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**UIL's proposed rule
could mean problems
for trans athletes,
lawsuits for UIL**
by James Russell, Page 8

sports in transition

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11



14



19

headlines

TEXAS NEWS

- 8 UIL proposes rules for trans athletes
- 10 Jewish reception shut down at CC16
- 11 Trans workshop shut down at CC16

LIFE+STYLE

- 14 A chat with the bare naked chef
- 17 Play explores Mexican muxé
- 19 Kelsey Ervi is a busy, young director

ON THE COVER

Design by Craig Tuggle

departments

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|-------------|
| 6 | The Gay Agenda | 21 | Calendar |
| 8 | News | 25 | Ask Howard |
| 12 | Community Voices | 26 | Scene |
| 14 | Life+Style | 28 | Classifieds |

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The Rev. Robert Jeffress

Two iconic restaurants closing

Two iconic restaurants that have been around more than 35 years are closing.

Herrera's on Denton Drive between Hudnall and Inwood will close. That restaurant is in a strip center with Elliott's Hardware and backs up to the former site of the Resource Center Food Pantry. That property is set to be torn down to become another overpriced, overcrowded, poorly-built and worse-maintained Stalinist-style apartment complex.

Herrera's is probably the oldest Mexican restaurant currently operating in Oak Lawn. The restaurant, billed as "The Original Herrera's Cafe, is now located at 3311 Sylvan Ave, at the western end of the Sylvan Street bridge over the Trinity.

Dixie House in Lakewood Shopping Center is closed. Started by Gene Street, who owns Lucky's, it was sold with Black-eyed Pea. The current owner is in bankruptcy, but continuing to run the Black-eyed Pea chain in the Dallas area. The Cedar Springs store closed at the beginning of the year. The original Dixie House was on McKinney Avenue in one of Jack Ruby's former nightclubs.

— David Taffet

Following grand jury decision, Equality Texas calls for re-instatement of PP's HIV prevention funding

On Tuesday, Jan. 26, a Harris County grand jury declined to indict Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast on allegations of unlawful misconduct and wrongdoing, instead choosing to indict the two anti-abortion activists who brought the investigation.

The grand jury decision came months after videos released by the Center for Medical Progress allegedly showed executives at Planned Parenthood clinics discussing the sale of fetal tissue.

But the damage has already been done. The state pulled remaining funding designated toward HIV prevention and education from the organization after the video broke.

Equality Texas in a statement urged the Department of State Health Services to reinstate prevention funding contracts with the women's health group, which serves Houston and other surrounding com-

munities and Louisiana. Those services include HIV testing, condom distribution, PrEP risk prevention programs and vital care counseling.

"We are calling on the Texas Department of State Health Services to reinstate HIV/PrEP prevention funding to Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast," said Chuck Smith, executive director of Equality Texas.

There was no clear indication if the state will comply, however.

Following the Harris County indictment, Attorney General Ken Paxton, said the state's investigation into the organization's abuse of Medicaid contracts would continue.

— James Russell

Jeffress says he can't endorse Trump — as he endorses him

Churches and their pastors can't endorse political candidates without risking losing their tax exempt status. But that didn't stop the So-Called-Rev. Robert Jeffress, pastor of Dallas megachurch First Baptist, from making sure that everyone knows Donald Trump is his man.

Jeffress, who wasted no time making a name for himself as an anti-gay crusader when he moved to Dallas from Wichita Falls in 2008, flew to Iowa over the weekend to introduce the GOP's leading presidential contender at Dordt College. This is at least the second time Jeffress has introduced Trump; he also did so at a rally in September at the American Airlines Center.

In Iowa, Jeffress acknowledged the limitations placed on pastors when it comes to politics, but then continued on with what basically amounted to a "screw that, I am endorsing Trump anyway" moment: "Although as a pastor I cannot officially endorse a candidate, I want you to know I would not be here this morning if I were not absolutely convinced that Donald Trump would make a great president of the United States," Jeffress said.

He wound up the intro by describing Trump as "a great leader, a great visionary and a great American."

Now, I am not endorsing any candidate for president. But I will say this, if the idea of a candidate that gets Robert Jeffress' backing scares you — and it should — then you need to make sure you are registered, and you need to MAKE SURE YOU VOTE.

— Tammye Nash



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Obituaries



Noberto "Bert" Casanova



Charles Raymond "Buddy" Weems Jr.

Noberto "Bert" Casanova, 54, died Jan. 7 at his home in Dallas.

He was born Sept. 23, 1961 in Crosbyton, Texas, to Jesus and Margarita Flores Casanova. He graduated from Crosbyton High School and attended Angelo State University and Texas Tech University. He worked in the finance industry for 22 years and for the last nine years at Bank of America.

Casanova was a beloved member of Grace United Methodist Church in Dallas. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St., Dallas, 75246, or to AIDS Interfaith Network, 2707 N. Stemmons Freeway, Ste. 120, Dallas, 75207.

Casanova was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Alejandra Casanova Santos.

He is survived by his spouse, Les Chandler of Dallas; four brothers, Joaquin, Marcos, Salome and Miquel; and four sisters, Amelia Arroyo, Eva

Lozano, Ema Singleterry, and Priscilla Vasquez. He is also survived by numerous nephews, nieces, great-nephews, great-nieces and cousins and a host of friends.

A celebration of life service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 30 at Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St.

Charles Raymond "Buddy" Weems Jr. born May 9, 1961 in Dallas, died Jan. 26, 2016 in Plano.

He is survived by his life partner, Eduardo Escalante; parents, Charles and Donna Weems; sister, Laurie Anselmo and her husband, Paul; niece, Rachel Anselmo; nephew, Andrew Anselmo; niece, Lauren Schwalb and her husband, Stephen; many cousins and extended family.

Services will be held on Saturday, Jan. 30, at 2:30 p.m. at Restland Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to AIDS Resource Center of Dallas, 214-528-0144.

pet of the week / SYDNEY

Sydney is a nearly-4-month-old female retriever mix who weighs and about 7 pounds. She is funny and active and loves to play, chew, run and snuggle, and is looking for a forever home with a family who can teach her to be well behaved.

Other pets are available for adoption from Operation Kindness, 3201 Earhart Drive, Carrollton. The no-kill shelter is open six days: Monday, 3-8 p.m.; closed Tuesday; Wednesday, 3-8 p.m.; Thursday, noon-8 p.m.; Friday, noon-5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. The cost is \$110 for cats, \$135 for kittens, \$150 for dogs over 1 year, and \$175 for puppies. The cost includes the spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, vaccinations, heartworm test for dogs, leukemia and FIV test for cats, and more. Those who adopt two pets at the same time receive a \$20 discount.



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THE GAY AGENDA

Have an event coming up? Email your information to staff writer James Russell at russell@dallasvoice.com by Thursday at 10 a.m. for that week's issue.

JANUARY

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM.** Texas marriage equality plaintiffs Cleo De Leon and Nicole Dimetman; **United Black Ellument** hosts discussion on HIV / AIDS in the black community at 7 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening but the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Apt 2367; **Fuse Connect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. at the Fuse Space. For more information call or e-mail Ruben Ramirez at 214-540-4500 or rramirez@myresourcecenter.org.

• **Jan. 29: Marketing Your Faith Community to the LGBT Audience**
We'll roll out the Dallas Voice welcome mat to provide an overview of news coverage and editorial; advertising; social media; community event calendars; the Dallas Voice website; eBlasts; and promotions for faith communities. RSVP to Kris Martin, 214-754-8710 ext. 115. 9:30 a.m.-noon. Dallas Voice, 1825 Market Center Blvd., Suite 240.

• **Jan. 30: Tyler Area Gays Board Game Night**
In the Genecov Room at the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce, 315 N. Broadway, Tyler, 6-9 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring soda, snacks and games. Free parking on Line Street. For more information call 903-312-2081 or visit Tylerareagays.com.

• **Jan. 30: New Texas Symphony Orchestra**
An afternoon of dance music from favorite ballets by Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky, Strauss and more performed with the Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra. 5 p.m. Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St.

• **Jan. 30: Texas Leather Annual Chili Cook Off**
Benefits the 2016 Mr. & Ms. Texas Leather Travel Fund from 3-5 p.m. at Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave.

• **Jan. 30: Sable Alexander Presents Miss Gay Dallas State & State at Large**
Benefits the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund and C.U.R.E. Male interview at 1 p.m. Competition at 6:30 p.m. the BRICK Dallas, 2525 Wycliff Ave. \$5 cover at the door. For more information visit MissGayTexasStatePageant.com

• **Jan. 30-31: Travel and Adventure Show**
Meet directly with hundreds of travel experts, try global cuisine and get exclusive deals at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center, 650 S. Griffin St. To register visit Travelshows.com/Dallas. Use the code VOICE to receive \$8 off.

• **Jan. 31: HRC DFW CarniBowl**
Support Human Rights Campaign's DFW chapter and win prizes. from 1:30-4 p.m. at USA Bowl, 10920 Composite Dr. \$25 per person or \$100 for a team of five. For tickets and more information visit Bit.ly/1Z8J8YT.

• **Jan. 31: We Make Peace BBQ**
Dallas LGBT presents barbecue with free food, games, bounce house, talent shows with DJ Klassik. Children welcome. 3-5 p.m. at Lakeside Park, 4601 Lakeside Dr., Highland Park.

FEBRUARY

• **Feb. 3: First Wednesday Wine Walk**
Money raised will support increased security in the neighborhood. Purchase wine glass in front of the Round-Up Saloon for \$10 and enjoy wine at 19 area merchants. 6-9 p.m. on Cedar Springs Road.



First Wednesday Wine Walk

Purchase a wine glass in front of the Round-Up Saloon for \$10 and enjoy wine at 19 area merchants along Cedar Springs Road. Funds raised support efforts to increase security in the gayborhood.

• **Feb. 4: Bloomin Ball kickoff**
Gary Floyd and Denise Lee entertain. Light bites served. From 6-8 p.m. at Craighead Green Gallery, 1011 Dragon Street. \$10 suggested donation benefits AIDS Interfaith Network.

• **Feb. 4: Chick Happy Hour**
6-10 p.m. at Cedar Springs Tap House, 4123 Cedar Springs Rd, Ste. 100. No cover, cash bar.

• **Feb. 4: Fort Worth PFLAG Meeting**
Special guest this week is David Adcock, chairman of AOC's Evening of Hope. 6:45 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. For more information, call 817-428-2329 or visit PflagFortWorth.org.

• **Feb. 5: Resource Center Toast to Life Sponsor Party**
Sponsor appreciation party for Toast For Life - Mad Hatter's Ball from 7-9 p.m. at 3525 Turtle Creek Blvd., Ste. 20BC. For more information to reserve tickets call 214-540-4458 or e-mail bscott@myresourcecenter.org.

• **Feb. 6: Pride Adult Valentine Bingo**
A game night for adults that benefits Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association. 5-8 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of

Christ, 4201 Trail Lake Dr., Fort Worth.

• **Feb. 6: Lovebomb 2016 Benefit for Queerbomb Dallas**
Benefit for Queerbomb Dallas' annual event with entertainment and more at Zippers, 3333 N. Fitzhugh Ave. For more information visit On.fb.me/1Pf7ZQf.

• **Feb. 6: Dash for the Beads**
Mardi Gras festival with 5K fun run, one-mile walk, costume contest, beer garden with live music. 9:30 a.m. at Kidd Springs Park, 711 W. Canty St.

• **Feb. 9: Ed-U-Care Building Bridge Network**
Training group for caretakers of LGBT seniors hosts a dinner followed by screening of the movie Gen Silent for LGBT senior and caretaker needs 6-8:30 p.m. at The Senior Source, 3910 Harry Hines Blvd. For more information and to RSVP e-mail Sharyn Fein at educaredallas@gmail.com.

• **Feb. 9: Terry Loftis: 'Two for the Road'**
Terry D. Loftis presents "Two For the Road," an evening of romantic and love lost songs for Valentines. 7:30 p.m. at The Women's Museum at Fair Park.

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SPORTS IN transition

Proposed rule on determining gender could spell trouble for trans athletes and UIL; Olympics adopts progressive policy

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Last October, the 32-member legislative council of the University Interscholastic League, the statewide body overseeing high school sports and other extracurricular activities, voted to send to member schools a rule declaring that a student's gender would be determined by the gender marker on their birth certificate or other forms of identification.

When Rafael McDonnell, communications and advocacy manager for Resource Center, heard about the rule change, he immediately e-mailed Charles Breithaupt, UIL's executive director.

He told Breithaupt the proposed rule violates a 2014 determination by the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights that under Title IX, the federal law prohibiting sex-based discrimination in any federally funded program, discrimination on the basis of gender identity is a form of sex discrimination.

McDonnell also noticed another problem: the rule changes did not add sexual orientation or gender identity to UIL's nondiscrimination policy.

"By omitting these classes, UIL is further putting itself on shaky ground concerning Title IX, exposing the league to potential investigation, litigation and besmirching the good name and reputation of UIL in Texas and beyond," McDonnell warned Breithaupt.

McDonnell even offered to arrange a meeting to discuss the changes.

But in a Nov. 5 response, Breithaupt defended the proposed policy. And he declined to meet with McDonnell.

"The UIL appreciates your concerns but respectfully disagrees that the UIL has made a 'grave error.' The UIL makes every effort, in both rule and practice, to provide fair and equitable competition in compliance with state and federal law. While I appreciate your desire to discuss this matter further, you clearly do not agree with the UIL's passage of this proposal," Breithaupt wrote.

Graeme Reid, director of the LGBT Rights Program for Human Rights Watch, an international human rights advocacy group, also wrote Breithaupt with concerns.

In his Nov. 4 letter, Reid warned that ratify-



Rafael McDonnell, above, expressed concern with the UIL proposal. Below, Virginia student Gavin Grimm is fighting a similar policy in court.



ing the law would impose a "stricter standard" than other collegiate groups, including the National Collegiate Athletics Association and the International Olympic Committee.

On Nov. 2, just two days before Reid sent his letter, the Education Department ruled a Palestine, Ill. school district violated Title IX for refusing to allow a transgender girl on a girls' sports team to use the girls' locker room. If the district did not remedy the situation in 30 days, the Education Department warned, it would risk losing some or all of its Title IX funding.

Reid warned Breithaupt that passage of the proposed UIL rule could result in similar consequences for Texas school districts. "We urge the UIL to revisit the policy to ensure that every student's gender identity is respected," Reid added.

Ryan Thoreson, a fellow in Human Rights Watch's LGBT Rights Program, said the organization has yet to receive a response from Breithaupt or any other UIL official.

Transgender student athletes are allowed to participate in sports in 15 different states. But the fight to acknowledge or affirm the rights of trans athletes is not confined to Texas.

The South Dakota House of Representatives passed a bill Jan. 27 that would prevent transgender students in public schools from using facilities consistent with their gender identity.

In Virginia, the fight's now playing out in court.

On Jan. 27, the American Civil Liberties Union appeared before a federal appeals court arguing a Gloucester, Va. County School Board policy segregating transgender students from their peers by requiring them to use separate restroom facilities violates Title IX.

The lawyers representing Gavin Grimm, a transgender male, said the policy violates federal non-discrimination laws and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Last September, the district court ruled against Gavin and dismissed his Title IX claim, despite a brief filed by the U.S. Department of Justice stating that, "there is public interest in ensuring that transgender students have the opportunity to learn in an environment free of sex discrimination."

The district court ruling kept the policy in place and prevented Gavin from starting his junior year with access to the boys' restroom,

even though he has been living as a boy and taking hormone therapy.

The ACLU filed its appeal with the 4th Circuit last October.

"Ever since this battle with the school board began more than a year ago, I've been forced to confront ridicule and public insult from people who refuse to see me as a human, male student worthy of respect and equal treatment," Grimm said. "But in spite of the humiliation I feel every time I'm forced to use the bathroom, I will continue to stand up for myself and other transgender students who shouldn't be treated differently simply because of who they are."

This is the first time that a federal court of appeals will consider the issue.

"It is necessary to ensure insofar as possible that trans athletes are not excluded from the opportunity to participate in sporting competition. The overriding sporting objective is and remains the guarantee of fair competition," the document reads.

"To require surgical anatomical changes as a pre-condition to participation is not necessary to preserve fair competition and may be inconsistent with developing legislation and notions of human rights," it noted.

The IOC's recommendations closely follow Transgender Law and Policy Institute guidelines for policies related to transgender youth athletes.

The guidelines note scientific data shows little to no difference in hormonal levels between the sexes.

"Gender segregation in children's sports is purely social. It is not based on any significant physiological differences. From a medical and physiological perspective, there is nothing about being transgender that gives any particular child a physical advantage over others," according to institute's guidelines.

Meanwhile back in Texas

According to Texas UIL spokeswoman Kate Hector, if the council does not pass a rule then the rule instead goes onto a ballot referendum.

While unable to speak to the specific rule change regarding trans student athletes, sometimes the council wants to get the feel of a majority of school district superintendents, she said.

This year, there are 11 different rules on the ballot. That's because a committee appointed to review the association's rules during the summer found that many of them needed clarification.

"The only other step is for the Texas Education Commissioner to approve its placement on the ballot," Hector said.

Former commissioner Michael Williams, who stepped down Jan. 1, approved placement on the ballot referendum for the proposed rule regarding trans students.

Gov Greg Abbott appointed former Dallas school board trustee Mike Morath to replace him.

A superintendent gets one vote for every high school in his or her district. Ballots have been sent to member school districts and are due at the beginning of February.

The final decision comes down to superintendents' vote.

If the proposed rule passes, McDonnell said, UIL would likely face lawsuits from LGBT advocacy groups.

"If UIL wants to see a lawsuit, [they will]," he predicted. ■



Graeme Reid, head of the LGBT Rights Program at Human Rights Watch.

Different in the Olympics

Not every entity is restricting the rights of transgender athletes.

Just this month, on Sunday, Jan. 24, medical officials with the International Olympic Committee recommended transgender athletes be allowed to compete without gender reassignment surgery.

The committee last looked at the issue in 2003.

According to the new recommendations, female-to-male athletes will be able to participate in men's competitions "without restriction." Male-to-female athletes, however, will need to prove their testosterone levels have been below a certain level for the past year to be allowed to compete.

Societal changes and scientific research contributed to the changes, according to an IOC document.



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Shutting down discussion

Rather than carry on the tradition of open discussion among groups, Jewish groups were attacked at this year's Creating Change

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

In the wake of controversy over protests outside a reception for Jewish groups at Creating Change in Chicago, a group of rabbis, pastors and LGBT leaders released a letter on Wednesday evening, Jan. 27, condemning events at the annual conference traditionally known as a place where ideas could be openly and respectfully debated.

"The events of Jan. 22 in Chicago were unacceptable and not in accord with the Task Force's values of pluralism, inclusivity and thoughtful debate," the letter said.

Among others, the letter was signed by Cathedral of Hope's senior pastor, the Rev. Neil Cazares-Thomas, Equality Texas chair Steve Rudner, former Rep. Barney Frank, Metropolitan Community Church founder the Rev. Troy Perry and *U.S. v. Windsor* plaintiff Edie Windsor.

A Wider Bridge, a Jewish group based in San Francisco that promotes pluralism, had planned a Shabbat service on Friday night at Creating Change, with guests from Jerusalem Open House, an LGBT community center in Jerusalem. After three people complained about the appearance of Israelis at Creating Change because of Israel's treatment of Palestinians, National LGBTQ Executive Director Rea Carey canceled the reception planned by A Wider Bridge.

But attacking Jerusalem Open House for the Palestinian issue in Israel is like blaming an interracial couple in Mississippi for discrimination. Israelis and Palestinians mix more freely at Jerusalem Open House than most other places in the country, according to Tom Canning, development director for Jerusalem Open House.

Protesters accused Israel of "pinkwashing," the idea that the country promotes its respect for its LGBT community to cover up its deplorable treatment of Palestinians.

Where the planned reception had drawn complaints, its cancellation prompted protests from around the country.

Colorado Congressman Jared Polis tweeted, "There should be room for Israel's premiere #LGBTQ advocacy group in our community." And Robbie Kaplan, the attorney who argued *U.S. v. Windsor* before the U.S. Supreme Court tweeted, "Creating Change creates bias. As a Jew, Zionist & lesbian, I can no longer support NGLTF Very sad," and later, "I don't get it. @TheTaskForce keeps sending tweets today as if LGBT Jews were not censored yesterday in terror and fear. Not acceptable."

The planned reception was then re-instated with what some described as a half-hearted apology from Carey.



Creating Change attendees protested the presence of two Israelis from Jerusalem Open House and prevented them from holding a reception after Shabbat services. (Photo courtesy of A Wider Bridge)

"When faced with choices, we should move towards our core value of inclusion and opportunities for constructive dialogue and canceling the reception was a mistake," Carey wrote. "In reversing the decision today, we want to make it quite clear that the Creating Change Conference will always be a safe space for inclusion and dialogue for people with often widely different views. It was not at all our intention to censor representatives of the Jerusalem Open House or A Wider Bridge at Creating Change and I apologize that our actions left people feeling silenced."

But safe space wasn't guaranteed when protesters disrupted the Shabbat service and reception. Jews trying to leave the were physically stopped by protesters.

The letter from rabbis and pastors described what happened: "The targeted organizations' reception was disrupted and shut down by protesters (including people not attending the conference) with such hostility and aggression that speakers and attendees at the event were justifiably terrified and felt physically threatened."

One witness said people were shoved, one man's yarmulke fell to the ground, and others were blocked from leaving the reception while some escaped the room down a hallway through a back door.

"What transpired at CC16 was dangerous, deeply disturbing, and given the use of epithets like 'kike,' clearly anti-Semitic," the religious leaders' letter continued.

Creating Change, which has been held in Dal-

las twice, is traditionally a place where a diverse group of LGBT activists have a dialogue on every issue affecting the LGBT community. While attendees don't necessarily leave agreeing with one another, new alliances do form at the conference and many take away a new understanding of others in the LGBT community.

But A Wider Bridge and Jerusalem Open House never got the opportunity at the conference to explain the work they do.

Rabbi Eleanor Steinman, an educator serving the Los Angeles area, is a former board member of A Wider Bridge. She said the organization's main goal is to connect the American and Israeli LGBT communities.

Many American LGBT organizations have Israeli counterparts. Like many American cities, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv have community centers. Ma'arivim (which means "evening prayers") empowers members of the trans community. P-FLAG, the support group for parents, family and friends, has chapters throughout Israel as well. And A Wider Bridge connects Israel's LGBT youth groups with American LGBT youth groups.

A Wider Bridge organizes trips for American LGBT activists to meet activists in Israel and the West Bank. Steinman said while other Israeli trips are available, trans men and women especially appreciate going to Israel with A Wider Bridge because they can be comfortable traveling with other trans people and will meet trans Israelis.

She addressed the idea of "pinkwashing" by calling it "the claim perpetuated by the radical left to the detriment of the LGBT community."

Most of all, Creating Change is traditionally a place for discussion between groups that don't see eye-to-eye. But when those on one side of an issue shut down those on the other without any discussion, Steinman said, that's equivalent to what happened during the AIDS crisis when ACT-UP warned, "Silence equals death."

A Wider Bridge Founder and Executive Director Arthur Slepian said that in addition to connecting people from Jerusalem Open House with activists in the U.S., there was a deeper reason to bring them this year — last summer at Jerusalem Pride, there was a stabbing and murder.

"Their community has been through trauma," Slepian said. "We thought they'd be embraced. Instead, they were part of the firestorm."

He said what happened to his group was part of what appears to be a "new ethos" at Creating Change. "It's OK to shut down voices you disagree with," he said.

Slepian added that groups that demand "safe space" are the first to take safe space away from those they disagree with, and he called Carey's statement since the conference to be a good first step.

"She talks about people being encouraged to bring their whole selves to Creating Change," he said. "I don't know that anyone who identifies with Israel ever felt comfortable bringing their whole selves."



Monica Roberts

'Creating drama'

Longtime trans activist angry over interrupted panel discussion at Creating Change

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

A panel discussion featuring trans-attracted men was shut down by protesters at the Jan. 20-23 Creating Change conference in Chicago, the same conference at which protesters shouting anti-Semitic slurs and chants disrupted a reception for Jerusalem Open House (see story, Page 10).

Monica Roberts, a longtime trans activist from Houston, was at the panel discussion when a group of about 20 people entered the room and disrupted the event. She said this year's conference should have been called 'Creating drama.'

Roberts said a group of younger transgender attendees at this year's conference — and at other recent conferences she's attended — "think direct action protest is the only way to go," and that they've forgotten Martin Luther King's model. While protests

were going on in the civil rights movement, Roberts pointed out, so was discussion and behind-the-scenes work needed to pass laws.

The panel discussion, put together by the National Black Justice Coalition, featured men discussing pressures and difficulties they face because they are attracted to trans women.

Roberts noted that if you look on Craigslist, one of the most popular categories is men looking for pre-operative trans women.

Because many of the murders of trans women have been a result of intimate partner violence, Roberts said, she hoped to hear a discussion about how to remain safe during the panel. "But we didn't get to have that conversation," she said.

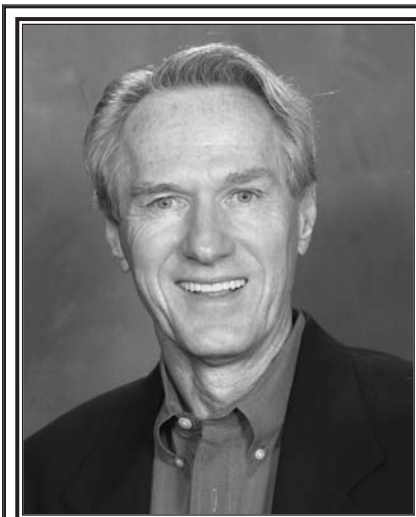
She also said she had hoped to learn "what goes on in the mind of folks who claim to love us" and that it would be nice

to hear men say publicly, "I love trans women."

The protest was instigated by a trans woman who claimed one of the panelists was an abuser. That man doesn't have any such charges pending against him, and he is about to file a suit for defamation.

Roberts said the divide was not just between older and younger trans activists. Many hoping to attend the panel live in cities without protections in place based on gender identity and expression. Protesters, she said, came from places with laws protecting the trans community from discrimination.

While Creating Change is about diverse LGBT groups coming together to discuss how to work together, Roberts said one protester summed it up: When the executive director of NBIC tried to say something, a protester simply demanded, "Sit down and shut up."



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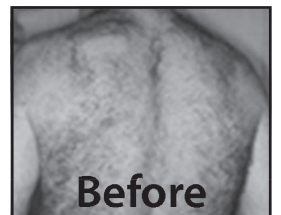


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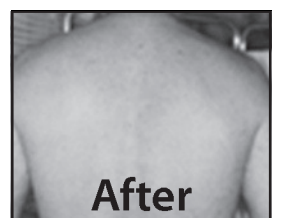
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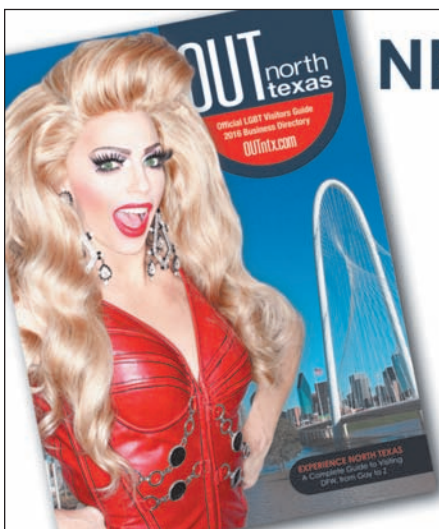


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■ commUNITY voices

When I was a boy of 13, my grandmother took me to my first civil-rights demonstration to teach me about racism and social justice. She knew those issues well: Much of our family fled from the pogroms in Russia; others in our family perished in the Holocaust. And Grandmom even fought for women's rights.



Mark Segal
Special Contributor

On that day, I marched with Cecil B. Moore and Robert N.C. Nix. Five years later, in 1969, I'd be a member of New York's Gay Liberation Front and, in the name of justice, we marched with The Black Panthers to free Angela Davis from her arrest and detention, chanting "Hey hey, ho ho, House of D [New York's Women's House of Detention] has to go."

But last week, when I heard LGBT activists at the National LGBTQ Task Force's Creating Change conference in Chicago using part of that slogan against our own community, it was a sad day. And it sickened me to the pit of my stomach.

Creating Change is the largest gathering of LGBT activists across the nation. Typically, all issues affecting our communities are discussed, with people being able to agree to disagree with respect. But a major controversy happened this year. And what usually is and should be a place for dialogue became unsafe.

This incident was at the very least insincere, and at its worst, anti-Semitic.

A Wider Bridge, which promotes ties between LGBT Americans and Israel, was scheduled to have a reception at Creating Change. But some conference participants complained about an event featuring a group with ties to Israel.

Presto, the Task Force cancelled the event.

This led to a debate about anti-Semitism, apartheid and political correctness. Eventually, conference organizers did the right thing and reinstated the session. After all, this conference was about "creating change," and change occurs with communication.

But the event prompted opponents of Israel to protest.

These protesters essentially urge people to boycott any LGBT event relating to Israel, not due to its LGBT laws, but because of how it treats Palestinians. They use terms like "apartheid" and "racism."

Here's what they don't state:

While Israel is welcoming to LGBT people, Palestinian law criminalizes homosexuality. If you call the Palestinian Authority at the UN Office and ask about LGBT rights, as I did, you'll be treated to hang-ups (first call), laughter and a "Don't you understand our culture?" question (second call) and finally, "We don't talk about that."

A fourth call ended with them offering a phone number in the Palestinian state for me to call.

Calling out Creating Change protesters

'Rally' outside event for A Wider Bridge was insensitive and anti-Semitic

Those who protested at Creating Change are calling on us to support people who laugh at and criminalize us.

They don't explain that LGBT Palestinians escape to Israel for protection. It is so unsafe for LGBTs in Palestine that the group fighting for Palestinian queer rights is located in Israel.

Why? Because the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip has declared homosexuality punishable by death. Hamas co-founder Mahmoud al-Zahar has said, "You in the West do not live like human beings. You do not even live like animals. You accept homosexuality. And now you criticize us?"

I've visited and written about the region on many occasions. In fact, I spent time with the first openly LGBT organization in Beirut, writing about lesbian women in Jordan and the oppression in Egypt, among other topics.

I know the people on both sides well. I was embraced in Beirut and spit on in Jerusalem.

I was at Creating Change to speak about my just-published memoir, which speaks of my numerous arrests and nickel rides fighting for social justice. In many of the cities on my book tour, a young LGBT person asks, "What can we do today to create activism?" So I appreciate many in that crowd at the protest were there wanting to do something.

Unfortunately, they weren't given the facts. They were misled into what became an ugly, anti-Semitic rally.

The first question we should ask protest organizers is this: If you're suggesting a boycott of Israel because of non-LGBT issues, why not speak out about Palestine's anti-gay laws? Why not explain that many LGBT people have had to escape anti-gay violence in Palestine?

If you were fair, the position should be boycott both, but instead you single out one. And that one place you single out has become a safe haven for LGBT Palestinians.

That is anti-Semitism, with a dose of self-hatred. Supporting those who wish LGBT people — us — dead is the definition of self-hatred.

The next question to ask protesters is even simpler: Why are you not protesting the anti-LGBT position of the Palestinian state? Do you approve

of the draconian laws of Putin's Russia, or those of Uganda? Palestine is equally as anti-gay — if not moreso — as those countries.

Then there's the issue of racism. That same term has been used to describe our country by the "Black Lives Matter" effort. Have you called for an international boycott of the United States? No, you single out one entity: Israel, the Jewish State.

Yes, "Jewish." We all know why Israel was created — as a safe haven for Jews. We also know how Palestinians have fought Israel, at times suggesting it be wiped off the face of the earth, along with its people, the Jews.

Yasser Arafat turned that sentiment into a slogan: "From the [Jordan] River to the Sea." To Jews, that slogan represents extermination.

Now, imagine being a Jew in a room with 200 people outside banging on the doors yelling that slogan, or wrapping a Palestinian flag over the head of a Jew trying to make his way into the room. That is what happened in Chicago.

(Windy City Times did a great job of capturing most of the demonstration on video at ow.ly/XByz1.)

Many of us would gladly protest Israeli treatment of Palestinians — I myself support a Palestinian state, the so-called "two-state solution" — but that is different than supporting the Palestinian government that wants you put to death if you're LGBT and live on the Gaza Strip. But trapping Jews in a room yelling what is as close to a death slogan as there is — what might that conjure up?

Look up "Kristallnacht." Insensitive at the very least.

It's great to see this generation wanting to protest injustice, but they need to understand the issues and the lessons of our early fight for equality. Fight first for our community's rights, because if we do not, nobody else will. LGBT Palestinians can't speak out in their homeland, and your protests only embolden those who keep them from speaking out.

The Task Force acknowledged its mishandling of the situation and said it will work to prevent future incidents. While Creating Change organizers may have been unprepared, protest organizers are the ones who need to apologize — not just to those in that room who were forced to leave through a back door for safety, but to the entire LGBT community for their insensitivity and for supporting those who support our oppression.

The term these protesters use is "pinkwashing." From this time on, pinkwashing equals self-hating anti-Semites to me.

We members of Gay Liberation Front have varied views on Israel and Palestine, but one thing we would never do is act with such insensitivity or suggest support for those who wish to put LGBT people to death or eradicate an entire race of people.

Shame on you! ■

Mark Segal is the nation's most-award-winning commentator in LGBT media. His memoir And Then I Danced, Traveling the Road to LGBT Equality is available online.

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Spicy Italian sausage, no dressing

Aptly named gay cook Adrian De Berardinis' hirsute pursuit of culinary creativity landed him on the sexy new webseries 'The Bear Naked Chef'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com





Adrian De Berardinis puts the “bear” in “bare.” On his new webseries, *The Bear Naked Chef*, the out-and-proud, hairy, muscular, tattooed-up, New York-trained chef combines his passion for food with his nudist tendencies so that his audience not only learns the ins-and-outs of fine cuisine, but gets some eye-candy in the process. After barely a month online, and just two episodes released (so far), *The Bear Naked Chef* is stirring more than a stock pot with his largely (but not exclusively) gay fans. (He identified his age as “prime” ... and he’s single.)

Once a Dallas resident — he’s an alumnus of Southern Methodist University, who now calls Los Angeles home — De Berardinis took time away from his slickly-produced series to talk to us about his culinary credentials, his hopes for the future of naked cooking and how it’s still possible (but a little risky!) to deep-fry in your birthday suit. ■

Dallas Voice: Where did your culinary interests originate? De Berardinis: Growing up in a foodie household, I began cooking at age 8, cultivating my passion for authentic Italian cuisine. I had the privilege of working in our family-owned pizzerias and restaurants, which honed my kitchen and cooking skills. I worked in restaurants through college at SMU, and when I moved to NYC, worked in the kitchen at the East Village’s famous Frank restaurant, where I was honored with an award for Best Focaccia in New York City in 2000.

So, is Italian food your focus? I specialize in authentic regional Italian dishes because of [my background], but my exploration doesn’t stop there. I experiment with other tastes from across the globe. I have so many favorite dishes to cook. This is what my web series is: my favorites — my greatest hits, if you will. There are many more delicious things to come. But I started the series with a dish that is near and dear to me, a family favorite: Chicken cacciatore. It’s something that was special to me and my family. But it’s deceptively simple to make, as all my recipes are.

I imagine there are risks to cooking naked — like, “never make bacon!” I actually cook naked all the time at home, and have for years! It started with an ex of mine; He and I would get up in the morning and make breakfast naked. I continued this after we split. It feels sexy to me. Cooking is truly a sensual process for me. It’s a lot like making love.

Still, the hazards of cooking naked are quite obvious. This is why I use a little apron. I want to protect my junk. I’ve only had a few minor blips happen, with boiling water and hot oil but nothing emergency-room-worthy! (Tip: Open the oven door from one side of it, not in front.) I actually cook a dish with bacon in my third episode — stay tuned, y’all! But I use a pan with high sides. Whoops! There goes a secret.

Other than your own history of being bare-assed in the kitchen, where did the idea come to make it into a show? I had the idea back in June 2015 and I marinated in it for three months to figure out how I would want to execute it. In September, I ran into an old friend, Brandon Roberts [who would later become executive producer of the show], and pitched the concept to him. He was all over it, and within a week, he had assembled a production team and we shot the first three episodes a week later. It all happened quite quickly. We released the teaser on my YouTube channel on Dec. 15; a week later, we released Episode 1. It garnered a lot of attention. I was beside myself.

The show went viral on both releases, 300K views in the first week for Episode 1. The response was overwhelming and was received very well. I receive tons of messages and e-mails daily how much people love this. Not just because I’m naked though, but because they also love the food. That is the most gratifying part.

■ CHEF Next Page

NAKED LUNCH | Adrian De Berardinis made a name with his focaccia in New York City, but his buns get a lot of attention on his new webseries, ‘The Bear Naked Chef.’



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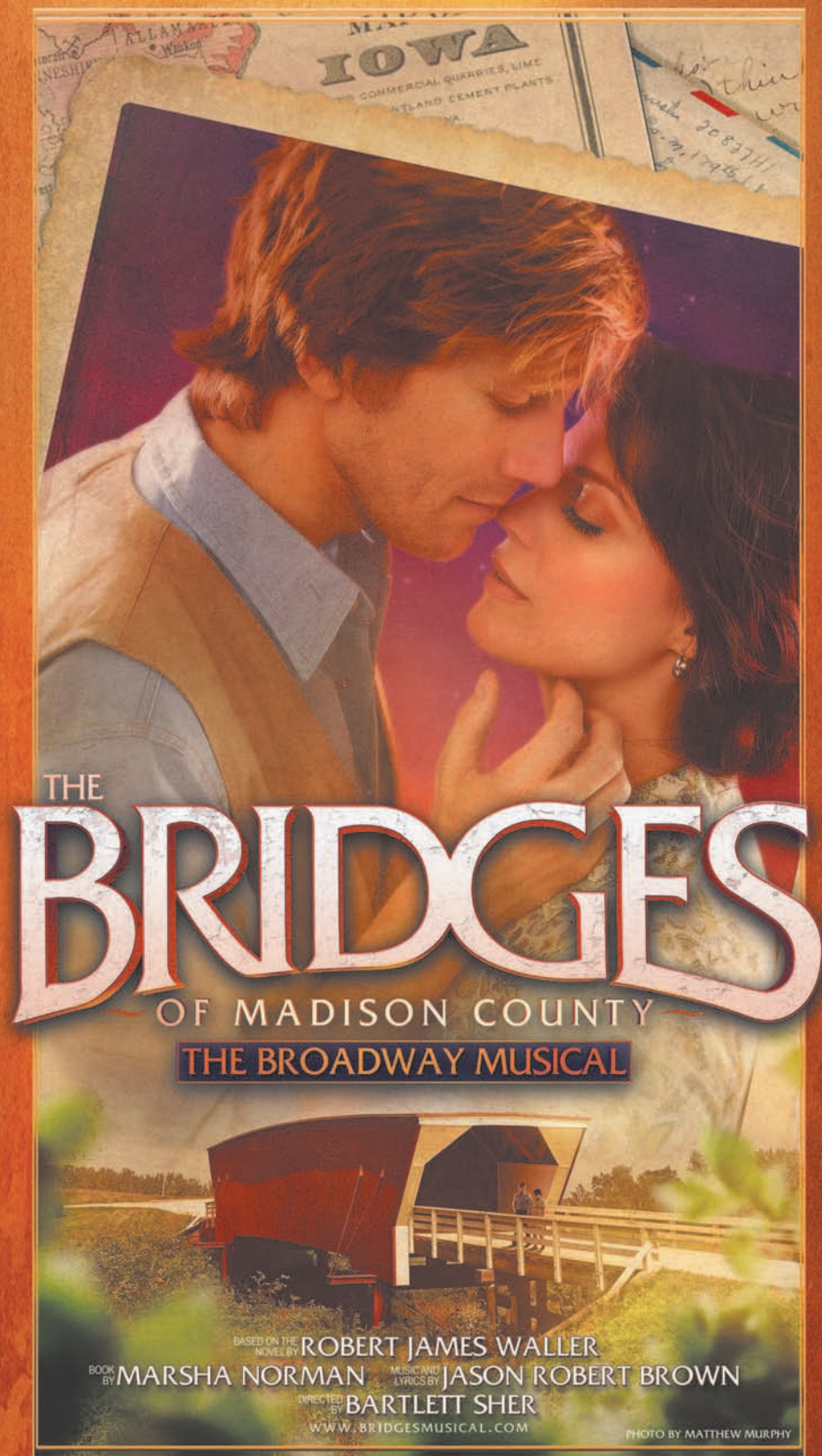
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■ **CHEF**, From Previous Page

Mostly gay men, I suspect! Interestingly enough, about 20 percent of my subscribers and viewers are female around the world.

Other than the nudity, the production values could easily make you believe it's airing on the Cooking Channel. I want watching to be a full sensory experience. The aesthetic, the set, the production is beautiful and I hope I add to that with my personality, charm and expertise. Yes, people enjoy watching me cook naked, but truly, the show is about the food I cook. Hence my tag: Nothing Butt Good Food. I want people to try my recipes at home, enjoy the process and maybe try cooking naked themselves and dis-

cover something new about it.

What's you hope for the future of it? I have many ambitions on where to take the show. I want it to evolve and tell a story. I plan on having quests in the future, travelling to different countries and cooking with other cooks in their kitchens (all naked of course), and a cookbook is in the works. Stay tuned.

online exclusive

To see more sexy photos of De Berardinis, and get a direct link to the webseries, visit DallasVoice.com.

TASTING NOTES: Chinese New Year Edition

Wolfgang Puck made his name in the 1980s with his signature restaurant **Chinois**, so it's no surprise that Chinese New Year is an important date at all of his restaurants still, including **Five Sixty** atop Reunion Tower. From Feb. 8–15, the restaurant will feature a Year of the Monkey-inspired tasting menu in place of its usual lineup. But the big night is Feb. 10, when Five Sixty's still-pretty-new exec chef, **Jacob Williamson**, will feature five specialized live-action dining stations, where diners can enjoy oxtail wok-cooked noodles, whole suckling pig (pictured) on steamed buns, Chinese hot pot (a 24-hour broth filled with tiger shrimp and beech mushrooms), potstickers and Puck's signature skipjack tuna tataki in sweet miso cones from sushi chef **Hiroyuki "Fuji" Fujino**. There will also be dragons, entertainment ... and maybe even a monkey! The price is \$95 (extra for wine pairings). Make reservations at WolfgangPuck.com or 214-571-5784.



Another local restaurant best known for its sushi will celebrate the new year as well. Uptown's venerable **Steel** — which last summer tapped a new exec chef in **T.J. Lengnick** — will offer a special prix fixe menu for \$55 on Feb. 5 and 6 (totally different dates than Five Sixty, so you could do both!). Appetizers include king crab dumplings and duck egg rolls, and entrees include whole steamed branzino in orange broth and roasted chicken in Cantonese eggplant stir-fry, plus desserts (mochi, coconut cream parfait, chocolate ganache cake). Reservations at SteelSushi.com.

— A.W.J.

Exploring muxé*

*Rhymes with gay

Teatro Dallas' performing arts festival looks at the sexually accepting culture of Southern Mexico in 'Another Day of Partying'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES

Executive Editor

jones@dallasvoice.com



Even in the 1950s when she was just a girl, Cora Cardona was surrounded by gay people. And surprisingly — at least to our contemporary sensibilities — it was no big deal. "Homosexuality is part of the culture in the south of Mexico — in

Tehuantepec," Cardona says matter-of-factly. "They have a different attitude toward sexuality. I went there as a child because my mother was from there. In the Zapotecan language, there is the word *muxé* [pronounced *moo-shay*], which is derived from the

ZAPOTECTONICS | A mother and her best friend, a gay man named Amanda, struggle with love and longing in 'Another Day of Partying,' a play that addresses an under-known subculture of southern Mexico. (Photo courtesy of Teatro Dallas)

Spanish *mujer*, woman. That is the word for gay. When a son is born to a family [is *muxé*], they celebrate it."

To most Western sensibilities, the idea of celebrating sexual differences is difficult to grasp, but Southern Mexicans aren't the only ones. Indeed, in Southeast Asian nations like India and Bangladesh, the term *hijra* represents a "third sex," while Native American cultures recognize people with "two spirits" — the uniting of male and female traits in one person. (The terms often encompass transgender identity as well.) But among a culture like Mexico known for its emphasis on machismo, the idea of gay being OK comes as a shock to some people, Cardona says.

As interesting as this quality is, it's also largely unknown outside of Oaxaca, which is one of the reasons Cardona is excited to include the play *Otro Dia de Fiesta* (*Another Day of Partying*) in her 17th annual International Theatre Festival Dedicated to Mexico, a presentation from Teatro Dallas, the Latin-focused theater company that Cardona founded with her husband more than 30 years ago.

"People don't know much about this," Cardona says. "The

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■ MUXE Next Page



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Wedding Workshop

■ MUXÉ, From Previous Page

[most know only] how Christian morality tailored [Mexican culture]."

While *muxé* are generally more accepted in this society, there are many challenges and responsibilities along with it, which are addressed in *Another Day*. "Men will hold each other by the little finger [though not necessarily in a sexual way] — it's a very open kind of culture," Cardona says. "And with *muxé*, there is a pact in the family that the gay son will take care of the parents in old age."

The play centers around Amanda, a *muxé*, who befriends Concha, an alcoholic mother to three young daughters. They meet during the *velas* (candles), a multiday bacchanal of all-night partying.

Although the play is not about the *velas*, they form an important backdrop to the entire culture, which is "very folkloric," Cardona explains. "There are [parade floats] that are very allegorical — they throw flowers and candies and such, and fishermen throw nets over the children, accompanied by music. And the *Vela Jazmin* is one of the *muxé* [parade floats]. It's totally integrated into the community with all the mayors partici-

pating. Diego Rivera has a lot of murals on *muxé*, and the Italian photographer Tina Mondotti [preserved the *velas* on film]."

Still need a context? Think Mardi Gras. Think New York gay Pride. Or, "Imagine San Francisco at Halloween," Cardona says. "The *muxés* go out of their way — they work on their costumes forever. It's very expensive to dress up with all those hand-crafted costumes with embroidery on velvet. And the people turn out, because they know they are going all out."

And it all leads to several consecutive nights of partying.

"I told my husband the first time I took him,

"Tonight you're going to party... and then the next night. And then again. Be ready, we're not going to sleep!"

The 17th Annual International Theatre Festival will start with a performance of a children's play on Feb. 4, followed on Feb. 5 by a "mask show for children" and on Saturday, an adult-aimed, wordless performance piece at 3 p.m.; Another Day of Partying plays at 8 p.m. Mario Patriz, the writer/director of Another Day of Partying, who will also perform the role of Amanda, will also give a presentation about issues discussed in the play on Feb. 4 at Richland College, 12800 Abrams Road, Sabine Hall at 11 a.m. 972-761-6704. ■

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QUEER CLIP: The Oscar-nominated live action and animated shorts

One of my favorite things each Oscar season is the release at the Magnolia Theatre of the short films that otherwise are almost impossible. Each winter, they rotate the animated and live action shorts (the Texas Theatre often runs the documentary short programs as well). And that week has arrived.

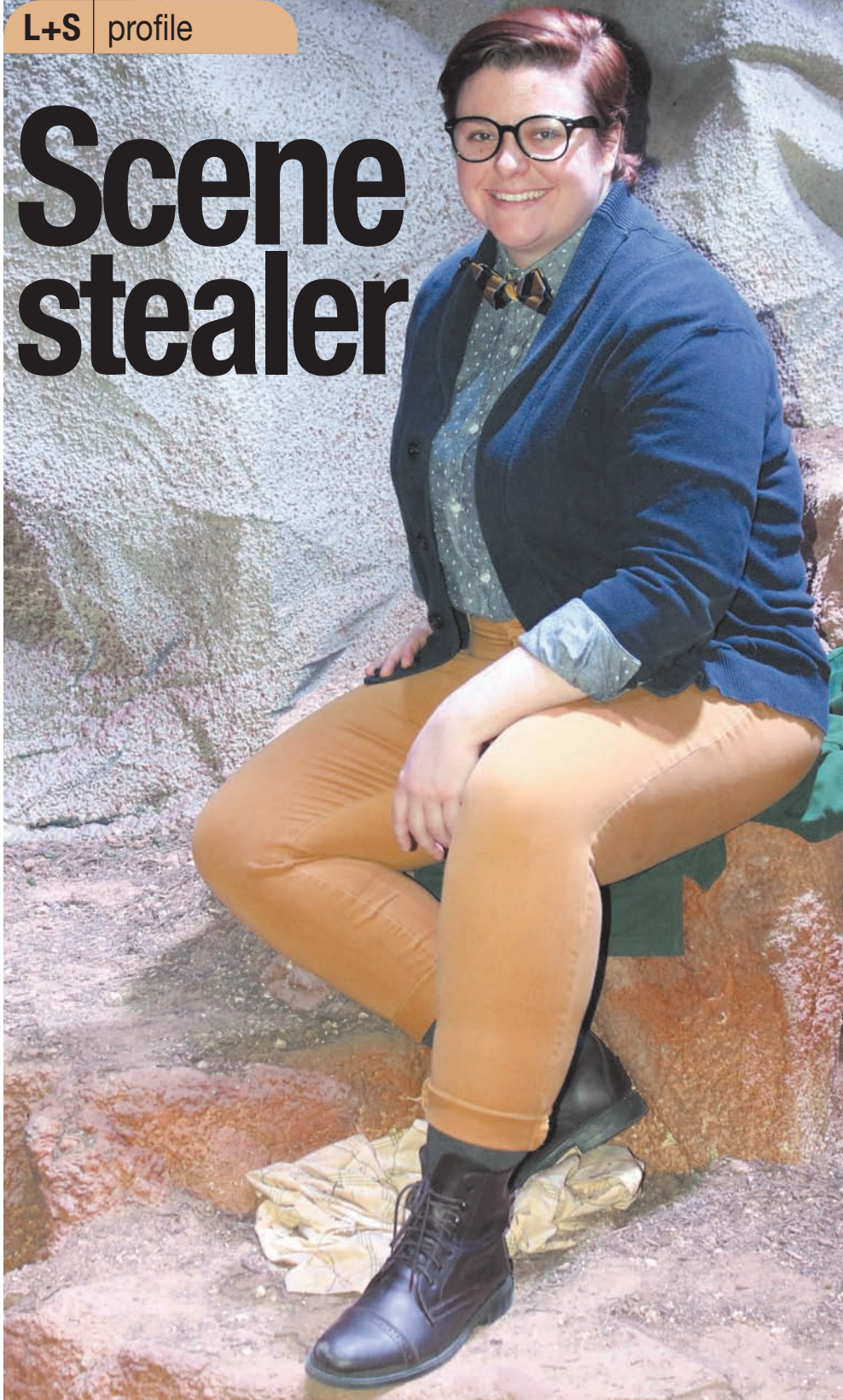
There's always a gamut. The animation features everything from slick Pixar-produced CGI (as in the charming *Sanjay's Super Team*, pictured) to the line-drawn and edgy, violent *Prologue* and the affectionately bromantic drama *We Can't Live Without Cosmos*, all of which are worthy of Oscar glory. The live action shorts tend to be international, from the tentative Irish romance *Stutterer*, about a man with a speech impediment struggling to finally meet his online girlfriend, to the lone American entry *Day One* (pictured), about a female Army translator on her first day on the job in combat. The breadth is amazing — don't miss 'em.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Now at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre.



Scene stealer



In just 3 years, Kelsey Ervi has established a reputation as one of North Texas' most peripatetic theater professionals. And she's just getting started

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

When last we caught up with Kelsey Leigh Ervi, she was a relative newcomer to the North Texas theater scene — working as an assistant to Terry Martin, the producing artistic director at WaterTower Theatre in Addison, while writing plays in her spare time and assistant-directing shows. We called

that story “The sorcerers’ apprentice.” How time flies. That was less than three years ago; today, the apprentice has become the master. “Three years ago I was just starting out in Dal-

■ ERVI Next Page

Ervi on the set of WaterTower Theatre’s current production of ‘Lord of the Flies,’ her biggest project yet as a director. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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■ ERVI, From Previous Page

las, still trying to find my footing as a director," she admits. Now she's become a go-to talent in a variety of disciplines.

Not only has she continued to write (she had a play in WaterTower's Out of the Loop Fringe Festival last year), she performs — notably in a universally-acclaimed production of *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play* at Stage West last summer — and has directed more and more, including a one-act at the Bath House Cultural Center last June for women-centric Echo Theatre, *Precious*

Little, that was the consensus standout at the Festival of Independent Theatres. This week, she opened her biggest show to date, WTT's production of *Lord of the Flies*, which runs through Feb. 14.

Oh, and she's producing and doing photography and podcasting and even does sound design on occasion. But we'll get to some of that later.

The short truth is, at just 26, Ervi has become one of the most promising talents in North Texas.

"Kelsey's passion for the art of theater has been apparent since I met her," gushes Terry Martin. "She has proven to be an artist of great taste and vision, and the DFW theater community is lucky to have her voice among us."

Ervi accepts the praise humbly — her enthusiasm for her colleagues is as sincere as theirs for her. "I'm very fortunate to be in the community, working with the talent level we have here, which is pretty remarkable." *Precious Little*, she

insists, "was a very good show, but it just kind of happened. It became something I didn't really expect it to be. We actually created this moving piece of theater, which has a lot to do with my lead actress, Sherry Ward, who was so amazing."

None of it "just happened," though. Even by her own account, Ervi has been "go-go-go" for the last three years. "In 2013, I did nine shows [as a writer/director/performer], in 2014 I did 10 and this last year was six, and a lot were really special. It was a professionally a very successful year for me. I get to work with people I want to work with and people who want to work with me. And WaterTower has afforded me a lot of opportunities to do a lot of things and come up with ideas that are creative."

Which is why she jumped at the chance to direct *Lord of the Flies*. A stage adaptation of Nobel Prize winner William Golding's allegory about British schoolboys stranded on a desert island who create their own militaristic, tribal society might not be the kind of property you'd immediately association with a Texas girl in her mid-twenties. Which is exactly the point.

"As a female, as a young person, as a lesbian, I don't want to do just 'gay material' or 'female material,' I want to find work that is challenging and engaging and creates a dialogue," Ervi says. Martin concurs.

"I knew that Kelsey was ready for a larger challenge and was thrilled to give her the opportunity [to direct *Lord of the Flies*]," he says. "This play was something I felt she would excel at."

"This is my biggest thing as a director — definitely the biggest budget," she says. "It was ambitious, no doubt. There are definitely more moving parts [than most smaller shows I've worked on]."

Her concept shows a depth that goes beyond her years. "What happens on that island isn't because they are on the island. They can't escape it — it's society," she says. "This play is about subject matter that is in our everyday lives. It's totally relevant issues of gun violence in this country, as well as issues going on overseas."

Social consciousness is as much a part of her aesthetic as anything else. Ervi and two colleagues — Jeremy Dumont and Kathryn Taylor Rose — just recently launched the Little Big Scene Podcast, which discusses the state of theater in North Texas, including interviews with local practitioners. (The sixth episode dropped just this week.)

"We're having a lot of fun, though I'm surprised sometimes we have the time to do it," Ervi grins. "We had been wanting to have a podcast about Dallas-Fort Worth theater [because] we heard all these conversations in various cliques of the theater community, issues about space and money and casting and diversity and inclusion and women in theater — hot-button issues. We wanted to create a platform that was accessible to everyone so that we can realize we're all one big community." ■

LORD OF THE FLIES

Addison Theatre Centre,
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WaterTowerTheatre.org.

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Friday 02.05

Taiwan's Cloud Gate Dance makes long-awaited Dallas debut

TITAS continues its season of almost-exclusively North Texas premiere dance companies with this import from Taiwan. Cloud Gate Dance Theatre has been around for 40 years, but this is the first chance for Dallas audiences to catch this inventive modern dance troupe. Presented in conjunction with the Crow Collection of Asian Art, this innovative company weaves themes of sunlight, soil, wind, water and fire in a visually arresting style that is dramatic and beautiful. It performs a one-night-only show, so don't miss it.

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

Tuesday 02.02 —
Sunday 02.14

'Bridges of Madison County' swoons into Fair Park Music Hall

The novel *The Bridges of Madison County* was something of a phenomenon in the early 1990s, but it took more than 20 years for it to be adapted to the Broadway stage, with Jason Robert Brown providing a Tony Award-winning score. The national tour of the show arrives in Dallas for the first time, courtesy of Dallas Summer Musicals. Get out to see this romantic and elegantly composed musical now through — appropriately enough — Valentine's Day.

DEETS: Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

LIFE+STYLE

best bets

Sunday 01.31

Opera luminaries Flicka and Jake, together again ... in concert

When last we saw Frederica von Stade, she was delighting audiences in the world premiere of composer Jake Heggie's *Great Scott* at the Winspear. Well, these opera luminaries (and personal friends) have teamed up again for an afternoon of music, with "Flicka" singing a variety of songs, accompanied by Heggie on piano. It's a rare chance to see these talents in a more casual and intimate setting.

DEETS: City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. 2 p.m. \$20-\$40. DallasOpera.org.



Photo by Karen Almond



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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

If/Then. The new musical from Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt (*Next to Normal*) about the paths our lives take. Limited run. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Sunday. ATPAC.org.

Clever Little Lies. Gay playwright Joe DiPietro's story of love, marriage and secrets. Features Bill Jenkins and Linda Leonard. Circle Theatre, 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. Through March 5. CircleTheatre.com.

Romeo & Juliet. The Dallas Theater Center's production of Shakespeare's romantic tragedy, directed by Joel Ferrell. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Feb. 28 (in preview through Feb. 4). DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Seven Guitars. One of August Wilson's acclaimed plays, portraying the African-American experience. This one, set in 1948, tracks how the death of a famed blues guitarist affects a group of friends. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Jan. 29–Feb. 28 (in previews through Feb. 4). JubileeTheatre.org.

Clarkston. Dallas Theater Center presents this world premiere from gay playwright Samuel D. Hunter, about a relationship between gay co-workers in a Costco. *Final weekend.* Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change. Gay playwright Joe DiPietro co-wrote this popular musical revue about relationships. Last week, B.J. Cleveland became a last-minute replacement for Doug Jackson, who fell ill. He co-stars with Amy Mills Jackson, Max Swarner and Kim Swarner. Theatre 3 in the Theatre Too space, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through March 6 (extended). Theatre3Dallas.com.



LOVE AND MARRIAGE | Linda Leonard and Bill Jenkins star together in Joe DiPietro's 'Clever Little Lies' at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth through March 5.

Lord of the Flies. Kelsey Leigh Ervi directs this adaptation of the Nobel Prize winning allegory about young men stranded on an island who create their own civilization. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Feb. 14. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Martyr. The first show of Second Thought Theatre's 2016 season, about a teen (Garret Storms) who begins

spouting fundamentalist philosophy and the effect on those around him. Directed by Blake Hackler. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphrey Campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Feb. 6. STT.co.

Oil, a new play set in Texas about family intrigue and fortune-grubbing. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Feb. 14. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Sexy Laundry. The return of the hit from earlier this year, a co-production from WaterTower and Stage West, reuniting original cast members Bob Hess and Wendy Welch. Moves from the Addison Theatre Centre to Fort Worth. *Final weekend.* Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. StageWest.org.

A Year with Frog and Toad. The Dallas Children's Theater's sweet-natured adaptation of the children's book, equally good for kids and adults. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Jan. 26–Feb. 28. \$15–\$28. DCT.org.

FINE ART

Jackson Pollock: Blind Spots. An exclusive exhibit of the innovative American painter's late work, a departure from his classic "drip" paintings, but also showing the span of the artist's work. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through March 20. Special exhibit fee. DMA.org.

Vermeer Suite: Music in 17th Century Dutch Painting. A lovely original Vermeer (one of only three dozen in the world) is among the seven paintings in this intimate exhibit that explores themes in Dutch art. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Aug. 21. DMA.org.

Castiglione: Lost Genius. Masterworks on paper from the Royal Collection. Kimbell Art Museum, 3333 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 14. Free. KimbellArt.org.

Gustave Caillebotte: The Painter's Eye. Kimbell Art Museum, 3333 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 14. \$18. KimbellArt.org.

N.S. Harsha: Sprouts, reach in to reach out. A site-specific mural, the first in Dallas for the Indian artist, transforms the main corridor of the DMA. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 21. DMA.org.



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FRIDAY 01.29

COMMUNITY

Texas Exes LGBT Network Mixer. Alumni of the University of Texas are invited to help engage LGBT/ally students, grads and supporters with a mixer. Free appetizers served. Cedar Springs Tap House, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. 5:30 p.m.

Panoptikon. The weekly retro disco dance party, presented by Lord Byron. Red Light, 2911 Main St. Doors 9 p.m.

SATURDAY 01.30

SPORTS

FrontRunners. Gay jogging group meets at 8:30 a.m. at the statue in Lee Park for a run along the Katy Trail.

SUNDAY 01.31

COMMUNITY

Drag Brunch. It's the last Sunday of the month, so it's Jenni P and friends at Dish for Drag Brunch. Three seatings (10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.). Dish, 4123 Cedar Springs Road in the ilume.

CONCERTS

Art Song: Frederica von Stade and Jake Heggie. The acclaimed opera singer, who recently appeared at the Winspear Opera House in Jake Heggie's world premiere *Great Scott*, returns for a concert across the street, with Heggie as her accompanist. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. 2 p.m. \$20-\$40.

DallasOpera.org.

MONDAY 02.01

CABARET

Mama's Party. Local singer Amy Stevenson hosts her ongoing cabaret series, always with special guests and a good time. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St. Grand Prairie. \$10.

TUESDAY 02.02

FILM

On the Town. One of the classic Freed Unit musicals from MGM, with Gene Kelly and Frank Sinatra as sailors on leave in New York. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

THEATER

The Bridges of Madison County. The Tony Award winner for best original score makes its Dallas debut in this national tour. Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. Feb. 2-14. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

THURSDAY 02.04

CABARET

Judy Chamberlain Jazz. The jazz vocalist's weekly cabaret performance in the back room of Zippers Hideaway, 3333 N. Fitzhugh St. 9 p.m.



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Ask Howard

How to do the wrong thing right

Dear Howard,

I considered myself bona fide heterosexual way back in the '90s; consequently, I'm the proud parent now of a beautiful teenage daughter — living proof that if you fear alternative sexual consequences badly enough, you can perform any feat. I've wised up in the years since, regarding what constitutes *real* relationship motives, but now my college freshman little girl — fresh off a Vegas weekend with a gaggle

of her silly sorority sisters — believes she's "in love" with some 'roided-up, Aussie hustler after he plucked her onstage to gyrate his junk in her face during her "most awesome first male strip show experience ever!" "He's straight, Dad," she blushed doe-eyed at me, with a straight face. "We all got invited backstage afterwards; that's when he gave me his number, we've talked practically nonstop ever since — Dad, it's like I've known him my *whole* life!" Howard, what's your best advice? — **Dean K.**

Dear Dean,

Incremental steps — slow ones — are all that's crucial: You might attempt first reasoning "obvious" logic with your daughter via, say, *delicately* informing her there are no such fantasy creatures as "straight" males wearing fuchsia sparkle G-strings for office attire, any more than there are "straight" males who, oh, legally qualify income tax deductions for their assorted work-collection of penis pumps. Secondly, there exists no such hunk-of-plenty as a "straight" male stripper who doesn't primarily rent out his mon-

eymaker to [*ahem!*] non-female clientele on the sly (i.e., earn his "real" living as a gay hooker); moreover, every single stripper/escort/hustler in Vegas is, by virtue of their chosen career, minimally bisexual (or rather, gay-for-pay): translation, if you're doing the buying, irrelevant of gender, he'll sure get grindingly down-and-sexual: Mr. Thunder Down Under possesses testosterone superpowers to lift it lovingly up, always, for whomever flashes cash at his crotch. Your daughter, of course, will call you an old hateful fart liar for destroying her *one* chance in life for eternally true love and happiness, but she'll *believe* your bluntly sincere, father's spoken truth, regardless.

Dear Howard,

Around the corner, man, looms one hideous "holiday" each year that just puckers my posterior thinking about. *Again*, I've trapped myself inside the exact same Valentine's Day shit pit that I've never once successfully crawled out of — ever — to smell like bouquet roses and heart-boxed candy. It seems my "side dishes" suddenly expect me take *them* out for a full night of bells-and-whistles romance, with *all* that's implied (the horny stinkers). None of these "millennial boys" seem to comprehend, at all, that I've a long-term spouse who won't too kindly tolerate *another* excuse from me as to why I have to work late again on, of all nights, Feb 14 ... instead of making love to him as is required. Howard, you got anything convincing I can use to let these frisky kids down gently on Valentine's Day without the entire pack of them, too, swearing they'll come at me with sharp objects and fire? — **Harland**

Dear Har Har,

FYI, your "millennial side dishes" comprehend perfectly that you've a spouse more deserving of your rosily delicious, cream-filled erection on Valentine's than should be their *undeserved* holiday candy box treat. However, they simply could not give a cherub's quiver about your better half's love for you *or* your annual guilt pangs over being a serial cheater, nor should they; it's you alone, stud, who shoulders all and *sole* responsibility of determining whether your spouse is more important to *your* cupid happiness, long-term, than any of your little side-trick moppets slinging their pouty arrows, pitchforks and torches at you are, short-term.

Dear Howard,

This guy I'm dating literally looks like something straight out of, like, a recruitment poster touting the virtues of good, clean, healthy living — all hazel-eyed, chisel-jawed, white-teethed, blond and gleaming ... a total heyday-of-Hollywood matinee idol material. In other words, the polar opposite of the crack pad "Tina" tweak-a-thon pervert he really is. I enjoy that "him," because he'll sure agree to *anything* in bed with me once he's slamming, but he *never* offers going Dutch with our party favors, the freak, and seems honestly to *presume* I was just born on this Earth to be his very own private, drug lord sugar-daddy. Like, what fresh hell even is this? — **Benjamin Bing**

Dear Ben Bin,

I'm not sure quite what your gripe here is — that your Nordic MGM god of Dorian Gray handsomeness enjoys kinky meth-sex (the filthier, all the better), or that you don't make enough money to keep a



smack habit going for both you *and* Lars, simultaneously? In any case, my buzzing B. B., dazzler blonds *never* pay their own way, *especially* ones so vile they look virtuous. Haven't you learned this truth by now? Out of curiosity's sake, what is Lars's sign, might I ask? My good friend, a famous astrologist, would bray, "Gotta be Capricorn, honey; *only* a Capricorn can pull off being true-born junkie and it not show!"

Have a question about love, life, sex, etiquette or anything? Email it to AskHoward@dallasvoice.com.

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this week's solution

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Making the **SCENE** the week of Jan. 29-Feb. 4:

- **Alexandre's:** *Filter Kings* on Friday. *No Label* on Saturday. *Chris Chism* on Wednesday. *So Strung Out with Spencer West* on Thursday.
- **Brick/Joe's:** *AIDS Walk South Dallas Benefit Show* hosted by *Ida Mae Watergate* and performances by a variety of special guests at 11 p.m. on Friday.
- **Changes:** *Wall of Food Show* at 8 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Club Reflection:** *Imperial Court* cookout at 4 p.m. and *College of Monarchs Show* at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** *Mr. and Ms. Texas Leather* contest on Friday and Saturday. *United Court of the Lone Star Empire* presents *Match Game Show* on Sunday at 7 p.m.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** *Net Chix Exposed* with *Krystal* and *Asia* on Tuesday.
- **Rainbow Lounge:** *Freaks & Geeks* with *Andre*, *Justin Cider*, *Buster*, *Ryder*, *Andy Skylar*, *Justin Beaver* and *Barry* at 9 p.m. on Friday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** Purchase a glass for *Wine Walk*, which benefits security efforts on *the Strip* outside the bar from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** *Bad Habits* on Friday. *Tyla Taylor Band* on Saturday. *Kathy & Bella* at 3 p.m. and *Jenni Dale Lord Trio* at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- **The Rose Room:** *Kelexis*, *Cassie*, *Layla*, *Roxy Marquis*, *Krystal*, *Valerie* and *Chanel LaMasters* on Saturday.
- **Urban Cowboy Saloon:** *Emperor and Empress Choice Show* at 8 p.m. on Friday.
- **Zippers:** *Judy Chamberlain* jazz at 9 p.m. on Friday. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/category/photos. Scene Photographers: *Winston Lackey* and *Chad Mantooth*.





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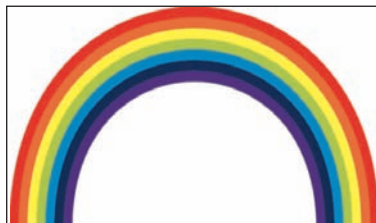
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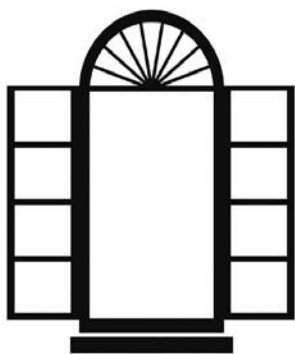
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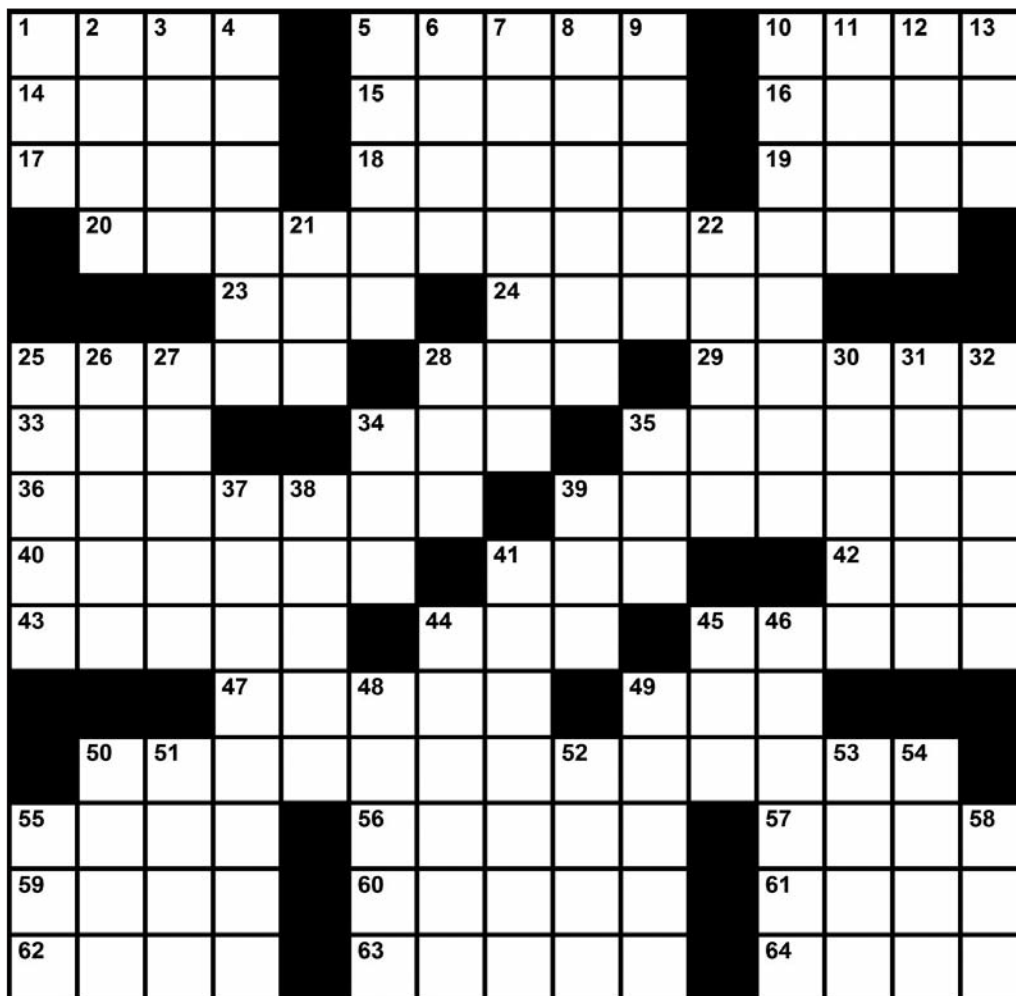
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q-puzzle



Major Tom

Solution on page 25

Across

- Historic Stonewall event
- Reformer Anthony
- Top
- Word used in dating
- In flames
- Lake traveled by Ohio ferries
- Romeo or Juliet
- Puccini opera
- Neighbor of Mass.
- Androgynous alter ego of David Bowie
- Egypt and Syr., once
- Ford flub
- Puts in a position?
- "Diamonds ___ a Girl's Best Friend"
- Airport fleet
- Childcare writer LeShan
- Tiny balls
- Stritch of Broadway
- David Bowie song with the lyric "Look up here, I'm in heaven"
- David Bowie hit of 1972
- Use them to play Johnny Mathis records
- Cocks and bulls
- Chicago trains
- A bit, informally
- Half of a Greta Garbo monogram
- What gay partners can walk in

every state

- List-maker Schindler
- Curry of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*
- David Bowie role in *The Last Temptation of Christ*
- Cry of Dorothy
- Neighbor of Sudan (var.)
- Marilyn Monroe's sexy pair
- Hold, as an opinion
- If ___ Walls Could Talk
- Salt's saint
- Doesn't rent
- Toys that do tricks
- Hayes of *Will & Grace*

Down

- Sarah Schulman novel ___ *Bohemia*
- Don Juan's mom
- R.E.M.'s "The ___ Love"
- Source of oral pleasure
- Lusty deity of antiquity
- Sky sightings
- Women who don't have sex with men
- Where a pinball wizard might lurk
- Moves toward
- Queer
- Love of Lesbos
- "It ___ Necessarily So"
- Doll that "came out" in 1993

- "Jumpin' Jack Flash," to Mick Jagger
- Actress Reese
- Aids
- My Own Private ___*
- Stropped item
- Muscle Mary's pride
- They don't use their mouths for talking
- ___ fours (doggy-style)
- Gaydar, e.g.
- Mass transit vehicle
- Saucer pilots
- Straight and gay
- Friar's affair
- Get a load of
- Town for fudge packers?
- Evita's cowboy
- Be confined to the bed, perhaps
- They may be spitting
- Litter critter
- Streisand's *Prince of ___*
- "That was close!"
- Serious sign
- Part of UTEP
- Maupin story
- Thompson of *Angels in America*
- Rene Auberjonois role
- Chaz to Cher

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