# dallasyoice

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# Getting older WISELY

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by David Torret, Page 8



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# 07.22.16 | Volume 33 | Issue 11



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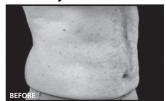
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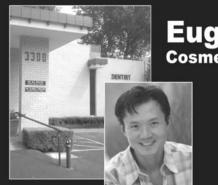
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# Oklahoma governor defends anti-LGBT Republican platform

Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin defended the anti-LGBT Republican platform on CNN on Monday, July 18, saying there were gay people on the plat-

Actually, of the 112 members of the GOP platform committee, only one, Rachel Hoff, was lesbian. She made impassioned pleas for the party to soften its rhetoric that were completely ignored.

Fallin went on to defend the document that vilifies everything from same-sex marriage to the idea that transgender people have a right to pee by saying the platform is about "how can we make America great and how can we believe and stand for human rights of all people."

All people - unless they happen to LGBT and want to get married or go to the bathroom.

The platform also calls for passage of the First Amendment Defense Act that would allow anyone to discriminate against LGBT people by simply claiming "a deeply held religious belief."

David Taffet

# NBA to move all-star game out of N.C.

The NBA has announced its 2017 All-Star Game will be moved out of Charlotte.

In April. NBA Commissioner Adam Silver warned Charlotte that if the state's discriminatory anti-LGBT HB2 wasn't repealed, the league would pull the game out of the state. While the bill passed and was signed in one day, the legislature spent the rest of the session talking about what to do about it and the millions of dollars it lost as a result.

Silver announced the league is looking at moving the game, possibly to New Orleans, but other cities have been putting in bids. The formal announcement was expected by week's end.

The all-star game, which takes place in February, was held in New Orleans in 2008 and 2014.

David Taffet

# 5th Circuit Court: Texas voter ID law is unconstitutional

The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a ruling on Wednesday, July 20, upholding lower court rulings declaring that the Texas Voter ID law violates the Voting Rights Act.

The Texas law, passed in 2011, is considered one of the strictest of such laws in the country. It requires that voters show a state driver's license or ID card, a concealed handgun license, a U.S. passport, a military ID card or a U.S. citizenship certificate with a photo before they are allowed to cast their ballot. Student IDs are not considered valid ID

Some people, such as those with disabilities, can be exempt. But the law caused many problems with transgender voters, whose presentation many times does not match their official ID.

Ed Espinoza, executive director of Progress Texas, said his organization is "absolutely thrilled" with the decision. "For everyone who believes in a full and representative democracy, today is a day to celebrate," Espinoza said. "Democrats have argued for more than a decade that Republican attempts to pass a voter ID bill are discriminatory. Today, the most conservative court in the country agreed with what we've said - that the voter ID bill is overturned because it effectively cancels the protections guaranteed by the Voting Rights Act."

— Tammye Nash

# Williams Institute finds food insecurity prevalent in LGBT community

The Williams Institute at UCLA, which conducts research on sexual orientation and gender identity law and public policy, released a study this week that finds that LGBT people are more likely to suffer from food insecurity than the population in general.

Among the findings, 27 percent, or more than one in four LGBT adults — 2.2 million people by Williams Institute's estimates — experienced a time in the last year when they did not have enough money for the food that they or their families needed, compared to 17 percent of non-LGBT adults.

More than one in four LGB adults aged 18-44 (27 percent) participated in SNAP, compared to 20 percent of non-LGB adults in the same age range.

Food insecurity is not distributed evenly in the LGBT community: 42 percent of LGBT African-Americans, 33 percent of LGBT Hispanics, 32 percent of LGBT American Indians and Alaskan Natives, 31 percent of women, 30 percent of unmarried individuals, and 33 percent of those raising children are particularly likely to report not having enough money for the food that they or their families needed at some point in the last year. (There is overlap among those groups).

- David Taffet

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# THE <mark>gay</mark> agenda

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

• Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM. United Black Ellument hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; Core Group Meeting every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; Fuse game night every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the Treymore Building, 4038 Lemmon Ave, Suite 101; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski

**JULY** 

at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or

Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org.

# • Through Aug. 11: Back to school donation

Real Live Connection, HRC, AIDS Walk South Dallas, and Oak Lawn UMC present a donation drive to collect clothing and school

supplies for homeless LGBT youth and allies. Drop box locations are at the UPS Store, 3824 Cedar Springs Road, Alexandre's, 4026 Cedar Springs Road and Oak Lawn Branch Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road. For information visit RLC365.org.

### • July 22-23: Designer Relationships Symposium

PolyDallas Millennium LLC presents the 2nd annual symposium on Designer Relationships, Friday-Saturday, with the opening night speaker, Joe Kort, at 7 p.m. Friday at Viva's Lounge, followed by a special performance by Dem Damn Dames Burlesque Troupe. Saturday's panels and speakers – including Tristan Taormino, Joe Kirt, James Wadley and more — take place from 8 a.m.-10 p.m. at Crowne Plaza Dallas Downtown, 1015 Elm St. For information visit PolyDallasMillenium.com.

• July 23: Summit on LGBT Aging Second annual summit is a joint venture with GALA North Texas. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Southern Methodist University Plano Campus, 5326 Tennyson Parkway, Plano. cfa.lgbt.

# pet of the week / ALLIE BABY

Allie Baby is a shepherd mix that, at just 6 months old, weighs 41 pounds. She is a smart and active girl with very friendly disposition. She'll probably be a medium-sized dog when she matures, but she will still need plenty of room to run and play, and will do best in an active home with daily walks.

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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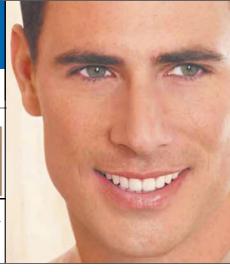
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# Obituary



William Carlyle "Bill" Eure passed away early in the morning of July 18 after a seven-month battle with cancer.

Bill was born in Goldsboro, N.C., where he

was raised in the house his grandfather built for his grandmother. After graduating from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with undergraduate and graduate degrees in psychology, he moved to Atlanta where he met Michael Piazza in 1980. They were married in a religious ceremony one year later, and, last November, on their 35th anniversary, they celebrated their legal marriage at Virginia-Highland Church in Atlanta, where Michael serves as senior pastor.

While he never attended seminary, Bill's relentless passion for and unwavering faith in God made him an equal partner in ministry with Michael during their 35 years together. They served the Cathedral of Hope for 22 years, Michael as senior pastor and Bill as his affectionately given title, the "First Lady of the Cathedral." Among other things, Bill led countless small group studies; created Circle Groups,

a program that is credited with much of the church's growth and still is in existence today; and taught membership class to thousands of people. His most recent effort was creating the Cornerstone Prayer Ministry at Virginia-Highland Church.

Although he was a computer programmer by profession, Bill's passion was wine, and he became a certified wine educator several years ago. Hoping to make use of this skill in retirement, Bill enjoyed traveling with his family and close friends to Sonoma every other year, and he celebrated his 60th birthday with a trip to France that included several days exploring the Burgundy and Champagne regions. Bill also enjoyed sharing this passion by teaching classes about food and wine pairings, and the history of wine in the Bible.

He is survived by his family: husband, Michael Piazza; his daughters, Jerica Coughlin and Jordan Coughlin; his brother John Eure; David Plunkett; and Sheila Coughlin. He was preceded in death by his parents, Carlyle G. and Adell Sherard Eure.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, July 23, at 1 p.m. at Virginia-Highland Church in Atlanta, with a second service hosted by the Cathedral of Hope in Dallas on Monday, July 25, at 6:30 p.m. Bill will be interred in Dallas.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the altar guild at Virginia-Highland Church.

25 years with a farewell party with owners Howard Okon and Greg Parrish who are retiring.

# performance by Ab Soto, runway show presented by Marco Marco, Underwear, hosted by Chris Sapphire and beats by

hosted by Chris Sapphire and beats b DJ Brandon Moses from 1-6 p.m. at 7044 Royal Lane.

Impulse Group presents DTF2 with

• July 23: Down to Float

### • July 23: Red Summer Nights Dream

Dallas Red Foundation and Dannee Phann Productions present Ru Paul's Cynthia Lee Fontaine and 2016 Miss Red, Raquel Blake with Gloria Devine, Onyx Anderson, G Licious G, Nicole O'Hara Munro and Dallas Sheraton. Doors at 9. Show at 11. Tickets \$15 online or \$20 at the door. Table for three with meet and greet privileges \$120 at The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. Tickets at www.RedSummerNightsDream.eventbrite.com

### • July 23: Pride Sizzlin' Summer Bingo

Tarrant County Pride and Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association present Pride Sizzlin Summer Bingo at Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, 933 E. Avenue J, Grand Prairie. Tickets at TCGPWA.org.

# • July 24: The Brick Closing Party

The Brick/Joe's, 2525 Wycliff, will close after

# • July 25: High Tech Happy Hour

Christmas in July

Benefits The Senior Source. A \$50 gift card to Target or Walmart will help a senior purchase personal items and a \$100 check will purchase and install an air conditioning unit.

From 5-7 p.m. at Two Corks and a Bottle, The quadrangle, 2800 Routh St. #140.

### • July 28-31 Texas Queerlesque Festival

Queer burlesque takes center stage in the 4-day Texas Queerlesque Festival, where cabaret-style performing arts meets the culturally-rich queer community. The festival aims to unify, celebrate and elevate, and showcases Texas premiere performers in two mainstage shows at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St., and Viva's Lounge, 1350 Manufacturing St., Ste. 120. For information visit TexasQueerlesqueFestival.com.

### • July 28: LGBT-Friendly West Coast Swing

Dallas Pride Dance country-western dance group invites couples and singles of all gender

identities and skill levels to learn basics and beginning, intermediate, and advanced moves with award-winning dancer and instructor Lori Hayor. 9 p.m. at You Can Dance studio, 14833 Inwood Road, Suite 600, Addison. \$15 suggested donation per person; no one turned away for inability to pay. 817-500-4962; 214-566-1260.

# • July 30: DFW Federal Club summer luncheon

U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey, the Democrat representing Texas' 33rd Congressional District, and Joni Madison, chief operating officer and chief of staff of the Human Rights Campaign, will be featured speakers at the DFW Federal Club's Summer Luncheon. The event is capped at 200 guests. Business casual luncheon from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Tower Club, Thanksgiving Tower, 1601 Elm St. 48th floor. For information visit DFWFederalClub.org.

## • July 30: TAG Game Night

Tyler Area Gays hosts TAG Game Night in the Genecov room at the Tyler Chamber of Commerce, 315 N. Broadway, 6-9 p.m. Refreshments and games will be provided, but you can also bring your own games. Attendees are encouraged to bring back-to-school supplies to be donated to local charitable organizations to be distributed to needy children. For information visit TylerAreaGays.com.

# • July 30: Zika presentation

STEVEN JEFFERS

A presentation about the Zika virus and what you can do to protect yourself and your family featuring Dallas County Health and Human Services Director Zachary Thompson at 3 p.m. at Lochwood Branch Library, 11221 Lochwood Blvd. Refreshments served.

Dallas Pride Dance, a new community organization promoting countrywestern social dance, starts its four-week, LGBT-friendly West Coast Swing class July 28, with award-winning instructor Lori Haynor. Couples

and singles of all gender identities and skill levels are invited. You Can Dance

Studio, 14833 Inwood Road, Ste. 600,

in Addision. \$15 donation is requested, but no one will be turned away be-

cause they can't pay. For information

call 817-500-4962 or 214-566-1260.

### • July 31: Holocaust survivor speaks

If you have never heard survivors tell their stories, this is your chance at 12:30 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St #100.

### • July 31: Sunday Night Fever

Cathedral of Hope's 46th anniversary party with '70s costumes and karaoke. From 5-8 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road.

### **AUGUST**

### • Aug 4: LGBT-Friendly West Coast Swing

Dallas Pride Dance country-western dance group invites couples and singles of all gender identities and skill levels to learn basics and beginning, intermediate, and advanced moves with award-winning dancer and instructor Lori Hayor. 9 p.m. at You Can Dance studio, 14833 Inwood Road, Suite 600, Addison. \$15 suggested donation per person; no one turned away for inability to pay. 817-500-4962; 214-566-1260.

# **Coalition holds** second conference on aging

**DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer** taffet@dallasvoice.com

Since its first conference last year, the Coalition for LGBT Aging has been working to improve existing services in North Texas, helping make them more LGBT-friendly.

"We're not going to duplicate services," Coalition founder Cannon Flowers said, reiterating that the goal is to make what's already out there better.

New training has made 211 operators more

equality index on senior living facilities."

On Saturday, July 23, the Coalition holds its second conference on aging LGBT. This year it's in Collin County, on the SMU Plano Campus, 5236 Tennyson Parkway, Building 4.

The event opens with remarks from Plano Mayor Harry LaRosiliere.

Rather than large plenaries, this year's conference is concentrating on breakout sessions. Coalition board member Sam Tornabene said panels Study looks at health disparities among older LGBs, heteros

A recent analysis on health disparities among older sexual minorities indicates that older lesbians, gays and bisexuals seem to take better care of their health than their heterosexual counterparts at least in some areas

The report offers estimates made from data from two years of the National Health Interview Survey, 2013-2014, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The study examined differences in 15 health characteristics among sexual minorities — LGB (no T included) and heterosexuals, all age 65 or older.

Findings were presented in three categories: health characteristics with statistically significant differences, health characteristics with no statistically significant differences and health characteristics with insignificant data to detect differences.

The report's authors do note that, "Because there were relatively few respondents who identified as sexual minorities, the tests we performed had limited power, and the detectable differences were correspondingly large.

Information in the report indicates

that of the 15,799 respon-

nity and include the transgender portion of that community would likely deliver far different re-In the first group — the one showing statistically significant differences - sexual minorities were more likely to say they are in excellent or very good health than those in the sexual major-

147 identified as sexual minorities. Of those 38.4 percent were female and 88.8 percent were white.

(Editor's note: Obviously, a study that included

a broader group of respondents on the sexual mi-

represented the true diversity of the LGB commu-

nority side of the equation that more accurately

The mean age was about 72.

ity, 62.7 percent to 45.9 percent. 79.7 percent of the LGB respondents said they had received a flu vaccine, compared to 68.8 percent of the non-LGBT respondents, and 51.3 percent of the LGBT respondents said they had at some point been tested for HIV, compared to only 15.8

percent of the non-LGBT

respondents



# Nobody likes to talk about getting old

Panelists talk about unique challenges to aging in the LGBT community

**DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer** taffet@dallasvoice.com

Talking about getting old is difficult for anyone. In the gay community, it seems almost impossible.

"Nobody likes to talk about aging except pharmaceutical companies," said community counselor

Candy Marcum. She's one of the panelists who will be discussing "A call for creating social spaces and support for the aging LGBT" at this weekend's conference on aging in the LGBT community.

She said most people live in a world that gets smaller and smaller as the age. They lose friends. If they lose the ability to drive, they have fewer opportunities to socialize.

In the LGBT community, we have very few role models of people growing old, Marcum said. Fewer people came out 50 years ago. Many from that generation who were out died during the height of the AIDS crisis.

Others, who have few friends left, are isolated.

"The only good story we have is Jack and George," Marcum said, referring to Jack Evans and George Harris. The men had been a couple for more than 55 years when Evans passed away last month. But Harris still drives and Evans remained involved, going to church, out to dinner and participating in community events through the end of his life.

"Jack looked hip with a bad hip," Marcum said. She said one thing the conference will examine is how to have a fulfilling life to the end.

"I might not be as mobile as I once was, but I can have a meaningful life," she said.

Portia Cantrell is a nurse who serves on the board of the Coalition for Aging LGBT.

She's concerned with treatment of LGBT people by the medical community that can force some people into the closet just to receive care.

"I was at UT Southwestern for a procedure recently," Cantrell said. "Before the procedure, they asked me for my emergency contact."

When she gave the name, she specified it was her wife. But the nurse kept referring to her as her

"I was already going through some something stressful," she said, "and the nurse was showing

The straights had healthier answers, for the most part, when it came to alcohol use though. Only 6.7 percent of the non-gay respondents said they had five or more alcoholic drinks in one day at some point in the last year, while 14.5 percent of the LGB respondents answered yes to that question.

The second category, the one in which there was no statistically significant difference, included (with the percentage for LGB respondents first): have a usual source for medical care (96.1 to 96.6); current cigarette smoker (9.1 percent to 8.6); trouble seeing (16.7 percent to 13.8 percent); told by a doctor you have cancer (29.1 percent to 23.4 percent); obese (27.7 percent to 26.7 percent); functional limitations (53.4 percent to 64 percent); and told you have coronary heart disease (12.4 percent to 14.1 percent).



While no one likes talking about getting old, about 200 people did just that at the first LGBT aging summit last summer at Senior Source on Harry Hines Boulevard. The second takes place on July 23 on SMU's Plano campus. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

she doesn't approve of my 'lifestyle.'" And if the caregiver doesn't approve of how you live your life, Cantrell questioned, is that person going to

As a nurse, she said she's heard stories from coworkers of someone they thought needed to be prayed over because they were sinners.

Cantrell's experience was just a procedure and within a few days, she was back home. What happens to someone who isn't going back home, because they're now in assisted living or in a nursing

"You want pictures out," Cantrell said. When a spouse visits, "you want to hold his hand. When you get disapproving looks, how is that going to make you feel? How will it affect your health?"

Cantrell thinks the AIDS crisis still affects both men and women who lived through the worst years of that era as they age. Many men didn't expect to live very long, so they made no plans for retirement. And big, strong women who were the caregivers for their sick and dying male friends don't want to feel weak.

"We're the ones who took care of the guys and now we're vulnerable," Cantrell said.

To make it worse, said coalition board member Sam Tornabene, there's quite a bit of agism in the LGBT community.

While LGBT people create families of choice, those people tend be around the same age, he said. So caregivers are other older people who happen to be healthier at the time.









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FWISD releases revised trans guidelines

As school officials talk about a reasonable compromise, anti-trans forces claim victory

**JAMES RUSSELL I** Contributing Writer james.journo@gmail.com

Officials with the Fort Worth school district released a revised version of the transgender student guidelines on Wednesday, July 20, after three months of revisions and scrutiny from opponents.

The guidelines first issued in April were a detailed, eight-page document clarifying the district's existing anti-bullying and anti-discrimination policies, which were amended to include gender identity and expression in 2011.

Previously, the guidelines warned "transitioning is a very private matter [and] students may choose whether or not to have their parents participate in this process. In fact, notifying a parent or guardian carries risks for the students in some cases."

Opponents argued that suggestions excluded parents from the discussion. Groups like conservative family values organization Texas Values also alleged the public accommodations would allow "boys in girls bathrooms."

The two-page revised document now includes clear language about the importance of the relationship among students, schools and parents. Support staff and teachers will work with families on a case-by-case basis, including in public facility accommodations.

Both supporters and opponents called the compromise a victory, though in markedly different terms.

"The new guidelines reflect what we've heard from students and teachers, parents and pastors. Our focus from the beginning has been the safety of all children and that, overwhelmingly, was the concern we heard from our parents and others," Superintendent Kent Scribner said in a statement. "The new guidelines place a heavy emphasis on involving parents and trusts students, teachers and parents to work together to make the right decisions."

David Mack Henderson, president of Fairness Fort Worth, praised Scribner's leadership during a divisive time.

"Scribner is wise enough to know questions will remain and has assured me that an educational component for principals will be provided," Henderson wrote via text message. "This is a living document that will breathe over time as we gain more experience. I suspect the best educators for us all are the very children who will teach us what it means to live authentically and proud."

Jonathan Saenz, president of Texas Values, called the revisions "a sweeping reversal."

The school district, Saenz said, "reversed their transgender policy [and] is a victory for parents, common sense, and the rule of law. Fort Worth ISD's dramatic retreat on its bathrooms policy should send a message to all Texas school districts — you don't mess with parents' rights and safety in Texas public schools," Saenz said in a statement.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who bombarded a school board meeting in May and asked for a legal opinion from Attorney General Ken Paxton, also chimed in.

"This policy, as originally adopted, cut students, parents, the community, teachers and principals out of the process. It ran contrary to the basic tenets of local control. As I hoped when I submitted the request for a legal opinion from our attorney general, this change brings FWISD in line with parents' rights detailed under current law and requires administrators to resolve these issues on a case-bycase basis, as they have been. We will continue to closely monitor this issue moving forward," Patrick said in a statement.

But Ashley Paz, first vice president of the school



FWISD Superintendent Kent Scribner, right, said the district's guidelines for dealing transgender students have always and still do focus on what's best for all students. Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, left, and other conservatives claimed victory when the district amended those guidelines this week.

board and supporter of the guidelines, struck a conciliatory tone.

"I am extremely proud of the leadership shown by [Superintendent] Scribner and [Board President Jacinto] Ramos in navigating the process. They led our administration and board to listen to parties with many different perspectives. At the end of the day, there was a healthy give and take, and the final outcome protects all students which is our ultimate goal," Paz said.

# GOP delegates ratify most anti-LGBT platform ever

**CHRIS JOHNSON I** Washington Blade Courtesy of National Gay Media Association

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Delegates at the Republican National Convention on Monday afternoon, July 18, ratified with little opposition a party platform considered to have the most anti-LGBT language of any platform in history.

As Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., chair of the platform committee, presided over the convention, delegates approved the 66-page document by voice vote at 4:42 p.m. The number of "ayes" among the 2,470 delegates seemed overwhelming compared to the barely audible "nays."

Despite efforts from pro-LGBT Republicans to remove opposition to same-sex marriage from the

2016 platform, the document seeks to reverse the U.S. Supreme Court decision in favor of marriage equality through either judicial reconsideration or a constitutional amendment returning the issue to the states.

Virgil Goode, a Virginia delegate and former sixterm member of the U.S. House, told the Washington Blade reporters at the convention that he backs the platform language in opposition to the Obergefell ruling, issued by the Supreme Court on June 26, 2015, and upholding marriage equality nationwide

"I think the Supreme Court legislated," Goode said. "The Supreme Court is not the decider of what marriage is. It should be the individual states [that] have that right. They way overstepped their

bounds on that."

Goode said he believes that whether to allow same-sex couples to obtain marriage licenses and have those relationship recognized should "be up to the states."

"You have in the United States, including California, the people voted for a definition of marriage, and I think that vote should stand, that the Supreme Court shouldn't be overriding," Goode said.

In addition to opposition to same-sex marriage, the platform also objects to use of federal law to ensure transgender people can use the restroom consistent with their gender identity, indicates support for widely discredited "ex-gay" conversion therapy and endorses the First Amendment Defense Act, a "religious freedom" bill that critics say would legalize anti-LGBT discrimination.

Joseph Knox, a 20-year-old alternate delegate from Washington, N.C., said he agrees with language in the platform on transgender restroom use — which is consistent with a law in his state signed

by Gov. Pat McCrory requiring transgender people to use public restrooms according to their birth certificates, not their gender identity.

"I support that because I believe it's the duty of our government in order to protect people for the cases where it may abused," Knox said. "I understand where the argument is made for people and their rights, and they feel they need to use the bathroom of their choice. However, in public schools, or taxpayer buildings, or stuff like that, then it should be up to your birth certificate, and that's where you should have to go."

Knox said he also "absolutely" backs language in the platform in opposition to the Supreme Court's decision in favor of same-sex marriage nationwide.

"I believe as a conservative, as a Republican, that the federal government has taken leaps and bounds that are involving themselves within states' rights way too much," Knox said. "It wasn't mentioned in the Constitution. Our Founding Fathers were not worried about that along with a lot other things."

Knox added he believes the establishment of the Department of Education is also unconstitutional, and that "things like that should be left up to the individual states."

Delegates at the convention who spoke about the language in the platform against LGBT rights were largely in support of those planks. Many of the delegates and alternate delegates at the Quicken Loans Arena refused to speak with Washington Blade reporters on the subject of gay rights in the party platform.

Dwayne Collins, a delegate from the Dallas area, said he agrees with the platform's opposition to the same-sex marriage on the basis that "marriage between a man and a man, and a woman and a woman, is just not biblical."

Collins also indicated support for the platform's veiled endorsement of "ex-gay" conversion therapy, as well.

"There should not be anything to force anybody to do such therapy, but if it's out there and available, then, yes," Collins said. "But to force somebody into therapy, no, no, not at all."

Collins, who identified himself as a small business owner, also voiced concerns about non-discrimination laws threatening the livelihoods of those offering wedding-related services.

"I feel intimidated by what the gay movement is doing to my business," Collins said. "I own a wedding venue, OK? It's privately owned. I rent it to people for weddings, but it's got to be a man and a woman. Now in the state of Texas, I have a little bit of protection, but in other states, if you don't do



Cameron Childres was among those who protested Donald Trump and the GOP platform outside Cleveland's Quicken Loans Arena earlier this week. (Michael Key/Washington Blade)

that, you get sued. And that's my business, they are infringing on my rights. That's why we got to come to a consensus here and say, 'Hey, enough's enough. You got your rights; we got our rights."

A North Dakota delegate, who refused to give his name, said, "I'm a live and let live guy," but he also said he supports the platform's call for returning decisions on marriage equality to the states. "I prefer that when states can make their own decisions," he said.

Joel Craig, an 18-year-old delegate from Colorado Springs, Colo., and pledged to Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, said he supports the platform's opposition to marriage equality because "states should be allowed to choose what their definition of marriage

is."

"I think that this is a deal for the states," Craig said. "The states are in charge of issuing marriage licenses; why then are they not in charge of how the marriage licenses are issued?"

But Craig contested the notion the platform endorses conversion therapy, saying the platform mentions it, but doesn't endorse it. The platform says, "We support the right of parents to determine the proper medical treatment and therapy for their minor children."

Craig said, "I believe that the current language, the way it is set, does not endorse conversion therapy, as you've suggested, however it is mentioned. I didn't exactly read how it was mentioned, but I

do believe the platform as a whole represents the Republican electorate very well."

Not every delegate at the convention was behind the anti-LGBT planks in the GOP platform.

Sharon Jackson, a 52-year-old delegate from the Anchorage area and pledged to Trump, said she's against the platform language and thinks same-sex couples should be able to wed throughout the nation

"I feel that everyone should have the freedom to feel and do what they choose, and that's American is all about," Jackson said.

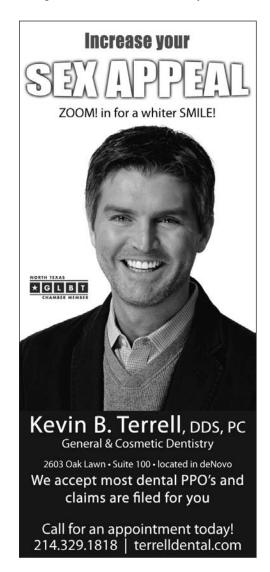
Asked if applies to gay couples seeking to marry, Jackson replied, "If that's what they want to do, they should be able to do that."

Jackson also said she's against platform language opposing transgender people using the restroom consistent with their gender identity: "I don't think that should be politicized. It happens already, right? No one says anything, so to make it a political issue, I think, it opens the doors for perpetuators, and that's not fair. That's not fair. So, if it was just left alone, everything would be fine just as it is today."

LGBT advocates blasted the platform ratified by delegates. The National Log Cabin Republicans, which had previously dubbed the platform the most anti-LGBT in the party's 162-year history, placed a full-page ad Monday in USA Today:

"LOSERS! MORONS! SAD! No, these aren't tweets from Donald Trump. This is what common-sense conservatives are saying about the

GOP, Page 17





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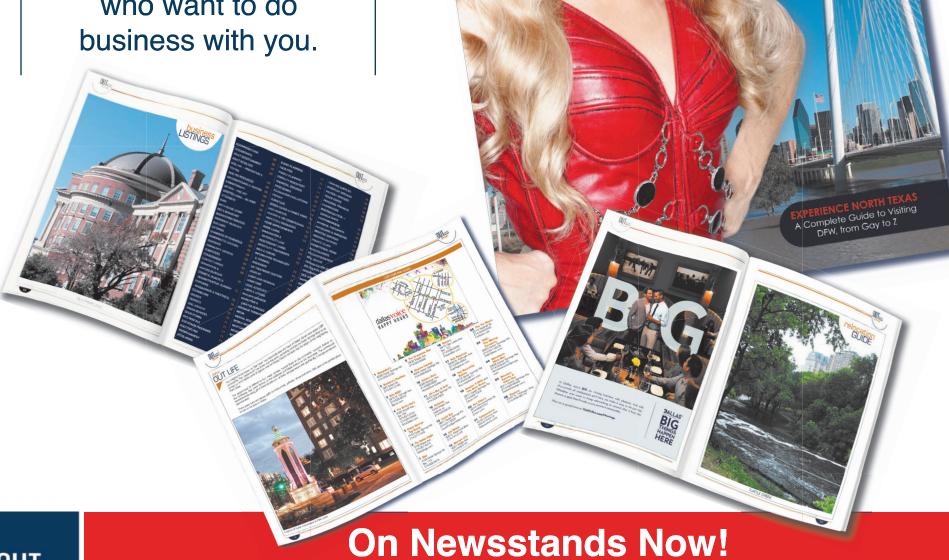
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# Cox joins CoH's Hall of Heroes



do the things I am able to do," she said. "So to the extent that this award is honoring my work with Resource Center, I am really mindful of that team, of the board and of the 32 years of history behind us. This award is a recognition of all that."

Cox that said 2016 has, so far, been "a very productive year in which we [at Resource Center] have served the community well," with the highlight being the grand opening in May of the Center's new facility on Cedar Springs Road at Inwood Road, just a stone's throw from the Cathedral of Hope campus.

"It's been amazing really, when I think of it," she said. "I usually don't think of it, really. I just keep going, putting one foot in front of the other and getting things done. But when you really stop and think about it, it's pretty mind-boggling."

Cox earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Northwestern University and then worked as professional photographer, eventually co-authoring a photo book chronicling the 1993 March on Washington for gay and lesbian rights. She later returned to school to earn a law degree from Southern Methodist Universtiy, and is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

Cox has a long list of awards and recognitions on her resume. She has received the Black Tie Dinner's Kuchling Humanitarian Award, SMU Women's Symposium's Profiles in Leadership Award and the LGBT Law Section of the State Bar of Texas' Judge Norman W. Black Award. She has been recognized as a distinguished alumni by SMU's Dedman School of Law for her outstanding public service, and was twice named Best Local LGBT Role Model in Dallas Voice's Readers Voice Awards.

Cox has more than 30 years experience as an activist and leader in the LGBT community, and played instrumental roles in the passage of the city of Dallas' LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination policy, and Dallas Independent School District's first anti-harassment policy and the district's subsequent anti-bullying policy.

She has worked or volunteered with Turtle Creek Chorale, Legal Hospice of Texas, Youth First Texas and the regional offices of Lambda Legal, and she has been appointed to a both a city board and a city task force. She is a member of the executive committee for SMU's Simmons School of Education and Human Development, a board member of Dallas Women's Foundation, a past president of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, a former co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Dallas and past officer of the LGBT Section of the State Bar

Cox, who has also practiced commercial law and provided pro bono legal services to individuals with HIV, is also an alumna of both Leadership Dallas and Leadership Lambda. She became associate executive of Resource Center in 2007 and CEO in July 2010. She has led the Center in expanding programs, expanding staffing and expanding its impact in the community.



most anti-LGBT platform the Republican Party has ever had. Out of touch, out of line, and out of step with 61 percent of young Republicans who favor same-sex marriage."

Matt McTighe, executive director of Freedom for All Americans, also condemned the platform, saying it doesn't represent the views of many Americans.

"It's disappointing that the far right wing of the Republican Party has successfully pushed for a platform that discriminates against LGBT Americans and their families," McTighe said. "This platform just does not reflect the direction that many Republicans — nor the majority of Americans — want to see the party move."

For a time, efforts among pro-LGBT Republicans were underway for a motion on the convention floor to strip the platform of its anti-LGBT language. A minority report signed by 37 delegates of the platform committee petitioned the Republican National Committee to replace the platform with a 1,200-word statement of 17 core principles of the Republican Party with neutral language on LGBT issues.

Although only 28 delegates are needed for a successful petition, the efforts failed when the delegates who initiated the report — Boyd Matheson of Utah and David Barton of Texas — disavowed it.

Giovanni Cicione, a Rhode Island delegate

who circulated the petition to replace the platform, said afterwards the initiative failed amid disagreement on those behind it and queasiness in Republican leadership over a floor fight. "To have contentious floor votes on anything, content aside is very disruptive to the process that they're trying to lay out this week," Cicione said. "In my opinion, that didn't matter. This was more important than us running a convention where each speaker gets their five minutes. I think we needed to try to make a point here, but they were able to pull back."

(Cicione made his comments before much of the uproar that has occurred throughout the week, including arguments over whether votes should be taken as voice votes or roll call votes and Cruz's Wednesday night speech in which he refused to endorse Trump, causing delegates to boo him off stage.)

Annie Dickerson, a New York member of the platform committee and adviser to GOP philanthropist and LGBT rights supporter Paul Singer, said the goal now is to advance LGBT non-discrimination legislation regardless of the platform.

"Polling on non-discrimination is going off the charts on the Republican side," Dickerson said. "But those are just not the people that were those delegates, which is why Gio and I are here, to give rise to that voice, so we can be a bigger tent because this is not the 'Big Tent' document."



## CONFERENCE, From Page 8

are planned to discuss four areas of interest — housing, legislation, caregiving, legal, social and transgender issues.

"In the trans community, the issues can be daunting, depending on the level of transition," Tornabene said.

He said an EMT might provide care that's degrading or — with the so-called "religious freedom" laws popping up around the country and being debated in Congress — even refuse to care for an LGBT patient.

Other topics that will be addressed are issues of guardianship and what assistance an organization like Senior Source may provide for people who have no one else to act as guardian. Another topic will be the long-term affects of living with HIV, because each year, many people set new records for survival and thriving despite being HIV-positive.

Tornabene said next Texas' legislative session will be challenging. Not only are a record number of anti-LGBT bills expected to be filed, but aging LGBT people will face the same cutbacks expected for all seniors. To make a greater impact on lobbying days, Tornabene said LGBT groups lobbying on senior issues will go the same day as other senior groups lobbying on those issues.

Tornabene also noted that the conference will include a session on financial planning, adding that the older generation of LGBT people, especially gay men, need to approach such planning differently, since so many didn't expect to live so long and therefore failed to plan adequately for their later years.



At its August board meeting, the coalition board will prioritize items and move forward to bolster existing services throughout the area and provide new services when possible, officials said.

According to the American Society of Aging, "Recent research documents social, health, and economic disparities among LGBT elders." Despite growing visibility for the LGBT community and changes in legal status, the community remains "largely invisible in aging services, policies and research."

The coalition intends to change that — at least locally.

Second annual Summit on LGBT Aging, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on July 23 at Southern Methodist University Plano Campus, 5236 Tennyson Parkway, Building 4, Plano

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# commUNITY voices

# Worst coming out ever

O, October 11th is National Coming Out Day, established to encourage a safe world where LGBTQ people can come out and live our authentic lives. For the past 15 years or so, the Human Rights Campaign has even given it a theme of some kind.

Everyone comes out in their own way. Matter of fact, I'd venture to say a good many of us don't even do it on Oct. 11. My coming out was July 20, 2012. It was pretty much a disaster and was the last thing in the world I'd planned on doing that day when I went to work that morning.

The day started out like any other, for the most part. I was the program director for 100.3 Jack-FM radio station in Dallas, a job I cherished.

For more than a year, my now-ex-wife's radar had been going haywire. She was sure I was sleeping around. But I wasn't.

She was periodically accusing me of inappropriate relationships with a variety of women, none of which were true. She was way off base.

By July 20, I had been in Dallas for almost nine months working for CBS Radio and looking for a place to live. I finally found a house in Flower Mound that my then-wife and I both loved. We moved in around May 1 — and things were fine for a while.

We had been married for 33 years and like any marriage, ours had its ups and downs. But this whole "I know there's another woman" thing had been pretty relentless for more than a year.



Leslie McMurray

Accidental Activist

Around midday that July 20 four years ago, I was at CBS, in my office on the 10th floor, when my wife walked into my office and threatened to "cause a big scene" if I didn't come clean. I again pleaded innocent and asked her —

kind of as a last resort — "What do you want me to do, take a lie detector test?"

She said yes. I said, "Fine, book it."

So she did. Right from my desk phone at my CBS office. It was scheduled for the following morning, Saturday, July 21, 2012.

My birthday.

HAVE THE

Great, happy birthday to me! "Here's your polygraph. By the way, it's going to be \$300."

She left my office and presumably went home, happy that she would get the answer she wanted

I felt relaxed because I knew I'd finally be vindicated. We should have done this a long time ago!

The rest of the day passed, and I drove home pondering what the polygraph examiner could possibly ask. I didn't care what they asked; I had

BUT TO SHOW THERE'S NO HARD

feelings, you guys can

nothing to hide.

Except that.

By 2012, I'd been painting my nails for a few years and preferred silk PJs. She had asked me on occasion if I wanted to be a woman. (Um, wanted to be? Hell, I knew I was.)

I had always brushed it off. So if they asked me that question, the cat would be out of the bag. I had never ever told a single soul and was willing to take this to my grave (though it would have likely been an early one).

So I got home, now more than a little concerned that this one question would be asked. I was met at the door and my wife said, "I cancelled the polygraph." I said, "Good, I'm glad." She added, "I still know you're hiding something."

The Flower Mound House was paradise. It was a huge, meticulously remodeled 4,500-square-foot masterpiece on 8½ acres. We had a pond, trees, a fire pit. It was gorgeous.

I walked out on this warm summer evening and sat by myself. In the solitude and quiet I took a picture. I knew this was the last bit of peace I was going to have for a very long time. It was also, the last moments I had as "him."

After taking the picture, I walked inside and said to my wife, "I have been hiding something. I want you to know that if I tell you, I can never 'un-tell' you and that it will change everything. If I don't tell you, it won't hurt you. It will be my secret."

She wanted to know. So I told her: "There is another woman. It's ME."

Her initial response to hearing that her husband was a transgender woman who needed to transition: "Is that all it is? I've known that for a long time."

Initially, she was very supportive. But soon, she began reading about people who are transgender and what was going to happen to her husband. Things changed.

By December, she had packed a bag for a visit to see friends in her native California ... and she never came back.

Of course, I'd fantasized about how all of this might have played out and never had it gone down this way. I was backed into a corner and more or less just blurted it out. But ultimately, what needed to happen, happened.

Transition isn't easy, especially when other people are involved, as they nearly always are.

You can plan all you want. But sometimes, it all goes to hell. It has made my birthday more than a celebration of just another year. For me, there's no looking back.

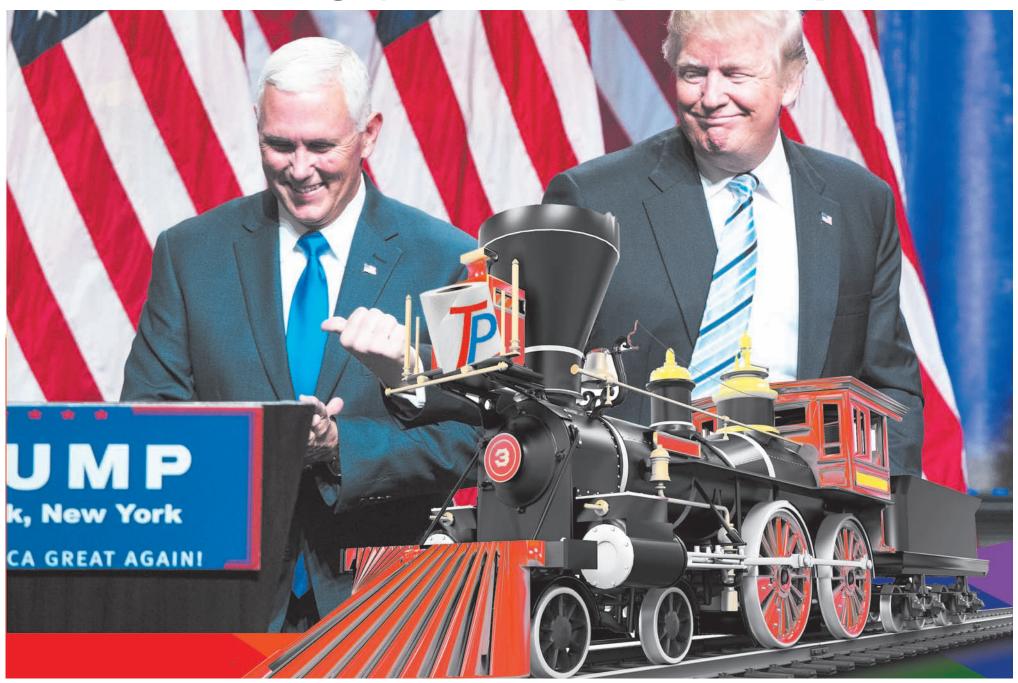
Leslie McMurray, a transgender woman, is a former radio DJ who lives and works in Dallas. Read more of her blogs at lesliemichelle44.wordpress.com







# Pence: As anti-gay as the Republican platform



All aboard the GOP Train for a trip back in time with Engineer Trump and Conductor Pence

as anyone really surprised that Donald Trump picked Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as his co-captain for the most terrifying boat ride since the Titanic?

Pence may be best known for signing Indiana's "just say no to gays" law, the intention of which was to give anti-gay bigots free reign to discriminate against LGBT people so long as their discrimination stemmed from a deeply held religious belief. In other words, if a baker doesn't want to make a cake for some kind of homo wedding, he just needs to point out that "God hates fags," and he's in the clear. As God intended.

This law gave anti-gay bigots major boners, which they presumably showed off during the se-



D'Anne Witkowski Creep of the Week

crimination law that brought scorn heaped upon his state and resulted in a loss of millions of dollars.

In 2006 as a senator, Pence supported amending the U.S. Constitution to ban marriage equality. He said letting same-sex couples marry would bring upon "societal collapse." Clearly he was foreshadowing a Trump-Pence presidential run.

He was also against the Employment Non-Dis-

cret signing session Pence held for them.

After the business community freaked out, Pence signed a little fix to the bill to make it less anti-gay, but it was basically window dressing. Ah, but Pence's antigay record is much longer than just some silly little discrimination Act, claiming in 2007, "By extending the reach of federal law to cover sexual orientation, employment discrimination protections, in effect, can wage war on the free exercise of religion in the

Because, you know, protecting LGBT people from discrimination is totally comparable to the horrors of war.

And speaking of war, Pence didn't want any homos in the military because they would try to touch other privates' privates. Oh, and speaking of the uncontrollable sexual perversions of gays, Pence thought that money for HIV/AIDS would be much better spent on anti-gay conversion therapy. Because if you stop all those gays from being gay it'll stop this gay disease.

Oh, he also was against needle exchange programs. Because he clearly was an HIV/AIDS expert.

Remember when Donald Trump claimed that the gays loved him? That he was actually a better champion of gay rights than Hillary Clinton? Wasn't true then, and even less true now.

"Donald Trump just doubled down on his agenda of hate and discrimination by choosing the notoriously anti-LGBTO Mike Pence for his ticket," Chad Griffin, president of the Human Rights Campaign, said in a statement.

But hey, doubling down on bad decisions is right in Trump's wheelhouse, whether in business or pol-

The Republican platform this year is one of most anti-gay in history. Clearly they are hoping that when voters go to the polls they will hate gays more than they hate Trump. Hey, it worked in the past.

And the past — where women couldn't get abortions, where brown people couldn't vote, where gays couldn't marry — is what the Republicans

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



ou might not expect a musician best known for two-stepping in a hot-pink Bedazzled tuxedo in Cuban heels to have a subversive philosophy about the essence of masculinity and Latin stereotypes, but that's just because you've never talked to AB Soto.

When he hit it big last year with his single "Cha Cha Bitch," Soto became a darling of the club kid set, with a color video of pulsing beats that sent out a message of pure joy and attitude. But dig deeper, and there is some thoughtfulness behind the disco ball.

"I made a conscious decision to be more Latin [on my last album]. The first was more rappy and the second more under-

That has meant a progression of his musicianship, one that is as colorful as a flamingo but as rooted in dance music, rap, even the

sounds of the barrio in a uniquely spicy combination. "Why can't someone from East L.A. be multidimensional?" he asks. And the answer — gleaned from his work — is: "They can."

Wanna see for yourself? Soto will be performing this weekend in Dallas at Down to Float 2, the second annual pool party and fundraiser presented by Impulse Group, that will also feature DJ Brandon Moses, Stoli cocktails and a runway show, dancers, a VIP lounge and more. We chatted with him before his Dallas debut about his musical influences, his Mexican heritage and what audiences can expect from a real live "Cha Cha Bitch."

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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Dallas Voice: Like Lady Gaga, your work seems to combine fashion and music. AB Soto: As a kid, I would sing and dance in my bedroom, but I didn't know it was something you could do as a professional, so I studied fashion first. I only went to fashion school because I thought there was a lack of fashion to represent myself. I took some time off from that to pursue dance, because I felt the need to follow that. But the fashion always stayed with me - I've always been about rebelling against all rules and stereotypes. Fashion has always been a silent performance. [Fashion, music and dance] combined are my paintbrushes.

You certainly seem to undercut expectations about Latino culture. Your style seems to bridge the divide between macho Hispanic men and a flamboyant drag sensibility. You pretty much nailed it. [There's a stereotype] that Latino men have to be a certain way. People would say to me, "You can't be openly gay in music; you can't rap because you're not masculine enough." But since I was little, there were all these rules I had to abide by and follow ... and I don't do well with that. When I was little, my dad would put us in these [traditional Mexican clothes] and put us in these hats. It was a really grand time, and me and my brother loved wearing that stuff, but other kids were like, "That's so ethnic! Everyone will make fun of you." So wearing the mariachi outfit [in my act] isn't about me making fun of [my Mexican heritage], I just like to take a new spin on it. The fact I dance feminine is what some macho Latino gay men have a problem with, especially when I'm in that outfit. If I was dancing like a straight man — whatever that is — you wouldn't have a problem with it. That's homophobia.

It's not just in the shiny spectacle of your performance, but also in your lyrics, which go into a kind of Spanglish. Do you think of it as a mashup of cultures? Are you consciously trying to create something new — gay, Mexican, feminine but with a hairy-chested sexuality? I wouldn't say it's intentional

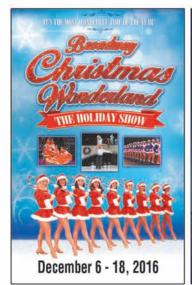
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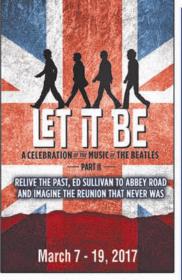
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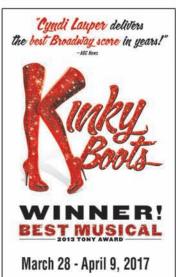


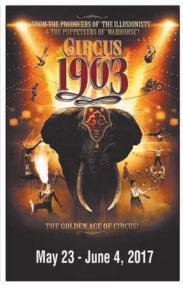




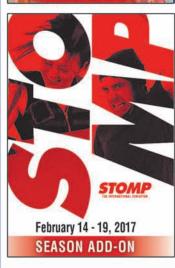


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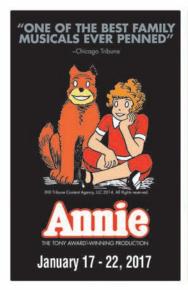


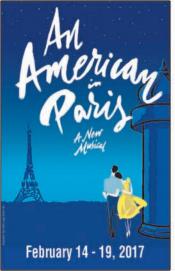
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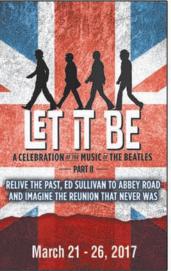
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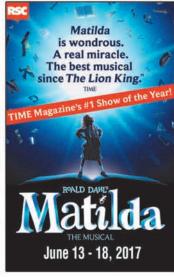


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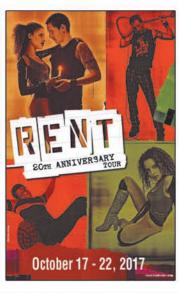




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# With 'Six' you get Cantone brings his inimitable outlook to 'Page Six TV'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor iones@dallasvoice.com

Summer is usually a black hole for original TV programming, but if you've tuned into the broadcast networks this past week, chances are you've seen a show with Mario Cantone. First, he was a celebrity guest on the primetime reboot of the classic game show The \$100,000 Pyramid (and he'll be on its sister show, Match Game, next month). And late-night on Fox, you might have caught him as one of the hosts of Page Six TV, the new gossip chatfest getting a three-week tryout in select cities, including Dallas. What's with the media blitz, Mario?

"If they ask me, I [show up] — I can't go beggin', Arnold!" he shouts in mock anger. "I go home and watch Turner Classics Movies and when they call, I come. The problem is, you're always asked to do the stuff you don't want, and aren't for the ones you do."

That's not the case, he insists, for Page Six TV,

modeled after the New York Post's famed gossip column.

"The thing about Page Six is, it's historic not that it invented gossip, but it's always been fun and lighthearted. That's what I like about it — it's more 'what the fuck' than 'fuck you.'"

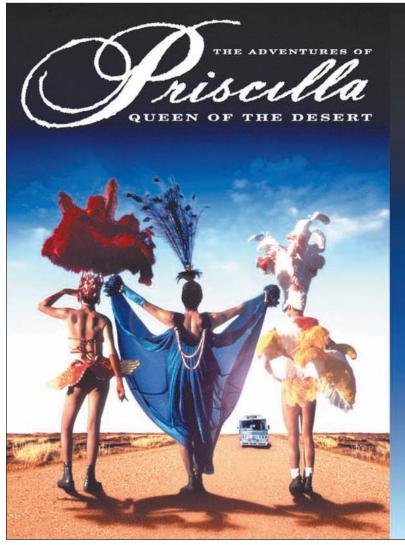
On the TV version, Cantone and his fellow panelists — entertainment reporters Elizabeth Wagmeister and Carlos Greer, lifestyle guru Bevy Smith and host John Fugelsang — tackle a series of trending topics in the news that day, and offer their insights. Example: In rehearsal, they discussed the current trend of people who are getting vegetable tattoos. "Reallly!?" Cantone gasps. "What the fuck! You gotta watch the tattoos — when your 90 and you skin is hanging on the floor, and the ink is staining the carpet, *don't* call me!" And don't get him started on Pokemon GO.

So what, exactly is Cantone, who has no back-

■ CANTONE Page 29



SUPER MARIO | Cantone is one of four panelists discussing the trends of the day on the summer series.



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# Booze em buddes Patsy & Edina, aka Joanna & Jennifer, are back together, and still 'Absolutely Fabulous'

**SCOTT HUFFMAN I Contributing Writer** scott\_in\_dallas@yahoo.com

Do I hear the pop of a champagne cork, dar-

It's been nearly 24 years since the BBC television series Absolutely Fabulous premiered as a testament to the hedonism of its era. Both Edina Monsoon (played by series creator Jennifer Saunders) and her ride-or-die bestie Patsy Stone (played by Joanna Lumley) were high-profile career women thick in the midst of London's fashion scene. To cope with their bustling lives, Eddy and Pats, as they fondly call one another, relied heavily on their friendship and on their vices, legal and otherwise.

"Well, these are people who have been friends since they began," Saunders says of the pernicious pair. "Eddy is in P.R. She thinks she's a

fashion P.R. guru. Patsy works as an editor on a fashion magazine. They're utterly useless. They're inseparable friends, and they walk in chaos."

"A chaos of drink and cigarettes and champagne," Lumley interjects.

Saunders had long intended to write a theatrical screenplay reuniting the television cast. She  $\,$ mentioned it often enough, in fact, that fans and cast members alike had begun pressuring her to finish. As a result of such peer pressure, Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie was born, a film which Variety recently reported as having the biggest weekend open in the U.K. since last October's Spectre. The film's U.S. opening, then especially to gay fans — is indeed a cause for a glass of bubbly.

Saunders viewed writing the feature screen-

FAB Page 29

STILL FABULOUS AFTER ALL THESE YEARS | Joanna Lumley and Jennifer Saunders first played Pats and Eddy nearly 25 years ago.

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or more than 25 years, Jim Caruso has called New York home — performing at the famed Carlyle, serving as backup for Liza Minnelli the world over, showing up on Broadway and even entertaining newly-inaugurated President Bill Clinton in 1993. And since 2003, he has hosted a weekly show at Birdland called Cast Party. If you've been recently, you might have heard Eve Plumb yodeling, or seen David Osmond make Caruso an honorary Osmond. No wonder Cast Party has been heralded by the Wall Street Journal as "the gold standard of open mike nights."

But the truth is, it all started for Caruso right here in Dallas.

"There was really a cabaret scene there in the '80s," he says, "and we all made a good living at it, going from Dallas to Houston to Little Rock." Longtime gayborhood denizens may recall Bentley's, or Patrick's, or Bill's, or John L's. It wasn't always glamorous, but it was a whole helluva lot of fun.

"Patrick's on Fitzhugh was next to a leather bar, so while we were singing our medley of Dionne Warwick hits, there would be this amazing thump-thumping coming through the common wall.... Those days were magical!" he recalls fondly.

Ah, the glory days. It was a fantastic time to be a singer, especially for a gay young man like Caruso. Seeing a cabaret performance was when he first realized the potential of being an entertainer of his own making.

"I was sitting in an audience of maybe 60 people, and these singers were just being celebrated for their talent," he says. "I realized: I don't need to be in the ensemble at Dallas Repertory Theatre or Theatre 3 — I can create my own thing."

> His first act — he swears this is true — was performing at fish restaurants along Lovers Lane with his mother at the piano; he called the act Son of a Bitch.

"That wasn't good," he admits with a laugh, "but it got me into the scene and [let me figure out] how to create my own product and not be at the whim of others."

Caruso formed a male trio, called Wiseguys, which variously featured such notable musicians as Gary Lynn Floyd ("still one of the best singers I've ever known," Caruso effuses) and the late Buddy Shanahan. They opened John L's, and soon after took off.

"There was an audience in Dallas for what

# LIFE+STYLE

cabaret

we were doing. I booked a group of girls in cowboy hats called the Dixie Chicks." Then, sadly, the Dallas cabaret scene "really dried up for many years — there were piano bars, but not a 'scene.' I always thought that was sad. But now Denise Lee has really taken it upon herself to bring it back."

Caruso is referring to the efforts by Lee herself one of the most respected singers and actresses in North Texas — to incubate a new culture where cabaret can flourish. For more than a year, she's brought regular cabaret shows to The Women's Building in Fair Park. But now it's time to blow it out: On Thursday, Caruso, his longtime accompanist Billy Stritch and a host of others will join Lee in launching the inaugural Dallas Cabaret Festival — three straight days of musical performances where the gift of musicianship shows audiences what raw talent looks like. And it's all free to the public.

"This entire series has simply been amazing," Lee says of her cabaret shows to date. The festival will be the highlight of the series and serve as the foundation for future [cabaret] festivals at Fair Park."

It's been a long time coming. "Denise called me about two years ago and said. I have this idea — I'm determined to help make nightclub and cabaret music a thing again.' I said, 'Bless your heart!' It's a difficult row to hoe ... I know because I've done it since the 1980s. But man, she has done it. I am so impressed at her work."

One of the hardest parts is an educational arc: Letting people know what they are getting.

"Cabaret is a word a lot of people don't understand — I don't even use the word sometimes; I usually say 'nightclub concerts and entertainment," Caruso says.

For his part, the opening night of the festival will be exposing audiences to his Cast Party.

"We've brought this wild, extreme open mike into town for years, and Denise has always been

■ CABARET Page 28

# **Proud to be LGBT**

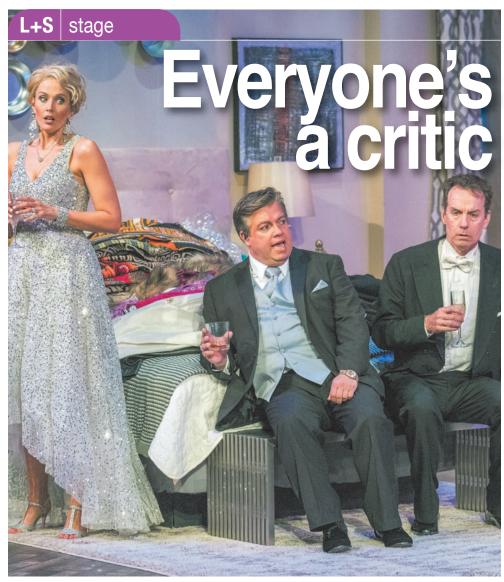
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Uptown Players' farce 'It's Only a Play' lets fly a whirlwind of laughter

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor iones@dallasvoice.com

"I don't read reviews."

Oh, how many times I've heard that one. Almost as many as my reviews have been excerpted, or I've been thanked for my kind comments, or excoriated for my "jackass" opin-

"Don't read reviews." Sheeesh. And Hillary doesn't care about polls.

Let's face it: Basic human ego craves feedback from other humans. "Does this dress make me look fat?" "Was I the first?" "Did you like my Instagram pic? I'll like yours." Some people take reviews as constructive criticism to find room to improve. Some think of them as part of the business part of show business. And some — Terrence McNally, for instance, with It's Only a *Play*, now at the Kalita Humphreys — treat them as the basis for creativity. And maybe a little revenge.

Although not a new play — McNally wrote it back in the 1980s, after an apparent falling out with Nathan Lane — this version of It's Only a Play made its Broadway debut last year: Updated, smoothed over (Lane starred in it) and sharpened. It's the Inside Baseball of theater contrivances. It's opening night of a new American

play, The Golden Egg, and members of the company are gathering in the bedroom of the show's producer, Julia Budder (Cara Statham-Serber).

There's a lot riding on the show: it's the Broadway debut of playwright Peter Austin (Chamblee Ferguson) whose work has kept him busy in regional theater without a mainstream hit. He's assembled a promising team, including Oscar winning actress Virginia Noves (Shannon McGrann) trying to polish her tarnished rep as an addict; and celebrated British director Frank Finger (Luke Longacre). All that's missing from the lineup is Austin's best friend James Wicker (B.J. Cleveland), who turned down the leading role, ostensibly because he couldn't get out of his long-running sitcom, but actually because the thinks the script for The Golden Egg is a piece of

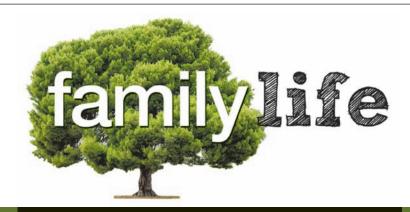
But who will New York Times theater critic Ben Brantley agree with? That's what holds everyone's attention throughout Act 1; in Act 2, they deal with the fallout.

McNally clearly considers critics a necessary evil — resenting the sway some can hold, but respecting their ability to generate excitement for new American plays. The problem is, where are all the new American plays? Not on Broadway, it

■ PLAY Next Page

Cara Statham-Serber, B.J. Cleveland and Chamblee Ferguson await a make-or-break review in the backstage farce "It's Only a Play." (Photo by Mike Morgan)





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### PLAY, From Previous Page

seems, which has become a clearinghouse for revivals, musicals, and musical adaptations of revivals of plays. And whose fault is that? Not the critics... unless you count ones like Ira Drew (Steven D, Morris), a John Simon-esque hatchet

man who revels in crafting hatefilled one-liners that unfairly torpedo good work, while desperately seeking popularity with the theater community itself. In McNally's world, we're all victims, all conspirators, and

all capable of making a difference ... even though

And the conundrum of It's Only a Play is, Mc-Nally clearly has a ball making his characters outrageous caricatures who spew venom like cobras. Some of the biggest laughs in this broadest of farces come from the unbridled assessments of bad theater. There's nothing remotely accurate about the reviews the characters read of their own play, but that's all part of the fantasy: Theater is removed from reality, a place where we create our own happy endings and live out our

petty vengeances. Why not have fun doing it?

The cast of this production is certainly having huge amounts of fun. The show has been crafted to give great gags and set-pieces to its cast, from McGrann's scene-stealing druggy to Matt

Holmes as the innocent farmboy in NYC for the first time to Statham-Serber Malapropping all over the place. Cleveland, who usually gets handed the most flamboyant roles, gets to underplay it some here. He's the vain

but comparatively stable eye of this hurricane of hilarity.

Cheryl Denson's direction is a master class in comedic pacing, knowing how to sneak visual gags and in-jokes (example: pay close attention to all the coats brought in from party guests) that layer like symphonic orchestrations rather than drown you in a fusillade of hit-or-miss one-liners. It's a bright and chuckle-filled evening, tailor-made for devoted theater queens who like a little insider — or in this case, backstage —



**IT'S ONLY A PLAY** 

Kalita Humphreys Theater,

3636 Turtle Creek Blvd.

Through July 31.

UptownPlayers.org.

WHERE'S THE (CAST) PARTY? | Jim Caruso and fellow Texan Billy Stritch will christen the Dallas Cabaret Festival, a free three-night event at Fair Park.

### ■ CABARET, From Page 26

there to sing and spread the word," Caruso says. Including in the lineup, of course, are Caruso and Stritch, who perform hits from the Great American Songbook. But the diversity is nearly

"We'll have some of the stars of Dallas entertainment" — among them, Lee, Floyd, Linda Petty, Julie Johnson and Marisa Diotalevi — "but also anyone who wants to get up. We will welcome theater and jazz ... whatever shows up. If we have a juggler, I'm over the moon. There are so many kinds of music — we're the tip of the iceberg. One night it's the Night of 1,000 Stars,

and then it can be the Den of Non-Equity... sometimes in the same night! But it's an upbeat, positive experience for everyone. No one is a smartass.'

Caruso has seen a lot of musicians over the years, though, and he does play favorites.

"Liza Minnelli is the top of the list, and not just because she's one of my best friends: I've never seen anyone care more and work harder. And Barbra Streisand is the thoroughbred to Liza's workhorse — just perfection. I can't believe I get to hang out with the people I hang out with. It's a total joy."

### FAB, From Page 25

play as a challenge. She wanted to craft a story that would at once please her loyal audiences and also appeal to a new generation of moviegoers. She also wanted to present a humorous commentary on modern life.

"I write to amuse Joanna, really," Saunders says, laughing. "I think if you wrote it with too many people, too many audiences in mind, you'd die of the pressure. I just basically write what I think will be funny. And what I wanted is if people could see this film and not have known the series and still enjoy it, but that it would also satisfy people that knew the series extremely well."

The movie's dateline is present-day London. Edina's daughter, Saffron, has a new boyfriend, and her granddaughter, Lola, is now a teenager. Other than this, it seems as if not much else has changed for the antics-prone duo.

"Well, we just get older, it so happens," Saunders laments. "Edina gets older and fatter, and actually Patsy doesn't change at all. She's just sort of embalmed and remains exactly the same."

The story begins with Edina, whose funds are running low, planning to publish a memoir. When the publisher refuses to give her an advance, Edina hatches a plan to snare supermodel Kate Moss as a new P.R. client. An unfortunate turn of events, however, leaves Edina headlining the news and outwitting both police and paparazzi as she and Patsy flee to the French Riv-

The colorful film is peppered with more than 50 celebrity cameo appearances: *Glee's* Chris Colfer, for example, plays Edina's hairstylist, Rebel Wilson plays an airline attendant, and Texas native Jerry Hall, fashion designer Stella McCartney, and recording artists Emma Bunton and Lulu all make appearances as themselves. If any requests from her celebrity wish list went unfilled, Saunders did not offer names.

'You always end up with the people who are available on the day and who you love and who you know and who are easygoing and happy," she says. "We just said look, we're having a party. Will you come and be in it? Lots of people turned up and were incredibly generous.

As one would expect, the film also contains a great deal of slapstick. In a Keystone Kops-esque segment, Eddy and Pats lead a low-speed chase in a hijacked three-wheeled delivery truck. The scene literally ends with a big splash.

"We insisted on doing our own stunts," Saunders quips. "Obviously, it's a reach from a car traveling at almost three miles an hour to take a cigarette off a completely supine man. It was a bit challenging. I managed it. Jennifer, would you like to add something about how you managed?"

"Yes, I'd never been on a scooter before," Lumley adds, "and they wouldn't let me wear a helmet. I was very, very brave. It's almost the most exercise I've ever done."

The original series was a hit with the LGBT community, and the movie — which prominently showcases high fashion and drag queens — will undoubtedly again garner its support. Saunders is happy to credit the gay community for a large portion of the franchise's success.

"We owe the gay community a huge deal, too, because they've helped make the show popular," Saunders says. "And we love having them

Just don't expect to see Saunders on any gay Pride parade floats.

"Oh, honestly," she chuckles. "It wouldn't float if I was on it."

**CANTONE, From Page 24** 

ground in journalism, doing among these experienced rumor-mavens?

"[The producers] called me and said they wanted a comedian," he explains. "I won't do a reality show, but I will do a talk show or a game show. And it's the mix of the cast that moves it along. I really love Bevy Smith — she's so knowledgeable about [pop culture]. And Carlos! I love his demeanor. He and Elizabeth are more serious, because they're journalists. My comments are frivolous, spontaneous and hopefully funny, which I think is refreshing. If everyone was so in-the-know, it wouldn't [have broad appeal]. I'm representing you on the show, Arnold!"

*Me*? You mean, the gays? Not necessarily...

"No offense to my people, because I love them, but if I brought a true gay perspective, I would watch The Real Housewives, which I don't. And they're all Italian, which is so embarrassing for me! A friend forced to me to watch the Kardashians the other day, which was torture!!! No, I represent the townhouse set — I bring the cranky-old-man perspective."

Cantone is joking (a little), but it's true that his persona — from his guest spots on The View (or

Pyramid) to his featured role in Sex and the City to his Tony-nominated show Laugh Whore — is that of the short-tempered New Yorker with a heart of gold but no time for bullshit. Unlike a Lewis Black or Sam Kinison, his shouting doesn't seem like a pot boiling over but a teakettle letting off steam before providing a refreshing beverage. He has an old-school appreciation for who deserves to be famous.

"I was teaching the young'uns, like young Carlos Greer, that in my day, you had to have a craft to be a star. Now, people are famous without having a craft. And whether you think I'm funny or not, I know how to hold an audience. On the show, I'm coming from that animosity and resentment," he says. (It's probably what led Jon Stewart to call him "the white Sammy Davis

He hopes, of course, that the show is a hit with audiences.

"It's the summer and this came out of nowhere," he says. "If it goes away, in 2017 I'll be in my trailer. Come get me." He'll just be watching Turner Classic Movies.

Page Six TV airs weeknights at 11:30 p.m. on Fox4.

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No show Sunday, July 17 Kalita Humphreys Theater



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# .+S community

### SOTO, From Page 20

- it's just who I am. Just because I am Latino doesn't mean I listen to one kind of music. That's where we're stuck [as a society]: "You're white, so you listen to country." I speak English and I know how to speak Span-

Hollywood wanted me to be Latin in a specific way, but if I was to be signed by a major label now, they would want me to be "the new Ricky Martin" or "the new Enrique Iglesias"... what does even the mean? I sing all in Spanish? I don't' like to be pigeonholed.

What's the difference between Hispanic gays in Los Angeles, Texas, Florida...? Growing up in East L.A., it wasn't cool to be brown. You come to the states and you Americanize yourself and try to get away from what makes you Mexican. You find yourself in this realm where you've tried to erase your roots and what makes you you. I wanted to go

back and touch on those things that I was made to feel embarrassed about and embrace that. L.A. is pretty progressive about owning your brownness. In Texas, I get a whole different dialogue. Texas is embracing, but you get that one person who doesn't really understand it. It's like I'm making them come out of the closet once again, but in their heritage: "Wait a minute are you making fun of my culture?" That's the real interesting dialogue that needs to be had. Why would someone owning their heritage want to put it down?

What can people in Dallas expect from your live performance? A lot of people love my videos, but the live show is where it's at. I'm a trained dancer and I love to be onstage. I'll have two backup dancers and perform like eight songs with lots of costume changes. I don't think people who have not seen me live had the full AB Soto experience.

SOTO FLOATO | AB Soto says his mariachi outfit is not meant to mock, but to celebrate, his Latin heritage.







# **Oscar winner Mo'Nique shows** her funny side in standup act

Those who only know Mo'Nique from her Oscar-winning performance in Lee Daniels' Precious or her sad turn in Patrik-lan Polk's Blackbird have overlooked her talents as a gifted comedienne. In addition to her eponymous sitcom and a syndicated radio show, she was also one of the headliners of the concert movie The Queens of Comedy.

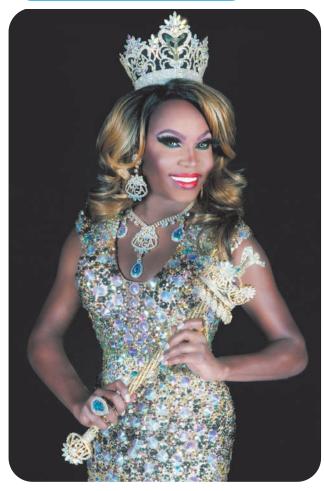
But even with all these appearances filmed, you have probably missed seeing her perform her standup act live. Well, miss no more! Mo'Nique will storm into North Texas this week for four shows over two days at the Improv in Arlington. July 29 and 30, she'll do two shows ... both open only to 21 and up. Hey, no one said funny had to be funny for kids, too.

Arnold Wayne Jones

Arlington Improv, 309 Curtis Mathes Way, Ste. 147, Arlington. July 29 at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., July 30. 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. \$40-\$50. ImprovArlington.com. 817-635-

# LIFE+STYLE

best bets



# Friday 07.22

### Who will be the new Miss Gay Texas?

Last week, we wrote about Asia O'Hara, pictured, and her term as the current Miss Gay Texas America coming to an end. Well, tonight, following three nights of preliminaries, we find out who will reign. And hey, it beats what's going on in Cleveland.

**DEETS**: The Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 9 p.m. Caven.com.

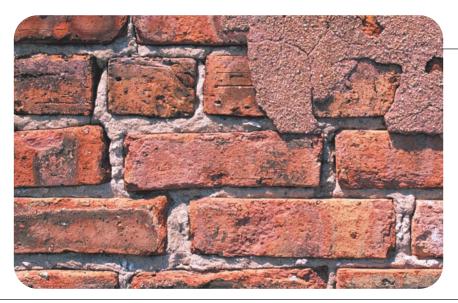
# **Thursday** 07.28— **Sunday** 07.31

Queerlesque Festival strips down for inaugural weekend

Burlesque has come a long way since the days of Gypsy Rose Lee. No longer just the purview of dirty ol' men, it has undergone a renaissance as a retro art form ... and we have the queer community to thank for a lot of it. (Well, them and Dita Von Teese.) So it's about time for the first-ever Queerlesque Festival, which comes to Dallas this month. More than 40 queer burlesque performers from around the state (and beyond) will descend on Sue Ellen's and Viva Lounge for a weekend of taunting dances, seductive stripping, musical performances and more.

DEETS: At Sue Ellen's, 3014
Throckmorton St. and Viva Lounge,
1350 Manufacturing St. Visit
TexasQueerFest.com for complete
schedule and guests.





# **Sunday** 07.24

# Bid a final farewell to The Brick

It's been a staple of the Dallas gay scene for decades, but on Sunday, Joe's/The Brick closes its doors with the retirement of its owners. But hey, it's a bar, so they are going out with a party. Stop by all day Sunday to enjoy a last drink, a last dancer, even a bit of swag. Cheers; everyone!

**DEETS**: The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. 2 p.m.–2 a.m.TheBrickDallas.com.

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# calendar highlights



What was the top comedy of the 5th century? You can see it — in English, not Latin — thanks to Mark-Brian Sonna up at Addison's Stone Cottage Theatre with the saucy farce 'Querolus.'

# ARTSWEEK

Festival of Independent Theatres. The 18th annual showcase of smaller local companies returns with six troupes producing unique shows. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Through July 30. For a complete lineup of performances, visit FestivalOfIndependentTheatres.com.

It's Only a Play. The cast of a new Broadway show awaits the New York Times review to make or break them in this hilarious backstage comedy from Terrence McNally. Reviewed this week. Kalita Humphrey Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through July 31. UptownPlayers.org.

Dreamgirls. The hit rock musical, a thinly-disguised version of the making of the Supremes and Motown. becomes the Dallas Theater Center's summer family show ... for funky families. Final weekend. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Hair. The hippie rock musical (with nudity!). Final weekend. OhLook Performing Arts Center, 1631 W. Northwest Highway, Grapevine. OhLookPerform.com.

Jekyll & Hyde. R.L. Stevenson's tale of madness and personality. Bedford Boys Ranch, 2819 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. Through July 31. OnstageInBedford.com.

A Kid Like Jake. Second Thought Theatre closes its season with this area premiere about a little boy who prefers Cinderella to G.I. Joe. Final weekend. Brvant Hall on the Kalita Humphrey Campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd 2TTco

Querolus, or Missed Fortune. This play -originally a hit in the 5th century - has been adapted and

# browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit Tinyurl.com/dvevents.

# submit

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit Tinvurl.com/dvsubmit

translated by Dallas impresario Mark-Brian Sonna, who plays the title role in this backstabbing comedy. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Aug. 7. MBSProductions.net.

Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown. Musical adaptation of Almodovar's film about Spanish women, love, revenge and a lot of spiked gazpacho. Rose Marine Theatre, 1440 N. Main St., Fort Worth. July 22-Aug. 7. ArtesDeLaRosa.org.

### **FINE ART**

Vermeer Suite: Music in 17th Century Dutch Painting. A lovely original Vermeer is among the seven paintings in this intimate exhibit exploring themes in Dutch art. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Aug. 21. DMA.org.

Eye of the Collector. An exhibition of the quirky tchotchkes and unusual trinkets of nine people prove the axiom that every object tells a story. Perot Museum

# this week's solution

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GREWSHOED ALE
O K E W O II O E D A E E
A E S O P E L L A K E E
RODDENBERR
E N A M O R D O I T
DINOSAUR
STARTREKBEYON
E R I E E S S A Y A S T
LOSSSATIEKOO

of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. Through Sept. 5. PerotMuseum.org.

# **SATURDAY 07.23**

### COMMUNITY

**Down to Float 2.** Musician AB Soto (*see* story on Page 20), DJ Brandon Moses, a runway show, Stoli vodka and a VIP lounge are among the draws at this second annual pool party and fundraiser. Presented by Impulse Group. 7044 Royal Lane. 1–6 p.m. \$10–\$50. DownToFloat2.com.

### DIGS

Antiques Roadshow Live. The PBS reality show will be in Fort Worth for the first time to film episodes for its upcoming 21st season. Fort Worth Convention Center, 1201 Houston St., Fort Worth. Visit PBS.org/wgbh/roadshow for details.

# **SUNDAY 07.24**

### COMMUNITY

The Brick Farewell Party. The 30-year-old club is closing, and going out with a bang. Come by for dancers, DJs, swag and more. The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. 2 p.m.–2 a.m. TheBrickDallas.com.

# **TUESDAY 07.26**

FII M

Five Easy Pieces. One of the seminal films of the early

1970s, with Jack Nicholson in his star-making leading performance and an Oscar-nominated turn by queer ally Karen Black. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. (*See* sidebar for list of upcoming film schedule.)

# WEDNESDAY 07.27

### THEATER

*The Book of Moron.* That's not a typo! The local debut of the off-Broadway solo show. McDavid Studio, 301 E. 5th St., Fort Worth. July 27–31. BassHall.com.

### THURSDAY 07.28

### CABARE

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

**Dallas Cabaret Festival.** Denise Lee presents this free three-day festival at Fair Park, kicking off with Jim Caruso. Linda Petty, Gary Lynn Floyd and others will appear all weekend. The Women's Building, 3800 Parry St. 7:30 p.m. Free.

# **FRIDAY 07.29**

### COMEDY

**Mo'Nique.** The Oscar winner performs her standup. Arlington Improv, 309 Curtis Mathes Way. July 29 at 8 and 10:30 p.m., July 30 at 7 and 9:30 p.m.

### Dallas Voice's Tuesday Big Movie lineup at the Magnolia Theatre

Landmark's Magnolia Theatre's weekly Big Movie New Classic Series, sponsored by Dallas Voice, screens a different classic film each Tuesday at 7:30 and 10 p.m. This quarter's lineup is filled with amazing Oscar winners:

Aug. 9: Now, Voyager. One of Bette Davis' best weepers, a masterful romance with Paul Henreid lighting two cigarettes with one match. Its score (by Max Steiner) won an Oscar.

**Aug. 16:** *Death on the Nile.* Bette Davis, 36 years after *Now, Voyager*, in this humdinger of a mystery, set on a glamour boat in the 1930s. An Oscar for its costumes.

**Aug. 23:** *Fantastic Voyage*. Raquel Welsh, shrunk to microscopic level, still has enormous boobs in exciting sci-fi adventure, which won an Oscar for special effects.

Aug. 30: Victor/Victoria. Blake Edwards' comedy about a cabaret singer who becomes a drag queen; antics ensue. Its song score won an Oscar.

**Sept. 6:** *Network.* Probably the greatest satire of all-time, this vicious twisting of the news culture turned out to be unnervingly predictive. Winner of four Oscars: actor, actress, supporting actress and original screenplay.

**Sept. 13:** *Touch of Evil.* The last great film noir picture (a trend that began with 1942's *The Maltese Falcon*) is also Orson Welles' last true masterpiece of fiction (his documentary *F for Fake* was his last great film). The opening tracking shot is legendary.

Sept. 20: *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. The British comedy troupe's unquestioned masterpiece, a parody of crusade films.



**Sept. 27:** A Place in the Sun. Montgomery Clift and Elizabeth Taylor forged one of the great Hollywood friendships on this Oscar winner for best director, a somber adaptation of Dreiser's novel An American Tragedy.

Oct. 4: Jules et Jim. One of Truffaut's early French nouvelle vague films, about the delicate relationship between two men, both in love with the same woman

Oct. 11: *High Noon*. Fred Zinnemann's Oscarwinning triumph of control, a real-time Western in which a lone marshal defends his town against outlaws arriving on the noon train to murder him.

Oct. 18: Chinatown, pictured. Sixteen years after Touch of Evil, Roman Polanski helped usher in the genre of neo-noir in this mystery set in 1930s L.A., with Jack Nicholson as a private detective who uncovers a horrible truth. The screenplay won an Oscar.

Oct. 25: *The Haunting*. The quintessential haunted house thriller.

- Arnold Wayne Jones



# LIFE+STYLE

# clubs

### DALLAS

**1 Alexandre's** 4026 Cedar Springs Road 214-559-0720

2 Barbara's Pavillion

325 Centre St. 214-941-2145

3 BJ's NXS!

**3215** N. Fitzhugh Ave. 214-526-9510 Bjsnxs.com

4 The Brick/Joe's

2525 Wycliff Ave. Ste.124 214-521-3154 214-924-5848 BrickDallas.com

5 Cedar Springs Tap House

**4123 Cedar Springs Road.** 214-377-7446

**6** The Dallas Eagle

5740 Maple Ave. 214-357-4375 DallasEagle.com

7 Cedar Grove

**4123 Cedar Springs Road** Ste. 110 214-522-3474

8 The Grapevine Bar

3902 Maple Ave. 214-522-8466

9 Havana Lounge

**4006 Cedar Springs Road** 214-886-6804

10 Hidden Door

5025 Bowser Ave. 214-526-0620 HiddenDoor-Dallas.com

11 JR.'s Bar & Grill

3923 Cedar Springs Road 214-528-1004 12 Kaliente

4350 Maple Ave. Kaliente.cc 214-520-6676

13 Liquid Zoo

3851 Cedar Springs Road 214-221-3004 LiquidZooSportsbar.com

14 Los Rieles

600 S. Riverfront Blvd. 214-741-2125

15 Marty's Live

4207 Maple Ave. 214-559-2151

16 Pekers

2615 Oak Lawn Ave. Ste. 101 214-528-3333 PekersBar.com

17 Pub Pegasus

3326 N. Fitzhugh Ave. 214-559-4663 PubPegasus.com

**18 The Round-Up Saloon** 

3912 Cedar Springs Road 214-522-9611 RoundupSaloon.com

19 Station 4 (S4) and The Rose Room

> 3911 Cedar Springs Road 214-559-1004 Caven.com

20 Sue Ellen's

**3014 Throckmorton St.** 214-559-0707 Caven.com

**21 Tallywackers**4218 Lemmon Ave.
469-914-5213

Tallywackers.com



22 The Tin Room

2514 Hudnall St. 214-526-6365 TinRoom.net

23 TMC:The Mining Company

3903 Cedar Springs Road 214-521-4205 TMCDallas.com

24 Winslow's Wine Bar

3908 Cedar Springs Road 214-559-4470 WinslowsCedarSprings.com 25 Woody's Sports & Video Bar

4011 Cedar Springs Road 214-520-6629 DallasWoodys.com

THE STRIP

CEDAR SPRINGS

**26 Zippers** 

Danglas kre.

LEMMON

3333 N. Fitzhugh Ave. 214-526-9519

### **FORT WORTH**

The 515 Bar

515 S. Jennings Ave. Fort Worth, 76104 817-338-0515

1851 Club

931 W. Division St. Arlington 76012 682-323-5315 1851Club.com Changes

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& DAK CLIFF

Riverfront Blvd.:

W. Davis St.

Jefferson Blvd

Centre St

2637 E. Lancaster Ave. Fort Worth, 76103 817-413-2332

**Club Reflection** 

N. FITZHUGH

604 Jennings Ave. Fort Worth, 76104 817-870-8867

**Rainbow Lounge** 

651 S. Jennings Ave. Fort Worth, 76104 817-744-7723

**Urban Cowboy Saloon** 

2620 E. Lancaster Ave. Fort Worth, 76103 817-744-7765



# Cassie Nova

Cassie gives advice to the ladies!

Hello, beautiful people! I am so glad you all have taken a moment from playing Pokémon GO to read this. Although I myself do not play yet, I did love the cartoon back in the day. As a matter of fact, I had a Pomeranian named after a Pokémon. Her name was **Evee** 

I've been told that Midlothian, where I live, does not have a lot of Pokémon action, which is probably a good thing. The last thing I need is to get bit by a snake, fall off a cliff or find a dead body ... all of which are things I've heard have happened to people trying to catch 'em all. So if you are playing the game, be careful. Otherwise it might seem like a Darwinian experiment to weed out the idiots. Play safe in all matters of your life. Now let's get to work.

Dear Cassie, I am a 39-year-old, married lesbian. I'm a mother of five - three of my own and two stepbabies. I'm lucky enough to be a stay-at-home mom while my wife works. I am very outgoing, outspoken and generally happy. Since all this tragedy lately, I feel so overwhelmed and have cried more than I wish to. I feel this overwhelming need to do something positive for the LGBT community and show my support, as well as release this negative energy I have building up inside, in a positive way. I feel as if I'm drowning in sorrow and hate and I don't like how it makes me feel and view the world my babies have to grow up in.

We take our kids to drag brunch to see our friends. We want their little minds as open as possible so we expose them to as much diversity as we can. We're bringing our kids - 17, 11, 10 and 8 - to Pride this year too so they can see that there are people that don't hate on our family, like others where we live. I hid who I was for my life until I met my wife seven years ago, and since then I live out,

proud and loud! When I came out. I lost my mother's entire side of the family because I was a disgrace for being a lesbian. When my wife and I got married, I didn't want someone that didn't support us getting married to officiate, so our dear friend Raquel Blake did it for us. I've had to delete many friends and family out of my life for the hate I get for supporting my community and who I am! It's hard because I have friends and family that say they support and love me, then I see them posting hate against my community and it angers me to the point I blow up!

I guess the advice I'm asking the almighty and wise Cassie is: How do I take this negative monster inside and make her a beautiful being that sees the beauty in this world again? I want to picket with signs, I want to walk in parades, I want to shout from the rooftops "STOP KILLING US!" Help me, Cassie, become a beautiful, rainbow voice instead of an angry, bitter troll! I'm not sure if this is what you're looking for but I've been wanting to ask you this for a while. Thanks so much for all the positivity and love you spread, I appreciate what you do more then you will ever know! Lots of love from your biggest lesbian

My dear Mandi, Kudos to you for being brave enough to live your authentic life and for raising children to be open-minded and accepting. Like you, many of us - myself included - have felt powerless in the wake of so many recent tragedies. One thing you can do is show up to parades, show up to events that speak to you and mean something to you. If you are angry, be angry as long as it does not consume you. Show up to show your solidarity to your community. We truly are stronger together.

The hurt and pain you feel from family that have turned their backs on you is something you can't change or do anything about. So focus on the things you do have a say in. When you feel hate coming at you, focus on the love you have for your wife and kids. All you can do is be who you are and love who you love. Be a beacon of positivity and light for your kids and your community. Being happy with who you are outweighs the "love" you have lost from a family that could turn their back on you so easily. Think of it as a blessing that your kids will not be subjected to their ignorance. Sometimes we put too much emphasis on "blood" relatives, when our chosen family can mean so much more. Don't be tethered by blood. Let it go and move on. Stay strong my friend,

Hi Cassie, So here's my question: It seems my single life is in limbo. I am a lesbian who loves to lift heavy crap and work out a lot. I have created somewhat of a good physique for my age. Now the problem is this, I seem to be too masculine for lesbians and not "man enough" for straight girls, which is what I seem to attract along with gay boys. I know I am quite androgynous and can handle that. But what I can't seem to grasp a hold of is what the hell am I going to do about this?! Signed, the boy with a great story of being a girl!

Dear Great Story Girl, I refuse to get all cliché and say, "Be patient, you just haven't met the right girl yet." Or that "There are so many fish in the sea" bullshit. And I'm not going to pretend that I don't know who wrote this. You are intimidating as fuck. I bet it is hard for a girl to come up and talk to you. So that means you need to make yourself more approachable. Smile more. Make eye contact and say hello. The worst that can happen is they run away screaming. (Just kiddin'.)

You are quite masculine and I'm actually surprised you don't have girls falling all over you because you are hot! I really wish I had a solution for your women problems. Is there a lesbian Tinder? There should be, it could be called Finger. Or Clitter. Or GrindHer. Seriously, a dating site might give a girl an opportunity to know more about you. It will have a



list of your likes and dislikes which might help open the door to a conversation. If not a dating site, find a way to put yourself out there more. You are a great catch and you are going to rock someone's world! Hopefully soon! Good luck my friend! Cassie.

Dear Cassie, What do you recommend for a guy in his late 30s, who is relocating to Big D, to do or see when I get there? Signed, New to Dallas.

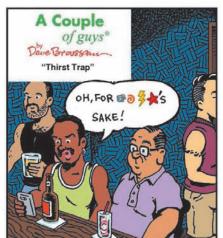
Well N2D, Congrats on your move — Dallas is awesome. We have a great gay community and our gayborhood is always a blast. Even if Dallas gets a bit of a bad rap from other places that say we have Dallatude, screw them! First you have to come to the Rose Room and see our fabulous show. If you like cowboys and country music, we have the Round-Up. Leather? Try the Eagle. We have something for

You should definitely check out our museums. The Dallas World Aquarium is awesome. The Dallas Zoo is great and the Fort Worth Zoo is worth the drive. There are so many great things to do in Dallas. Come introduce yourself some night in the Rose Room at Station 4 and we will have a welcome to Dallas shot. You are gonna love it here!

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

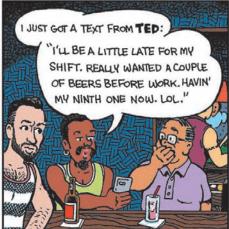
If you have a question of comment, email it to AskCassieNova@gmail.com.

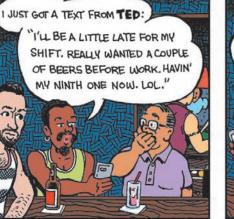
Photo courtesy Krisofer Reynolds





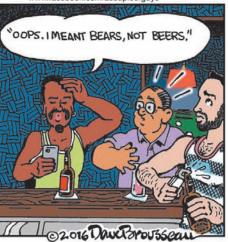










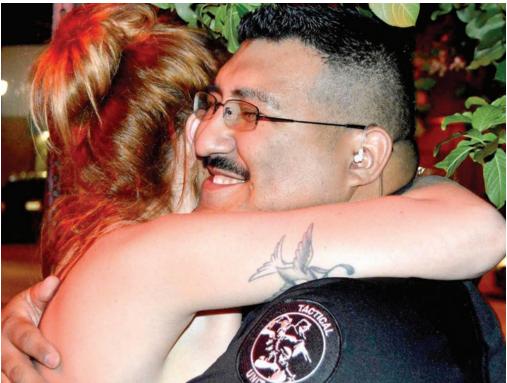




Making the **SCENE** the week of July 22-28:

- Alexandre's: Ashleigh Smith on Friday. Jason Huff and the Ignition on Saturday. Wayne Smith on Sunday. K-Marie on Tuesday. Chris Chism on Wednesday. Ilumin on Thursday.
- BJ's NXSI: Christmas in July began with the tree lighting and continues with a Pajama Party at 9 p.m. on Friday. Christmas in July Ugly Sweater Party at 9 p.m. on Saturday. Christmas Dinner from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Lights Out Party from 9 p.m.-midnight on Tuesday.
- Brick/Joe's: Dallas Red Foundation presents Red Summer Nights Dream with Ru Paul's Cynthia Lee Fontaine and 2016 Miss Red Raquel Blake featuring Gloria Devine, Onyx Anderson, G Licious G, Nicole O'Hara Munro and Dallas Sheraton. Show at 11 p.m. www.RedSummerNightsDream.eventbrite.com for \$15 tickets. \$20 at the door.
- Club Reflection: Trinity River Bears meeting at 2:30 p.m. and cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday. 2017 TGRA Royalty Candidates Show at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Bobbie Laine and Savannah Lee headline Friends Helping Friends benefiting JPS Cancer Center at 9 p.m. on Thursday.
- Dallas Eagle: Leather Knights offers Photos with Santa from 8-11:30 p.m. on Saturday. The United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents Christmas in July show benefiting AIDS Interfaith Network at 7 p.m. on Saturday.
- JR.'s Bar & Grill: Cassie's Freak Show at 11 p.m. on Monday.
- Marty's: Nicole O'Hara Munro's Sexcapade at 10-11 p.m. on Friday.
- Rainbow Lounge: Disco Party from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. on Saturday.
- Round-Up Saloon: Line dance lessons with Juanita at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday.
- Sue Ellen's: Mi Diva Loca on Friday. Scotty Isaacs Band on Saturday. Kathy & Bella and Erin Detherage on Sunday.
- The Rose Room: Miss Gay Texas America finals at 9 p.m. on Saturday. Guys & Dolls presents the 13th annual Miss LifeWalk Pageant at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$20-30 at LifeWalk.org. Heather Thomas and Mark Manley emcee.
- Two Corks and a Bottle: Show Tune Night from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesday.
- Zippers: Erotica at 10 p.m. on Thursday.

Scene Photographers: Kat Haygood



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Bella and Anton at Sue Ellen's





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# Drag Star Divas: Show raises \$8,500 fo







# or Orlando victims









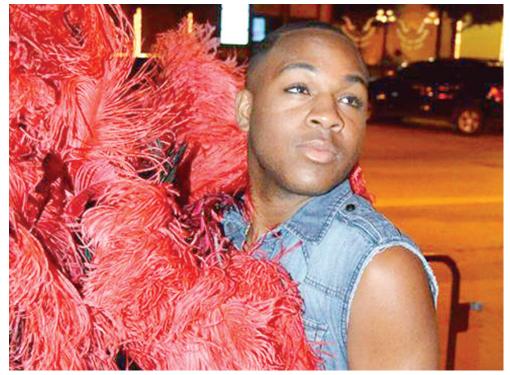


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One more time at The Brick



John and his fans on The Strip.



Getting ready for the LifeWalk



J.D. don't care

# THE TABLE OF EACH

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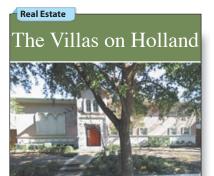


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# q-puzzle

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# **Is Being Gay in Your Genes**

Solution on page 33

### Across

- 1 Straight, to mixologists
- 5 Lindsay of Liz & Dick
- 10 Cut
- 14 Composer Thomas
- 15 Commandment word about coveting thy neighbor's ass
- 16 Whom Lincoln showed malice toward, in a speech
- 17 Enterprise helmsman
- 19 Cho, who plays 17-Across as a gay character
- 20 Screw-up
- 21 Really sucked
- 23 Invitation to a top?
- 26 Cake parts
- 27 Portrayer of 17-Across on TV and in movies
- 32 Melissa Etheridge's "\_\_\_ It Heavy"
- 33 Complexion affliction
- 34 Paul of Hollywood Squares
- 39 Fruits did this in the orchard
- 40 What the smithy did to a stallion
- 42 On the calm side
- 43 Greek fabulist
- 45 Cinder suffix
- 46 News columnist Lisa
- 47 Gene, who created the character of 17-Across
- 50 Bewitch

- 54 Cole Porter's "Let's \_\_\_"
- 55 3-D Disney movie of 2000
- 58 Cicely of Fried Green Tomatoes
- 62 With 63-Across, movie with
- 17-Across as a gay character
- 63 See 62-Across
- 66 Toledo's lake
- 67 James Baldwin work
- 68 Movie dog
- 69 "L," in box scores
- 70 Debussy contemporary Erik
- 71 Someone who's kind of queer

### Down

- 1 Slangy refusals
- 2 Dancing With the Stars cohost Andrews
- 3 "Diana" singer
- 4 No, No, Nanette song
- 5 SEC powerhouse
- 6 Understanding comments
- 7 Dwelling, to the von Trapps
- 8 Weight loss product
- 9 Set with an unknown number of members
- 10 "Have a ball!"
- 11 Lorna of literature
- 12 \_\_\_ Shoes (Toni Collette movie)
- 13 Sees to
- 18 Made a "clang, clang, clang" sound

- 22 Word with Mary
- 24 Angry in., for example
- 25 Emulated Paul Cadmus 27 "Do What U Want" Lady
- 28 Land of Emma Donoghue
- 29 They're straight on the Kinsey Scale
- 30 "I'm \_\_\_ Cowhand"
- 31 Passed out, with "over"
- 35 "Happy Talk," perhaps
- 36 Glenn Burke, formerly
- 37 Bambi, e.g.
- 38 Start of a counting rhyme
- 41 Paul of Little Miss Sunshine
- 44 Sheryl Swoopes and Michael Sam
- 48 Uses a gifted tongue
- 49 Word before "my shorts"
- 50 Ford lemon that was not fruitful
- 51 Big bang cause, briefly
- 52 Lover of Henry and June
- 53 Social customs
- 56 Bear that may be a minor
- 57 Silence for Saint-Saens
- 59 "I've had better..."
- 60 "I'm \_\_\_ your tricks!"
- 61 Minn. neighbor
- 64 Word after "Cobra" in
- The Karate Kid
- 65 Tournament exemption for Mauresmo



Four years ago on July 16, 2012, the Food and Drug Administration approved use of Truvada for the prevention of HIV, which is also known as Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)<sup>1</sup>. In a report released by Gilead Sciences on June 20, 2016, they revealed the following information:

- 1. 49,148 total cumulative prescriptions for Truvada as PrEP have been filled based on data reported by 82% of all pharmacies. While it is unknown how many people who were originally prescribed the drug are still on it, based on adherence information in previous studies, no more than half the people actually took the drug on any type of consistent basis<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, we estimate that about 25,000 are still taking Truvada for prevention. Of these patients 79% were men or about 20,000.
- 2. We are assuming almost all of these 20,000 are men who have sex with men (MSM). Studies estimate that there are 4,875,000 MSM<sup>3</sup>—or 3.9% of the 125 million adult men in the US. As a result, we can conclude that less than .04% of MSM are taking Truvada for PrEP. CDC has suggested that 1.2 million men4 should be on PrEP but doctors and patients are not responding to that call in large numbers. PrEP cannot be a major factor in preventing HIV when so few people are on it. On the other hand recent studies indicate that 60% of MSM use condoms regularly<sup>5</sup>, based on last sex among HIV-negative MSM.
- 3. African-Americans are 12% of the US population but are 44% of new HIV infections<sup>6</sup>. However, they are only 10% of people on PrEP. Young people are most at risk for new HIV infections, but made up only 7.6% of PrEP prescriptions. Whites represent 27% of new infections but made up 74% of those on PrEP. The men who are taking PrEP are those least at risk from HIV.
- 4. PrEP does not protect people from STDs. The rapid rise in rates of STDs such as syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea<sup>7</sup> indicate that fewer people are using condoms and suggesting the need to reinvigorate safer sex campaigns, which have suffered greatly as a result of the CDC's almost exclusive focus on PrEP.
- 5. The wide-scale advertising promotions of Truvada for PrEP by AIDS organizations and community groups funded by the manufacturer Gilead Sciences gives the impression that PrEP is very popular even though the raw numbers tell another story. Based on the large number of men who say they are on PrEP on hook-up sites such as Grindr, it would appear that they are seeking unprotected sex whether they take the drug or not.

The CDC is the national agency responsible for the prevention of HIV and other STDs. As such, we call on you to re-balance your prevention efforts to align with what patients want and need so that we can achieve better success in preventing new infections.

Thank you. AIDS Healthcare Foundation

Food and Drug Administration. (2012). FDA approves first drug for reducing the risk of sexually acquired HIV infection. Retrieved online: http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm312210.htm

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