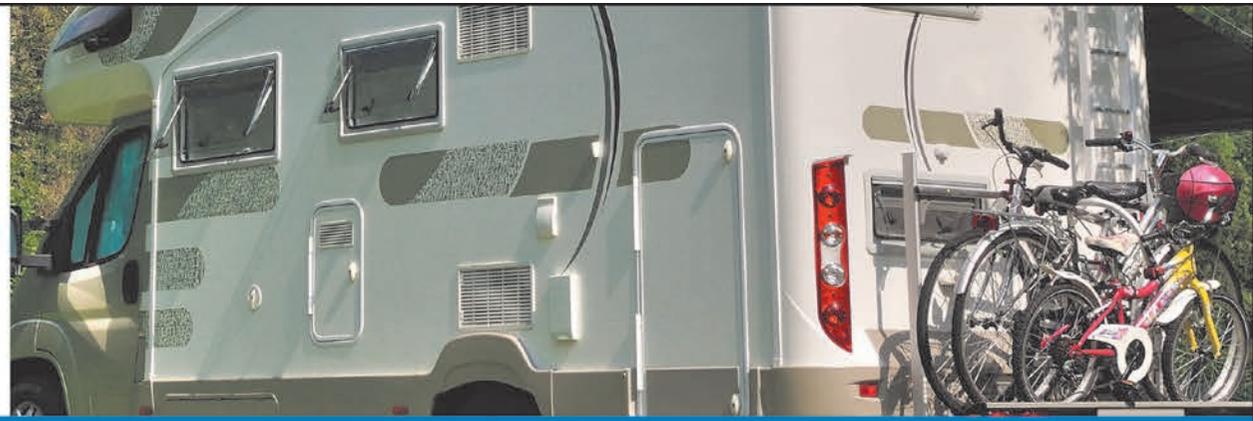
She took an internship with attorney Domingo Garcia, who encouraged those ambitions. Today her law office and her district office are in the same Oak Cliff office tower where Garcia's offices are located.

So is the law office of the former incumbent she beat in the 2018 Democratic Primary.

Few people took Gonzalez's candidacy seriously at first. In fact, Stonewall Democrats was the only Democratic or-







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ganization to endorse her. She said she went to candidate screenings across her district, which includes parts of West Dallas, North and West Oak Cliff and part of Grand Prairie. And although she showed up and the incumbent didn't, he still got the endorsements.

But Gonzalez block-walked and knocked on doors in neighborhoods where no political candidate had ever shown up. And she won. She credits Lee Daugherty, owner of Alexandre's on Cedar Springs Road and president of Stonewall Democrats at the time, with working on her campaign tirelessly and helping put her over the top.

When Gonzalez won her primary, she was effectively elected to the Texas Legislature, since she faced no opposition on the November ballot. She said her win on primary night didn't seem real. In fact, she added, "It's still sinking in."

In May, Gonzalez finished her first session in the Texas Legislature, where she was one of a record five openly-LGBT members of the House of Representatives and one of two LGBT reps from Dallas County. She became good friends with the other out Dallas rep, Julie Johnson, and the two shared an apartment in

Austin through the session. They and the other three out representatives formed the first LGBT caucus in Texas history.

Her apartment in Austin was just a few blocks from the Capitol, and Gonzalez said she'd look out her window at the Capitol and think to herself, "I can't believe I have an office in that building."

She said living with Johnson made Austin feel more like home. "It was nice to live with someone I trust," she explained. "We kept each other sane and were a good balance for each other."

In the mornings they walked to the Capitol together. They threw around ideas for legislation. They developed a comfortable routine.

Gonzalez said she developed a number of other friendships during her first term, some of them quite surprising. While the U.S. Congress sits Democrats on one side of the aisle and Republicans on the other, Texas House members choose their seats by seniority. So Republicans and Democrats sit mixed together throughout the floor.

They also share one members lounge. And one day in the lounge, Rep. Jonathan Stickland, R-Fort Worth, sat down next to her, and they began chatting.

Stickland is one of the most conservative members of the Texas House. The Eagle Forum gives him a 100 percent rating, and in its best and worst awards, Texas Monthly placed him in his own special category — cockroach.

He said to Gonzalez that he understood her: "You're like me on the Democratic side. I respect that you stand up against a bill you don't like."

Gonzalez acknowledged that on several bills, she wasn't afraid to be the lone Democratic vote against something she just didn't support.

But then Stickland asked if he could ask her a personal question. Sure, she told him, but said she reserved the right not to answer.

He asked, "Are you a real gay?"

What does that mean, she wondered. She told him she dated women, if that's what he meant. Then he explained: A woman close to him had just broken up with her girlfriend.

Wait!

Gonzalez wondered, was the most conservative Republican member of the Texas House trying to set her up on a date? Gonzalez said it never went beyond the conversation they had that day.

LGBT CAUCUS

Forming the LGBT Caucus was on the minds of the five LGBT women even before the Legislature convened. Having five LGBT members was historic. Glen Maxey was the only openly-gay member while he served from 1991 to 2003. Mary Gonzalez, D-El Paso, was elected in 2012. Celia Israel, D-Austin, was elected in 2014. In 2018, in addition to Johnson and Jessica Gonzalez, Erin Zwiener, D-Driftwood, came to office by flipping a seat in the counties just south of Austin.

More than 20 additional members of the House joined the caucus, which worked furiously through the session to kill anti-LGBT legislation. Only one bill made it to the floor — a religious exemption bill. Johnson is credited with making the political move that convinced House Speaker Dennis Bonnen to kill the bill.

At the beginning of the day, Stickland came over to Gonzalez and put his hand on her shoulder.

"Today's going to be tough emotionally," he said. "It could get ugly. Don't

RECAP, Page 36



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BIGGER

From Page 17



Councilman Omar Narvaez, state Rep. Jessica Gonzalez and Mayor Pro Tem Adam Medrano



Councilman Chad West

ed to represent District 51 in Austin in 1991. But after he left office in 2003, the state had no openly-LGBTQ lawmakers until voters in District 75 elected Mary Gonzalez to the Texas House in 2012. Celia Israel, representing District 50, joined her in 2014. Then last November, in 2018, Jessica Gonzalez won in District 104 in Dallas, and Julie Johnson won in District 115 in Dallas County. They, along with openly-bisexual state Rep. Erin Zweiner of district 45 who was also elected last November, joined Mary Gonzalez and Israel to establish the Texas Legislature's first-ever LGBT Caucus. At least 20 non-LGBTQ allies joined the caucus in its first year during the 2019 legislative session. ■



AGENDA

From Page 13

- **Sept. 18: LGBTQ Speaker Series**
Dr. Wesley Phelps, assistant professor at University of North Texas, investigates the legal challenges to sodomy laws before Lawrence v. Texas. Wine and light bite reception at 5:30 p.m. and speaker presentation at 6 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.
- **Sept. 19: GALA Business Fair | and Happy Hour**
Free appetizers, game tables, for GALA's third Thursday happy hour from 5:30-8 p.m. at Del Frisco's Grille, 7200 Bishop Road D9, Plano. For more information visit GalaNorthTexas.org.

- **Sept. 19: Rainbow LULAC**
Monthly meeting at 7 p.m. at Havana, 4006 Cedar Springs Road. For more information visit Lulac.org.
- **Sept. 19: Log Cabin Republicans Dallas**
Dallas Log Cabin Republicans will be hosting Luisa del Rosal and Genevieve Collins at their monthly meeting from 6-8 p.m. at Mattito's, 3102 Oak Lawn Ave Ste 144. For more information visit LCRDallas. NationBuilder.com



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Big hair, DO care!



Mark Tacker helps drag queen get closer to God — and bring in more money — with his big Texas hair designs

ALEX GONZALEZ | Contributing Writer
alexgonzalez@localprofile.com

As the age-old adage holds, the higher the hair, the closer to God (or whatever higher power you believe in). With more than 20 years in the hair business, Dallas-based hair designer Mark Tacker strives to help queens and performers achieve a southern glam look one can only find in Texas.

Tacker offers a variety of hair and wig services, including wig design and wig thickening. He has been fascinated with hair dressing and hair design since he was a child.

"When I was a little boy, my aunt was a hairdresser," Tacker recalls. "My mom could do hair, but she would do it at the house. I grew up around people who

were always doing hair, so I didn't have a chance in the world to not do it."

Tacker started a hairdressing business of his own, around 1994. He was later inspired to begin designing wigs after seeing performances by local drag performers.

"In the old Rose Room, I would go watch the shows," Tacker recalls. "I was just mesmerized because I had never seen anything like that. The late Whitney Paige would always be messing with me. We got to know each other, and she found out that I was in hair school. She told me 'We need a hair person to do wigs,' so I started hanging out with new people and learning how to do wigs.

"I put my own twist to it and haven't looked back."

Since starting his own business, Tacker has worked with several notable drag performers, including Valerie Lore, Donna Day and, of course, Dallas favorite Cassie Nova. But no matter who he works with, Tacker's favorite part of his job is witnessing all of the looks come together.

"The best part is seeing their reaction and how it makes them feel when they're in the spotlight," Tacker says. "It can be tedious work and it's not always easy, but making them feel good and seeing



them look pretty and complete — that's the reward."

While Tacker is skilled in multiple facets of hair design, he always aims to give hair as big as Texas to each of the queens he works with. Tacker's "Texas hair" has become his signature style.

"Texas hair is more than just big hair," Tacker says. "It moves. It can be curly; it can be straight; it can be loose curls, and it can be frozen."

As a hairdresser for drag performers, Tacker works with each queen to help them create a look of their own. The cost of creating a signature look can add up for a drag queen, but Tacker is a firm believer in the idea that in order to make money, one must be willing to spend money.

He recalls the exact words Whitney Paige gave to Alyssa Edwards in the early stages of her career: "Is this going to be a business or is this going to be a hobby?" Tacker remembers Whitney saying. Then she added, "If it's going to be a business, there's a lot of money that goes into it; for your hair, your makeup and your wardrobe."

"If you want to make a career out of your passion, you have to put some money into it." ■

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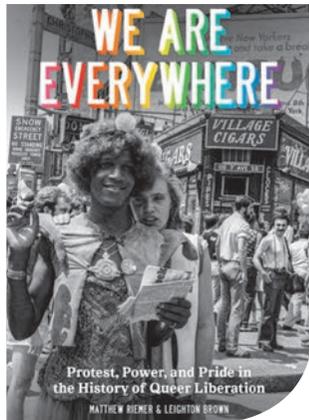
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Photographic memories

Matthew Riemer, co-author of photo book on queer history, to speak at fundraiser

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
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Matthew Riemer describes Leighton Brown as his “homosexual life partner.”

While that phrase may seem old-fashioned to some, Riemer says he likes it because, first of all, it is an accurate description of their relationship, but even moreso because “it always makes the straight people uncomfortable.”

Riemer and Brown are the authors of the new book *We Are Everywhere: Pro-*

test, Power and Pride in the History of Queer Liberation, and Riemer said recently that being precise about the nature of his “partnership”

with Brown is important to him because both men are lawyers, and in the land of lawyers, “partner” has a completely different meaning.

Riemer will be in town this weekend as guest speaker at “Brunchin’ in N’awlins,” a fundraiser for Dallas Hope Charities. In a recent interview, Riemer explained how two lawyers ended up authoring a “coffee table book” on LGBT history.

Despite their long-term relationship, Riemer said he and Brown had remain closeted until just a few years ago. By chance, he said they ended up, in 2015, attending the unveiling ceremony for the headstone of the late Frank Kameny, who had been an out, proud and loud

LGBT rights activists from the 1960s until his death in 2011. It was then, Riemer said, he and his partner realized how little they knew about LGBT history.

“Despite being history majors in our under-grad years, we knew nothing about queer history. Oh, we had heard about this mythical event call Stonewall, yada yada, and about AIDS. But we really knew nothing more about queer history.

“It was a very isolating feeling, especially as history majors, to realize we didn’t know anything about our own people,” he added.

So they decided to remedy that gap in their knowledge and in doing so created an Instagram account focusing on images of LGBT people and events. They called it @lgbt_history, and it became a near-instant hit. And with each photo they posted, they included captions that explained and identified as much as possible who was in the photos and what was happening. They found, Riemer said, that “people were drawn in by the photos, but would stay for the captions.”

Bolstered by their Instagram success, Riemer and Brown decided to create a book on queer history. What they found, he said, was that “there are amazing

books photos, and there are some amazing queer history books. What we needed to do was put the two together.”

Riemer eventually left the law firm he worked for and made the book and the Instagram account his full-time job as they worked to gather photos. And while the PR folks are promoting it as a coffee-table book, it is, Riemer said, much more. “Yes, it stands on its own as a photography book, but it can also stand on its own as a textually-based history book,” he said.

As they started gathering photos and looking through them, Riemer said, they would suddenly realize, ““Oh my god! That’s Vito Russo! That’s Phil Johnson!” This is a history book, but there are connections here that really only be made when you experience it visually.”

He added that he and Brown “did everything we could to avoid photo farms like Getty and [the Associated Press],” because while those sources certainly offer photos of queer history, they really can provide only a one-sided view.”

“We have work from a lot of amateur photographers, things we stumbled across on Facebook and Flickr and

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RECAP , From Page 29

let them break you. Don't let them get you down."

So when Johnson's maneuver killed the bill, Gonzalez said she was surprised by the reaction. She expected backlash. Emotions were running high all day. Each of the five caucus founders made a speech on the House floor. Gonzalez called hers that day her most impassioned of the session. This was personal.

But when the vote was over, she was surprised when Republicans came over to her and quietly thanked her for helping kill the bill. They explained it wasn't personal. They were "voting their district."

Gonzalez said she learned an important lesson. Having five LGBT members of the House has made passing anti-LGBT legislation harder, but when they cast a vote, it's on an issue. It's not necessarily personal.

She said something else about that day was particularly emotional.

"On the House floor, I'm telling the whole world I'm gay," she said. And that's a big deal because, although she's taken girlfriends home to her family before, she never had the official talk with her father.

Passing legislation

During her first term, Gonzalez passed one bill that was signed into law, something freshmen Texas legislators rarely do.

The bill had to do with allowing property in Oak Cliff owned by Oak Farms Dairy to be redeveloped. She said there are stipulations to include affordable housing on the site, and before anything is done, the Dallas City Council has to act on it.

Nothing exciting for a first piece of legislation, she said, but added that she did learn there are other ways to get things passed — amendments and conference committees.

In one political maneuver, she attached an amendment to a bill that had to do with adjusting the price of natural gas to consumers. The bill allowed all costs to be passed along. Gonzalez attached an amendment to exclude executive pay.

Although the amendment was defeated in the House, the bill passed. Sen. Royce West picked it up in the Senate

and included Gonzalez's amendment in his version. After the bill passed the Senate, her amendment was included in the final reconciliation of versions between the two houses and was signed into law.

She also learned that Democrats and Republicans are not always speaking the same language. Rep. Michelle Beckley, D-Carrollton, filed a bill to remove the sodomy law from the Texas penal code. That law was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2003. After a committee hearing, she spoke to some of her Republican colleagues who killed the bill.

"I know you don't want us to have equal rights," she argued with them, but this changes nothing. It simply removes an illegal statute that can't be enforced. But she got nowhere in her discussion.

"You'd be surprised how many Republicans have no personal issue with gays," she said. "It always goes back to their district."

She said she told them that was bullshit. All polls show a vast majority of Texans don't believe in discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. "You don't know what your district believes," she said she told them.

Gonzalez filed more than 25 bills in her first term. She knew most wouldn't make it through committee, but said she was planting seeds for future sessions. That's how things get done in Austin.

In the off-session, Gonzalez is opening a district office to take care of constituent needs. She is practicing law, and she's waiting to see if a special session will be called to deal with gun violence.

While property taxes and education dominated the 2019 legislative session, Gonzales said the legislation passed on property taxes was symbolic. It simply creates a trigger: If taxes are increased more than a certain percent, it has to go to voters. With appraised values soaring throughout the state, taxes will rise — sharply in some cases — without approaching the trigger.

She said more money was sent to education, but much of that money came from the state's Rainy Day Fund, and that funding can't be sustained. Additional solutions will have to be found in future sessions.

Meanwhile, Gonzalez said she's running for re-election and is excited about getting to work in the district and getting to know more of her constituents. ■



BIG

From Page 20

Live, 10110 Technology Blvd. East in Dallas. The party will feature a performance by Lightskin Keisha and special guest host Asian Doll.

Dallas Southern Pride weekend winds up Sunday, Sept. 29, with the Gulf Coast Unity Ball from 4 p.m.-2 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Doubletree, with competition categories including Realness, Sex Siren, Best Dressed and Walk the Runway.

DallasSouthernPride.com

Also during Black Pride weekend in Dallas, Betty Neal hosts "Wett: The Official Dallas Lesbian Pride Party," Friday, Sept. 27, beginning at 10 p.m. at Sue Ellen's. The evening's entertainment includes DJ 008, MC Tyra Ra Ra, Miss Gay USofA 2019 Kennedy Davenport, Miss USofA Diva 2019 Glam Davenport, RP, Shemar Gracon and Karla KP.

Facebook.com/TheRealBettyNeal

— Tammye Nash

Tarrant County Pride

The theme for Tarrant County Pride 2019 is "Remember Stonewall 1969" as Tarrant County honors the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.

The Tarrant County Pride Parade steps off at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, from Weatherford Street in downtown Fort Worth and moves south down Commerce Street to end at Lancaster Avenue, outside the Fort Worth Water Gardens. For information about the parade email parade@tcgpwa.org. For a parade route map, visit TCGPWA.org.

The Water Gardens Festival also begins at 11 a.m. and runs through 6 p.m. The festival will include the Events Plaza with the vendors market, and the Central Plaza with the Main Stage that will feature entertainment throughout the day and, at 4 p.m., presentation of the parade awards. There will also be food and beverage concessions and a dance area. The Amphitheater at the southern end of the Water Gardens will feature family-friendly entertainment, activities and games for children and pets. For more information about the festival, email festival@tcgpwa.org. For vendor information email vendors@tcgpwa.org.

The Tarrant County Pride Picnic will be held from noon-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at the 7th Street Pavillion in Trinity Park. Organizers noted that the picnic

was moved to the 7th Street Pavillion because the original picnic site is under construction. The picnic includes the annual Treasure Hunt and Pet Fest. The Pet Fest activities include a "Best in Theme" contest, a Pet Parade with prizes and Best Trained and Best Tricks competitions. For more information email info@tcgpwa.org. TCGPWA.org.

— Tammye Nash



MEMORIES

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places like that. We'd ask to use those photos, and people would say, "That's just a photo of me and my friends from Pride in 1975 or 1980. Who wants to see that?" But young people today need to see those images, too. They need to see queer people just living, existing, figuring it all out.

"That roots us. It grounds us. That's what we need," Riemer said. "We have a lot left to do, but I feel like we are show-

ing folks that they are not alone in the great space and time continuum. We want them to see that queer people have always been there, that we have every right to be here, and here's how we've done it all along."

Brunchin' in N'awlins begins at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at 2616 Commerce Street in Dallas. Matthew Riemer will be guest speaker. Food by Chef Blythe Beck of Pink Magnolia and entertainment by Bree and the Fellas. General admission tickets start at \$75, and VIP tickets start at \$125. Visit DallasHopeCharities.org/events.



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■ commUNITYvoices

I survived HIV. Now what?

Confronting suicide in long-term survivors

For most, being diagnosed as HIV-positive is no longer a death sentence. The diagnosis no longer prompts the question “How many months do I have,” but rather the need to learn about treatment options and hopefully make informed decisions regarding when to start treatment, safer sex, and other life-prolonging activities.

The medications work in most cases, and the prognosis is good. There is life beyond HIV. This is the story for many being diagnosed and starting treatment, today.

But for those of us who lived through the AIDS crisis of the 1980s and early '90s, that was NOT our experience, and our paths are different from those of our recently-diagnosed brothers and sisters.

I was diagnosed as HIV-positive in 1989. But I chose to ignore it until I began having grand mal seizures in 1992. Eventually the cause of the seizures was found — tuberculosis meningitis. Leave it to me to get TB in my brain! I started various treatments and through some luck, several great doctors, and the advances being made in the field of HIV treatment, I survived.

I'm one of the lucky ones. Mostly, the meds worked for me, though I had to change often due to either drug resistance or side effects. But I lost many friends, and I have questioned why I survived, despite the punishment I have put my body through. How did I survive in spite of myself?

After about 10 years of fighting, I was tired. I felt alone and isolated. I wanted to give up. I tried to kill myself with drugs. That's when I learned I have a pretty durable body. I survived in spite of myself.

Fast-forward 15-ish years, and those same feelings returned. I was working on my master's degree and “going 90 miles an hour.” I thought I was invincible, and then suddenly, I was NOT. I was exhausted; I was lonely despite being married to a wonderful man, and I wanted to give up. I had a plan; I had the pills, and I knew what to do next.



Paul Hassell
Special Contributor



Fortunately, my wonderful husband noticed that something was wrong and wouldn't take “I'm fine” as an answer. This time, I survived because someone reached out. He is also HIV-positive and has been for more than 20 years. He understood part of my struggle without explanation — not as a partner but as someone who has battled HIV and other chronic and fatal illnesses.

While my story continues, others' do not. Death by suicide is one of the facts for many long-term survivors of HIV.

It enters my mind every time I get diagnosed with yet another medical condition. I ask myself, “Do I want to continue?” It's usually just a passing thought, but it's always there. I'm lucky; I have someone to turn to in those times of uncertainty. I have someone who understands, not just as a husband, but as another long-term survivor of HIV.

I searched for treatment options for someone like me — HIV-positive and struggling with thoughts of suicide. I found almost nothing. I contacted my local mental health agency and was told there was nothing beyond the standard resources. I was looking for someone else who might be able to relate to my story — someone who had been on the meds, who had been given less than six months to live, who had seen so many friends die alone, who had been sick for weeks on end, not knowing whether it was the disease or the meds.

I wanted someone like me.

Suicide is often a disease of loneliness, of feeling so isolated from everyone that

death seems like a sweet release. We need connections. We need others. We need to see ourselves, even just a little piece, in others. We need to know that our stories are not all that different from others.

For myself, and others like me, learning to survive despite suicidal thoughts and behaviors could be easier with someone who has walked at least part of our path.

I knew there were programs specifically for persons who were HIV-positive and struggling with addiction, struggling with depression, struggling with grief, struggling with homelessness. But I found nothing for those struggling with suicide. I know I am not the only person who has fought the long battle. I know I am not the only one who wants help but is too tired to tell my story over and over.

I need a space where I can be with others who “get” me for just a few minutes, a space where more can be understood with just a sigh than in 30 minutes of talking, where I can cry for those long lost and still find the willingness to continue for another day on this side with others who understand.

I celebrate every medical advance in both treatment and prevention, and I long for a day when the term “newly-diagnosed” is seldom if ever used. I long for the day when the word “cure” is used in a realistic context. I long for the days when stigma and rejection are a part of society's past.

I long for a day when no one, HIV-negative or positive, needlessly dies by suicide.

Anti-gun-control = pro-murder

Joey Moreno
Contributing Columnist

Anti-gun control is pro-mass shooting. Yes, I said it. From Columbine to Sandy Hook to Odessa, the topic of gun control is always brought up when a mass shooting happens — and then forgotten. When I see my cousin calling Beto O'Rourke a moron for wanting to buy back assault weapons, I know that in her mind, that makes sense. But what does not make sense to me is how it is ok for large amounts of lives to be taken, but it's not for her friend's uncle's feeble gun collection, which he has saved for the "end days," to possibly be confiscated.

A bit alarmist, no? Well, maybe what alarms some is making a dent in their weak American pride vs. the preservation of innocent human lives.

I'm just going to get this first point out of the way. Many times conservatives in our LGBTQ community and people like Fox News commentator Tomi Lahren believe that a "good guy with a gun" can stop a bad guy with a gun. But any time there is a mass shooting, where is this super 'Merican to save the day?

Nowhere to be seen. Why? Because they don't exist. Neither does the logic of having a gun to save you from someone else with a gun.

I recently read a story of a little boy in Florida who got choked with a shoestring at his bus stop. This was an innocent child who did nothing to deserve such an assault, and his outraged mother understandably took to Facebook to speak out against bullying.

But then she says, "Everyone keeps screaming about the problem being a gun problem, but the issue is much deeper; it is a mental health problem!" I disagree.

I mean, it's too bad the boy didn't have an extra shoelace to defend himself with, right? And no, I don't actually think that; I'm just using the good guy/bad guy logic anti-gun control brethren use.

Also, I'd like to note that if this boy's assailant was as disturbed as the mother is making him out to be, this child's life was probably saved by the fact that the bully didn't have access to a gun. As traumatic of an experience I'm sure this



Joey Moreno
Contributing Columnist

was the boy who was attacked, at least he still has a chance at a full life; he has a chance to recover — unlike those children who have died at the hands of mass shooters.

Yes, everyone knows there is a mental health problem in the U.S. This is why we are advocating for better gun safety measures, including universal background checks, the thing private sellers and gun shows definitely don't do.

The Odessa-Midland shooter used the private seller method to evade a background check. Even if

all the automatic rifles were bought up, he still would've had access to even the smallest handgun that could have resulted in the 17-month-old getting shot in the face. This is a direct result of not only lenient gun laws but gun access.

One might say universal background checks are the solution, so everyone should still be able to sell their AR-15s. Who actually needs such a gun? Sure, they can be cool; as a kid, I shot rifles and went to the gun range with my dad, so I can see why someone would *want* to upgrade to something more hardcore. They don't *need* it though, just like millionaires and billionaires don't *need* private jets, although I could see why anyone would want one.

But American lawmakers should not prioritize some people's desire to have a semi-automatic assault-style rifle for



the cool factor of it over the safety of the population.

Many times, conservatives oppose gun control with the claim of being "pro-rights." Let's not forget that there are restrictions on free speech when that speech can cause harm. In *Schenck v. United States (1919)*, Justice Holmes wrote, "The most stringent protection of free speech would not protect a man in falsely shouting fire in a theater and causing a panic.... The question in every case is whether the words used ... create a clear and present danger."

So then why should we allow the argument of protecting the Second Amendment right to bear arms to also protect someone causing panic and presenting a clear and present danger?

In other words, why should we allow someone to obtain an object which statis-

tically causes a higher chance of harm? The answer is, we shouldn't.

On average, 100 Americans are killed by guns in a single day. There have been only six known deaths *total* regarding e-cigs/vapes and our president has already, within a day of this story breaking, using the FDA to ban this product. So the selfish hero fantasy which comes along with the rabid loyalty to "core American values" is really just being ok with murder as long as it involves a gun. Ultimately, being anti-gun control, inherently, admit it or not, is basically an approval of all the mass shootings which have occurred in the United States. ■

Joey Moreno is a local artist/author working on his first novel. He serves on the Stonewall Democrats of Dallas Voter Registration Committee and volunteers for the Bernie Sanders campaign..

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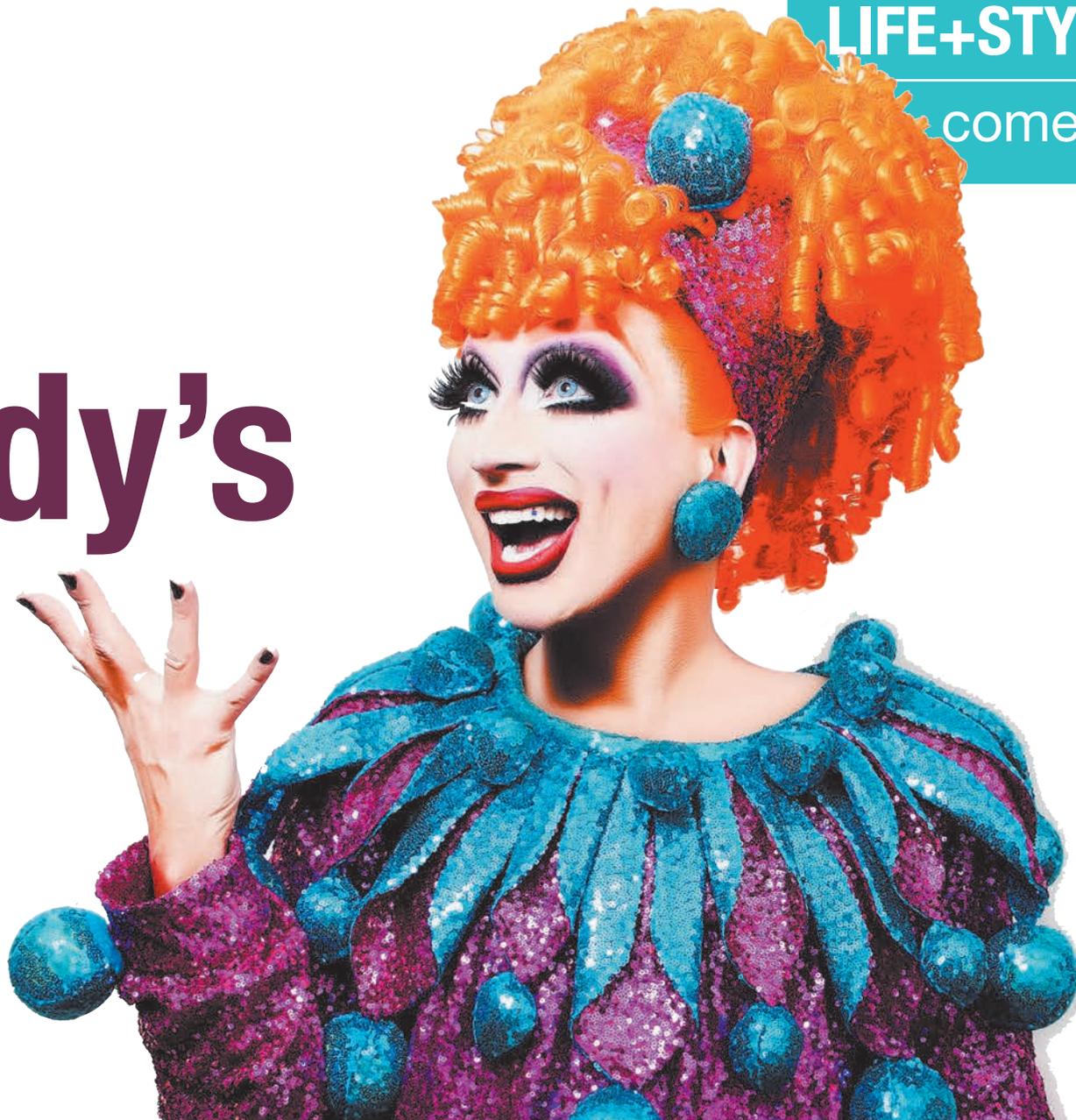
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Photos courtesy Rene Koala.

'Clown in a Gown' Bianca Del Rio talks death-drop disdain, bachelorettes in gay clubs and having no regrets

Bianca Del Rio is in Stockholm on her It's Jester Joke Tour, still subject to the fraught human realities of traveling despite her top-tier queen status. And packing — don't remind her. "As a drag queen, you travel with so much shit," says Del Rio (aka Roy Haylock).

Famous for her tart candor, the Louisiana-born stand-up comedian's success is a result of saying what she thinks and not caring what you think. And you, of course, already know this if you witnessed the self-proclaimed "Clown in a Gown" reign over the other crown-pining contestants during Season 6 of *RuPaul's Drag Race* in 2014.

Five years later, Del Rio, who has written a book, *Blame It on Bianca Del Rio*, and starred in her own films — *Hurricane Bianca*, filmed partly in Dallas, and its sequel — is still coming out on top. In June, New York magazine named Del Rio one of the 100 "Most Powerful Drag Queens in America." Just before bringing her worldwide comedy tour stateside — she settles into the Majestic for the Dallas leg on Nov. 9 — Del Rio continues to voice controversial opinions: defending bachelorettes who celebrate at gay clubs, predicting an inevitable Lizzo backlash and roasting *Drag Race* queens who use emotional manipulation to get ahead in the competition.

— Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: What is the one thing you absolutely cannot leave home without?
Bianca Del Rio: I'm a drag queen — there

are so many elements. I definitely need makeup. But a razor, I would assume. The problem is, with drag you have to travel with so much stuff. You have to bring size 12 shoes, extra eyelashes; you can't really find that stuff just anywhere. Definitely not in Stockholm. So I have to pack a lot of stuff... a lot more than I usually would like to admit.

How many suitcases do you travel with?

Four suitcases. Three of those are drag, one of them is what I call my "boy bag." It's just to have options. The airport struggle — the security, the baggage, all that shit — really does start to wear on you.

And imagine if you went through airport security as — well, maybe you do go through as Bianca. I've never had to fly in drag, thankfully!

As a self-proclaimed expert on nothing who has an opinion on everything, I need your take on John Travolta nearly giving Taylor Swift impersonator Jade Jolie a VMA because he mistook her

for the actual Taylor Swift. I mean, it's hysterical. Obviously he's got delusion problems. He's not dealing with a full deck right now. He also is a Scientologist, which goes to show it. And he had that Adele Nazeem moment. Either he's a drunk or he takes a pill or he just doesn't fucking care. I was just glad to see he was not wearing a wig. There's a rarity! So, you know, he's embracing his non-wig self. Next he'll admit that he's gay.

That he confused them — was it a compliment to Taylor or to Jade? To Jade, because she's a Taylor Swift impersonator. I think it's great. I think it's an honest mistake, because to be fair I can't tell any white girls apart.

As Bianca, do you ever confuse people? I do meet-and-greets, and when you have meet-and-greets, people are always like, "Oh, I just saw you in Stockholm!" or "I saw you in London!" and I have to really think. You do 150 people a night as

Rainbow tour



Dallas Voice: How did you assemble this year's Q3 lineup? Poppy Champlin: I use Sandra on my Texas tour a lot because her sister can house us! Sandra has her sister down in Austin, so we're sort of using that as a base. And because we're going from Dallas to Austin to San Antonio, it's kind of that spot in the middle. And then KeLanna, I found her online really, searching for new people to use. And I saw that she did a Kevin Hart special, and I watched her set and thought she was great. And I'm always trying to bring fresh comedy to the tour, so I asked her if she wanted to be part of it.

How would you describe the styles of comedy for each of the comics? Champlin: Sandra and I are similar in the fact that we both like to add singing to our show. But you know, she's Latina, and so she brings that Latina flair to the show. And Texas definitely has a lot of Latino people. I'm really happy to have her on. And then KeLanna is African-American. I like to keep it very diverse in that respect as well.

Female standups sweep through Texas

Poppy Champlin has worked in standup comedy since 1982, but it wasn't until about 14 years ago — soon after coming out of the closet — that she was inspired to create a phalanx of lesbian comedians, and Queer Queens of Qomedy was born. Q3 has become a staple on Texas stages in the years since and returns for 2019 with a swing through the Lone Star State, featuring Champlin and Laredo-based Sandra Valls, pictured.

We chatted with Champlin and Valls prior to their matinee in Dallas on Sunday (which will also include Dallas resident KeLanna Spiller, who was featured in *Kevin Hart Presents: Hart of the City*), followed by Austin (Sept. 17), Fort Worth (Sept. 18 with Crist Guzman), San Antonio (Sept. 20) and Houston (Sept. 21), about performing in Texas and what makes for a successful standup. ■

— John Carder McClanahan

QUEER QUEENS OF QOMEDY

Hyena's, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane. Sept. 15, 4 p.m. **Hyena's**, 425 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m. HyenasComedyNightclub.com.

What advice would you give to new queer comedians starting out? Sandra Valls: Be true to yourself. And that goes for anybody doing anything, not just comedy. If you want to be a painter, if you want to be an artist, if you want to be a carpenter, if you want to be a bus driver, if you want to be a teacher, just be yourself; be your authentic self, and follow what your mission on earth is. We all have a mission on earth. We're born for a reason, not to just take up space. I'm very spiritual about this. We're born here for a reason to add

and contribute to the planet to make it a little better than it is. Some people aren't awakened to that yet. But there's a place at the table for everyone. You tell yourself, "There's no one like you."

How do Texas audiences react to the queer subject matter in your sets?

Champlin: The first time I came to Fort Worth was a really long time ago, like, probably 10 or 12 years ago. And I got one columnist to write about the show. But he said he was going to do it from a Christian point of view. I'm like, OK, and then, he wrote a pretty good review and everything. But at the end, he wrote, "Unfortunately, these three girls are all going to hell." I was like, "Oh, my gosh!" That was pretty shocking.

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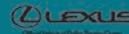
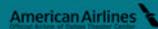
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7 cast recordings to add to your playlist (or not)

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

The Tony Awards were only in June, and already nominated shows have closed and new ones have opened, including some of the bigger, more promising musicals. Last season failed to ignite a runaway smash the way *The Book of Mormon*, *Kinky Boots* or *Hamilton* have done in recent years.... At least until *Moulin Rouge!* opened eight weeks ago. Still, there has been a resurgence in original cast recordings, particularly of *original* musicals (only one revival in this list). So here is our roundup of the latest musical scores. Expect to hear most of them on local stages in the coming seasons.

Hadestown

The big dog at the Tonys this year was this allegory, which has been bouncing around as workshops, concept albums and smaller productions for more than a decade. All that tinkering has resulted in a lovely hybrid of Americana and Greek myth — part *Porgy & Bess*, part *Passing*

Strange, part Delta blues.

In a post-apocalyptic landscape that musically sounds like early 20th century folk music, Orpheus (Reeve Carney) and Euridyce (Eva Noblezada) fall in love, but are also cursed with eternal tragedy. The familiar story is narrated by Hermes (Andre De Shields, whose aching voice cuts into like an emotional buzzsaw), with rhyming couplets in between the down-home, funky-blue-grassy lyrics. The book, music and lyrics are by Anais Mitchell, whose understanding of the rhythms of jazz, R&B and even free verse and the use of slide guitar and woodwinds gives the album a sense for sitting around a campfire at midnight, as if Tom Waits were regaling with stories of our collective past. It's a hypnotic score and one of the most immersive cast albums of recent vintage.

The Prom

The presence of Beth Leavel — the drowsy chaperone from *The Drowsy Chaperone* — and a book co-written by Bob Martin might clue you in early about the tone and camp factor of *The Prom*. Leavel plays a famous, self-important actress named Dee Dee Allen, whose latest show becomes an unexpected flop. She and her costar (Brooke

Ashmanskas) decide to take up a cause to humanize themselves and choose the plight of a queer high school student banned from bringing her girlfriend to prom. *We're gonna help that little lesbian whether she wants it or not*, the actors proudly sing (while the student opines: *Note to self: Don't be gay in Indiana*). Director Casey Nicholaw's super-gay sensibility (he also did *Something Rotten!* and *Book of Mormon*) serves the material perfectly — there's no such thing as "too big" in a Nicholaw show. The composing team of Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin (*Elf*, *The Wedding Singer*) imbue

every number with as much elbowing to the ribs as a torso can stand. By the time of "The Lady's Improving," Leavel's second-act showstopper, you'll wanna jump to your feet.

In addition to the ironic indictment of theaterfolk who take up "causes" for "the little people," it tells a beautiful story of a gay teen romance with smarts and sensitivity. *The Prom* is up there with *Avenue Q* and *Hairspray* for being fun, catchy and subversive simultaneously.

Moulin Rouge! The Musical

Baz Luhrmann probably doesn't get



the credit he deserves for transforming the jukebox musical. Although collecting disparate songs in an improvised plot has been around since at least the Gershwins were on the Hit Parade, the idea of magpieing pop, rock, folk and more from different eras and artists and illuminating character as well as story can draw a straight line to Luhrmann's 2001 film *Moulin Rouge*. And we have been inundated with patchwork musicals ever since (*Motown*, *Disaster!*, *Cruel Intentions*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, to name a sparse handful).

Moulin Rouge was among my favorite films of 2001, but when I rewatched it recently, it didn't hold up as well as I'd hoped. So I was concerned slightly by the prospects of the Broadway version, which opened this summer. And the cast recording proves Luhrmann has captured lightning in a bottle twice.

You can tell that the plot is essentially the same, as is its vibrant energy. (The soundtrack captures an amazing sense of place and interaction.) But while many of the songs that Luhrmann curated two decades ago have remained — "Lady Marmalade," "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend," "Your Song," "Nature Boy" — he and book writer John Logan recognize that the point of the show (as with his *Great Gatsby* film adaptation) is that contemporary music conveys a lot of cultural touchstones. It's the same reason *Hamilton* feels so immediate with a mixed-race cast, adding an urgency to historical characters. So the inclusion of Katy Perry's "Firework," Beyonce's "Single Ladies," Pink's "Raise a Glass," Lady Gaga's "Bad Romance" and more all but reboot the significance of the show. And the engineering of the album couldn't be better, nor the vocal performances by Karen Olivo, Aaron Tveit, Danny Burstein as the rest of the cast. What a treat to rediscover this modern classic... made even more modern in this rendition.

Be More Chill

When *Be More Chill* opened earlier this year on Broadway — it has since closed — it managed only one Tony nomination, for the score, and you can see why. The songs conjure an updated, adolescent version of *Rent*: by way of *Little Shop of Horrors* with a dash of *Mean Girls*: Outcasts (suburban high school losers, not bohemian 20ish urbanites) trying to find their way in the world against obstacles from the



more popular kids. Our hero is Jeremy, a theater dweeb with a crush on Christine, but a bully who denies him self-confidence. Then the bully offers him a secret to popularity: A pill, called a SQUIP, which contains a quantum nano computer that tells the taker how to sound cool. (Basically, the opposite of the Hormone Monster from *Big Mouth*.)

Joe Iconis' music is ebullient with a techno influence, his lyrics campy fun if not unavoidable earworms. You can pretty well see where the story is headed (popularity is a drug! SQUIP is an insidious Faustian double-edged sword — it gives what you wish for, and takes away what you need, and Jeremy becomes an insufferable douchebro. But it's all told with such angst-y good nature, who cares?

Tootsie

David Yazbek has been turning out musical scores at an alarming rate for the last 20 years (five full scores, plus additional music for other shows). But even as occasionally catchy as his songs might be ("Let It Go" from *The Full Monty*... before *Frozen* usurped it), his shows (including *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*), have been of middling musical interest. At least they were until his evocative chamber musical, *The Band's Visit*, which won him (deservedly) a Tony in 2018.

His quick follow-up, an adaptation of the 1982 drag classic *Tootsie*, has more in common with his other scores than *Band's*, but amped up a bit. The songs are campy and ironic... perhaps not to the level of *The Prom*, but not bad, though the rhymes can be pretty clunky (especially on a song like "I Like What She's Doing"). Interestingly, even knowing the plot of the movie — about a failed New York actor who achieves success on a soap opera only after

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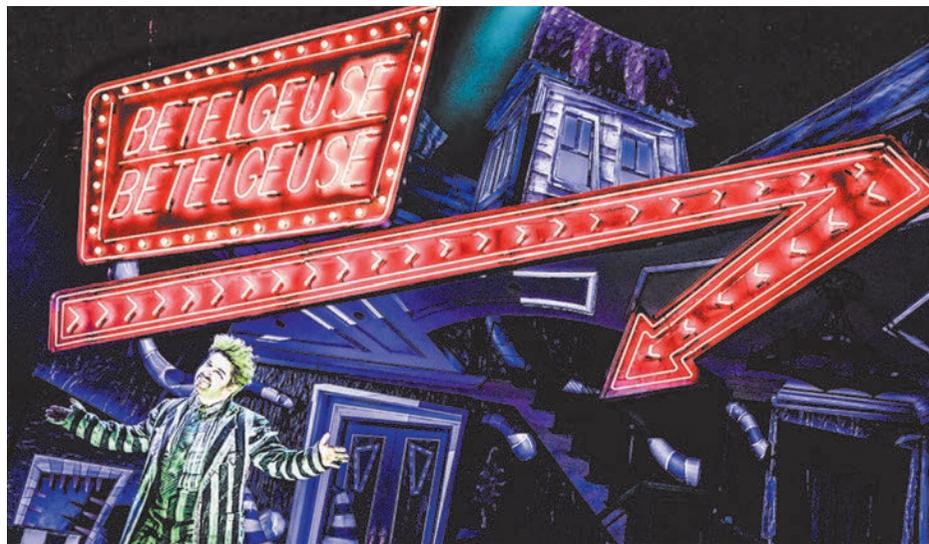


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■ **STAGE** From Page 47

pretending to be a woman — isn't really detectable just by listening to the songs. In that way, they seem to augment story more than to advance it.

Beetlejuice

The trap of *Beetlejuice* is similar to that of the recent live-action film adaptation of *Aladdin*: When the secret sauce of the source material is the insane personality and improvisational skills of the central character (Robin Williams, Michael Keaton), trying to recreate such snappy energy is a minefield. And even if you can do it onstage, translating it *again* for a cast recording, absent the costumes, lighting and physical contortions is yet another bridge to cross ... sadly, a bridge too far. Although the score begins with a whiff of Danny Elfman's sympathetic vibration of Tim Burton's aesthetic, including Theremin and a

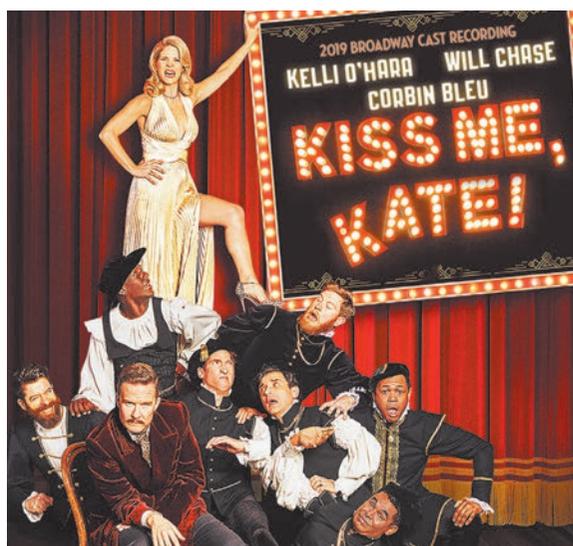
sing "The Banana Boat Song" instead of lip-synching to Harry Belafonte's scratchy vinyl version; it loses its charm and creepiness.) While some numbers, like "No Reason," capture the oddly ebullient fatalism of Burton, most songs are haunted by the suspicion that they must work better if you could just see the production; but you can't, and the score alone simply cannot scare up much enthusiasm.

Kiss Me, Kate

Moulin Rouge isn't the only familiar musical to be reworked. Cole Porter was his own jukebox, cobbling shows together from individual songs, until he was tapped for *Kiss Me, Kate*, and composed all the songs to propel the story. The resulting catalogue — the Viennese waltz "Wunderbar," the operatic "So In Love Am I," the comic "Brush Up Your Shakespeare" — be-

came entrenched in the Great American Songbook. The 2019 Broadway revival, with Kelli O'Hara, updated some #MeToo groaners (the title and lyric to "I Am Ashamed that Women Are So Simple" was modified, for instance), but others of Porter's notorious double entendres remain intact. Is it right that their pronunciation of "Padua" bugs me? Or that you can feel the creakiness of the original, even with the updates? (A joke about the Kinsey Report would have been timely in 1948; today

it might go by unnoticed entirely.) Revivals of this type — and I'd include the recent *Hello, Dolly* — are probably better served by seeing them live. But, I mean, *Cole Porter*...? You could do worse. ■



silly tone, it quickly devolves into sing-songy melodies and rap where singing would be better; Alex Brightman, who plays Beetlejuice, does not have a mellifluous voice by any definition. One misguided decision? Having the actors



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part of the meet-and-greets, so it's very hard to remember. There's usually some characteristic that gets me there, but on occasion I've been like, "Have we met before?!" And they'll say, "No." I'm like, "Oh... OK. Thought we did." So it can fuck with you, with that many people a night. But I really haven't mistaken anybody for anybody of importance, no.

If John Travolta met you, who knows who you might be mistaken for. Who cares! I'm not interested! He's not high on my list.

Who is high on your list? I think every gay man would say Dolly Parton. She's that rare one that is almost like some mythical creature. She's just one of those who I love not only because she's Dolly Parton, and I've grown up with her, but also she's just so fucking funny.

Some people might describe you as a "mythical creature" too. Emphasis on the word "creature," yes. But mythical? No.

This is very controversial in gay bars, so I wonder if this translates to your shows. But do you let bachelorette parties come to Bianca shows? Oh, I don't care. Whoever buys a fucking ticket, I don't give a shit. Gurl, listen: I think people have lost their minds. The gays don't even wanna be in the gay bars anymore!

They're all on a fucking app anyway. Nobody is even paying attention. And look: At least somebody's in the bar. Somebody has to buy a drink to keep gay bars open. You can't rely on gay men to do that. So look, let the girls come in, let them have a good time. Not like I've never told a bitch to shut up. You can do that, but you can't be offended. Who cares! As long as they're there having fun, fuck it.

Isn't the point of coming to a Bianca Del Rio show to be offended? First of all, it's important to laugh at ourselves. I laugh at myself, and I laugh at everything that I could possibly laugh at. But I think we've lost that because there's so much with social media warriors constantly saying, "You can't say this," and "I'm offended." Well, then, fuck off! If you're offended by me, then don't come and see me. It's very simple. I don't like Kim Kardashian, but I don't spend my life watching her on fucking TV or writing all over her Facebook or Instagram or Twitter saying, "I hate you, you're a piece of shit." I just don't care. You can live a successful life with someone not liking you.

Have you always been the kind of person who says what some people really want to say but are too scared to say? Has that always been your style? Always. Yeah, yeah.

As a kid? Yeah, as a child everything was always funny to me, and I would always try to find humor in all of it. It's just what you have to do. It was just my survival skills. Imagine being different, being artsy, being gay. All that definitely can either turn on you, or you can find a way through it, and that was just my way through it, which is being blunt and upfront. And the people who got it — usually the smart ones — understood it.

When did you know you could get away with more if you put on a costume? When I got paid. I always said it, but it wasn't until the packaging came with it. And it's not so much that I can get away with more — it's just what's easier for people to accept. For instance, with drag in particular, the average person would think, "I have nothing of interest with a drag queen." But when they see it, they're kind of fascinated by it. So, for me, it was just this evolution into it. I mean, I could totally live my life without being in drag, and I probably will. I'm not doing this forever.

What do you think your post-drag life will look like? That's the stupidest question! I have no idea! I know I don't want to be schlepping around the world in a wig and heels at 60, I can tell you that. It's one of those things where I'm like, look, it's been 24 years so far, I'm all right, but I know it's

not forever. And I have no idea. I didn't plan this far. So I don't know what the fuck I'll be doing. But it'll be something fun, that's for sure.

You once said it's important to know your limits. What new limits have you set for yourself at 44? I said I didn't want to do drag at 40, because at the time I think I was 37 and it was right before *Drag Race*, and so I was working a regular job in New York City during the day making costumes for Broadway and then at night working in a club. So at that point, 18 years of working in the clubs and trying to stay afloat — and the bars were fading, not many people were coming out like they used to, so New York nightlife completely changed, and I thought I could wrap this up at 40 and be OK. I'd had a great 20 years and that would've been that. But then at 38 — well, 37 is when I filmed *Drag Race* — it shifted everything, it elevated everything, and I was ready for the challenge. But I don't think I want to stay in that particular game. I mean, no one should. No one should stay in something just because you've been doing something. You have to trust your instincts and move on. I definitely know this is not something I want to do forever on this level. It's demanding — and by no means am I bitching about it. I'm being realistic here. Options!



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After your controversial remark during Montreal Pride about *Drag Race* Season 10 contestant Blair St. Clair in 2018, did that have you reconsidering how far to push the envelope? First and foremost, I have a problem with, when you're watching a drag show, and everybody has an ailment or an issue or loves to tug at your heartstrings to try to get people to like you. That's what I was discussing. [During her set, Del Rio said, "You got the one going 'Ugh, I'm fat.' Then you got the other one going 'Ugh, I'm a black queen,'" referencing Season 10 contestants Eureka O'Hara and The Vixen. She then mentioned Blair St. Clair opening up about being sexually assaulted: "Then you got that other bitch, 'I was raped!' No, fuck you..."] I was discussing someone being left at a bus stop, somebody being sick.



All of that is part of the nonsense of being part of a reality show. And I'm entitled to an opinion when someone's about to lip sync for their life, and they start pulling out all this fuckery. There's a time and place to discuss serious topics. So my joke was about people that find any way to bring up their heartache and pull on heartstrings; that's what I was discussing.

And so no, I refuse to change anything that I say and do, because, like I said, the people who like it, like it; the people who don't don't. But as they have an opinion about me, I can have an opinion about the ridiculousness of a drag show. It's my take on it. And I'm living proof that you can get through the show without fucking crying in every episode, for cripes' sake!

I laugh at the fuckery. I laugh at the stunts and gimmicks. It's no worse than somebody doing a death-drop. It's been done! Just fucking be entertaining! I'm so sick of all these sob stories! That's what that's about.

I'm guessing that even though you were named one of America's most powerful drag queens, it's not true that with great power comes great responsibility. I think that's absolutely ridiculous. There's a list that says I'm No. 1; there's another list that says I'm the worst drag queen. That's just how it works! None of that means anything. And what's this responsibility? I'm a fucking man in a wig making a living. I'm not a fucking superhero. And don't put me on a pedestal, because I shouldn't be on a pedestal, because they love to put you on a pedestal and then tear you the fuck down. You cannot fool me. They love to say, "you're amazing." Like, look, this girl Lizzo is the one everybody loves right now. Just give her a year and there's gonna be something someone is gonna bitch about and pull out and say "she did this" and say "She did that" and cancel her. That's how they are. That's just the world. So look: I'm not looking for that

type of acceptance. And you shouldn't be putting faith in fucking people that are on reality shows, for cripes' sake. That's ridiculous. People that idolize me or Snooki have problems.

Referring to the way the queens are depicted on *Drag Race* versus their actual persona, you said recently, "I've been behind the curtain, it's kind of weird to watch." Do people get a better understanding of who you are from your shows than they did from *Drag Race*?

Yes and no. The thing is you can only be yourself when you're on television, and of course if you say something they're going to use it. So the people that say, "Oh, it's the editing?" Well, if you didn't say it, they wouldn't have the footage. I've accepted responsibility for everything I said and everything I did, and sadly a lot of people don't do that when they leave the show. They have to blame someone, and it won't be themselves.

If you could have been on a different season of *Drag Race*, which season of girls would you have wanted to compete against? I don't care. I don't have an opinion. I can't even remember who was on what season when! It's that much of a blur. It was six years ago, and I never watched the show when it was airing. I would watch marathons, but I would never watch it weekly, night after night after night. I never followed. The only seasons I'm familiar with are four and five; the rest of them have become a blur. And, I mean, a lot of them are my friends, but I can't remember which season they were on. I'm also a firm believer that it happened, it was great, I had a great experience and a great moment, but I wouldn't change any of it.

So if an *All Stars: Winners* season ever happens, would you be interested in competing? Nope. Why? Would you go back to high school?

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Practical magic

Electri-gician Daryl Howard
conjures up a second career

JOHN CARDER MCCLANAHAN |
Contributing Writer
john.mcclanahan@gmail.com

For decades, Daryl Howard woke from bed every morning to adjust wires and fix electrical circuits. Trained as a master electrician, Howard carved out a successful business for nearly 40 years. But even though the way electricity actually works may seem like sorcery to mere mortals like us, after a while, it failed to spark the same excitement in Howard. So he decided to pull a rabbit out of his hat and pursue a second career in the illusionary arts.

When Howard is not overseeing his business as an electrician, he performs close-up magic, usually for private events. He recently showed his act aboard a yacht cruising Lewisville Lake for partygoers celebrating a man's 40th birthday.

Howard describes himself as a strolling-style magician, someone who does not rely on huge stage props, but rather up-close techniques marked by flashes of sleight-of-hand.

"That's what I love the most, because that sort of magic is happening right there," he says. "I love Penn and Teller and David Copperfield and all those guys, but when you're watching that [kind of] magic show, you know there's equipment hidden somewhere right behind the curtain or under the floor somewhere. I look at those stage illusions, and I think, 'Could I recreate that same effect without all that equipment? Or just my bare hands?'"

His plan is to become a full-time entertainer, dazzling people with



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A promotional image for Sex and the City Drag Brunch featuring four drag queens in various outfits, including a pink dress and a red dress.

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A promotional image for Harry Potter and the Drag Queen Brunch featuring a drag queen dressed as Hermione Granger, holding a wand.

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Avner's evolution



Chef Avner Samuel joyfully slices a bit of Iberico ham. The leg is a centerpiece of his kitchen. (Photos by Arnold Wayne Jones)

Chef Samuel revives his Nosh concept in Preston Hollow, and this next-level bistro raises the culinary stakes in Dallas

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Let's get something out of the way from the outset: Nosh Bistro — which opened last month in Preston Hollow in the space previously occupied by the now-shuttered Dish — is turning out some of the best food around right now. Not best for a *new* restaurant. Not even *in Dallas*. But rather, *the best food around*. It's a stunner. But there are explanations for just why that's so.

It helps to know a bit of local culinary history. In the summer of 2004, a restaurant named Aurora opened on Oak Lawn and immediately electrified the Dallas food scene with its sophistication and French-tinged recipes, as well as its hefty menu prices. After about six years, Aurora gave way to Nosh a more down-scale version with a lighter vibe, lower prices and more accessible cuisine. Nosh continued for another four years or so until it closed for good.

So the sudden reappearance this summer — teased for months through cryptic social media posts — that the same chef was opening a concept called Nosh Bistro seemed like it would be a further evolution of the original cuisine: American dishes with Euro sensibilities,

attainably priced and conceived. It would be open for lunch and dinner from the start. The word “bistro” alone conveys a casualness that the old Aurora intentionally eschewed.

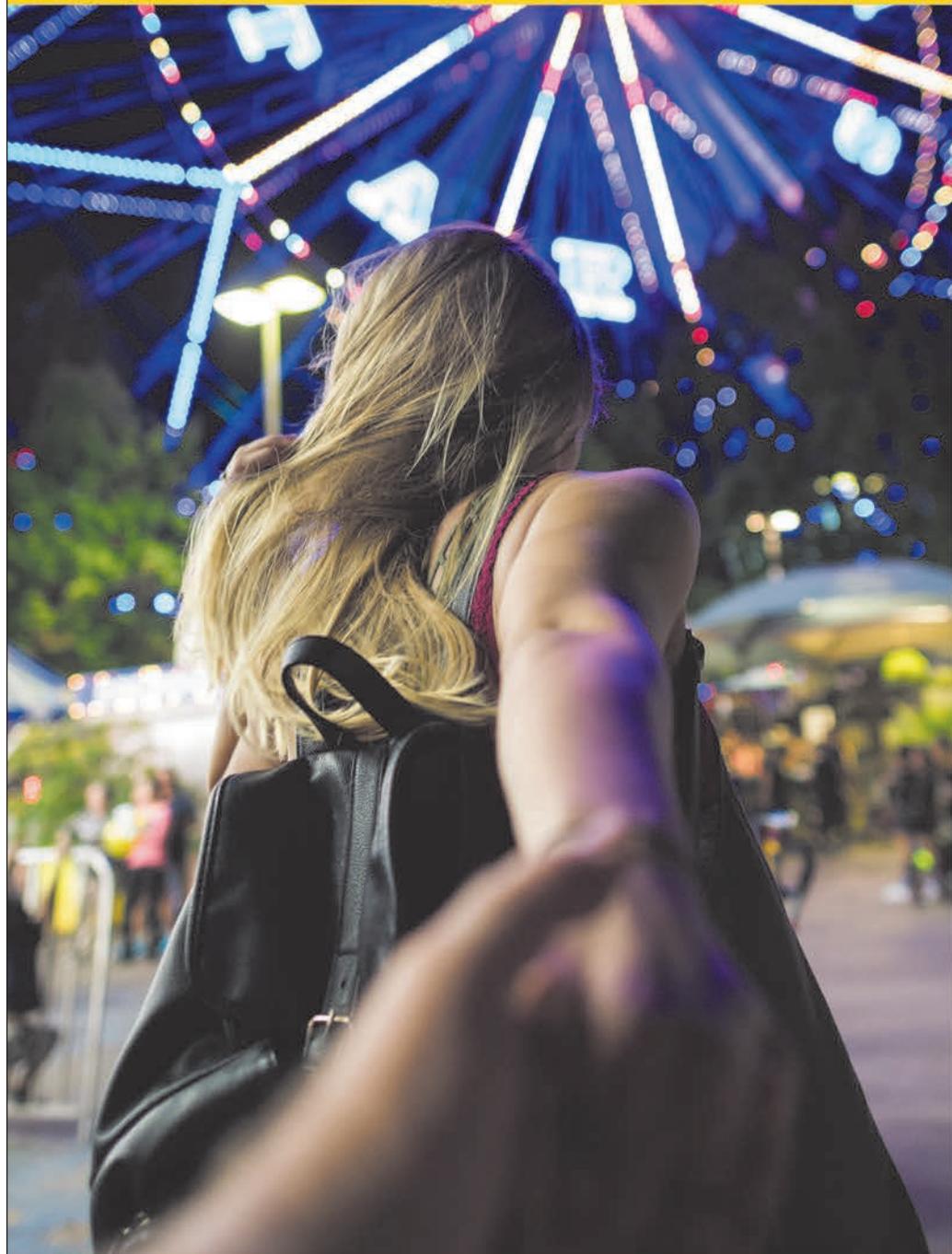
The first time we entered, that still seemed possible. There's a chalkboard near the entry with daily specials. The decor suggests Mid-Century Modern filtered through the colorful lens of the 1960s (a faux Peter Max painting dominates the main room), with tons of natural light, mossy, muted, autumnal pastels and arching walls that promise more just beyond each curve.

Then the first dish arrived. And the second. And third. After three visits, we knew this wasn't some easy



Chicken with summer truffle and pommes frites.

■ AVNER Page 58



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Drawing Dallas

Cute young couple
Shanda and Kierstin
hear wedding bells

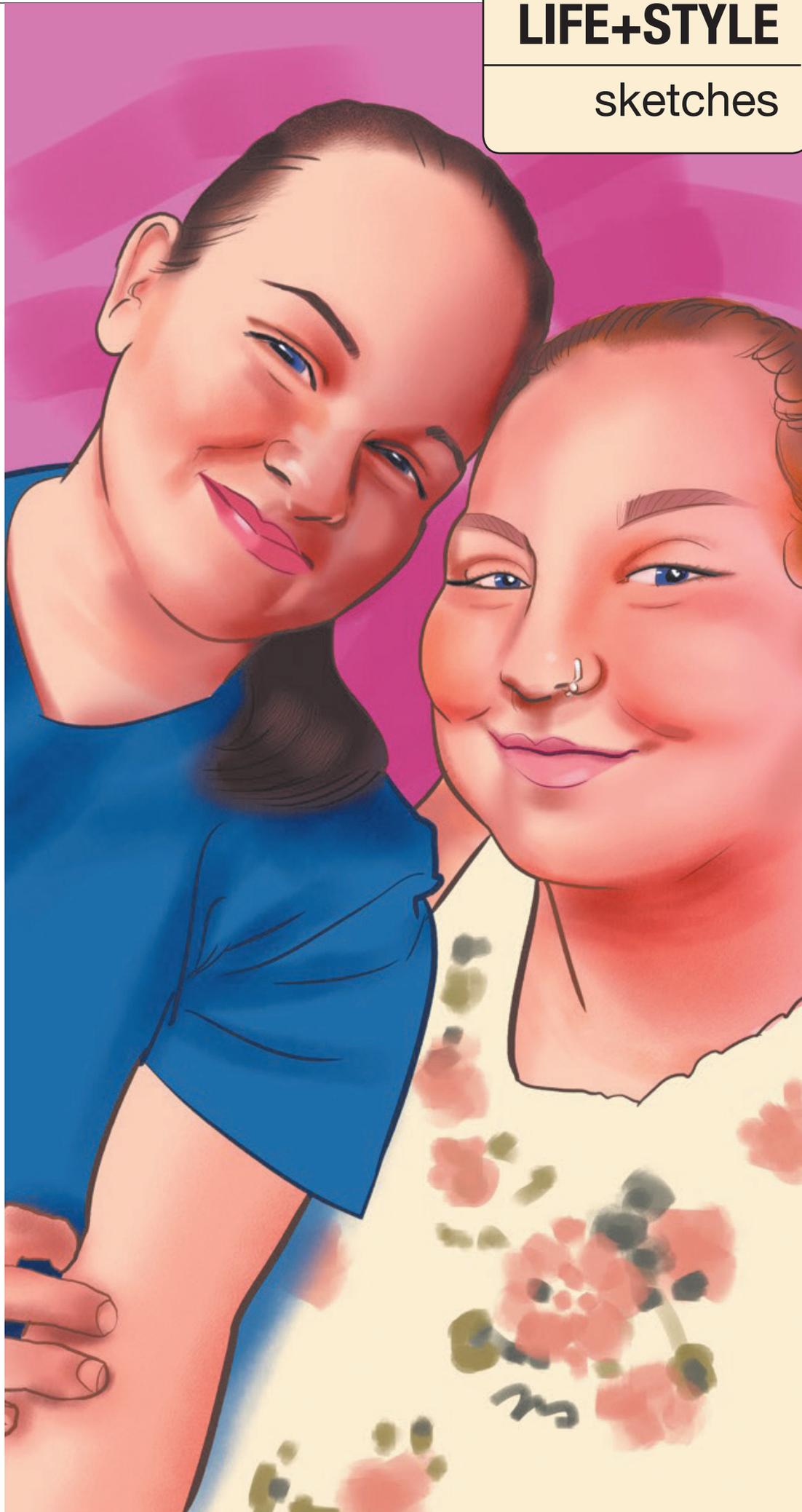
MARK STOKES |
Illustrator
mark@mstokes.com

Names and age: Shanda
Marie Bunting, 23,
and Kierstin Leigh
Rollins, 27.

Spotted: Downtown
Carrollton

Gregarious Shanda hails from Salina, Kansas, and bold, blonde Kierstin is a Denison, Texas native. Romance began for this lovely couple two years ago, when Kierstin found herself seated in server Shanda's section at the IHOP in Denison. Between pancakes and eggs over easy, sparks began to fly for these two, who have set the date for their wedding on July 15, 2020.

Kierstin is studying and working towards a career as a criminal profiler, and Shanda is finishing school now for neonatal nursing. They enjoy going out to new places and old favorites like Six Flags Hurricane Harbor. Shanda loves kids and helps out with her adopted 12-year-old aunt, and her nephew.



LIFE+STYLE

sketches

‘Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice’



Quick question — and take your time before answering: With which one genre of music is Linda Ronstadt most beholden to? It’s a puzzler. When she started, it was as a country crossover artist. Then she went full-on pop with hints of rock; she was at the fore of the folk/roots movement. Then Broadway musicals, jazz/standards and even Spanish-language (her paternal grandfather was Mexican). The inability to pigeonhole her set her apart from her contemporaries but also infuriated her managers.

“People would think I was trying to reinvent myself, but I never invented myself to start with,” she reflects.

She had the last laugh — in her career, she won 12 Grammy Awards, including separate life achievement trophies from the regular *and* Latin Grammys. And you get the full sense for that breadth of talent in the new documentary *Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice*.

It helps if you’re already a fan: The structure is pretty standard: A chronological recantation of her catalogue with recorded performances commented upon a who’s-who of ’70s rock icons, from producer David Geffen to music journalist (now filmmaker) Cameron Crowe and stars Don Henley, Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, Dolly Parton and more. It plays a bit too much like a love fest (and I love her; directors Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman — *Common Threads, The Times of Harvey Milk* — would seem to as well).

But even if you’re not already a convert, you’re likely to become one. Ronstadt was a pioneer as the female lead of a male-dominated rock band, and her contribution to the culture at large — including her more controversial hippie-dippie reputation during her time as the girlfriend of California Gov. Gerry Brown and her outspokenness of liberal political views — is undeniable.

After teasing the fact that Ronstadt has been diagnosed with Parkinson’s since 2013 and can no longer sing, it takes until the waning minutes for the film to get into the meat of where she stands today. Ultimately, that’s probably a positive thing; her career of the past resonates still. At 73, her clarion soprano may only be a memory, but her passion lives on in her music. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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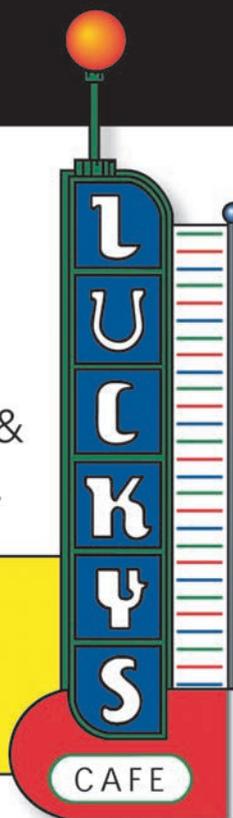
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■ AVNER Page 54

neighborhood drop-in Or rather, to the extent it is, the food is so elevated as to shake up our understanding of a bistro.

That shouldn't have come as a surprise. The chef-owner, Avner Samuel, has a legit pedigree. He came up in the Dallas food culture alongside Stephan Pyles and Dean Fearing, eventually opening Avner's, then Aurora. The latter was something of a game changer on the culinary horizon. It has a reputation for being expensive (it wasn't cheap, but the quality was undeniable). Some might call it stuffy, but it was more hushed and stately — as refined as a velvet jewel box. It may

have been the last of the true fine-dining establishments to open before the era of the superstar chef as tatted and devilish took hold, where cheffy meals were hidden behind a hipster facade and less courtly surroundings (even while prices crept up). Aurora oozed opulence, on the plate and in the dining room.

Samuel has softened the aura of Nosh Bistro, in design if not execution of the food. And while there is something of the French polish to the menu, what really stands out is the chef's own personality, cultivated through a prism of varying influences.

There are distinctly “New American” ideas at work here: a dessert of donut holes sprinkled with, of all things, Pop Rocks; grilled chicken; mac and cheese. Then come the twists — some French, but many more that are Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Indian. Still on the menu is a holdover from the old menu: Egyptian falafel with a parsley-green interior. The chicken and mac and cheese are garnished with large slivers of black truffle. And there's more.

Samuel explores the flavors from “the Old City” of his childhood (Jerusalem) for inspiration, then devises ways to ennoble and intensify them.

Take the chicken from the lunch menu (\$26): A Meadow Creek Farm cutlet, deboned, truffle slipped under



A ramekin of scrambled egg, butter and summer truffle. (Photo by Arnold Wayne Jones)

the skin, then pressed skin-side down on a skillet until crispy, finished in the oven and decorated with summer truffle, perched atop pomme frites dusted in herbs. The portion is perfect, the flavors bright and fresh. There's an ahi entree (\$26), crusted with za'atar and served with an avocado puree, aubergine and radishes. A perfect warm-weather dish.

But lots of places do ahi and chicken. So why is Nosh Bistro remarkable?

Well, there's the midnight hummus (\$12), so-called because of its inky color. But the flavor, while familiar, is new in some way, like a cross between hummus and baba ghanouch. Which is sort of what it is: Roasted eggplant skins, pulverized into a powder and folded in. My dining companion insisted it's the best hummus he'd ever had; I couldn't quarrel.

Samuel's dinner menu, especially if you splurge for a chef's tasting served omakase style, proves to be a shining demonstration of skill. (The selections, which change daily, are what Samuel finds most popular or best sourced for the moment.)

Our meal began with a flamboyant touch: A yellow tomato gelee upon which sits a square of gold leaf and a mound of osetra caviar (served, with an additional bit of showmanship, on a platform that changes color and

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illuminates the gelatine). You expect it will, perhaps, be slightly sweet, but no: it's savory though light, a late-summer amuse.

Small bites abound: The shocking pink of a filet of hamachi crudo splashed with soy, pickles and chilis was succulent and sprightly. A roasted beet accented by a slice of live scallop, a pool of cucumber dashi and again, osetra caviar. (Like a designer's runway collection, Samuel repeats themes and flavors in unexpected combinations.)

Samuel serves up several tandoori bites, including shrimp and a grilled quail leg with a side of amba-labneh dip that left me shattered. The Nigerian prawns were massive and dramatic, though shrimp that big can easily become too chewy.

The simplicity of some items belies their nimble execution. I was wowed by a loosely-scrambled farm egg, presented in an elegant ramekin and finished simply with butter and strands of truffle (again!). A centerpiece of the kitchen is a leg of Iberico ham with its distinctively nutty-figgy flavor, but served here in a custom porcelain volcano heated with a tea candle that sweats out some of the fat before you pop it in your mouth, savoring its sensual texture and richness. Over and over we were gobsmacked by the purity of flavors singing arias on our tongues.

Nowhere is Samuel's commitment to exposing Dallas diners to a lineup nobody has dared dream in evidence more than the dessert menu (given life by pastry sous chef Diana Zamora).

There are no chocolate lava cakes here, no bread puddings or carrot cakes or creme brulees. And we didn't pass up on any of them. (All desserts are \$14.)

Then again, it's not stuffy, either. When was the last time you saw funnel cake on a restaurant menu?! This version is made of thin disks of latticed fried dough, sandwiching slices of Persian peaches, grilled on a plancha and topped with a cream and edible flowers. Donut holes, as mentioned already, are deep fried dough, yes, but finished with honeyed cherries and sumac, a purplish flower with a lemony character on the palate.

There's the "Knickerbocker glory" (a carnival of sorbets), a halveh with cardamom ice cream and pistachio brittle and, for my money, a showstopper non-pareil: The knafeh, a rustic levantine cheese called akawi wrapped in shards of phyllo, doused in hibiscus syrup and sprinkled with ground pistachios. The knafeh — a magnificent spin on the cheese course — is probably the best *postre* I've ever eaten... and I had it twice.

Barely a month in, Samuel is already planning to tweak the menu, cut some of the prices at lunch, and figure out new ways to excite his patrons. At 63, Avner Samuel no longer has anything to prove except to himself. We are merely the lucky beneficiaries of his education.

Nosh Bistro, 8611 Hillcrest Road. Monday-Saturday open for lunch and dinner, Sunday brunch. NoshBistroDallas.com.



The knafeh of akawi cheese, hibiscus syrup and phyllo is one of the greatest desserts of all time. (Photo by Arnold Wayne Jones)

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Ram's big boy exudes can-do spirit

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
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"What am I going to do with that?" I asked my husband while looking at the 2019 Ram 3500 Laramie Longhorn Crew Cab with four-wheel-drive, dual rear wheels and long box.

"Anything you want," he responded. "But a barn-sized truck won't even fit in our driveway," I replied. Then he offered the clincher: "It's not for decorating our driveway."

The big Ram certainly looks like it *can* do anything, with its big chrome grille, step-down front fenders, long body and bulging dually fenders. Being a Laramie edition, there's more chrome and Light Mountain Brown exterior paint, but all Rams look the part of an over-the-road hoss. Power running boards keep the look clean while LED adaptive lighting brightly bends corners. Beneath the truck's immense size, 17-in. wheels look like dimes.

Put your shoe on the power running board and heave up inside to find a cabin worthy of a private jet. It's pretty posh with a theme I'd label "Texas chic," given premium leather, real wood on the dash/doors and anodized gold trim. Heated and ventilated front seats, heated rear seats and heated steering wheel add comfort, as do automatic climate control and a power sunroof. A large, sleek 12-in. touchscreen controls the 17-speaker Harman Kardon audio system, navigation and climate. Wireless phone charging, Wi-Fi, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto ease connections. Given the Ram's size, you'll appreciate safety features like parking sensors, around view cameras, adaptive cruise with auto stop and blind spot warning.

My only confusion with our truck is its powertrain. It came with the 6.4-liter HEMI V8 engine delivering 410 horsepower and 429 lb.-ft. of torque. Power is routed through a smooth-shifting 8-speed automatic transmission and electronic 4-wheel-drive system. The books say it can tow 13,710 lb. or carry 6,680 lbs. of payload as configured. That's no laughing matter, but I think most buyers will step up to the optional 6.7-liter Cummins turbo-diesel that changes the earth's gravity with 400 horsepower and 1,000 lb.-ft. of torque. That truck can tow up to 35,100 lbs. If

you're going to get a truck, get a truck.

And, there's a lot more to this truck. Ram offers the best-riding pickup in the business thanks to its auto level rear air suspension that not only takes the hop out of bumps but can also be lowered for trailer hook-ups. There's no getting around the very stiff solid axles front and rear, but the ride is relatively smooth given its capability. A gooseneck prep group and transfer case skid plate help get big stuff to the job site and back again.

I guess you could just drive the Ram

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3500 for enjoyment, but I wouldn't recommend it for getting to work and back, unless your work requires a lot of heavy towing. But if you have serious work and want to do it in exquisite comfort, this is your ride. Load up, hook up and haul out. Ram 3500 starts at \$38,500, but

came to \$73,150 as tested. Competitors include the Chevy Silverado 3500, GMC Sierra 3500, Ford F-350 and select models from Kenworth, Peterbilt and International.

Follow the writer on YouTube @ AutoCasey.



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L+S fashion

Tré chic!

Former Dallasite Tré LaVoux debuts at New York Fashion Week

In 2013, we wrote a profile of Dallas-based fashion designer Tré LaVoux for our first-ever Fashion Issue, touting his skills and predicting good things ahead.

Fast forward six years — or, if you're LaVoux work your ass off for six years. LaVoux donated a jacket to the DIFFA Dallas Collection, interned with Nicolas Villalba Couturier and even put in time

working at the now-shuttered Union Jack.

This week, the designer, who moved to New York in 2014 after receiving his BFA from Wade College, made his debut at New York Fashion Week with not one, but two collections — one fall atelier, one *pret-a-porter* resort wear. We hate to say “We told you so...” no, we like it. But what we really want to say is, “Congratulations, Tré.”

Photos courtesy David Warren Images and AJ Photoz Portrait Studio.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



magic — a passion he discovered as a small child. He even performed more shows last year than the previous, and come holiday season, he expects more bookings.

“My goal is to continue to back away little by little, and eventually, completely walk away from the electrical business altogether,” he says.

Howard grew up in North Arlington, and occasionally accompanied his father, a real estate contractor, to some of his work sites. For Howard’s eighth birthday, dad took him to the State Fair of Texas, where he witnessed his first magic show. After the performance, his father walked him up to the stage, where he met Mark Wilson, a renowned Dallas-based magician, along with his wacky sidekicks, one a clown.

“That was what really sealed the deal,” Howard says. “I just became fascinated with magic.”

Soon after, his parents bought him magic kits for Christmas and birthdays. His first kit contained cups and balls, a couple of silk handkerchiefs, a set of metal rings and a cheaply printed card deck. And he began scavenging libraries and bookstores for any read pertaining to magic and magicians.

As a teen, Howard performed his first magic show when a family friend paid him \$10 to put together an act for her son’s 10th birthday party.

“I was nervous about it,” Howard says. “I wasn’t sure if it would go well or not. But it went extremely well, and I wanted to do more.”

Throughout his adolescence, Howard dazzled friends and family with tricks and was certain magic was his professional calling. But his father thought otherwise.

“When I told him that I wanted to be a magician, he laughed at me,” Howard says, with a chuckle. “He said, ‘Come on, son. You need to find a real job.’”

Magic took a backseat when Howard needed to focus on a career. He attended trade school to learn electrical work, while still tinkering with magic on the side — he would often carry a card deck in his pocket.

For years he ran a company, frequently problem-solving on-site issues using handwork skills he says he learned from his father. Then around 2000, Howard stumbled across Wilson performing at a magic convention at the Sheraton Dallas.

“There he was. I went up and shook his hand. I said, ‘You wouldn’t remem-

ber me because I was just a little kid, but you were actually the one who got me interested in performing magic,” Howard says.

Now his childhood passion finally has the spotlight. And Howard feels he can become like one of his magician heroes for the next generation of Harry Potters.

Every year, Howard tries to refine his act using the same work ethic it took him to become a master electrician, though he says jumping into the entertainment industry is not so easy.

“Magic is a lot of fun to perform, but

there’s also a lot of stress,” Howard says. “If you’re doing it professionally, a lot is expected of you. You’re expected to give a certain quality of performance. When someone pays you a paycheck to do a show, you have to be spot on.”

Howard says he’s getting too old to do strenuous electrical work under the Texas sun or in unventilated spaces such as attics (his son-in-law handles day-to-day operations), but during his transition, Howard plans to spend time refining his magic act, adding new tricks and writing new scripts.

He’s on pace to break his record for most shows in a year, performing around 100 last year (more than twice his 2017 total). And as he pursues work in a competitive industry, Howard hopes to network enough to get more bookings.

“It’s like growing a garden,” he says. “You plant the seeds, and you water and fertilize, and you work with it, and you do everything you can to make the plants grow. But they have to do that on their own.”

DarylHowardMagic.com.

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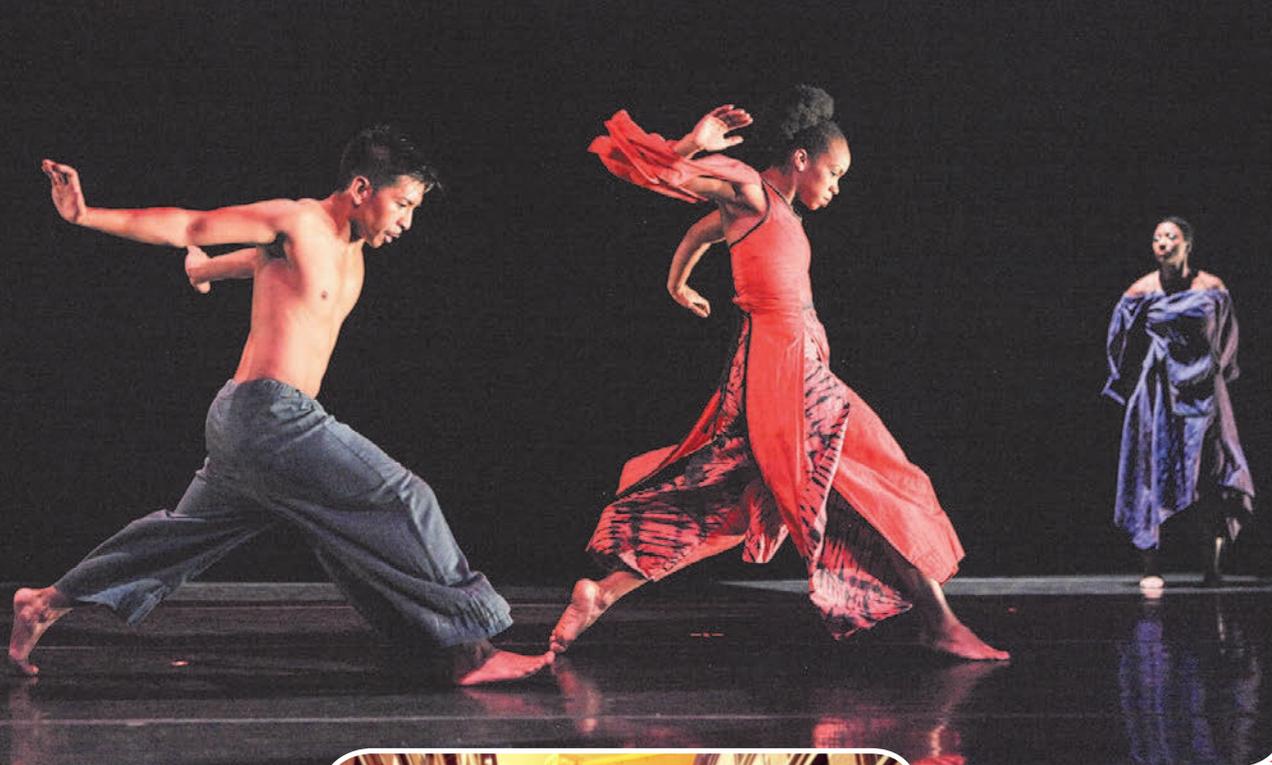
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Friday 09.20

TITAS/Dance Unbound kicks off its new season

The acclaimed choreography by Ronald K. Brown returns to Dallas for another astonishing dance display. Ronald K. Brown/Evidence features beat-filled, soulful performances that dive into themes of community, ritual and collective experience. Those fascinated by mind-bending body movement should not miss this spectacular display.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.

Saturday 09.21 – Sunday 10.20

Lin-Manuel Miranda’s first masterpiece hip-hops into Dallas

From the creator of Hamilton, Dallas Theater Center presents *In the Heights*, a show about life in New York City’s Washington Heights neighborhood, to kick off its 2019–20 season. This musical shows a New Yorker’s perspective on the city’s everyday culture clash using everything from freestyle rap to salsa numbers. Lin-Manuel Miranda won a Tony for *In the Heights*, and now,



the Tony-winning regional theater DTC presents the acclaimed show in Dallas.

DEETS: Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. DallasTheaterCenter.org.



Sunday 09.15

Let it all out at the park

Come have a fun day out in North Texas’ biggest theme park this weekend. Every year, Dallas Voice sponsors an outing (literally) at Six Flags celebrating a day for the LGBTQ community and inviting anyone to celebrate Pride in the park. New rides opened in the spring, including the world’s largest loop coaster El Diablo, a devilish 10-story tall ride featuring six inversions and more hangtime than the park’s other nerve-wracking coasters.

DEETS: Six Flags Over Texas, 2201 E. Road to Six Flags, Arlington. 11 a.m.–7 p.m. SixFlags.com.

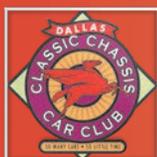
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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

A 3D Adventure. A new play by Matt Lyle. *Final weekend.* Circle Theatre, 230 W. 4th St., Fort Worth. CircleTheatre.com.

Cats. Denise Lee plays Grizabella. Presented by The Firehouse Theatre, 2535 Valley View Lane. Through Sept. 22. FirehouseTheatre.com.

What We Were by Blake Hackler. Second Thought Theatre concludes its 2019 season with this world premiere about three sisters coping with a history of abuse. A co-production with Fort Worth's Circle Theatre. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Sept. 21. SecondThoughtTheatre.com. Production moves to Circle Theatre, 230 W. 4th St. Fort Worth. Sept. 26–Oct. 19. CircleTheatre.com.

DANCE

Pete: A New Musical. Dark Circles Contemporary Dance company stages this world premiere, inspired by Peter Pan. Hamon Hall inside the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Sunday. ATPAC.org.

FINE ART

Dior: From Paris to the World. Retrospective of 70 years of the famed French design house. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Oct. 27 (extended). DMA.org.

A Sampling of Contemporary

Portraiture. An exhibition of the work of five photographers producing compelling new examples of portraiture. Afterimage Gallery, 2613B Fairmount St. Through Nov. 4. AfterimageGallery.com.

Caravaggio: Martha and Mary Magdalene. A stunning work from 1598, on loan to the DMA through the summer. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Free. Through Sept. 22. DMA.org.

SATURDAY 09.14

COMMUNITY

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

SUNDAY 09.15

PRIDE

Out at the Park: Gay Day at Six Flags. Dallas Voice once again sponsors this annual outing to the amusement park, with special packages and discounts available at DallasVoice.com. 2201 E. Road to Six Flags. 11 a.m. SixFlags.com.

COMEDY

Queer Queens of Comedy. Poppy Champlin, Sandra Valls and KeLanna Spiller turn on the laughter for this lesbionic comedy set. Hyena's Comedy Club, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane. \$25 general admission.

MONDAY 09.16

CABARET

Mama's Party. Weekly cabaret night with special guest performances. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St., Grand Prairie. 7:35 p.m. \$10.

TUESDAY 09.17

FILM

Destry Rides Again. Classic comic Western with Marlene Dietrich and James Stewart. An 80th anniversary release. 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 09.18

THEATER

Red Chariot. A world premiere science fiction thriller by Gordon Dahlquist. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Sept. 18–Oct. 13. Undermain.org.

THURSDAY 09.19

CABARET

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

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				C	H	E	E	T	O	C	H	R	I	S	T
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I	R	O	N		T	R	I	P		S	T	E	M		
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214-520-7363

Allen, Ron, CPA
ronallengcpa.com | ron@ronallengcpa.com
2909 Cole Ave., Ste. 119 | 214-954-0042

Greer, Tom A., CPA | Tax Professional
tgreer@whitrocktaxservice.com
6510 Abrams Road, Ste. 367 | 214-998-0916

J Chester & Associates, Inc., CPA
jchesterpcpa.com
8140 Walnut Hill Lane, Ste. 430 | 214-330-4682

ADULT NOVELTIES

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jadeairdallas.com | 214-522-2805

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rescueair.com | 972-351-8307

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Dallas Art Glass | Carlyn Ray Designs
carlynraydesigns.com | 214-741-1442

ATTORNEYS

Covell, Rebecca S. | covellpc.com
3710 Rawlins St., Ste. 950 | 214-443-0300

DebnamRust, PC | An Inclusive Law Firm
debnamrust.com | 214-775-0628

Domingo Garcia Law | domingogarcialaw.com
400 S. Zang Blvd., Ste. 600 | 214-941-8300

Hall, Stephanie | ladylawsah.com
4514 Cole Ave., Ste. 600 | 214-522-3343

Law Office of David C. Cole, PC
adoptlegal.com | 214-363-5117

Julie Johnson, PLLC | juliejohnsonlaw.com
12222 Merit Drive, Ste. 1202 | 214-290-8001

Law Office of Rob Wiley, PC | robwiley.com
2613 Thomas Ave. | 214-528-6500

ATTORNEYS

Olinger Law Immigration | LSOLaw.com
3710 Rawlins St., Ste. 950 | 214-396-9090

Adam L. Seidel, P.C. | www.adamseidel.com
5910 N. Central, Ste. 980 | 214-528-3344

West, Chad, PLLC | chadwestlaw.com
3606 S. Tyler St. | 214-509-7555

BANKS

Capital One Bank | capitalonecareers.com
4208 Lemmon Ave. | 972-728-3900

BATH HOUSE | GYMS

Club Dallas | theclubs.com
2616 Swiss Ave. | 214-821-1990

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CHIROPRACTIC DOCTORS – DC

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2909 Cole, Ste. 205 | 214-979 9013

Tutt, Steven J., DC | drtuttdc.com

4245 Cedar Springs Road | 214-528-1900

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Turtle Creek Chorale
TurtleCreekChorale.com | 214-526-3214

CONSTRUCTION – RENOVATIONS

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renownedrenovation.com | 972-232-7122

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAUS

Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau
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Visit Dallas | visitdallas.com
325 North St. Paul St., Ste. 700 | 800-232-5527

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Dallas Costume Shoppe | dcshoppe.com
3905 Main St. | 214-428-4613

Norcostco Texas Costume | norcostco.com
1231 Wycliff, Ste. 300 | 214-630-4048

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Beckman, Deborah, LPC | Myrick, Tim, LPC
4144 N. Central Expressway, Ste. 520
uptownpsychotherapy.com | 214-824-2009

Caswell, Eddie, LPC
6500 Greenville Ave., Ste. 185 | 214-559-7077

Marcum, Candy, LPC | CandyMarcum.com
4228 N. Central, Ste. 225 | 214-521-1278

Martin, Randy, LPC | martinlpc.com
3626 North Hall St., Ste. 530 | 214-392-8247

Owen, Jimmy, LPC | jimmyowen.com
3838 Oak Lawn, Ste. 1000 | 214-546-8852

DENTISTS

Boyd, Carole Ann, DDS, PC | drboyd.net
4514 Cole Ave., Ste. 905 | 214-521-6261

Terrell, Kevin, DDS, PC | terrelldental.com
2603 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 100 | 214-329-1818

Tseng, Eugene, DDS, PC | eugenetseng.com
3300 Douglas Ave., Ste. A | 214-855-0789

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DJ DELUXE PRODUCTIONS | 214-823-1424

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htgtlectrolysis.com | 682-593-1442

EMERGENCY ROOMS

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EVENT VENUES

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FERTILITY SPECIALISTS

Conceive Fertility | conceivefertilitycenter.com
6750 N. MacArthur, Ste. 209 | 214-224-0778

Fertility Specialists of Texas
fertilitytexas.com | 214-750-5500

FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS

Bloom, Ashley – Edward Jones | 817-605-8474
edwardjones.com/ashley-bloom

Sherman, Judy S., CFBS
Cornerstone Wealth Strategies | 817-366-1119

HOME & GARDEN

North Haven Gardens | 7700 Northaven Road
NHG.com | 214-363-5316

INSURANCE

Alex Long Agency - Allstate Insurance
Allstateagencies.com/AlexLong | 972-570-7000

Irvin, M. Angel - Farmers Insurance
14651 Dallas Parkway, Ste. 110 | 972-367-6200

Steven Graves Insurance Agency
A division of Abco Home Plus Insurance
stevengravesinsurance.com | 214-599-0808

MEDIA

Dallas Voice
The Premiere Media Source for LGBT Texas
dallasvoice.com | 214-754-8710

Lambda Weekly
knor.org/lambda-weekly | 214-828-9500

National LGBT Media Assoc. | 908-232-2021
nationalgaymediaassociation.com

OUT North Texas | outntx.com | 214-754-8710
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Caliber Home Loans | Christian Johnson
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Ramirez, Armando | Loan Officer NMLS 740130
Supreme Lending | 214-263-5507

MOVERS

Fantastic Moves | FantasticMoves.com
10610 Metric, Ste. 175 | 214-349-6683 (MOVE)

OPTICAL GOODS

Fashion Optical | fashionopticaldallas.com
3430 Oak Lawn at Lemmon | 214-526-6006

PHARMACIES

Avita Pharmacy | avitapharmacy.com
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PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS

Barrier, Amy FNP | Prism Health North Texas
219 Sunset Ave., Ste. 116A | 214-526-3566

Daly, Patrick W., MD | Internal/HIV Medicine
3629 Fairmount St. | 214-526-3566

Gillman, Jason, MD | Prism Health North Texas
219 Sunset Ave., Ste. 116A | 214-526-3566

Graneto, Donald, MD | Uptown Physicians Group
4144 N. Central, Ste. 750 | 214-303-1033

Hays, Anthony, MD | Uptown Physicians Group
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Klein, Jennifer, FNP | Prism Health North Texas
219 Sunset Ave., Ste. 116A | 214-526-3566

Lee, David, MD | Uptown Physicians Group
4144 N. Central, Ste. 750 | 214-303-1033

McLaud, Mary, FNP | Prism Health North Texas
4922 Spring Ave. | 214-421-7848

Philips, Kay L., MD Internal Medicine
A Baylor-HealthTexas Affiliate | 214-363-2305

Medical Practice of Dr. Steven M. Pounders
3500 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 600 | 214-520-8833

Rivera, Rachel, MD | Prism Health North Texas
4922 Spring Ave. | 214-421-7848

Rosenthal, Emilija FNP | Prism Health
219 Sunset Ave., Ste. 116A | 214-526-3566

Sinclair, Gary, MD | Prism Health North Texas
219 Sunset Ave., Ste. 116A | 214-526-3566

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deupreej@sbcglobal.net | 214-683-7224

Durstine Jr., George H. | Scottwood Realty, LLC
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Neal, Jeff, ABR | Keller Williams Realty
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Sheshene, Tom | Coldwell Bank Lakewood
tom.sheshene@cbdfw.com | 214-604-9230

Stoll, Tim of JP and Associates | REALTORS®
thinkdallas.com | 214-868-2959

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cremonabistro.com | 214-871-1115

nerdvana food + spirits | nerdvanafrisco.com
5757 Main St., #112 | Frisco | 214-618-9732

Salum Restaurant | salumrestaurant.com
4152 Cole Ave., Ste. 103 | 214-252-9604

Start Restaurant | startrestaurant.net
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The Café at North Haven Gardens
7700 Northaven | NHG.com | 972-338-2233

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NorthStar Roofing | Fencing | Gutters
northstarroofing.biz | 214-274-5596

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fastsigns.com/12 | 214-526-7446

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

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dvannier@vannierengineering.com

SURROGACY

3 Sisters Surrogacy | 3sistersurrogacy.com
877-976-9483

TITLE COMPANIES

Republic Title of Texas, Inc. | republictitle.com
3131 Turtle Creek, Ste. 101 | 214-528-8916

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DART | dart.org
214-979-1111

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thepaugroup.com | 972-241-2000

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AIDS/HIV HOTLINE

214-559-2437

AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK

AIDSInterfaithNetwork.org

AIDS OUTREACH CENTER

Fort Worth, 76111 | 817-335-1994 | AOC.org

AIDS SERVICES OF DALLAS

214-941-0523 | AIDSDallas.org

AMELIA COURT

214-590-5647 | ParklandHospital.com

GREG DOLLGENER MEMORIAL AIDS FUND

972-743-6323 | GDMAF.org

HEALTH SERVICES OF NORTH TEXAS

Plano | 972-424-1480 | HealthNTx.org
Denton South Ctr. | Denton | 940-381-2313
Elm Street Ctr. | Denton | 940-381-1501 x 5000

HEALTH EDUCATION LEARNING PROJECT

Fort Worth | 817-332-7722 | helpfw.org

LEGACY COUNSELING CENTER

214-520-6308 | LegacyCares.org

LEGAL HOSPICE OF TEXAS

214-521-6622 | LegalHospice.org

NELSON-TEBEDO HEALTH CENTER

214-528-2336 | MyResourceCenter.org

N. CENTRAL TX HIV PLANNING COUNCIL

Ft. Worth | 817-321-4743 | NoTexasAIDS.org

POSITIVE VOICES COALITION

Ft. Worth | 817-321-4742 | NoTexasAIDS.org

PRISM HEALTH NORTH TEXAS

214-521-5191 | PrismHealthNTX.org

RESOURCE CENTER

214-528-0144 | MyResourceCenter.org

RESOURCE CENTER FOOD PANTRY

214-521-3398 | MyResourceCenter.org

UT SOUTHWESTERN AIDS PREVENTION

Dallas | 469-291-2800

WHITE ROCK FRIENDS MINISTRY

214-320-0043 | WhiteRockChurch.info

EDUCATION

GLBT CHAMBER FOUNDATION

214-821-4528 | GLBTLeap.org

HEALTH EDUCATION LEARNING PROJECT

Fort Worth | 817-332-7722 | helpfw.org

LGBTQA PROGRAM at UT ARLINGTON

817-272-2099 | UTA.edu/lgbtqa

OUT@COLLIN CCCC

214-991-7851 | Out.Collin.edu

SMU ALLIES PROGRAM

214-768-4796 | SMU.edu/
WomenAndLGBTCenter

SPECTRUM

214-768-4792 | People.SMU.edu/Spectrum

UNT ALLY PROGRAM

940-565-2589 | multicultural@unt.edu

MUSIC

OAK LAWN SYMPHONIC BAND

469-616-0138 | Info@oaklawnband.org

TURTLE CREEK CHORALE

214-526-3214 x 101 | TurtleCreekChorale.com

WOMEN'S CHORUS OF DALLAS

twcoffice@tecd.org | TWCD.org

POLITICAL

DALLAS STONEWALL YOUNG DEMOCRATS

Facebook.com/DallasSYD.org

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF DALLAS

LogCabin.org/Chapter/Texas-Dallas

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DALLAS

214-506-3367 | StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.org

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS OF DENTON

972-890-3834

TARRANT STONEWALL DEMOCRATS

817-913-8743 | TarrantStonewall.org

PROFESSIONAL

ALLIANCE OF DESIGN PROFESSIONALS

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DALLAS LGBT BAR ASSOCIATION

214-540-4460 | DGLBA.org

GLOBE

972-308-7233 | FedGlobe.org

LAMBDA PRIDE TOASTMASTERS

214-957-2011 | lambdapride@freetoasthoast.us

LEADERSHIP LAMBDA TOASTMASTERS

info@leadershiplambda.freetoasthoast.com

LGBT LAW SECTION OF TX STATE BAR

LGBTLawTx.com | 800-204-2222 ext. 1420

N. TEXAS GLBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

214-821-GLBT | GLBTChamber.org

OUT & EQUAL DFW

Outandequal.org/dallas-fort-worth

SERVICES

BLACK TIE DINNER, INC.

972-865-2239 | BlackTie.org

COALITION FOR AGING LGBT - DFW

214-577-7976 | CFA.lgbt

FEDERAL CLUB

214-428-3332 | DFWFederalClub.org

DALLAS GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE

214-528-0144 | info@dglba.com | DGLA.com

DALLAS LATINO PRIDE

texaslatinogaypride.com

DALLAS SOUTHERN PRIDE

214-405-5475 | DallasSouthernPride.com

DALLAS TAVERN GUILD

214-571-1073 | DallasPride.org

GAY AND LESBIAN FUND FOR DALLAS

GLFD.org | 214-421-8177 | volunteers@glfd.org

COMMUNITY COUNCIL GREATER DALLAS

Health Insurance | 844-831-9600 | cccgd.org

HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE OF N. TEXAS

214-855-0520 | info@hrionline.org

JOHN THOMAS LGBT COMMUNITY CTR.

214-528-9254 | MyResourceCenter.org

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214-219-8585 | lambdalegal.org

TARRANT COUNTY GAY PRIDE WEEK

president@tcgpwa.org | TCGPWA.org

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BATTALION MOTORCYCLE

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CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB

214-446-0606 | ClassicChassis.com

COUPLES METRO DALLAS

CouplesMetroDallas.com

DALLAS BEARS

DallasBears.org

DAMN

oaklwnvguy@hotmail.com | DAMNmen.org

DFW FUSE

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DISCIPLINE CORPS

disciplinecorps.com

EAST TEXAS PFLAG

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FIRE DANCERS

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GRAY PRIDE

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IMPERIAL COURT DE FORT WORTH

careteam@icfwa.org | ICFWA.org

JEWEL

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LEATHER KNIGHTS

214-395-8460 | LeatherKnights.org

LVL/PWA CAMPOUT

Rick: campout@lvlpwa.com | LVL/PWA.com

MEN OF ALL COLORS

214-521-4765 | pulliam_preston@yahoo.com

NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOC. - DALLAS

info@nla-dallas.org | NLA-Dallas.org

NATIONAL TEXAS PRIDE FOUNDATION

NorthTexasPride.com

ONCE IN A BLUE MOON

214-662-4706 | Once-In-A-Blue-Moon.org

PEGASUS SQUARES

214-444-9696 | Pegasus-Squares.com

POZ DALLAS

pozdallas@gmail.com

PRIME TIMERS OF DALLAS/FORT WORTH

972-504-8866 | information@primetimers-dfw.org

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903-312-2081 | TylerAreaGays.com

RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB

214-941-8114 | RainbowGardenClub.com

RAINBOW ROUNDUP

info@rrup.org | rrup.org

REAL LIVE CONNECTION-TEEN PRIDE

469-666-7325 | rlc365.org

SAVVY SINGLES NEWS DFW

Singles.meetup.com/2049

SPECTRUM MOTORCYCLE CLUB

214-289-1179 | Spectrum-MRC.com

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS DFW

Groups.yahoo.com/group/sindallasftworth

UNITED BLACK ELLUMENT

214-760-9718 | UBEDallas.org

UNITED COURT OF THE LONE STAR EMPIRE

DallasCourt.org

VALOR LATINO

acarabajal@rcdallas.org | ValorDallas.com

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

Twitter.com/WODDallas

SPIRITUALITY

AGAPE MCC

Fort Worth | 817-535-5002 | AgapeMCC.com

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Garland | AscensionTexas.org

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Dallas | 214-351-1901 | cathedralofhope.com

CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT

Farmers Branch | 972-245-6520 | COLight.org

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817-335-3222 | Celebration-Community-Church.com

CELEBRATION CHURCH ON THE LAKE

Mabank | 903-451-2302 | COTLChurch.org

CONGREGATION BETH EL BINAH

Dallas | BethElBinah.org

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH

214-520-9090 | CrossroadsCommunityChurch.us

DALLAS MEDITATION CENTER

972-432-7871 | DallasMeditationCenter.com

DIGNITY DALLAS

972-729-9572 | DignityDallas.net

EAST DALLAS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Dallas | 214-824-8185 | EDCC.org

EPISCOPAL - ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Dallas | 214-352-0140 | TheDoubter.org

FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE OUTREACH CHURCH

Fort Worth | 817-921-5683 | FOLOchurch.org

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF DALLAS

Dallas | 214-528-3990 | DallasUU.org

THE GATHERING PLACE

Dallas | 214-643-3250 | TheGatheringDallas.org

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dallas | 214-824-2533 | GraceUMCDallas.org

GREENLAND HILLS METHODIST CHURCH

Dallas | 214-826-2020 | GreenlandHills.org

HARVEST MCC

Denton | 940-484-6159 | HarvestMCC.org

HORIZON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Carrollton | 972-492-4940 | HorizonUU.org

KESSLER PARK UNITED METHODIST

Dallas | 214-942-0098 | kpumc.org

LESBIAN & GAY UNITARIANS

214-691-4300

LIVING FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

Dallas | 972-546-0543 | LivingFaithDFW.org

LUTHERANS CONCERNED

Dallas | 214-855-4998 | ReconcilingWorks.org

MCC OF GREATER DALLAS

972-243-0761 | MCCGD.org

MIDWAY HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Dallas | 214-352-4841 | MidwayHills.org

NORTHAVEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dallas | 214-363-2479 | Northaven.org

OAK LAWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dallas | 214-521-5197 | oaklawn@olumc.org

PATHWAYS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Hurst | 817-803-5941 | PathwaysUU.org

PROMISE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dallas | 214-623-8400 | PromiseUCC.org

ST. FRANCIS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Dallas, 75229 | 214-351-1401

ST. STEPHEN UNITED METHODIST

972-279-3112 | BGBM-UMC.org/StStephen

THE ONE CHURCH IN CHRIST JESUS

Dallas | 214-462-5979 | GraceOasisChurch.com

TRINITY MCC

Grand Prairie | 817-265-5454 | TrinityMCC.org

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Dallas | uuc@oakcliffuu.org | OakCliffUU.org

UNITY CHURCH OF CHRISTIANITY

Dallas | 214-826-5683 | DallasUnity.org

UNITY OF DALLAS

Dallas | 972-233-7106 | UnityDallas.org

WHITE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH

Dallas | 214-320-0043 | WhiteRockChurch.info

SPORTS

D

Cassie Nova

Cassie suffers from foot-in-mouth disease

Hello, everybody. I was having a discussion with an acquaintance recently, and she told me she loves to read my column here in *Dallas Voice*. She then proceeded to tell me which articles she liked the most. According to her and a few others that were standing nearby, they like my old-school drag stories the most. So I thought it would be fun to tell you all about a few times I was a dick, either intentionally or unintentionally.

Our first story takes place years and years ago when I was first starting out in drag. Every week I would enter Donna Day's talent night in the old Rose Room. Back then they put the sign-up sheet at the front door. Whoever signed up first went on last, last to sign up went on first. You wanted to go as close to last in the lineup as possible, because then you were fresh on the crowd's mind when they picked the winner by the loudest applause.

The old Village Station (now Station 4) opened at 9 p.m., so if you wanted to go last you had to be there when they opened. I would always get there about 8:45 p.m. waiting for them to unlock the door so I could be first to sign up.

One night I was there in line when another little newbie drag boy came and stood in line with me. We chatted for a while, and she told me her drag name was Ivana Tramp. (Hilarious by the way.) I asked her what song he was going to do, and she cheerfully said, "'Cool Rider' from *Grease 2!*" My face cracked— I was going to do "Cool Rider" from *Grease 2*. What were the chances, both of us doing the same song, and with the way they did the lineup, her doing her version right before me. This is where I was a dick! I told her, "Oh noooo, they won't let you do that song since I will be turning it in first. They won't let you. Oooh that sucks... Do you have another song you can do?"

For the record, there were countless times when girls would turn in the same song; it wasn't forbidden. I remember one night hearing Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You" seven times. I was just hoping that since Ivana was really new to drag, she wouldn't know I was lying. She didn't... but she looked kind of heartbroken. I felt like a complete dick, so I asked her if she wanted to come over to my place and go through my cassettes and CDs to see if there was something else she wanted to do. She said yes. So after we signed up, we ran back to my little efficiency a few blocks away to finish getting ready.

Ivana spent at least 30 minutes trying to find a song she wanted to do but wasn't happy with anything I had. She eventually said that she had always wanted to do Tina Turner and had the cassette in her car but she was scared — Tina Turner is so iconic, and she wanted to do the diva justice. I was like, "Oh my gawd, you should totally do



Tina. I bet you will kill it. Come on, do Tina." I was just trying to lessen my guilt, but eventually Ivana actually got really excited about doing Tina Turner.

The show that night was fabulous! I won, and I think Ivana got third. She, in fact, killed it and actually made a great career out of impersonating Tina Turner. You're welcome, Ivana — if I hadn't lied to you, who knows? Maybe you would never have done Tina. Just kidding... I was a complete asshole that night and I want to apologize to her for the lie but not for the outcome. We became good friends and have always supported each other in our careers. I love me some Ivana Tramp.

My favorite part of this story happened about 10 years later. Ivana told me that she had a video from that night. She had friends in the audience who captured her first time in drag. She let me borrow the VHS tape, and I couldn't wait to watch it. They didn't film my performance, but did record the judging at the end. The video showed me in my "Cool Rider" costume: a patent leather

bodysuit, patent leather chaps, super high heels that I could barely walk in and a hideous blonde wig. And as the crowd cheered for me, I kissed my pointer finger and pointed into the crowd. It looked so douchy. Embarrassing.

But my favorite part of the video was her friends after they announced me as the winner saying, "Fuck Cassie Nova!" into the microphone. It was hilarious, and I agree... Fuck Cassie Nova!

Another time I was an unintentional dick, I thought I was being funny — you know, being bitchy for laughs — but I ended up feeling like such an asshole.

It was just a regular night in the Rose Room, about eight years ago. I was doing my regular walk around, dancing a little and collecting tips as I paraded around and poorly lip synced to probably a Kelly Clarkson song. All of a sudden, I backed up into a guy standing right in the middle of the aisle. We both apologized, and I continued to perform. Eventually, my song ended, and I was handed the microphone. I looked out, and that same guy was still just standing in the

middle of the room, completely in the way.

I said in my most annoyed voice, "Hey dude, sit the fuck down — what are ya, blind?" He said, "Yes, I am blind, and I have dropped my cane, so I am waiting on my friend to get back from the bar to help me find my seat!" I fucking shrank down to the size of a mouse. At least that is how I felt. I did that nervous, embarrassed laugh you do when you said something just stupid. Open mouth, insert foot!

I quickly apologized and said I would help him find his seat. I offered to buy his drinks for the rest of the night, but all he wanted was for me to do a shot with him. OK, twist my arm. We did a shot, and he forgave me; he was actually really cool about it. But fuck, thank God for makeup because under it I had to be a deep shade of red. Embarrassing! I stick my foot in my mouth on such a regular basis that I am thinking of going pro.

Anyhoo, I will try to remember more of these sordid drag stories, but until then, remember to always love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova.



Sherrell and Amanda at The Peacock Theater



Rick at Cedar Springs Tap House

Making the SCENE the week of Sept. 13-19:

- **Alexandre's:** Terry Loftis on Saturday. Karaoke with Wayne Smith on Sunday.
- **K-Marie Broadway** on Tuesday. **Vero Voz** on Wednesday. **Chris Chism** on Thursday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** **The Darlin' Show** with karaoke, games, live entertainment, special guests and more, from 8-11 p.m. on Friday.
- **Club Reflection:** **Twisted Tuesdays** hosted by **Sapphire Tailor**.
- **Dallas Eagle:** **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** from 7-10 p.m. on Friday.
- **Dallas Otter Weekend Otter Art/Gear/Clothing Exhibition** from 4-10 p.m. on Saturday. **Dallas Otter Weekend Woofstock Dance Party** from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. on Saturday. **NLA - Dallas Club Night** from 7-11 p.m. on Saturday. **Dallas Bears Club Night** from 9-11 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Grapevine Bar:** **Service Industry Sunday Nights** from 8 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Havana:** **Rainbow LULAC monthly meeting** at 7 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Hidden Door:** **Firedancers Food Drive** from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday. **S.L.U.T.S. Club Night** at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **House of Blues:** **Spice Girls Drag Diva Brunch** with **Spice Girls** and **'90s Tribute Show** on Saturday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** **Pridescape 2019: Pride 2.0 — Pride through the Years** on Friday. Watch **Past Pride Parades** all day long on Sunday.
- **Marty's Live:** **Chanel Champagne's All-New Happy Hour** from 1-9 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** **Second annual Mr. Dallas Otter Weekend Contest** from 7:30-10 p.m. on Friday. **Otter Weekend Kick-off Party** from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. on Friday. **Round-Up County Fair** from noon-6 p.m. on Saturday. **Customer Appreciation and Denim Party** at 7 p.m. on Sunday. **Dragula Watch Party** at 8 p.m. on Tuesday.
- **S4:** Special guest **Dev** on Friday. Special guest **Lazaro** on Saturday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** **Gay Tropical Party** on Sunday. **50 Years of Music** on Sunday. Watch **Past Pride Parades** all day long on Sunday.
- **The Rose Room:** **Thorgy Thor and Night of Stars** benefiting **GDMAF's LifeWalk team, Team Metro** on Saturday. **Dragula's Evah Destruction** on Sunday.
- **TMC: The Mining Company:** **Chili Cook-off** on Sunday. Watch **Past Pride Parades** all day long on Sunday.
- **Urban Cowboy:** **Mr. and Miss Turnabout Pageant** at 7 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** **2019 PSSA Fall Ball Draft Party** from 4-6 p.m. on Sunday.



Moon and Kay celebrating a birthday

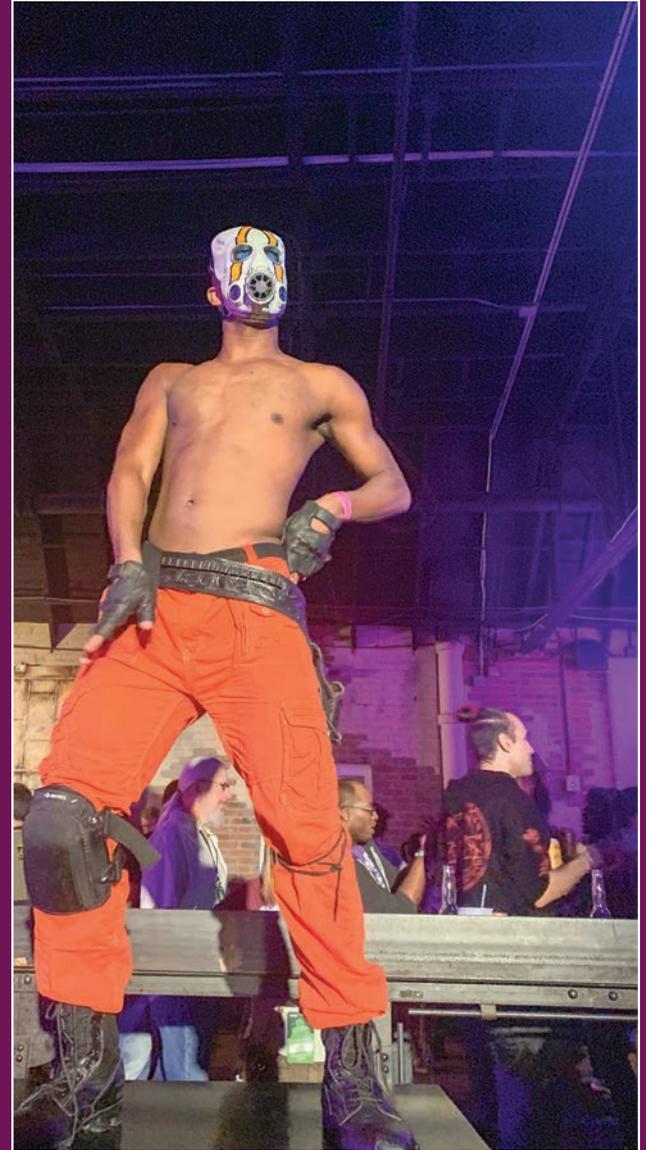


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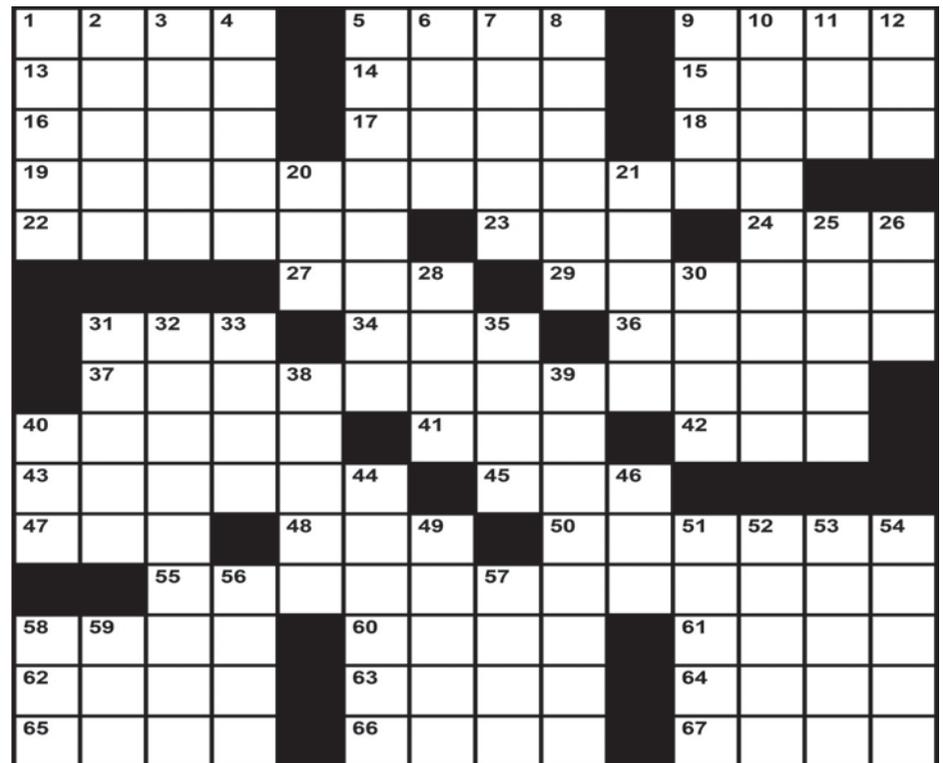
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q-puzzle

Rainbow Connection



Solution on Page 66

Across

- 1 Top-drawer
- 5 Drag queen's shoe
- 9 "Yeah, sure" in Las Vegas
- 13 Leia's brother
- 14 On ___ with (equal to)
- 15 "You're the Top" songwriter Porter
- 16 Opposed to, to Gomer
- 17 Roman historian
- 18 Round-buyer's words
- 19 Title for Trump in a Randy Rainbow satire
- 22 Way to watch *Moonlight*
- 23 U-turn from SSE
- 24 '50s idol Hunter
- 27 Bunkmates on base
- 29 Seduce
- 31 B&O stop
- 34 Drink served with fruitcake
- 36 Goofed up
- 37 Title for Trump in a Randy Rainbow satire
- 40 De ___ (actual)
- 41 Michelangelo's threesome
- 42 Palm Pilot, e.g.
- 43 Stuff in the closet
- 45 Vegas opening
- 47 A woman named Arthur

48 Mr. Williams, as Doubtfire

- 50 Dick
- 55 ___ *Stupid Czar* (title of a Randy Rainbow satire of *Superstar*)
- 58 What computers spit out
- 60 Nightclub in a Manilow song
- 61 "Arizona" Memorial site
- 62 Club for Sheehan
- 63 Mistake for Fosse
- 64 Pansy supporter
- 65 Title document
- 66 Nemesis of Tinkerbell
- 67 Lawman Wyatt

Down

- 1 Dishes, to Debussy
- 2 "You ___ to know better!"
- 3 Biathlete, for one
- 4 From this place, to King James
- 5 Golden stallion
- 6 "Breaking ___ Hard to Do"
- 7 Master
- 8 Hester of the A-list?
- 9 Click it to go to PlanetOut

- 10 Like a fading erection?
- 11 Spreading tree
- 12 Ball holder
- 20 Witch, to Shakespeare
- 21 Team bigwig
- 25 Train that comes quickly
- 26 ___ death (loss of interest)
- 28 Needing Cialis?
- 30 Cop flirting in a tearoom
- 31 Imitate Brian Orser
- 32 *Hollywood Squares* basis
- 33 Person in opposition
- 35 Angelina Jolie's ___ *Interrupted*
- 38 Bossa Nova "blamer" Eydie
- 39 Albee Pulitzer Prize work
- 40 British sitcom *Ab ___*
- 44 Becomes hard
- 46 Gag order?
- 49 Seattle's WNBA team
- 51 End of a Stein quote
- 52 Sporty Mazda
- 53 "My Boo" singer
- 54 Result of excessive circumcision?
- 56 Alternate date?
- 57 Photographer Catherine
- 58 Had sex with, in slang
- 59 "We ___ Family"



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