

dallasvoice

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20 Seasons of Different Strokes

LGBT Golf Group Marks 2 Decades of Play

by David Taffet, Page 8



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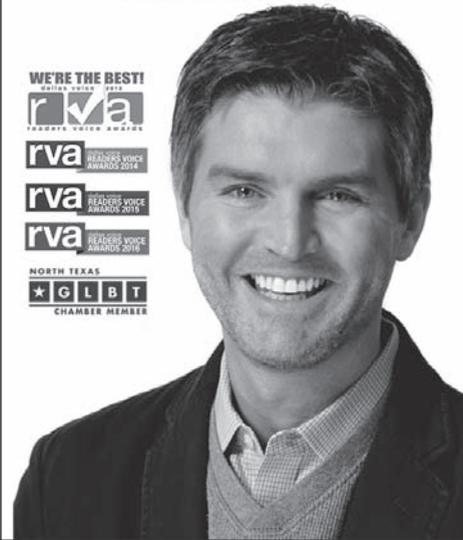
Different Strokes Golf Association,
design by Chuck Miller

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Trans woman murdered in Baltimore

Police in Baltimore are investigating the murder of a transgender woman shot to death early Wednesday morning, March 22, in Baltimore. The woman was identified as Alphonza Watson, and her mother, who said she had come out as transgender during her teens, said Watson went by the nickname "Peaches."

According to The Washington Blade, police responded to reports of shots fired in the 2400 block of Guilford Avenue at about 4:15 a.m. Wednesday and found the 38-year-old Watson with a gunshot wound to the stomach. She was transported to Johns Hopkins Hospital where she was pronounced dead a short time later.

The Blade notes that witnesses reported hearing someone yelling for help and then hearing gunshots. Immediately after the shots, witnesses said they saw black men getting into a dark-colored vehicle and speeding away.

Watson is the eighth transgender women murdered since the first of the year; they have all been women of color. A record 27 trans people were murdered in 2017; most of them were also trans women of color.

— Tammye Nash

DSM gives at-risk teens a behind-the-scenes look at 'Kinky Boots'

Next week, the Tony Award-winning, highly empowering musical *Kinky Boots* — about a drag queen who helps save a struggling shoe man-

ufacturer, and opens some eyes in the process — returns to Fair Park Music Hall, courtesy of Dallas Summer Musicals. Among those who will be attending one of the first performances will be about two dozen folks who probably have never even seen a play, not to mention one of this caliber ... and with this message.

Next Thursday, March 30, 25 at-risk LGBTQ youth (ages 12–18) will be treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of *Kinky Boots*. DSM has teamed with the Resource Center's Youth First program to expose these teens to the power of theater and the inner-workings of a major national tour. It's an insight few sophisticated theatergoers get a chance to experience.

Among the activities will be a backstage tour, a meet-and-greet with DSM staff, a boxed dinner, free tickets to the performance and a post-show Q&A with members of the cast. And they will also get an idea of career opportunities in show business, and how to be fabulous while doing so.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

A&M elects first gay student body president

Texas A&M has elected its first gay student body president after the original winner was disqualified.

Several charges were leveled against the original winner, including a voter fraud charge that has since been overturned by a student court. The other charges included 14 reports of voter intimidation and finance report failure, according to the campus newspaper, The Battalion.

Bobby Brooks of Belton was declared the



winner and became the first openly gay student body president. Until 2014, Texas A&M regularly appeared on the list of Top 20 most homophobic schools in the country. And while SMU also appeared on the list, SMU had nondiscrimination policies in place. A&M didn't.

While Brooks didn't hide who he was, he didn't make being gay an issue during the campaign.

Texas A&M had refused to recognize an LGBT student organization as early as the 1970s. In recent legislatures, bills attacking LGBT resource centers on campuses primarily were attacking the one on the A&M campus. The bills never passed.

On his Facebook page, Brooks wrote: "We did it. I can't express enough wholehearted thanks to my family who encouraged my dreams, to my campaign team who sacrificed countless hours of free time, to every friend who smiled and hugged me when I shared this seemingly ridiculous idea, or to every person who searched me out to share their vision of how to make Texas A&M the best university in the world."

Former Texas governor and current federal Energy Secretary Rick Perry, an A&M alum, later in the week wrote an opinion piece in The Houston Chronicle claiming the election was rigged and that the school had "shunned" electoral integrity for the sake of diversity.

— David Taffet

'RuPaul's Drag Race' revs up for Season 9 on VH-1

Last year, RuPaul Charles made herstory when the shady queen won the Emmy Award for best reality TV host for his fierce work on *RuPaul's Drag Race*. The show has aired since its inception on Logo, but that's about to change. For Season 9, the series is making a lot of changes.

First, it will air on Fridays instead of Mondays. Second, it is moving to sister station VH-1. And this year, each episode will be preceded by a "party" hosted by Wendy Williams (who, truth be told, I thought was a drag queen for about four years, and didn't know why nobody brought it up).

I can't say any of these changes make sense to me. The people who watch *Drag Race* are not the kind who will typically be glued to their TV sets at 7 p.m. on a Friday. Certainly most working queens will already be on their way to the clubs to put on makeup and squeeze into those Spanx.

Moving it to VH-1 also seems to deprive Logo of one of its few hit shows; a simulcast or same-day-delayed airing on Logo would seem to make more sense. (It does appear, although the Logo press office's clarity is all but non-existent, that the show will continue to air new Season 9 episodes on Mondays, more than 72 hours after we already know the results.)

That said, this season will feature guests including Lady Gaga on the season opener. We'll be watching if only for that.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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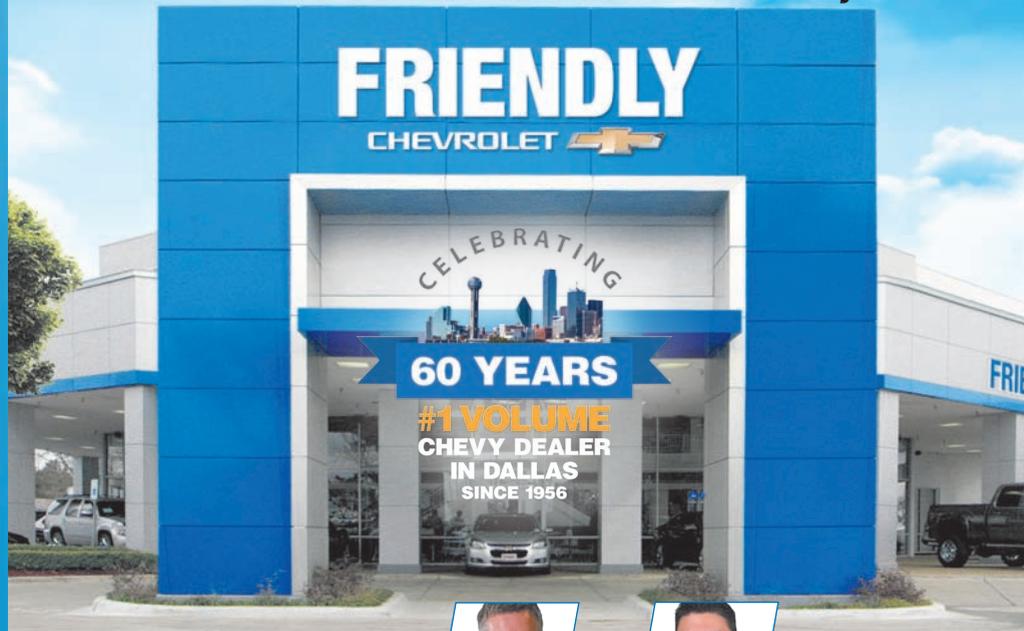


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OBITUARY



Craig Howard Quinonez passed away peacefully after a brave but short battle with cancer on Thursday, March 16, 2017. He was fortunate enough to be surrounded by his family and friends in his final days.

Craig was born on May 25, 1967, in Torrence, Calif., and moved to Dallas in 1992. He was a great friend and bartender to many in the Oak Lawn/Cedar Springs community. He held tenure at John L's, The Hideaway, Alexandre's, TMC: The Mining Company and, most recently, at Liquid Zoo.

He is survived by his mother, Betty Coker, and her husband, Jim Coker; father, Jesse Quinonez, and his wife, Rebecca Quinonez; sister Angie Lottridge and her family; sister Nicole Jones-Gyllstrom and her family; sister Cecilia Spies and her family; sister Jessica Quinonez and her

family; brother Michael Mendes and his family; brother Tony Quinonez and his family; brother Chuy Quinonez and his family; brother Frank Quinonez and his family; cousin David Jones, nephew Colton Jones and many other extended family members.

Instead of a funeral, Craig wanted a party, so his friends will celebrate his life from 2-6 p.m. on April 30, with a Cinco de Mayo-themed party at the Liquid Zoo, 2506 Knight St. When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

Have an event coming up? Email your information to Managing Editor Tammie 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 Trey more Building, 4038 Lemmon Ave, Suite 101; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or Jalenzski @ 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.

MARCH

- **March 25: AIDS Walk South Dallas** From 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, 2922 MLK Jr. Blvd. For information call 469-410-3755 or email info@aidswalksouthdallas.org.
- **March 25: Different Strokes Golf Association** New Members Invitational starts at 11 a.m. at Cedar Crest Golf Course, 1800 Southerland Ave. Cost is \$55. DSGADallas.org for information and to sign up.
- **March 25: Cocktails & Conversation with Gregory Barker** Artist and designer Gregory Barker holds a Spring Soiree celebrating the grand opening of his new studio, Patina Bleu, 833 W. 7th St. in North Oak Cliff. Free valet parking available. RSVP at Facebook.com/events/1351588388235765.



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Jade, 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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- **March 25: TAG Game Night**

Tyler Area Gays hold Game Night from 6-9 p.m. in the Genecov Room at the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce office, 315 N. Broadway, Ste. 100. For information email info@tylerareagays.com.

- **March 26: Holi celebration**

Enjoy Indian culture as Radha Krishna Temple celebrates Holi from noon-5 p.m. at South Fork Ranch, 3700 Hogge Drive, Parker.

- **March 27: UNT Outlaw**

Dallas LGBT Bar Association hosts a meeting from 5-6 p.m. at UNT Dallas, 1901 Main St. in Dallas, for networking and to share information on opportunities available for students and on the Lavender Law Conference. Free, but RSVP to contact@DallasLGBTBar.LGBT for planning purposers.

- **March 28: Family Night at Durkin's Pizza**

GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance) North Texas holds Family Night at Durkin's Pizza, 8930 S.H. 121 at Custer Road in McKinney. Owner Michael Durkin donates 10 percent of sales that night to GALA Youth. For information email info@galanorthtexas.org.

- **March 29: SPCA Emergency Vehicle reveal**

Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas unveils the new SPCA Emergency Rescue Vehicle from 6-7:30 p.m. at CiboDivino Market Place, 1868 Sylvan Ave.

- **March 30: Black Tie Dinner Kickoff**

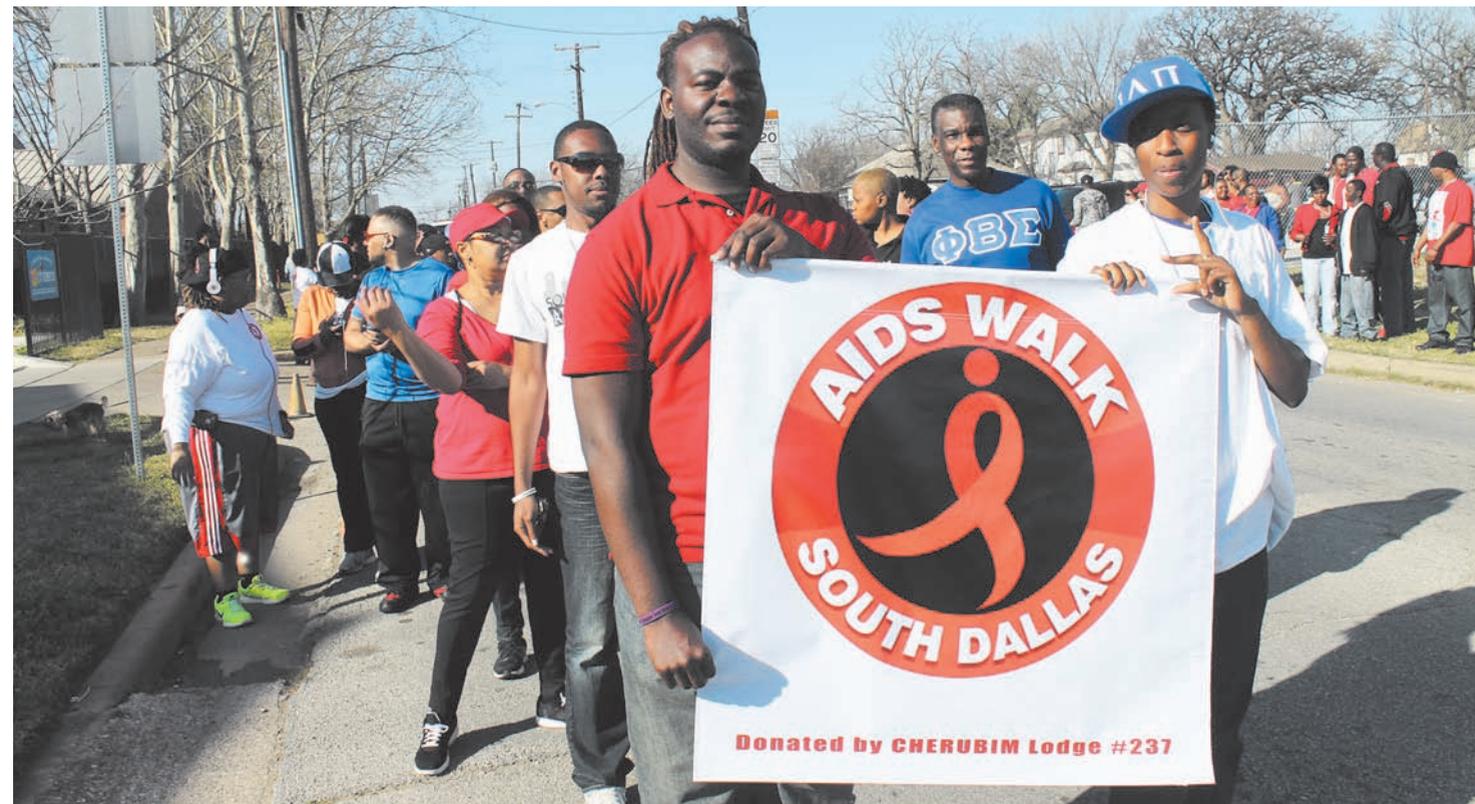
Kickoff party from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Concrete Cowboy, 2512 Cedar Springs Road.

- **March 30: FashionCITED Rhythm and Hues Show**

This fashion show fundraiser benefits Legal Hospice of Texas from 7-10 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. \$60.

- **March 30: Path2Parenthood**

An evening on lesbian pregnancy with information on sperm donors, medical procedures and legal safeguards. Dinner is included from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Space limited so RSVP to corey@path2parenthood.org.



AIDS Walk South Dallas steps off at 8 a.m. Saturday, March 25, from MLK Jr. Community Center. See listings for details.

- **March 31: GALA Meet the Candidates**

GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance) North Texas hosts a Meet the Candidate event featuring candidates for city council, school board and the Collin College board of trustees, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at 4568 Southgate Drive in Plano. For information email info@galanorthtexas.org.

- **March 31-April 2: Texas Traditions Rodeo**

Texas Gay Rodeo Association presents Texas Traditions Rodeo. Gates open at 11 a.m. at Diamond T Arena, 6900 E. Sherman Drive, Denton.

APRIL

- **April 1: PrEP lunch and learn**

Q&A with area medical professionals regarding the PrEP Process which includes the use of Truvada hosted by PrEP Warriors DFW at noon at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. RSVP at Eventbrite.com.

- **April 7: GALA Meet the Candidates**

GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance) North Texas hosts a Meet the Candidate event featuring candidates for city council, school board and the Collin College board of trustees, from 6:30-9 p.m. at 11083 Locksgire Drive in Frisco. For information email info@galanorthtexas.org.

- **April 8: No Tie Dinner**

This year's theme is An Artful Life, inspired by the pop artists. From 7-10 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. \$75. Tickets at NoTieDinner.org

- **April 8: Different Strokes Golf Association (DSGA)**

Playdate open to all interested golfers, starting at 9 a.m. at Bear Creek Golf East Course, 4500 Bear Creek Court, Euless. \$60. DSGADallas.org or email info@DSGADallas.org for information.

- **April 9: HER HRC — Sue Ellen's Throwback Party**

HRC brings back the old Sue's with DJ, silent auctions, door prizes and games from 2-6 p.m. at TMC: The Mining Company, 3903 Cedar Springs Road. Includes the presentation of the DFW HRC Community Impact Award to Kathy Jack. General admission tickets are \$10 in advance at TinyURL.com/HerHRC2017; \$15 at the door. VIP tickets start at \$40.

- **April 9: Mega March**

March calling for immigration reform and an end to aggressive deportation efforts from 2-4 p.m. Line up on Ross Avenue at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe and march to Dallas City Hall.

- **April 9: Turtle Creek Association Tour of Homes**

The Turtle Creek Association Tour of Homes takes place from 1-5 p.m., and features five Turtle Creek area homes — two single-family homes and two apartment/condominium homes. Tickets are \$50 for members, \$60 for non-members. For information call 214-526-2800.

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- **April 14: DFW Pride Happy Hour**

DFW Pride Happy Hour, organized and maintained by TI Pride Network as a community service, takes place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Cedar Grove, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, # 110. For information call 214-567-0592.

- **April 15: Purple 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.

- **April 15: GALA Meet the Candidates**

GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance) North Texas hosts a Meet the Candidate event featuring candidates for city council, school board and the Collin College board of trustees, from 3-5:30 p.m. at 601 Rouen Drive in McKinney. For information email info@galanorthtexas.org.



DSGA

The LGBT golf group has played every public course in the DFW area

begins season

20

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Different Strokes Golf Association begins its 20th season on March 25 with a golf tournament at Cedar Crest Golf Club in South Dallas.

The golf league organizes competitive golf events for LGBT golfers of all skill levels. More than 50 active golfers currently participate.

"We encourage people to come try us," said current DSGA President Don Spare.

To try out Different Strokes, prospective members don't need to join. They can sign up to play a round of golf.

"If they come out and decide that they would like to continue playing with the group, we do ask them to become a member," Spare said.

Membership is \$45 for the year. After June 30, the rate goes down to \$25 for a half-year membership and students may join at any time for \$25.

"We have a PGA professional that is a member of our organization that from time to time offers mini-clinics at selected events," Spare said. "He also keeps us up-to-date on the ever changing rules."

The Different Strokes season starts with the open invitational at Cedar Crest. Through the spring and fall, Spare said, DSGA plans to play at different courses about once every two weeks. During the hot summer, they schedule play once every three weeks, for a total of 15 or 16 events per season.

DSGA tournaments are usually held at public courses.

When the league began, Spare said, they predominantly played at Stevens Park Golf Course. But members came then — as they still do — from throughout the DFW area.

As the Stevens Park golf course in North Oak Cliff became more and more popular and harder to book, DSGA began playing at courses throughout Dallas and North Texas.

Although they have played at some private courses, Spare said they usually stick to public courses to keep the fees down.

"We want to keep it very affordable," Spare said.

On Martin Luther King Day, members were in Las Vegas for the Sin City Shootout. That event is the largest annual LGBT sporting event in the world, featuring 25 sports and about 9,000 athletes. DSGA organized the golf competition for the Sin City Shootout for the fourth year in a row.

In April, DSGA is planning an out-of-town event in Fredericksburg, west of Austin. The April 22 tournament takes place at the Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course during the height of wildflower season. The entry fee is \$70.

In addition to golf, attendees are planning trips to local wineries and biking and hiking through the Hill Country. Most participants are staying at local B&Bs.

DSGA tournaments usually include a "19th hole" social event following the play and, during the summer, pool parties.

Spare said whether you are an old pro or a rank beginner, a scratch golfer or a total duffer, everyone is welcome; Different Strokes includes golfers of all ability levels.

"We have everyone from the highest handicap that can be assigned to scratch golfers," Spare said. He said golf is a great way to get out and get some fresh air. ■

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Taking the fight to Austin

Nearly 1,000 turnout for Advocacy Day

Nearly 1,000 Texans went all out when Equality Texas asked them this week to go “all in for equality,” converging on Austin Monday for Advocacy Day, sponsored by Equality Texas in partnership with ACLU of Texas, Te3xas Freedom Network, Human Rights Campaign and the Transgender Education Network of Texas, along with several local organizations.

“My daughter and I got up at 4 o’clock this morning — well, she actually got up at 3:30 — so we could be here today,” said a woman from Winnsboro, a tiny East Texas town of about 3,300 just south of Mount Vernon. “We’re here for my transgender son, who can’t even live in Texas any more. It’s just too scary here for him.”

Her son, she said, is 23 and has been living in Boston for the last three years.

The day began with training sessions designed to help those who came to the state Capitol to lobby their elected representatives learn how to tell their stories in the most compelling and convincing ways. But it was the rally on the south steps of the Capitol that really got participants fired up.

Kathy Miller with Texas Freedom Network took aim at the numerous “religious freedom bills” that are intended, in essence, to allow otherwise prohibited discrimination based on “sincerely held” religious beliefs. While the U.S. is a country founded on religious freedom, Miller said, “you are not free to use religion as a weapon” against LGBT people and other minorities.

Rebecca Robertson with the ACLU of Texas said that much of the legislation this GOP-controlled session of the Texas Legislature directed at “bashing and vilifying immigrants, women and LGBTQ people and targeting transgender people.” Many of the proposed bills, she said, “make it impossible for us to participate equally” in public and civic life.

But much of the anger and determination expressed during the rally was aimed at SB

6, aka the Texas bathroom bill, which was pushed by Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and introduced by Sen. Lois Kolkorst and had recently sailed through the Texas Senate.

Robertson noted that Texas’ progressive community had rallied in the wake of the court decisions targeted lesbians and gays, and now the progressive community will fight for the transgender community.

“We are here today to say we’re going to fight. We stand with the people that are being targeted,” she said. “At the ACLU of Texas, we stand with you.”

Gray’s Anatomy star Sara Ramirez, who played a bisexual character on the TV show and who recently came out as bisexual herself, participated in the rally, singing her pledge to the trans community: “We feel, we hear your pain, your fear. We’re here to say, who you are is OK. You are not alone.”

Andrew Morrison appeared at the rally with his 8-year-old transgender daughter, Marilyn. He said that his daughter and other trans youth “face a constant, daily battle” against discrimination and bullying, and that he couldn’t comprehend how lawmakers pushing SB 6 “can’t find even an ounce of compassion” for their plight.



Legislation like SB 6, Morrison said, doesn’t just allow discrimination against transgender people like his daughter to continue, it condones and encourages violence against them, especially the transgender youth.

“I just want [lawmakers] to know, the blood will be on your hands if something happens to any of these kids,” he warned.

Houston transgender activist Monica Roberts said that while Texas lawmakers “have a long history of passing history to

demonize people they don’t like,” and that SB 6 in this session is “fanning the hellfire flames of anti-transgender bigotry.”

But, she continued, Texas also has a long history of transgender activism, naming pioneers such as Phyllis Randolph Frye, and pledging that “the heirs to their legacy” will not let the bigots win.

“The Texas Trans Oppressive Act must die,” Roberts declared to cheers from the crowd, “and with your help, it will.”

See more images on DallasVoice.com.

Dallas adds trans benefits

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The city of Dallas has added gender transition, including gender reassignment surgery, to its health insurance coverage for its employees. The new benefit will pay up to a \$75,000 lifetime maximum benefits.

Hormonal therapy is covered separately by the plan's pharmacy benefits.

The transition benefit was recommended by the Mayor's LGBT Task Force, but implementation was held up by the last two city managers.

When T.C. Broadnax became Dallas' new city manager last December, members of the task force scheduled a meeting to discuss the additions with him.

Broadnax and the task force members also discussed coverage of breast augmentation and reduction surgeries at that meeting, with some suggesting that if coverage for breast augmentation were offered, every woman who worked for the city would want the procedure.

But Broadnax saw the difference between cosmetic and medically necessary procedures and expressed surprise that if a woman was having back pain and her doctor recommended a breast reduction surgery, the city policy wouldn't necessarily cover it. And the idea that every woman would want breast augmentation surgery if it were covered was, he suggested, ridiculously sexist.

Covering gender transition in other cities has been surprisingly inexpensive. The city of San Francisco prepared for a deluge of claims after adding the coverage. But during the first year, only two people took advantage of the benefit, and the plan increased in cost by only about \$1.30 per insured person per year.

Within a few years, the plan was running almost a \$5 surplus after spending \$135,000 on benefits the first year. The actual cost to that city has been about 80 cents per employee.

Leslie McMurray, a transgender woman who works for Resource Center and serves on the Mayor's LGBT Task Force, spoke to the city manager's office about adding gender transition benefits. She said the \$75,000 figure came from Cigna, the company that manages the city's healthcare plan, and added that from her own experience that amount would be adequate.

"Trans guys [might spend] that amount

if they went the full route," she said. But many trans men that she knows only have top surgery, at a cost of about \$10,000.

"Mine was \$30,000," McMurray said of her gender reassignment surgery. She also spent about \$10,000 on electrolysis and was quoted another \$30,000 for a full range of facial work.

She compared the cost to employees with diabetes, which costs about \$11,000 per year to treat.

"With us, once you're done, you're done," she said, explaining there were no additional costs. "And the number of people who want surgery is low."

There are, McMurray noted, added benefits: "The policy tells people what kind of city Dallas is," she said.

Austin is the only other city in Texas with similar coverage for city employees.

Having this benefit in place may also make it easier for transgender employees to come out, even if they're not going to take advantage of the benefit.

"The goal of transition is not necessarily surgery," McMurray said. "The goal is to alleviate gender dysphoria."

Sometimes involves hormones, McMurray said, but sometimes it might involve nothing more than changing hair and make up.

And yes, sometimes it involves surgery. But having the option of surgery in place and knowing a person's employer would pay for surgery if the employee wanted it could be enough to relieve someone's discomfort at coming out.

McMurray praised Broadnax for understanding the difference between breast augmentation for cosmetic purposes and that done for medical purposes. She noted that there's a difference between someone who had breast cancer and wants reconstruction or someone with back pain and needs breast reduction or someone who needs breast augmentation for gender transition and a woman who wants surgery for cosmetic purposes.

McMurray said not including medically necessary procedures is "punishing trans people for something you're afraid other people are doing."

"Gender transition is medically necessary for some people and that should be determined by patient and doctor and not by the employer," she said. ■



Leslie McMurray



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SB 6 AND THE ART OF FUNDING THROUGH

PANIC

I'm getting a little annoyed with every national advocacy organization you can imagine sending out the same message:

"SB6, the Texas bathroom bill, is advancing. Call your state representatives and tell them the bill is terrible and opposed by law enforcement and business groups. Oh, and send us money, because that's really the only way to stop this bill."

Hey national organizations, we know you hate this bill. We hate this bill.

But you know who else really hates this bill? Speaker of the House Joe Straus.

And you know who the only person is who can put a bill on the agenda of the Texas House of Representatives? Speaker of the House Joe Straus.

Oh, and you know who told some whining Dallas Republican representatives who also don't like the bill but are afraid to be the only Republicans voting against the bill to shut up and vote against the bill together? Speaker of the House Joe Straus.

Here's a tidbit from an email I received from Freedom for All Americans (an organization I never heard of until I got this solicitation letter):

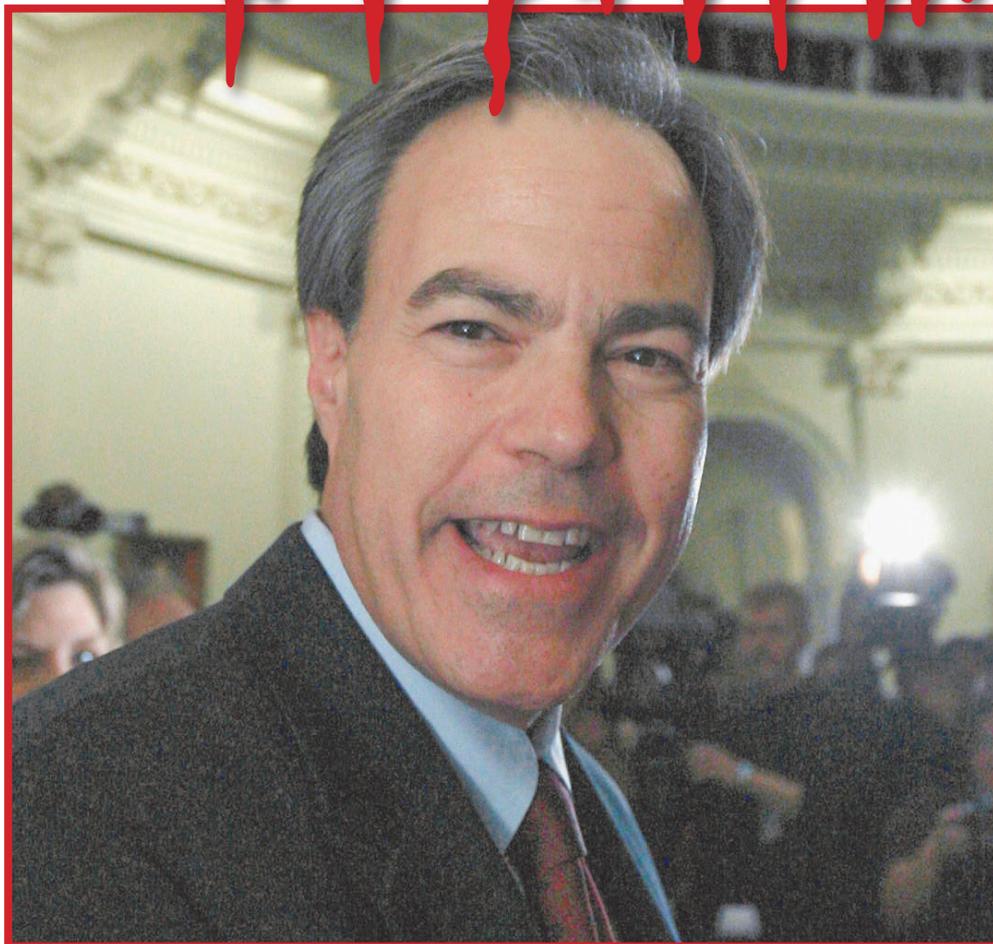
"Last week, the Texas Senate voted to pass SB6, an anti-transgender, anti-business bill that would ban transgender people from using restrooms in government buildings, public schools and universities."

"That's right. Texas is closer than ever to passing a bill that's nearly identical to HB 2, legislation that has cost North Carolina billions of dollars in investment and ruined its national reputation."

Well, yes, we're closer to passing SB6 than we ever have been because it passed the Senate. Here's the thing about passing a bill in Texas that they're leaving out: It still has to go to the House, where Speaker of the House Joe Straus, who hates this bill, has to assign it to a committee, before it



David Taffet
Senior Staff Writer



Texas Speaker of the House Joe Straus

could ever become law.

Here's a funny thing about the Texas Legislature: To elect a speaker, every member of the House votes. And every Democrat voted for Joe Straus, even though he's a Republican.

So to say thank you, Straus appointed some Democrats to chair committees. He might just bury the bathroom bill in a committee chaired by a Democrat.

That's what he did with the anti-LGBT bills that popped up last session, and most of those bills died. The rest of them never made it to the floor. Why? Because Speaker of the House Joe Straus hates all of these bigoted bills.

So while SB6 sailed through the Senate, which is headed by an extremist bigot called Dan Patrick, it's not going to sail through the House.

On the opening day of this legislative session, Straus promised his chamber would

deal with issues that affect Texans — things like funding education, transportation problems, mental health issues.

And so far, what has the House spent its time doing? It's been dealing with things like funding education, transportation problems, mental health issues.

Why? Because Speaker of the House Joe Straus simply doesn't care where people pee and he does care about funding education and solving traffic problems.

So national organizations, please remind your constituents to continue to oppose SB6 as well as other terrible anti-LGBT measures. But stop spreading panic. And stop trying to fund your national operations by spreading panic in Texas. ■

David Taffet is senior staff writer for Dallas Voice and co-host of Lambda Weekly, the LGBT radio program that airs each Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM. Contact him at taffet@dallasvoice.com.



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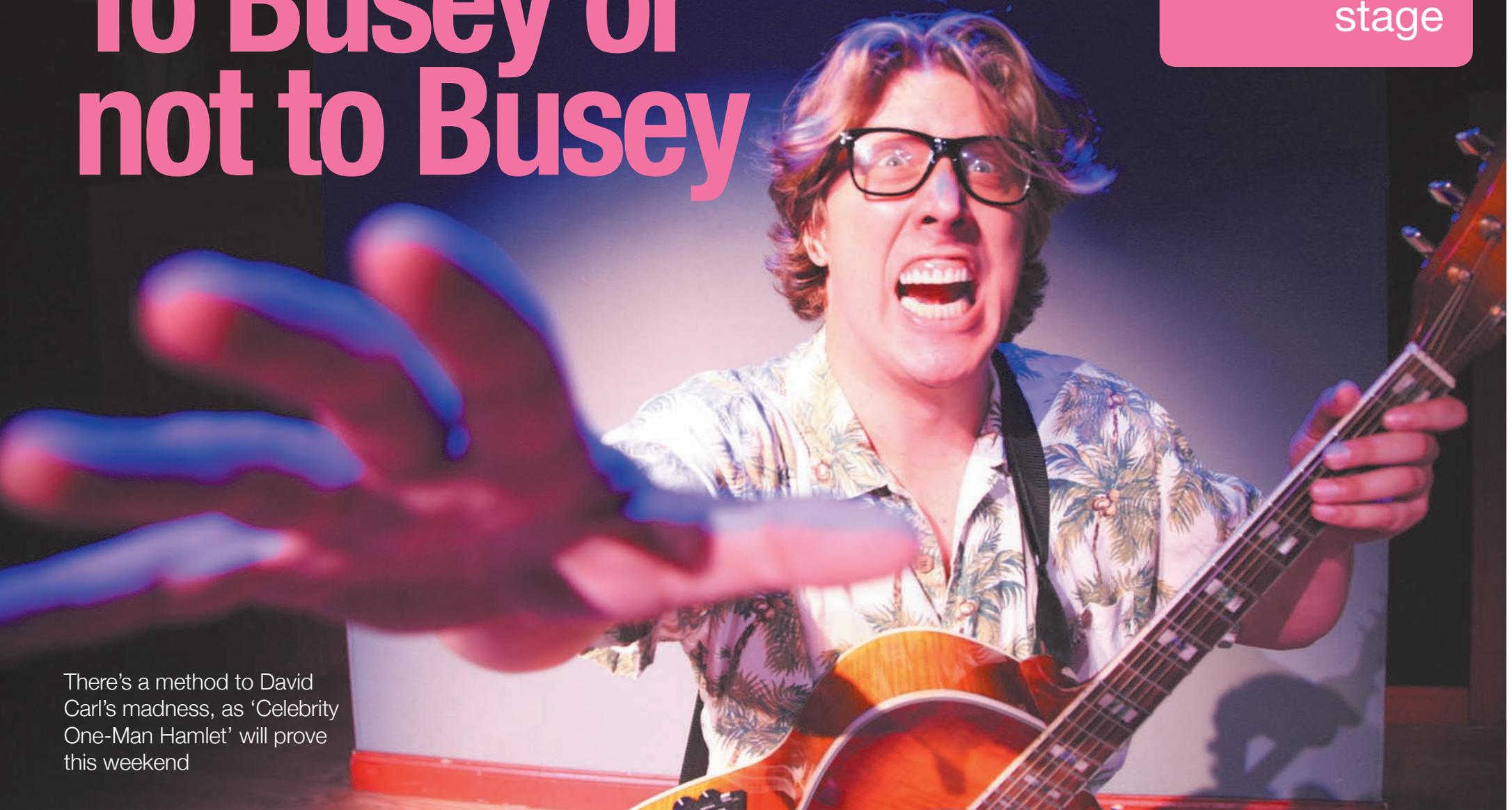
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To Busey or not to Busey



There's a method to David Carl's madness, as 'Celebrity One-Man Hamlet' will prove this weekend

It wasn't that long ago that actor David Carl's chief connection to theater was as a teenage cater-waiter at one of Kitchen Dog Theater's annual Hooch & Pooch fundraising parties. Now living, writing and acting in NYC, Carl, a Lake Highlands High School grad, is back in Dallas at the Hooch & Pooch gala — only he's not serving canapés, but serving up Shakespeare as the event's main entertainment. His solo comedy show, *David Carl's Celebrity One-Man Hamlet*, has him not just dipping in and out of all the roles in the Bard's classic tragedy, but playing them as channeled through the eccentric tics, vocal yips and enormous teeth of his fellow Texan, Gary Busey.

"Some of you may be asking in your mind-heartspace, why?" says Carl to the audience as he launches into his spot-on impression of Busey. He lets Busey answer the question: "To prove to you I still have the chops!" (Carl also plays Busey in the long-running off-off-Broadway hit *Point Break Live!*)

Condensing Shakespeare's five long acts of *Hamlet* into 70 bonkers-goofy minutes of soliloquies (delivered by finger puppets, all made by Carl and adorned with different Busey heads) and sword fights with himself via video, Carl breaks character occasionally to let "Gary" ruminate about his own career highlights: *The Buddy Holly Story*, *Lethal Weapon*, *The Firm*, *Independence Day*. The subtext is

that Busey, now consigned to the reality show scrapheaps of *Celebrity Apprentice* and *Big Brother* (the U.K. version, which he won), is a way better actor than we remember.

Celebrity One-Man Hamlet may mock the Bard (Carl omits a few scenes, declaring them "non-essential" to the plot) but it doesn't insult Busey. It's affectionate parody, says Carl, whose high-octane performance has earned five-star reviews at the Edinburgh Fringe, write-ups in *The New York Times* and a booking as a mainstage draw at the Chicago Shakespeare Festival.

Bringing it back home to Kitchen Dog is "a dream come true for me," Carl says during a recent phone chat from his briefly-snowbound apartment in Manhattan. "I remember watching plays at Kitchen Dog when I was in high school and thinking, this is the kind of place I want to work someday. I've always wanted to come back and do a show there. On these terms, it's more than I could ask for."

Saturday night's performance will mark the 75th time Carl has done his *One-Man Hamlet* since its debut in 2015 ... and the first time he's performed in his hometown as a professional actor. "It's still so much fun to do this show," he says. "It feels fresh every time. And I'm so happy that I

get to do it for family and friends in Dallas."

One-Man Hamlet is not the only Shakespeare-inspired solo in Carl's repertoire, however. Premiering April 1 at The People's Improv Theater in NYC is his latest (co-created with writing-directing partner Michole Biancosino): *Trump Lear*, which sounds even more intriguing than Gary Busey as the Prince of Denmark. And just as meta.

"It's about what would happen if I did a show where I play an actor named David Carl playing Donald Trump playing King Lear," Carl explains. *Trump Lear* casts Trump's daughter Ivanka as Lear's daughter Cordelia. Don Jr. and Eric become Goneril and Regan. "Ronald Reagan is Trump's Kent," says Carl, doing a deep dive into connections between the past and present GOP and Shakespeare's mad king.

Is there a part for the nefarious Roy Cohn, the gay attorney who Trump has often said coached him in the finer points of manipulating media? "I thought about having Roy Cohn in *Trump Lear*, but I didn't," says Carl. "It's dark enough without him, a lot darker tone than my *One-Man Hamlet*."

Carl started impersonating Donald Trump during last

■ Hamlet Page 20

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One more try

A major new work from artist Damien Hirst pays tribute to George Michael

The news last Christmas that music icon George Michael had died unexpectedly shuddered a lot of people worldwide, but perhaps no more palpably did it hit than here in Dallas, where Michael and once made his home. Although he has his partner Kenny Goss eventually split romantically, they remained good friends, and both contributed much to the artistic culture of Dallas with the Goss-Michael Foundation. The gallery/museum/charity is a jewel of the North Texas art scene, with an impressive collection of works from many contemporary English artists, chief among them the bad boy of British modernism Damien Hirst.

So when we learned this week that Hirst had created a one-of-a-kind paint-

ing of George Michael, specifically to be auctioned off at the MTV RE:DEFINE fundraiser this weekend, we asked Kenny Goss to share his thoughts on the piece, the charity and George himself. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

MTV RE:DEFINE

Dallas Contemporary,
161 Glass St. 7 p.m.
MTVRedefine.com

Dallas Voice: When did you know Damien Hirst was doing this piece, and what you were going to do with it?

Kenny Goss: We knew about it a month or so ago. Damien

shared with us that he was creating this especially for 2017 MTV RE:DEFINE. Damien has generously donated a number of pieces to the MTV RE:DEFINE auction over the years. Since this year is a tribute to George, he decided to create a one-of-a-kind piece honoring George.

What does MTV RE:DEFINE mean to you? It means a lot in many ways. The Goss-Michael



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Foundation is the founding partner and both George and I have provided ongoing support to the event since its founding. George presented Staying Alive's first-ever documentary on HIV/AIDS for MTV in 1998 and was a driving force behind MTV RE:DEFINE's formation more than 10 years later. The event was founded here in Dallas and The Goss-Michael Foundation is proud to have helped make the event possible.

Many in Dallas have known about George's philanthropy, but the extent of his generosity was really revealed after he passed. What do you think it would mean to him that this work is going to a charity auction? George was very much aware and has been a supporter of MTV RE:DEFINE, since the event started in 2011. Both George and I have been huge fans, collectors and friends of Damien Hirst. The Goss-Michael Collection has one of the largest collections of Damien Hirst work in the world. Our *Saint Sebastian, Exquisite Pain* piece was recently featured in Tom Ford's movie *Nocturnal Animals*.

Obviously, the piece — entitled *Beautiful Beautiful George Michael Love Painting* — is amazing. As a fan of Hirst, what about it stands out to you? The entire piece says "Damien." What stands out to me most is Damien's creativity in capturing the image of George in a way only Damien could. This was Damien's idea, and his creative genius.



What does the work mean to you personally? What has it captured that seems singular to you? It is such a significant work that pays tribute to George. It is emotionally and visually impactful. That Damien took the time to create something so special for MTV RE:DEFINE underlines his generosity to this event and the beneficiaries — The MTV Staying Alive Foundation and the Dallas Contemporary.

THE PINK ELEPHANT IS BACK IN THE ROOM

We all know about the pink elephant in the room — the this that is obviously there, but which no one wants to talk about: The guy with the Make America Great Again cap at the Rose Room. The cocktail party guest who is casually talking to the person who is secretly sleeping with his partner. And gay folks in hip-hop music.

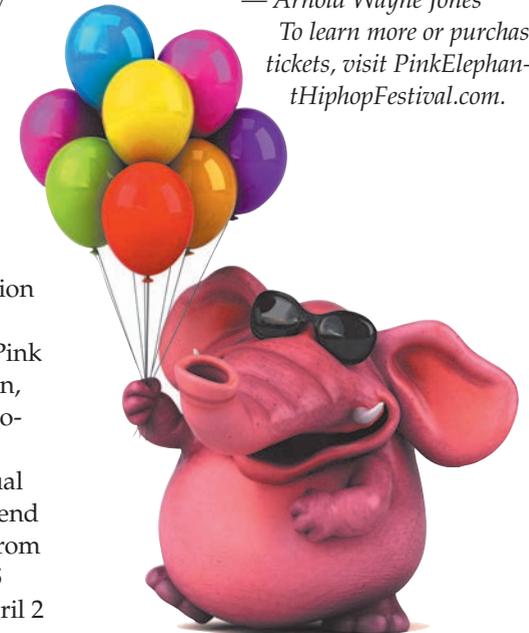
We know it's there — Frank Ocean made us confront it. But for local artist Lady BSmooth — who we profiled last year — it was a mission to make sure being queer and into rap wasn't just for celebrities, an oxymoron where the exception proved the rule.

Last year, she helped launch the Pink Elephant Hip-Hop Festival in Austin, and the event is back for a second go-round.

Billed as the nation's largest annual LGBT hip-hop music fest, the weekend event brings together entertainers from all around the country. This year, 25 musicians will gather March 31–April 2

for concerts, panels and parties celebrating musicmakers who have been shut out from the mainstream. "Our purpose is simple: Create a place where music strengthens community," co-founder Pierre Hill said.

— Arnold Wayne Jones
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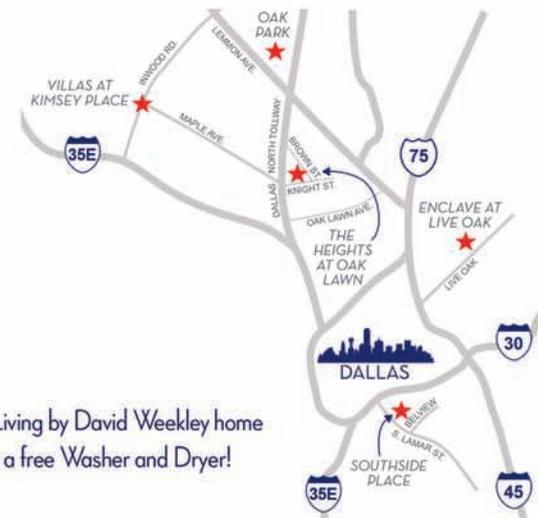
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Drawing Dallas

If stunning actor/model **Jeffrey Irokwe** doesn't look familiar now, he might soon

MARK STOKES | Illustrator
mark@markdrawsfunny.com

Name and age: Jeffrey Irokwe, 22
Occupation: Model, actor
Spotted: Cityplace

Tall, handsome and talented, Jeffrey was born in Dallas to an American mother and a Nigerian father, a software engineer who came to the U.S. in the early 1980s to work for Microsoft.

Model citizen: His stunning looks garnered him his first model shoot at age 15. This led to fashion shows, print work and runway modeling. While pursuing modeling, he was also a football and track-and-field star.

Jeffrey's personal interests include technology, art, bodybuilding, martial arts and rock climbing. He and his older brother Jesse own a company called C.O.V. (Collection of Visuals) producing music, music videos and graphics.

Web series: Jeffrey is a lead actor in the web-based LGBT series *Gayborhood Dallas*, written and directed by Jennifer Sands. Future plans include continuing to pursue his acting career. He eventually hopes to win an Emmy Award.

You can follow him on Instagram at [Jeffrey_irokwe](https://www.instagram.com/jeffrey_irokwe) and [collectionofvisuals](https://www.instagram.com/collectionofvisuals).

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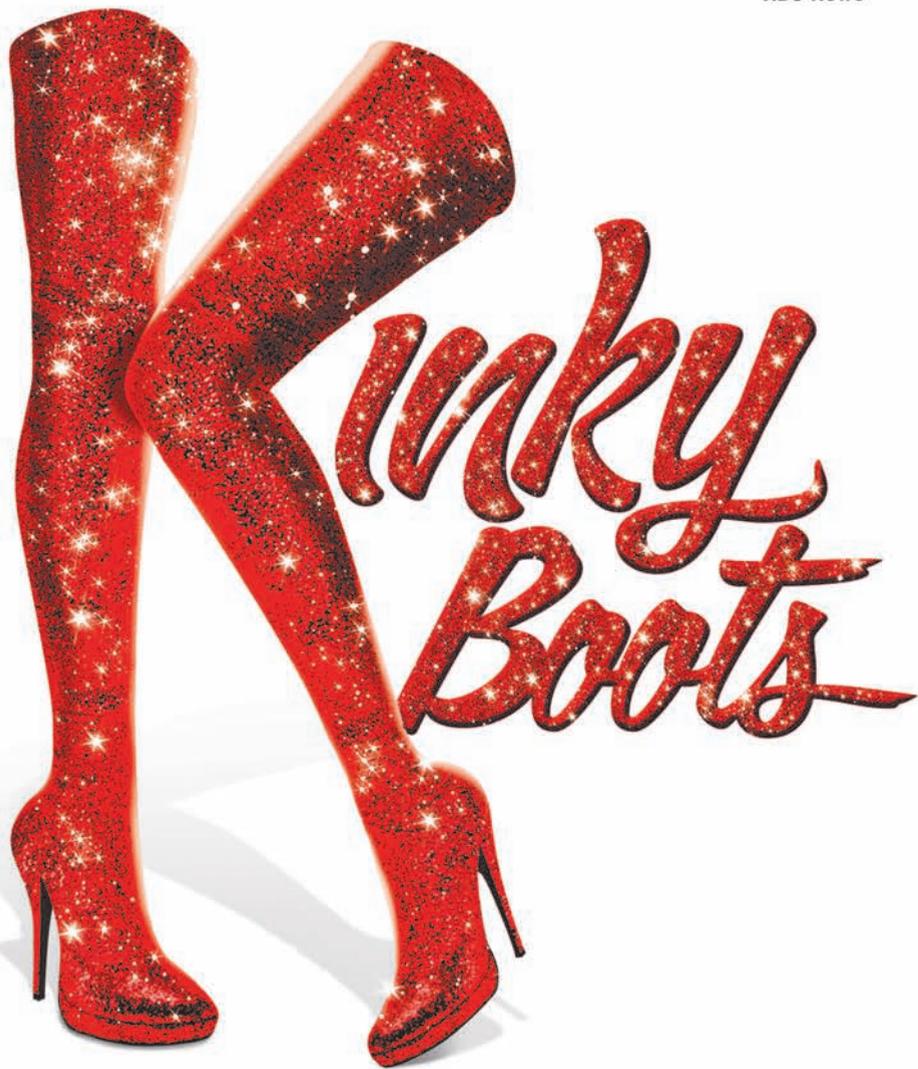
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■ Hamlet Page 20

year's election season in a series of improv shows staged as presidential candidate debates. When his blustery impression of Trump started "winning" fake debates, to the cheers of audiences in New York and Boston, Carl says he began to fear how the election would turn out.

"I worried about it all the time," he says. "It was scary. Very scary. I think all of our rights are in jeopardy now. The only thing I know to do is create art that addresses that in some way and makes people think about it. It's not enough to do art. But it's also important to do more art."

Has portraying Trump given him any insights into the real man? "I think whatever it is about him that's positive, he's buried it under many layers of hate and bravado and having to win and never accepting blame," says Carl. "The thing that concerns me the most about him is this idea that he never apologizes and yet he calls himself a protestant. One of the easiest things to do as a Christian is forgive people. It's the easiest lesson. It's not a lot to ask. He just won't do it *at all*. That's just one of probably a thousand grievances I have about the guy. He certainly has

normalized hatred. He's a dangerous man and he's our president. And I hate that. And I hate that I'm scared to say that. But it's true.

"I grew up in Texas in the '80s and '90s and maybe I didn't know how conservative it was politically, but at the end of a baseball game we always said 'good game' to the other side," Carl continues. "It's scary to think about little kids being nasty to each other now because they see the president doing that. They'll grow up to be awful adults." (David's dad, William J. Carl III, served as head pastor at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Dallas for 22 years.)

Having rewritten *Hamlet* and *King Lear* — arguably Shakespeare's two greatest plays about crazy rulers — Carl says he's just happy that his broadly satiric versions seem to entertain both dedicated scholars and Bard-phobes. "We're taught that Shakespeare is this really serious thing that requires years of scholarship and classical training, but it's also really fun to be silly with it."

To thine own spoof, be true. ■

— Elaine Liner

ANOTHER SIDE OF 'TUNA'

When *Greater Tuna* was created more than three decades ago, it was the brilliant script and performances by co-stars Joe Sears and Jaston Williams that made it an instant classic. Three more plays followed set in Tuna — about the third-smallest town in Texas, a sort of Peyton Place for right wing goofballs — each premiering with Sears and Williams starring. But the creative duo have each pursued separate projects over the last few years, and more and more, other actors are taking on their personae in regional productions.

What makes the newest incarnation of *Greater Tuna* especially interesting, though, is not only that *three* actors take over the iconic roles, but that the man behind the scenes is Jaston Williams himself. Williams is directing the current



tour, which arrives at Bass Performance Hall March 29 and 30, and moves over to the Eisemann Center April 21 and 22. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Greater Tuna, Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. March 29–30 at 7:30 p.m. BassHall.com. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson. April 21–22, 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday matinee. EisemannCenter.com.



Friday 03.31

Haters Roast reunites Drag Racers in shady free-for-all

Some of the best moments on *RuPaul's Drag Race* are when "the library is open" and the queens "read" each other with shady jabs. Well, the Haters Roast turns that into an all-night thing! Bob the Drag Queen, Acid Betty, Jinx Monsoon and others reunite from the reality series for a live comedy show. The Friars' Club was never this gay!

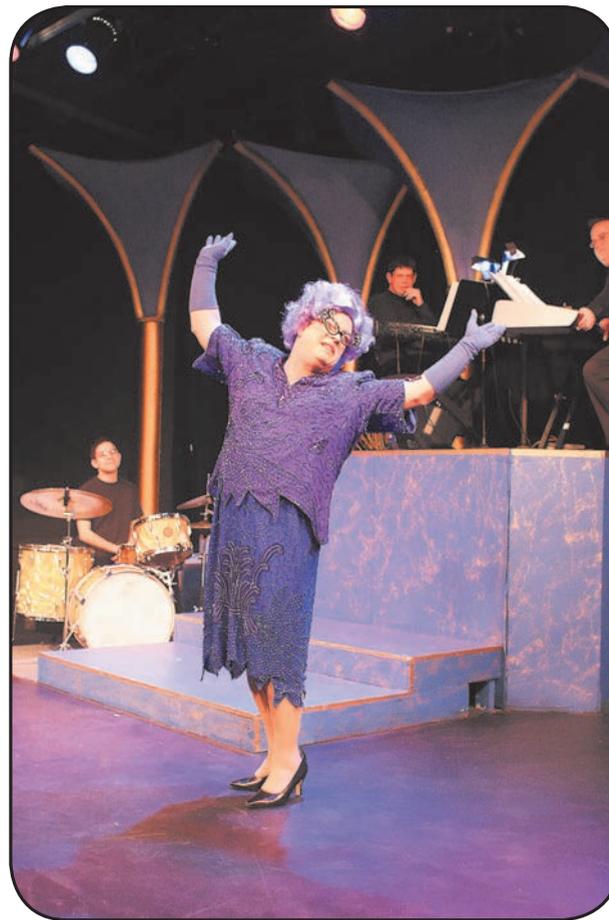
DEETS: House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. 8 p.m. Tickmaster.com.

Friday 03.24 — Saturday 03.25

Turtle Creek Chorale gets all Topsy-Turvy

Gays love their divas, from Britney to Whitney to Judy to Barbra. But what if you heard the music of these folks not like you're used to, but in a totally new way? That's the premise of the Turtle Creek Chorale's latest concert: *Topsy-Turvy: Songs You Thought You Knew*. A wacky and illuminating show that takes you on a roller-coaster ride through pop music as only the chorale can do. B.J. Cleveland is also on hand for comic relief, and Dallas Black Dance Theatre's Nycole Ray performs.

DEETS: City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. 7:30 p.m. TurtleCreekChorale.com.

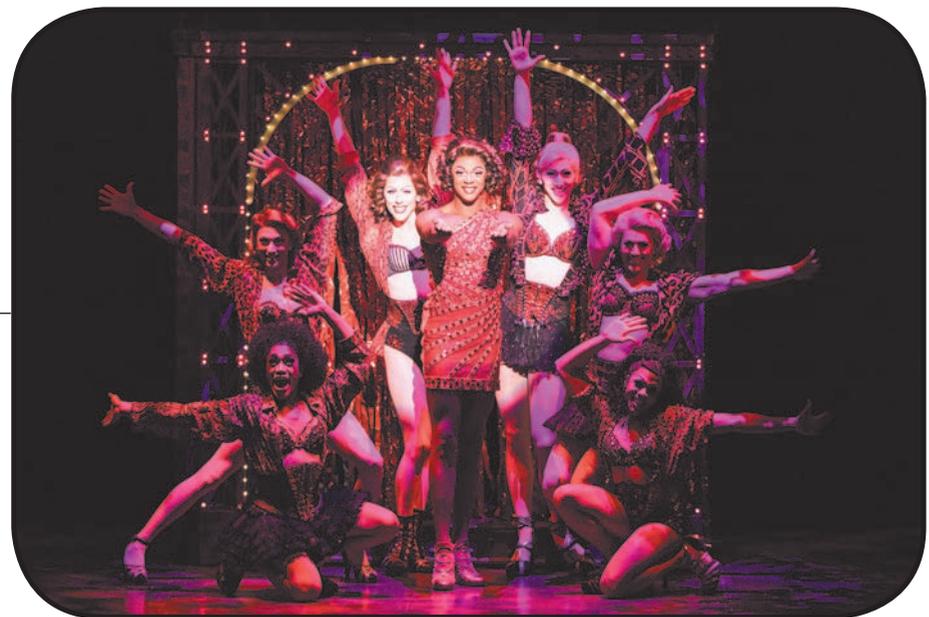


Tuesday 03.28
— Sunday 04.09

Tony fave 'Kinky Boots' returns with heel-kicking fun

A shoemaker is about to lose his factory when he realizes that drag queens need sexy footwear designed for their larger sizes. His desperate bid to save his company turns into a lesson about acceptance ... with tons of catchy songs and colorful characters. *Kinky Boots* won six Tony Awards, including best musical and best score for gay icon Cyndi Lauper (and it's still running on Broadway). The national tour returns to Fair Park Music Hall for a two-week run.

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



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ARTSWEEK

THEATER

Deer. A long-married couple's relationship takes a dark turn when on their boring trip to the mountains they accidentally kill a deer and set in motion an unusual series of events. A world premiere by Aaron Mark. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd. Fort Worth. Through April 9. StageWest.org.

David Carl's Celebrity One-Man Hamlet. Fringe veteran David Carl embodies other celebrities (famously Gary Busey) in recreating the Melancholy Dane. See interview, Page 16. Performed at the Kitchen Dog Hooch and Pooch Gala Saturday, but also performances Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Studio Theater, 2600 Stemmons Freeway. KitchenDogTheater.org

It Shoulda Been You. A wedding is the backdrop for farce in this recent musical from Uptown Players. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through April 9. UptownPlayers.org.

Let It Be. What if all of the Fab Four reunited 10 years after their final breakup? That's the question answered in this cover-band-ish half concert, half musical. Bass Performance Hall, 535 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Through Sunday. BassHall.com.

Passing Strange. The funky, edgy musical (winner of the Tony for best book) is an autobiographical account of performance artist Stew, and his journey of sexual, political and musical awakenings. *Final weekend.* Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. inside the Quadrangle. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Two Trains Running. One of August Wilson's

Pittsburgh Plays (along with *Fences*) is this story about African-Americans making do in 1969. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth, Through April 16. JubileeTheatre.org.

PRESENTATION

Robot Planet Rising: An Intergalactic Nemesis Live Action Graphic Novel. A follow-up to last year's entertaining multi-media presentation of live actors, projections and sound effects. Wylly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. March 23–25. 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday matinee. ATPAC.org.

CONCERTS

Turtle Creek Chorale: Topsy Turvy. Think you know that song? Well, maybe not. That's what the chorale will prove to you with their new concert that takes you through a roller-coaster ride of singles from folk to Whitney. B.J. Cleveland is the master of ceremonies. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. March 23–25. 7:30 p.m. \$25–\$65. TurtleCreekChorale.com.

OPERA

The Turn of the Screw. Dallas Opera presents Benjamin Britten's moody adaptation of Henry James' mysterious story. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Saturday. DallasOpera.org.

Madame Butterfly. The Dallas Opera's first production of 2017 is this Puccini classic about a doomed romance in Japan. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Sunday. DallasOpera.org.

CIRCUS

Kurios — Cabinet of Curiosities. The latest creation from Cirque du Soleil. *Final weekend.*



Filmmaker Whit Stillman returns to the Texas Theatre Saturday to screen two of his films — 'Last Days of Disco' and 'Love & Friendship' — as well as sign books and talk about moviemaking.

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

FINE ART

Mexico 1900–1950: Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo, Jose Luis Orozco and the Avant-Garde.

A magnificent exhibition of nearly 200 works showcasing the impressive diversity — from

realism to cubism to surrealism and even film — of Mexican art in the first half of the 20th century. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through July 9. DMA.org.

Landscape Relativities: The Collaborative Works of Arnold Chang and Michael Cherney.

This exhibition highlights the blurred line between photography and Chinese ink painting from two contemporary artists. Crow Collection of Asian Art, 2010 Flora St. Through June 25. CrowCollection.org.

FRIDAY 03.24

COMMUNITY

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

SATURDAY 03.25

FILM

Whit Stillman Double Feature. The quirky indie filmmaker screens two of his films — last year's *Love & Friendship* and *The Last Days of Disco* — and speaks about his films and his process. Texas Theatre, 231 Jefferson Blvd.

THEATER

Parade in Concert: A Benefit Performance for WaterTower Theatre. The Tony Award-winning musical gets a concert performance at this benefit. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. 8 p.m. \$50–\$200. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Kitchen Dog Theater's Hooch and Pooch Gala. Annual fundraiser for Kitchen Dog Theater, this year featuring a live performance by David Carl who performs his hit fringe show *Celebrity One-Man Hamlet*. Studio Theater, 2600 Stemmons Freeway. 7 p.m. \$100. KitcheDogTheater.org

MONDAY 03.27

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 03.28

FILM

Roger & Me. It's a good time to revisit documentarian Michael Moore's first film, about his quest for a meeting with the head of GM. 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

Kinky Boots. The stage musical of the indie film about how a drag queen saved a shoemaker and opened the eyes of a sleepy factory town. Winner of six Tonys, including best score for Cyndi Lauper. Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. March 28–April 9. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

WEDNESDAY 03.29

FILM

An Evening with Robert Benton. The Texas-born filmmaker and three-time Oscar winner (*Kramer vs. Kramer*, *Places in the Heart*) shares his thoughts about the art of motion pictures. 6500 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. DallasFilm.org.

THURSDAY 03.30

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.

COMMUNITY

Black Tie Dinner Kick-Off Party. Concrete Cowboy, 2512 Cedar Springs Road. 6:30 p.m. BlackTie.org.

FashionCITED Rhythm & Hues Show. Fashion show and fundraiser for Legal Hospice of Texas. Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. 7–10 p.m.

THEATER

...A Moment in the Life of Willa Dee Arvis. A drama set in 1942 about a mystery relating to two women whose husbands have enlisted to fight in World War II. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. March 30–April 23. MBSProductions.net.

FRIDAY 03.31

COMMUNITY

Haters Roast: The Shady Tour. Drag queens dish on each other in this comedy show featuring Bob the Drag Queen, Acid Betty, Kim Chi, Jinkx Monsoon and more. House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. 8 p.m. Ticketmaster.com.

DANCE

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. The famed company performs. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. March 31–April 1. ATPAC.org.

this week's solution

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Girl on Girls

Jenny Block explores curating relationships on social media

I woke up to a friend's Facebook status that made me wonder if he and his girlfriend had broken up. It wasn't mean; it sounded heartfelt. And it was very revealing in terms of what had occurred. The comments confirmed that it was, indeed, a break-up.

Then another status popped up — the girlfriend's, who is also my friend — saying that what had been posted was not the whole story. I thought, of course it isn't. When it comes to social media, one side is never the *whole* story.

That's when I started thinking about the curating of our lives on for all to see. On Facebook, I am almost always my best self. I'm sure I come off as a sassy bitch when I'm whining about the service at Starbucks or as incredibly privileged when I complain about waiting at my doctor's office or my insurance company's complete lack of humanity.

But for the most part, I post photos of my whirlwind travels. I post about my loving fiancé Robin spoiling me. I post about the sumptuous meals to which I am treated. I post about my incredible friends. And I post about the thrilling theater and parties and events I am so lucky to attend.

I don't post about my sheer exhaustion after not sleeping on a trip because the people in the hotel room below me would not shut the fuck up. I do not post about how emotional it can be as Robin and I combine our households. I don't post about how much time I waste fretting about

my weight. And I don't post about how sometimes I would rather be curled up in a ball on the sofa instead of in my LBD at the fantabulous show I should be thrilled to be seeing.

But maybe I should. At least occasionally.

I did post about how shocked and crushed I was during a past break-up. I wanted support, so I reached out into the abyss and I got it. I wasn't looking to create drama or incite anyone or create sides and because I was raw in my post. I didn't. I did however get the "We're here for you" comments that I needed.

We all know that we all curate. And I am always hearing about how that's why social media is terrible and we shouldn't use it. All it really does is make other people jealous of the lives we don't even really have. But I'm not going to stop using it. I would venture to say that most of us aren't going to stop.

But when it comes to relationships, I have a few suggestions: Be honest. Be transparent. Be more balanced in our reporting.

I'm not saying I want to see you fight with your significant other on Facebook or see a video of your failed strap-on experiment on Twitter or be witness to a photo of the two of you fighting on Instagram. I'm just wondering what would happen if we posted not to incite envy, but instead to support the truth about healthy relationships and all of their ups and downs. We might all get the "Me too" and "Same here" and "Trust me, that's normal" comments that are just as vital as the "We are so happy for you" and "You look gorgeous" and "OMG I want your life" comments.

The truth is, I don't feel great when I get compliments on a lie. If a photo of me in no way resembles what I look like in real life, then being flattered actually makes me feel worse. The



commenter is not saying *I am beautiful or thin or young*; she is saying those things about the *image*.

Over-curating our relationships has the same effect. It does them, and us, a disservice. In the end, it makes up feel badly that we don't have the relationships we pretend to when in actuality

no one has those relationships. Trust me — as someone who is in as fairytale of a situation as it gets, I have a secret for you that should come as no surprise: It's not perfect. Nothing is.

And that's good. I would be freaked out if it was perfect. That would mean it was all plastic and surface. It would mean she and I didn't love each other enough or care enough about our relationship enough to dig deep and see the ugly and say, "Yup. That's ugly, all right. Now let's keep loving each other so hard that it just doesn't matter."

My friend who posted initially was looking for support. And he got it. But it also got drama, which he didn't need and he didn't deserve. He was punished for reaching out and sharing the truth.

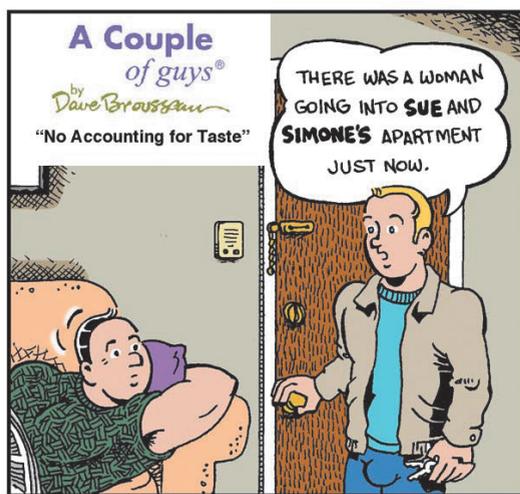
My other friend, his ex, also got support. But she, too, got drama and now lines have been drawn and sides have been taken. I believe that happened because people misunderstood why they posted. It wasn't something pretty, so it unnerved people. It hit too close to home. So they took the side that made them feel best about themselves and their relationships past and present.

My advice: Be kind, be real and share from a place of integrity. I want to see that beautiful photo of that insane trip you went on. I also want to know when you need me to remind you I'm here and that we all go through this, this life thing. I want to hear about the things that matter to you not the things that you think make you like you are living an imaginary life.

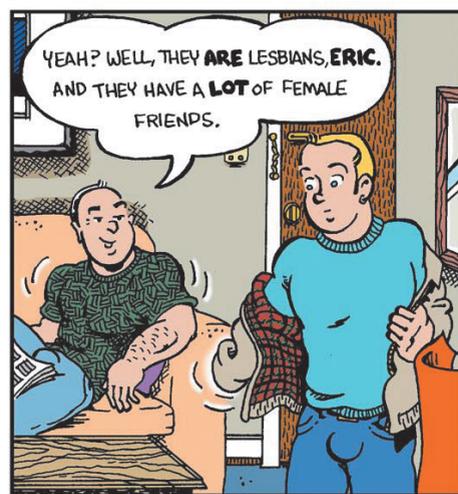
I don't know. I guess it depends on what you think social media is. A photo album. A brag book. A tool for good. A tool for evil. A means to reach out. A means to withdraw. Maybe that's what we need to figure out.

In the meantime remember: The perfect relationship is the one that's imperfect in all the right ways... for you.

Have a question about sex or relationships you want Jenny to address? Email it to GirlOn-GirlsJenny@gmail.com.



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Making the **SCENE** the week of March 24–30

- **Alexandre's:** Stephanie Sallie on Friday. **Bad Habits** on Saturday. **Liz Mikel** on Tuesday. **Anna Fredericka Popova** on Wednesday.
- **Cedar Grove: Drag Brunch** emceed by **Jenni P** at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Club Changes:** **Miss Outta Sight 2017** at 9 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Club Reflection:** **Trinity River Bears cobbler bake-off** at 4 p.m. on Sunday. **A Springtime Menagerie Show** at 7 p.m. on Sunday. **TGRA Royalty Competition and Stepdown** at 7 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** **Ms. GPOL Briella** presents **Dungeons and Drag Queens** benefiting **Ms. Great Plains Olympus Leather travel fund** from 5-10 p.m. on Friday. **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** presents **Wheel of Drag** from 7-10 p.m. on Saturday. **Drag Duet Roulette** benefits **Sharon St Cyr Fund** from 7-10 p.m. on Sunday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** **Cassie's Freak Show** with **Fantasha, Elliott, Rita Fine** and **Mulan** on Monday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** **Boots, Boys and Boxer Briefs** at 10 p.m. on Monday.
- **S4:** **Cassie, Layla, Jenna, Tina Burner, Krystal, Sasha** and **Mistique Summers** on Saturday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** **Lauren Alexander** on Saturday. **Kathy & Bella** at 3:30 p.m. and **Bad Habits** at 6 p.m. • **The Rose Room:** **Cassie, Layla, Krystal, Tina Burner, Monet, Jenna** and **Fantasha** on Friday.
- **Two Corks and a Bottle:** **Show Tune Night** from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Urban Cowboy Saloon:** **Trixie Mattel** and **RuPaul's Drag Race Season 9** watch party at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** **Bake sale** from 4-7 p.m. on Sunday.

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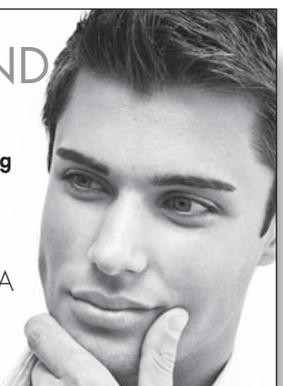
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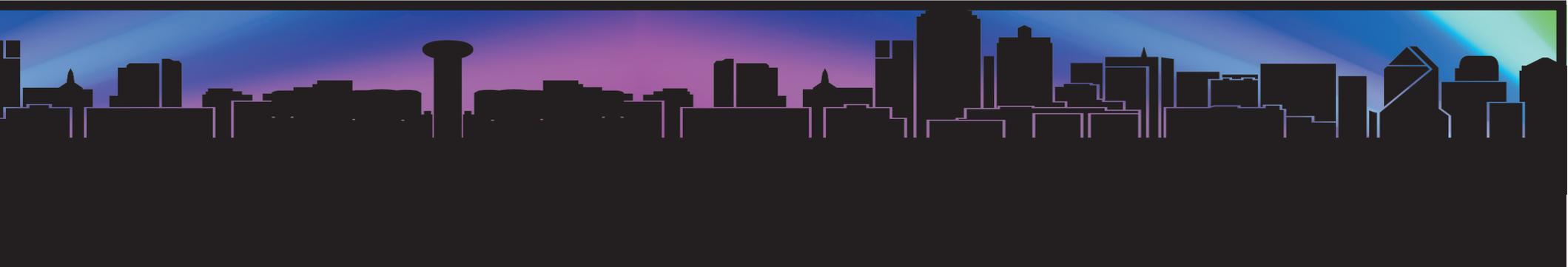
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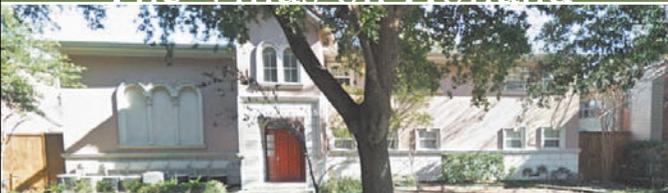
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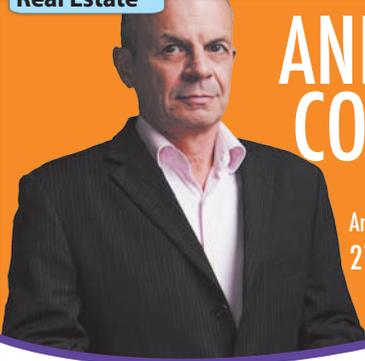
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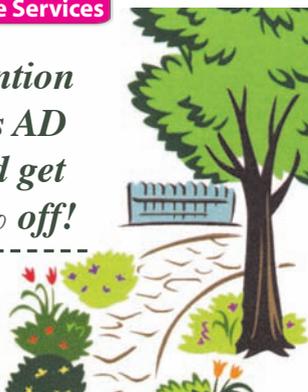
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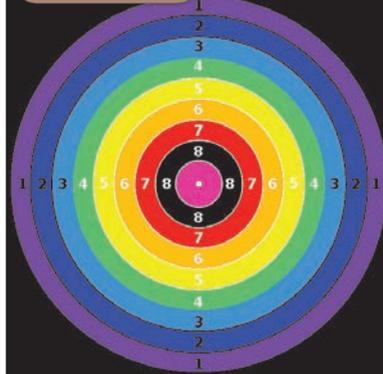
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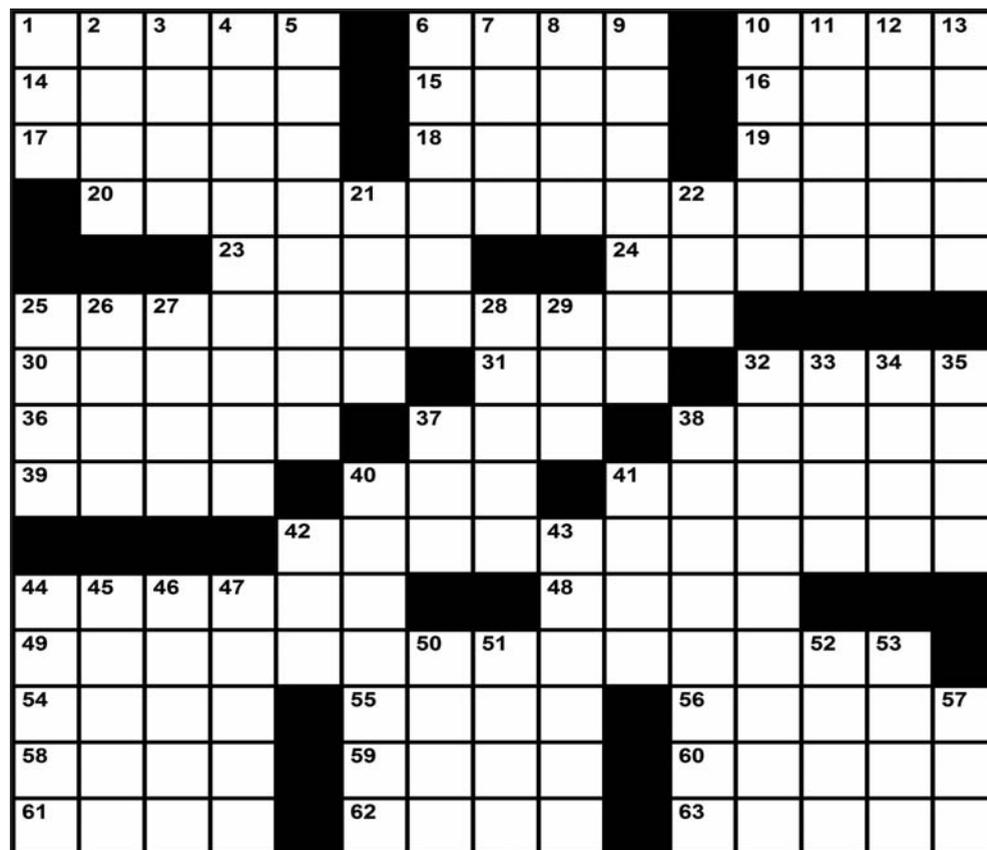
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q-puzzle



The Guys, According to Garp

Solution on Page 23

Across

- 1 Come together
- 6 Lorca's room
- 10 Change from red to pink
- 14 Ring around your anus
- 15 Mafius of *The L Word*
- 16 Had too many M&M's, e.g.
- 17 Metaphysical poet John
- 18 Fuel in Jamie O'Neill's country
- 19 "Get a ___!"
- 20 Transgender character in *The World According to Garp*
- 23 Mayberry boy
- 24 Groups of manhunters
- 25 Actor who played 20-Across
- 30 Thinks out loud
- 31 Magneto portrayer McKellen
- 32 Mr. Right-now
- 36 Cathedral areas
- 37 Start of a quote from 20-Across
- 38 *As You Like It* woman
- 39 "Why should ___ you?"
- 40 Barrett or Chaplin
- 41 Enola Gay, for one
- 42 End of the quote
- 44 Like characters that aren't straight
- 48 Skipper's spot
- 49 How 20-Across knew the quote was true
- 54 Staying power, on Broadway
- 55 Six feet under
- 56 They hang from utility belts and under them
- 58 Emulate Jon Barrett
- 59 *Legally Blonde* character
- 60 Hank of hair
- 61 Old Soviet news agency
- 62 Goes out with
- 63 Catcher of phallic fish

Down

- 1 Dipstick word
- 2 Shakespeare's Othello, for one
- 3 In the year, in Caesar's time
- 4 Solar protection for Klinger
- 5 High points at Metropolitan Community Churches
- 6 Snow White's dwarfs, e.g.
- 7 Part of San Francisco's BART
- 8 Neeson of *Kinsey*
- 9 Do more than just consider
- 10 Tosses in one's hand
- 11 Frida's "farewell"
- 12 He wrote about two guys living together on an island
- 13 Utopias
- 21 Park of Queens
- 22 On the down ___
- 25 Songwriter Mitchell
- 26 Milk-colored stone
- 27 Where a queen bee rules
- 28 Margaret Thatcher's middle name
- 29 k. d. lang's "Big Boned ___"
- 32 Whoopi's *Ghost* dance partner
- 33 Jessica of *Dark Angel*
- 34 Layer under two tiny brides
- 35 Hearing things?
- 37 *The Fountainhead* author Rand
- 38 Toni of *United States of Tara*
- 40 Pulls out, in *Gone with the Wind*
- 41 BBC nickname, with "the"
- 42 Third notes, to Bernstein
- 43 Straddled harbor of old
- 44 Place to stop when cruising
- 45 Courtroom VIP
- 46 Protection
- 47 Fantasizes about a hottie
- 50 Cut
- 51 Maupin story
- 52 Coward of *Blithe Spirit*
- 53 Alternative word
- 57 CCCP part

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