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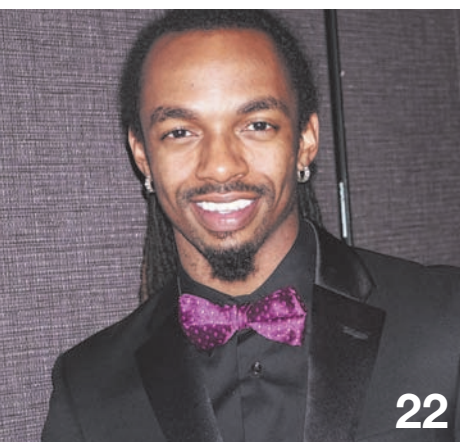


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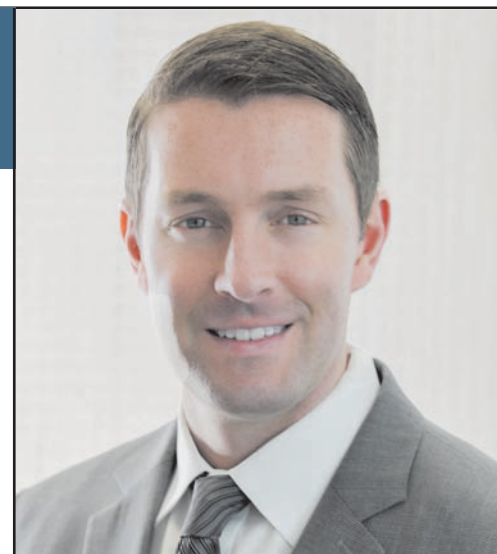
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Colbert admits killing Shumway, claims self defense

Christopher (Christian) Colbert has confessed to the murder of Ronald Shumway, but when he spoke to Dallas detectives in a Los Angeles County jail recently, Colbert claimed he killed his landlord in self-defense, according to the arrest warrant issued in connection with Shumway's murder.

After Det. E. Montenegro read Colbert his Miranda rights, the arrest warrant indicates, Colbert waived his rights and told detectives his version of what events leading to Shumway's death.

“According to Suspect Colbert, one day Complainant Shumway began drinking which led to an argument,” the warrant says. “He claimed that Complainant Shumway came at him and tried to strangle him.”

Colbert told Montenegro he thought Shumway might tie him up and kill him, claiming that Shumway struck Colbert's head against the wall and saying he couldn't breathe when Shumway attacked him. Colbert said that in an effort to defend himself, he ended up choking Shumway with his hands.

When detectives asked why he didn't report the death, Colbert said he was in shock.

Although Colbert initially denied any involvement in Shumway's murder, he finally confessed after Montenegro told him evidence in the fraudulent sale of the house implicated him in the killing.

When detectives asked how Shumway ended up encased in concrete in his backyard, Colbert said that was his idea and no one else helped. He said he bought the cement at Home Depot on Fort Worth Avenue.

When Montenegro asked Colbert if he had tied up Shumway, Colbert said he didn't remember but he might have. He claimed he blacked out from fear and shock. Colbert's version of events differed from what evidence indicated happened, according to the warrant.

For example, when the detective asked what he used to wrap Shumway's body, Colbert said he used a blanket. But when Montenegro corrected him and said the body was wrapped in a plastic bag, Colbert changed his story and acknowledged he used a black plastic bag. And according to the warrant, evidence found during the autopsy didn't match Colbert's explanation of the fight. Shumway's hands and feet were bound with neckties and there were several ligation marks around his neck.

The warrant also details how Colbert managed to turn the check written to Shumway into cash. After the sale of the house, Colbert deposited about \$109,000 into Shumway's Bank of America account, then withdrew all of the money using Shumway's debit card.

The warrant confirms that two witnesses picked Colbert out of a photo lineup as the person who presented himself as Shumway for the sale of the house.

— David Taffet



Gay SMU Dean David Chard named president of Wheelock College

David Chard, the first dean of SMU's Annette

Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development, will become president of Wheelock College in Boston in July 1.

Chard, who is gay, will be the college's 14th president.

Founded in 1888, Wheelock College focuses on preparing students for careers in education, social work and child life.

“Chard stood out not only for his outstanding leadership at Southern Methodist University, but for his innovative thinking, focus on diversity and inclusion, and lifelong commitment to education,” said Kate Taylor, chair of the Wheelock College Board of Trustees.

SMU President Gerald Turner praised Chard's work elevating the Simmons to national prominence.

“David Chard has been the ideal dean to build the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development as a national resource with a particular impact on our community,” Turner said in a statement. “He has led programs and attracted research funding that will strengthen the quality of education through evidence-based practices. He has made the Simmons school a strategic partner with the community in improving education opportunities for under-served young people. He is a national leader in education. We wish him the best of success at Wheelock.”

One of those strategic partnerships includes the SMU Center for Family Counseling at Resource Center. The partnership, which has been operating since 2008, allows graduate counseling students to provide counseling services under the supervision of doctoral licensed university faculty and staff at Resource Center.

“David is a very, very, very good friend,” Resource Center CEO Cece Cox said. “I was introduced to him early on when I was at Resource Center and he was at SMU. We've worked closely together and also developed a business relationship.”

Cox, who also serves on the Simmons School's executive committee, said Chard's being openly gay was a positive step for the university.

“His being openly gay was instrumental in raising awareness of and influencing positive efforts regarding the LGBT community,” Cox added. “When you have a seat at the table, you have a say.”

Chard will also be one of the few out leaders of a private, four-year college or university in the country.

Chard was appointed by President Barack Obama to the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education in 2012 and elected chair. The board oversees and directs the work of the Institute of Education Sciences, the research arm of the U.S. Department of Education.

Steven Currall, SMU provost and vice president for academic affairs, will be appointing an interim dean prior to Dean Chard's departure from SMU. A search committee will look for Chard's replacement through the 2016-17 school year.

— James Russell

“This *Little Mermaid* reels in the gold!”

— *Dallas Morning News*

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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.

MARCH

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM with guest **Darlene Ewing** discussing politics; **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.

• **March 18: High Tech Happy Hour**
SMU Cox School of Business LGBTQ & Allies Texas Instruments Pride and SMU Cox School of Business Strategic Alliance LGBT and ally group host a special High Tech Happy Hour from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd. Complimentary parking

available in the two lower levels of museum parking garage. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. For more information e-mail Paul von Wupperfeld at pavw@ti.com.

• **Through March 18: White Rock Community Church Stations of the Cross**
The 14 Stations of the Cross are depicted by tattoo artists from Taboo Tattoo and Tigger's Body Art in Deep Ellum 6:30 p.m. each Friday through Lent at White Rock Community Church, 9353 Garland Road. To learn more visit Whiterockchurch.info or call 214-320-0043.

• **March 20: The Wedding Workshop: An LGBT Community Event**
Three-hour, hands-on seminar featuring wedding industry experts guides couples through all the steps for planning a memorable wedding, 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Freeway. For more information call 214-754-8710 ext. 126 or visit LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com. Admission and parking are free with registration.

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pet of the week /BRUSSEL SPROUT

Brussel Sprout a 2-year-old shepherd-terrier-pit bull mix who came to Operation Kindness from another shelter. He is tan in color and weighs about 60 pounds. He appears to be good with others and is working on walking nicely on a leash. If you have other dogs, bring them by to meet with him.

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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• **March 20: The Wedding Party and Expo: An LGBT Community Event**

Presented by the Dallas Voice, the largest LGBT wedding expo in Texas includes exhibitors, a fashion show, food samples, a community marketplace and free cake. Donnie Brown serves as celebrity host. 1-5 p.m. at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Freeway. For more information call 214-754-8710 ext. 126 or e-mail EXPO@dallasvoice.com. Register at TheWeddingPartyEXPO.com. Admission and parking are free with registration.

• **March 20: Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association meeting**

Monthly meeting at 3 p.m. at Baron House, 516 College Ave, Fort Worth.

• **March 23: DGLA Happy Hour**

As part of Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance's 40th anniversary, everyone is welcome to a happy hour celebration. From 6-8 p.m. at The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road.

• **March 24: Mr. and Miss AWSD**

Mr. and Miss AIDS Walk South Dallas will be crowned. 10 p.m. at The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave.

• **March 24: CultureMap Social**

Event benefits DIFFA/Dallas from 7-10 p.m. at 7 for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd. Suite 107.

• **March 26: AIDS Walk South Dallas**

5K walk benefits The Afiya Center at 8 a.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, 2922 MLK Jr. Blvd. Register at AIDSWalkSouthDallas.com.

• **March 27: Easter in Lee Park**

Easter in the Park is back celebrating its 50th anniversary. Pooch Parade, bonnet contest, music and more. 1-4 p.m. Lee Park, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd.

• **March 31: Transgender Day of Visibility**

APRIL

• **April 1: Compassion Fatigue Symposium**

EduCare presents the fifth annual Compassion Fatigue Symposium sponsored by organizations including Lambda Legal and AIDS Arms from 8:15 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, 9200 Inwood Road. \$30 early bird registration. \$35 after March 1. Registration closes March 29.

• **April 2: Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas Project Ruffway Benefit**

Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas benefiting the SPCA of Texas includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a DJ spinning the latest music, a silent auction, and a fashion show with

March 23: DGLA Happy Hour



Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance celebrates its 40th anniversary with a happy hour celebration at The Round-Up Saloon

models and their dogs wearing the Spring 2016 line. 7-10 p.m. at the Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas, 2400 Lone Star Drive.

For tickets and more information visit SPCA.org/GLFD.

• **April 5: Woman to Woman 2016 Luncheon**

Benefit for Jewish Family Service with guest speaker Goldie Hawn at Hyatt Regency Dallas, 300 Reunion Blvd. For more information call 972-437-9950 ext. 259 or visit JFSdallas.org/woman.

• **April 9: Pups and Pints Benefit for Paws in the City**

Benefit for adoption and animal welfare group from 3-6 p.m. at Deep Ellum Brewing Company, 2823 St. Louis St. \$20 per person gets you a pint glass and 3 beer tickets.

• **April 9: Walk a Mile in Her Shoes**

Men's march to stop rape, sexual assault and gender violence benefits the Dallas County Sexual Assault Coalition from 9 a.m.-noon beginning and ending on the Continental Pedestrian Bridge.

• **April 10: Oak Cliff Earth Day**

Booths, exhibits, demonstrations. Free. Noon to 5 p.m. in Lake Cliff Park in the Demonstration Rose Garden, Colorado and Zang boulevards. The Oak Cliff Street car is free and runs every 30 minutes from Union Station to Lake Cliff Park.

• **April 15: North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce Celebration of Excellence**

Eleventh annual event honors awards in

business excellence and to legislative champions at Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Fwy.

• **April 16: Gaybingo**

Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information, call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.

• **April 25-May 1: National Black Transmen Conference**

Fifth annual National Black Trans Advocacy Conference and awards gala. The Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum, 14901 Dallas Parkway.

• **April 22: 10th Annual FashionCITED Show**

Annual fashion show and fundraiser for Legal Hospice of Texas. 8 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave., Dallas. For additional information e-mail Kamesha Gibson at kamesha@legalthospice.org For tickets and more information visit Bit.ly/1DGaphZ.

MAY

• **May 6-8: The Grace Project**

The world's largest conference for women living with HIV takes place at a hotel in the Coit/LBJ area. For more information contact Angela Huddy at Legacy Counseling Center at angela@legacycounseling.org or 214-520-6308 ext. 384. Information at legacygraceproject.org.

• **May 13-14: Contemporary Relationships Conference**

Learn and discuss ways to strengthen LGBTQ dating, relationships, and parenting with over 30 international and national speakers from 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m. on May 14. Pre-conference institutes take place May 13. Both events are held at St. David's Bethell Hall, 301 E. 8th St., Austin. For more information and to register visit Bit.ly/1tZKykeor e-mail info@contemporaryrelationships.com.

• **May 14: TAG'S Annual Ball**

"007: A Night With Bond," Tyler Area Gays' 2016 Annual Ball, features casino tables, cash bar, live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auction and more. Tickets are \$40 in advance, \$45 at the bar; student tickets are \$35. For tickets and more information visit TylerAreaGays.com. For information email info@TylerAreaGays.com or call 903-312-2081. 6 p.m.-midnight, at Holiday Inn Tyler South Broadway, 5701 S. Broadway Ave.

• **May 21: AIDS Outreach Center Evening of Hope Benefit Gala**

Benefits AOC's services and programs. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 7:30 p.m. at Worthington Hotel, 200 Main St., Fort Worth. For tickets and more information call 817-916-5224.

• **May 21: Orange is the New Bingo**

Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information, call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.



Seeking solace, solutions in music

Turtle Creek Chorale



Jane Clementi

Jane Clementi talks about her son, his roommate's trial, the Tyler Clementi Foundation and 'Tyler's Suite'

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Bullying killed Tyler Clementi in 2010. Now his family hopes that a nine-piece choral movement written about the gay teen can help stop the bullying that drove him to take his own life.

Tyler's mom, Jane, and his oldest brother, James, will be in Dallas March 24-26 for performances by the sixth and final gay men's chorus to stage *Tyler's Suite*.

Former Turtle Creek Chorale Artistic Director Tim Seelig worked with the Tyler Clementi Foundation to put together the choral movement. Seelig's San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus premiered the suite with only eight movements.

Each section of *Tyler's Suite* was written by a different composer. *Wicked* and *Pippin* composer Stephen Schwartz, who met the Clementis at a fundraiser, helped oversee the project, and after the work premiered in 2014, he decided to add a ninth movement.

"Stephen thought there needed to be one more movement," Jane Clementi explained. "He added 'Brothers' Voices.'"

Jane said this isn't a biography of her son, but is instead an exploration of the events, emotions and people that created Tyler's experi-

ence.

Pamela Stewart is the librettist for *Tyler's Suite*. She also was librettist for the *Sing for the Cure* song cycle written for the Turtle Creek Chorale in conjunction with the Susan G. Koman Foundation. Jake Heggie — known in Dallas for *Moby Dick* and *Dead Man Walking* that he wrote for the Dallas Opera — is among the composers.

Tyler Clementi was only three weeks into his freshman year at Rutgers when he realized his roommate had live-streamed him in a sexual encounter with another man in their dorm room. After reading an ongoing series of tweets about it, Tyler went to New York City and jumped off the George Washington Bridge.

Tyler came out to his mother just before leaving for school, but had come out to his oldest brother James, who is also gay, at the beginning of the summer. Jane said when Tyler came out to her, she was surprised in a way that she wasn't when James came out.

In high school, Tyler hadn't been bullied, at least as far as his mother knows. So, she said, he was unprepared for what happened when he went to college. She called his first few weeks of school the perfect storm. Away from home for the first time, away from his friends and away from his usual support system, he was overwhelmed.

"That's a high risk time," she said.

Jane said Tyler's roommate live-streamed him twice. The second time, Tyler realized the camera was on and disconnected it.

But then he logged into Twitter and realized that people across the Rutgers campus and

friends of his roommate on campuses across the country had watched the video — and were commenting.

Tyler kept logging into Twitter and the comments continued. He couldn't escape. The more he read from his online tormentors, the more frantic he became.

With traditional bullying, Jane said, after the incident is over, the person can go someplace safe. Cyber-bullying, she said, is different — it's harder to escape.

Wherever Tyler had his laptop, he was being attacked. And he repeatedly signed into Twitter to follow the barrage of attacks against him.

After Tyler died, police immediately launched an investigation. His roommate, Dharun Ravi, was eventually tried and found guilty of bias intimidation, invasion of privacy, hindering apprehension, cover-up and tampering with evidence — a total of 15 criminal charges. In some categories, multiple charges were filed, because M.B., the man in the room with Tyler, was also a victim.

In 2012, Ravi could have been sentenced to up to 10 years in prison; prosecutors wanted five years. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail but actually served only 20 days. He was also given three years' probation, a \$10,000 fine, 300 hours of community service and ordered to attend counseling on cyber-bullying and alternate lifestyles.

Ravi's conviction has been appealed and a three-judge panel heard arguments in February.

Ravi wants his record expunged. His attorneys claim there was no connection between the webcam spying and Clementi's suicide. A

decision is expected in four or five months.

Prosecutors have also filed an appeal, wanting a dismissed charge re-instated and Ravi retried.

Tyler died during a spate of suicides happening among gay youth and some who were presumed gay who had fallen victim to anti-gay bullying in the fall of 2010. Among them was Zach Harrington, 19, who committed suicide after attending a Norman, Okla. City Council

Tyler's Suite will be performed by The Turtle Creek Chorale at 7:30 p.m. March 31-April 2 at City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. \$37-55. TurtleCreekChorale.com

meeting where he heard a barrage toxic comments against a proposed LGBT History Month resolution.

That same fall in Houston, 13-year-old Asher Brown committed suicide a day after a bully threw him down a flight of stairs at school and no one came to Brown's aid.

Montana Lance, 9, of The Colony in Denton County hanged himself in the nurse's bathroom after being bullied in class. His mother claimed she was told to keep her mouth shut about the incident.

Jon Carmichael, 13, from Joshua, just south of Fort Worth, had been bullied for years before taking his own life earlier that year.

Soon after Tyler's death, his family started The Tyler Clementi Foundation. At first they

were't even sure which problem they would address, since Tyler's story was multi-faceted.

Trevor Project and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention addressed suicide well. But bullying wasn't the primary focus of any national organization, so that became the mission of The Tyler Clementi Foundation.

"I wasn't in a good place," Jane said of that time, "but a large number of people were interested."

So Jane's cousin, an attorney, drew up the papers to form a non-profit organization. New Jersey Sen. Frank Lautenberg heard of their efforts and intervened, making sure they had their non-profit status within weeks.

"I'm not sure how it all fell into place," Jane said.

The organization evolved and is doing great things now, she said. And that's helping her with her grief.

"One of the things we learned is in 80 percent of cases, there are bystanders," she said.

In Tyler's case the prosecutor called up many witnesses through the 13-day trial. "Nobody reached out to say stop," Jane said. "Nobody reached out to Tyler to see if he was OK."

The Tyler Clementi Foundation's goal is to turn people into upstanders — people who step up and take a stand when they see bullying happening. To that end, the foundation sends representatives to visit high schools, colleges

and workplaces.

Its Day 1 Campaign has been an effective initiative aimed at putting an end to bullying before it starts. Based on research, it helps schools and workplaces express what behaviors are expected and involves confirmation from students or audience that they understand.

New York Law School held its first Tyler Clementi Internet Safety Conference in October. They now offer legal counsel to victims of cyber bullying.

The foundation formed partnerships with Columbia University and Rutgers to do research. The Tyler Clementi Center at Rutgers is creating new programs and approaches to address issues faced by young people, especially as they transition from home to college.

On the federal level, the foundation is working to pass the Tyler Clementi Anti-Harassment Act. But Jane said she's been frustrated by its slow progress. It's stuck in committee in the GOP-dominated Congress.

In addition, the foundation wants to put an end to bullying in faith communities. Jane — who said she comes from an evangelical background but believes that no religion teaches hate as a value — said she would like to put a stop to the kind of religious exemptions that would allow bullying — like the so-called religious freedom laws working their way through many state legislatures now. ■



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**On again,
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Easter in the Park is back,
but under different management

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

After cancelling Easter in the Park last year due to rising costs associated with permits, police, required trash haulers and more, organizers are bringing the Oak Lawn tradition back this year.

Last year, organizers set up a GoFundMe page to raise more than \$20,000 to stage the event but did not receive enough contributions. Without a sponsor or major donations, Dave Berryman, executive director of Cedar Springs Merchants Association, announced the event was canceled.

The popular Pooch Parade, however, was held during an event in Deep Ellum, thanks to Chris Watts at Petropolitan.

Bringing back Easter in the Park this year means traditions like the Pooch Parade, the Easter egg hunt, music and other activities are returning.

But some allege the new organizer, the Lee Park and Arlington Hall Conservancy, is trying to push away the prominent LGBT presence that has traditionally been a big part of the Easter celebration. There have been claims that conservancy officials nixed Paul J. Williams' drag alter ego, Sister Helen Holy, as the emcee for the Pooch Parade, suggesting that "those kinds of events" should be held

down the road at Reverchon Park.

The LGBT community's response can perhaps best be summed up in an email provided to Dallas Voice by Sister Lawna Jocqui with the DFW Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

"So they want our support for their events, but feel many of our events are better served at Riverchon," the reads. "All the judges that were [originally] selected have been replaced with society ladies from the conservancy, and they are just getting ugly about something."

The message ends by "encouraging us regulars to represent and have a fun, happy time!"

Lawna Jocqui did not provide the name of the person who sent the email.

Dallas Voice's attempts to contact officials with the Lee Park Conservancy went unanswered.

The spring event has a long history of factions in the ever-changing neighborhood being at odds. Before hippies invaded Lee Park or the gay community revitalized Oak Lawn, Dallas Morning News writer Kent Biffle recounted the first Easter in the Park event under the headline, "Open-air 'Bravo' Won By Lee Park Concert."

Those participating sat "spellbound amid the blooming azaleas and Houston-like humidity," Biffle wrote those many years ago.

Later that night, golf-ball-sized hail and tornadoes ripped through the area, according to an-

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The school across the street



Bruce Ackerman, Principal Carmen Derrick, Talented and Gifted Coordinator Jane Logan and counselor Stacy Owens all contributed to recent efforts to help Maple Lawn Elementary students in need.

Cathedral of Hope volunteers give back to Maple Lawn Elementary

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Mario's shoes were worn out.

But it wasn't until after Bruce Ackerman bought the Maple Lawn Elementary School student a new pair that he noticed Mario's old shoes barely even had soles in them.

"I'd never seen anything like it," Ackerman said.

Ackerman has volunteered at Maple Lawn for the past 15 years through Cathedral of Hope's partnership with the predominantly Hispanic school that sits across Inwood Road from the church. Maple Lawn is one of the poorest schools in the Dallas Independent School District.

For Ackerman, meeting the basic needs of the students was just another problem to resolve, not an insurmountable barrier.

Ackerman met with principal Carmen Derrick and counselor Stacy Owens, bringing with him Mario's old shoes and an idea: Teachers could take a close look at their students' needs, and then Ackerman and other volunteers would find a way to meet those needs.

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The idea made perfect sense to Owens, who proposed that teachers make student wish lists, something like the Angel Tree projects that are popular around Christmas each year. Teachers would look out for students wearing torn shirts or tattered shoes then give the students' names and sizes to Owens.

The first list Owens gave Ackerman included 40 students.

Ackerman quickly realized he could not — nor should he — do all that shopping alone.

"So I took the lists to friends and other members of Cathedral of Hope. But one member said he couldn't afford to take the list with so many items. So he found four others and signed them up. Each person who took a list bought every item on it," Ackerman said.

Because many of the volunteers had not purchased children's clothes for years — if ever — shopping for the students was in some cases an eye-opening experience.

"In the stores [volunteers] asked other shoppers who had kids, [and one asked], 'We're buying these clothes and shoes for kids at Maple Lawn [who are] 6 to 12 years old. This boy is 10 years old and needs a size nine shoe?'" Ackerman said. "After a good laugh, the experienced shopper explained there is a child's nine and an adult's nine and they are quite different."

When everyone had turned in the purchases,



Volunteers coordinated by Bruce Ackerman collected clothes and other necessities for 40 students.

Ackerman got to work. On March 10, Ackerman and his husband Stan Feaster delivered the gifts to the school.

"The administrators were thrilled," Ackerman said, praising both Derrick and Owens for their leadership in making the project happen. "Derrick is a great principal," he added.

Ackerman is one of Maple Lawn's go-to volunteers because he wants to make sure no student falls through the cracks. One of his students received a full scholarship to the prestigious all-boys private school St. Mark's of Texas.

"All he has to pay is the bus fee there," Ackerman said.

Other efforts are more personal.

Even as he is primarily involved with tutoring, Ackerman knows other Cathedral of Hope ministries can ensure happy, healthy students.

Ackerman also recently has begun eating lunch with three male students without fathers.

Two of the boys' fathers were deported. Another one's dad died.

Eating lunch with them is no substitute for their missing fathers, but Ackerman appreciates

the opportunity. "They need father figures," he said.

Bob Shea, interim director of advancement at the church, praised Ackerman and other church members for their generosity.

"Bruce's work is just the latest reiteration of our work with Maple Lawn," Shea said. "We've built an educational garden, fixed the air conditioning system at the school and helped buy mini-refrigerators. We've had a long and good relationship with the school. We have a generous community. Give them a charge and they run with it." ■

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While finding a wedding venue may not be a problem in Dallas or Fort Worth, Waylon Jordan, right, and Bill Mead couldn't find a location that would accommodate them near their East Texas town.

Northeast Texas couple hit a wall of bigotry when they tried to plan a hometown ceremony

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffte@dallasvoice.com

Waylon Jordan and Billy Mead, who live in a small town in Northeast Texas, have been together for 11 years. When the Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage was handed down, they decided to do what lots of couples across the country did — get married.

But rather than running directly to the county clerk, Mead wanted to take some time and plan an event. He wanted his family to come down from Colorado for the wedding, and Jordan always wanted to get married outdoors. He envisioned water as part of the setting.

So they started to gather names of venues in the area. Jordan said that a number of property owners there have opened their farms and ranches to host weddings and other events. Some have converted barns for dances and receptions. Others offer pretty settings with trees and gazebos.

So last summer, Jordan and Mead sent out their first round of emails to the local venues. Because they didn't want any surprises down the line, they made it clear up front that they are a same-sex couple.

They didn't get a single response.

So they sent a second round emails. This time, the responses came.

"Waylon, I'm sure you understand that we must follow our own conscience and beliefs on this issue and therefore we cannot offer our venue for your wedding," one venue owner wrote.

"At this time, I'm not even sure that the decision

by the Supreme Court is even legal and I certainly cannot see our venue being party to same-sex marriages," wrote another. "It goes against everything we believe. I'm sure you can find another place, but it won't be with us."

On the one hand, Jordan and Mead appreciated the honesty. They didn't want people sharing their wedding day who wouldn't share their joy.

On the other hand, they were angered by what was clearly bigotry and ignorance, and the one response questioning the legality of the Supreme Court ruling, Jordan said, was just completely wrong. It was wrong about them finding another place, too: They couldn't.

But a third response was possibly the most frustrating: "One went out of their way to let us know that they really didn't support us, but they supposed money was money," Jordan said.

Considering the amount of money they'd be spending on their wedding, the couple didn't think that response was any better than the one who didn't think a Supreme Court ruling was legal.

Both Jordan and Mead were clear. They didn't want to give publicity to any venue not interested in their business. That's why they didn't identify the venues to a reporter. They didn't want to create another Memories Pizza, referring to the restaurant in a small Indiana town that made national headlines when they announced they weren't going to cater gay weddings, closed their doors and raised almost \$1 million in a week from people concerned about the way the restaurant had been discriminated against.

Jordan and Mead also understood they had little recourse in fighting the discrimination they faced. While Dallas, Fort Worth and Plano have ordinances protecting against discrimination based on sexual orientation, Texas does not. Neither does the U.S. federal government.

JPs in the county where Jordan and Mead live have all stopped performing weddings rather than perform same-sex weddings.

Because they're in a college town, the couple has other gay friends who live nearby. Their friends didn't have any better luck planning a local wedding.

"Friends went to Burleson, a two-and-a-half hour drive, just to have a wedding," Jordan said. "Now we know why."

Jordan and Mead said the ordeal of finding a venue has drawn them even closer together than they were before. They met online thanks to their mutual love of horror films and novels, and after they had been chatting online for six months, Mead moved to Texas from Colorado to be with Jordan.

Because of their interest in the horror genre, Jordan said he envisioned their wedding on Halloween with a Tim Burton theme. "We wanted to make it a really memorable day," he said. "That's gone by the wayside."

Both men work at a Walmart. They said they find it funny when they hear random comments like, "Those damn faggots are ruining everything."

"If they only knew who they were talking to!" Mead declared. He works in the sporting good department where, among other things, he sells guns and hunting knives. And he certainly doesn't fit the typical stereotypes, his partner said.

"Bill's as likely to be working on a car," Jordan said. "He'll talk about rebuilding an engine. It throws people."

But it's Mead's family that has been most accepting, even offering to help pay for the wedding. Jordan's family said they wouldn't participate in their wedding and for years ignored Mead when he was there. So now the couple is looking at a September wedding.

"We're going to Colorado to do a wedding in [Mead's family's] great big, beautiful home," Jordan said. He admitted that it hurts that most of their friends wouldn't be able to come. But Jordan said having the wedding in Colorado wasn't a compromise.

"They have some land with a coy pond," he said. "So I get my water." ■

A weekend for wedding planning

The Wedding Workshop and the Wedding Party and Expo: An LGBT Community Event, will be held Sunday, March 20, with both events at Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Freeway.

The Wedding Workshop will be held from 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Featuring LGBT wedding experts Kimberly Vaughan with LGBTWeddings.com and Donnie Brown, the workshop will be a hands-on seminar designed to guide couples through the process of planning a workshop.

Participants will use the exclusive workbook while working with LGBT wedding industry experts to create their own unique matrimonial experience.

The Wedding Expo will be held from 1-5 p.m., with more than 74 exhibitors, wedding fashions, live entertainment, food samples, a community marketplace and cake. Parking and admission are free. Donnie Brown will host.

Both events are presented by Dallas Voice and hosted by Renaissance Dallas Hotel. Al's Formal Wear is title sponsor. Other sponsors are Spectrum Financial Group, Carol Marks Music Agency, Fairfield Place Bed and Breakfast Inn, LGBTWeddings.com, PSAV.

Some proceeds from the expo will benefit LEAP (Leadership, Education & Advocacy Program).

For more information or to register for free for one or both events, visit LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com or call 214-754-8710 ext. 126.



Here come the brides

Shawn Williams, left, and her partner of 13 years, Rebecca Stroud, will marry on Sunday.

Rockwall couple will exchange vows Sunday at Wedding Expo and Party

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
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Rebecca Stroud and Shawn Williams, who have been together 13 years, didn't hesitate when their friend, Melody Gualtiere, of Melodies and Memories Entertainment, asked them if she could use photos of them in a slideshow at an upcoming LGBT wedding expo.

Then Gualtiere told them that the people putting on the expo were looking for men and women to model gowns and tuxedos and other wedding fashions. Did they want to model?

"I told her, only if they'll marry us, too," Stroud laughed. "I mean, if they are already going to have us all dressed up for a wedding, then we should have a wedding!"

And that's how Stroud and Williams are ending up getting married on Sunday, March 20, at The Wedding Party and Expo: An LGBT Community Event. The event, which is the largest LGBT wedding expo in Texas, is presented by Dallas Voice at Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Freeway, from 1-5 p.m.

Stroud and Williams will tie the knot in a ceremony at the hotel, right after the expo. Bruce Wade, a hospice chaplain and close friend of the couple, will officiate. Williams will be wearing a suit provided by Al's Formal Wear on Oak Lawn, title sponsor of the expo, and Stroud will wear a gown provided by Providence Place Bridal Shop in Rockwall. Noting that she and her fiancée live in Rockwall, Stroud added that "Lynette at Provi-

dence Place has been great, and she is very friendly to the LGBT community."

It is, Stroud said, "a win-win situation. They have someone to model their clothes, and we get a great wedding."

This really isn't some spur-of-the-moment decision for Stroud and Williams. "We had already been talking about getting married. I mean, after 13 years, we already feel like such a solid couple. But we still felt like we should make it legal. But we just couldn't set a date," Stroud said.

There are, she said, so many decisions to make when it comes to weddings. "Do we invite a lot of family? Make it a big to-do, or keep it small and simple and intimate? But the date — that was the main thing. We just couldn't settle on a date. And then Melody called, and settled that for us."

And, Stroud said, the wedding will give her and Williams a chance to "set a great example for younger generations of LGBT people. They'll have a chance to see what a really good, 13-year relationship looks like."

Stroud admitted that as the big day draws ever closer, things can sometimes seem "a bit overwhelming. But at the same time, we are just so excited."

"We've known for a long time that we wanted to get married, but we always said that we were going to wait until it was legal in Texas," she continued. "That's something we really never thought would happen, but now, here it is. And we couldn't be happier."

Nerves aside, Stroud said, "Our goal for Sunday is just to have fun and really enjoy the moment, and to share that moment and our joy with everyone there."

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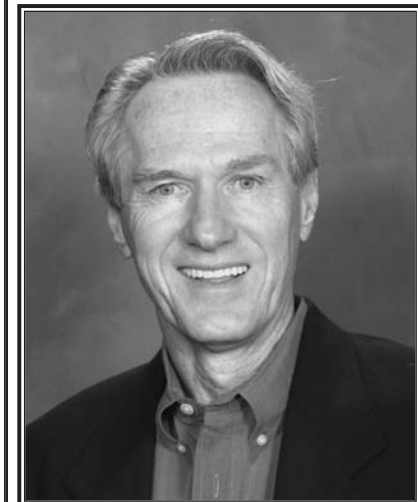


Black Tie hires a new development director

Zach Hess

Fundraising organization also names 5 additional board members

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responsible for getting sponsorships and underwriters for the annual fundraising gala, which will be held this year on Oct. 1.

Nathan Robbins, 2016 Black Tie co-chair, said the organization is "thrilled to welcome Zach to the Black Tie Dinner family. His experience and energy will help increase the positive impact of our 35th anniversary dinner and beyond."

Noting that Black Tie dinner "has a rich history of doing incredible work in our community," Hess added that he is "very excited to build upon this foundation of excellence, forge new and progressive relationships, and renew and grow support from existing stakeholders that will advance Black Tie Dinner's mission and expand the support given to HRC Foundation and all our local beneficiaries."

Black Tie Dinner is the country's largest LGBT fundraising dinner. Proceeds each year are divided between a slate of local LGBT and HIV/AIDS organizations and the national HRC Foundation. The 34th anniversary dinner last November raised \$1,030,000.

Hess most recently worked as corporate partnerships office for American Red Cross' North Texas Region. His job there was to generate business leads and solicit gifts from new, existing and former corporate donors, increasing revenue for Red Cross. He has also previously worked managing regional fundraising efforts for the Ameri-

can Lung Association in Dallas.

Hess is also a professionally trained opera singer who performs with The Dallas Opera in his free time. He attended Abilene Christian University and The New England Conservatory of Music in Boston.

Daniel Waldmann, senior vice president of public affairs for Tenet Healthcare Corporation, underwriting sponsor for the Black Tie Sneak Preview Party, also welcomed Hess to the LTD team, praising his "tremendous passion for helping others."

New board members

Black Tie Dinner also recently named five new members to its board. They are: Kathleen Hobson with the Auctions and Community Relations committees; Carter Lindley with the Auctions and Marketing committees; Jeremy Hawpe with the Business Operations Committee; Rob James with the Marketing Committee and Scott Bates with the Program Committee.

Mitzi Lemons, 2016 LTD co-chair, said the new board members are "all outstanding additions to our incredibly talented and passionate board. We are excited about the skills and enthusiasm each one brings to the table, which will allow us to continue being a leading contributor to the community."

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Report says half of black MSM will be diagnosed with HIV

MATHEW SHAW | Contributing Writer
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About half of all black men in the U.S. who have sex with men will be diagnosed with HIV in their lifetimes, according to a report released last month by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The study also found people living in the South are more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than are their northern counterparts.

CDC statistics show that HIV affects African-Americans at a disproportionately high rate. While African-Americans make up only 12 percent of the U.S. population, they account for 44 percent of new HIV diagnoses and 41 percent of people living with HIV, a CDC spokeswoman said.

"While there are many factors that contribute to these disparities, CDC research has shown that high community prevalence puts African-Americans at increased risk of exposure with every sexual encounter," the spokeswoman wrote in an email.

These factors include economic hardship such as not having the means to see a doctor, being unable to afford the basic necessities and homelessness or unstable housing, the spokeswoman

continued. Fear and stigma also prevent many black MSM from getting tested, she added, saying that patients may fear being identified as being HIV-positive or physicians may be reluctant to suggest HIV testing for fear of offending their patients.

"Fear and stigma remain too prevalent across this country and prevent too many from seeking the testing, treatment and support they need," she said.

In 2014, an estimated 16,146 people were living with HIV in Dallas County, according to data from Dallas County Health and Human Services. HIV cases were disproportionately high among African-Americans, and 58 percent of new diagnoses were in people younger than 35.

Last summer, the CDC began awarding \$216 million in grants to 90 community-based organizations in the 50 geographic regions with the highest numbers of HIV cases as of 2011. The funding will last five years.

Of the 90 funded organizations, 67 primarily serve African-Americans, according to a CDC statement announcing the grants. Six of those organizations are in Texas: three in Houston, two in Dallas and one in San Antonio. Dallas' Abounding Prosperity Inc. received \$350,000.

Abounding Prosperity, founded in 2005, works with black gay and bisexual men and transgender women and pushes for health education and disease prevention, according to the organization's

website. CDC funding allowed the organization to provide a high volume of testing and identify newly-diagnosed individuals in the Dallas area. That data fed into the CDC's new report concerning lifetime HIV infection chances among black MSM, said P.J. Moton, Abounding Prosperity's interim programs manager.

"It is only within the past five years or so that black MSM have become a priority for funding agents to provide resources for prevention and linkage services," Moton said. He added that the organization seeks to instill hope in young black MSM who might have a "learned hopelessness" from the reports of the high levels of HIV in their communities.

"If I, as a young black MSM, hear my entire young adult and adult life that I will ultimately end up HIV-positive anyway, what then is the motivation to protect myself in efforts to avoid sero-conversion?" Moton said. "These are not the messages we want our community to be exposed to."

Regarding the high levels of HIV among African-Americans, Moton said black MSM are less likely to engage in risky sexual behaviors. But "because of the high concentration of the virus in this particular community, black MSM have a higher chance of being exposed to the virus within their sexual network."

To address the HIV rates, Moton utilizes his social media presence to post things such as safe sex

encouragements and testing dates and reminders. "We do this at [Abounding Prosperity] as well because we realize the impact of social media on today's society," he said.

But Auntjuan Wiley, president and CEO of AIDS Walk South Dallas Inc., said there are deeper reasons for high HIV numbers among black MSM.

"I think we have to look at the whole gamut of circumstances that cause people to continue to put themselves at risk," Wiley said. "Something is fueling them to continue to have unprotected sex."

"Too often reporting entities want to talk about the problem without including issues like not expanding Medicaid so black MSM have baseline health coverage regardless of their HIV status."

— P.J. Moton

Those circumstances, he suggested, include homelessness, addiction, abuse and mental health issues.

Last year, AIDS Walk South Dallas hosted a strength conference, where HIV-positive men from around the country gathered to talk about the reasons behind these infections, how they became infected and prevention efforts. The first conference, held last year, attracted 54 men, Wiley

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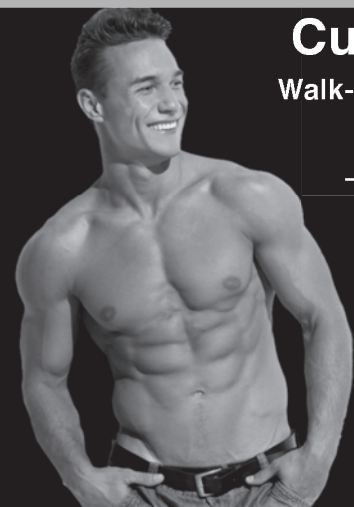
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Rose Room redux

Drag show venue inside Caven's S4 is getting its first upgrade in 12 years

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffte@dallasvoice.com

For the first time since Station 4 opened 12 years ago, the Rose Room — the drag venue on the dance club's second floor — is undergoing an upgrade.

Show Director Cassie Nova said most of the work will be done Mondays through Thursdays and the main shows will be continue in the space except for two Thursdays in March — March 24 and March 31 — and the weekend of April 7-10.

The shows will move across the hall to the Granite Bar on those dates.

"It'll look like we're under construction for a few weeks, but it's something we gotta do," Cassie said. "It's been 12 years since we opened the club. We gotta stay fresh."

Cassie Nova has been performing in the Rose Room for 23 years. But the iconic show bar has been part of the Cedar Springs strip even longer.

Caven Event Manager Chris Bengston said the Rose Room grew out of the Old Plantation's tradition of staging shows on the dance floor.

Old Plantation began on Flora Street in downtown Dallas sometime during the 1970s. When the city began acquiring land to move the Dallas Museum of Art downtown, the Old Plantation, which stood approximately where the DMA's Barrel Vault now stands, relocated to Cedar Springs Road.

The Old Plantation became the Cedar Springs Strip's anchor disco in the early 1980s, located in part of the building that is now S4. Drag shows continued on the dance floor.

Not until the third Village Station took over the Old Plantation space was a small Rose Room built upstairs. That Rose Room had less space than the Granite Bar has now.

When the current Rose Room opened, it was unequalled anywhere else in the country, Bengston and Cassie Nova said.

Cassie said the Rose Room is "the go-to place for Texas drag." But it's well-known well beyond the borders of the Lone Star State, too.

"Girls from all over the country tell me it's been their lifelong dream to perform here," Cassie said, adding that after performing, they often tell her, "I've officially made it."

She said Nashville has a show bar called Play and there's another theater-type bar in Florida. But most bars, even ones with a cabaret room, put on a drag show once a week and use that space for other things most of the time.

Bengston mentioned The Baton in Chicago, as one location for shows. "But," she added, "it's not the quality of what we have here."

A number of things contribute to the Rose Room's success.

"We're really lucky to have so many amazing entertainers here," Cassie said. "And we treat the girls right. You don't have to be a titleholder to do well here."

"When people come from elsewhere, they're taken aback," Bengston said. "They always comment there's not this type of facility anywhere



William Belli, above, performs recently in the Rose Room. Casie Nova, below, is the Rose Room show director.



else, unless you're in Las Vegas."

As far as what's coming — well, that's not something anyone at Caven wants to discuss.

Cassie said to look for more productions, noting that "Everything's going to be upgraded." And that includes new technology.

Bengston said some things about the room are dated and after thousands and thousands of people have come through in the last dozen years, the Rose Room has seen lots of wear and tear. So furniture will be reupholstered or replaced. Decor will be updated, too.

"And there's lots of fun things out there to enhance the room," she said. "Lots of new gadgets."

And Rose Room will have them. ■

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After the (political) storm



Huey Rey Fischer, the 23-year-old Democratic candidate for House District 49 in Austin, says his campaign was about giving all gay and Latino communities a voice in the state legislature.
(Photo by Alejandra Zavaleta Melara)

'Queer' candidate Huey Fischer wants to step away from politics after losing his bid for the legislature, but he doesn't regret the effort

JOANNA CATTANACH | Contributing Writer
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AUSTIN – Huey Rey Fischer, the 23-year-old liberal candidate for state office, the queer son of a once-undocumented mother from Mexico and a Jewish father from Brooklyn, isn't sulking or hiding after his third place finish in this month's primary. But he does want a break from politics.

"I definitely ran to win," said Fischer said of his campaign for the District 49 seat in the Texas Legislature. But "this isn't the launching pad for another campaign," he said.

The college grad turned politician pulled 12-hour shifts, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., during early voting. He had listed his cellphone number on his campaign literature and would get several calls a day. He knocked on doors. He block-walked with volunteers.

"I'm glad I ran," said Fischer, adding that he is not quite sure what's next. He's thinking about traveling, or maybe going to law school. He's trying not to think about why he didn't win.

"I don't think we screwed up," Fischer said of his campaign.

Behind the black frame glasses, you can see frustration in his face. You can hear the hurt in his voice. Huey really wanted to win. And he really didn't win. And it sucks.

Fischer said he only cried twice in the campaign: once on Election Day when he struck up a conversation with a female voter whose mother was also undocumented, and again when he received a phone call from opponent Heather Way the day after the election.

Way came in second in the seven-way primary race, winning 19 percent of the vote. She praised Fischer — who earned 14 percent of the vote — for running a good race.

Gina Hinojosa, an Austin lawyer and school board trustee, ultimately won the race with 57 percent of the vote.

Had Fischer won, he would have been one of the youngest candidates ever elected to the state legislature. Democratic Congressman Lloyd Doggett was elected to the legislature at 27, Patrick Rose at 24 and Ben Barnes at 21.

But it wasn't just Fischer's age that caught national attention it was his campaign style — including the use of the word queer — and the use of dating apps Tinder and Grindr to help garner support.

Scrolling dating profiles for voters wouldn't be appropriate for most candidates. But for a 23-year-

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old fresh college graduate whose campaign grounds included the University of Texas at Austin, the move made sense.

"We were careful about it," said Fischer, who used traditional social media platforms and campaign materials, too. "We, as millennials, know how to use [these sites] without turning off voters."

Fischer wasn't the only candidate to use the word queer as part of his campaign. Democrat Park Cannon, 24, of Atlanta became "the youngest queer woman of color to take office in the Georgia State House!" her website proudly claims. Cannon is only the third gay candidate to win office in Georgia.

The use of the word queer — once a slur, but now, Fischer said, reclaimed by the gay community, at least the younger generation — was difficult for some supporters to accept. One official told Fischer to stop repeating the phrase "the queer son of an undocumented mom" because "people don't care about that," and focus more on his agenda rather than his complicated, outsider identity.

Fischer didn't agree. Running for office as a real person, the real face of Latino voters in Texas, of the gay community, "I just decided to embrace it," he said.

But Dallas County Sherriff Lupe Valdez doesn't agree with Fischer's campaign message. Valdez, also the daughter of immigrant parents, sought

advice prior to running for office from former Houston Mayor Annise Parker, then a city controller, who told Valdez not to run as just a gay candidate.

"People don't want to see you wrap the rainbow flag around yourself," Valdez said. "That doesn't take away from who you are," she stressed, noting that she wouldn't campaign as a "queer candidate for Dallas," but rather as "the best candidate for Dallas."

Still, Valdez said she hopes Fischer will stay in politics. She suggested he learn from successful gay candidates, mature a bit and realize that polarizing an electorate won't get things done.

"If you do stuff to separate yourself, you're going to be separated," Valdez said.

Fischer said he learned an important lesson in his campaign: The gay community isn't one progressive party, one voice, one issue. He campaigned in "the most liberal district in Texas" and yet he heard people within the gay community denounce illegal immigrants, the Black Lives Matter movement and other progressive movements. Some, he said, supported social issues but remained "fiscally conservative" on others.

Jarod Keith is digital communications manager with the non-partisan Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, which supports LGBTQ candidates at all levels across the country. He said his organization expects to see more candidates use the term "queer" as part of their campaigns — but probably



Huey Rey Fischer used social media sites such as Tinder and Grindr to connect with potential voters many of whom he connected with online. Fischer said not all candidates should use the social media sites but for a 23-year-old millennial campaigning at the University of Texas at Austin, the move made political sense. (Photo by Alejandra Zavaleta Melara)

not in Texas.

The Victory Fund only endorsed six candidates in Texas this election cycle. Those six included Fischer. That's a far cry from other locations where gay candidates are running against each other, places like Palm Springs where two gay men and a lesbian ran for mayor.

Democrat Mary Gonzalez from El Paso, the first openly pansexual in the Texas Legislature, was another one of six. She won her bid for re-election but "there's been years when we didn't have [any openly LGBT people] running for the [Texas] state legislature," Keith said.

"We're non-partisan," Keith said of GLVF, adding that he hopes to see more LGBT candi-

dates running in Texas. Electing anyone that supports LGBT rights "is going to drive the conversation," he said.

But Fischer wants a break from the conversation. The former government and Latin American studies major has spent a lot of time talking politics and now he's eager to return to "the life of a 23-year-old."

"You don't have to be in elected office to be a voice for the queer community," Fischer declared. But he does have this advice for other candidates thinking about running for office including queer Mexican millennials like himself: "They should [run]. It's exhausting. It's expensive. It's totally worth it."



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Sounding off

Artist Nick Cave uses beads and more to create his “soundsuits.”

Artist Nick Cave brings his ‘soundsuit’ art to Shreveport with the community project As Is

MARK LOWRY | Contributing Writer
marklowry@theaterjones.com

SHREVEPORT — Artist Nick Cave discovered his first “soundsuit” when, in response to the Rodney King beating, he made something out of twigs that he thought was sculpture — until he put it on and realized it made noise.

In the 20 years since, the self-dubbed “trans-artist” — meaning his art combines sculpture, installation, performance, video, fashion and designed objects — has become a sensation in the performance art installation world, with exhibits

and performances at some of the world’s most prestigious museums and galleries and universities. In 2012, the Dallas/Fort Worth area had a glimpse of his work when his installation “Heard,” with equine-shaped soundsuit creations, was performed at the University of North Texas, where he did some post-graduate work in the 1980s. (It has also been performed in other locations.)

That original response to King has always fueled the social and political facet of his work, demonstrated with what might be one of his boldest creations to date: As Is, a community project nearly a year in the making in Shreveport, La., and culminating with an immersive performance at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 20, in Shreveport’s Municipal Auditorium (the building where the phrase “Elvis has left the building” was coined).

The event incorporates some original sound-

suits, some designed from raffia (his signature material) and others made with beads of bamboo and various other materials. It boasts a range of Shreveport dancers, musicians and artists, including opera soprano Brenda Wimberly.

Also making an appearance, in the final section of the 50-minute immersive work, is New Orleans “queen of bounce” Big Freedia, who has be-

social services. There are plans to form a farmer’s market, residential and mixed-use buildings and artists’ live/work spaces.

The theme for As Is is inclusion and tolerance. “To me it’s about transformation; you’re no longer the same mindset that you use to be,” says vocalist Wimberly. “In the suits you’re invisible.”

Luther Cox, Jr., who runs Inner City Row Mod-



Nick Cave, above right and below left, has worked with Shreveport artists and residents to create As Is.



come famous as the voice heard at the beginning of Beyoncé’s controversial video Formation (“What happened after New Orleans...”)

“The thing that was interesting about this project was working within the community,” says Cave, speaking in an interview with his partner, collaborator and business manager Bob Faust. “It was the social service organizations that brought me here. It was a different kind of connection and outreach rather than working with kids and schools. It was really tapping into a different kind of circumstance, and I felt responsible to act.”

The project to which he refers is the revitalization of a nine-block area of downtown called the Shreveport Common. It includes Municipal Auditorium, historic Oakland Cemetery, an Asian Garden kept up by the city’s Cambodian, Japanese and other Asian communities, and the offices of Shreveport Regional Arts Council handsomely refurbished from an old firehouse that houses offices for SRAC and other organizations and maker spaces.

The Common also has Providence House, an outreach for homeless families, as well as other

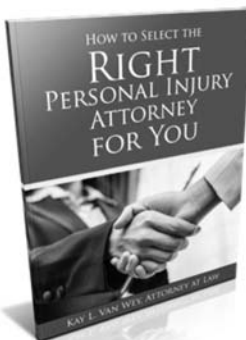
ern Dance Company, is the choreographer for the project. “It has shown that aspect of life which says we all have something in common if we stop trying to make everybody different,” he noted.

In one section of As Is, bluegrass and folk music come together with tribal percussion. Instrument maker Michael Futreal, the composer for the folk section, says, “I think bringing this multiplicity of voices together increases this sense of community, but also the threads of creativity we all have, because we have multiple dance styles and types of music. It makes us all richer.”

To Big Freedia, As Is is an event that’s not so different from her own shows. “That’s what Freedia show consists of, of all walks of life, and people being able to express who they are, because I bring all of those dynamics to all of those situations.

Cave, who once trained with Alvin Ailey and is chairman of the Fashion Department of the Art Institute of Chicago, isn’t so quick to try and explain what the performance means. “I don’t want it to be defined,” he says. “We’re never complete. We’re always a work in progress.”

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Where does Trump stand?



Republican presidential candidates, from left, Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Donald Trump, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), and Ohio Gov. John Kasich stand together during the singing of the National Anthem, before the start of one of the Republican presidential debates. (Wilfredo Lee/Associated Press)

The GOP frontrunner is drawing heat for anti-LGBT remarks

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
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If any word describes the 2016 Republican presidential race, it's "unpredictable."

A year ago, establishment candidates like former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie were seen as frontrunners. But neither experience nor, in Bush's case, name recognition have helped their candidacies.

Instead bombastic outsiders Donald Trump and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz lead the pack. And as of Tuesday, March 15, the race is down to three candidates: Trump, the brash, billionaire real estate mogul; Cruz, the outspoken conservative

senator who is heartily disliked by his colleagues; and Ohio Gov. John Kasich, who has become the GOP establishment's preferred candidate.

Unpredictable also describes Trump. And that's what worries Gregory Angelo, president of the national LGBT Republican group Log Cabin Republicans.

"Prior to January, his opinions lead me to believe he would be no harm on LGBT issues. Perhaps he could be an ally if president," Angelo said of Trump. "But in January he said he would 'strongly consider appointing a Supreme Court justice who is against [or would reverse] marriage equality.'"

Now Angelo's organization is running a series of advertisements challenging Trump, asking him where actually does stand on marriage equality and LGBT nondiscrimination.

The video highlights past announcements by



Trump supporting LGBT rights, such as an interview on MSNBC's Morning Joe, in which the candidate accepts the legitimacy of last year's landmark marriage equality ruling *Obergefell v. Hodges*. He said then, "the decision's been made, and that is the law of the land."

"The candidate has taken documented stands on both sides of the marriage equality debate. In fact, in the past, it seemed as if Mr. Trump would be the most-pro gay presidential candidate in the 2016 GOP field. All voters — including especially gay Republicans and allies — deserve to know unequivocally if Mr. Trump would be a friend or a foe to the LGBT community in the White House," Angelo said. "The question remains where he now stands in this pivotal phase of the process."

The videos are part of an ongoing accountability campaign targeting Trump as well as the Democratic frontrunner, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

The advertisements also highlight the Donald J. Trump Foundation's donations to the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network and Gay Men's Health Crisis in 2012 totaling

\$30,000. Those were charities chosen by contestants on Trump's reality NBC show *Celebrity Apprentice*, but checks went to these two LGBT organizations from the Trump Foundation. Magic Johnson Foundation, which provides AIDS awareness programming, and the Latino Commission on AIDS also received funds.

While Trump hasn't released his tax returns, the foundation brings in about \$1 million in donations a year and files a Form 990 as a non-profit organization.

Donations from the foundation are made in categories such as diseases and conditions, ed-

ucation, health, museums and youth development. Population groups served include children and youth as well as economically disadvantaged.

Most of the organizations that benefited from Trump Foundation were organizations like Dallas-based Susan G. Komen Foundation and American Heart Association. Other health and research organizations that benefited were American Cancer Society, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, American Diabetes Association and others.

For all of his appeal to conservative Chris-

tians, the Trump foundation's only 2012 donation that might appeal to that sector went to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. It donated to a few Catholic private schools in New York.

On the other hand, the Trump Foundation donated to a broad range of Jewish charities including the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, the Museum of Jewish Heritage, the UJA Foundation and the American Friends of the Jaffa Institute, which works

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Gregory Angelo, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans

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The foundation also made a donation to an organization despised by the right, the ACLU.

But are those donations truly any indication of what Trump actually believes and where he would take the country if elected?

If anything is clear, it's that Trump does not share Ted Cruz's socially conservative beliefs. The Texas senator has campaigned against LGBT nondiscrimination laws as well as the *Obergefell* decision. And Cruz's campaign has in part relied on the support of socially conservative evangelical Christians.

Trump, however, has also carved a niche in that voting population, earning the endorsement of religious leaders such as the Rev. Robert Jeffress of First Baptist Church of Dallas.

Cruz's stances on LGBT issues, including transgender issues, apparently don't bother Caitlyn Jenner, who said she would like to be Cruz's "trans ambassador."

Kasich has a mixed record on LGBT issues

National Republican Congressional Committee so far there hasn't been concern about any down-ballot effect," Angelo said. "Whether Log Cabin allies or not, we're seeing no reverberating effect between the choice for president and other races."

Angelo said it is fair game to challenge Clinton as well. Like the Trump advertisement, Log Cabin Republicans have also run an ad attacking Clinton for supporting Don't Ask, Don't Tell and the Defense of Marriage Act.

Richard Socarides, a Democratic political strategist and writer who worked in the Clinton

administration and who is gay, isn't buying Angelo's argument.

"Trump is the very essence of inconsistency. Even if he articulated where he stood on LGBT rights now, I'm not sure we could have any confidence that he would not change his mind next week, next month, or next year. He is all over the place," Socraides wrote in an e-mail.

"We've been entirely consistent. We'll demand accountability for and hold feet — his feet or her feet — to the fire. We'll continue to do what we've always done: fighting for recognition. We have a lot more work to do," Angelo

said.

(Longtime gay Republican leader Rob Schlein of Dallas supports Trump in his race for president, and before the Texas Primary suggested that Hillary Clinton supporters should vote, instead, in the Republican Primary and cast their ballots for Trump in an effort to limit the number of delegates Ted Cruz would gain in Texas. Dallas Voice contacted Schlein for comment for this article, but he had not responded by press deadline.) ■

Senior staff writer David Taffet also contributed to this report.

The People's Choice



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“The candidate has taken documented stands on both sides of the marriage equality debate.”
—Gregory Angelo

but has said *Obergefell* is law. He has denounced, and then backed, religious business owners who want to discriminate against LGBT people.

But Kasich's record as a member of Congress and the pragmatic governor of Ohio has earned him a reputation as a candidate who could appeal to Trump and Cruz supporters.

While political pundits across the ideological spectrum worry about the impact of Trump's candidacy on other offices on the ballot, such as House and Senate races, Angelo said he's not worried that LGBT Republicans will lose allies like Rep. Charles Dent of Pennsylvania and Sen. Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire.

"We're not worried about the Trump effect on down-ballot races. In our meetings with the





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EASTER, From Page 14

rva 2016

other front-page story that day. But the concert was an overwhelming success.

Under the direction of Conductor Donald Jahanos, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra performed Rosenkavalier for the first Lee Park concert in a new \$10,000 bandshell set up in front of the then-much-smaller Arlington Hall. The park's landmark structure, built in 1931 as a replica of General Robert E. Lee's home in Arlington, Va., was renovated to more than double its size in the late 1980s.

In 1967, Biffle covered the second annual Easter concert, too. Orchestra members worried about

the threat of rain and the possibility of no one wanting to sit in wet grass, he reported. But more than 5,000 did attend, many wearing Easter bonnets. Oak Lawn Merchants Association (a different entity from today's Cedar Springs Merchants Association) sponsored the concert, and Dr. Pepper paid the bill.

While the actual Pooch Parade — with costumes and judges awarding prizes — didn't become a formal part of Oak Lawn's Easter tradition until the 1980s, dogs had become a fixture of Easter in the Park by 1968.

Later, Dallas Morning News columnist Marilyn Schwartz wrote that "just about everybody and his dog stretched out on the grass" to listen to the DSO concert while a "giggling Guru" walked his Pekingese.

The following year, older attendees complained about Conductor Anshel Brusilow's choice of music, which included the Beatles' "My Sweet Lord" and selections from Jesus Christ Superstar.

Whether the same happens this year remains to be seen.

The Turtle Creek Association previously



worked with the conservancy, which also runs the park, to stage Easter in Lee Park. But in 2014, TCA withdrew from Easter in the Park about a month before the event to stage an alternative "family-friendly" event they called "Creek Craze," held a week before.

When charges of homophobia began flying, members of the TCA board said that family meant all families. "Creek Craze" still flopped. ■

Easter in the Park takes place from 1-4 p.m. at Lee Park on Sunday, March 27.

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CDC, From Page 23



Auntjuan Wiley of South Dallas AIDS Walk.

said.

"I think it starts with the conversation," he said. "We don't talk, we just get money from the federal government, and these programs are unsuccessful because we haven't talked to the people that we serve and found out what works for them, rather than what works for us to continue to get federal money."

For Moton, the most relevant issue that black MSM face is the systemic barriers that prevent them from accessing equitable health resources and services.

"Too often reporting entities want to talk about the problem without including issues like not expanding Medicaid so black MSM have baseline health coverage regardless of their HIV status," he said.

Moton also sees a need to be included in prevention efforts. "We need to ask black gay and bisexual men, transgender men and women what kind of programs and health care they want or what types of programs work for them," he said. "Too often the community is talked about and dictated to, but not included in decisions." ■

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6. What About Suffering?

There is nothing that disturbs me more than seeing the suffering that people often endure in our world. Images of hungry children and abused animals, among other things, will often bring me to tears of sadness.

Looking around, we may see people who are suffering in many ways; perhaps we count ourselves among them. Suffering is never easy to combat. It is difficult to experience and it is difficult to view. Suffering can also tempt us to give up and it is understandable why many have done so.

Compassion is not always an easy gift to offer, but the life of Jesus teaches us to be a compassionate people. We are to reach out to the world with a relentless compassion and to work together to end suffering in our world.

The journey of Jesus invites us into the suffering of the world and of one another. It encourages us to bear one another's burdens so that suffering will come to an end. This will be achieved only if and when we decide to work together to find solutions, when we abandon the notion of self and find meaning in the coming together.

What About Suffering? I hope you will join me on Palm Sunday at Cathedral of Hope as together we ponder this essential question. Join the conversation at **#7Questions** and **#DallasVoice**.

—Rev. Dr. Neil Cazares-Thomas, Senior Pastor

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Let's get radical again

It's time to start acting up, acting out to create the change we need

We live in a troubled, deeply divided country — a fact that is frightening when you stop to think about it. Like many others, I find this current presidential election perturbing and dissonant. Sometimes the only resolution for me is to turn everything off, to retreat into writing or reading or something until the cacophony is stilled.

I pray for our country, for our world, our planet every day. I hope you do, too. Because based on my observations, I am convinced our lives, our American society, are systemically flawed — flawed to such magnitude that only authentic, radical change can facilitate healing and reconciling transformation within all creation. And once I reached this conclusion, an epiphany found its way into my view: Only! Authentic! Radical! Change!

This led me to a study of the many definitions that exist for the word “radical.” Among all of them, there is one that suits me on every level and that describes most eloquently what I’ve always experienced as a challenge from the Universe, God, Higher Power, Allah, Brahma, Greater Good — whatever or whomever you cherish as the focus of your faith — to live freely and generously, with radical vision, unconditional love, radical acceptance and open-arms hospitality. There’s one definition that allows us to merge as revolutionary healers and reformers.

That definition? “Radical: relating to or affecting the fundamental nature of something.”

When I was a young gay woman, I became part of a radical movement called The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Our goal — and we were passionate, arduous and determined about it — was to, affect the fundamental nature of something, specifically the way church, state and society oppressed/still oppress GLBTQ people.

I was newly sober, had just renewed my friendship with Jesus, and had just discovered activism, freedom and splendor of being queer. I was welcomed into this huge community of queers who loved God and had been liberated from their fear and shame of being queer people, refusing any longer to live in shadows denying the wonder and wonder of our beings.

The Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry helped us trust, believe and finally accept that God actually created us to be the queer people we are. Far from being the abomination we had been told we were, we knew we are loved because of who we are. I can say, with humility and astonishment, that with God’s help the work we did in those days, alongside other allied communities and organizations, brought us to where we are today.

Today, queer people are free to marry, claim each other on IRS returns, serve openly in the military



Shelley Hamilton
Special Contributor

and more. When I go to see a doctor and DebiSu comes into the exam room with me, I can say, “This is my wife, DebiSu.”

I can’t begin to describe the joy this gives me.

Still, the struggle continues. Racism, classism, sexism,

homophobia, xenophobia and so many other barriers continue to separate us. We are seeing their stubborn durability, as they influence profoundly the behavior of some of the candidates battling it out for our country’s highest office. And it is profoundly disturbing.

Something queer religious activists understood nearly five decades ago is that peaceful yet loud, demanding action



partnered with “in your face” street demonstrations

can work again a system that was and still is diseased. It is a system continuing to function in oppressive, denigrating ways toward queer folk, people of color, women, old people, children and other others.

Our radicalistic vision at the time, again coupled with humility, empowered healing and liberation across our nation and beyond. I love radical movements. Without them we would grow stagnant and die a painful, ugly death. Had queer folks, and our allies, not been Acting Up and Out nothing would have changed in our laws or society to improve the lives of literally millions of queer Americans.

Obviously, we weren’t the first ones to resist injustice or oppression in America. People of color, women, working class folks others on the margins of society had worked for change before. There have always been radicals among us who believed change could not occur unless they acted in ways which would affect the fundamental nature of whatever they envisioned as broken or detrimental to humanity and the society of their era, consistently pushing past the parameters of the status quo, no matter the consequences.

History shows us that those desiring to transform society typically have had two or more op-

posing ideologies driving them. Hitler, for example, took radical beyond radical. He was consumed by a maniacal desire to change the fundamental nature of Germany, of human beings and the world, through his dream of an Aryan race.

Thankfully, Germany today is a parliamentary democracy demonstrating the power of a nation, in partnership with its people, to heal, overcome the past, having chosen a path radically different than the one Hitler trod.

There has been more than one Hitler. Indeed, a few of his contemporaries, though not all aligned with him, were brutal dictators responsible for the torture, massacre and displacement of millions of people, including Joseph Stalin in Russia, Benito Mussolini in Italy and Emperor Hirohito in Japan. In the 20th and 21st centuries alone there have been dozens of them: Pol Pot in Cambodia’s killing fields; Kim Jung-II in North Korea where no one actually knows how many millions of people have died; Saddam Hussein in Iraq; Bashar al-Assad in Syria; Muammar Gaddafi in Libya.

I could go on and on. But the point is, the radical violence perpetrated by people like this throughout history seems unrelenting, impervious to resistance or love.

And America has had its share of killing fields — slavery of African people, genocide of native peoples. So shame on us if we dare believe we are somehow unique among peoples and nations. What continues to be a disturbing conundrum is why we keep on fighting, killing, conquering, forcing, oppressing, controlling. Surely the brokenness, sorrow and tragedies of war should have convinced us by now to focus due diligence and all our resources on negotiating, listening, breaking bread, developing equitable relationships with those whom we disagree and/or are different than us.

Jesus wanted to affect the fundamental nature of human beings and our societies. He pushed the boundaries of radical, modeling something profoundly new. And both government and religious authorities persisted in trying to jail or kill him because his teachings were so radically different from the status quo.

Personally, I don’t feel comfortable calling myself a Christian these days. But I am still a dedicated follower of Jesus. It doesn’t really matter what version of his story you read — and I have ready them all — Jesus advocates some radical stuff. Even today it’s radical, because the world Jesus envisioned and called people into has yet to be fully realized.

Jesus, and others before him and since him, have in their own ways all proclaimed a simple, though admittedly difficult, directive: Love each other.

Love as you desire to be loved. Share your resources with others. Let no one be hungry, homeless, afraid or isolated without community. Be mindful of those who are ill, whether in mind, body or spirit. Be loyal and faithful. Welcome strangers while visiting poor souls in jails and prisons. Love your enemies. Should one strike you on the face, turn your other cheek to them as well. Be trustworthy.

RADICAL, Next Page

LGBTs can't expect support from President Trump

Who knows where the candidate really stands on anything? Either way, he's no friend to us

A recent episode of *This American Life* featured a gay teenager who was totally gay for Donald Trump. This kid's parents were totally opposed to him being gay and he cited his number one issue as being marriage equality. He believed wholeheartedly that Trump supported marriage equality (he doesn't). And even after being confronted with evidence that Trump has opinions to the contrary, the kid basically said that Trump pretends to be anti-gay to score points with conservatives, but that he doesn't really feel that way.

And maybe that's true. But, as John Oliver pointed out about Trump's racism, he's either racist or pretending to be and after awhile there isn't any difference.

The same goes for whether or not Trump is hostile to gays. You can only pretend to be anti-gay for



D'Anne Witkowski
Creep of the Week

Ted Cruz, who can make anybody standing next to him look like a rainbow-flag-waving PFLAG member.

But there's also the fact that Trump doesn't seem to be in any hurry to quell the confusion.

During a March 5 press conference, reporter David Martosko asked Trump to clarify his stance on marriage equality and *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the Supreme Court ruling legalizing marriage equality.

And Trump wouldn't do it.

so long before you're anti-gay.

So why is there so much confusion about where Trump stands on issues of LGBT equality?

Well, for one thing, the contenders for the GOP nomination are basically an anti-Pride parade — especially

"Well, I've made it very strong. We have policy on it, and I've said it very, very strongly, and I think you know it," Trump responded to Martosko. "And it's all done and, you know, how many times do I have to say it? It's like, as an example, what is my position on 900 different things? I've said it 150 times. We're not here for discussing that. But everybody knows how I feel on it."

Well thank the lord that's cleared up. It's exactly his position on 900 different things. Everybody knows! The end!

In all seriousness, I honestly think that Trump's brain kind of resets itself in the middle of his sentences, much like how a space heater automatically turns off if it gets tipped over. While this might keep his brain from catching on fire, it also prevents him from making any sense.

To be clear, Trump has never come out in support of marriage equality. In fact, Trump has very recently asserted that if he were elected, he would appoint conservative Supreme Court justices with the goal of overturning *Obergefell*, a point he alluded to in the same press conference.

"Today I was thinking, for the first time really thinking about this. We lost a great man," he said of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia who died on Feb. 13. "He needs to be replaced, and you can only replace him with somebody truly great."

Really? Trump had never really thought about the implications of Scalia's replacement before?

I doubt it, but if true then it's further proof that Trump has no business being president. Also note that Trump says nothing specific about who he would like to see replace the notoriously anti-gay Scalia, except that they be "truly great."

If you think that Trump is LGBT friendly, then I have some Trump Steaks to sell you.

Lesbian and gay rights have come so far (still a lot of work to do when it comes to transgender rights), so fast. We can't risk decades of advancement on the wink-and-a-nudge evasiveness of a megalomaniac.

D'Anne Witkowski is a freelance writer and poet and a writing teacher at the University of Michigan. She writes the weekly "Creep of the Week" column for Q Syndicate.



RADICAL, From Previous Page

This is radical stuff. It was when Jesus began teaching it, and it's even more radical in the first quarter of the 21st century.

Had the Christian church lived into its call and embodied Jesus in the world, our planet would look astonishingly different than it does today. Jesus demonstrated with his life and death that absolutely all that matters is love.

I'm talking agape love here — love that is whole, that desires nothing in return for the gifts it brings. This is how the Bible defines agape love: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends" (From I Corinthians, Chapter 13).

Americans are being bombarded by radicalism from the extreme right. Donald Trump, Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio are passionate about changing the fundamental nature of the Constitution of the United States. They are driven by an obsessive-compulsive rage to overturn the changes enacted by moderates, liberals and even a few progressives.

Though I admire and respect Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, neither of them advocates for truly radical, life-transforming change (although Sanders comes closest).

I am mindful, as I'm certain others are, that usually change requires a lot of time, a lot of coaxing, nurturing, insisting, pursuing, compromising and challenging, as well as massive amounts of determination. But because I've been a radical all my life, I also understand that the radical transforma-

tion our world and society so desperately need require people to be involved.

We must vote, demonstrate, act up and act out with peaceful credible action. We must connect with each other. Unity among the marginalized, oppressed, castaways, queer people — whether they are straight, gay, black, white, men, women, poor, rich or working class — is absolutely necessary.

We must love each other first. We must push past our own issues and explore issues disconcertingly different from our own. I promise you, if there were a roundtable consisting of representatives from every oppressed group in America, each of us describing how "The System" has exploited, denied and used us, we would see that all of our issues are connected, all equally important. I believe if we could successfully unify the folks who are authentically struggling for freedom, justice, righteousness, truth and love, we could radically, lovingly transform and heal planet earth and its inhabitants.

Sadly, just as do our oppressors, we remain trapped by our prejudices; we are broken and divided religiously, politically and socially, insisting on holding onto antiquated values that probably never really existed.

Radicals I know personally, and others I have admired have tried for decades to facilitate such unity. I believe an authentic Rainbow Coalition of radicals the only hope we have. When I first truly believed, the Source of life, goodness, love, justice and righteousness loved and accepted me, and I soon realized that if society, church and state had lied to me about the very essence of who I am as a human being, then maybe everything else was a lie, too. I was left to explore, discard, renew or elim-

inate until truth became evident. It is still my responsibility and the responsibility of likeminded folks to decide what is good, true and right, then to live as though we agree upon and believe our decided truth.

We, the people, have allowed our democratic republic to corrode into its current form of oligarchy. Even if we deny it, America is run for the most part by white men who control the wealth and resources of not just our country but much of the rest of the world as well. Exact numbers are debated, but regardless of debate, somewhere between 50 and 60 percent of our government's budget is funneled directly into the military complex.

These same men want to control "we, the people." They want to control what we believe, whom we love, and what we do with our bodies, minds and spirits. When we the people allow ourselves to be divided on the basis of race, class, gender, age, and sexual orientation, we blindly waltz directly into the control of those who would destroy us.

Most of us like to direct our anger and disappointment at particular people — the president, Congress, drug companies and so forth. By the way, individual inability to accept responsibility for how society functions in our lives and government is another symptom of our corroding system. It's like Christians claiming Jesus died to atone for our sins so we don't have to accept responsibility for the many poor choices we make.

Though neither Clinton nor Sanders truly fit my concept of "radical," they are at least identifying and grappling with the issues affecting real people. What's apparent from the madness erupting across our country is that radical change approaches, although it is yet to be seen from what philosophical

camp it will erupt.

I read a post from Black Lives Matter announcing the movement would not be endorsing a presidential candidate. Though I understand and even agree with their analysis, I wish they had thrown their influence behind Sanders or Clinton, because, they too, are calling for radical change and we need each other, no matter our unique identities, partnering in solidarity which each other to achieve the systemic radical change needed, in our country, indeed the world.

I would encourage everyone who is reading this to reconsider your positions. Join forces with other disenfranchised people in our communities. Let's run headlong into the streets with the same kind of love, courageous determination and sense of justice and equity that the Rev. Martin Luther King and all those unsung sheroes and heroes who marched with him, had.

Years ago I stopped participating in LGBT Pride parades because they had become parades instead of marches. When we are ready to march again, old though I may be, I will venture into the streets again, Acting Up and Acting Out, giving my last breath, if need be, to this dream for freedom, this vision that people, though radically different in lifestyle, religion, politics and culture, can live peacefully as neighbors, colleagues, friends and family.

M. Shelley Hamilton, MDIV, was ordained MCC pastor for many years. She served on staff at the Cathedral of Hope UCC in Dallas in several different capacities for a cumulative 12 years. She retired from professional ministry in December 2014 and now lives with her wife, DebiSu Yelverton, in East Texas, where she is writing her spiritual memoir.

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Did you log onto our website, DallasVoice.com, during January and vote for the best of gay life in North Texas? Cuz Christian Minnicks did, and for his efforts he won tickets to see Blue Man Group (and meet one of the Blue Men, pictured), as well as a tidy \$500 for his troubles. We love being able to share some of the great things about our region with our readers, including its theatrical events, which are part of what makes the Metroplex a growing and vibrant region of the country, with one of the largest populations of LGBT residents anywhere. So sit down with a cup of coffee and review our annual "best-of" list — the Readers Voice Awards. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones



ABOUT THE VOTING

Once again, we asked our loyal readers to weigh in on what they liked most about gay Dallas — from the nightlife to the entertainment options to their favorite businesses to patronize and where they care for their pets. And once again, you came through with flying colors. The annual Readers Voice Awards provides a keen snapshot into where our community stands in about 100 categories, with nearly 8,000 of you logging on to have your voice heard. And we listened.

For the second year in a row, the most popular overall category was Services, with Real Estate Agent the hottest single category. We are always happy to mix things up with new individual awards, from Best Lim/Car Service (Page 52) to Best Urgent Care Facility (Page 50) to Best Spa Treatment (Page 56) and even Best Theatrical Presenter (Page 61). Here, then, are *your* winners, *your* favorites, *your* opinions ... *your* Voice.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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SEXIEST BARTENDER

Jaime Ortiz, S4
3911 Cedar Springs Road.
214-620-6629. Station4Dallas.com.



Jaime Ortiz by
Arnold Wayne Jones

We suspect that one of the most appealing aspects of Jaime Ortiz — one that figured prominently in Dallas Voice readers handing him the title of Sexiest Bartender — is that he's not some cocky stud but a shy, intelligent (he's studying toward a career in marine biology) and genuinely kind young man. In just a few years behind the bar, he's designed a few signature drinks (his favorite: The Sour Patch Kid), but it's his mastery of people skills as much as his gift for mixology that scores him the most points.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Instagram: ItsDJMateo

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HOTTEST HOOKUP APP

Grindr

BEST EXOTIC DANCER

Kyle J. H. Phillips
Dances at Marty's Live,
TMC, The Tin Room.



Kyle at TMC by Arnold Wayne Jones

If you have watched Kyle Jonathan's acrobatics as he dances at clubs around town, you might think he has a background in gymnastics. But no — he just jumped on a dancer pole about three years ago and discovered an innate ability to werk it! His fans obviously agree, as they voted Kyle their favorite half-clad nighttime entertainer of the year. We're sure he'll happily take a bow ... though tips are also appreciated.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Chef Blythe Beck by
Arnold Wayne Jones



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642 W. Davis St.
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BEST LOCAL CHEF

Blythe Beck
Pink Magnolia, formerly Kitchen LTO.
ChefBlytheBeck.com.

By any standards, Blythe Beck has had an amazing year. She started it off being the first chef to get a second stint at Kitchen LTO, owner Casie Caldwell's "permanent pop-up" concept at Trinity Groves. But as soon as she stepped away from that, Pink Magnolia was already in the works (once again with Caldwell). The homey Southern kitchen specializes in Beck's signature "naughty" food, with a decidedly gourmet bent. But while the food might have been responsible for Beck's Best Chef notice and

even Pink Magnolia's Best New Restaurant laurels, to be Best Overall Dining Experience as a fresh-man eatery takes something more: The vibe, the service, the Chef and Song night that turns the dining room into a cabaret and the wickedly indulgent brunch. Beck doesn't "prepare food for customers" — she "cooks for her guests." Like all great Southern hostesses.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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BEST LUNCH SPOT

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214-377-7446. CedarSpringsTapHouse.com.



BEST VEGETARIAN SPOT

Cosmic Cafe
2712 Oak Lawn Ave.
214-521-6157.
CosmicCafeDallas.com.



Cosmic Cafe by Arnold Wayne Jones

Truth is, you can get meat-free dishes at most restaurants in Dallas. You can even get vegetarian or vegan items at a variety of great locales. So what makes for a favorite veggie spot? We're guessing it's the funky-friendly atmosphere at Cosmic Cafe that sealed the deal. The gayborhood institution serves up food, of course, but also a sense of spiritual nourishment. "While hungry, why not meditate a little?" Cosmic's online menu counsels. "There is no hurry."

How many restaurants encourage diners to take their time and reflect on life's mysteries in between courses? From the colorful decor to the option to take a yoga class to the self-serve chai bar to the healthy, cleverly-named food items (spicy pappadam on a dish named Bombay Sage, pictured; curried veggies and a rich dahl on an entree named Buddha's Delight; a fruity sweet called Raisin Consciousness — all items' prices add up to multiples of the mystic number nine), Cosmic Cafe is a true gem of Dallas living.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

BEST ASIAN / SUSHI

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972-241-2412. ThaiDallas.com.

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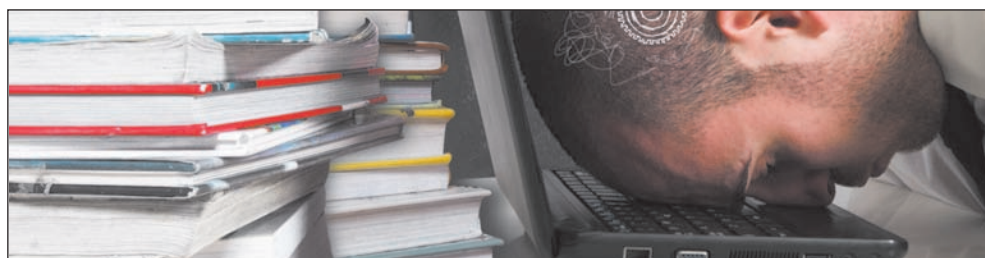
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BEST DINER

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OriginalMarketDiner.com.

Pie case at Original Market Diner
by Arnold Wayne Jones

Here's a little secret about diners you probably didn't know: Cakes can be under glass cloches, but pies? I'm sorry, but pies have to spin. *Have* to. Nothing says "diner" more than scrambled eggs served all day and rotating display case of kinetic pies, which is why nothing says "Best Diner" to Dallas Voice readers more decisively than the aptly named Original Market Diner on Harry Hines. The staple of the community has been a fixture in its current location for 40 years, and its charm accounts for at least some of its popularity. The rest of its appeal lies in the hearty comfort food (with daily lunch specials, because, "diner") with such offering as a cheeseburger topped with fried pickles, chicken and dumplings and, of course, a daily selection of pies. That rotate. Cuz they hafta.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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3011 Gulden Lane, Ste. 117.
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CakeBarDallas.com



Photo courtesy Santa Fe Conventions & Visitors Bureau

We all interpret the term "romantic" in different ways. For some, it might be a cafe in Paris; for others, a mountain retreat; a few would pick a beach with a rum drink and crashing waves. But we totally get why Dallas Voice readers selected Santa Fe as their favorite place to escape with a romantic partner. A small city (barely 50,000) with tons of history (one of the oldest towns in the U.S., at 400-plus years) and a dry, warm climate, it is filled with outdoor options (hiking through the pueblos is a hoot) as well as a fine arts community (the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, pictured, is a must visit, but current local artisans abound as well). There's a spiritual calm to the city that really gets you in the mood for *l'amour*.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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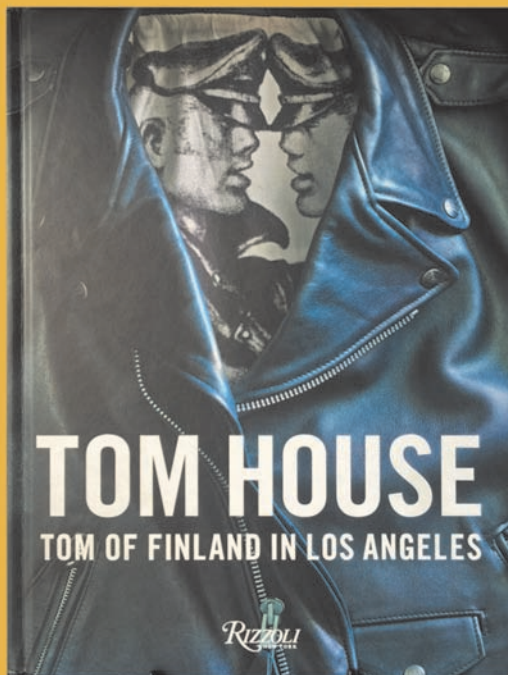
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Michael Shippy by Terry Thompson

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— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Candy Marcum by Tammye Nash

Since 1983, Candy Marcum has been providing counseling services to the Uptown community, which means she's seen a lot ... and helped countless people deal with it all. Known for her understanding and ease with LGBT issues (she's family — duh), Candy has long brought a sense of calm and reassurance to people undergoing life-altering issues (from health to relationships), but she can also tweak your psyche a little to cope with day-to-day issues. So sit back and tell her your problems — she can help.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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 214-303-1033. UptownPhysiciansGroup.com.

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Photo by Ron Lasko

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BEST LOCAL STRAIGHT ALLY

Dale Hansen — Sports Editor, WFAA-TV

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Uber

Having renowned gay architect Philip Johnson design this building on the campus of the Cathedral of Hope was a coup, no doubt, but the space has grown beyond its use as a place of worship to become a community landmark. Musical performances, meditation services, weddings, health fora and more have been frequently staged in this asymmetrical, engaging space that lends itself to lovely photos but also quiet reflection.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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BlackTie.org.

BEST LOCAL LGBT COMMUNITY LEADER

David Hearn

Founder of the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund, which annually stages the MetroBall party and fundraiser.

GDMAF.org.

FUNNIEST LOCAL SOCIAL MEDIA PERSONALITY

Sister Helen Holy (aka Paul J. Williams)

PaulJWilliams.com.

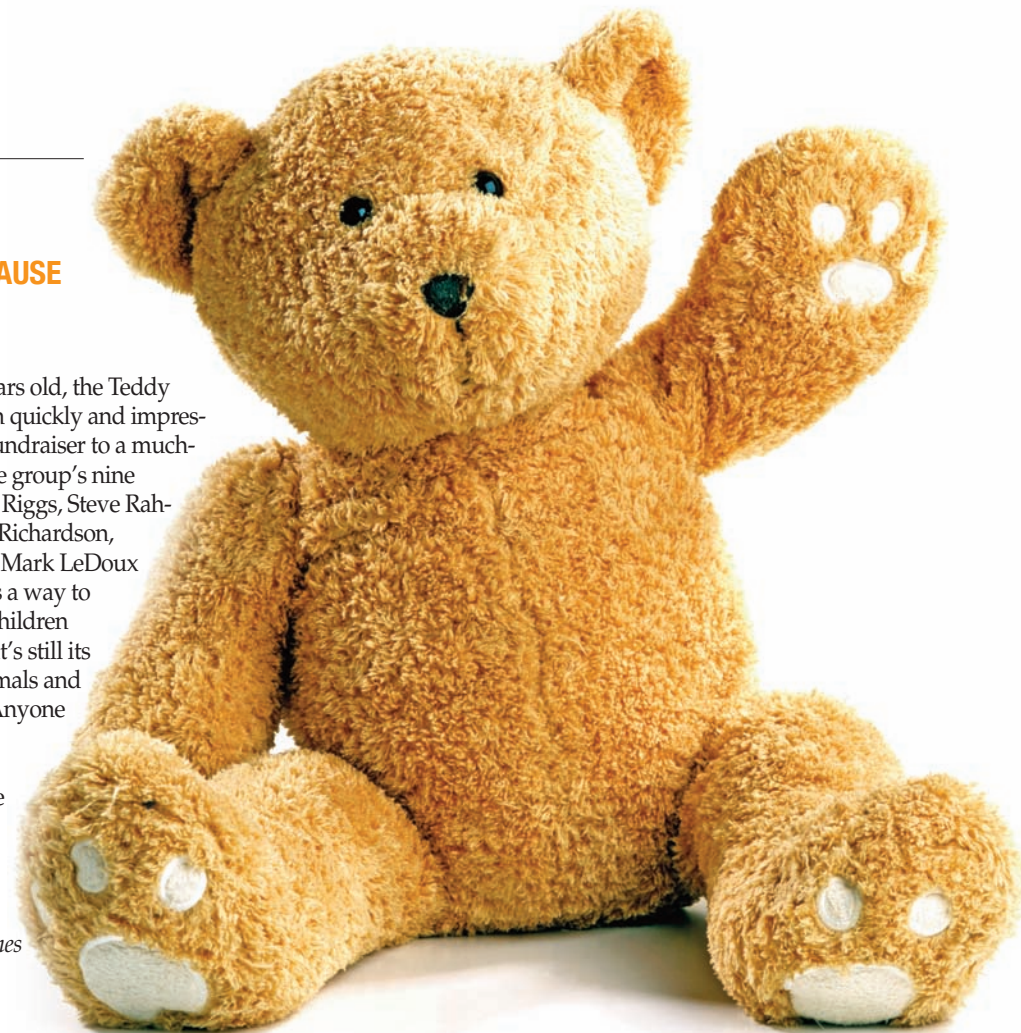
BEST PARTY FOR A CAUSE

Teddy Bear Party

Find them on Facebook.

Although only five years old, the Teddy Bear Party has grown quickly and impressively from a small fundraiser to a much-anticipated social event. The group's nine founders (Jason Hanna, Joe Riggs, Steve Rahhal, Gary McDonald, Mike Richardson, Julio Gonzelez, Bryan Carr, Mark LeDoux and Mark Clay) started it as a way to give teddy bears to needy children around Christmastime. That's still its mission ... 2,000 stuffed animals and \$50,000 in donations later. Anyone who thinks "family values" doesn't include gay people who put their money on the line to help out needy children doesn't understand what the words "family" or "values" mean.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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214-774-9236. ShaneWalkerDesign.com.



Everything's coming up roses for Shane Walker and Flower Reign. The florist — almost as well known for his Cher obsession as for his flamboyant floral creations, including bonnets that can be seen from satellites — was the favorite flower designer of our readers. But there's more to a great floral shop than gathering rosebuds while ye may; Flower Reign has the aura of a full-on boutique, with elaborate tablescapes, soaps and lotions, tchotchkes, candles and, on the right day, I think even a partridge in a pear tree. Don't put anything by these folks — they know how to make a room pop.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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— Arnold Wayne Jones



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Realtor Brian Bleeker
by Arnold Wayne Jones

When you're buying or selling your place, it really does help to work with someone in the community who understands not just the neighborhoods, but the people who make them up. Brian Bleeker has been an integral member of the Dallas community for years, and one of its most reliable Realtors. He knows what it's like to set up a home (he's partnered with fellow Readers Voice Award winner Chad West, Esq. — see below) and nothing matters more to him than making sure you're as happy where you go as he is. When it comes to real estate, empathy can be as essential as a smooth closing in deciding who you like to work with.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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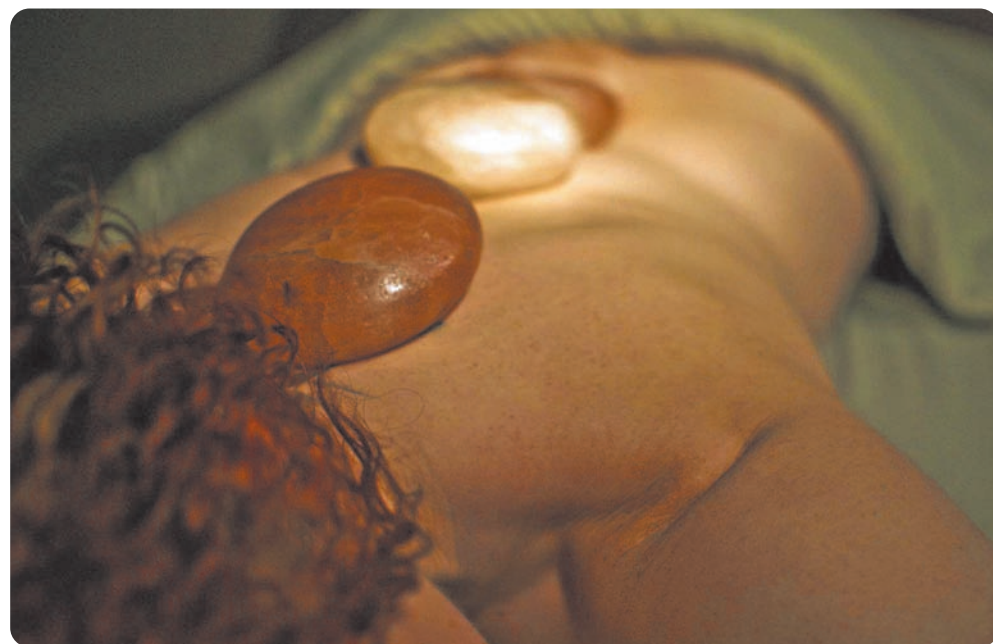
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— Arnold Wayne Jones



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First, there were barber shops. Then, there were salons. And now? Now there are “hair lounges and collectives.” That’s how Vertigo 12 — so named because it’s on the 12th floor of a Downtown office building, with vertiginous views of the city — describes itself. It makes sense: You don’t go just to get your hair cut and styled, you go to enjoy a complimentary draft beer (courtesy of Fort Worth’s Martin House Brewery) and for the funky atmosphere and the friendly staff, led by hunky owner Nolan Matthew. (If you think you recognize one of the other stylists, you probably do: It’s local drag legend Krystal Summers.) You don’t just get a nice cut at Vertigo, you have a blast hanging with friends.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



Nolan Matthew and the staff at Vertigo 12 by Arnold Wayne Jones

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Dog parks are kind of like gay bars on Bear Night: A lot of hairy creatures gathered in one place, sniffing crotches and slobbering all over each other but really just out to have fun. The dog park adjacent to White Rock Lake — with its access to the lake itself, so pups can frolic in the water, but also enough tennis balls and trees to keep them otherwise occupied — is as communal an experience as you can get. With the weather beautiful out, our canine companions enjoy fun in the sun as much as their human counterparts, and this is the place to be to share the benefits of Texas life with animals that are more than pets — they are family.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Ranger at White Rock Lake Dog Park
by Arnold Wayne Jones



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SHOW



BEST LOCAL PRODUCTION (MUSICAL)

Hedwig and the Angry Inch (Uptown Players)
Performed Aug. 28–Sept. 13, 2015, at the Kalita Humphreys Theater.
UptownPlayers.org.

Kyle Ignezi in the title role of 'Hedwig and the Angry Inch' by Arnold Wayne Jones

After the recent Broadway revival of the cult hit rock musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* — about a transgender East German punk rock star giving a final, boozy concert — it seemed like it would be an uphill climb for Uptown Players to out-do it. But by many accounts, they did, with star-making performance from Kyle Ignezi and Grace Neely, a rockin' band led by music director Scott Eckert and Jeremy Dumont's inventive, sure-footed direction. The rollicking, Pride-ful musical was one of the anthemic stage successes of the fall that few who saw it will soon forget.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

BEST LOCAL DRAMATIC ACTOR

B.J. Cleveland

Recent performing credits include *The Nance* (Uptown Players), *A Christmas Carol* and *I Love You' You're Perfect, Now Change* (Theatre 3).

BEST LOCAL MUSICAL ACTOR

M. Denise Lee

Recent performing credits include *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* (Jubilee Theatre) and *Hot Mikado* (Theatre 3).

BEST LOCAL PRODUCTION (PLAY)

The Nance (Uptown Players)

Performed June 19–July 5, 2015, the Kalita Humphreys Theater.
UptownPlayers.org.

BEST LOCAL THEATER DIRECTOR

Cheryl Denson

Recent directing credits include *Catch Me If You Can* (Uptown Players) and *A Year with Frog and Toad* (Dallas Children's Theater).



**BEST LOCAL BAND,
GROUP OR MUSICIAN**
Chris Chism

The selection of Chris Chism as our readers' favorite musician might at first seem unusual, since Chris is best known for his spiritual performances (he's assistant director of music and worship at the Cathedral of Hope). But then again, all you have to do is hear him sing and you totally get his appeal. And besides, with the largest gay congregation in the world, it's no wonder many of our readers listen to live music most common on Sunday mornings, though Chris has also appeared with the Turtle Creek Chorale.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Newell comer

Alex Newell isn't a trans woman — he just played one on TV. But the powerhouse singer is more than one role, something he plans to prove with a new album

Those who were lucky enough to attend Dallas' Black Tie Dinner in 2014 were treated to a show-stopping vocal performance by Alex Newell. But for fans of *Glee*, on which Newell was a regular, the talent was no surprise. Newell's star-making moment — where he belted out “And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going,” on *The Glee Project*, leading to his casting on *Glee* — proved the 23-year-old had chops. As a fiery kid in church choir, Newell was not about to let some lesser singer steal any church-choir solos from him. To get his point across, he would scream “at the top of my lungs.” He would throw things. Until that solo was his, no, Newell was not going.

“If I wanted it bad enough, I would throw a hissy fit until they'd just give me the solo,” he recalls, reliving the early onset of his now-famous 'tude.

With a new EP, *Power*, to his name, Newell opens up about his reputation as a diva, being mistaken as transgender and — who can blame him? — his meltdown over nearly missing out on singing a *Sister Act* song. ■

— Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: Which church solo are you most proud of stealing? Alex Newell: What was that stupid song that I wanted... oh my god, yes! It was “Oh Happy Day” from *Sister Act*. I wanted that solo and they gave it to someone else and I was soooo livid. I was like, “She can't even sing it! I can sing it so much better than her!” I remember yelling at my aunt in the sanctuary after everybody left and she was like, “You need to calm down,” and I was just like, “NO! I'm not gonna calm down. That solo is mine. I should have it,” and I got it. [Laughs]

What's an Alex Newell hissy fit like now? Now, an Alex Newell hissy fit is being extremely quiet and not giving anything. Nothing but silence. I'll just look at you and be quiet, or I won't look at you and I'll be quiet, or I won't make direct eye contact and I'll just walk away — that's when you know I'm genuinely angry at you.

So honestly I don't even know how you're alive at this moment because I'm assuming you watched Beyoncé during the Super Bowl halftime show. Absolutely! And then I immediately turned the game off.

Of course you wouldn't miss Beyoncé — she's one of your all-time favorites. Oh, she's my idol.

What is it about her? How does she inspire you as a performer/singer/fashionista? Honestly, she's so just so... she's made herself a verb, she's made herself an adjective, she's made herself such an entity — a force of nature. She literally almost fell [during the halftime show] and without missing a beat got right back up and didn't miss a single count — that in itself makes anyone want to look up to her. She stands for so much. She means what she's singing now, and she's telling a message and a story.

In your own career, how are you influenced by that? I guess just work ethic, and also her singing — having so much passion behind what she's singing. You can feel her, you can feel what she's singing when she's singing it, and I feel that's something I want to convey as well.

But you've been doing that for years. Oh stop it! Stop, stop. [Laughs]

Who were your musical influences when you first discovered you were into music — before Beyoncé even existed? Oh my goodness — I mean, was there a before

Beyoncé? I'm not that old! Whitney Houston was giant for me because we kind of had the same background of growing up in church and all of that. Chaka Khan, Donna Summer, Aretha. Even gospel artists like Yolanda Adams, Karen Clark and Kirk Franklin. Just like... voices. People who can sing. Patti LaBelle, Mariah Carey. I've always gravitated toward voices, whether it be someone screaming in my face, a hard R&B or pop ballad, or even opera and musical theater. I'm always inspired by people who can sing and don't give any... I won't say that word....

Feel free to say whatever you want.

Like Jennifer Holliday gives zero fucks about her vocal chords and I live for it.

How much were you inspired by your influences on your debut EP? Because I hear Whitney influences on “This Ain't Over.” Absolutely. I mean,

just like melodic riffs and runs that she always did and executed so perfectly. Vocal acrobatics — just that. And the passion behind it, where you're singing something that you actually believe in as well and you make yourself believe that everyone believes it at the same time. That's what Whitney was, and I pulled that in there [for the EP]. There's some Donna Summer in there too. Just some of my greats. I tried to emulate them without imitating them.

What do you make of people who refer to you as a diva?

Sometimes it's a compliment. But it doesn't mean best in their craft anymore. It has this attitude about it, like “I'm a diva because I'm fierce at what I do” not because “I'm the best at what I do.” So, that bothers me a little bit. It doesn't mean prima donna anymore; it means, “I can wear a leopard on stage and give a subpar show,” rather than, “I can get on the stage and murder everyone” — not murder everyone in the sense of killing them, but murder my performance and be the best at what I do. Be the prima donna, be No. 1, First Lady of the Stage. It's like calling yourself your race: “I'm black.” OK, great. Good for you. Moving on. It's just claiming the obvious.





You broke a lot of ground as Unique on *Glee*, which helped to start a conversation regarding gender and trans issues, both of which are now in the forefront. What does it mean to have been one of the first trans characters on television? It was a great platform and such a great show, but to have a role come into your life that means something — that actually changes the way people view society — it's just great. Just to know that I was a part of something that's bigger than me makes it even better. Sometimes you get those roles twice, sometimes once, so I'm just happy I had mine so early in my career.

Do people ever misidentify you as the character in real life? Absolutely, and still to this day. I was at some AIDS benefit and I was walking the carpet and this one man literally looked at me and said, "So, your character is great, but how far along are you in your transition?" I was just like, "Excuse me? No, no, no, no. My character is transitioning. I'm not. I'm just a little black gay boy from Massachusetts." But that means I'm probably just doing my job that much better. And I'm not angry about it. I'm not bitter about it, that people don't separate character from real life. It just... it happens.

Did the show have you questioning your own gender at all? Sometimes I'd be like, "Am I [a woman]? No, no, no." I can't sit and say that I haven't, but for a better part of the last three years I was literally playing a woman and sometimes I'd wake up and be like, "I have to put this dress on," and you go into a routine and I would mentally be preparing myself and waking up mentally prepared as Unique. I was like, "Oh my god, I have to stop this. I have to separate." But yeah, I've done a lot of self-discovery. And I guess I've never really seen myself as a woman. Yes, I physically have seen myself as a woman, but when I think about 30 years in the future, I don't see myself transitioning into a woman. I see myself as a gay male with my husband and my children and living that life. I guess that's how I've confirmed it with myself, which could change. I don't know. Who knows. I could have another cathartic self-discovery down the line.

When did you know you were gay? I didn't know what "gay" was; I just knew that I liked boys. Oh my god — I was boy crazed. I still am boy crazed! Like, I can't... I just can't... I've looked into it [girls] and I can't. But as a child, if you go to church seven days a week [who you're attracted to is] probably gonna be one of your friends from church. It was never — because all the boys were

ugly and the girls were trying to be prettier than me. (Laughs) It was so much competition. My obsession with boys is how I've always known I was gay — and I wasn't about to get cooties from all the girls.

Have you always been as comfortable in your own skin as you seem to be? Yes and no. There was always this insecurity of not having a father growing up. It's different just having a single parent. You have an insecurity, because the majority of people around you have both of their parents, so I was a little bit shy for that reason. You're not socially accepted because you have mommy day and daddy day and your mom shows up for both. So I guess I always was a social outcast, in my own mind rather, and I don't think I was that confident.

Now look at you. You and Adam Lambert are touring, which has to be the gayest billing of the year. No — it's gonna be the gayest event of life. Two gays on the road! How fabulous!

Adam was one of your earliest supporters. In 2012, he tweeted you, "Diva I'm blown away by u on *Glee*! You are KILLIN it Mary!" What's it like to know that you'll be touring with him now? To

think someone of that caliber — someone who I looked up to — even acknowledged my work when I was just starting, I was floored. Like on the ground, palpating for air. And to be friendly with him now and to be going on tour with him — that he would even trust me to open for him — is just an amazing feeling and an experience that I will hold with me forever.

What can people expect? Two hours of screaming the entire time and just singing in your face and just great vocals and runs. We might just explode by the end of the night every day.

What about incorporating a Beyoncé cover? Which song of hers would you do? I mean, I'm literally about to sing "Formation" wherever I go now because I just want to say [a la Beyoncé], "If you fuck me right, I'll take you to Red Lobster."

Do you eat at Red Lobster? I've never been to Red Lobster a day in my life.

But you'll eat there now? Unless Beyoncé is there herself, no.

My character [on 'Glee'] was transitioning. I'm not. I'm just a little black gay boy from Massachusetts. But that means I'm probably doing my job that much better.

Alex Newell — who scorched the stage of Black Tie Dinner in 2014 — has released a new EP — the aptly titled 'Power.' (Photo by Brian Ziff)

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WED in DALLAS, TEXAS!



Former long-time Dallas residents Tom Edmonds and Gary Welling (L-R) were married at 7pm on Saturday, March 12 in a brilliant candlelight ceremony at the NUVO Room. The ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Julie Adams of Charlotte, NC.

Best Men at the wedding were Steve Sanderson of Dallas and Frank Welling of Amarillo. Other members of the wedding party included Sonny Erwin, Terry Moore, Scott Mayo and Gena French. Tom and Gary have been a couple for 18 years and they now reside in Overland Park, Kansas.

L+S fitness

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Some tips for shedding winter weight that don't require fad diets

Hard time keeping your hands out of the cookie jar this winter? Polish off those last few Oreos then set your sights on spring with these easy-to-integrate activities that'll have you sweating and shedding in no time.

Train for a race. A few weeks ago I decided for the first time to compete in a half-marathon. My gym was advertising the event, so I signed up for a 12-week, increasingly rigorous conditioning regimen that I could follow to get into race-ready shape. I'm nearly halfway through the program and I'm proud to say that I haven't missed a goal yet. This may be an intimidating feat for some, but it's absolutely achievable if you commit yourself to it. To help yourself stay on track, invite a friend to join the race with you; you two can work out together and provide support in times of doubt and fatigue.

Take new classes at your gym. If you already belong to a gym but your routine has lost its luster or you've just slacked off because, well, winter, get back into the swing of things by trying something new. Personally, I'm not always a self-motivator when it comes to exercise, so I benefit from the group classes that my gym offers (which at most gyms are included in the regular membership), and the same strategy may work for you. Visit your facility's website to view the class schedule and register for one or two that appeal to you. You may be surprised at how much you enjoy it.

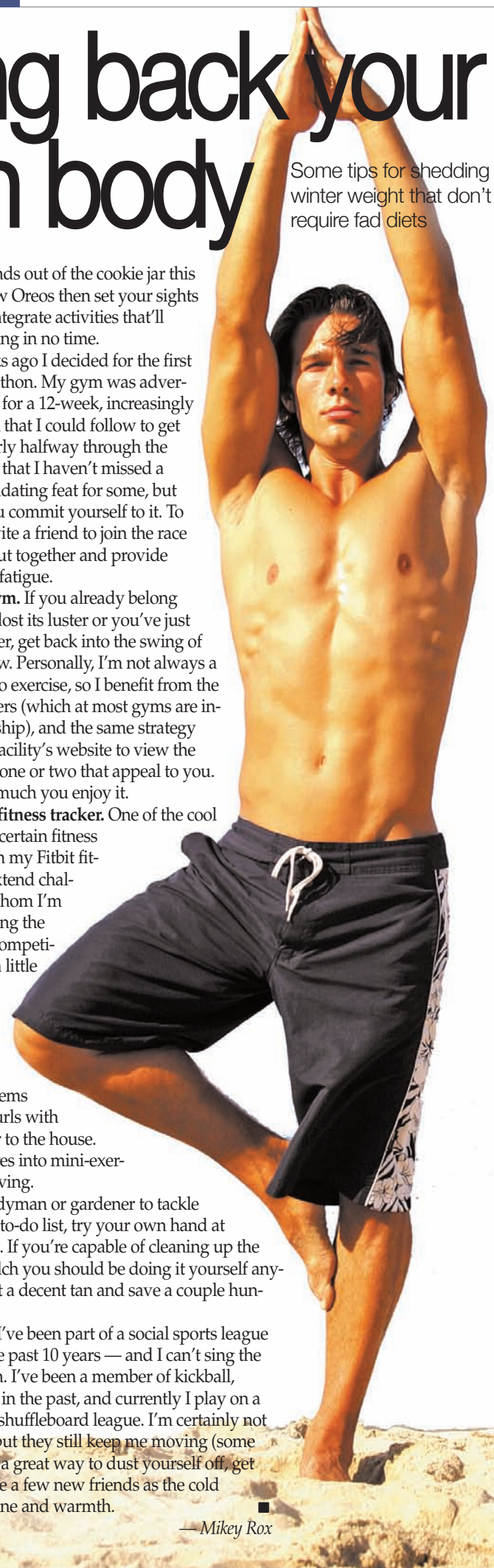
Accept challenges on your fitness tracker. One of the cool ways I'm ensuring that I meet certain fitness goals I've set for myself, like on my Fitbit fitness tracker, is to accept and extend challenges between friends with whom I'm connected on the device. Turning the wearable into a little friendly competition is fun, and I push myself a little further every day.

Incorporate exercises into your chores. Sneak in squats while you're vacuuming the steps, bang out a few pushups when you're putting storage items under the bed, and do a few curls with your grocery bags from the car to the house. It's easy to turn mundane chores into mini-exercises to keep your muscles moving.

And instead of hiring a handyman or gardener to tackle items on your spring-cleaning to-do list, try your own hand at what you'd normally farm out. If you're capable of cleaning up the yard and laying your own mulch you should be doing it yourself anyway, but at least now you'll get a decent tan and save a couple hundreds bucks while you're at it.

Join a social sports league. I've been part of a social sports league in some capacity for at least the past 10 years — and I can't sing the praises of these groups enough. I've been a member of kickball, dodgeball and cornhole teams in the past, and currently I play on a couple bowling leagues and a shuffleboard league. I'm certainly not getting buff on these leagues, but they still keep me moving (some more than others), and they're a great way to dust yourself off, get your blood pumping and make a few new friends as the cold weather makes way for sunshine and warmth.

— Mikey Rox



McQueen & the prince of 'Empire'

Jussie Smollett meets 'Alien,' and the fashion designer's biopic gets underway



Jussie Smollett, left, and the late Alexander McQueen, above.

whose career is on the rise these days thanks to great reviews for *The Rolling Stone*, will work on the script, and there are no shortage of dramatic details. McQueen, the son of a taxi driver, ascended to fashion royalty, designing for David Bowie and Prince Charles, launching his own line while privately dealing with depression and drug dependence. He committed suicide in 2010, shocking the fashion world. Fortunately, Urch and

Jussie Smollett in "out"-er space. You see him being cute and musically talented on *Empire*, as he implores his homophobic father to love him, possibly to will him that vast record industry fortune. But the next time you see out actor Jussie Smollett in a non-Cookie-Lyon-adjacent position, he will be tackling a bigger and badder nemesis, aka that alien from *Alien*, in the next installment of Ridley Scott's ongoing space monster franchise. *Alien: Covenant*, in production now and fairly secretive about all other details, it is due in 2017 and will co-star Smollett alongside Michael Fassbender, Katherine Waterston, Billy Crudup, Danny McBride, Demian Bichir and Carmen Ejogo as they deal with the development of the terror that will eventually become the world's most gruesome headache for 1979's Sigourney Weaver (we're still in Prequel Land, in case you forgot). Spend the next year catching up on the others if you need to.

Alexander McQueen: The Movie. The short, shining career and tragic death of gay fashion designer Alexander McQueen — a sad story fueled by glamour, success, excess, drugs and suicide — seemed tailor-made for the kind of cautionary biopic Hollywood loves. So now they're making it, and acclaimed queer filmmaker Andrew Haigh (*Weekend*, *45 Years*) will be the man behind the camera. A screenwriter is in place, as well: Chris Urch, the hot playwright

Haigh are the sort of creative team that will handle this sensitively, giving the late legend the tribute he most deserves. In pre-production now, cameras are slated to roll by year's end.

Watch out for Lena Waithe. You were probably unaware that Lena Waithe existed until you saw her on Aziz Ansari's hilarious sitcom *Master of None*, where she plays one of his friends, a character that may be funniest, coolest, baddest lesbian TV has ever delivered. In fact, you might remember her now but still not know her name. That should be changing fairly soon, because behind the scenes, Waithe has been quite busy. She was a writer for *Bones* and a producer on the gay-helmed *Dear White People*. And now she's got her own pilot set up at Showtime, a coming-of-age drama about a young black man who must raise one of his children alone. Tequan Richmond (*Everybody Hates Chris*) will star alongside Aisha Hinds (*Under the Dome*), Alex Henderson (*Empire*) and Olivia Dawson (*Empire*). The series will be co-produced by Common, whose got brand name recognition, and because prestige product on cable television is one of the places where female creators of color get a better shot at success than the notoriously slow, white, and male world of mainstream Hollywood movie studios, there's a better shot we'll see the final result. Fingers crossed. ■

— Romeo San Vicente



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Sunday 03.20

Legendary beauty Sophia Loren shares her life stories

She has two Academy Awards, an international film career rivaled by few others and one of the most gorgeous mugs in cinema history. But the famously smart and fiery Sophia Loren is more than you can sum up in a few words, which a lucky few thousand folks will discover on Sunday, when she shares her life in a conversation from the stage of the Winspear. Stars don't shine much brighter.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 7:30 p.m. ATPAC.org.

Friday 03.18 — Sunday 03.20

Attention gear heads! DFW Auto Show gives you a peek at the rides of tomorrow

If you're a car nut, you won't want to miss the DFW Auto Show, which takes place all weekend in Dallas. In addition to the latest models from Detroit, Japan and elsewhere, you can see concept cars and get a sneak peek at the technological innovations of the future.

DEETS: Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center, 650 S. Griffin St. Friday, noon–10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.–7 p.m. DFWAutoShow.com.



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ARTSWEEK

THEATER

All the Way. The Dallas Theater Center's first-ever co-production with Houston's Alley Theatre is this staging of the acclaimed Tony Award-winning play about LBJ.

Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through April 3 (extended). DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Buyer & Cellar. Playwright Jonathan Tolins took a real fact — the mall underneath Barbra Streisand's home, loaded with the mementos she has accumulated over the decades — and turned it into a fictional story about the young gay guy assigned to attend it. Doug Atkins stars in this hilarious one-man show. The Studio at Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd. Through April 10. StageWest.org.

Dante: Paradiso. The third installment in Dante's Divine Comedy is also the third world premiere adaptation from MBS Productions, following the company's acclaimed versions of *Inferno* and *Purgatorio*. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through April 9. MBSProductions.net.

Disney's The Little Mermaid. Dallas' Doug Wright wrote the book to this tuneful musical adaptation of the animated classic. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through March 27. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Laughing Wild. L.I.P. Service Productions, which last year staged the rarely-performed gay-themed play *Streamers* (with a trans actor), now tackles out playwright Christopher Durang's quirky absurdist comedy. The Firehouse Theatre, 2535 Valley View

Lane, Farmers Branch. Through March 26. 8 p.m. LIPServiceProductions.info.

The Nether. Stage West presents this play of a dystopian future where the internet is a policed realm. Randy Pearlman, Aaron Roberts and Allison Pistorius appear; Garret Storms directs. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through April 3. StageWest.org.

Light Up the Sky. Theatre 3's season continues with this classic comedy by Moss Hart. *Reviewed this week.* Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through April 3. Theatre3Dallas.com.

FINE ART

Rebecca Warren: The Main Thing. A mid-career retrospective of the British visual arts and sculptress, in 20 diverse pieces. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through July 17. DMA.org.

Jackson Pollock: Blind Spots. An exclusive exhibit of the innovative American painter's late work. *Final weekend.* Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. 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.

FRIDAY 03.18

COMMUNITY

High Tech Happy Hour. The monthly LGBT mixer. SMU's Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd. 5:30–7:30 p.m.

AUTO

DFW Auto Show 2016. Expo of the latest creations from Detroit and beyond. Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center, 650 S. Griffin St. Through Sunday. DFWAutoShow.com.

FINE ART

Landscape: Social Spaces. A new exhibit of urban cityscapes from urban artists. ilume Galerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. Artists' reception, Friday 6–9 p.m. ilumeGalerie.com.

SATURDAY 03.19

CONCERTS

March for Freedom Concert: Heroes and Heroines.



DJ Shane Stiel spins at Score, a dance party and fundraiser for local HIV/AIDS charities, at the Dallas Eagle Saturday night.

The Oak Lawn Band performs at a concert that celebrates the men and women who inspire heroism in different ways. Temple Emmanu-el Pollman Hall, 8500 Hillcrest Road. 4 p.m. OakLawnBand.org.

SPORTS

Dallas Elite Women's Football Season Kick-Off Party and Auction. The gay-owned women's football team opens its upcoming season with this party and fundraiser. Free admission; drink specials; full menu; live DJ. Prime Time Bar & Grill, 3920 Rosemeade Parkway. 7 p.m.–2 a.m. DallasEliteFootball.com.

COMMUNITY

Gaybingo: March Madness. It's college basketball season, so pull out your brackets and lace up your Converse All-Stars for this monthly fundraiser and drag bingo game. Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs. 5 p.m. doors, 6 p.m. curtain. \$25–\$45. MyResourceCenter.org.

Disco v. Retro: 7th Anniversary Party. Lord Byron marks the 7th year of this hiNRG dance event with a special party. 108 N. Pearl Expressway. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Find the event on Facebook.

Score Circuit Party/Dance. L.A. DJ Shane Stiel spins. Dallas Eagle, 6740 Maple Ave. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. \$5 suggested donation benefits local HIV/AIDS charities.

FUNDRAISER

Hooch & Pooch 2016: Silver. Kitchen Dog Theater's annual party and fundraiser. 7 for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd. Ste. 107 (in the Design District). \$60–\$75. 214-953-1055. KitchenDogTheater.org.

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JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT | Dallas author Victor Carrington signs his new memoir about growing up gay and troubled and turning his life around. He'll be at Chocolate Secrets on Thursday.

SUNDAY 03.20 EXPO

The Wedding Workshop. A free, three-hour hands-on seminar to teach you how to work through the planning process for getting married, targeted to same-sex couples. Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Freeway. 9:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Free. LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com.

The Wedding Party and Expo. Dallas Voice presents its second celebration of marriage equality with vendors, food, a fashion show and more. Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Freeway. 9:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Free. EventBrite.com.

APPEARANCE

An Evening with Sophia Loren. One of the great beauties in screen history, a two-time Academy Award recipient, Sophia Loren makes a personal appearance. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 7:30 p.m. ATPAC.org.

MONDAY 03.21 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.

BROADCAST

RuPaul's Drag Race. The eighth season continues. Logo at 8 p.m.

TUESDAY 03.22 FILM

Annie Hall. Woody Allen's Oscar winner for best picture, a sophisticated, funny portrait of a relationship gone wrong. 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

Love Letters. Ali MacGraw and Ryan O'Neal, the original stars of the film *Love Story*, reunite for this version of the A.R. Gurney play, an epistolary romance

about a man and a woman sharing their intimate secrets over decades of correspondence. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. March 22–April 3. ATPAC.org.

THURSDAY 03.24

BOOK SIGNING

Victor L. Carrington: *Just When You Thought You Knew Me*. The Dallas author's journey from being a young, black gay man in trouble with the law through his redemption and success. Chocolate Secrets, 3926 Oak Lawn Ave. 6 p.m.

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.

FRIDAY 03.25

DANCE

Cie Herve Koubi. The second all-male dance troupe arrives for two-nights only. Presented by TITAS. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. March 25–26. ATPAC.org.

THEATER

God's Trombone. A revival of the hit gospel musical. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. March 25–April 24. JubileeTheatre.org.

this week's solution



STAGE REVIEW: 'Light Up the Sky'

Post-modernism has made it all but impossible to enjoy certain mid-century comedies anymore. Audiences are savvy now — they carry irony with them like rosaries at a convent. At times, it's more of an impediment than it should be, as with *Light Up the Sky*, the Moss Hart-written play now at Theatre 3.

The premise is pure Inside Showbiz: A new play is getting its first out-of-town tryout in Boston and all those who've read it agree it's a work of genius on par with Aristotles *Poetics*. At least until opening night, when walk-outs, titters and the opinions of the producer (David Coffee), star's mom (Ivy Opydyke) and even a rival playwright (Doug Fowler) proclaim it an allegorical disaster. That's when the star (Lydia Mackay), producer and director (Bob Hess) start blaming each other, and especially the playwright (Seth Monhollon), for saddling them with a bomb.

The leading roles are as impeccably performed as the script allows. Hess received an ovation for his entrance before delivering a line of dialogue, coming at us with more camp than a Boy Scout Jamboree. Coffee's blustery slow-burning mogul and Mackay's cryptic diva banter like *The Honeymooners*. Opydyke's droll, drunken sass and Jessica Cavanaugh's charm add fine support.

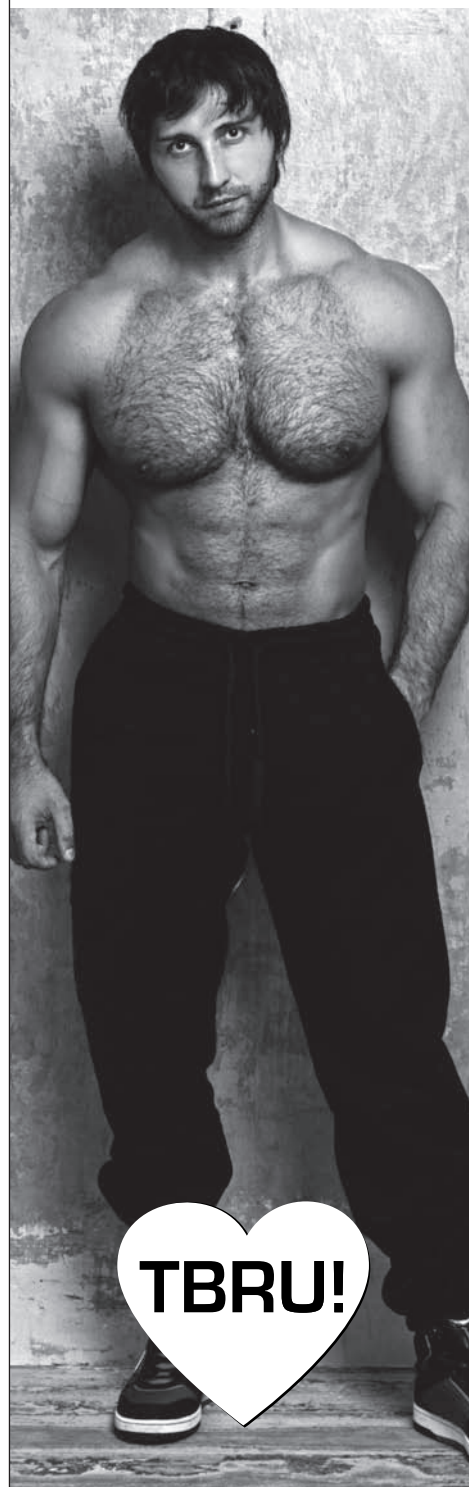
But the script is its own distraction. We know too much now about how the business — and art — of the stage really work; musicals like *The Producers* and *Curtains* are set in basically the same era, but written with a contemporary eye that let's you know they're in on the joke. Not so here, where the very conceit of the plot is hard to swallow. The dialogue is frequently clunky and painfully expositional; Monhollon and Fowler in particular are sentenced to speak Hart's Big Pronouncements about The Theatuh. That's a big hurdle to clear, but this cast does its game best.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. Through April 3. Theatre3Dallas.com.

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Cassie Nova

Cassie to the rescue! Dogs rejoice!

Hello, I hope y'all are having a fabulous muther-tuckin' day.

As I sit here writing this, it is raining. I love the rain, but as a dog owner, the rain can create drama in our house. Two of my boys have no problem what so ever with the rain. They will run out to splash and play with no regard to the mud and water they will inevitably track back inside. Then we also have two pups that will run to the door, see it is raining and halt like it is fire, turn tail and run to the bed to get under the covers. They will go out when they absolutely cannot hold it any longer, but they do it with the most pitiful look on their faces. Then there is Lucy. This bitch treats the rain like a brick wall, or like Gandalf has slammed down his magical staff and told her, "You shall not pass!" She is physically unable to walk on her own into our wet yard but then has no problem getting wet if we put on her leash and take her across the street. She will walk in other people's wet yards but absolutely will not step in her own if it's damp. She's ... special.

Lucy is a Chow, and I like to say she is a rescue, but the truth is we bought her from a guy selling dogs in Canton at First Monday Trade Days. I don't advocate buying a dog from there since I have heard a lot of them come from puppy mills, but Lucy was a special case.

My husband Jamie and I were in Canton doing the gayest things we could think of besides sucking a dick: we went antiquing. We were walking around

enjoying a beautiful day when we walked past the animal area. They sell every breed of dog, cat, bird and farm animal you can think of. Jamie and I had only been together a few years at this time. He had a Chow named Baby and I had two Pomeranians, so we had a full house.

Then Jamie saw her: this beautiful Chow pup that looked petrified. She was in a pen with other happy-go-lucky pups, but she looked scared. She was the only reddish-brown dog among the black ones. Jamie said, "Look at that poor baby — we have to take her home with us." I said absolutely not — we had just gotten to town and I didn't want to walk around all day with a puppy. Plus, we already had a full house. I told Jamie, "If she is still here when we are leaving, we can talk about it then." We walked off, but Jamie would not stop looking back and talking about how miserable she looked and that we needed to help her.

I tried to distract him with a smoked turkey leg and letting him buy a few old model cars for his collection. He is just a big kid. We spent pretty much the whole day shopping and spending money on stuff we probably didn't need. As we started to leave, I tried to take him the long way around to the parking lot hoping he had forgotten about that puppy. We had almost made it to the car when he said, "Oh yeah! We need to go check to see if that puppy is still there." I was like, *dammit*.

So we walked all of the way back over to the animal area. I was hoping the entire time that the puppy would be gone. No such luck — she was still shivering in the exact same spot. She looked sad and pathetic, but I did *not* want another dog. Jamie asked the three-toothed asshat that worked there if we could see that reddish brown pup. Mr. Summer Teeth (we called him that because "summer teeth were

there, summer teeth were not") picked her up by the scruff and all but threw her to me. Luckily I caught her. She was quaking, her face in my armpit ... and she proceeded to piss all over me.

Even though I was covered in pee and grossed out, I knew I was not giving that poor girl back to Summer Teeth. We paid for her and started to walk back to the car. Not once did she ever look up from my armpit where she had buried her cute little face. She was scarred. I knew she was going to be a lot of work.

Random coincidence: While walking to the car, I found \$75. There were three bills blowing like tumbleweeds in the breeze: A fifty, a twenty and a five. It was so weird, we almost named her Lucky. We also almost named her Aslan, because she looked like a lion and we had just watched *The Chronicles of Narnia*, but before we made it to the car we knew she was a Lucy.

The first week we had her she hardly emerged from her kennel. She would pee if you looked at her funny. She would pee if a train whistle blew in the distance. She would pee when she was happy, when she was scared or even mad. I guess what I am trying to say is, that little dog flooded more than New Orleans.



It took her a while — longer than we thought — but she eventually warmed up to us and the other dogs. It took a lot of time, love and more patience that we thought we were capable of but she eventually became the sweet, goofy, confident chow we knew she could be. Don't get me wrong — she can still be a crazy bitch on occasion, but we all have our crazy bitch days. I know I do.

So yes, she is a rescue. We rescued her from a life of terror and mistreatment and she rescued us from a life of boredom and normalcy. Now, all these years later, she is part of Casa Nova and I can't imagine her not being a part of our lives. I love Lucy!

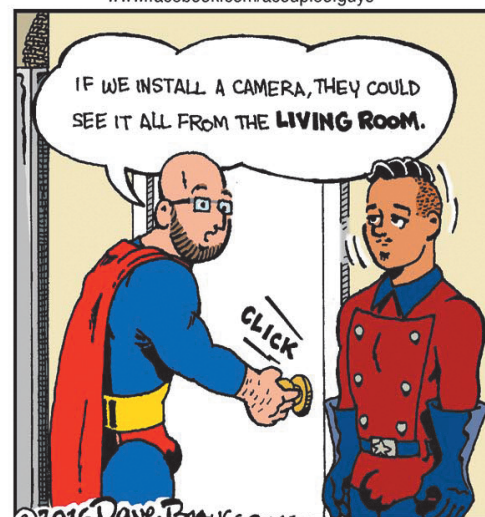
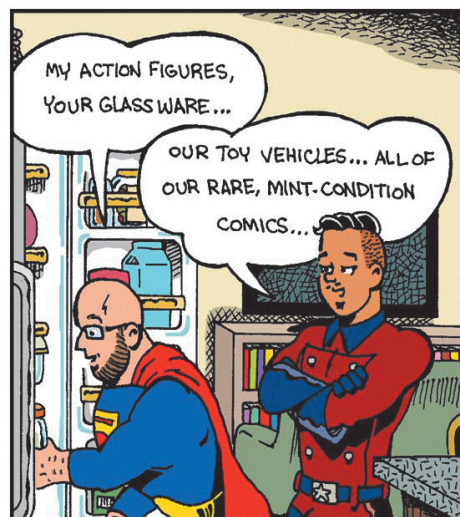
How many of you are excited for the new *Ghostbusters* movie? I am. I have such high hopes for this movie that I hope it can live up to them. Paul Feig is directing it; he also directed one of my other favorites, *Bridesmaids*. All four of the main cast members are some of my absolutely favorite women actors. I know a lot of people are skeptical about a remake, I know I am. Listen Hollywood: Don't do a freakin' remake if you can't make it better. I'm talking to the assholes that did the *Poltergeist* remake. It had none of the humor or heart that the original had. It wasn't creepy like the original. It was a total waste of time. Hated it.

The *Footloose* remake was not dreadful but I don't remember a single song from it, while the original had one of the greatest soundtracks of all time. The remake's dance numbers were also forgettable ... but who could forget Kevin Bacon's warehouse dance filled with so much sexy teenage angst? Not me.

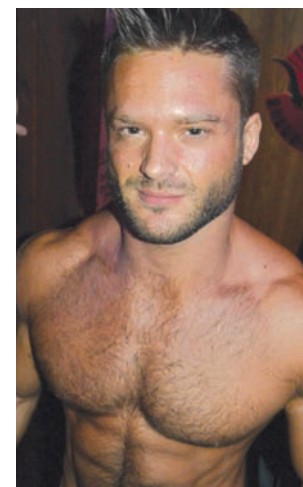
Maybe I'm biased because when the originals came out, I was still an impressionable young boy-like person. *Ghostbusters*, *Poltergeist* and *Footloose* made a big impression on me as a kid and when a remake doesn't capture that same magic, I get majorly disappointed. I guess it is a lot to ask of any movie, but I am giving you a chance, *Ghostbusters* remake! I hope you make me laugh and entertain me. Maybe you can spark a little magic in a near bitter, jaded but hopeful adult. Fingers crossed.

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

If you have a question or comment, email it to AskCassieNova@gmail.com.



2016 Texas Bear Round Up Weekend



Making the **SCENE** the week of **March 18-24**:

- **Alexandre's**: Jason Huff on Friday. **Three Drunk Monkeys** on Saturday. Chris Chism on Wednesday. Alicia Silex on Thursday.
- **Brick/Joe's**: **Spring Fling** featuring the **Bad Boyz of Dallas** showtime at 11 p.m. on Friday. **Pocahontas**, Renee Rose, LaPrince Deveraux Cartie, Chaka and more hosted by **Ida Mae Watergate** on Saturday.
- **Changes**: **Easter Basket Show** at 8 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Club Reflection**: **Cowtown Leathermen** cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday. **Texas Gay Rodeo Association** show at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle**: **DFW Leather Corps Club** night on Friday. **Home for the Holidays Show** at 7 p.m. on Friday. **National Leather Association Leather Perspectives** presentation 1:30-5 p.m. on Saturday. **MasT Dallas** meeting at 2 p.m. on Saturday. **SSC Fund** spring fundraiser at 7 p.m. on Saturday. **Purple Party Score** at 10 p.m. on Saturday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill**: **Cassie's Freak Show** with Nikki Trash, Bianca, G Licious G and Your Highness on Monday.
- **Round-Up Saloon**: **Bear Happy Hour** at 6 p.m. on Friday.
- **Sue Ellen's**: **Coles Whalen** on Friday. **Edison** on Saturday. **Kathy & Bella** at 3 p.m. and **Bad Habits** at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- **The Rose Room**: **Gaybingo** on Saturday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar**: **Pegasus Slowpitch Softball Association Uniform Party** hosted by Jada Fox from 4-7 p.m. on Sunday.

Scene Photographers: **Kat Haygood** and **Chad Mantooth**.

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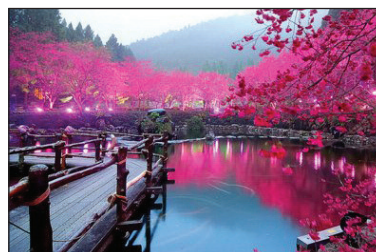
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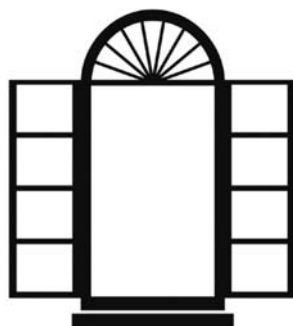
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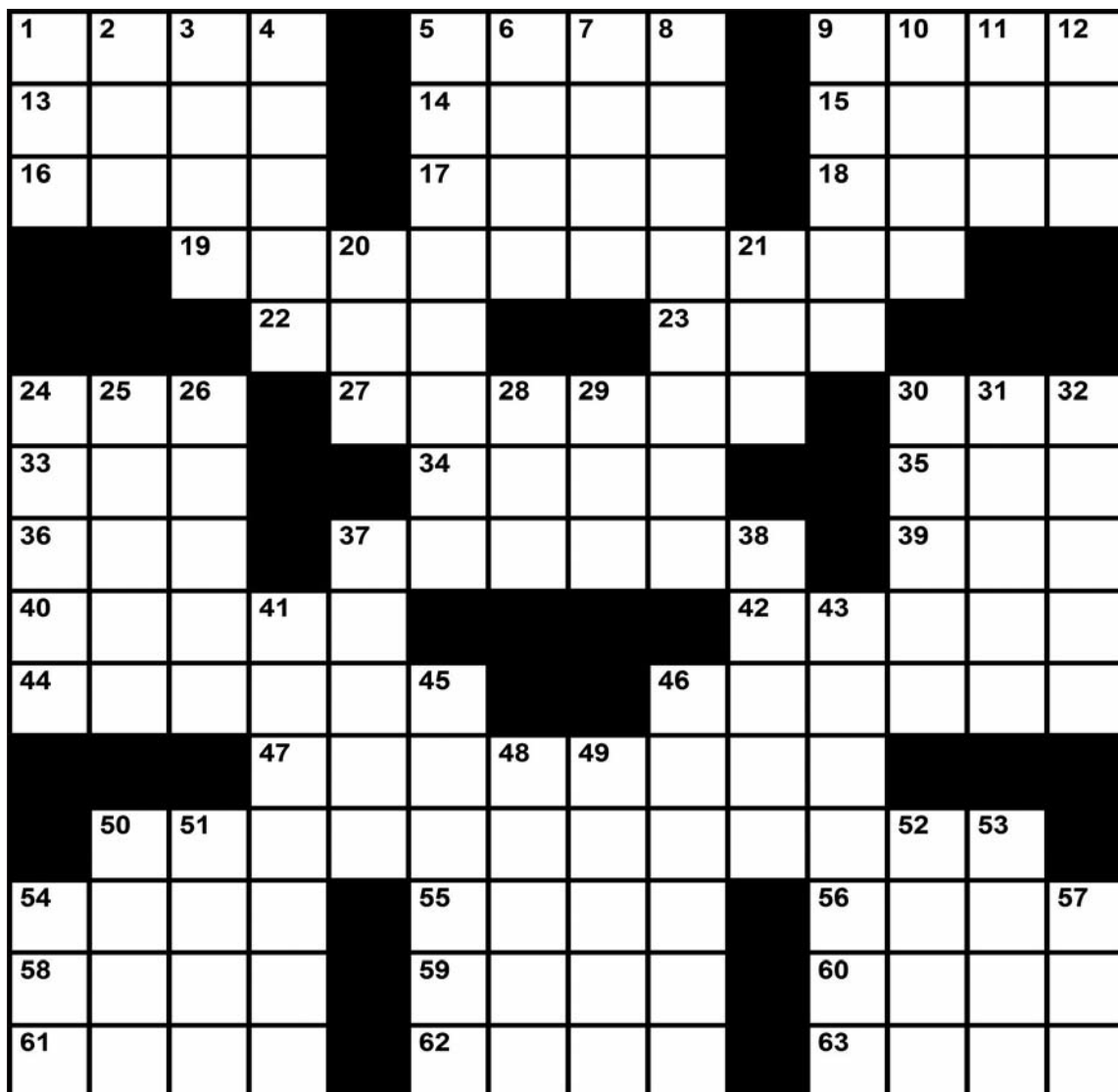
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q-puzzle



Mark My Words

Solution on page 69

Across

- 1 Barely beats
- 5 Stat for Richard Simmons
- 9 They're tops on the beach
- 13 It can bear fruit
- 14 Morales of *La Bamba*
- 15 Wilde country
- 16 *Cabaret* mister
- 17 Mild oath
- 18 Once more
- 19 Start of Mark Hamill's answer
about Skywalker's orientation
- 22 Coin of Foucault
- 23 Boob tubes
- 24 Memorial designer Maya ____
- 27 Go gaga over Lady Gaga, e.g.
- 30 Restroom, for short
- 33 "Double Fantasy" artist
- 34 More of the answer
- 35 Sex attachment
- 36 E. Wolfson or R. Cohn
- 37 Came together
- 39 P-town's Crowne Pointe, e.g.
- 40 "May the ____ be with you"
- 42 More of the answer
- 44 Like a muscle Mary pumping iron

- 46 *At Swim, Two Boys* writer Jamie
- 47 Like some exotic fruit
- 50 End of the answer
- 54 He cruised for forty days straight
- 55 *Ed Wood* role
- 56 Blast furnace fuel
- 58 Stud fee?
- 59 Richard of *A Summer Place*
- 60 One of the Brewer models
- 61 Jethrene Bodine portrayer Max
- 62 Bianchi and Hulce
- 63 Material for Sylvia Beach?

Down

- 1 Ordinal for John Nash
- 2 Hot temper
- 3 *Frasier* actress Gilpin
- 4 Workers at the bottom
- 5 Bridge call
- 6 Twin to Jacob
- 7 Dogs do it when they're hot
- 8 Visit Judy Garland's birthplace, e.g.
- 9 Billy and family
- 10 Button's place
- 11 "We ____ Family"
- 12 Work under Edith Head, perhaps

- 20 "____-hoo! Fellas!"
- 21 Nurses stick these in
- 24 Sits on one's bottom
- 25 Coming up behind
- 26 Cathedral word in gay Paree
- 28 California has a big one
- 29 Heart test
- 30 One of the Mario Brothers
- 31 Record in a queer archive
- 32 Record material
- 37 Part of MGM
- 38 Shore of Palm Springs
- 41 Position near Dave Pallone
- 43 Goes for
- 45 "Dang straight!"
- 46 Indian et al.
- 48 Rag alternative
- 49 Religion of Allah
- 50 Sometime Capote associate Chaplin
- 51 It has a fickle finger
- 52 *The Music Man* setting
- 53 It comes after fore
- 54 Snatch
- 57 Split one in the locker room



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