

# dallasvoice

The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas | DallasVoice.com | f DallasVoice | Established 1984 | Volume 33 | Issue 40 | FREE | Friday, February 10, 2017

AIDS Arms unveils  
new name, Page 10



## The Valentine's Day Issue

Love is Love, page 8



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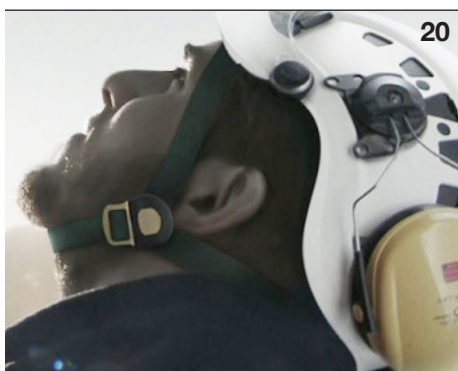
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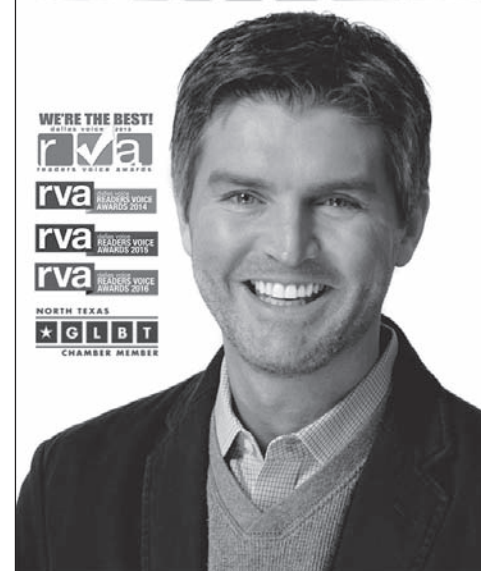
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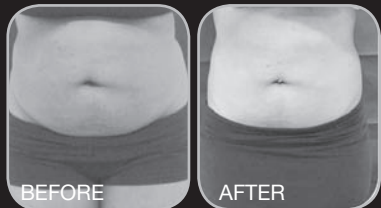
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# instanTEA

[DallasVoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea](http://DallasVoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea)

## We're Not Going Back

"We're not going back," Rafael McDonnell told a crowd of about 700 people who rallied Saturday, Feb. 4 at Resource Center and then marched to the Legacy of Love monument on Saturday, Feb. 4.

The march was staged in solidarity with other groups under attack by the Trump administration as well as to demand that advances made during the Obama administration not be wiped out.

The Rev. Neil Cazares-Thomas called for a wall to be built between the White House and religion. He called on Trump to stop hijacking God and said what Trump's doing is not Christian.

Lex Trevino from Rainbow LULAC said, "No human is illegal."

Take Back Oak Lawn's Michael Dominguez pointed out the LGBT community has made lots of friends over the past two weeks.

— David Taffet

## Resource Center meets, exceeds capital campaign goal

Officials with Resource Center announced this week that the agency has exceeded its capital campaign goal of \$8.7 million dollars.

According to a statement released on Tuesday, Feb. 7, "Since 2008, a broad base of generous donors contributed [more than] \$9,029,000 in funds to the campaign, enabling the Center to expand services and build a new community center on Cedar Springs Road. The light-filled, triangular-shaped, 20,000-square-foot community center is home for LGBTQ youth, seniors, family, advocacy and behavioral health programs."

Resource Center Chief Executive Officer Cece Cox said, "The generous spirit of our community prevailed and we are thankful for everyone who has helped us reach this milestone. Thanks to the generosity of donors and community partners of the capital campaign, we are able to ensure the well-being of Dallas' LGBTQ youth and seniors and the mental health needs of our community."

The statement expressed thanks for "the guidance and experience of the Center's board of directors, building committee, architect and legal counsel."

— Tammye Nash

## BTD opens 2017 application with first-year beneficiary initiative

Black Tie Dinner begins its 36th by opening its application process for new and returning beneficiaries. For the first time, new applicants will be

allowed to participate with fewer seat, raffle ticket, auction and volunteer hour requirements.

Even long-time recipients of Black Tie funds must re-apply each year and discuss new goals, past goals met or missed, and submit financials. Each year, the Black Tie Dinner Board of Directors selects up to 20 LGBT-supportive organizations from the North Texas area.

Beneficiary applications are now available on the Black Tie Dinner website. To be eligible, candidates must have a tax-exempt status as determined by the IRS, be able to demonstrate significant service to the North Texas LGBT community and must use a majority of these funds for direct programs and services.

The First-Year Beneficiary program will allow new organizations to participate with fewer requirements in their first year. Along with decreased requirements, the organization's share of the financial distribution will be proportionally less, but will give newer participants to ease into the process and learn what's needed to be a full participant.

After the first year, they will have to apply as a full beneficiary. First year and returning beneficiaries will not be in competition with each other for slots.

In its 35-year history, the dinner has distributed more than \$21 million. Beneficiaries will be selected in April.

— David Taffet

## NJ 9-year-old is first openly transgender Boy Scout

Joe Maldonado, a 9-year-old from New Jersey, has become the first openly transgender Boy Scout. He joined a week after Boy Scouts of America announced the organization would accept transgender Scouts.

Joe, who has always been openly transgender, first tried to join BSA back in October. But some parents complained and a BSA official then told Joe's mother, Kristie Maldonado, that trans boys weren't allowed.

This week though, Pack Leader Kyle Hacker welcomed Joe by helping Joe put on his new Scout uniform and neckerchief, and teaching him the Cub Scout salute and oath. Hacker told the boy, "This means you are the same as Scouts all over the world."

Joe said he was having fun and proud to be a Scout: "I'm accepted, and I'm actually in Boy Scouts."

— Tammye Nash

Leah lived as a Hasidic wife and mother of seven for 30 years before coming out as a lesbian.

Hear her story of identity.

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Leah Lax



Her memoir, *Uncovered*, has been a finalist for five literary prizes and is the winner of the Texas Writers' League Discover Award.

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## THE GAY AGENDA

### OBITUARY



**Scott Grigsby** died Jan. 17, 2017, after a courageous and arduous 30-year battle with AIDS.

He is survived by his parents, Roianna and Dick Grigsby; brother, Michael Grigsby, and wife, Esther; sister, Monica Kientz, and husband, Michael; and five nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, June and Roy Chandler, and M. C. Grigsby.

A memorial service will be held this spring.

"His journey is over! All sorrow is gone. Every shackle undone. He is completely free." — Dhammapada

*Have an event coming up? Email your information to Managing Editor Tammye Nash at [nash@dallasvoice.com](mailto:nash@dallasvoice.com) or Senior Staff Writer David Taffet at [taffet@dallasvoice.com](mailto: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.** This week's guests are *Selma to Stonewall* producers **Marilyn Bennett** and **Gil Caldwell**; **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

### pet of the week / DELANO

Meet **Delano**, a black-and-white pit bull mix weighing 52 pounds. He came to the SPCA of Texas on Nov. 29 when he was surrendered to an Animal Cruelty Investigator. He is a little shy at first but is learning to trust humans. He loves going for walks outside and is super gentle on his leash. He needs a family that will be patient with him and help him learn to trust and love. Delano has been neutered, microchipped and has received all age-appropriate vaccinations. #150766

**Delano** is waiting for you at the SPCA of Texas' Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas, 2400 Lone Star Drive, near I-30 and Hampton Road. Hours are noon-6 p.m., seven days a week. Regular adoption fees are \$250 for puppies, \$125 for adult dogs 6 months or older and kittens 0-6 months, \$75 for adult cats 6 months or older and \$50 for senior dogs or cats 7 years or older and VIP dogs and cats (available for adoption for 30 days or more.) Fee includes spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, a heartworm test for dogs six months and older and a FIV/FelV test for cats 4 months and older, initial flea/tick preventative and heartworm preventative, a microchip, 30 days of PetHealth Insurance provided by PetPlan, a free 14-day wellness exam with VCA Animal Hospitals, a rabies tag and a free leash. Call 214-742-SPCA (7722) or visit today.



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Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or Jalenski@myresourcecenter.org. LGBT square dancing group **Pegasus Squares** meets every Sunday from 3-5 p.m. at Dallas School of Burlesque, 2924 Main St #103; **Dallas Frontrunners** meet for a walk or run on the Katy trail at the Robert E. Lee statue in Lee park every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Saturday at 9 a.m.

## FEBRUARY

• **Feb. 10: Cantor Don Croll installation**  
Congregation Beth El Binah welcomes its new clergy member Don Croll in a musical service at 7:30 p.m. at Northaven UMC, 11211 Preston Road. Everyone welcome.

• **Feb. 11: From Selma to Stonewall: Are We There Yet?**

Screening at 7 p.m. at Roper Hall, Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, Hillcrest at Spring Valley roads. Free.

• **Feb. 11: North Texas Council of Clubs**  
Quarterly meeting and open house from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, 933 E Avenue J, Grand Prairie.

• **Feb. 11: Impulse Group Dallas**  
Impulse Group Dallas celebrates its second anniversary with a party from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. at the Candleroom. \$20 at the door. Advance \$15. Facebook.com/ImpulseGroupDAL.

• **Feb. 12: From Selma to Stonewall: Are We There Yet?**

Screening at 5 p.m. at Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. \$10.

• **Feb. 12: Texas Japanese Gardens in context**

A lecture by Dr. Kendall Brown co-sponsored by Friends of Oak Cliff Parks and The Dallas Public Library at 3 p.m. at North Oak Cliff Branch, 302 W. 10th St.

• **Feb. 13: Gray Pride support group**  
SMU's Center for Family Counseling offers a weekly support group for Gray Pride members from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• **Feb. 14: East Texas PFLAG meeting**  
At 6:30 p.m. at Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce, 315 N Broadway Ave, Tyler.



Gil Caldwell and Marilyn Bennett, producers of the movie *From Selma to Stonewall*, will be the special guests on this week's Lambda Weekly program, at 1 p.m. Sunday. Screenings of the film in the Metroplex continue with a screening Sunday evening at the Texas Theater in Oak Cliff. See Gay Agenda listings for details.

• **Feb. 15: LGBT-friendly west coast swing class.**  
Dallas Pride Dance presents instructor Lori Hayner teaching the coolest dance in the universe for beginners, advanced, couples and singles. 8-10 pm at You Can Dance Dallas studio, 14833 Inwood Raod, Addison. \$15 suggested donation per person. Everyone welcome. kapustinfan@yahoo.com; 940-297-7943.

• **Feb. 16: Equality Texas in Dallas**  
Legislative update and actions you can take to advance and protect equality in Texas from 6-8 p.m. at Sambuca Uptown, 2120 McKinney Ave.

• **Feb. 17: High Tech Happy Hour**  
Hosted by SMU Cox School of Business LGBTQ and Allies organization from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd.

• **Feb. 18: Studi O69 Gaybingo**  
Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place from 6-9 p.m. at the Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 214-540-4458. MyResourceCenter.org/gaybingo.

• **Feb. 18: Boys Do Babs**  
The Turtle Creek Chorale, Camarata and Jodi Crawford Wright celebrate Barbra Streisand in a cabaret performance at 8 p.m. at 7 for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd. \$40-95. TurtleCreekChorale.com.

• **Feb. 18: Pride@Work**  
Pride@Work Texas chapter meeting from 2-4 p.m. at Becky Moeller Auditorium, Texas AFL-CIO Building, 1106 Lavaca St., Austin.

• **Feb. 18: BTIPS TX Crowning Debut**  
Crowning debut of the first Mr Black Trans Dallas, Trenton Johnson from, 3-5 p.m. at Black Transmen Inc, 3530 Forest Lane.

• **Feb. 21: Awareness About the Care Needs of LGBTQ Older Adults**  
1.5 CEUs available for social work and nursing home administrators offered by Ed-U-Care. Networking begins at 6 p.m. and programs at 6:30 p.m. at The Senior Source, 3910 Harry Hines Blvd. RSVP to Educatedallas@gmail.com

• **Feb. 21: Log Cabin Republicans**  
Dallas County D.A. Faith Johnson speaks at 6:30 p.m. at Coal Vines Pizza, 2404 Cedar Springs Road #500.

• **Feb. 22: LGBT-friendly west coast swing class.**  
Dallas Pride Dance presents instructor Lori Hayner teaching the coolest dance in the universe for beginners, advanced, couples and singles. 8-10 pm at You Can Dance Dallas studio, 14833 Inwood Raod, Addison. \$15 suggested donation per person. Everyone welcome. kapustinfan@yahoo.com; 940-297-7943.

• **Feb. 23: Leah Lax speaks**  
Author Leah Lax talks about leaving the Hasidic world and coming out at 7 p.m. at Temple Emanu-el, 8500 Hillcrest Ave.

• **Feb. 24: Spring Fling**  
Mr. and Miss Charity America present Spring Fling benefiting the Texas Red Ribbon Wish Network, Rhonda Mae's Wall of Food and Tucker's Gift at 7:30 p.m. at Urban Cowboy, 2620 E. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth.

• **Feb. 25: Dash for the Beads**  
5K and 10K run, 1K walk and festival at Kidd Springs Park, 711 W. Canty St.

• **Feb. 28: Last Night in Black History**  
Michael D'Andre Childs from Artist Unplugged emcees a showcase of fashion designs from students at The Art Institute of Dallas, tribal dance and music, storytelling, poetry speaks and honors influential black leaders in history benefiting Artitude, a new non-profit to unite LGBT and diverse community artists from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St.

## MARCH

• **March 3-5: Scoot Back to Big D**  
Pegasus Squares LGBT square dancing club hosts its inaugural Fly-In with more than 15 hours of dancing in two concurrent halls. Sons of Hermann Hall, 3414 Elm St. The host hotel is LaQuinta, 10001 N. Central Expressway.

• **March 4: Toast to Life**  
Lady Bunny returns to host the Resource Center fundraiser from 7-11 p.m. at Empire Room, 1225 N. Riverfront Blvd.

• **March 8: Planned Parenthood Awards Luncheon**  
Marcia Clark is the speaker. Tickets are \$150. Reservations at 214-302-8382.

• **March 18: Pot O' Gold Gaybingo**  
Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place from 6-9 p.m. at the Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 214-540-4458. MyResourceCenter.org/gaybingo.



# Love *is* Love



## **Ann and Moira Brown**

*(Together 16 years, married for 12)*

"We have to love each other extra hard now because our government hates us."



## **Bruce Jaster and Remy Tran**

"Valentine's Day has always had special meaning for us — a day calling attention to the love that is so wonderful year-round. Current events don't diminish or enhance that day for us. They are irrelevant."



## **Lorie Burch and Kimberly Kantor**

"This year, more than ever, Valentines' Day reminds us that life and love are precious and everyday is worth celebrating!" *(Photo courtesy Marcia Stuhler from Love is Love Photography)*



## **Gregory Craft and Buster Spiller**

**Gregory:** "Valentine's Day this year solidifies my love, my value and 21 years of relationship, and I do not take my marriage for granted. I have confidence it will not be eroded. The Supreme Court can NOT dissolve our marriage. As a veteran who has FOUGHT for the freedoms all Americans have, this is important to me and can't be invalidated."

**Linus:** I'm not sure if President Trump will succumb to pressure from his supporters to invalidate our marriage, but if he tries it will be met by vigorous Supreme Court challenges. And if that is the case, I am willing to fight TOOTH AND NAIL to preserve what we have. Like Gregory said, the Supreme Court should NOT invalidate our marriage or that of other same-sex couples. We have a constitutional right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and that includes civil MARRIAGE between two consenting adults.



## **Eddie Sherbert & Ralf Baumann**

"Sharing and expressing our love for each other is more special than ever before this year. Our memories are cherished every day together, making our bond greater and stronger."

Less than two years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed same-sex marriage as the law of the land, and this country's LGBT community rejoiced in that ruling, and in the other giant leaps forward we've made toward full equality over the last decade-and-a-half.

Then came Nov. 8, 2016 and the election of Donald Trump as president. Since taking office less than a month ago, Trump has set about signing executive orders and nominating a cabinet — and one Supreme Court justice — that threaten our progress and even the American way of life..

In light of this ominous political climate, we asked long-term couples to tell us what significance Valentine's Day has for them this year. What we learned is that our community remains undaunted: We will not go back. After all, Love is Love. ■



## **Candy Cave and Connie McLain**

"This year, after 25 years of being a couple, we are FINALLY legally married! That's what Valentine's Day means to us this year."

## **The Rev. Carol West and Angela King**

"We think Valentine's Day this year, especially, has us focusing on what love is — and also what it is not. We have seen too many recent examples of what it is not. We believe we should live in love and not fear, so after having been a couple for almost 30 years — this April makes 30 — we are planning our summer wedding and surrounding ourselves with people who also refuse to be defined by fear."



## **Karen McCrocklin and Marla Custard**

What does Valentine's Day mean this year? "Hold your loved ones close, protect the vulnerable and RESIST."



## **Cannon Flowers and Rafiq Salleh-Flowers:**

"Under the current 'so-called president,' we are reminded that our international love affair of 20-plus years, and now — legal — marriage is never entirely safe. We cherish each other daily — Valentine's Day 365 days a year."







### Felicia Miller and Katrina Franklin

Valentine's Day is rooted in an ancient Roman festival celebrating 'fertility,' traditionally celebrated on Feb. 15. For us, the meaning of Valentine's Day lies in the HEART of our rich family ties, immediate and extended. We have been blessed with loving parents and colorful siblings that both challenge and charm us. Spanning more than a decade of our union and more than two decades of our friendship, we celebrate the highs and the lows of family life with a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. One of our proudest achievements is an amazing and adoring son who has honored both his mothers with a beautiful, talented and sensitive grandson who proudly proclaims his love for us, Grandma and Grandma Fe. From our perspective, everyday is Valentine's Day — bittersweet, loving, painful, joyful and perpetually filled with an abundance of flowers called 'FAMILY.'"



### Lerone Landis and Danny Valle

"In light of current events, we think Valentine's Day this year means that we need to keep on loving, cherishing, and celebrating our life together that much more — like it's our last day to do so! It is not so far-fetched now that we could all lose our freedoms to love and/or marry. So on this Valentine's Day we should all love a little more, hug a little tighter and never take what you have together for granted."



### Hardy Haberman and Patrick Dale Ryan

"In this age when we are so filled with division and animosity, a celebration of love seems antithetical. Though my partner, Patrick, and I have never been very enthusiastic about Valentine's Day, perhaps this year it bears thinking about. We have been together for 22 years this April, and we have never felt the need to add an extra day to celebrate our love for one another. We show that love constantly in little ways: Listening to each other's frustrations, celebrating each other's success, crying with one another when sorrows come. Picking a single day to pour all that love into seems impossible and somewhat artificial, so we have never bought heart-shaped boxes of candy or over-priced roses. This year, when so much of our world may be changing, when our relationship may once again be seen as illegal or aberrant, we talked about reconsidering our views on Valentine's Day, but decided to continue loving one another no matter what day it is, and no matter what may come."



### Mark Phariss and Vic Holmes

"This Valentine's Day is the 20th we will celebrate as a couple and the second we will celebrate as husbands. During those 20 years, celebrated Vic's numerous promotions in and eventual retirement from the U.S. Air Force after 23 years of service. We shared in the joy of the births of new family, the loss of others. We fought for the right to marry each other and ultimately we married each other in the state we call home. Through it all, we remain each other's best friend and cannot imagine life without the other. The continued efforts by the Texas' most senior elected officeholders, who seek to treat our marriage as second class in violation of the U.S. Constitution's requirement of 'equal protection of the law,' is shameful and hurtful. Our celebration of our love on this Valentine's Day is proof, though, that they continue to be on the wrong side of love as well as on the wrong side of the law."



### Michael Champion and Bill Lindsey (Sable Alexander and Linze Serrell)

"This year Valentine's Day is an opportunity to still and always love the one person who gives me purpose, who accepts for me and who I can share my whole being with. This is a love that will not be taken, that cannot be beaten down nor will it ever shatter. This is a forever and ever amen love."



### Mera and Jimmie Tucker

Jimmie: "I'm grateful every year for having my wife, and I'm really glad we got legally married a couple years ago. No one can take that away from us!"

Mera: "Times are as scary as I've ever seen them. It makes me glad that I can hibernate at home with my wife and our four-legged babies, and that's all I want or need for Valentine's Day this year!"



### Erin Moore and Patti Fink

"Love in the time of Trump: Instead of going out to dinner, we go to protests. Instead of buying gifts, we donate. Instead of watching TV, we write emails and make phone calls."



### Steve Atkinson and Ted Kincaid

"We have been together for 27 years, and got married in California in 2008. Valentine's Day for us is a celebration of our love for each other. But, with today's political climate in our country, it also makes us mindful that despite the hard-fought marriage equality victory we will continue to have to fight for our rights as LGBT couples and families."



### Leslie McMurray and Katie Sprinkle

Katie: "For many years, Valentine's Day meant complacency. Due to my gender identity issues, I spent several years avoiding dating relationships. That changed three years ago when Leslie, and I found each other. We know that 'Love Trumps Hate.'"

Leslie: "There is a picture of Katie and me at the press conference celebrating the Obergefell ruling. It's one of my favorites. We look so happy — I was filled with joy to know I could now marry the woman I love. This year with Trump in office, I have lost some of that joy and hope I had. I worry that my right to someday say 'I do' to Katie may be taken away. So Valentine's Day is a little bittersweet. Good thing I like bitter-sweet chocolate!"





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# Prism

## NORTH

## A new day, a new name

AIDS Arms is now Prism  
Health North Texas

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer  
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More than 30 years ago, a case management agency was created in Dallas to write grants for a network of HIV agencies providing different forms of care throughout the community. They called it AIDS Arms Network. The "Arms" part stood for "Activating Resources to Mobilize Support," although nobody could ever really remember that part.

Through the years, AIDS Arms grew and evolved. After the Ryan White CARE Act began funding AIDS agencies, AIDS Arms dropped the word "Network" and began developing its own programs. As new medicines for HIV went from experimental to prescribed treatments during the 1990s, AIDS Arms became involved in direct patient care.

The agency now operates two medical clinics — Peabody and Trinity — but direct medical care isn't its only program.

Among others, the HIVE on Inwood Road is an empowerment center. The Free World Bound program not only connects the recently incarcerated with HIV to medical care, but also helps them with housing and employment. Health, Hope and Recovery works with the homeless HIV population and Viviendo Valiente with HIV-positive Hispanic people.

This week, to more accurately reflect the agency's missions and its programs, AIDS Arms became Prism Health North Texas.

### Why change?

The agency changed its name for several reasons, according to CEO Dr. John Carlo. He said the name-change process took several years and incorporated input from clients, staff and the community.

Officials announced the new name at a reception on Thursday, Feb. 9.

Carlo stressed that only the agency's

name is changing; management, doctors and services all remain the same.

Carlo said the process of changing the name began about two years ago. "We started with values," he said. "What do people think about when they think about our mission?"

Those values, he continued, include compassion, confidentiality and providing healthcare to everyone, regardless of ability to pay.

Not only was the old AIDS Arms name out of date, it never really made much sense to most people, Carlo said, adding that agency officials wanted to remove AIDS from the name for several reasons.

"We had a strategic discussion about removing AIDS from the name," Carlo said. "Across the board we had no push back on that."

He said that 30 years ago it was important to include the word AIDS because no one word say it.

"We recognize where we are today," Carlo said. "No one wanted to say AIDS then. Today our activist role is much different."

"Today, it's not as much about AIDS as it is about preventing and treating HIV," he explained.

Prevention takes a variety of forms including education and using PrEP, the CEO noted. That education includes training the medical community, something Carlo is in a perfect position to do: He was recently named president of the Dallas County Medical Society. One of his goals is to increase knowledge of treating the transgender community.

Today, the agency's role is about overall health, and that includes much more than HIV. The agency has already been actively screening its patients for Hepatitis C, which can be deadly if untreated. New treatments not only control Hep C, but can actually cure it, Carlo said that at Prism Health North Texas, doctors at Peabody and Trinity clinics hope to treat all of their clients with Hep C within the next year or two.

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# Health

## TEXAS



John Carlo at AIDS Arms 30th anniversary celebration at Cathedral of Hope in December 2016. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

### Choosing a name

Carlo said they didn't expect the name change process to take this long, but finding a name that could be trademarked took more time than they expected.

More than two years ago, a committee met to brainstorm ideas for a new name. The word everyone loved was "Thrive," because it described how people with HIV were now living, and it had the letters HIV within the name.

Unfortunately, that name was already in use and not available for the agency to use.

Another challenge, Carlo said, was choosing a name that didn't look too corporate.

### Into the future

As Prism Health North Texas moves into the future, it's looking at serving a wider range of clients. Medical care for LGBT people has become harder to find in Dallas as some doctors that have treated the community for years have retired or scaled back their practices.

The Prism clinics have already begun seeing a few HIV-negative patients — the HIV-negative partners of positive patients, also known as sero-discordant couples.

That part of the practice has expanded recently as the clinics have begun participating in PrEP trials.

Now, Carlo said, Prism Health North Texas is looking for additional ways to offer care to the community. ■



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# Racism vs. prejudice



Prejudice exists in our LGBT community, about race and more

Recently, while making deliveries for a popular millennial start-up to supplement my income (legal pimping ain't easy but it's honest), I came across one of many Dallas Voice news stands in the Oak Lawn area. Star Trek star and LGBTQ icon George Takei's handsome mug was prominently displayed on the cover so, as a self-professed "Takei groupie," I picked up a copy.

As I waited for my customer's order to be filled, I immediately flipped to the Community Voices section, as it is my habit to read that first, followed by the main feature story, local/national/world/wire news, and then flip to the back to see all of the happy "rainbow" faces of club-goers from the previous weekend on The Strip (We're such a GOOD-looking community!).

So I turned to Page 13, and I saw the face of my friend, Dallas Voice managing editor Tammye Nash, and I smiled. Then I read the column title — "I am a racist" — and I immediately frowned.



**Buster Spiller**  
Contributing Columnist

very agitated.

Why? Because I've known Tammye since 2003 when I made a bid for elected office and I can say EMPHATICALLY this woman doesn't have a racist bone in her body. The same holds for her Voice colleague, David Taffet. Even though David is the cutest Jewish dude you will ever meet, he reminds me of my spouse, Gregory, in that he will read your ass with the finesse of a black homosexual, only nicer!

So no, even though I felt like I knew where Tammye was going with this, Spiller wasn't buying what she was selling. Not. At. All.

There was something about seeing Tammye's image and name under the word racist that didn't seem quite right. Actually, it was very OFFENSIVE to me, and I became

In regards to social and political issues, we are often in strong agreement on the root causes of the problem, the need for accountability by all participating parties, and potential conciliatory solutions that are in the best interest of everyone. This includes issues facing the collective black community and the black same-gender-loving/gay community.

With that said, Tammye is a strong supporter of black issues as well as those of other marginalized communities. She doesn't sugarcoat shit if she feels strongly about something (even though like David, she articulates her point of view much more nicely than I do). And Tammye is a staunch advocate/ally of our collective trans community, which makes her A-OK in my book!

So I wasn't feeling Sista Tammye's chosen platform to discuss her self-perceived racist leanings, white privilege and other issues we discuss from time to time. But I decided to wait until I was finished with my deliveries for the day so I could sit down in the comfort of my home with a stiff shot of Canadian whiskey to absorb this self-dep-



recating shit my friend had written.

Later than evening as I read Tammye's column, I not only laughed at her words but I also breathed a HUGE sigh of relief. Per my take, Tammye was describing what I would like to call "situational prejudice," prejudice based on a very specific event, but NOT racism.

Prejudice is a negative perception, a thought, or unsavory view towards an individual based on their social group (gender, race, cultural, sexual orientation, educational level, socio-economic class, religious status, disability, etc.).

Institutional racism occurs when a group of like-minded individuals are able to collectively engage in some type of discriminatory behavior based on their negative perceptions, thoughts, and views towards another group in a manner to control and exploit.

A great example of this occurred on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016 when a significant percentage of white people felt strongly enough that they were being left out of the American dream because of "others" from different cultures that they used their collective vote to send a very strong, nationalist message. The daily dismantling of specific gains by the new presidential administration in the name of "whiteness" confirms my explanation of the difference between prejudice and racism.

In the LGBTQ community, we all have various prejudices and ours are very pronounced: racial, gender-based, sexual identity and orientation, sexual role (i.e., butch, femme, lipstick, diesel dyke, top, bottom and versatile — which still means bottom). Bear for some means kinky, sweaty sex. Bi means you're a confused, greedy mother-fucker who simply won't pick sides. I could go on and on.

The racial prejudice in our local Dallas LGBT community was once previously displayed quite prominently. For those readers born well after the 1970s and early '80s (which preceded my pre-coming out period), there was a time on The Strip where black gays and lesbians could not get into a nightclub without presenting two or three forms of picture identification. And even then, weren't assured access to just have some damn fun and party.

As a result, the black same-gender-loving/gay community developed its own outlets for socialization and entertainment, similar to what the black community in American society overall has done in response to such overt racism.

Whites may complain, especially in the LGBTQ community, that we're all the same

because we're fighting the same fight. But that not-so-distant past still has roots so deeply embedded in this dysfunction that it is hard to overcome.

One example is our annual gay Pride celebrations. You will see black participants at the larger event as spectators, but not many are actively involved in the planning and execution of those events. That energy is reserved for annual Black Gay Pride events where we know we're not going to be neglected.

Yours truly recently received city funding to produce a Pre-Pride month play festival focusing on minority stories. Why? I didn't want us to get left out of the festivities as is traditionally done, albeit subconsciously.

For the record, every human being harbors some prejudice, and it is normal behavior, even if it isn't right. And prejudice isn't limited to encounters with others outside of your specific circle; it can be internal as well.

As a black person who grew up in a racial community with specific biases against white people based on white privilege and institutional racism in this country, we also have prejudices internally against others within our community with the largest culprits being skin color and tone, hair texture, and facial features. Even in 2016, we are prejudiced against each other because of this.

BUT we lack the power to systematically have power over those WITHIN our community because their skin is too light, their hair is too nappy, they're too educated, they're not educated enough, their lips are too big, they're not 'conscious enough, they're TOO woke ....

No, all we can do is bully the shit out of them and make their lives a living hell on social media. But at the end of the day, they can still get a job, purchase a home and avoid our ass if they want.

THAT, my LGBTQ community, is the difference between prejudice and racism.

So Tammye, GOOD TRY, but I can't and won't accept this.

Still, I really admire your conviction in trying to force everyone to talk about these issues. John Lennon once sang in the hit song "Imagine," "You may say I'm a dreamer, But I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us, And the world will be as one."

I wish every white person had your courage and would just speak up. But it usually starts with "one," so thank you my friend. ■

*Buster Spiller is a happily married, longtime activist, and award-winning playwright from Dallas.*

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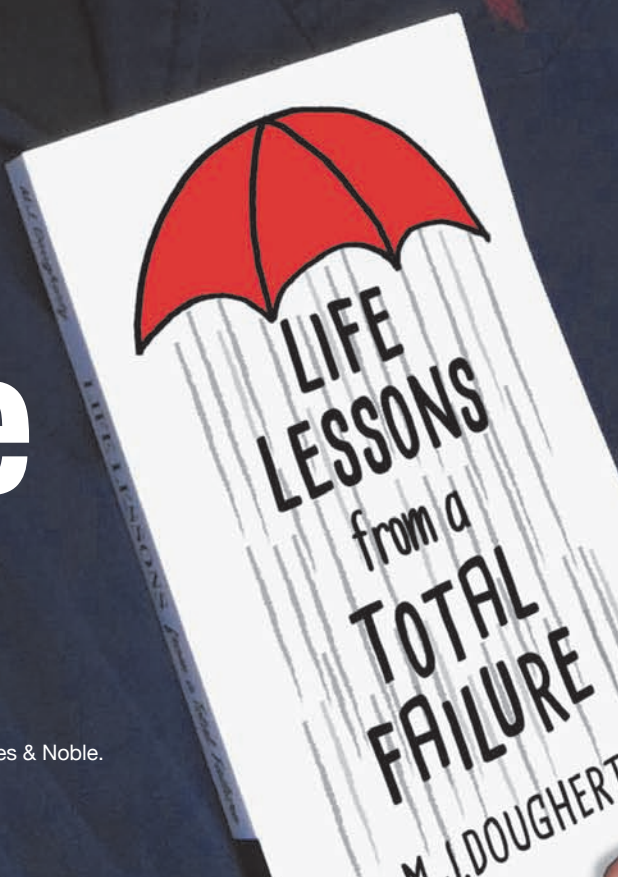
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# Making lemonade

Out self-help author and motivational speaker M.J. Dougherty moves ahead by screwing up

M.J. Dougherty will share his upbeat outlook at a book signing Sunday at Barnes & Noble.



Life has handed M.J. Dougherty many lemons — perhaps more than his fair share. Yet he has deftly managed to transform the proverbial sour fruit of hardship into something sweetly satisfying. Compiling anecdotes of his triumph over personal misfortune, Dougherty authored *Life Lessons from a Total Failure*, an engaging and relatable autobiographical self-help book.

After launching a multi-city tour to promote the release, Dougherty — who makes a book-signing stop by Barnes & Noble in Dallas on Sunday — quickly learned that sharing life experiences publicly can be unexpectedly interactive. Dougherty finds that, after hearing his stories of failure, others are often motivated to share their own. The resulting discourse is therapeutic.

“I’m an open book,” Dougherty says, intending no pun. “Other people aren’t. It may take just one person to open a dialogue with them to help [them] to open up and share. I know how good that is for the soul. That’s kind of how I decided to write the book.”

Dougherty identifies two common threads that run through most stories of personal failure. The first is one’s natural tendency to feel regret. The other is a propensity to harbor shame. Dougherty’s mission with his book, in part, is to help dispel these negative emotions and to release their chilling grip on life.

“We all have things in our past that we regret,” Dougherty says. “We have shame attached to them. I saw how great it is when you can open up and talk about your failures... and how it takes the power away from them.”

On a positive note, Dougherty counsels that defeat offers a built-in opportunity for redemption. Life’s failures, when they are properly embraced, can inspire and even propel future success. As a survivor of attempted suicide, Dougherty knows better than most that failure can sometimes be a godsend.

“My original opening of the book was me waking up on the floor and saying, ‘Oh my God, I cannot even kill myself right!’” Dougherty says. “Honestly, it was the best thing that ever happened to me. It woke me up, and it forced me to make the changes that I needed to have the life that I have now. My life is now pretty great.”

Not surprisingly, Dougherty, who is also a motivational speaker, advocates prioritizing self-care in everyday life. He strongly believes that before we can be really useful to others, we first have to help ourselves. Dougherty employs umbrella imagery to illustrate this idea. In fact, a red umbrella graphic graces the cover of his book, and he has dubbed his cross-country journey the Red Umbrella Tour.

“An umbrella is a good example of a small ordinary thing that you use directly to protect yourself,” Dougherty says. “You shield yourself from the world and make sure you are okay. This tour isn’t just about my book. It’s about learning how to fully embrace who you are from the inside out... and doing what you need to do so that you can be



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# Come hell or holy water

Worship takes different forms in  
'Hedwig & the Angry Inch' and  
'The Christians'



Brother and sisters, please be seated.  
You're gonna be taken to church.

Which church is up to you. Maybe the suburban megachurch on the brink of schism as in *The Christians*. Or perhaps you prefer to worship on the altar of rock-n-roll. *Hedwig & the Angry Inch* has you covered there as well. Both will take you about 90 minutes — and you don't even have to go on Sunday.

You'll probably recognize the church of *The Christians* as the more conventional.

The set is of that modern kind, with a choir standing behind a brightly-lit podium and a stage dotted with microphones. The pastor Paul (Chamblee Ferguson) begins his homily with good news: The mortgage on their 3,000-seat cathedral has just been paid off. But now some more somber information: Paul has come to realize that the dogma he has been preaching for decades might be... well... off. Maybe the Bible doesn't require you to believe in Jesus; maybe Jesus saved everyone because he believes in *you*. And therefore, there is no hell. Ahem.

The sermon doesn't sit comfortably with everyone in the church. Certainly not the associate pastor, Joshua (Steven Michael Walters), who feels betrayed by this sudden about-face. And if Paul felt so strongly about this for so long, why did he wait until donations had set the church up financially to bring it up, and not sooner?

What's *really* going on, here?

These are heady, relevant questions that playwright Lucas Hnath raises — ones I wish were raised more often, and at actual congregations across America. Is religion exclusionary, or inclusionary? Can even the word of God have more than one meaning?

Hnath employs a lot of familiar Christian imagery, especially during the controversial sermon that dominates the first third of the play. You can imagine Pastor

Paul's words ringing true to the ears of many progressive churches as he parses the gospels and challenges his flock. But as might ring too-true in the current cultural climax, the refrain "don't be intolerant of intolerance" grabs hold of some parish-

ioners — "I don't want to think differently," one insists as the idea of learning a new path.

The style usually works. There's very little actual action — characters stand or sit and speak to each other through microphones, even when the setting is clearly meant to be more intimate. The apparent intent — to make this *seem* like a real discussion of beliefs during an actual service — is often distancing and doesn't quite work. But what does work are the impassioned performances. Ferguson's humanity as a preacher gripped by a desire to do right, though the heavens fall, is achingly real. Walters never comes off as an object

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**PSALM WONDERFUL** | Euan Morton, above, sings about a 'Wicked Little Town' ... from Dallas!  
Opposite, Chamblee Ferguson kneels for inspiration in 'The Christians.'





of derision but as a genuinely confused believer. We wait almost until the end to hear Christiana Clark, as Paul's wife, speak one word, but when she does, it thunders.

*The Christians* is provocative, but it doesn't provoke for its own sake. You can feel the audience working out their confusion and doubt along with the characters onstage. Then again, without doubt, what good is faith anyway?

The Church of Hedwig is of a very different kind of religion entirely — more of a cult, really. (As in *The Christians*, though, most of the characters communicate through hand-held microphones.) Hedwig (Euan Morton) started life as an East German gay boy who fell in love with a Westerner; then underwent a botched gender-reassignment surgery (leaving her with the eponymous Angry Inch); finally

wrote songs for an American wannabe musician, Tommy Gnosis, turning him into a superstar ... only to be dumped for being "off message." My brethren, Hedwig has an axe to grind ... and we don't mean a Stratocaster.

Don't try to wrap your mind around the plot of *Hedwig & the Angry Inch*, one of the purest musical characters devised in the latter half of the 20th century (it's my generation's *Rocky Horror*). Her particulars are fascinating, but her struggle is real. And you can feel it in John Cameron Mitchell's witty script and composer Steven Trask's kick-ass songs. The musical has been a showcase for a strong leading actor for nearly two decades (Uptown Players did a wonderful production 18 months ago), but this version, imported from Broadway, has its own energy.

Morton doesn't so much flirt with the audience, or even seduce them, but rather date-rape us with his thrusting pelvis face-humping front-row denizens, obsession with fellatio single entendres and improvisations of great lines, many targeted locally (among them jokes about Cassie Nova and pulled pork barbecue, but also Melania Trump).

With moves like Jagger and shoes like Elton, Morton's charisma is mirrored by the canny underplaying of Hannah Corneau as Hedwig's Croatian husband Yitzhak. Hedwig abuses and humiliates him, which makes Corneau's emergence as a swan so satisfying. The entire ending — a painfully raw but hopeful moment of self-acceptance — is an anthem of empowerment, and an exquisite, tearful victory for all misfits. Can I get an amen? ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

#### ■ LEMONADE From Page 14

everything you need to be for yourself and for the world around you."

Another of Dougherty's methods for coping with failure is simply to accept the fact that life is a roller coaster. He suggests that tempering one's reactions to life's ups and downs can be a useful tool. In this regard, Dougherty shares advice that his Uncle Jerry once gave him.

"A major message of my book is to learn not to live your life in extremes," he says. "Don't let the highs be too high. Don't let the lows be too low. Learn how to keep things in the middle ground. Then you can continue without having to try to regain that balance in life."

Interestingly, the out author finds that his audiences are generally more straight than gay. He attributes this lopsided support to the fact that members of the gay community probably don't find his life experiences all that unusual. On those occasions when he does engage with the

LGBT community, he feels instant kinship.

"They understand [my experiences] on such a deep level," Dougherty says. "It really kind of shows this fraternal connection in the gay community because we understand isolation and pain and shame really better than most."

Dougherty recently learned that a television production company is developing a sitcom adapted from his book. As planned, the show will be similar in style to shows like *Seinfeld*, *Roseanne* or *Ellen*. For Dougherty, the exhilarating news is nothing short of a dream come true.

"They are developing a sitcom based on my book set to star me," Dougherty smiles. "I will play M.J. on the show. I'm very happy. I'm overwhelmed."

Now *that* is some impressive failure. ■

— Scott Huffman

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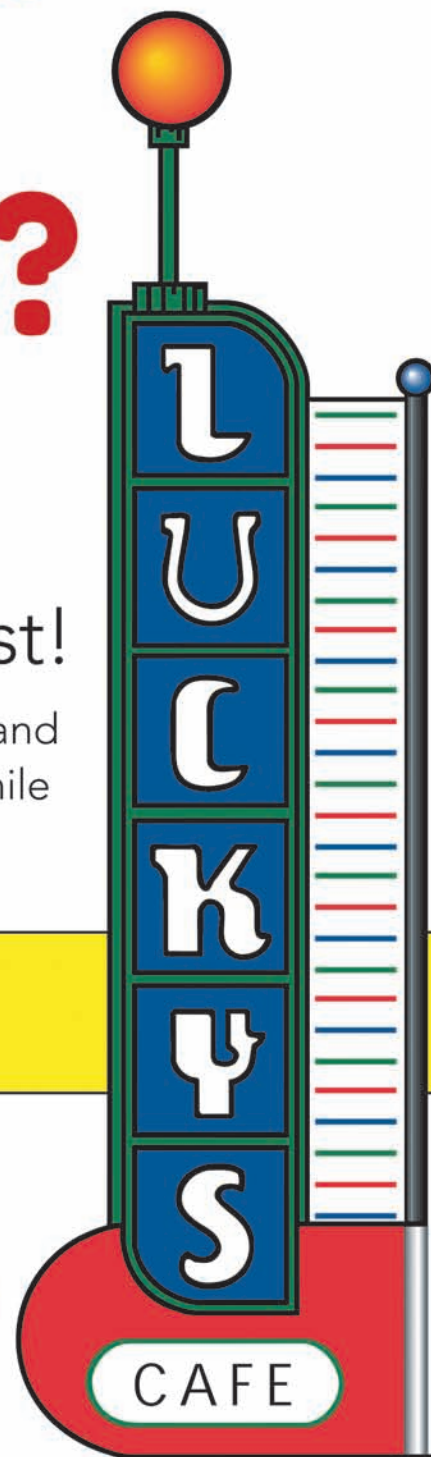
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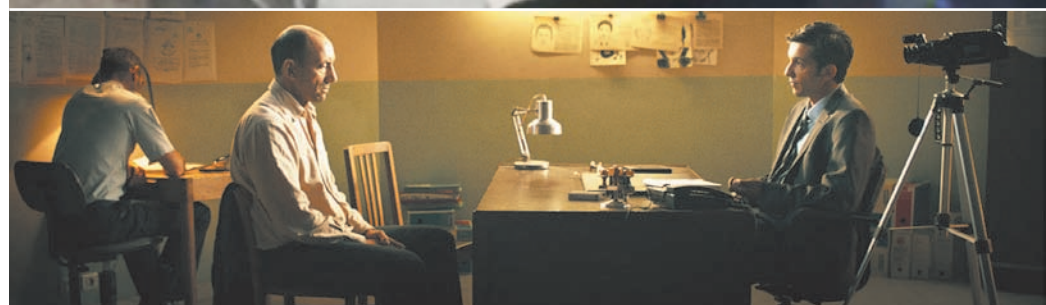
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## LIFE+STYLE

### screen

# Short & bittersweet

The Oscar-nominated short films are ripe with political importance; also, how 'The Salesman' might be this year's martyred frontrunner



This year's Academy Awards season is a jumble for prognosticating, in no small part because cultural issues like #Oscars-SoWhite, the travel ban and other horrors of the Trump presidency give the academy a chance to take political stands with their artistic choices, i.e., Oscar votes ... and popularity *does* count here. So, former frontrunners — or even current favorites — could fall sway to the desire to make A Statement.

And nowhere is that more apparent than in the shorts and foreign language film categories.

The Oscar Nominated Short Films Festival returns to the Magnolia Theatre once again, and this time the live action shorts are ripe with symbolism ... not the least of which is that all are from overseas.

That's especially the theme of *Silent Nights*, a Danish film about an undocumented immigrant in Copenhagen, trying to provide for his family back in Ghana. He falls for a Danish woman — a volunteer at the homeless shelter where he lives — and they begin a secret romance. The lovely film touches on issues of racial prejudice and violence against immigrants, though its focus is human connection.

Another form of human connection with an anti-immigration theme is tensely presented in *Ennemis Interieurs* (*Enemies Within*), for my money the frontrunner

in the category. In a drab government building somewhere in France, an interrogator questions an applicant for French citizenship. Initially, the inquiries are of the typical civics-lesson type — national motto, system of government — but they quickly turn more political.

The applicant, a Muslim born in Algeria when it was a French protectorate, but a life-long resident of France, is seeking to formalize his rights. Is he religious? the interrogator asks. Does he attend a mosque? Which one? What are the names of other attendees? Have they ever talked about politics? Why are these questions making him nervous? The process devolves into an Orwellian (even Kafka-esque) nightmare of accusations without evidence, suspicion without basis, fear without honor. How far is a country willing to go — how far to bend its own values — in the name of national security? There are no facile answers, just a feeling of dread and the inevitable degradation of society, if not through terrorism, then through the undermining of our humanity.

The other shorts, while less political, are equally good: *Timecode*, a charming near-silent romance between two security guards who have different shifts and pass in the night; *Sing*, a compelling drama about a teacher who will stop at nothing to win a choir competition; and *La Femme*

**RACING AHEAD** | 'Ennemis Interieurs,' above; 'White Helmets,' opposite top; and 'Pear Cider and Cigarettes,' opposite below, are the favorites in the live action, documentary and animated shorts categories





et la TVG (*The Lady and the Train*), about an ageing widow (Jane Birkin) and her correspondence with the engineer of the high-speed train that whizzes by her house every day.

The animated shorts include several non-nominees for the Oscar, as well as four brief (under 10-minute) entries and an impressive 35-minute animated documentary, *Pear Cider and Cigarettes*, where a man recall the flamboyant friend who lived life on the edge. It's the clear favorite.

Not screening this year are the documentary short films, though if you get a chance to see them, take it. In fact, the two best are available on Netflix. *Extremis* is a shattering portrait of a doctor who counsels families having to make end-of-life care decisions for their loved ones — is being kept alive on a respirator “life” at all? You’ll weep. The other, *The White Helmets*, has the inside track for the Oscar, though. It follows a brigade of Syrian men in the war-ravaged city of Aleppo who volunteer to rescue their fellow countrymen trapped in the rubble following bombing raids by Russia and their own president. It brings the savagery of Syria’s situation home ... and makes an astonishing statement about refugees.

*White Helmets* isn’t the only political film, though — nor the only one to touch on the Syrian crisis. *Watani: My Homeland* follows an Aleppo family that actually immigrates to Germany in search of safety. *4.1 Miles* shows the impact of Afghani

refugees crossing the narrow strait from Turkey to the Island of Lesbos in Greece, seeking safety.


Also opening this week at the Angelika is a film whose chances at a win could increase because of politics specifically. Asghar Farhadi’s *The Salesman* tells the story of a married couple who work as actors in a community theater production of Arthur Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* in Iran. One night, when the wife is home alone, an intruder breaks in and assaults her (we’re never sure just how), which sets the husband off on a vendetta to track down the man to restore his wife’s honor ... and perhaps his own.

There are a lot of issues at play here — it reminded me in many respects of the American film *In the Bedroom* — but I wouldn’t put it in the top echelon of foreign language film contenders had not Farhadi been denied a visa to attend the Oscar ceremonies due to the Muslim travel ban. (He now refuses to travel to the U.S. on principle.) His style is flat, even un-dramatic; the wife’s behavior, while perhaps realistically unpredictable, doesn’t create a narrative thrust. Despite moments of power, it feels overly tempered and inward — so culturally specific, that it is perhaps unfathomable. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

*The Salesman* now playing at the Angelika; *Shorts Festival* now playing at the Magnolia Theatre; some documentary shorts now streaming on Netflix.

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**L+S** dining



## Dive-by tasting

Flying Fish in the Design District tries to mimic an old-school fish house, but it's more familiar than foodie-friendly

**ARNOLD WAYNE JONES** | Executive Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

When Dallas Voice moved its offices into the Design District, one motivating factor was the cultural growth of the neighborhood — theaters, eateries, showrooms, living facilities, even hotels were making it hop. Such growth naturally comes with gentrification — older residents make way for newer.

That was the case when The Purple Onion, a greasy spoon that used to be located in the small building off Oak Lawn at the point where Riverfront bends to become Irving Boulevard, closed down. I wasn't sorry to see it go. It was a mess of frozen foods, mushy meats and uninspired preparations — "diner food" in the worst sense of the term. In fact, even diners that don't use farm-fresh ingredients elevate the experience with friendly service and a happy vibe; Purple Onion had a depressing aura to it.

So the first change you notice at Flying

Fish, which opened in the same space late last year, is how cheerfully retro the environment is. The styling is intentionally kitschy — lots of neon beers signs, pictures of anglers reeling in their catches

along the so-called Liars Wall, gaffers hooks, shrimp nets, an old-school plastic sign coyly declaring "Make America Fish Again." It gives the place the look (if not the authenticity) of one of those marina-side fish houses I grew up fre-

quenting along the coastal region of South Carolina.

Stools encircle high-top tables for group seating, cafeteria-like; each table is dotted with rolls of paper towels, baskets of saltines, a tray of assorted hot sauces. Individual condiments arrive in wax paper cups; the food, in plastic baskets lined with parchment.

For this Carolina boy, it feels like home. Feels like, not is. The menu is large

<b>OVERALL RATING</b>	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
<b>FLYING FISH</b>	
1838 Irving Blvd. Open for daily lunch and dinner, 11 a.m.–9 p.m. (open until 10 p.m. weekends). 214-390-9311. FlyingFishInThe.net.	
<b>ATMOSPHERE:</b>	☆☆☆☆★
<b>SERVICE:</b>	☆☆★☆☆
<b>FOOD:</b>	☆☆★☆☆
<b>PRICE:</b>	Inexpensive

The fried-catfish-and-shrimp basket hits the spot, but it's fast-casual cuisine, not superior dining. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



though not diverse. The reality bears little similarity to the photos of 125-lb. marlins, meter-long redfish and wide-mouth bass that dot the walls. Real coastal cooking is rife with flounder, trout and other deep-sea catch. The primary finned food here is freshwater catfish — thickly breaded in corn meal and fried crispier than Joan of Arc. (A more accurate name for the restaurant might be Frying Fish.) Even before you add Cholula or Tabasco, it's hot — not spicy, as catfish imparts a mild, even bland flavor, but tongue-scorching. This is not a bad thing — nothing's worse than a cold fried fish. But you may want to enjoy the sweet hush puppies, which are traditional and familiar in the best sense, or the crispy French fries while the fish cools.

The shrimp are also breaded and butterflied, though exactly what you imagine they will be. This is not deftly executed scampi, so don't expect aromatic flavors of garlic and the richness of butter, but for fried shrimp, they deliver within parameters. And while the fried oysters weren't

the succulent globes of meaty richness from my youth, but rather waifish bivalves that seemed a bit lonely, floating in a nest of fries, a small, slightly runtish oyster is still better than none at all.

A trio of fish tacos (\$11.99) arrived in a crispy corn tortilla shell instead of soft flour — that seems blasphemous to me. The bland salsa contributes nothing, although the grilled tilapia — smoky and sweet — was probably the best preparation of fish I tried.

There's also a crawfish chowder, seafood gumbo, calamari as well as salmon, a vera-

cruzana-style snapper and even a shrimp salad and frogs legs. You can also get po' boys for that Charlestonian influence.

Flying Fish is owned by restaurateur Shannon Wynne's company, the same one that owns nearby Rodeo Goat and Meddlesome Moth, as well as Lark on the Park and other concepts that run the gamut from white tablecloth to gastropub to hole-in-the-wall. Flying Fish falls into the latter range — you might call it the fishy equivalent of the Goat, though that burger joint produces some exceptional and unique dishes. That's not the case here, where few

risks are taken and the rewards are more modest. But for some reason, I could definitely see it figuring into my quick-lunch-stop rotation in a way its predecessor never did. For as little as six dollars, you can score a quick and fulfilling meal with good energy, try 75 cent raw oysters on Sundays and pop in for dollar draft night. It's unpretentiousness breeds a friendly vibe, and the small patio will no doubt get widely used as the weather improves. Sometimes you pick a place for its food; sometimes, for something else. Welcome to "something else."

#### TASTING NOTES: V-DAY EDITION



It's Valentine's Day this week, and that means sweethearts will probably want to exchange flowers, candy and a night out. There are countless options out there — here are a few that caught our eye.

**Roy's** in Plano celebrates V-Day for five days (Feb. 10–14) with a special that includes a steamed one-lb. lobster and filet mignon. (On Feb. 14, you also get a \$20 gift card for use at a subsequent visit.)

You don't have to go out for the holiday — place your pick-up order with **La Duni Latin Kitchen** for sweet cupcakes and actual roses (from one to a dozen). Order online through Feb. 14 at LaDuni.com.

For the most extravagant of dining sensation, the storied restaurant at **The Mansion on Turtle Creek** offers a Tuesday-only prix fixe dinner that includes a welcome cocktail, decadent desserts including flourless cake (pictured) and special menu from recently-appointed exec chef Tom Parlo. It'll run you \$150/person.

Stop by **Knife** at The Highland for dinner, or just to enjoy a new specialty cocktail — the Mi Amor Amaretto — available only from Friday–Tuesday. This choco-cherry concoction features Luxardo amaretto, kirsch, creme de cacao, vodka and cranberry in a chilled martini glass.

— A.W.J.



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## Saturday 02.11

### Paul Taylor Dance Company returns to Eisemann

Now in his mid-80s, Paul Taylor has been a force in modern American dance for more than 60 years... and he's still going strong. Indeed, the storied choreographer's main company returns to Richardson for the eighth time this weekend with a selection of works that includes a recent world premiere. Don't miss this master of movement.

**DEETS:** Eisemann Center for Performing Arts.  
2351 Performance Drive,  
Richardson. 8 p.m.  
EisemannCenter.com.



## Friday 02.17 — Sunday 03.26

### Cirque du Soleil opens its cabinet of 'Kurios'

Cirque du Soleil has been wowing audiences worldwide since redefining what we think of a circus being for decades. But the creators still have a few mysteries they release from their closet of surprises ... or more accurately, their cabinet. *Kurios — Cabinet of Curiosities* is the latest confection from the elaborate inventors or wonder. You might have seen the enormous blue-and-yellow big top go up at Lone Star Park earlier this week, but you'll have to wait until Feb. 17 for the official debut. Fear not though — it settled into North Texas for more than a month.

**DEETS:** Lone Star Park,  
1000 Lone Star Parkway, Grand Prairie.  
CirqueDuSoleil.com/kurios.



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ARTSWEEK THEATER

**An American in Paris.** The elegant stage adaptation of the Gershwin movie musical. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through Sunday. DallasSummerMusicals.org. Bass Performance Hall, 535 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Feb. 14–19. BassHall.com.

**The Christians.** A popular minister at a mega-church has a personal awakening that he shares with his congregation from the pulpit, to the outrage of its conservative members. Stars Chamblee Ferguson. *Reviewed this week.* Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through Feb. 19. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Galileo.** Bertolt Brecht’s play about the famed, controversial astronomer, with Bruce DuBose in the title role. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Through March 5. Undermain.org.

**Hedwig & the Angry Inch.** The rock musical about a transgender punk musician. Reviewed this week. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Sunday. ATPAC.org.

**The Echo Room Presents: Her Song.** A retooled version of Echo Theatre’s annual cabaret style play and revue. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 Lawther Drive. Feb. 10–25. EchoTheatre.org. TicketDFW.com.

**I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change.** Theatre 3’s annual musical comedy revue returns, but in a newly-imagined production. Theatre Too inside Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Feb. 26 (extended). Theatre3Dallas.com.

**Lover, Lust & Lies.** A world premiere play by Alejandro de la Costa, about two college friends who reunite and revisit their past relationship. Intended for mature audiences. Presented by MBS Productions. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Feb. 26. MBSProductions.net.

**Silent Sky.** Lauren Gunderson’s play about astronomer Henrietta Swan Leavitt, who persevered in a male-dominated profession. *Final weekend.* Directed by Kelsey Leigh Ervi. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

**Stupid Fucking Bird.** Stage West kicks off 2017 with Aaron Posner’s comic modernization of Chekhov’s *The Seagull*. Directed by Emily Scott Banks. 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 19. StageWest.org.

**Thurgood.** Jubilee Theatre kicks of Black History Month with this show about the groundbreaking lawyer and jurist Thurgood Marshall. Jubilee

Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 26. JubileeTheatre.org.

**Will You Still Love Me in the Morning?** The first show of Theatre Britain’s final, five-show season, a farce about several couples sharing a house with comic consequences. Cox Playhouse, 1517 H Ave., Plano. Through March 5. Theatre-Britain.com.

FINE ART

**Distant Relatives.** The South Dallas Cultural Center opens its 2017 season with a new exhibition of photography from Nigerian-Americans Hakeen Adewumi and Moyo Oyelola. The exhibit includes photos, video installations, storytelling and more to convey the African diaspora. South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. Through Feb. 25. DallasCulture.org/SDCulturalCenter.

**Pablo Picasso: Ceramics.** An exhibition of the great 20th century artist’s work in clay. Arlington Museum of Art, 201 W. Main St., Arlington. Through Feb. 12. ArlingtonMuseum.org.

**Art and Nature in the Middle Ages.** Evolving representations of the natural world in the Romanesque period, from England to Iran. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through March 19. DMA.org.

FRIDAY 02.10 COMMUNITY

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

SATURDAY 02.11 COMMUNITY

**FrontRunners.** Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 9 a.m. at the statue in Lee Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

DANCE

**Paul Taylor Dance Company.** The storied company (now in its 62nd season) returns for the eighth time to the Eisemann Center, with a world premiere and other works. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson. Feb. 11. 8 p.m. Tickets from \$42. EisemannCenter.com.

BURLESQUE

**Pretty Things Peepshow.** This vintage collection of Vaudeville performers makes its Dallas debut



Galileo wasn’t the only astronomer to attract detractors. Neil deGrasse Tyson shares his knowledge of the universe (spoiler alert: It’s more than 7,000 years old!) at an appearance Valentine’s Day at the Winspear. (Photo courtesy David Gamble)

just in time for Valentine’s Day. The Kessler, 1230 W. Davis St. 6 p.m. doors, 8 p.m. curtain. \$20–\$30. PrettyThingsPeepshow.com.

SUNDAY 02.12 CABARET

**Obsession and Indifference: A Valentine’s Cabaret.** Some of North Texas’ best performers (Calvin Scott Roberts, Diana Sheehan Damon K. Clark and more) join forces for this Valentine’s twist on love, life and the pursuit of happiness. Margo Jones Theater at the Magnolia Lounge in Fair Park, 1121 First Ave. 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY 02.13 CABARET

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

TUESDAY 02.14 FILM

**Somewhere in Time.** For Valentine’s Day, this lovely but sentimental romance, where love crosses decades. Stars Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour. 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.

THEATER

**Stomp.** An encore performance from the music-making act that turns everyday objects into an unlike orchestra. Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. Feb. 14–19. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

APPEARANCE

**An Evening with Neil deGrasse Tyson.** The famed astronomer, frequent pundit and unlikely sex symbol speaks about life, the universe and everything. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. ATPAC.org.

THURSDAY 02.16 CABARET

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

**Glitterbomb Denton.** Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday. Mable Peabody’s Beauty Parlor and Chain Saw Repair, 1125 E. University Drive, Denton. 9:30 p.m.

BROADCAST

**Top Chef Charleston.** One Dallas chef — John Tesar — remains as the finale nears. Bravo at 8 p.m.



Bruce DuBose stars as the bedeviled astronomer in Undermain’s production of ‘Galileo,’ opening Wednesday.

this week’s solution

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# ASK HOWARD

Ah, fabulous February! Nothing about your perversely truncated 28 days (sometimes 29, all right!) is homosexually sane: What other month ever *dared* even invent two holiday celebrations more diametrically lunatic for gay psyches to absorb than Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras — one a paean to cartoon monogamy, eternally held hallow; the other a Dionysian bender of sybaritic revelry? Why, it's enough to pull one's purple, green and gold extensions out.

Let's get right to it.

Dear Howard,

My question *ought* to be easy as Mississippi mud pie: All I'm trying to nail down, man, is when does 2017's Mardi Gras "Carnival Season" start? My buds and I were hoping to paint New Orleans red this month during "pre-season" festivities at some point, but I can't get a straight answer out of any website about even *when* the parties actually kick off, except they all agree Fat Tuesday is on Feb. 28. You got any clarity, at all, to lend? — **Dylan**

Dear Dylania,

Clarification is my Lenten middle name; Now, suck in a deep, aromatic whiff of Café du Monde's powdered-sugar beignets, princess, and follow along attentively — *very* attentively — down this yellowed, rhinestone-brick road.

2017's Mardi Gras indeed takes place Feb. 28. Mardi Gras is *always* the day before

Ash Wednesday (the start of Lent); "Carnival Season" refers to the weeks *between* Jan. 6 (the twelfth night, and canonical last day, of Nativity) up to Fat Tuesday, which must *always* precede Easter by (who knows why?) 47 days. All the parades, parties and perversities truly begin kicking into high gear, though, on the Thursday before Mardi Gras. More confusing, still — stay here on the road with me, Dyl — the "official" parade season *this* year starts on Feb. 17, the second Friday before Mardi Gras. Nonetheless, plenty of "unofficial" parades began already gamboling through The Quarter as early as the aforementioned, final "official" day of Christmas, Jan. 6. Determining the season's true start every year is (I'm 100 percent with you!) just frustratingly *beyond* a throw-your-beads-in-the-gutter-baffling endeavor. (And all these rules apply only to how New Orleans celebrates it — Shreveport, La., Mobile, Ala., and other cities have their own traditions.) It's especially dispiriting when taking into account that all The Quarter's decent hotels sell out, prohibitively, months in advance of "The Season," and that Mardi Gras never takes place on the same successive wintertime date(s) twice yearly in a row... or that Dear Howard's agnostic brain is totally incapable of retaining *anything* about these loopy perversities annually cooked into Catholic theology. Hence, for king cake's sake, Dylancy, please do *not* force me again to pull out my my astronomical sextant, my Antikythera celestial navigation mechanism, plus my astrolabe, cross-staff and abacus, all, to chart for you, too, next year's 2018 Mardi Gras date: In essence, sugah, all you gotta remember whenever visiting N'Awlins is that the party will *always* be there.

Dear Howard,

I'm only 26, but already my shoulder-length wavy hair — my glorious trademark — is going thin. I've tried Nioxin, Rogaine, Pura d'or, Toppik, but *nothing* helps. My roommate, Skinhead Cecil, told me about "follicle-stimulating" baseball caps being the latest miracle thing — they're equipped with, like, hair-growth lasers inside them? Anyway, he says all you have to do is wear the cap for 30 minutes every other day. They're really kind of expensive, though — 799 bucks — but shouldn't I buy one, just the same, if it really works? — **J. C. Earl**

Dear Jheri Curl,

OK, Curly June, I reserve broadcasting here for my respected readers the marketing label of this "miracle" baseball cap that Cecil catfished you on, *except* to warn that it begins with the letter "C," has eight letters total and rhymes, roughly, with the word "bacillus." May I just

add, too, J.C., that your \$800 (excuse me, your mere \$799) would be far more pleasurably squandered by rolling all seven hundred ninety-nine single bills into a cylindrical wad, and packing it through any restroom glory hole along with your copper-infused, compression workout gear, your electrical muscle stimulation (EMS) body electrodes, plus Cecil's retro-'70s mood rings y'all discovered in his "bachelor" uncle's attic next to those old issues of Honcho (you know, the dog-eared ones with their centerfolds' pages all mysteriously stuck together). At least that exercise — while costing you the same amount of money — might bring you some actual pleasure and not make you look like a naive hick who believes in magic beans and that trickle down economics really works.

Dear Howard,

Here goes nothing: Have you ever gotten, say, any inappropriate "solicitations" from your readers? I'm accusing Valentine's this month for equipping me with the nerve to ask my next, follow-up question: Are you single? — **Roger**

Dear Over-&-Out,

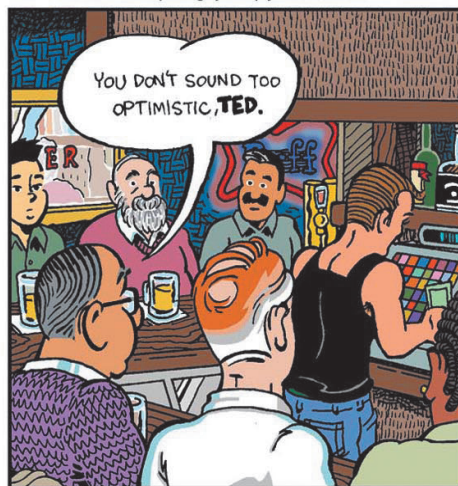
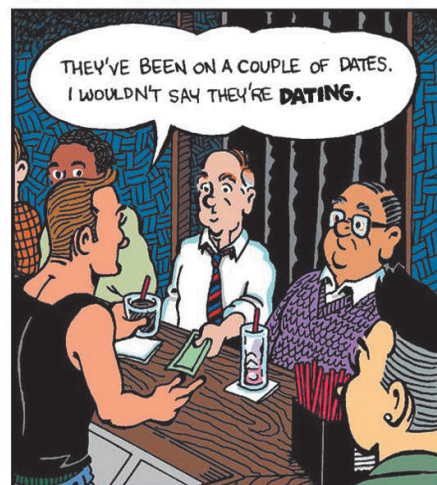
Why, bless your nervy heart, you sweet and sweetly inappropriate thing, you. Sweeter than a heart-shaped, crimson moiré box of cream caramels, you are, with a vermilion satin bow on top!

— **Howard Lewis Russell**

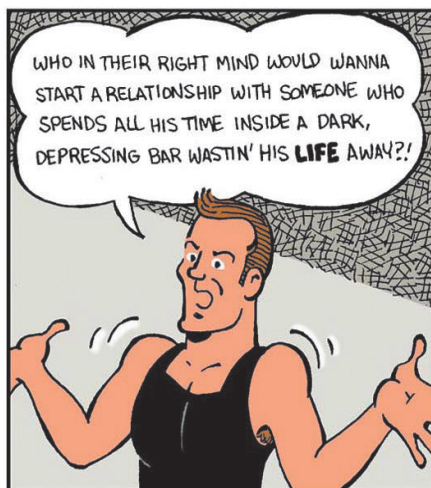
Do you have a question — about etiquette, love, life or work — that needs an answer? Send your problem to AskHoward@DallasVoice.com and he may answer it.



e-mail: [acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com](mailto:acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com)

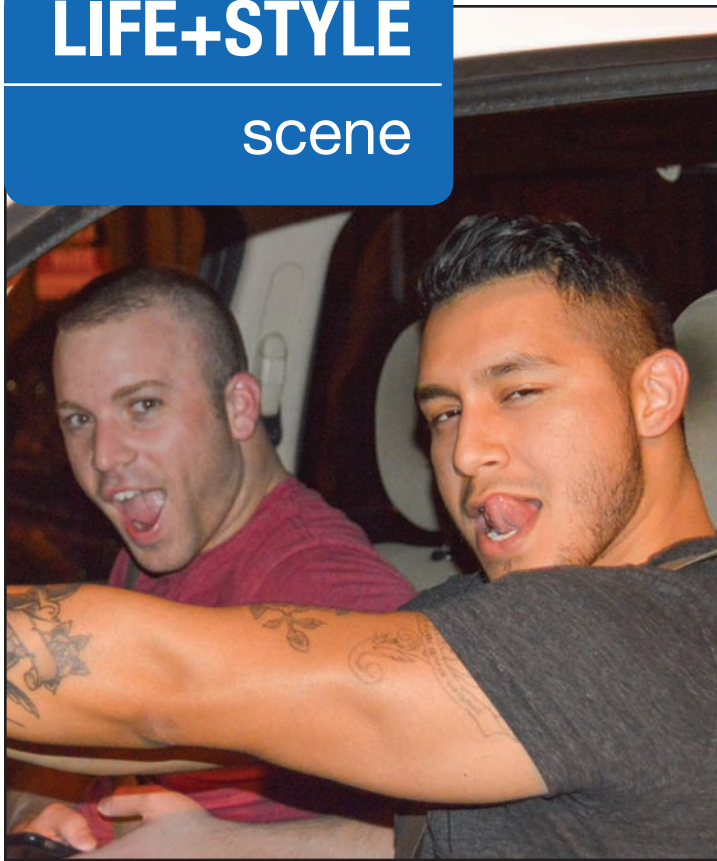


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Headed to The Strip for a night of fun.



Several hundreds LGBT people and their allies gathered at Resource Center Feb. 4 to declare, We Will Not Go Back. Photos courtesy David Najjab.



Friends' night out on The Strip.



Big smiles on The Strip



Dillon is on point at Woody's

### Making the **SCENE** the week of **Feb. 10-16:**

- **Alexandre's:** Walter Lee on Friday. Filter Kings on Saturday. Karaoke with Wayne Smith on Sunday. Liz Mikel on Tuesday. Anna Fredericka Popova on Wednesday. Chris Chism on Thursday.
- **BJ's NXS!** Friday Play is where fantasy meets reality all February long.
- **Cedar Grove:** DJ Jose G with 80s night on Tuesday and Ladies' Night on Wednesday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** Zeus Comics mix and mingle with creator/writer/artist Phil Jimenez from 6-9 p.m. on Friday.
- **Club Changes:** Cowtown Leathermen meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday.
- **Club Reflection:** TGRA cookout at 4 p.m. and King and Queen of the Trailer Park at 6 p.m. on Sunday. Wall of Food Show at 8 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** Miss Unhappily Ever After hosted by International LeatherSir 2016 Tug Whitehead and benefitting the Sharon St. Cyr Fund at 7 p.m. on Friday. Discipline Corps club night on Friday. NLA—Dallas club night on Saturday. Dynamic Duets at 7 p.m. on Saturday.
- **JR's Bar & Grill:** Valentine's Day with Krystal & the Kool Kids Valerie J., Sasha A. and Mulan on Tuesday.
- **Marty's Live:** Poker at 3 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Pekers:** Fundraiser benefiting MSRNT, Tucker's Gift, the LGBT Senior Coalition on Aging and AIDS

Walk South Dallas with food at 4 p.m. and Is It Love or Is It Memorex hosted by Nia Courtland and Bianca Davenport showtime at 5 p.m. on Sunday.

- **Rainbow Lounge:** Kennedy Davenport and Ginnger Minj at 8 p.m. on Friday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** Miss Round-Up Sassy hosts Project Funway, a design game show. Materials and mannequins provided with \$100 cash prize to the winner on Wednesday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** Straw Hat Society on Saturday. Kathy & Bella at 3:30 p.m. and Bad Habits at 6 p.m. on Sunday. Open mic with Kathy & Bella on Wednesday.
- **The Rose Room:** Cassie, Kelexis, Asia, Josephine O'Hara Andrew, Jenna, Krystal and Layla on Saturday.
- **TMC: The Mining Company:** Happy hour 5-8 p.m. Friday.
- **Two Corks and a Bottle:** Joseph Reyna on Guitar on Friday. Apollo Combo on Saturday. Show Tunes with Bernie Siben on Wednesday. Mary Lee on guitar on Thursday.
- **Urban Cowboy Saloon:** Imperial Court Emperor's Red & White Ball and candidate presentation buffet at 5 p.m. and ball at 6 p.m. followed by bar crawl on Saturday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** Broken Heart show tunes on Valentine's Day on Tuesday.

Scene Photographer: **Kay Haygood** and **Chad Mantooth**





Jay and Mark at Woody's Sports and Video Bar



Mike and Joan at Zippers



Trey, a new manager at Sue Ellen's



All smiles in the gayborhood



Looking pretty on The Strip



Too much fun at Woody's Sports and Video Bar



Guys' night out at The Hidden Door



Todd, Miguel and the guys at Alexandre's





Handsome man on The Strip



Sitting pretty at The Round-Up Saloon



The crew at Royal Lane Baptist Church welcomed transgender Baptist minister Allyson Robinson as a special guest speaker Sunday, Feb. 5. The morning service was followed by a luncheon and a discussion. Royal Lane Baptist Church welcomes everyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

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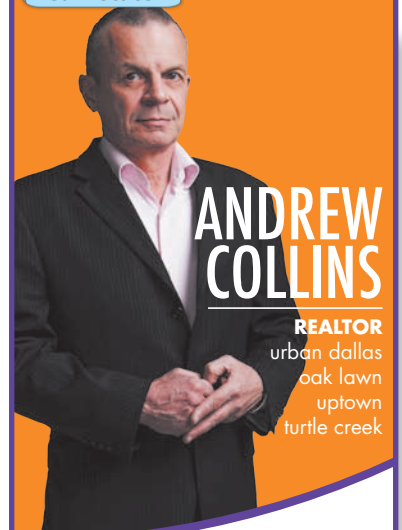


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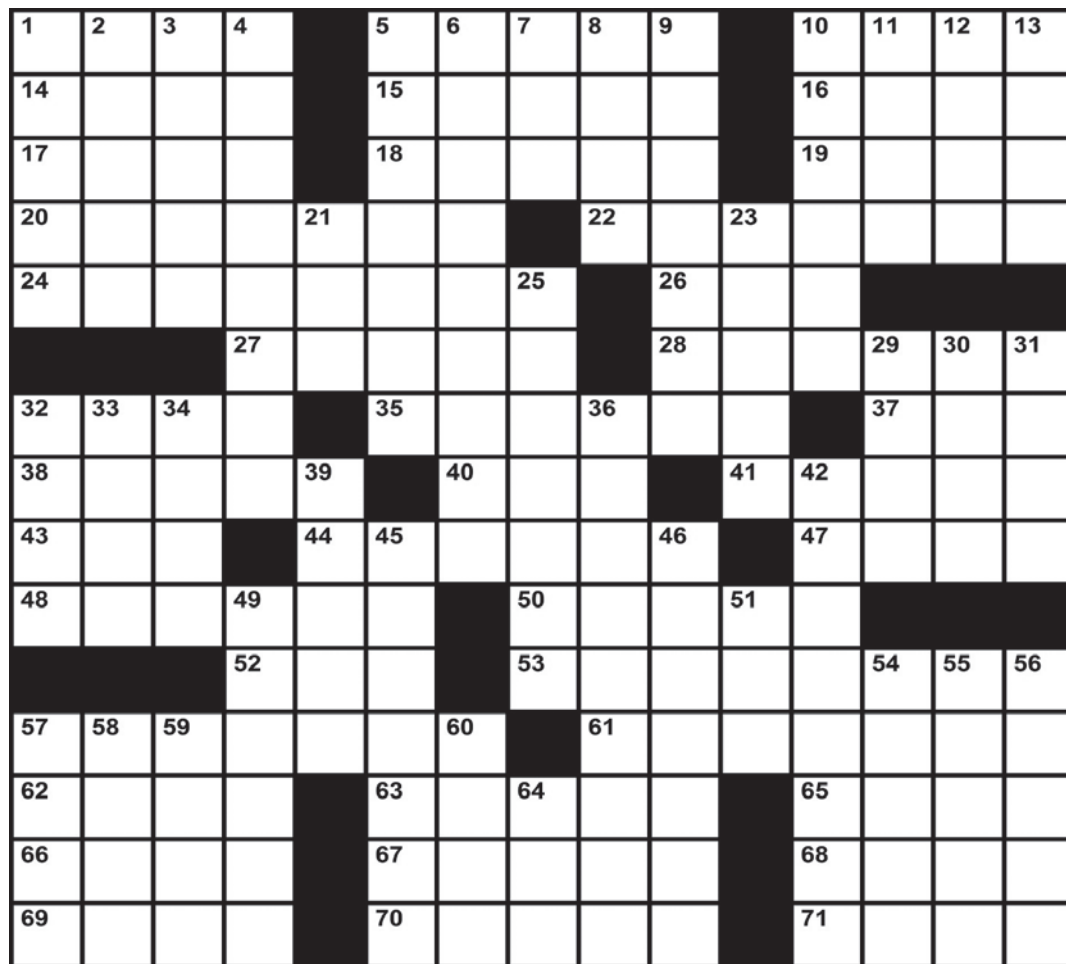
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## L+S year in review



## Loathing the Clothing

Solution on Page 26

### Across

- 1 Sailor's pole
- 5 Loads of
- 10 Little fairies
- 14 Baldwin staffer
- 15 Nobelist Sadat
- 16 He cruised for 40 days straight
- 17 Race in a regatta
- 18 It helps a baker get it up
- 19 Greek ship
- 20 Suddenly emitted a body fluid
- 22 Portrayer of Lou Grant, source of the iconic lines to MTM
- 24 With 41-Across, iconic line said to MTM
- 26 Scrape by, with "out"
- 27 Avoid going straight
- 28 Roman orator of note
- 32 Bambi, as a newborn
- 35 Apply hastily
- 37 R. Mapplethorpe supporter
- 38 With 41-Across, follow-up iconic line said to MTM
- 40 Constellation over Rio
- 41 See 24-Across and 38-Across
- 43 JFK debater in '60
- 44 Shakespeare's Ariel, for one
- 47 Sci-fi sightings
- 48 1995 Annie Lennox album

### Down

- 1 Full of lip
- 2 Nero's instrument
- 3 Foucault's final word
- 4 On topic
- 5 Birds do it
- 6 Price of a Susan B. Anthony bas relief?
- 7 Airline in The Aviator
- 8 Writer's Market abbr.
- 9 Erte's style
- 10 Bad way to come

- 11 When it's hard to get up
- 12 Work under Tammy Baldwin
- 13 Restaurateur Toots
- 21 Kind of Buddhist
- 23 Camille screenwriter Zoe
- 25 More likely to rust, to the Tin Woodsman
- 29 "I've had it!" to Gomer
- 30 City near Tahoe
- 31 Twelve \_\_\_\_ (Tara neighbor)
- 32 Like an upstanding member
- 33 Words of woe, to the Bard
- 34 Fairy godmother's stick
- 36 Crime in a Sophocles tragedy
- 39 James Baldwin piece, e.g.
- 42 Table
- 45 A guy's junk
- 46 Covers completely
- 49 Where a top puts it?
- 51 Murder, \_\_\_\_ Meowed
- 54 More discourteous
- 55 Like Dorothy Parker's humor
- 56 Rimbaud's room
- 57 Bottomless
- 58 Part of San Francisco's BART
- 59 Actor Adams of The Rebel
- 60 Enchanted Disney character
- 64 Restroom, for short

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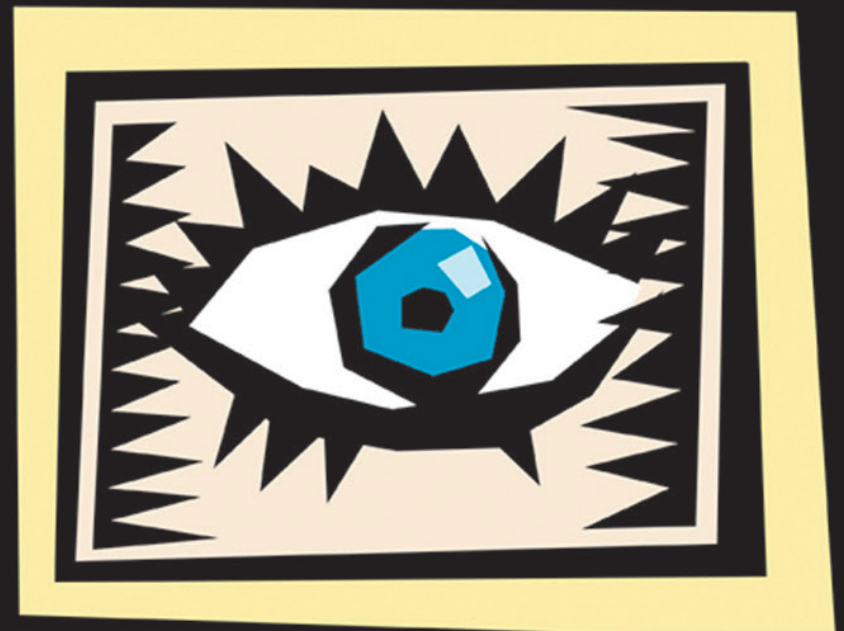
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