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### Let's hear it for Gloria's restaurants!

Earlier this week, during a conversation with Dallas Voice Distribution Manager Linda Depriter, she told me that she had been told about a year-and-a-half ago to remove Dallas Voice newspaper racks from the Gloria's restaurants on Lemmon Avenue and in the Bishop Arts neighborhood. She said the managers at those two locations told her they didn't want our paper in their establishments.

Well, I was irritated by that and posted a note on my personal Facebook page saying that if they didn't want a gay newspaper in their restaurant, then I wouldn't be eating there anymore. That post spread like wildfire, and almost immediately angry folks were calling for a boycott. BUT — and this is very important — within an hour, Gloria's owner Jose Fuentes had contacted our publisher and co-owner, Leo Cusimano, to let him know that he (Fuentes) and his co-owners at Gloria's most decidedly did want Dallas Voice racks in their restaurants, and that the restaurants' owners owe a lot to the LGBT community — here in Dallas and in Houston and other cities in which Gloria's restaurants are located.

"The gay community built Gloria's," Fuentes told Cusimano. And in a follow-up call with me, Fuentes said that the LGBT community "was always there when we needed them most."

Dallas Voice newspapers will be available again in the restaurants here in Dallas by the time this issue hits the streets.

And the lesson here is just because one employee of a business might have a problem with LGBT people, doesn't mean that every employee does, and it doesn't mean that the people who own and operate that business have a problem with LGBT people. A little communication can go a long, long way.

So thanks, Jose Fuentes. We appreciate your support. And I'll be heading over to Gloria's for lunch very soon.

— Tammye Nash

### Johnson bill to protect youngest students passes

Dallas Rep. Eric Johnson's had a busy and successful session. His HB674 passed the House 135-10 and the Texas Senate by a vote of 22-9 and awaits signature by Gov. Greg Abbott.

The bill bans out-of-school suspensions for students in pre-K through second grade except in cases involving drugs, weapons or extreme violence. The law will also encourage school districts

to implement research-based, positive disciplinary alternatives to out-of-school suspension.

"This might be the most important bill I've ever passed," Johnson said. "The school-to-prison pipeline must be addressed in Texas, and this bill helps to shut off that pipeline by requiring us to work with some of our most vulnerable kids, rather than labeling them and writing them off."

In addition, he got an employment non-discrimination bill and a gender pay parity bill out of committee and through the House.

Those are quite a few accomplishments during a session where the biggest priority has been making the lives of transgender people miserable.

— David Taffet

### Where Texans pee has generated millions in bad publicity for Texas

According to Texas Competes, the bathroom bill has created \$216 million in bad publicity for Texas.

"And the national headlines are just beginning," Texas Competes warned in a recent tweet.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick called passage of some sort of bathroom bill one of the two most important priorities of this legislative session. Although his pet bathroom bill — with Sen. Lois Kolkhurst's name on it as author — passed easily in the Senate, it was shunted aside in the House. So Patrick has managed, in the waning days of the session, to tack it on as an amendment to unrelated legislation and, failing that, has threatened to force a special session to get it passed.

During the current legislative session, 25,774 articles have been written about the attempts to pass a bathroom bill to discriminate against transgender Texans. Of those, 20,000 were written out of state, according to Texas Competes. Meltwater, a media tracking service, was used to generate the data. Of that, 73 percent of the coverage was negative while 2 percent was positive. In other words, the coverage generally put Texas in a bad light, especially as a bad place to do business.

The Texas House added an anti-trans amendment to a bill targeting public school students. The bill would force students to use the bathroom based on the sex on their birth certificate or to use a single-stall bathroom. That bill, with the bathroom amendment, passed the House, but the Senate rejected it for not discriminating against all trans people. They're adding the original SB6 language, which does discriminate against all trans people, as an amendment to a House bill instead. A conference committee will meet to reconcile the two forms of discrimination. Because the amendment is attached to a bill that must pass, if the two houses come to an impasse on just how to discriminate, a special session will be called.

Because, you know, people having been peeing in Texas very long and we need our legislature to regulate it.

— David Taffet



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# THE GAY AGENDA

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 guest is **Josh Cogan** from Outlast Youth; **United Black Ellument** hosts discussion on HIV / AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth



Filmmaker Robert Camino visits the site of the Up Stairs Lounge in New Orleans, a gay bar that was set on fire on June 24, 1973, killing 32 people. GALA North Texas screens Camina's documentary about the fire, *Upstairs Inferno* on May 31. See listings for details.

## OBITURARY

**Peggy Drury**, age 62, passed away May 11, 2017, in Dallas, with her family and close friends by her side, after courageously and gracefully living with cancer over the past several years.

Born on March 9, 1955, in Dallas, Peggy was the daughter of Bryant (Bill) and Velma Lou Drury. She grew up in Garland with her three siblings, graduated from South Garland High School in 1973. Peggy was an avid sports enthusiast, playing softball in her earlier years and supporting all of the major sports teams in the DFW area.

Peggy worked several jobs through the years, but the one that she truly loved was bartending. She worked for Joe Elliott at Juggs/Joels, and then for Howard Okon at The Brick. These jobs allowed her to meet a myriad of people, many of whom became lifelong friends and family.

She was also well known for her love of animals, and strays loved Peggy because she always took them in. She loved pet-sitting all of her four-legged nieces

and nephews as well.

Peggy was preceded in death by her life partner, Diane Wileman, and her parents. She is survived by brothers Johnny Drury and wife Laura of Colorado Springs, and Mike Drury of Garland; her sister Kathy Drury Saunders and husband Robert (Bob) of Pottsboro; nephews Gregg Drury, Justin Saunders, Jarrod Saunders and Joel Saunders, and nieces Kristen Drury Young, Nicole Drury Tumbry, Sarah Drury and Rachel Drury.

A celebration of Peggy's life will be at White Rock Community Church, 9353 Garland Road in Dallas on June 3, 2017, at 2 p.m.



Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; Core Group Meeting every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the Treymore Building, 4038 Lemmon Ave, Suite 101; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or [Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org](mailto: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.; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** practices and develops speaking and leadership skills from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews.; **Gray Pride** support group from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by mixer every Monday at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road; **DVtv in Spayse**, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4-5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.

## MAY

### • May 27: Gay for Good

Help prepare the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery for Memorial Day from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at DFW National Cemetery, 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway followed by lunch at Gonzalez Restaurant, 367 W. Jefferson Blvd. [GayForGood.org/dallas\\_tx](http://GayForGood.org/dallas_tx).

### • TAG Board Game Night

TAG — Tyler Area Gays — meet in the Genecov Room at the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce offices, 315 N. Broadway Ave. No. 100, from 6-9 p.m. Food, drinks and games will be provided. For information visit [TylerAreaGays.com](http://TylerAreaGays.com) or call 903-312-2081.

### • May 31: 'Upstairs Inferno'

GALA North Texas presents a screening of Robert Camina's film *Upstairs Inferno* with a reception at 6:30 p.m. and film at 7 p.m. followed by Q&A with the director at the Angelika Film Center at the Shops at Legacy, Plano.

## JUNE

### • June 1: Brewing Up Business

North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce sponsors event from 8:30-10 a.m. at Zephyr Cafe, 4001 Cedar Springs Road.

### • June 1: Pride at City Hall

A Dallas LGBT history exhibit goes on display in the lobby of Dallas City Hall in partnership with UNT Special Collections, The Dallas Way and the LGBT Employee Association of Dallas. Pride flag unveiling and exhibit dedication from noon-1 p.m. at Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla St.

### • June 2: Metro Ball

Taylor Dayne and Cece Peniston headline the fundraiser for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund along with American Idol favorite David Hernandez from 7-10 p.m. at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door. \$250 VIP package for four. [GDMAF.org](http://GDMAF.org).

### • June 2: DFW Pride Happy Hour

TI Pride Network organizes this monthly event, and everyone is invited from 5:30-7:30 p.m. this month at Peticolas Brewing Company, 2026 Farrington St.

### • June 2-4: In Your Dreams

Final Turtle Creek Chorale mainstage production of the season. Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. Tickets at [TurtleCreekChorale.com](http://TurtleCreekChorale.com).

### • June 3: Black Tie Brunch

At the Crescent Court Hotel from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tickets are \$100, \$150 for VIP tickets. Limited tickets are available online at [BlackTie.org](http://BlackTie.org). All proceeds benefit 2017 Black Tie Dinner beneficiaries.

### • June 3: Federal Club Summer Luncheon

State Rep. Rafael Anchia speaks at the HRC DFW summer luncheon from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Tower Club, Thanksgiving Tower 48th floor, 1601 Elm St. [DFWFederalClub.org](http://DFWFederalClub.org) or co-chairs@dfwfederalclub.org.

### • June 3: Bloomin' Ball

Bloomin' Ball 2017 benefits AIDS Interfaith Network from 5-11 p.m. at Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 North Stemmons Freeway.



### June 3: Different Strokes Golf Association

Playdate open to all interested golfers, starting at 1 p.m. at The Tribute, 1000 Lebanon Road, The Colony. Cost is \$80.00 including golf, cart and range balls. DSGADallas.org or email info@DSGADallas.org for information.

### June 6: Supplier Diversity Forum

North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce sponsors forum from 5:30-7 p.m. at Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road.

### June 6: Get Centered

Behind the scenes tour of the Resource Center led by CEO Cece Cox from 11 a.m.-noon at 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

### June 7: Pride Month Declaration

Celebrate the annual Pride Month

Declaration hosted by Councilman Adam Medrano's office, the Mayor's LGBT Task Force and the LGBT Employees Association from noon-1 p.m. in the Flag Room on the 6th floor, Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla St.

### June 8: Business Connections mixer

North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce sponsors event from 5:30-7 p.m. at Social Pie, 5855 Maple Ave.

### June 8: Preston Hollow Democrats

Dr. Cal Jillson, professor of political science at SMU's Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, will be the guest speaker at the June meeting of the Preston Hollow Democrats, 6:30 p.m. at Walnut Hill Recreation Center, 10011 Midway Road. Jillson's topic will be "The American Dream in the Age of Trump." The public is invited. For information email amonlezunr14@gmail.com.

## pet of the week / MINNIE

Meet **Minnie**, a 2-year-old, black-and-white pit bull mix weighing 38 pounds. She's a petite little lady who loves to give kisses and enjoys lots of belly rubs. She's also a pretty amazing athlete who likes playing with toys, going for runs and sleeping next to you once she's all tucked out. She gets along with other dogs but isn't a big fan of small kids. Minnie has been spayed, microchipped and has received all age-appropriate vaccinations. #150582

**Minnie** 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. Sunday-Wednesday and noon-7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. 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 free year-long subscription to Activ4Pets, a rabies tag and a free leash. Call 214-742-SPCA (7722) or visit today.



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# Singing Dreams

Chorale targets meth addiction in LGBT community, other issues in new concert

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer

taffet@dallasvoice.com

James Parsons started using meth at age 17. And before long, he said, “It got out of control.”

Then one day in October 2015, he had been up for five days and was severely disoriented. “The last I remember I was having a good time,” he said.

Four days later he found himself handcuffed to a hospital

bed.

But from what he’s been told and has been able to put together, at some point he went into a “raged psychosis,” and attacked a couple of people in the house where he was staying. Then he ran outside and down a Dallas street naked, which ended up with him being hit by a car.

For several days he lay unconscious in the hospital. “My skull was split open,” he said. “Horrifying.”

And he was in indescribable pain.

Although he was handcuffed, no charges were filed. Had they pressed complaints against Parsons, the people he attacked would have faced drug charges themselves.

“Anyone would be terrified after that happened,” Parsons said. And for a month-and-a-half he remained clean.

But, “One thing led to another,” he said. “I was doing drugs again. I didn’t realize how little control I had.”

Parsons tried to get sober on his own but couldn’t. He had a job, but was living in his car, and he knew he needed to go into rehab.

“I finally told my family I needed to go,” he said. But rather than go to rehab, he took off in his car. He said he panicked.

His godfather tracked him down two weeks later.

“He convinced me I was acting like an insane person,” Parsons said. He brought Parsons to his first 30-day treatment program.

A year ago this week, he’s been receiving treatment and living at Cenikor, a rehab facility in Fort Worth. He said he has about



Turtle Creek Chorale President Gary Kearns, James Parsons and his TCC big buddy Kevin McCada. (Courtesy Turtle Creek Chorale)

nine more months to go.

Parsons is a member of the Turtle Creek Chorale. Although he’s not given much freedom to go out, he’ll tell his story at the Saturday, June 3 performance of *In Your Dreams* at City Performance Hall.

## How things change

“How things change,” Chorale Artistic Director Sean Baugh said. “This concert was supposed to be about dreams and dreaming.”

Baugh couldn’t get Parsons’ battle with meth addiction out of his mind and the more he talked about it with other members of the chorus, the more he realized Parsons wasn’t alone.

“This is our AIDS,” he said.

Throughout the AIDS crisis, the chorale was a place of comfort and healing for people living with HIV and for their friends losing their loved ones. More than 150 chorale members died of AIDS.

Now, Baugh sees the meth epidemic in the LGBT community as the new health crisis facing his members.

His concern began with Parsons, the

youngest member the chorale had ever had at the time he joined. As he began putting the season’s final concert together, Baugh’s focus changed.

Parsons, Baugh said, is a firecracker. He’s “so talented,” Baugh said. “I had no idea what his other life was.”

Baugh described his creative process in putting together the concert. “Dreams sometimes turn into nightmares, especially for people on the fringes,” he explained. “I was drawn to the reasons people use it and the effect it has.”

As he fleshed out his theme for the concert, he began adding music. One of the people he assigned to play a primary role in this concert told Baugh how important this was to him because he struggled with this addiction in the past. Then other chorale members came forward and discussed their struggle with meth.

With gains in equality, the LGBT community has been afraid to talk about meth, he said, calling it an embarrassment to the community. Baugh realized one of the first steps is to de-stigmatize it. Just as shame was associated with AIDS, getting rid of the shame is the first step in getting help.

### Short term effects:

- Decreases natural feelings of hunger, so users may experience extreme weight loss.
- Disturbed sleep patterns
- Hyperactivity
- Nausea
- Erratic behavior, irritability
- Increased heart rate, blood pressure, body temperature

### Long term effects:

- Increased heart rate and blood pressure
- Damaged blood vessels in the brain that can cause strokes or an irregular heartbeat
- Liver, kidney and lung damage
- Sever tooth decay
- Psychosis
- Depression

### Stats:

In 2008, the U.S. government estimated 13 million people have used meth and 529,000 were regular users.

In 2007, 4.5 percent of high school seniors and 4.1 percent of 10th grade students reported having used meth at least once.

Drug overdose deaths involving psychostimulants with abuse potential, which include drugs such as methamphetamine, increased from 5 percent in 2010 to 11 percent in 2015.



Baugh thought about how the chorale can make a difference. He said he hopes people in the audience will say, "Well, the chorale just sang about it. Maybe I can get some help."

Baugh called this concert a turn for the chorale.

"We're here to speak to important issues," he said. Organizations dealing with addiction will be available in the lobby of City Performance Hall after the performances.

Among those organizations that will be on hand will be Cenikor, the residential treatment facility in Fort Worth where Parsons is getting help.

Parsons described his treatment as a behavior modification program. Although he's been clean for the year he's been at Cenikor, "it still crosses my mind," he said. "Urges come over me."

holistic approach that includes family programs and classes on life skills and coping skills.

Parsons appears to be on the right track. "I got my peace of mind back," he said. "I got my family back."

### The rest of the concert

Meth addiction is only a part of the focus of the concert. It will also include a tribute to the victims of the Pulse massacre a week before the anniversary. They'll sing "The Quest Unending," based on a piece from Ulysses by Alfred Lord Tennyson.

"It's a classic Turtle Creek Chorale piece," Baugh said. "A song of resistance from the AIDS days."

Then, there will be a tribute to the Dallas police officers killed and wounded in



He needs more practice at normalcy, Parsons said.

As part of his treatment, Parsons works at a call center in Lewisville where he schedules appointments for an air conditioning company. In addition, he has counseling sessions and works on future plans. Once he's finished his residential treatment, he'd like to go to school to earn a degree in mental health and substance abuse counseling.

"I want to help someone else not make the same mistakes," he said.

Pam Carnes works in admissions for Cenikor. She said the program is generally 18 to 24 months, and uses behavior modification to "address thinking distortions that justify using" substances.

She described the program as using a

an attack in downtown Dallas last summer. The piece was commissioned for the chorale and inspired by the iconic photograph taken by Dallas Voice founder and former publisher Robert Moore.

Moore took the photo while crouching behind a car with officer J. D. Smith, caught in the crossfire. Moore and Smith will attend the Saturday night performance together.

Baugh said that although that attack wasn't against the LGBT community, we relate to it because people were targeted for who they are. Although the concert approaches very serious themes, Baugh said every piece is hopeful and includes "some of the most beautiful music you've ever heard from the chorale." ■



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Jessica Shortall

# ANALYSIS:

## Transgender kids become hostages as House-Senate fight escalates

“Texas lost” during miserable legislative session for LGBT people

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

**T**he 85th Texas legislative session may not end until May 29, but when not calling it one of the worst sessions in recent memory, pundits and political observers are also calling it Lt. Gov.

Dan Patrick’s session.

That is because Patrick, a far right, socially conservative Republican heads the 31-member state Senate. And his chamber could not be more different from Speaker of the Texas House Joe Straus’ 150-member

chamber. Patrick runs a tight ship, demanding legislators get in line with his agenda. Despite the presence of veteran Democrats like Dallas’ Sen. Royce West, the moderates’ and liberals’ power has diminished since 2015 when Patrick scrapped his chamber’s rule requiring a vote by two thirds of senators to bring legislation to the floor.

With only 11 in their caucus, Democrats have few opportunities to dissent, much less win any battles. In fact, Brownsville Democrat Sen. Eddie Lucio often sides with Republicans on legislation limiting the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues, allowing anti-LGBT bills in particular to pass.

That’s why many LGBT advocates this session were counting on the 150-member state House and Speaker Joe Straus, a relatively moderate Republican from San Antonio, to kill anti-LGBT bills.

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Straus, in contrast to Patrick, lets committee chairs run their processes. Straus is not a flamboyant personality either, another stark contrast to former radio show host Patrick.

The so-called “bathroom bill,” SB 6 by Rep. Lois Kolhorst, R-Brenham, was one of Patrick’s top priorities, even ahead of reforming a foster care system ruled unconstitutional by a federal judge in 2015.

But Straus said before the session even began that the bathroom bill was not a priority in the House. When SB 6 passed in the Senate, Straus buried it in a committee where he knew it wouldn’t gain traction. The House State Affairs Committee did not even give it a hearing. While some legislators — all of them Republicans — supported the measure, Straus’ move let others breathe a sigh of relief.

SB 6 may have not received a hearing in the House but other negative bills did.

Conservative Rep. Ron Simmons, R-Carrollton, managed to get a hearing in the State Affairs Committee on House Bill 2899 which would pre-empt all municipal ordinances protecting LGBT people. It was known as the House’s version of the “bathroom bill.” The hearing went until early in the morning but never reached a vote in the committee.

Other bills did manage to squeak out of the House, however. HB 3859 by Rep. James Frank, R-Wichita Falls, allowing privately-owned foster care and adoption agencies to decline services based on personal religious beliefs and still receive state and federal funds, has been sent to the desk of Gov. Greg Abbott.

SB 2078 by Sen. Larry Taylor, R-Friendswood, concerning hazard and emergency planning for charter and public schools passed in the House with an amendment by Rep. Chris Paddie, R-Marshall, requiring school districts to provide single-stall restrooms, locker rooms and changing facilities to students who don’t want to use facilities designated by “biological sex.” Paddie’s amendment was markedly different from SB 6, which applied to all public facilities and pre-empted any municipal LGBT protections.

During debate in the House on the amendment, Paddie faced criticism from Democratic colleagues, who said the amendment discriminated against transgender students.

“I want to talk to you a little bit about history, because I’ve lived through the separate but equal period,” Rep. Senfronia Thompson, D-Houston, who is black, told the floor in a passionate speech against the

amendment. While holding up a photo of a sign reading “RESTROOMS WHITE COLORED,” Thompson said, “I can tell you separate restrooms for transgender kids are also based on fear, not fact.”

But Paddie, who had briefed colleagues on the amendment before filing it, said the amendment was meant to provide guidance on the issue. “It is an effort to provide definitive guidance...for all kids,” he insisted.

He also refuted that it discriminated against transgender students, saying accommodations extend to all students. “It could be because you are transgender or you are shy. It could be because of bullying. This says they will accommodate the child. This is not about a class of children or transgender children,” Paddie said, adding that the language prevents a school from disclosing intimate details about a student.

“For those who care about unfunded mandates, if a school district or open enrollment [faces a lawsuit], it requires the state attorney general to defend them,” Paddie said.

But the arguments were not enough for Democrats.

“The bill is about emergencies and disasters. Where is the disaster?” demanded Rep. Joe Moody, D-El Paso.

After heated debate, and despite early opposition from some Republicans like Dallas’ Jason Villalba, the amendment ultimately passed 91-50, with only one Republican, Rep. Sarah Davis, R-West University Place, voting against it.

The House’s efforts, however, look likely to be all for naught. Taylor, apparently prompted by Patrick, has said he would pull his bill altogether rather than see it pass with Paddie’s amendment attached because the amendment does not go far enough for Patrick and his followers in restricting transgender people’s access to public restrooms.

At the same time, Republicans in the Senate decided to attach the full verbiage of SB 6 — along with SB2, which decreases how much cities and counties can increase property taxes without an election — as amendments to HB 4180, Houston Democratic Rep. Garnet Coleman’s catchall bill that allows counties to continue carrying out certain duties. But Coleman, who adamantly opposes both SB 6 and SB 2, has said the amendments make HB 4180 “dead on arrival.” Like Taylor, he will pull his bill before allowing it to pass with the odious amendments intact.

The same day that the House fought over SB 2078, the Senate on a 21-10 vote passed

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State Rep. Senfronia Thompson, D-Houston, left, pictured here with State Sen. Royce West of Dallas, state Rep. Helen Giddings of DeSoto and state Rep. Toni Rose of Dallas at a May 4 press conference about the shooting of Jordan Edwards, this week compared anti-transgender bathroom bills of today to segregated “separate but equal” bathrooms of the past during debate in the House over an amendment to SB 2078. (Jay Janner/Austin American-Statesman via AP)

Frank’s HB 3859, where it awaits Abbott’s signature.

“If an agency is receiving public money, it must serve the entire public. While religious beliefs must be balanced with vital public interests and other parties who do not share those beliefs, this bill goes far beyond reasonable accommodation,” said Sen. Joe Rodriguez, D-El Paso, explaining his vote.

In the previous legislative session in 2015, more than 40 pieces of anti-LGBT legislation were filed. Many were similar to bills filed this session. But none passed. LGBT advocates expected — had hoped for — the same this session.

After the fallout from North Carolina’s HB 2, which pre-empted all local LGBT rights ordinances and restricted bathroom usage

based on sex and not gender identity, Texas business leaders, Republicans and clergy all lined up in opposition to similar bills here. The fiscally conservative Texas Association of Business was among the leaders in opposing the Texas bathroom bills, calling them discriminatory and bad for business.

In December, a TAB study revealed the potential economic impact “bathroom” and “religious freedom” bills could have on the state. The report, conducted by researchers at St. Edward’s University in Austin, said that religious freedom bills and “bathroom” bills in the Texas Legislature could cost the state between \$964 million to \$8.5 billion and lead to the loss of 185,000 jobs.

Tourism officials also came out in force against the discriminatory legislation.

Texas Welcomes All, a coalition of tourism and convention leaders from across Texas, released their own reports, citing evidence of the economic fallout after North Carolina passed sweeping discriminatory legislation. Texas Competes, a group of businesses opposing anti-LGBT legislation, the economic fallout from North Carolina’s similar law totals almost a billion dollars.

Most bills died, like last session. But the strategy this time was simple: get better

sponsors.

Rep. Frank, for instance, is respected among his colleagues for being soft-spoken and interested not in shouting matches but legislating. Last session, the author of similar legislation was Rep. Scott Sanford, R-McKinney, who last session voted for former Rep. Scott Turner in his race against Straus for Speaker. Conservative groups saw Straus as too moderate, but Turner lost to Straus by a lopsided vote of 127-19.

But the legislation was also different this time. Frank’s bill requires child welfare groups to provide placements with other agencies within the vicinity. Supporters, such as the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops, argued this pre-clearance clause prevents children from not being placed with a family at all.

The Texas Association of School Boards, meanwhile, supported Paddie’s so-called bathroom amendment.

After it passed, Texas Association of School Boards praised the respected Marshall Republican’s work.

“The House has approved language intended to be a common-sense solution regarding the use of restrooms and other facilities in public schools,” said TASB Gov-



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From Staff Reports

On Thursday, May 25, a group of LGBTQ and civil rights groups — including the Human Rights Campaign, Equality Texas, the ACLU of Texas, the Texas Freedom Network and the Transgender Education Network of Texas responded to anti-LGBTQ bills under consideration by Texas lawmakers in the waning days of the 85th Texas Legislature.

Bills under consideration include HB 3859, a bill that would allow taxpayer-funded discrimination against LGBTQ prospective adoptive or foster parents as well as allow discrimination against children in foster or adoptive care, and anti-transgender amendments to bills such as SB 2078 and HB 4180.

These proposals are part of a slate of “unconscionable anti-LGBTQ bills being pursued by Texas lawmakers, who are undertaking a systematic effort to roll back the rights of LGBTQ Texans, piece by piece,” advocates said.

“On ‘Discrimination Sunday,’ the state of Texas successfully used fear and misinformation to advance two bills that if signed into law would codify discrimination against all LGBTQ children and adults living in Texas,” said Chuck Smith, CEO of Equality Texas. “SB 2078 allows for continued discrimination against transgender students with regard to restroom facilities and HB 3859 allows faith-based child welfare providers to use taxpayer money to refuse service to LGBTQ people, single women and men, Jews, and Muslims. These bills are unjust, unnecessary, and they will ultimately endanger the lives of LGBTQ children and adults. Targeting some of the most vulnerable children in our state is abhorrent, shameful, and disgraceful.”

Marty Rouse, national field director of the Human Rights Campaign, added, “Quite simply, the legislature is putting politics before people. Texas has undertaken an unprecedented ‘Slate of Hate’ this legislative session. ... Texas lawmakers must focus on

the best interests of all Texans instead of attempting to win cheap political points by targeting LGBTQ people.”

Rebecca L. Robertson, legal and policy director for the ACLU of Texas, criticized lawmakers for having “relentlessly pursued a cynical agenda that targets immigrants, women, and lesbian, gay and transgender Texans for discrimination,” noting that their efforts have been ongoing “since they gavelled the session open in January.”

“With underfunded schools, a failing child welfare system and a shocking spike in maternal mortality, our lawmakers chose time and again to put politics ahead of the public good,” Robertson added. “Unless the governor acts, this divisive session will be remembered for relegating many of the most vulnerable in our state to permanent second-class status under the law.”

Kathy Miller, president of the Texas Freedom Network, said this legislative session has been “a disaster for civil liberties.”

“Misusing religion to hurt people who are different is not religious freedom, and demonizing people who simply have to use the restroom does nothing to protect anyone’s privacy or safety,” Miller said. “Those are only cynical justifications for allowing discrimination against people because of who they are or whom they love.”

“What makes all of this even more tragic is that children are among those who will be hurt the most by these bills,” she added. “Texas needs a legislature that cares more about those children and everyone’s civil liberties than it does the demands of bullies who want to write discrimination into law.”

Lauryn Farris with Transgender Education Network of Texas, said, “We find it abhorrent that the 85th Legislature negatively targets some of the most vulnerable and loved people in our communities, our school children. Empathy begins when we begin to talk to our neighbors and friends, not when we create fear and seek solutions for non-existent issues. The lawmakers who represent the state of Texas swore to work for all of us.”

ernmental Relations Associate Executive Director Grover Campbell. “The language captures in law a solution many districts already use locally, seeking a balance between ensuring privacy and security for all students and respecting the dignity of all students.”

But with discriminatory bills now headed to Abbott’s desk, man advocates are wondering what happened.

“It doesn’t matter who wins when your brand is tarnished,” said Jessica Shortall, managing director of Texas Competes. “We received \$216 million in negative press because of the bathroom bill.”

It may be too early to measure the negative economic impact of either bill. But Texas is already in uncertain territory thanks to the onslaught of coverage.

“The worst thing in business is uncertainty,” Shortall said.

The overwhelmingly negative response to North Carolina’s bathroom bill had

served as a precursor to the outcry against similar Texas legislation. Other states considering such bills have already felt the consequences. Even if Paddie’s amendment receives a boost from school groups, the state’s image has already been tarnished.

If Abbott signs HB 3859, Texas will also be in untested waters.

“There’s no precedent for the child welfare bill,” Shortall said, expecting the backlash will not be as widespread as elsewhere.

But the negative media attention has not helped.

Human relations professionals have already contacted Shortall about the bill, she said, adding, “When a same-sex couple looking to move considers Texas, for instance, they’ll wonder if they are not going to be discriminated against for wanting to start or expand their family.

And in the midst of all the bickering and what-ifs, one thing is clear: “Texas lost,” Shortall said. ■

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# To Sin City and back

Las Vegas lives up to its  
reputation, just don't stay too long!

Only a winner's occasional whoop interrupts the bells and whistles accompanying the flashing lights of the slot machines. Piles of chips multiply and vanish on green, felt-covered tables as waitresses walk the aisles, chirping, "Cocktails anyone?"

As clouds of smoke rise above them, gamblers nervously eye the dice rolls, spinning roulette wheels and falling cards. Newcomers eagerly wait for a loser to bust or a winner to cash out so they can take their places.

The amount of money flowing out of the players' wallets and purses is mind-boggling, but no one seems fazed by the display.

This is downtown Las Vegas, ground zero of the renowned premiere adult playground, also known as Sin City and the largest gambling mecca in the world. The gritty scene inside and outside the casinos in the entertainment district, known as the Fremont Street Experience, rival New Orleans' French Quarter. The party rocks all night, all week long.

In recent years, word drifted across the country that the old Las Vegas, the one where tourists felt free to indulge in wretched excess of every kind, no longer existed. That's not true in the center of the city.

The giant casino hotels on the Las Vegas Strip — the ones that feature the big concerts and other shows — embrace a cleaner, more wholesome atmosphere. But Fremont Street remains as wild and crazy as ever.

When the guests at the large casino hotels want to indulge in a little hedonism, they climb on board the shuttle that runs between the Strip and downtown in search of more excitement. The most popular spot features four aging casino hotels on corners facing each other: the Four Queens, the Fremont, the Golden Nugget and Binion's.

There they find virtually naked men and women standing on the pedestrian-only street, promoting commercial and personal agendas. Two of the more unusual posers stood out in the raucous crowd: a woman wearing the headdress of a nun, pasties, a

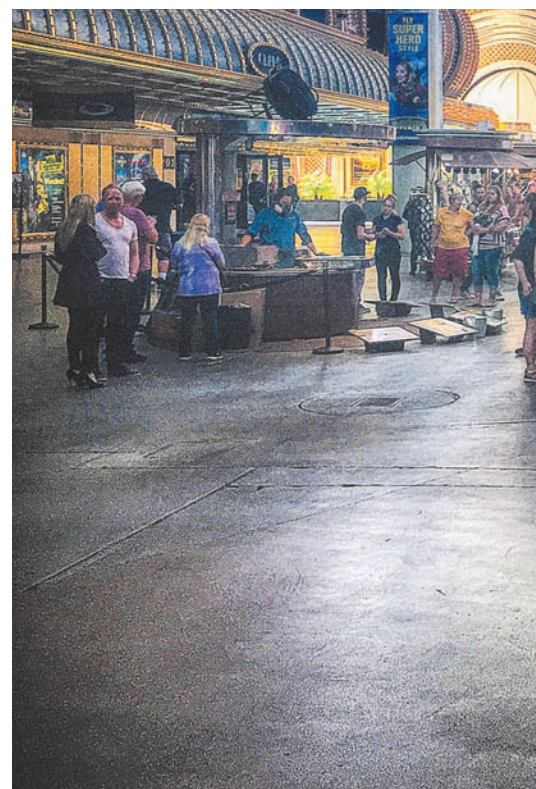


David Webb  
The Rare Reporter

black bikini bottom and high heels, and a man wearing only a pink thong. Both sought "tips."

Two women wearing the briefest leather outfits and military-style hats emblazoned with the word "Police" presumably did not really serve

on the Las Vegas Police Department. But who knows in this entertainment district? Across the street two "bunnies," complete with ears and tails on their nearly naked



backsides, promoted a nightclub.

Saying that Las Vegas is gay-friendly is almost unnecessary. Nothing seems to matter much to anyone in this area. It has got to be the impetus of the "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas" slogan.

The only thing you won't find on Fremont Street is kids. The hotels above the casinos are nice, but the district gets loud late at night. The street is covered by a canopy, and it features a zip line at the top for any-



one daring enough to seek that high rush.

It's clear why so many visitors to Las Vegas go for only three nights; a longer visit might not only bankrupt, it would leave you thoroughly exhausted. The body can only take so much punishment, and the bank account is likely to give out even faster.

That's when the entertainment venues on the Strip become more appealing to gamblers.

Only Las Vegas can provide a forum for big-star performances like Cher, Britney and Ricky Martin and their prop-heavy, sensational shows in enormous theaters. Cirque du Soleil recently staged a performance of "Love," featuring Beatles music, at the Mirage with heavy emphasis on "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band." No one lucky enough to be there will ever forget the props and performances by the acrobats, dancers and singers.

A cab ride to the Monte Carlo to see the Cher show became as entertaining as everything else in Las Vegas. The cab driver also worked as a dealer in one of the big casinos, and he shared his knowledge of Las Vegas. He said while Sin City is best known

adding to the state's appeal. Additionally, corporations got income tax breaks so many businesses not associated with gambling and entertainment grew, too.

### Other things to see

When the casinos and the shows both become too much, Las Vegas offers the Smith Center for the Performing Arts and Discovery Museum in Symphony Park, the Neon Museum, the Las Vegas History Museum, the DISCOVERY Children's Museum, the Nevada State Museum and the Old Las Vegas Mormon State Historic Park.

The Downtown Arts District, with numerous galleries, hosts the annual Las Vegas Film Festival, and First Friday is a monthly celebration featuring exhibits of art, music and food. The celebration typically extends into the Freemont entertainment district, bridging culture and revelry.

Hoover Dam is another popular tourist draw, and tours of the Grand Canyon and the Mojave Desert (including a ghost town) are available.

So it is a diverse city. Nevertheless, Las Vegas will forever be linked with entertain-



for gambling, the biggest income generator has become the shows and conventions. For every guest staying in the casino hotels, there are two employees. Retail stores and restaurants surround the hotel casinos on the Strip and spread out for miles.

The population of Las Vegas grew dramatically during the 1900s, in large part because gambling and other entertainment income allowed Nevada to forego a state income tax. Property taxes are also low,

ment. Many of Las Vegas' residents never step foot in the casinos, but few people who visit Sin City are able to resist the lure of the slot machines and tables.

It's the sort of experience most people like to try at least once. ■

*David Webb is a veteran journalist with more than three decades of experience, including a stint as a staff reporter for Dallas Voice. He now lives on Cedar Creek Lake and writes for publications nationwide.*

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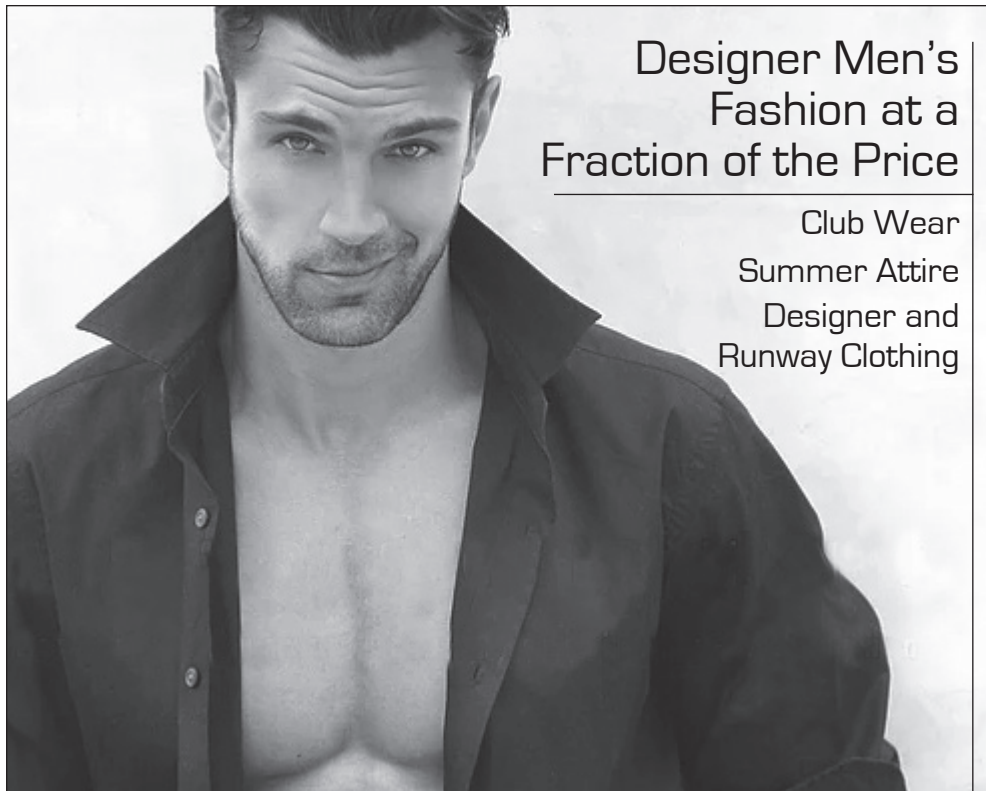
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# Gay kickball is coming to Dallas

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor  
nash@dallasvoice.com

North Texas' LGBT community has long been known for being one of the most active and well-organized LGBT communities in the nation. That extends to the LGBT sports scene

here in Metroplex too.

There's volleyball, softball, rugby, rodeo, swimming — and North Texans have claimed championships in all of them.

Now we can add kickball to the list.

Keith London, who is in the process of moving to Austin, is starting up America's Finest Kickball League, with teams forming in Dallas, Austin, Houston, Las Vegas and — soon — Boston. So far, he said, "Everybody is loving it."

London said he is the Dallas and Austin commissioner. He said he will be in Austin for games on Saturday, then head to Dallas for games on Sunday. "I love Texas," he said, ex-



plaining why he decided to move to the Lone Star State. "And I love kickball. Texas didn't already have an LGBT kickball league, so I decided to move there and get it started."

"We're excited to be adding our league to the outstanding gay sports network that already exists there," London said, noting that he was in Dallas recently to stage a "pick-up game" to introduce the new league here.

"We had a great turnout for that first pick-up game," he said. "We had about 50 people who came out and played with us. The idea was to teach people the rules and give them a chance to try it out for free before the season starts."

"Kickball really is a sport for everyone," London added. "Everybody had a great time."

London said he already has about 12 coaches in Dallas who want to put together kickball teams for this inaugural season, and he hopes to see more. Each team, he added, needs to have between 12 and 20 players, and usually there are about 16 on a team roster.

Anyone who wants to play can visit [GayKickball.com](http://GayKickball.com), choose Dallas from the list of cities and register online. Cost is \$80 per person, plus a \$2.50 processing fee. Coaches can register whole teams at once, small groups looking for others to make a full team can register, or individuals can register as free agents.

June 18 is the deadline to register, but London encouraged interested players to register as soon as possible, since fees might go up as the deadline approaches.

League play begins July 2 in Dallas. Play begins June 24 in Austin, and the Houston season starts Aug. 5.

For information visit [GayKickball.com](http://GayKickball.com) or email [America'sFinestKickballLeague@gmail.com](mailto:America'sFinestKickballLeague@gmail.com)

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## The Lege remains in session, so the fight continues

**S**unday morning I usually wake up slowly and then enjoy a cup of coffee, maybe sitting on the patio with Katie, watching my border collies play.

But this past Sunday (May 21) was different: I checked my email and saw urgent requests from Equality Texas to reach out to my representative in Austin to try and stop an odious amendment that had been tacked on to a necessary piece of legislation. The original bill was designed to have schools enact an emergency preparedness plan. The extraneous and utterly hateful amendment would target transgender kids and their ability to use appropriate restrooms at school.

It was a nightmare; not at all how I want to spend my Sunday.

But I did it anyway. I wrote messages. I tweeted. I begged. I cajoled. And I appealed to logic, citing the 12-year history of the Los Angeles Unified School District, which has had transgender protections in place since 2005 with ZERO problems and certainly no threat to the safety of the general school population.

The trouble is, my representative in the Texas House is Matt Rinaldi. Matt is a willfully ignorant Republican who can be exposed to rational thought and reasonable pleas and STILL vote with the other conservative lemmings to punish a group of marginalized kids who have done nothing wrong.

HB 2078 is the name of the bill that addresses emergency preparedness for Texas schools. The amendment to this bill singles out transgender children for humiliation by forcing them into single-stall “special” restrooms. It also prevents them from using the same multi-stall bathrooms their peers use — unless those multi-stall bathrooms are completely vacant.

I find it beyond offensive to hear the verbal diarrhea spewing out of Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick’s mouth describing these “bathroom bills” as having something to do with student safety or privacy. These bills — the amendment to HB 2078, the original SB 6 — do no such thing. It’s especially offensive in the absence of a comprehensive anti-bullying policy that would at least address student safety.

Dan, your intellectual dishonesty sets a terrible example.

It breaks my heart to hear from parents of transgender kids who spent their Sun-



**Leslie McMurray**  
Accidental Activist

day NOT going to soccer practice or relaxing at home. No, these Mama and Papa bears were in Austin begging legislators NOT to pass the cruel and unnecessary legislation. But to no avail.

It saddens me beyond end to hear of one mom who basically hid from her young transgender daughter because she didn’t want her little girl to see her mom crying, and because she didn’t know how to break the news to her.

Bullies come in all sizes and shapes, and for these kids there is no shortage of bullies of all stripes. The bullies they face in school are bad enough, but having legislators — who were elected to represent and protect them — turning on them in the State Capitol is beyond sickening.

I really, truly believe that 40 years from now, we will look back on these days and wonder how people could have been so blind, so cruel, so unenlightened. By then, being transgender will be like being left-handed — at times a minor inconvenience but no big deal in the big picture. For now, my only recourse is calling Gov. Greg Abbott and begging him to veto this hateful bill, trying to get him to understand that it is an embarrassment to Texas, not to mention counter to our values.

Why is it that so many pieces of legislation seek to take something away from someone? Immigration status, access to facilities, healthcare, marriage rights. And then there are the so-called “religious freedom” measure, that would allow government-funded discrimination, that would allow someone to keep loving potential parents from adopting when kids are desperately in need of a loving family.

What has happened to us?

I made Matt Rinaldi a promise when I spoke to his office on Sunday. I told his staff that should Matt choose to punish these transgender kids who have done nothing wrong, I would be compelled to do everything in my power to make sure that he is voted out of office. I may not be successful, but I will be a girl on a mission.

If Texas legislators want to rain hell on

me, then have at it. I’m a big girl. I can defend myself.

But if you turn your blind bigotry and hatred on small children for whom life is difficult enough already without your fear-inspired attempts to banish them from the social landscape, then shame on you. Shame on you and get ready for a fight, because we will be coming for you and your seat in the Legislature.

You don’t have to go to the Legislature to find hatefulness though. For example, “conservative leader” Steve Hotze spews lunatic ravings mired in fear. Perhaps he ought to read the book he claims to know so well. There is a particular chapter I’d like to recommend: Matthew 18:10 says, “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.”

And then there’s Matthew 19:14: “But Jesus said, ‘Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.’”

Hotze and others like him use the Bible to justify their hatred. But you know, I’m no Bible scholar, and I looked and looked and looked, and I STILL couldn’t find the part where the Bible talks about separate bathrooms for trans people.

You know why — because it’s not there. That’s because Jesus preached that we should love our neighbor, instead hating and fearing them, even if they are different. Maybe if we refuse to come from a place of fear, these silly attempts at punishing innocent children will end.

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** As of Wednesday afternoon, Sen. Larry Taylor, R-Friendswood, reportedly confirmed his intention not to accept the amendment to SB 2078, which he authored because it did not go far enough in restricting bathroom use by trans people. The Senate, instead, voted Wednesday to tack SB6 — which was passed in the Senate but stalled in the House — onto a House bill designed as a clean-up bill for local county governance. But Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston, has said he will kill his own bill rather than allow it to carry the anti-trans amendment.

Leslie McMurray, a transgender woman, is a former radio DJ who lives and works in Dallas. Read more of her blogs at [lesliemichelle44.wordpress.com](http://lesliemichelle44.wordpress.com).





# 2017 SWIMSUIT EDITION

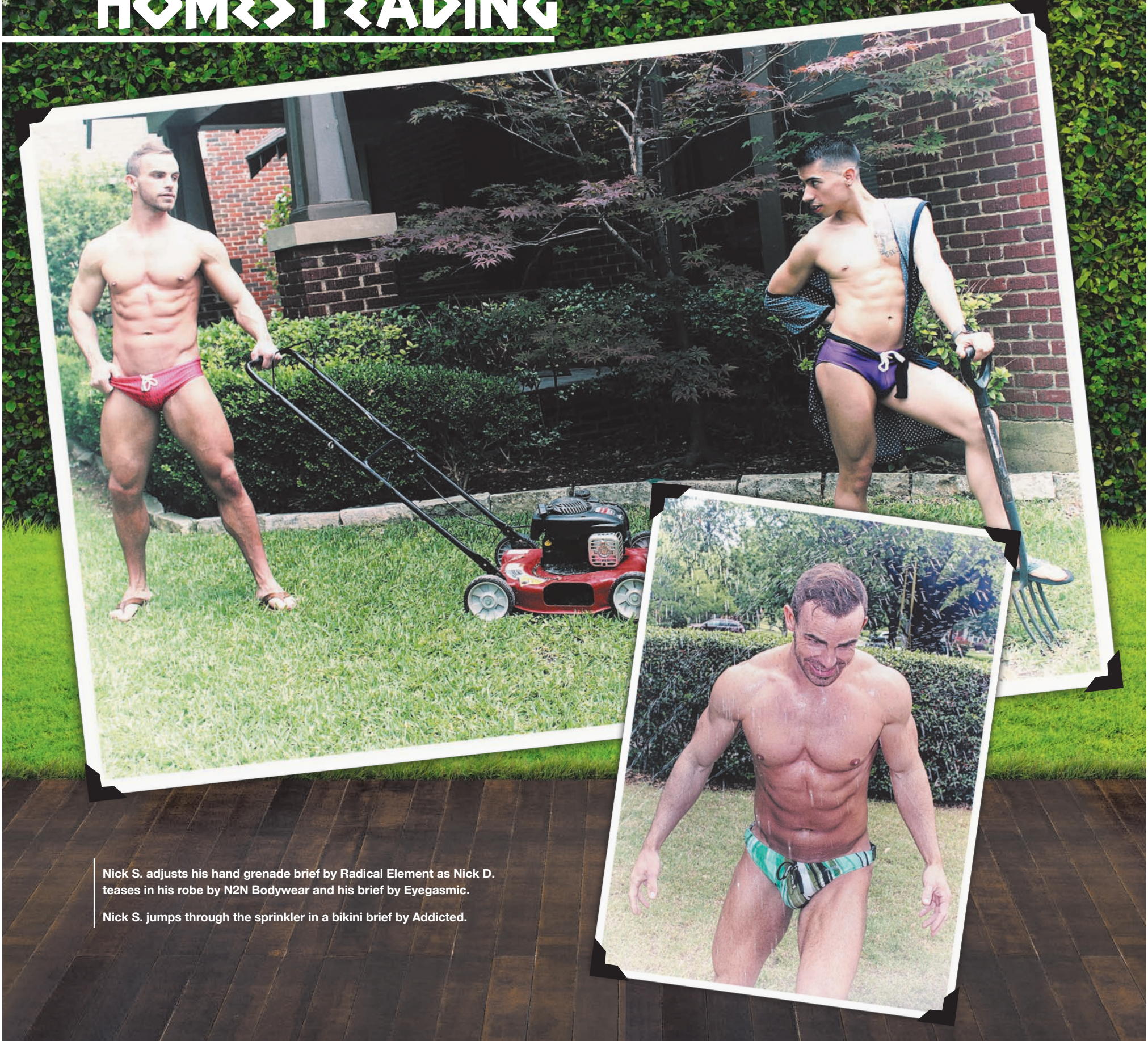
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## HOMESTEADING



Nick S. adjusts his hand grenade brief by Radical Element as Nick D. teases in his robe by N2N Bodywear and his brief by Eyegasmic.

Nick S. jumps through the sprinkler in a bikini brief by Addicted.



# LABOR PARTY



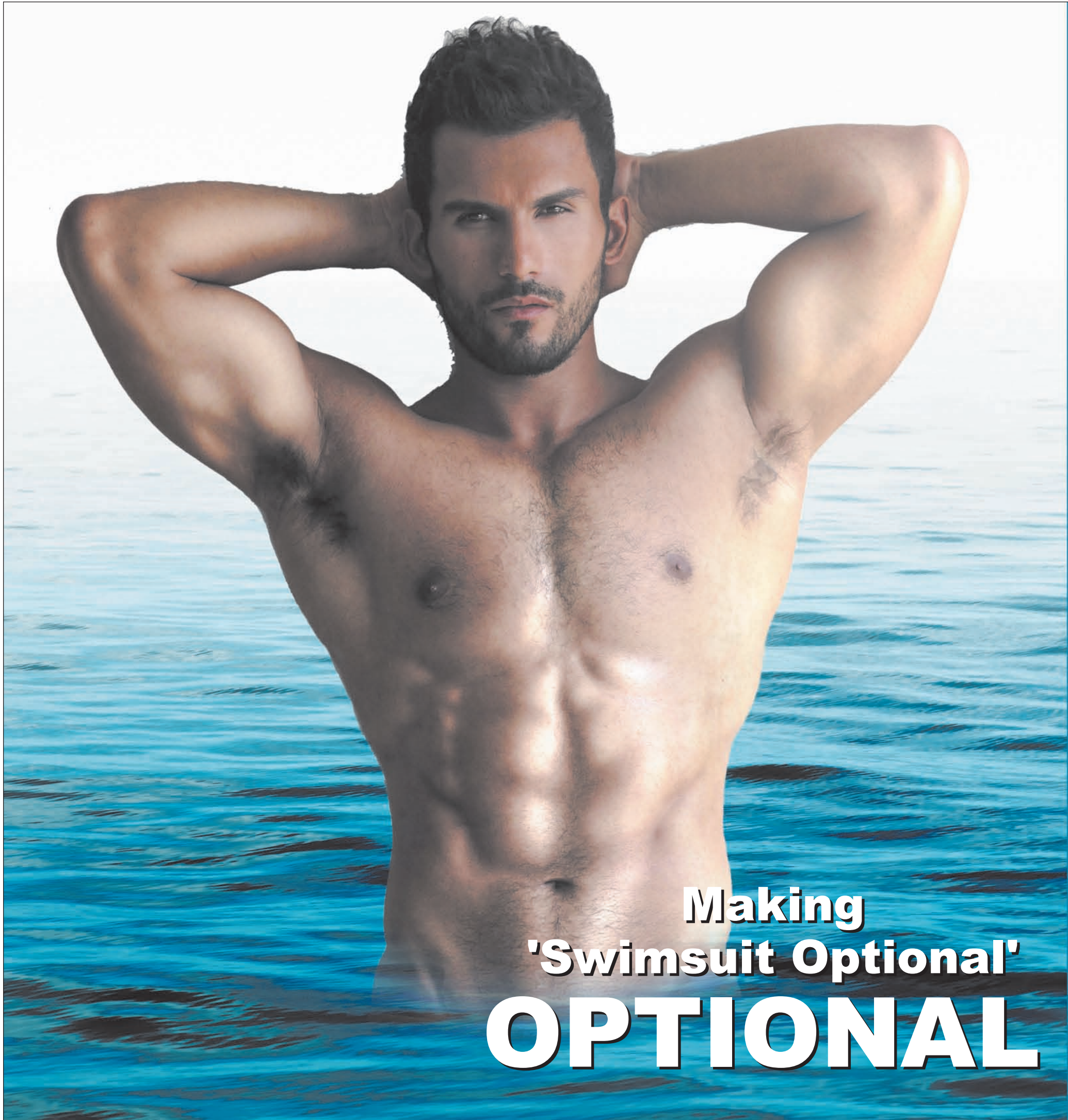
David cuts that wood at the workbench in his bikini by Eyegasmic.

David lays down the hammer while showcasing his cakes in a brief by N2N Bodywear.

After the job is finished, David lounges in the hammock wearing a swim brief by Addicted.







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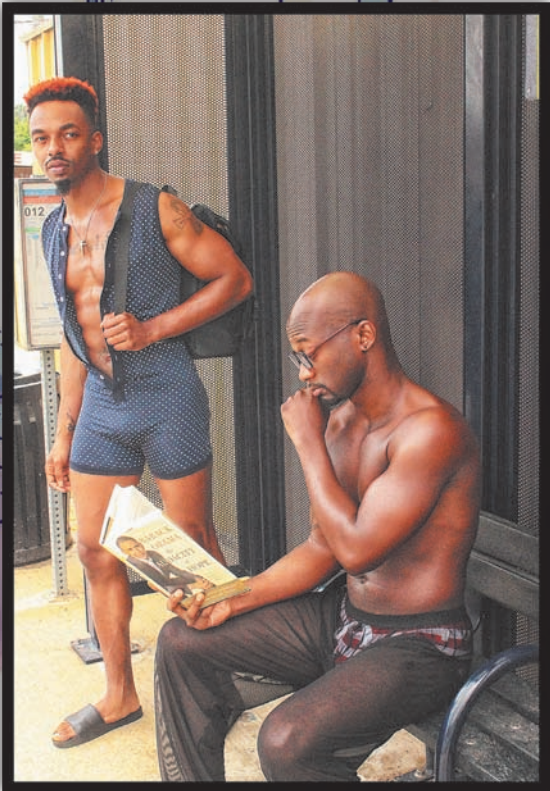
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# URBAN LEGENDARY



PJ is definitely catching the next bus in a polka-dot onesie/romper by N2N Bodywear and a backpack by Solo while Isaiah casually reads like a boss in sheer pants and striped briefs by N2N Bodywear.  
PJ is living the good life lounging in a polka dot brief by N2N Bodywear.

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# LABOR PARTY

David does his patriotic duty by raising the flag in his own striped brief by N2N Bodywear.

David is a man hard at work in an eye catching brief by Eyegasmic.



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# URBAN LEGENDARY



PJ and Isaiah laugh it up in the sun in complementary briefs by Eyegasmic.

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His thumb isn't the only thing attracting attention in a backpack by Solo and a onesie by N2N Bodywear.

Isaiah and PJ are surely stopping traffic in bikini briefs by N2N Bodywear.





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# HOMESTEADING

Nick D. checks out the yard guy's hedge clippers and more in bikini briefs and swim shorts by Addicted, while Nick S. shows off his technique in floral trunks also by Addicted.

Nick D. is looking mighty thirsty in his brief by Addicted and it is all Nick S.'s fault as he mows the lawn in trunks by Addicted.



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# HOMESTEADING



Nick D. is serving up some  
Diana Ross realness in a  
stop in the name of love  
pose with a Solo bag and  
Diesel swim shorts.

#### TEXT

J. Denton Bricker and  
Arnold Wayne Jones

#### STYLING

J. Denton Bricker  
Arnold Wayne Jones

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

Arnold Wayne Jones

#### LAYOUT DESIGN

Kevin Thomas

#### PHOTO/COPY EDITING

Tammye Nash

#### MODELS

Nick DeAnda  
PJ Moton  
Isaiah Poole  
Nick Stracener  
Chris David Torrey

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Eyegasmic, available at  
[EyegasmicBrand.com](http://EyegasmicBrand.com)  
N2N Bodywear, available at  
[N2NBodywear.com](http://N2NBodywear.com)

#### SPECIAL THANKS

Chuck Marcelo



Friday 05.26 —  
Sunday 08.20

Iris Van Herpen: Fashion as high art

If you think you'll find Iris Van Herpen's designs on a rack at Neiman Marcus, you're seriously mistaken. Although her pieces have walked runways and been worn by the likes of Lady Gaga, her dresses — some 3-D printed, some made of unwearable materials — are works of art more than clothing. And you see just how artsy they are at the DMA's exhibit Iris Van Herpen: Transforming Fashion. From tubing that looks like snakes to wire mesh that oxidizes over time to dresses of skeletal material, this is fashion raised to the level of fine art. Don't miss it.

**DEETS:** Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St.  
Through Aug. 20.  
DMA.org.



LIFE+STYLE  
best bets



Friday 05.26 – Saturday 06.10

The Cliburn gets underway in Cowtown

It's a quadrennial event, like the Olympics: Once every four years, the best young pianists in the world compete for the premiere contest for virtuosity in the world, aimed for the late Fort Worth maestro. The final nights are already sold out, but you can get a peak at various preliminaries and other events during the remaining fortnight.

**DEETS:** Recitals at Bass Performance Hall,  
525 Commerce St., Fort Worth.  
For a complete lineup, visit Cliburn.org.

Friday 05.26 — Sunday 06.18

Hitchcock classic 'The Birds' flies into Theatre 3

Alfred Hitchcock's classic film *The Birds* began as a novel by Daphne DuMaurier, and playwright Conor McPherson adapted it for the stage. That version takes front-and-center at Theatre 3 starting this week, as virtual strangers are forced to hole up in an isolated house while flocks of ravens and other feathered fiends descend on them, triggering tense human interactions.

**DEETS:** Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle.  
In previews through Sunday.  
Theatre3Dallas.com.



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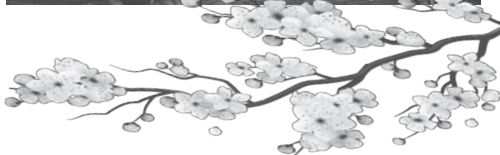
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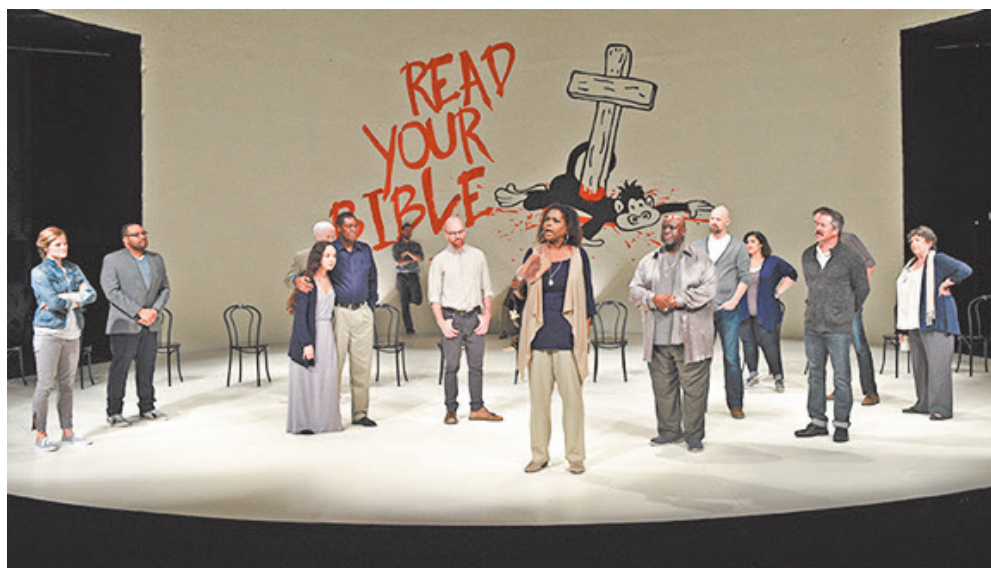


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## calendar highlights



Dallas Theater Center's *Inherit the Wind* continues through June 18 at Kalita Humphreys Theater. (Karen Almond/Dallas Theater Center)

### ARTSWEEK THEATER

**Fresh Reads: A Festival of New Plays.** Pegasus Theatre presents this festival of new comedies, including a gay update on *Little Red Riding Hood*. *Final weekend.* Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. PegasusTheatre.com.

**Arsenic and Old Lace.** The Depression-Era dark comedy about murderous old ladies. Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. Through June 18. PocketSandwich.com.

**The Birds.** Stage version of the thriller. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through June 18. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**Legally Blonde: The Musical.** Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. Through June 4. TheatreArlington.org.

**Inherit the Wind.** The dramatization of the Scopes Monkey Trial, which received its world premiere in Dallas in 1955, directed by Kevin Moriarty. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through June 18. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

### BALLET

**Alice in Wonderland.** The Texas Ballet Theatre presents this classic fairy tale, now set to open in Dallas. BassHall.com. Winspear Opera House, June 2-4. ATPAC.org. TexasBalletTheater.org.

### 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.

**Iris Van Herpen: Transforming Fashion.** The Scandinavian fashion designer's creations take

their rightful place in a museum setting. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Aug. 20. 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.

### FESTIVALS

**37th Scarborough Renaissance Festival.** The annual faire that takes you back to 17th century Europe features vendors, performances and cosplay. Scarborough Faire Grounds, FM 66 in Waxahachie (exit 399B off I-35). Through Monday. SRFestival.com.

**Soluna.** The annual music and art festival, presented by Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Through June 4. For a full lineup of events, visit MyDSO.com.

## FRIDAY 05.26

### COMMUNITY

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

## this week's solution

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browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvevents](http://Tinyurl.com/dvevents).

submit

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvevents](http://Tinyurl.com/dvevents).





Frida Kahlo's work is among that of other Mexican artists in an exhibit that runs through July 9 at the Dallas Museum of Art.

### SATURDAY 05.27

#### 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.

#### SPOKEN WORD

**Fables and Fairytale from Around the World.** Griot/storyteller Afiah Bey performs folklore from

many cultures in this family-friendly event.  
Hamon Hall inside the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora. 6:30 p.m.  
ATTPAC.org.

### MONDAY 05.29 — MEMORIAL DAY

#### 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 05.30

#### FILM

**South Pacific.** Epic film adaptation of the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical about racism and heroism in World War II. 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.

### THURSDAY 06.01

#### CABARET

**Glitterbomb Denton.** Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday. Mable Peabody's Beauty Parlor and Chain Saw Repair,



This is the final weekend of this year's Scarborough Faire. (Tammy Nash/DallasVoice)

1125 E. University Drive, Denton. 9:30 p.m.

#### THEATER

**The Soul Gatherer.** Return of spooky play where audiences are left to guess at whether people are suffering from a mass delusion or are being visited by an angel ... or worse.  
Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road.  
June 1–July 2.  
MBSProductions.net.

### FRIDAY 06.02

#### COMMUNITY

**Marcus Aurelius Has Been Murdered!** The Dallas Museum of Art presents another of its Museum Murder Mysteries — a kind of live-action game of Clue where attendees solve crimes with art. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. June 2, 8–9:30 p.m.  
DMA.org.

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DallasEagle.com

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HiddenDoor-Dallas.com

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#### 13 Club Los Rieles

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#### 14 Marty's Live

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#### 16 Pub Pegasus

3326 N. Fitzhugh Ave.  
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#### 17 The Round-Up Saloon

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

#### 18 Station 4 (S4) and The Rose Room

3911 Cedar Springs Rd.  
214-559-1004  
Caven.com

#### 19 Sue Ellen's

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

#### 20 The Tin Room

2514 Hudhall St.  
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TinRoom.net

#### 21 TMC: The Mining Co.

3903 Cedar Springs Rd.  
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#### 22 Orno (Coming Soon)

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#### 23 Woody's Sports & Video Bar

4011 Cedar Springs Rd.  
214-520-6629  
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# Cassie Nova

Hey, y'all. Hope you are all having a wonderful freakin' day.

So last week, as I was leaving to go to work, I saw a pretty big tarantula walking through my back yard. Not a big deal to us — we see three or four each year out here in Midlothian. I grabbed a big box and coaxed it into it, had my husband open the back gate and took him into the woods and released him. I would usually leave the wildlife alone, even the creepy crawly kind, but didn't want to take a chance on one of my pups messing with Mr. Spider. My dogs are nosy as hell so they would have been all over him. Before I released him (I'm just assuming it was a he), I made sure to take a pic because, you know, otherwise it didn't happen. I posted the pic to my Facebook and within seconds I was getting comments. Lots and lots of comments. They ranged from "burn it with fire" to "OMG how cool." Many people making jokes saying they would have to move or just "Nope!"

A couple of folks argued over what type of spider it was: It's a wolf spider... No, it's a West Texas Tarantula... No, it's a demon sent from Hell to eat our souls. Some people preached about the benefits of this insect-eating savior from Mother Nature and still others tagged friends that were obviously scared to death of spiders. It went on all night — actually it is still going on. My spider pic is very popular. But there is one comment that really stood out to me: A guy who stated something about "Listen to you all, wanting to kill things that scare you. This is a prime exhibition of the flaws in humanity blah blah blah!" All I could think was,

"Dude, chill the fuck out. It was a simple pic of a spider and some comments about killing it, or running away from it or shooting it with a gun." I took them as jokes from scaredy cats not a sign of the decline of human civilization. Why you gotta make it into something deep and sinister? Lighten up, chill out, stop being such a Debbie Downer. I swear, it makes me never want to post anything because someone will find a way to get angry or make something out of nothing. My point is, you ain't always gotta comment on everything. There is enough negativity in the world. Chill the fuck out.

And now I will try to help others with the power of... words.

*Dear Cassie, Someone close to me is in a relationship that has had instances of abuse. I've tried to be open and supportive — non-judgmentally — by encouraging my friend to keep their eyes open to what's happening and to not to lose sight of "self." The abuse, though, has been escalating — no surprise. In fact, everything about this has been textbook. Having known people who have dealt with and been fortunate to survive this, I know that you can't kidnap them from this situation. They have to make that choice.*

*I'm at a loss as to how else to help, other than to walk away. The person they are with is filling their head with stories that no one cares about them, that they have no one and won't have anyone. And now they may be moving out of state. Again, textbook examples of trying*

*to mentally control your partner: Isolate them, distance them, diminish their self-worth, make false promises, then hospitalize them, while making it out to be the victim's fault.*

*My efforts get more resistance and push back than their partners' words and fists. And while I've told them I can't watch them let themselves get killed, and I know by trying to help, I make it worse. If trying to help makes it worse, that too should be evidence that it's never going to get better. It's so clear to everyone but this person. So I guess my question to you, Cassie, is how do we help someone with above average intelligence to see what's happening to them? Sincerely, Rose R. Castleberry.*

Dear Rosie, You really are in a horrible situation, but not as bad as what your poor friend is going through. You are torn between wanting to help and support your friend and not wanting to see it happen over and over again. It's hard for a good friend to just throw their hands in the air and walk away from someone when you know they need you, but until they want to leave and



have had enough, you have to make sure your friend knows that you will be there, no matter what.

Like you said, the abuser wants to isolate their partner and make them feel alone, but you can never let your friend feel that way. I know it's hard but a formerly abused friend of mine just recently told me that she didn't want to talk to her friends about being abused because she felt judged by her friends. They called her stupid for staying with her boyfriend and maybe she was, but as a friend, it is your duty to always be there for them. Yes, you should still encourage them to get out of that awful environment and yes you should discourage them from moving away. But your friend needs to find the courage within themselves to know they will be OK without that abusive piece of shit.

We've all heard it before. Ninety-nine percent of the time he is perfect, and everything is great but what the abused person doesn't always understand is that that one percent changes everything. It changes how you feel about yourself, your self-worth, your confidence — everything. All we can do is hope that they realize that enough is enough before it is too late. Support your friend. Console your friend. Try to talk them into seeing a counselor. Offer them a way out if you can. Remind them that they don't want to end up a statistic. Love your friend because they are probably feeling pretty alone right now. Don't let your frustration get in the way of your support. Stay strong for your friend, they need you now more than ever. Good luck to you both. Cassie.

*Cassie, If you could only meet one from each pair, would you rather meet?* 1. Queen Elizabeth II or Margaret Thatcher. 2. Debbie Reynolds or Carrie Fisher (RIP). 3. Idina Menzel or Kristin Chenoweth. 4. Michelle Obama or Barack Obama. 5. George Lucas or Harrison Ford. 6. Sean Hayes or Megan Mullally Thanks, Adam.

Adam, 1. Helen Mirren as Queen Elizabeth. 2. Carrie Fisher aka Princess Leia ... Duh! 3. Tough one, but probably Kristin. She seems like a blast to hang with. 4. Michelle for sure. Maybe she can get me to exercise more. 5. Harrison Ford, just so I can take away that God awful earring and his pilot's license. 6. Megan Mullally because Karen Walker is my spirit animal!

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



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Hot people, cold vodka at The Round-Up Saloon

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  - **BJ's NXS!:** **Ay'sia's All Male Review** at 10:30 p.m. on Thursday.
  - **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:** **The Divine Miss Divas Show** at 10 p.m. on Friday. **Wall of Food Show** at 9 p.m. on Thursday.
  - **Club Reflection:** **Cookout** at 4 p.m. and **Boots and Briefs Underwear Auction** at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
  - **Dallas Eagle:** **Underwear Night by Cellblock 13** on Wednesday.
  - **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** **Cassie's Freak Show** at 11 p.m. on Monday.
  - **Marty's Live:** **Chicken Lettuce Wraps** served at 6:30 on **Wrap It Up Tuesdays**.
  - **Pekers:** **10-year anniversary celebration** from 7-9 p.m. on Friday.
  - **Rainbow Lounge:** **Drag Warz** at 11 p.m. on Wednesday.
  - **Round-Up Saloon:** **Memorial Day Sunday Beach Party** from noon-2 a.m. on Sunday. **Boys, Boots & Boxer Briefs** at 10 p.m. on Monday.
  - **Sue Ellen's:** **Reckless Angels** on Saturday. **Bella & Darla** at 3:30 p.m. followed by **Lauren Alexander** on Sunday. **Tuesday Bluesday with Tyla** on Tuesday. **Open mic night with Bella & Izzy** on Wednesday.
  - **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** **Comic clips** on Friday. **Hot hits** on Saturday. **Karaoke** at 10 p.m. on Sunday. **90S hits** on Monday.

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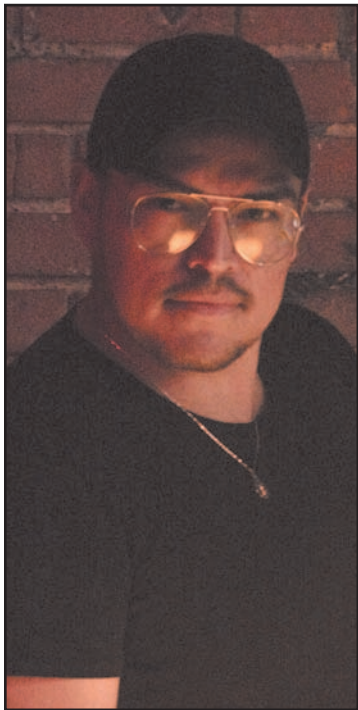
Hugging it out at Woody's Sports and Video Bar

La familia at Sue Ellen's





Girls' night out at Sue Ellen's



Mr. Remedy at TMC: The Mining Co.



Walter and a friend at Woody's Sports and Video Bar

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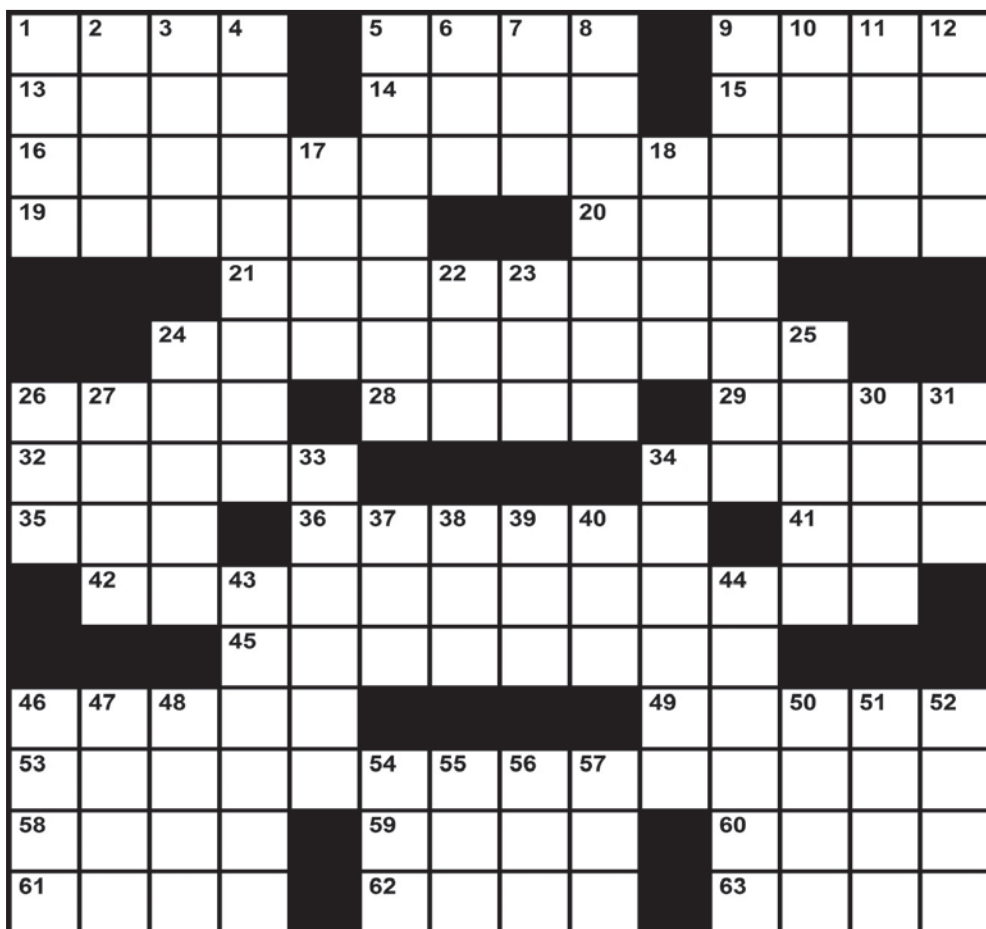
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## Kama Fault

Solution on Page 32

### Across

- 1 Fairy tales and such  
 5 Alpert of *Mame* fame  
 9 Larry Kramer's alma mater  
 13 Liberace's style, for example  
 14 Skin softener  
 15 Estimating words  
 16 They call it the \_\_\_\_  
 19 *The Iceman Cometh* writer Eugene  
 20 They may lie on the bed together  
 21 On bended knees perhaps  
 24 ...because it asserts positions \_\_\_\_ (with 42-Across)  
 26 BenGay target  
 28 Eye problem  
 29 *You've Got Mail* female  
 32 It's human  
 34 King in *Jesus Christ Superstar*  
 35 Marilyn Monroe's two big ones  
 36 Pack up  
 41 Little bit  
 42 See 24-Across  
 45 Gallo portrayer in *And*

### the Band Played On

- 46 Emulate Bonheur  
 49 "Good grief!"  
 53 ...and when I look at it, my face \_\_\_\_  
 58 *Lawrence of Arabia* director David  
 59 Material for a drag queen  
 60 Coloratura Gluck  
 61 Giant table  
 62 Oral votes  
 63 Dated, with "out"

### Down

- 1 Linking toy  
 2 Buck heroine  
 3 Martha, who was married to Mark Harris  
 4 Translate into code  
 5 Small towns, to Shakespeare?  
 6 It spreads its limbs  
 7 Rimbaud's king  
 8 Direct path to a queen  
 9 Kid  
 10 Opening amount  
 11 Sad ending for love  
 12 Stats from *A League of Their Own*  
 17 Heterogeneous mixture  
 18 \_\_\_\_ Fein

- 22 Thespians do it  
 23 Frequent Rock Hudson co-star Doris  
 24 Not that, and more  
 25 Rich cake with nuts  
 26 Went down on  
 27 Honey holder  
 30 Yellow-brick way  
 31 Write further  
 33 George Babbitt's field  
 34 Olympic skater Eric  
 37 Vardalos of *Connie & Carla*  
 38 Anderson Cooper's network  
 39 Two-time link  
 40 Mineo of movies  
 43 Tomorrow, to Frida  
 44 Pesters  
 46 Miami branch location  
 47 Position at sea  
 48 Queen's "\_\_\_\_ Born to Love You"  
 50 Folk singer Guthrie  
 51 Tammy Baldwin, in brief  
 52 Neighbor of Neb.  
 54 Like a cunning linguist  
 55 Word before kwon do  
 56 Thurman of *Kill Bill*  
 57 Second pitches f or Copland

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