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Dallas Pride grand marshal nominations announced

The nomination votes have been counted and the six nominees for grand marshal of Dallas Pride's 2019 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade were announced this week. They are Mack Campbell (aka Marsha Dimes), Krista De La Rosa, Asha Drennon (aka Aundra Mikyles), Don Maison, Frank Martinez and Jeff Roose (aka Jenni P).

Go to DallasPride.org to read all about each nominee and to vote for your two favorites. Voting is open through April 19.

— Tammye Nash

Grindr must be sold on national security grounds

The U.S. government is forcing the Chinese owner of West Hollywood-based hook-up app Grindr to sell off the company on grounds of national security.

In 2016, Chinese gaming company Beijing Kunlun Tech Co Ltd. purchased a stake in Grindr for \$93 million. Two years later, the gaming company acquired full ownership of the dating app. The Grindr owner recently made comments about disliking gay men, and now it's been revealed that the app may be using personal information to blackmail users here

and identify dissidents in China.

While the U.S. government isn't interested in whether someone in a gay bar on Cedar Springs Road is hooking up with someone else in that bar, it may be interested in whether the Chinese government is using the information on phones of U.S. military personnel to tip off that government about troop locations or movement.

And there's no fix to the app. Letting other people know exactly where you are is the whole point of Grindr.

So Beijing Kunlun is seeking to sell Grindr. The company had been preparing for a public stock offering, but according to Reuters, Kunlun is now planning to auction the division off.

As of 2017, Reuters reports, the app had 27 million users.

— David Taffet

Sprinkles Women's History Month cupcake is a fruit bomb for charity

March is Women's History Month, and from now until Sunday, March 31, Sprinkles is celebrating with a limited-time edition of one of its signature cupcakes.

The White Chocolate Raspberry treat, topped with an edible message of female

empowerment, is a fruity raspberry sponge filled with a compote of raspberry, with a spread of white chocolate on top. If it weren't already good enough — and it is — for every one of these cupcakes sold until March 31, Sprinkles will donate 25 cents (up to \$10,000) to Step-Up, a national organization that assists young, disadvantaged girls.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Prosecutors drop charges against Jussie Smollett



with an alleged hate crime attack against him in January in Chicago.

"We believe this outcome is a just disposition

Cook County prosecutors announced Tuesday, March 26, that they are dropping all 16 charges filed against actor and *Empire* star Jussie Smollett in connection

and appropriate resolution to this case," a prosecutor said, according to the Chicago Tribune. Smollett, 36, told police he was walking home from a sandwich shop to his apartment at about 2 a.m. Jan. 29 when he was attacked by two men who threw bleach on him, put a noose around his neck and yelled racial and anti-gay slurs at him. Two brothers who had worked on the set of *Empire* were arrested in connection with the attack, but when they told police Smollett had paid them to stage the attack, the police turned their attention to Smollett himself, eventually saying he had staged the attack to get attention.

Smollett, who has consistently denied the allegations against him, reportedly agreed to forfeit the \$10,000 he had paid against the \$100,000 bond set by the court when he was arrested.

In a statement released after prosecutors announced they were dropping charges, Smollett's attorneys said: "Jussie and many others were hurt by these unfair and unwarranted actions. This entire situation is a reminder that there should never be an attempt to prove a case in the court of public opinion. That is wrong. It is a reminder that a victim, in this case Jussie, deserves dignity and respect. Dismissal of charges against the victim in this case was the only just result."

— Tammye Nash

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THE GAY AGENDA



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

MARCH

• March 29: Transgender Day of Visibility

Trans-cendence and Human Rights Campaign co-host a discussion on why trans men seem invisible in the community with speakers Katie Sprinkle, Leslie McMurray, Finn Jones and Wulf James with reception at 5:30 p.m. and panel at 6 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St.

• March 29-30: Purple Party weekend

Spin spring edition at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Score at Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave.

• March 30: Toast to Life: Bootlegger's Ball

Steve Kemble hosts with the Singapore Slingers and DJ Blake Ward from 7-11 p.m. at the Empire Room, 1225 N. Riverfront Blvd. Tickets at MyResourceCenter.org/ToastToLife.

• March 30: Casino Night

Tyler Area Gays presents Wild, Wild West at Holiday Inn, 5701 S. Broadway, Tyler. Need 3 people to sponsor tables at \$250 each. Contact TAG at info@TylerAreaGays.com.

• March 30: TAG Ball

Wild, Wild West is the theme of this year's TAG Ball and fundraiser at Holiday Inn South Broadway, Tyler.

• March 30: Different Strokes Golf Association

DSGA, the LGBT golf organization, plays at 10 a.m., at Bear Creek East, 3500 Bear Creek Ct, Dallas.

\$60 Includes golf, cart, range balls and prizes. Information at DSGADallas.org or email communications@dsgadallas.org.

• March 31: Transgender Day of Visibility

Moderated panel with variety of speakers under the T umbrella plus community from organizations throughout the LGBTQ community offering resources and information at 5 p.m. at Celebration Community Church, 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth.

• March 31: Journey into Parenthood

Join North Dallas Doula Associates for a LGBT couples low intervention, unmedicated, natural birth class from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at North Dallas Doula Associates, 107 Murray St. Tinyurl.com/PreparedChildbirthLGBTQParents. \$125 per couple.

APRIL

• April 2: Classic Chassis Car Club

LGBT car enthusiasts meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Ojeda's, 4617 Maple Ave.

• April 2: Prime Timers

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Golden Corral, 3312 Forest Lane.

• April 3: Mayoral candidate forum

The North Texas GLBT Chamber co-sponsors a mayoral candidate forum from 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m. at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital, 2222 Welborn St.

• April 4: Oak Cliff Earth Day

Grass roots Earth Day festival from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lake Cliff Park, 300 E. Colorado Blvd.

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** at 1 p.m. on Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with David Taffet, Lerone Landis and the late Patti Fink. This week's guest is Leza Mesiah; **Unwired Group of Crystal Meth Anonymous** meets Sunday at 5:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.; **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 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **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 the second and fourth Sunday from 2-4 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. For more info, email pegasussquares@gmail.com; **Dallas Frontrunners** meet for a walk or run on the Katy Trail at Oak Lawn Park, Turtle Creek and Hall Street, every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Saturday at 9 a.m.; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** practices and develops speaking and lead-

ership 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; **Lambda AA** meets at 7 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. and has a men's meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and meets at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday at 1575 W. Mockingbird Lane #625. Call 214-267-0222 for details; **LGBT Sex Addicts Anonymous** meets at 6 p.m. every Friday at 1919 Independence St., Room

19, Plano. 972-316-9188 for details; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** gay-identified Toastmasters group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at the First Unitarian Church, 4015 Normandy Road (does not meet on Mondays that are holidays); **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 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **DVtv in Spayse**, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4-5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.

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OBITUARY



Jesse Neal Wait, 47, died of an apparent heart attack on March 6 at his home of Dallas.

Wait was born March 4, 1972, Patricia Ann VanGorkum Wait May and Ralph Leon Wait. He grew up in

Springfield, Colo., graduation from Soringfield Junior High in 1986. He then moved with his mother to Amarillo, where instead of going to high school he chose to go to work as a floral designer at The Flower Gallery. He also made custom house numbers and signs from reclaimed wood. He also began working at Maggie's Disco, an LGBT bar in Amarillo, eventually becoming manager of the club.

When he decided to go back to school, Wait got the deal of Amarillo College to agree that he could attend the college without finishing high school if he could pass the college entrance exams. When he aced the exams, he was awarded his certificate of high school equivalency, then went on to earn Amarillo College Honors Convocation recognition and the Academic Excellence Award for maintaining a 4.0 grade point average. He also attended West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas, where he studied information technology.

After moving to Dallas about 19 years ago, Wait became manager of the Studio Bar on Cedar Springs Road before moving into a career in banking. He worked for Chase Bank, then Frost Bank before going to work at North Dallas Bank and Trust Co. until he was forced to retire due to health reasons.

Wait's partner, Al Daniels, said Wait was "a kind-hearted and generous man [and] the love of my life." March 9 would have been their third anniversary as a couple, although they had been close friends since 2005. Wait was known as a fashionable person and a loving man. He adored his dog Roxi. Wait had held an event to raise funds for the Dalmation Rescue of North Texas on his 47th birthday, and after his death, the DRNT placed Roxi with a family in Houston.

Wait was preceded in death by his mother, Patricia VanGorkum Wait. He is survived by his partner of three years, Al Daniels of Dallas; his brothers, Eddie Wait of Phoenix, Ariz., and Dale Wait of Tempe, Ariz.; his close friends, Lee Dickerson of Garland and Jerry Nicholson of Plano.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, March 30, at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Hope Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Wait's ashes will be interred in a niche in the Cathedral of Hope Columbarium.

pet of the week / SASHA



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- Shawn McGhee, Proprietor

On the council and enjoying the show



Supporters came to Watauga City Hall the night Scott Prescher introduced his chicken ordinance. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

Scott Prescher is the first out person elected to a suburban DFW city council, and the town is cheering for him

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Scott Prescher is the first out person elected to a suburban city council in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. And he didn't just squeak in; he won in a landslide. In fact, in a four-way race in November, he received more than 50 percent of the vote to avoid runoff.

Since then, Prescher's fellow city council members have shown disdain for the research he does on issues and annoyance at the questions he asks. But his constituents love him.

Attendance at city council meetings went from three or four people before he was elected to an average of 100 so far this year. About 25 people showed up to one meeting just because they heard a

reporter was coming to do a story about Prescher; 150 people total attended the meeting that night.

Of course, not everyone was there because of the publicity. Most were there because they were interested in the issue Prescher was bringing before the council that night — chickens.

Less than two years ago, Prescher and his husband, Cody, moved to Watauga, a small city in northeast Tarrant County, wedged in between North Richland Hills and Haltom City. Last summer, developers proposed a zoning change that would allow apartments to be built inside the city limits of the four-and-a-half-square-mile town.

Apartments that bring heavy traffic isn't why the Preschers moved to Watauga.

"Watauga is a real estate hotspot," Cody explained. "Schools, crime, property trends. Scott drew a map and the zones kept overlapping in Watauga."

So when talk turned to apartment complexes, neighbors met to discuss how to keep them out of their city. Prescher said he doesn't know how he became the leader of the opposition to apartments. After all, when he showed up to the first

meeting, he was the only one in the room who didn't know anyone else there.

"He had all the ideas," one person at Watauga City Hall explained. Another added, "He's a natural leader." "We love Scott," one after another said as everyone crowded around to praise him.

"They're like family," Prescher said about his neighbors. And by that, he's not just being a politician hoping to garner votes. He meant regularly-going-to-their-houses-for-dinner family.

Jan Duncan Weir, who said she met Prescher during the apartment fight, loves him because he took the time to drive to Dallas for a premier of a film she was in. "Scott is a go-getter," she said. "Up front. Dedicated. He prides himself on being ethical."

While Prescher said he has no political dreams beyond city council, Weir said, "I have aspirations for him — much higher aspirations."

One neighbor said she'd lived in Watauga for 28 years, and when Prescher ran she voted in a local election for the first time.

Prescher said he never thought he'd get into politics. As a child, however, his

idea of fun on the weekend was watching *Meet the Press*, and his favorite reading material was the weekly political polls in *Newsweek*.

Mersedez Berry block walked for Prescher during his campaign. "You can't beat his passion," she said.

And you can't beat the passion of his supporters. Like Berry's mom, Lovey Downey, for example. "Scott woke up the beast in this city," Downey said.

The beast that night was chickens. Watauga has zoning against residents raising chickens. Prescher heard from residents that wanted to be allowed to keep them.

So he did what he always does — he did his research. He read ordinances from cities around the area. He called an agricultural extension agent from Texas A&M, who helped Farmers Branch work out their comprehensive chicken ordinance. He spoke to veterinarians. He talked to people in other cities that keep chickens.

Then he wrote his new ordinance. Some of the provisions included a requirement to keep at least three and no

Black Tie announces 2019 beneficiaries



FROM STAFF REPORTS

Officials with Black Tie Dinner on Thursday night, March 28, announced the 16 organizations chosen as local beneficiaries of the 2019 dinner.

The list includes 15 returning local beneficiaries and one new local beneficiary, along with the event's national beneficiary, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

This year's dinner will be held Nov. 2 at the Sheraton Dallas Downtown. Black Tie distributed \$1,185,000 to its 2018 beneficiaries.

Black Tie Co-chair Nathan Robbins described the 2019 beneficiaries as a "diverse, exciting group of incredibly hard-working organizations that make an enormous impact in our local LGBTQ community." He added, "Selecting our beneficiaries is one of the most important and difficult decisions our board makes every year, but also the most exciting because of the incredible work these organizations are doing in our community."

Local beneficiaries returning in 2019 are AIDS Outreach Center, AIDS Ser-

vices of Dallas, Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star, Cathedral of Hope, Celebration Community Church, Equality Texas Foundation, Lambda Legal, Legacy Counseling Center, Northaven United Methodist Church, Promise House, Rainbow Roundup, Resource Center, Trans Kids & Families of Texas, Turtle Creek Chorale and Uptown Players.

New to the beneficiary list this year is Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas.

Black Tie Dinner also officially unveiled the theme for its 2019 Dinner: "Be."

Co-chair Jeremy Hawpe noted, "We chose this year's theme for a few reasons. One, it's an acknowledgment that for members of our community, sometimes just 'being' yourself is an act of bravery and inspiration.

"'Be' also gives us an opportunity to build on that idea throughout the year and provide a call to action to our supporters and community to be supportive, to be welcoming and to be involved as we continue to push for equal rights and equal dignity for the LGBTQ community," he added.

Black Tie officials will be announcing more details in the months to come, including award winners, special guests, speakers and more.

For more information about the beneficiaries, the BTDD organization and the annual dinner, visit BlackTie.org.



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more than six, because chickens are social animals and may become aggressive if they live alone. They require a certain minimum amount of space, and they must be properly housed and need to be protected from other wild animals getting into their coops.

Prescher's proposed chicken ordinance would require a fee and a training class on taking care of the birds that he arranged to be taught by a woman from Watauga with a degree in zoology. And she'd teach others to teach the class so it would cost the city nothing.

So Prescher and his chicken supporters packed City Hall the night of the vote. Debate ensued. Other council members repeatedly asked questions he had already answered.

At one point, Prescher said to them, "I don't know how to communicate with you people. Do I need to use props?"

Apparently he did need to use something because the ordinance failed and his supporters were furious.

In a tweet, one Watauga resident wrote, "So we got this new city council

member in our little town, and he's trolling the city when they impose stupid rules, and fighting for the right to raise backyard chickens. I really don't want to like politicians but this guy is making it hard."

Another fight was over a boarding house a megachurch in town wanted to build. Opponents of the zoning change to allow the boarding house said it skirted ordinances about leasing property and would add unwanted traffic in the neighborhood.

This fight was different than the apartment fight. Prescher was on the council now, and he made sure the item was posted on the agenda with plenty of notice. He said that didn't help him make friends with supporters of the church on the council. And it may have contributed to the demise of his chicken ordinance.

And, in the upcoming election, to the end of their own political careers.

So how does Prescher live a very out life in a very small town?

"They aren't OK that I'm gay, but I'm authentic about our life," he speculated.

Prescher makes no bones about being gay.

"Cody and I hold hands in the neighborhood," he said. "I don't care. What are they going to do?"

But he really does care. He explained that when he was 16, growing up in the town of Clifton, northwest of Waco, he almost killed himself. He typed up a will and a goodbye letter.

"It makes me cry to even type about it now," he said in a text message explaining the incident.

He placed a bag over his head with a rubber band around his neck, because he did not want the bag to fall off. At the last minute he changed his mind and pulled the bag off before passing out.

"It was two years before I ever told anyone I did that — and the first person I told was my mom when I came out to her when I was 18," he said.

Since then, he feels responsible for preventing other LGBT teens from feeling they needed to end their lives.

"As a gay person, you have a huge responsibility to be yourself all the time,"

he said. "You never know when you're going to have a 14-year-old see you, and that saves his life."

Prescher is responsible for some procedural changes at council meetings as well. Citizen input used to be at the beginning of a meeting, then voting on the issues they addressed came at the end of the meeting — usually after most people had left. Now residents may speak on an issue just prior to any votes on that issue.

For these and other similar offenses, the council will be discussing Prescher's ethical violations at its April 8 council meeting. Prescher said he's looking forward to attacking their lies with actual evidence.

He invited anyone who'd like to enjoy the show to join him at City Hall that night. "Sit in the back with Cody," he said. "He is bringing the popcorn for the show."

And he's looking forward to election day in May, where he's supporting a slate of candidates that includes none of the incumbents.

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History on the move

20 truckloads of exhibits arrive and installation begins at new Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
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When the Dallas Holocaust Museum opens in its new location — across the street from its current location in the West End — on Sept. 17, it will become known as the Dallas Holocaust and Human Right Museum.

Museum Board Chair Frank Risch said the new museum will include exhibits on 10 major genocides in addition to the Holocaust. The human rights part of the galleries will focus on slavery, child labor, women's rights, LGBT rights and more.

Genocides from around the world will be covered by exhibits, including Stalin taking food from the Ukraine so Russians could eat while Ukrainians starved to death and the U.S. government wiping out an American Indian tribe in South Texas.

The goal of teaching about the Holocaust and other genocides is to wipe out hate, Risch explained.

"You only need to know five [Dallas police] officers were shot and killed a few blocks from [the museum's new location] to understand the hate," he said. "Take lessons we've learned — or not learned — and apply them to what's going on today."

One new focus for the museum will be a presentation on the Nuremburg trials. Risch said those trials were the first time in history that war criminals were brought to trial rather than simply being declared guilty and executed. The lasting effect was the beginning of what we understand as international law.

The new museum is the third location for the Holocaust Museum, which began in 1984 in the basement of the Jewish



Community Center in North Dallas. At the time, it was one of the first Holocaust museums in the country.

In 2005, the museum was renamed Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education & Tolerance and was moved into an old warehouse building across the street from the old Dallas Schoolbook Depository in the West End.

The current museum has only 6,000 square feet of exhibit space. Because of limited space, the exhibit concentrated on three events that took place during the Holocaust on one day — April 19,

1943. Using many artifacts and pictures from Dallas residents who survived the Holocaust, the current museum tells the story of the day the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising began, the attack on a transport train from Belgium and the Bermuda Conference where world leaders met and decided to play golf rather than hold the planned talks on the Holocaust.

Most of the exhibits in the new 55,000-square-foot museum are new, and they began arriving by truck this week. One centerpiece of the new museum will be a floor-to-ceiling replica of



Exhibits are being installed in the new Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum.

the Brandenburg Gate draped in Nazi flags, just as it was during World War II. That was part of the first of seven 20-ton shipments from Pacific Studio, a Seattle-based exhibits creator.

One major exhibit that has been with the museum since it opened in 1984 — a Belgian boxcar — has already been moved to the new building.

The boxcar was built in Germany and given to Belgium as reparations after World War I. The Dallas Holocaust Museum was the first museum in the U.S. to have a Nazi transport boxcar in its collection.

To fit in its original space, part of the boxcar was disassembled. In that space, all visitors entered the museum by walking through the train.

The boxcar was reconfigured in the

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current museum. As DART passed by right outside the creaky old building, the sound of the modern light rail cars gave an eerie impression of the sound of trains in motion, transporting people to their deaths in the concentration camps, as visitors walked through.

Now, the boxcar has been moved into place on the third floor of the new museum and is currently being restored to its original size. Holocaust Museum President and CEO Mary Pat Higgins said pieces of the train that weren't used in the original exhibit have been in storage.

"It's like putting together a jigsaw puzzle," she said of the reconstruction effort.

But some of the original pieces were missing. So the restorer found a hundred-year-old barn made of wood of the same vintage as the boxcar. Planks from that barn are being used to fill in gaps where original pieces were missing.

The new museum's focus on human rights will include exhibits on LGBT equality, and Higgins said special pro-

gramming will include LGBT topics. She said she hopes Jim Obergefell, one of the plaintiffs in the Supreme Court case that resulted in marriage equality, and plaintiffs in the Texas marriage equality lawsuit would be available for one of those presentations.

The partnership between the museum and the local LGBT community goes back almost a decade to when members of Westboro Baptist Church came to Dallas to picket both the museum and Congregation Beth El Binah, Dallas' primarily LGBT Jewish congregation.

While staff at the museum were quite apprehensive about the visit and warned Holocaust survivors in Dallas to avoid the area that day, the mostly LGBT synagogue took the visit as a challenge. They rallied about 200 counter-protestors that showed up outside the museum with a variety of signs bearing stupid slogans to counter the bigoted signs from the right-wing religious group from Kansas.

Westboro's protesters stayed about 15 minutes. The museum gained more new



Museum CEO Mary Pat Higgins stands in the boxcar explaining its restoration. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

members on that day than they had ever before signed up in one day, as the line to get into the museum wrapped around the building after Westboro left.

The museum and Beth El Binah later joined forces again to bring in a traveling exhibition created by the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. entitled "Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945."

Higgins said she was delighted with the change removing "tolerance" from the museum's name, because she believes we can do better than simply tolerating each other. With the new museum's focus on human rights, Higgins said she hopes the partnership between the LGBT community and the new museum will grow.

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Mavs Pride Night



The Dallas Mavericks held their first ever Pride Night on March 26, welcoming LGBT fans to the American Airlines Center for a community reception before the game, and offering special ticket sales that included

special Mavs Pride t-shirts. A portion of the sale price all tickets purchased through the Pride Night link were donated to Resource Center.

Dallas Mavericks' LGBT Community Liaison Kathy

Jack helped coordinate the Pride Night event and hosted the pre-game reception. Visit DallasVoice.com for more photos.

(Photos by Tammye Nash/Dallas Voice)

Dallas Mavs employee Carlos Monge said he loves working in a supportive and inclusive environment

Carlos Monge was born in Los Angeles to Salvadoran parents, but has lived about half his life here in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. A 2017 graduate of the University of North Texas, with Bachelor of Arts degrees in merchandising and in digital retailing, Monge worked at Nordstrom as a designer apparel specialist and social media coordinator before joining the Dallas Mavericks organization. He is now the e-commerce web manager for DallasMavs.shop.

Monge said he is passionate about fashion industry news and history, about retail and e-commerce innovations and about advocating for inclusivity in all environments, both work and life.

As part of the first Mavs Pride Night held earlier this week, Dallas Voice talked to Monge about his work with Dallas' NBA team.

— Tammye Nash

Dallas Voice: How long have you been with the Dallas Mavericks? Carlos Monge: Eight months.

Tell me about your job with the Mavs.

What does the e-commerce web manager do? I work in the merchandising department. As an e-commerce web manager, it is my job to run and manage DallasMavs.Shop, the official merchandise site for the team. I'm responsible for uploading product pages, controlling site layout, managing inventory levels and creating item promotions through our email marketing and DallasMavs.Shop social media accounts. I also oversee our web fulfillment and customer service team.

On top of that, I get to be at every home game to help work The Hangar stores and help customers with any product questions.

You worked for Nordstrom before. What does a designer apparel specialist do, and how did that prepare you for your job now with the Mavs? I loved being a



designer apparel specialist at Nordstrom. It taught me a lot in terms of "high-touch" selling, or what I describe as an "elevated approach to customer service." We sold gorgeous garments that, to most, were investment pieces. So we made sure to create an exceptional experience for our customers — from the moment they walked into the department, to following up with a phone call, even offering a follow-up appointment.

I worked in the Collector's Department (women's designer apparel) because of my love for fashion. I loved researching designers and their history, their collection inspirations and the overall romance of the wearable art they created. On top of that, I enjoyed following runway trends and finding how to translate them to my clients.

I also liked doing things outside of my position roles, most of them involving social media. With that, I worked closely with the social media manager to develop a promotional calendar for what we were going to put out on our social channels.

Just like I did with the department managers at Nordstrom, I communicate now with different people in the Mavs marketing team to make sure that we are promoting the appropriate items through our social media channels. I think the one thing that made me want to get more into the field of e-commerce was my love for creating digital content, and thankfully, I get to do it now on a daily basis.

You said you are passionate about fashion industry news and retail and e-commerce innovations. How do those two things fit together? What are some retail/e-commerce innovations that have helped you in your job? They totally go hand-in-hand! Fashion ALWAYS changes, and so does e-commerce, and it is important for me to keep up with both industries as they constantly evolve. Both ultimately deal with how a consumer behaves with their surroundings. It's totally up to people and how they respond and learning from what works and what doesn't.

Designers are quick to respond to the
CARLOS MONGE, Page 37

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Making ends meet



LGBT are making use of subscription sex work services to supplement their incomes, and sometimes as their only means of income

ALEX GONZALEZ | Contributing Writer
alexgonzalez@planoprofile.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: Those interviewed for this article are identified with aliases.

In the state of Texas, there are no laws to protect LGBT people from workplace discrimination. That means it is not illegal for an employer to fire an employee simply for being gay, queer or trans. With the future of LGBT rights uncertain in our nation's current political climate, having something to fall back on in the event of a firing is essential.

Across generations, the phrase "sex work" has become more broad, and by way of modern technology, receiving money for sex acts has seemingly become easier. That means for some people, sex work has become their "something to fall back on."

Ric, who is gay, is an avid user of Just

Fans, a subscription service that allows people to share sexually explicit videos and charge a fee. He said he "started doing porn in my freshman year of college as a way to make easy money. I feel that I've done well for myself. I have enough subscribers [now] to quit my job, although I never did end up leaving my day job."

Ric believes that even though sex work is still stigmatized, younger generations are becoming more accepting and supportive of such work.

"Being a sex worker is not something to be ashamed of," Ric said. "I feel that, on one hand, the older generations have viewed sex workers as taboo for a long time. But on the other hand, as the younger generations find their voice in the world, I've seen that sexuality is more openly spoken about with a positive view."

Tyler uses OnlyFans, a service similar to Just For Fans, to share homemade videos he makes with his partner, Wes. Although Tyler has a day job and mainly uses the video sharing service for an "exhibitionist thrill," he said he is aware that sex work is some people's only means of making a living.

"I've followed some [sex workers] on Twitter who felt they needed to defend themselves for making money off of their sex work," Tyler said, adding that it



is not easy work. "It takes some training to put yourself in a mindset to stay excited while you are trying to find a good camera angle or just that hot moment.

"I've come to appreciate those who are truly professionals and can keep the interest going for well over 30 minutes," he added. "Those really are performers."

Cate, a trans woman who is also an advocate for sex worker rights, said she believes that all forms of sex work between consenting adults should be destigmatized and decriminalized.

"Every facet of comfort that most people use — whether it be religion, the media or our own government — tells us that sex work is abominable," Cate said. "It's really no one's business what a woman decides to use her body for.

"Most sex workers I've talked to deal with middle aged men, typically divorcees looking for some solace in the company of another woman; someone who will listen and smile and laugh at their stupid jokes," she added. "The stigma is an ancient misconception."

Although Cate personally has never engaged in sex work, she said she is invested in helping create a safe landscape for sex workers.

"[Sex work] should have the right to be recognized as a legitimate institution," Cate said. "There is such a lack of

oversight in places where sex work is illegal that it's hard to imagine feeling safe in that position.

"Sex workers are not just 'loose women' or 'frilly queers.' They are therapists, healers, and most of all, people like you and me trying to pay their utilities in a broken economy."

With the 2020 election drawing ever closer, sex work is becoming a hot-button issue. While many Democrats have announced their candidacy, only Kamala Harris and Tulsi Gabbard have been vocal on their stances on decriminalizing sex work. Truthfully, advocates say, it would behoove people of all races, genders and orientations to support the decriminalization of sex work, especially the LGBT community. Because being a sex worker isn't easy, and oftentimes, members of the LGBT people are using sex work to make for the income they lose by not being able to find a job or because they were unjustly fired because they are LGBT.

As society becomes more accepting of sexuality, it's not unlikely that future generations will think of sex work as a valid line of work, and the LGBT community can get ahead of the curve by working to protect sex workers and affording them the respect professionals in any other line of work get. ■

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House passes resolution condemning Trump's trans military ban

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday, March 28, passed a resolution condemning Trump's efforts to ban openly-transgender men and women from serving in the U.S. military. The vote was 238-185, with every House Democrat and five House Republicans voting in favor of the resolution. Texan Will Hurd was one of the five Republicans.

Rep. Joe Kennedy III, D-Mass., led the effort to pass the resolution. He chairs the

Equality Caucus' Transgender Equality Task Force.

The vote came just two days after a federal court lifted an injunction barring implementation of the ban. President Barack Obama had lifted the ban before he left office, but Trump re-instated the ban in the first year of his presidency. Trump's administration had announced that men and women enlisting in the military would have to serve as the gender they were assigned at birth.

Officials at the Department of Defense announced earlier this year that the ban will go into effect on April 12.

Transgender advocates praised the vote while acknowledging that it is not a

binding vote and is unlikely to see any action in the U.S. Senate.

The top three LGBTQ military organizations in the U.S. — the American Military Partner Association, OutServe-SLDN and SPARTA — issued a joint press applauding passage of the resolution.

AMPA President Ashley Broadway-Mack said the vote on the resolution "sends a powerful message to our transgender service members and their families that the United States House of Representatives stands with them in the face of this administration's unconscionable discrimination."

OutServe-SLDN Executive Director Andy Blevins described openly-trans servicemembers as "selfless patriots, who happen to be transgender," saying they have "proven time and again that



Rep. Joe Kennedy III

they are qualified, able and willing to honorably continue their military service."

SPARTA President Blake Dremann added, "The only thing that has ever been asked for by any minority group is

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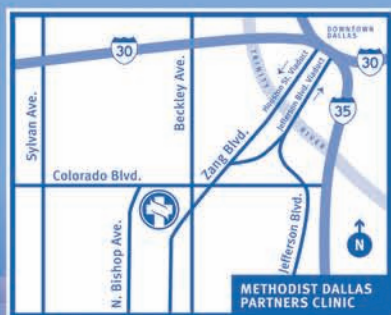
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Intersex activist Pidgeon Pagonis to speak at 9th annual Louisiana Queer Conference



Chicago-based intersex activist Pidgeon Pagonis.

Chicago-based intersex activist Pidgeon Pagonis will be keynote speaker for the ninth annual Louisiana Queer Conference this weekend at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, La. The conference begins at 8 a.m. and runs through 5 p.m. at the university's Business Education Complex.

Pagonis works with the interACT Advocates for Intersex Youth, produces informational videos and writes for the blog Everyday Feminism. They appeared on the cover of National Geographic's "Gender Revolution" special issue in January 2017 and were honored by the Obama administration in 2015 as an LGBT Champion of Change.

The Louisiana Queer Conference is a free, statewide, student-run event that aims to provide networking opportunities, education and social support to queer people and their allies. It provides an annual venue for individuals to discuss ideas and collaborate on projects while building a statewide network to advance the LGBTQ+ movement.

The conference schedule includes pan-

els, workshops, a keynote speaker, a resource fair and free lunch for attendees.

Conference organizers chose Pagonis as keynote to represent one of many possible queer identities and educate attendees on an identity outside of the typical "LGBT." The conference will host discussions geared toward and about people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, asexual, intersex and more.

interACT defines intersex as "an umbrella term that refers to people who have one or more of a range of variations in sex characteristics that fall outside of traditional conceptions of male or female bodies."

Both interACT and Pagonis aim to promote awareness of intersex people and protect intersex youth from medically unnecessary surgeries. Pagonis is intersex, and uses the pronouns "they" and "them" to reflect the fact that they were born neither male nor female.

Besides discussing ending intersex surgeries on children, the conference will tackle issues like sex education in Louisiana, the history of HIV/AIDS and the Lafayette Drag Queen Story Time case. About 250 people from across Louisiana and the Deep South are expected to participate.

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Second Resource Center legal clinic focuses on estate planning

The second UNT College of Law legal clinic created in conjunction with Resource Center will focus on wills, estate planning, power of attorney, medical directives and transfer on death deeds. An earlier clinic focused on name and gender marker changes for the trans community.

Resource Center Communications and Advocacy Manager Rafael McDonnell said anyone can participate, and many should. While the *Obergefell* marriage equality decision gave couples who marry certain rights to inheritance they didn't have before, wills are still a good idea. Couples who are not married

are still particularly vulnerable when it comes to inheritance.

Angela Downes, assistant director of experiential education at UNT's downtown Dallas law school, will do a presentation. She'll then refer participants to third-year law students for those who qualify based on financial need. Others will be referred to local LGBT attorneys that will assist either with a free or reduced rate consultation.

McDonnell said he hopes to schedule several more legal clinics in conjunction with UNT's law school through the year. Each session will focus on one particular legal need.

Eventually, McDonnell said, he would like the legal clinic to be something offered as a regular Resource Center service, with students supervised by law



Angela Downes

faculty staffing a clinic during regular hours.

To register, go to Resource Cen-

ter's Facebook page. A link to the free Eventbrite registration is under events. ■

—David Taffet

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The Dallas Way wins statewide award



Texas Digital Libraries
recognizes the LGBT history
group's oral history project
and Instagram account

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The Dallas Way will
receive Texas Digital
Libraries Outreach
Award on May 21 in
Austin.

Nino Testa, secretary and board member of The Dallas Way, submitted the application highlighting the group's Instagram account that promotes the history collection and its oral history project.

But applying for an award from Texas Digital Libraries wasn't Testa's idea.

"They reached out to us," he said. "They said we should consider choosing a category and applying for an award."

Founded in 2011, The Dallas Way collects, organizes, stores and presents

the history of the LGBT community in Dallas. The collection of photos, stories, audio, video and artifacts is maintained at University of North Texas in Denton, and digitized pieces are stored on the school's Portal to Texas History, which can be found at TexasHistory.unt.edu.

In addition to items The Dallas Way has collected, Resource Center donated its Phil Johnson Collection and Dallas Voice donated its archives. Together, these pieces make up UNT's North Texas LGBT Collection.

Texas Digital Libraries is a consortium of Texas higher education institutions that provides online space for preserving, managing and providing access to digital collections of enduring value.

Dreanna Beldon, assistant dean for external relations at the UNT libraries, said UNT is a member of Texas Digital Libraries. But UNT has such a massive collection itself, she said, most of the information is kept on its own system.

In his application for the Outreach Award, Testa wrote about two projects of The Dallas Way including the Instagram page Testa started to help create interest



in the collection.

"That way people can easily see what's in the collection," he said.

Testa said he encourages people to look at the pictures on the Instagram page as well as in the LGBT collection on the UNT site. Many photos are without captions or without the subjects identified. Adding a comment or identifying people in photos helps UNT archivists better identify and classify the photo, he said.

Testa said he got the idea of using Instagram by following some similar archival accounts.

"We have more than 2,000 followers who like, share and comment on our content," Testa wrote in the application.

Texas Digital Libraries is also honoring The Dallas Way for its new oral history project. In addition to its Outrageous Oral program, the group is now recording longer oral histories of community leaders that are being archived on the UNT portal.

Several Outrageous Oral programs are staged each year. Usually three sto-

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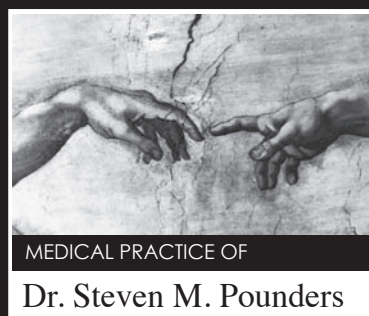
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News analysis:

The implausible success of Pete Buttigieg's campaign

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
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Openly-gay Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg has leapt into a surprisingly strong position in the latest poll of Iowa Democratic caucus-goers: Third place, right behind former Vice President Joe Biden (in first with 25 percent) and U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders (in second with 24 percent).

Buttigieg (pronounced "buddha judge"), the mayor of South Bend, Ind., came in third with 11 percent, followed by U.S. Sens. Kamala Harris (10 percent) and Elizabeth Warren (nine percent).

The news, though based on a relatively small sampling, marks an astonishing milestone for an openly-gay candidate for the presidential nomination of one of the two major parties. Only one other openly gay person has ever tried to run for a major party presidential nomination — Fred Karger, who ran for the Republican nomination in 2012. Karger beat eventual nominee Mitt Romney in one New Hampshire college straw poll, but he never made it onto a nationally-televised debate stage, and he appeared on the primary ballot in only six states.

Buttigieg's bid for the Democratic presidential nomination has fared much better, so far. He's been the subject of many mainstream media profiles and opinion pieces. The New York Times said Buttigieg has "generated more buzz" than New York City's well-known Mayor Bill de Blasio, who is also running for the Democratic presidential nomination, and the Washington Post said he's drawn "enthusiastic crowds of hundreds" in South Carolina.

Buttigieg has appeared on numerous nationally-broadcast political programs, including a one-hour CNN Town

Hall on March 10. His performance at that event prompted former President Obama's chief campaign strategist, David Axelrod, to post on Twitter, "I have rarely seen a candidate make better use of televised Town Hall than [Buttigieg] is on [CNN].... Crisp, thoughtful and relatable. He'll be a little less of a long shot tomorrow."

Fighting for the national stage

There's another nationally-televised stage serious candidates want to be on: the Democratic presidential primary debates. The first one is in June, and the party wants to limit the number of candidates on stage to 20, possibly spread over two different nights. To be included on the stage for the debates, a candidate must, in the next three months, achieve support of at least 1 percent of respondents in at least three national polls approved by the Democratic National Committee.

Buttigieg's gotten two: Fox News's poll of 403 Democratic primary and caucus voters March 17-20 (margin of error plus-or-minus 5); and CNN's poll of 456 Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents March 14-17 (margin of error plus-or-minus 5.7). In both, he got 1 percent.

In the Fox poll, he did as well as Sen. Amy Klobuchar. In the CNN poll, he did as well as Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand. (At the top of both heaps was former Vice President Joe Biden and Sen. Bernie Sanders.)

Though it is not a national poll, a poll by Emerson College of 249 Iowa Democratic caucus-goers between March 21 and 24 found Buttigieg in third place, with 11 percent their support. (The margin of error was plus-or-minus 6.2 points.)

Emerson Poll Director Spencer Kimball called Buttigieg's third-place finish "the biggest surprise" of the poll, noting that "last week we saw him inching up in our national poll, and now he's in double digits in Iowa."



Buttigieg was a zero when Emerson polled caucus-goers in January.

More than 200 people have notified the Federal Election Commission of their intention to seek the Democratic nomination. Pollsters cannot survey the public about all 200 candidates, so they have to choose which candidates' names to include in their surveys and which to leave off.

This year, the Democratic National Committee said it would use an additional gauge to determine who reaches the debate stage: those candidates who report getting contributions from 65,000 people, from at least 20 different states and with a minimum of 200 donors per state.

Buttigieg said on Twitter on March 16 that his campaign has received contributions from more than 76,000 individuals. And campaign spokeswoman Lis Smith told CNN the campaign has raised at least \$1.6 million since the CNN Town Hall.

But the Democratic Party plans for the debates also noted that, if more than 20 candidates meet just one criterion, the DNC will pare down the number to those candidates who meet both criteria. And if there are still too many candidates, the debate slots will go to the qualifiers with the highest polling averages.

So, even if Buttigieg gets 1 percent in a third poll and has 76,000 donors, he could potentially be barred from the stage. But his unusually successful campaign to get the media's attention thus far could well put him among the highest polling candidates come June.

Meanwhile, March 31 is the next deadline for presidential candidates to report to the Federal Elections Commission how much money they have raised for their campaigns. Many media organizations will use those dollar figures to assess how much traction each candidate is getting.

BUTTIGIEG, Page 35

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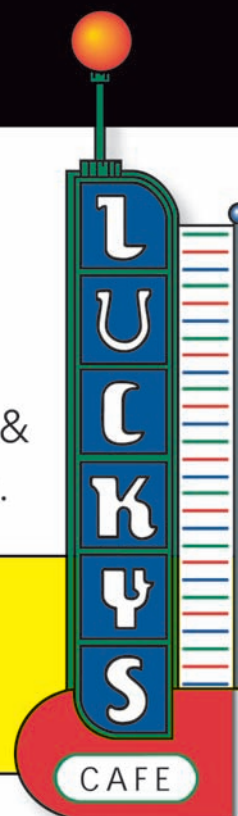
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TRANS

From Page 24

the opportunity to meet unbiased standards and then succeed or fail based on our own merits. The moral arc of our military and our nation must continue to bend towards justice and opportunity for all who are qualified, capable"

Dremann said that while trans people and advocates are "filled with sorrow as the military we love takes steps to discriminate against transgender service-members," the vote in the House offers a sign of hope: "Today we watched the U.S. House of Representatives recognize the value of a diverse military which attracts and retains the best and brightest our country has to offer, including brave transgender Americans. We are hopeful that a similar effort will be shown by the U.S. Senate to recognize those same contributions and that once again transgender people are able to wear the sacred cloth of our Nation, receive medically necessary care, and be in position to continue their distinguished service as proud, proficient warfighters."

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and Lambda Legal also issued statements praising the House's vote on the resolution.

"Trump claims to value our military

but treats it with disregard and contempt," said Leadership Conference President and CEO Vanita Gupta. "From diverting military funding, to supporting his vanity wall project, to banning brave and patriotic transgender Americans from serving, his actions speak louder than his words. The transgender military service ban not only undermines military readiness and national security, it is a violation of fundamental American values of fairness and equality. We applaud the House for speaking out and urge Trump to support all qualified individuals who volunteer to serve in our armed forces."

Sharon McGowan, legal director and chief strategy officer of Lambda Legal, said, "We are so happy to see the ... House pass a resolution strongly rebuking the Trump administration's ban on transgender service members with bipartisan support. This important resolution is a helpful step towards showing President Trump that the public overwhelmingly opposes his discriminatory ban, which not only hurts our fellow Americans, but also our national security. ... We urge the Senate to take up a similar resolution immediately" ■



DALLAS WAY

From Page 31

rytellers detail an event in Dallas LGBT history. For example, Mica England, who sued the Dallas Police Department to change its hiring policies to include LGBT recruits, returned to Dallas to tell her story at an Outrageous Oral presentation last year.

Now, volunteers are recording longer interviews of people throughout the community to compile more of the community's history.

"We are training 20 volunteers to conduct oral history interviews so that we can make even more progress on our long list of intended interviews with a wide range of LGBTQ people who have lived in Dallas," Testa wrote in his nomination letter.

He said the hope is for community members to see themselves as instruments of historical preservation.

After the first training session, which was held at Cathedral of Hope, interviewers recorded conversations with a

number of people who had been part of the church for a number of years. Now, any papers and photos from the church are supplemented by a much fuller oral history.

The Dallas Way President DeAn Roper said she was honored for Dallas Way to have been chosen from among all of the nominees from around the state.

"We're honored to be recognized for the important work of collecting, preserving and presenting our history for the LGBT community," Roper said. "This level of recognition is great for our mission and brings more attention to our work."

She said she was glad to be honored this year in particular, because it is the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall rebellion. Women who have been active in the LGBT community will be recognized in an exhibit that will be mounted in June for Pride Month at Dallas City Hall. ■



BUTTIGIEG, From Page 33

The implausibility and the difference

To some extent, Buttigieg's success in getting media attention — and thereby the attention of the public — is due to his being gay. He is — apparently — the only openly-gay candidate among more than 600 people who have filed notice of wanting to run, either as a Republican, a Democrat, with another party or as an independent candidate. Nowadays, almost everything gay gets attention from the mainstream media and, for a candidate who was virtually unknown three months ago, such attention generates more attention.

But Buttigieg's success so far seems to be fueled by his very serious, very intelligent and very down-home likeable personality. When MSNBC's *Morning Joe* asked him to "tell us about your faith," he noted that he's Episcopalian, that his church takes seriously its role in the urban community of South Bend, and that he thinks candidates should "have the option to talk about our faith."

"Don't get me wrong: I believe strongly in the separation of church and state. I think any [candidate] needs to demonstrate how they will represent people of any faith, people of no faith," Buttigieg said. "But I also think the time has come to reclaim faith as a theme. The idea that the only way a religious person could enter politics is through the prism of the religious right — I just don't think that makes sense."

Buttigieg said he thinks it is time for "more of a religious left to emerge in our country."

At the CNN Town Hall on March 10, nationally televised from Austin, the first question out of the chute from the audience was why Buttigieg thinks he is qualified to run the country when he's not held elective office at even the state or congressional district level. Buttigieg has been asked that many times, and his answer is consistent: being a mayor of a city of any size is the "best kind of preparation you can have." And, he noted, "I have more years of government experience under my belt than the president," "more years of executive government experience under my belt than the vice president," and "more military experience than anybody to walk into that office on Day One than since George H.W. Bush."

Buttigieg was the first Democratic candidate to appear on Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace. There, he said "I'm not like the others," noting his age (37) and generation, being from the Midwest, and having served in the military. When prompted to say another Democratic candidate was "wrong" about an issue, he said, instead, "I'd do it differently."

In each venue, Buttigieg has moved easily through a wide range of topics — from job security and training, income supplements, Venezuela's political unrest, and transitioning veterans into civilian life to the power of businesses to grow the economy, the war in Afghanistan and whether Congress should regulate Facebook and impeach President Trump.

(On the latter, he said he would prefer voters remove Trump from office.)

Buttigieg neither avoids nor insists on acknowledging his sexual orientation and makes a point to introduce his spouse, Chasten, to most audiences, though most moderators find a way to broach the subject.

And then there is his biography, detailed in *The Shortest Way Home* (W.W. Norton): He is a veteran of the war in Afghanistan, a Rhodes scholar to the University of Oxford, a business analyst for a global management consulting firm and a popular mayor of South Bend, Indiana's fourth-largest city.

"Why are you in such a hurry?" asked Fox's Wallace near the end of his March 17 interview, which — oddly — did not once bring up Buttigieg's sexual orientation. "Why not wait a few years, get more experience, build a bigger record, get better known and run for president at, say, the ripe old age of 41?"

Buttigieg said he has taken into consideration both "the moment" in American history, "what is called for" in this moment, and "what I bring to the table."

"I see it as a very unusual moment. Look, it's unusual for it to be even plausible that a 37-year-old Midwestern mayor is giving national interviews for a possible candidacy for president," said Buttigieg. "But there's something that's happening right now that calls for something completely different than what we've been seeing — generationally different, regionally different, somebody with a different story and a different background."

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CARLOS MONGE, From Page 21

demand of their items as soon as they hit runways. Nowadays, you see brands doing live streams and instantly making their collections available online to anyone in the world, literally minutes after they present! The consumer is changing every day, and the best way for the fashion industry to keep up is through e-commerce.

The Mavs Fan? They see an image of Luka Dončić on Instagram with the new City Edition Jersey, and they immediately want to purchase it. Now, they can seamlessly tap the Instagram image and instantly add it to their shopping cart. It is my job to make that happen.

Tell me about what it's like working for the Dallas Mavericks? How does the organization support its employees, especially its LGBT employees? Working for the Dallas Mavericks is such enjoyable experience! There's definitely a sense of excitement to work for a sports organization. Every day calls for new projects and different tasks for me to do. My team and I work hard, and it is incredibly rewarding to see the end results of our efforts.

However, to be completely honest, I was a little skeptical to work for a sports organization when I first interviewed for my current position. You watch the news, and you see players being bashed by fans of their respective teams, and even being downgraded by people in their leagues, all just for being LGBTQ. Even after I got hired, I was a little nervous to see how I would fit in as a gay man in an industry with a culture that I am not familiar with.

But the Dallas Mavericks have proven to stand out in the sports world. Within my first month, I participated in a "Respect in the Workplace" training, required of all new hires in the company. In one part of the training, we were all asked to work in small groups to discuss a list of work scenarios in provided hand-outs, and how we would – and should – react to them.

The scenarios brought out moments in the work environment that a lot of people might not see as problematic or might not take action against. These include the derogative treatment of women and minorities, PDA, disrespect of others' religious practices and – what stood out to me – homophobia.

It was then that I realized that The Mavs as an organization, and the NBA as a whole, finds it meaningful to shine light on these issues, and it showed why it is important to make them a part of our everyday conversations.

On top of that, The Mavs have Employee Re-

source Groups, and theme and celebration nights dedicated to minorities (Pride Night, Los Mavs, African-American Heritage) and make efforts to bring all communities together for their love of sports.

All these qualities make working for The Mavs a safe, enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Oh! And did I mention that we are the only professional sports organization in Dallas to participate in the Pride Parade? You can't get any more supportive than that!

How do you advocate for inclusivity?

What are some of the organizations/events you are involved in? I think the biggest way that you can advocate on inclusivity is through your everyday life and the people who you interact with every single day, even expressing it through the work that you do. One way that I do is through our DallasMavs.Shop social media. We did a couple of photoshoots in the beginning of the season to create content to use throughout the year. Under the direction of my boss, Alison Panasik, vice president of Brand Identity and Merchandising for the Mavs, the merch team plans and merchandises what items we are going to shoot as well as where it takes place and who will wear them.

One thing that instantly made me gain more respect for Alison was seeing her effort in booking a diverse group of models for the shoots. We wanted our audience — Mavs fans — to be reflected on what we advertised, and I couldn't be prouder of the outcome. Our social media is on fire, and we are inspired to cast an even broader group of people for our future shoots!

On top of that, when working with local vendors, the merchandising team puts a heavy focus on business owners in one of our five protected categories, including owners with disabilities, women-owned, minority-owned, veterans, and LGBTQ. That alone gives me motivation for the organization that I work for; they hold these values that I deem incredibly important.

What else do you want people to know — about you or about the Dallas Mavericks? To me, it is incredibly important and meaningful to work for an organization that holds the same morals and values that I do, and to be in a place where I can be my genuine self while feeling safe and appreciated. The Dallas Mavericks are just that, and I couldn't be happier to work here. I know my future here looks very bright, and I'm very excited to see what is to come. I am a proud member of the LGBTQ community and a proud Mavs Fan For Life! (#MFFL)

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‘Undetectable’ equals unconstitutional legal requirement

“Undetectable equals untransmittable.” This has been the anthem of independent HIV activists and the brave researchers behind an international movement. But what does that catchy phrase mean?

U=U means that someone on HIV treatment living with an undetectable viral load will not transmit the virus to a sexual partner — even in the absence of other prevention measures, including PrEP or condoms.

It’s a campaign and movement, first started by Bruce Richman with Prevention Access Campaign, supported by nearly 800 organizations in 100 countries, and it is championed by government agencies and researchers at the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and the Department of



Josh Robbins
Contributing Columnist

tutional to have that unfair requirement based on out-dated science in my state.

Many will probably not agree with my stance that my health, which doesn’t impact a sexual partner, is none of their

up to 15 years per sexual act in prison. I’d argue that is an unfair burden placed on me at the state level. I’d argue that it is unconsti-

that I must unfairly disclose my HIV status since I am undetectable. What it does justify is my belief that consensual sexual activity between two adults is a matter best kept out of court and maintained in the privacy of the bedroom between those two individuals.

Will I disclose? Of course. I am someone that shares too much anyways.

Should I be held to a legal requirement for that disclosure to happen? I say no. And I think I have the Constitution as my defense.

Sex is an activity that bears equal responsibility on both parties to equally share risk. U=U is life-changing because it is interrupting HIV stigma in our lives. It’s time that U=U interrupts my biggest fear — that some crazed person accuses me of not disclosing, and I have to face a



Health and Human Services.

Naturally, as someone living with HIV, this scientific fact has even deeper implications to me besides just the epic news that I am incapable of transmitting HIV to a sexual partner. Why then, must I still disclose that I am living with undetectable HIV to a sexual partner?

Before you attack me about how unethical it is not to disclose, let me ask: Is it really ethical to require me to disclose something that will have absolutely no impact or effect on a sexual partner? I’d argue it is not ethical.

In Tennessee, it’s a requirement of law that I disclose my HIV diagnosis or face

business. I suspect some people will begin to question if I really know that I am undetectable, and I’m guessing those same people would trust someone who claims they are negative without giving it a second thought.

I suspect that the 30-plus years of HIV stigma may lead people to not believe every leading expert in the world on HIV transmission and instead rely on their own misinformed opinion. I also believe that some may even use scare tactics to try and continue to marginalize those living with HIV.

None of this justifies, in my opinion, the now over-reaching requirement

jury, despite being innocent and despite it being impossible for me to transmit since I am undetectable, and then having to put the next 15 years of my life in 12 peoples’ hands.

Watch this video from DatingPositives for more information: Youtube.com/Watch?v=qUKczQOe8Xg.

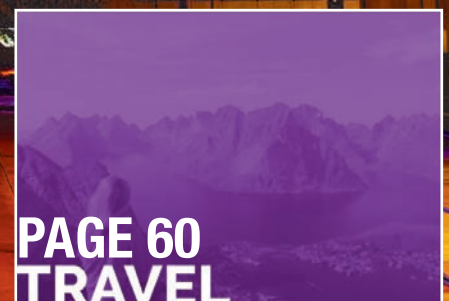
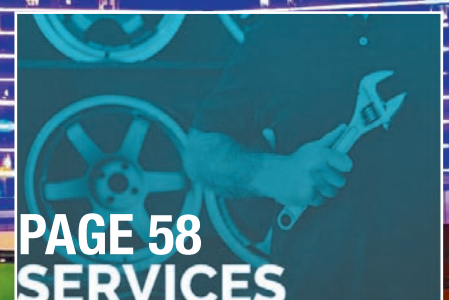
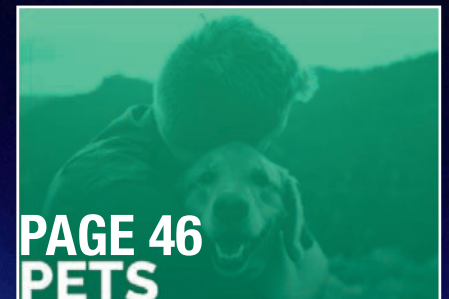
Josh Robbins is an award-winning sexual health advocate, author of the site instill-josh.com and spokesperson for DatingPositives.com. He was nominated for a GLAAD media award in 2017 and recently won the National Lesbian and Gay Journalist Association’s Excellence Award in the blogging category.

WHO WON...

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29th Readers Voice Awards edition!



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200 Miron Dr.

Southlake, Texas 76092 | 214.987.9210

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Welcome to the best of the best!




When you vote in the Readers Voice Awards — our annual tally of what LGBT North Texans find best about where they live — you have a chance of winning twice: First, seeing your favorites recognized, and second, by having your name drawn for our giveaway. This year's lucky recipient of a \$100 gift card to Mattito's, tickets to a TITAS show as well as \$500 in cash, was T.J. Griffin, pictured.

But he's not the only one who responded to our call. Thousands

and thousands of votes were cast in more than 100 categories (broken down into nine divisions). This year, the most popular division to vote in was Services, while the top individual vote-getter was Best Civil/Family Attorney. We are always open to new suggestions for categories you care about, so let us know for next year. Until then, enjoy reading right now about the best of Dallas that you added your voice to.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

EDITORIAL

Editor/Writer: **Arnold Wayne Jones**
Ballot Tallying: **WildBlue**

DESIGN

Art Director: **Kevin Thomas**
Graphic Artist: **Shawn Weston**
Photography: **Arnold Wayne Jones**

ADVERTISING

Sales: **Leo Cusimano**
Chad Mantooth
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Côtes du Coeur is a sensory experience that whets the palette and warms the heart. This premier event is a culmination of community and company leaders alongside a unique collection of renowned wineries and chefs. All are unified for the American Heart Association's mission that changes and saves lives.

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April 4, 2019

Chef Announcement Party
March 3, 2019

Grand Tasting
May 3, 2019

Côtes du Coeur Gala
May 4, 2019

For more information, visit cotesducoeur.heart.org

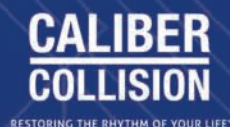


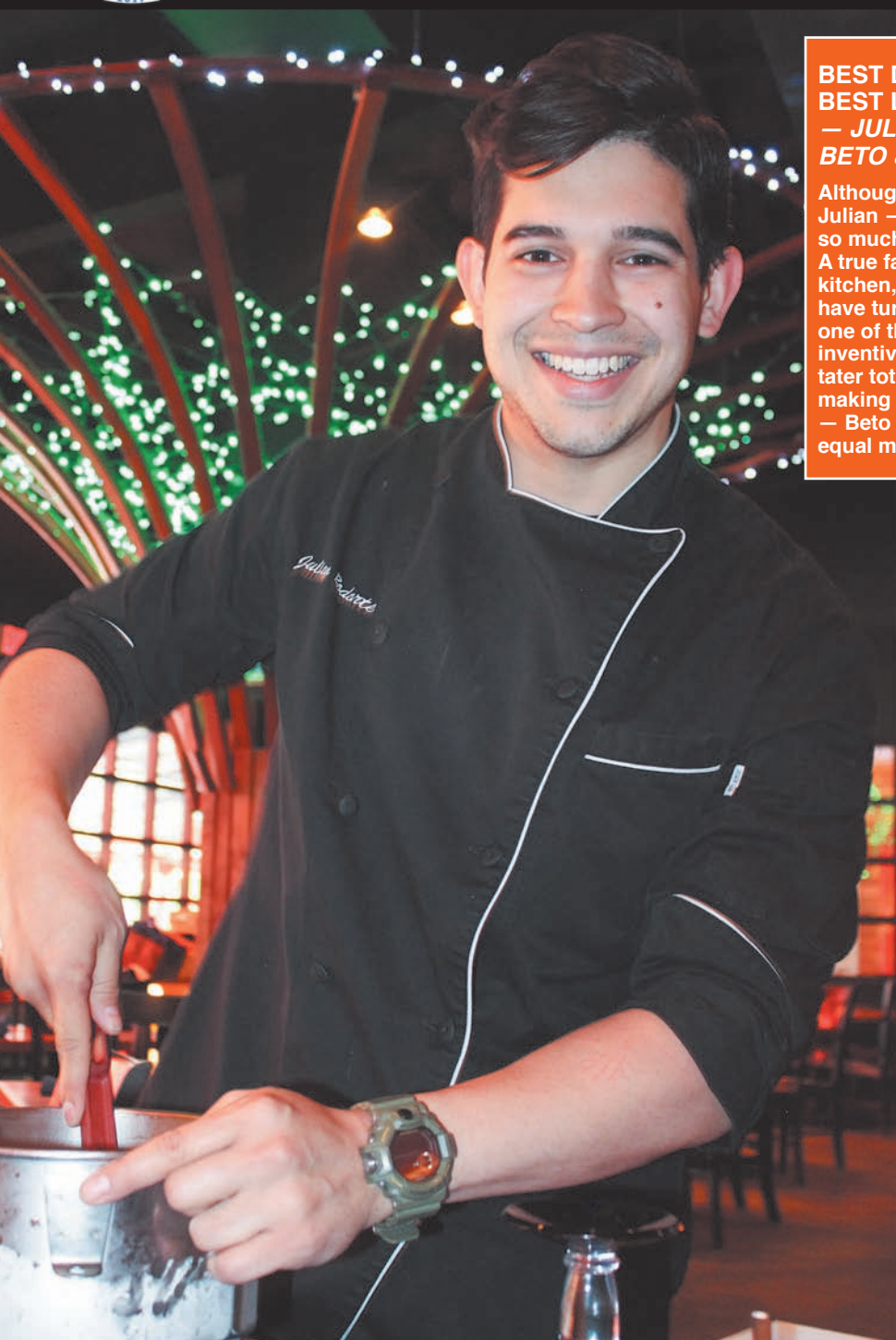
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**BEST DINING EXPERIENCE
BEST LOCAL CHEF
— JULIAN RODARTE
BETO & SON (at Trinity Groves)**

Although chef Beto Rodarte's name comes first, it's Julian — the Son in Beto & Son — who has stirred so much enthusiasm in the North Texas food scene. A true family business (Julian grew up in his dad's kitchen, so he learned from the best), the Rodartes have turned their Trinity Groves restaurant into one of the go-to places for Mexican cuisine. With inventive dishes (stacked enchiladas, 'totchos' — tater tot nachos) and drinks — Julian specializes in making margaritas out of liquid nitrogen, pictured — Beto & Son excites the palate and the patrons in equal measure.

**Best New Restaurant
Monica's Mex-Tex Cantina**

1326 S. Lamar St.

214-928-7700.

MonicasMexTex.com.

**Best Burger
Best Lunch Spot
Hunky's Old-Fashioned
Hamburgers**

3930 Cedar Springs Road and

321 N. Bishop Ave.

Hunkys.com.

**Best Patio
Cedar Springs Tap House**

4123 Cedar Springs Road, ste. 100.

214-377-7446.

CedarSpringsTapHouse.com.

**Best Diner
Norma's Café**

1123 W. Davis St.

NormasCafe.com.

BEST COCKTAIL MENU — THE STANDARD POUR

Any decent bar can serve you up a vodka-and-7 or rum-and-Coke and slake your thirst, but a great cocktail menu exposes you to concoctions you wouldn't have thought up yourself. That's the appeal of a drinking destination like The Standard Pour. The hip booze-and-bites spot in Uptown boasts a staff that creates not just good drinks, but memorable ones. And the daily happy hour (from 4–7p.m.) offers up a dozen classic cocktails with mixologic twists (the super-spicy Diablo Margarita, the savory-tart Samurai Gimlet) for a mere five-spot... and happy hour lasts all day on Mondays. Cheers to that!



**Best Dining Experience
Beto & Son (at Trinity Groves)**

3011 Gulden Lane.

469-249-8590.

BetoAndSon.com.

**Best Local Chef
Julian Rodarte**

Beto & Son (at Trinity Groves)

3011 Gulden Lane.

469-249-8590.

BetoAndSon.com.

**Best Taqueria
Taqueria La Ventana**

3847 Cedar Springs Road

and other locations.

972-432-5945.

TaqueriaLaVentana.com.

**Best Cocktail Menu
The Standard Pour**

2900 McKinney Ave.

214-935-1370.

TSPDallas.com.

There's more to a great taqueria than a great taco — I mean, it's a taco! It's already great. There's the salsas, the extras (like elotes and queso), the service and, of course, the vibe. And La Ventana's colorful space on Cedar Springs, as well as its jaunty music, chill atmosphere and late-night availability, have quickly made it an essential foodie destination in the gayborhood. And of course we love the wonderful, well-priced tacos as well, from the pastor to the bistek to the suadero and more.

Best Brunch
Bread Winners Café

3301 McKinney Ave.
and other locations.

BreadWinnersCafe.com.

Best Barbecue Pecan Lodge

2702 Main St.
214-748-8900.

PecanLodge.com.

Best Steak
**Bob's Steak
& Chop House**

4300 Lemmon Ave.

Bobs-SteakAndChop.com.

Best Asian/Sushi
Oishii

2525 Wycliffe Ave.

DallasOishii.com.

Best Italian/Pizza
Campisi's Restaurant

5610 E. Mockingbird Lane.

Campsis.us.

Best Tex-Mex

Gloria's Latin Cuisine

3223 Lemmon Ave.,

4140 Lemmon Ave.

and other locations.

GloriasCuisine.com.

Best Vegetarian Spot

Cosmic Café

2912 Oak Lawn Ave.

214-521-6157.

CosmicCafeDallas.com.

Best Vodka

MONICA'S

MEX TEX CANTINA

Thank You Dallas Voice

FOR THE RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT

[illegible]

Her traditions continue. Monica puffs, and huffs..... and she brings down barriers. But without you, she would not have a "VOICE."

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It's nice to be chosen!

Thank you to the Dallas Voice readers for selecting the SPCA of Texas as the best place to adopt a pet.

READERS VOICE awards PETS



Best Pet Grooming Hollywood Feed

3425 Knight St. and other locations.
214-774-9488. HollywoodFeed.com.

Best Boarding/Kenneling Best Pet Services

The Pooch Patio

2515 Manor Way.
214-525-1550. ThePoochPatio.com.

Best Veterinarian City Vet

2727 Oak Lawn Ave. and other locations.
CityVet.com.

Best Animal Adoption Organization SPCA of Texas

2400 Lone Star Drive.
Open daily at noon.
214-742-SPCA (7722). SPCA.org

BEST PET GROOMING — HOLLYWOOD FEED

When you leave your pooch with J.D. Howard at Hollywood Feed, you can be assured of two things: First, J.D. will take care of your pup as if it were his own. Second, you'll get back not only a happy doggie, but a gorgeous one. The grooming department J.D. leads is stocked full of repeat customers (Maurice, pictured, comes by once a week), but his clients are the dogs themselves whom he coifs with the care and skill of a hair stylist... because, let's face it, that's what he is.

Best Dog Park White Rock Dog Park

800 E. Mockingbird Lane.
214-670-4100. WhiteRockDogPark.org.

Pet Supply Pet Supplies Plus

2525 Wycliff Ave., ste.126
and other locations. 972-807-6317.
PetSuppliesPlus.com.



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Vote for 2019 Dallas PRIDE GRAND MARSHAL



Asha Drennon
aka Aundra Mikyles



Don Maison



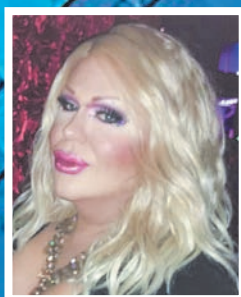
Frank Martinez



Krista DeLaRosa



Mack Campbell
aka Marsha Dimes



Jeff Roose
aka Jenni P



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— DALLAS PRIDE 2019 —

Each year we celebrate PRIDE honoring two distinguished Grand Marshals. These six uniquely qualified finalists have been selected from your nominations.

View the bio of each nominee and cast your vote at
dallaspride.org/grand-marshals-2019-voting/.

Grand Marshal voting ends on Friday, April 19th at Midnight.

Results will be announced Friday, April 26th in Dallas Voice and on our website dallaspride.org.



Vote now!! Dallas Pride Weekend is June 1-2, 2019 at Fair Park.

LOCAL LGBT COMMUNITY ROLE MODEL — TODD MARIA

Todd Maria wasn't born in Texas, but as the story goes, he got here as quickly as he could. The native of Honolulu has not only made Dallas his home for 14 years, he's made it his mission, having co-founded the Lost Souls Rugby Squad, serving as Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade grand marshal and being an all-around cheerleader for the community.



Local LGBT Community Role Model **Todd Maria**

President of Lost Souls Rugby Football Club.
LostSoulsRFC.org.

Best Local LGBT Sports Organization **Lost Souls Rugby Football Club**

LostSoulsRFC.org.

Best Performance Venue **Winspear Opera House**

2403 Flora St. ATTPAC.org.

Best Local Museum **Dallas Museum of Art**

1717 Harwood St.

Open daily (except Mondays)

at 10 a.m. (noon Sundays). DMA.org.

Best Architecture or Landmark **Dallas Downtown Arts District**

BEST ARCHITECTURE OR LANDMARK — DALLAS DOWNTOWN ARTS DISTRICT

Civic leaders like to tout Dallas' Arts District as being the largest contiguous outdoor district of its kind in the world, but the reality is far better than the marketing log-line. Not only are there beautiful performing spaces (the Winspear Opera House, the Wyly Theatre, the Meyerson Symphony Center and Moody Performance Hall) and museums (Dallas Museum of Art, Nasher Sculpture Center and Crow Museum of Asian Art), there are also Dallas' arts-magnet high school (Booker T. Washington High School for Visual and Performing Arts), the impressive One Arts Plaza mixed-use building, great restaurants and more. No wonder it stands out as a landmark.





Best Local Straight Ally **Dale Hansen**

Sports Editor, WFAA-TV, Channel 8.

Best Public Space **Klyde Warren Park**

2012 Woodall Rodgers Freeway.

Best Party for a Cause **Black Tie Dinner**

38th Annual Dinner, Nov. 2, 2019.

BlackTie.org.

Best Local LGBT Nonprofit **Resource Center**

5750 Cedar Springs Road.

214-521-5124. MyResourceCenter.org.

Best Art Gallery **Ginger Fox Gallery**

1531 Dragon St.

214-914-4126.

GingerFoxGallery.com.

Best Local Artist **Andrew Kochie**



SATURDAY 2PM MATINEE ADDED!

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BEST BARTENDER
— **USLOY REYNA**

What a difference a year makes! In 2017, Usloy Reyna was living in Houston where he was affected by Hurricane Harvey. He decided to move to Dallas, and for a few months was living out of his car and occasionally couch-surfing, and often dining on the free popcorn at JR.'s. Well, hanging around there led eventually to a job as a bartender there, and he quickly became a customer favorite. In just over a year, the handsome, upbeat man has gone from homeless to honoree. Congrats, Usloy.

Best Bartender
Usloy Reyna

JR.'s Bar & Grill.
3923 Cedar Springs Road.
214-528-1004.
PartyAtTheBlock.com.

Best Club DJ
DJ Mateo

Spins at TMC.

Best Theme Night
Trashy Tuesdays | TMC

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

Best Straight Bar for
LGBTs

The Grapevine Bar

3902 Maple Ave. 214-522-8466.
GrapevineBar.com

Best Place for Lesbians
Sue Ellen's

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

Best Latinx Club
Kaliente

4350 Maple Ave. 214-520-6676.

Best Karaoke Host
Wayne Smith, Cher-E-Okee

Best Exotic Dancer
Jay Stallions, Club Stallions

11311 Harry Hines Blvd. 972-997-1493.

Best Local Drag Performer
Cassie Nova,
The Rose Room at S4

3911 Cedar Springs Road.
PartyOnTheBlock.com.

Best Beer Bust
The Hidden Door

5025 Bowser Ave.
Beer bust on Sundays. 214-526-0620.
HiddenDoor-Dallas.com.

Best Place to
Get a Lap Dance
Tin Room

2514 Hudhall St. 214-526-6365.

Hottest Hookup App
GRINDR



BEST GAY BAR
FRIENDLIEST STAFF
— **TMC: THE MINING COMPANY**

TMC proved popular this year with Dallas Voice readers in a number of categories, and that says a lot about the storied bar, which has survived moves and changes in style to remain a draw with Dallasites. Surely one reason is how friendly the staff is (even as the club is undergoing renovations). Add to that Club DJ winner Mateo, and you have a successful combination for a popular hang.

Best Gay Bar
Friendliest Staff
TMC:
The Mining Company
3903 Cedar Springs Road.
214-521-4205.
TMCDallas.com

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It's easy to look at a whole lot of nothing, and see, well, nothing. Being able to spot potential before others notice it is a tougher thing to master. Realizing that potential is tougher still, and for us it involved lots of long days in the summer heat, but we're proud to produce proof that world-class craft beer can come from the middle of Texas.

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Best Local Band, Group,
or Musician
Mi Diva Loca

Best Local Singer (Female)
Laura Carrizales

Best Local Singer (Male)
Chris Chism

Best Theatrical Presenter
AT&T Performing Arts Center
ATTPAC.org

Best Local Production/Play
**Angels in America —
Part II: Perestroika**
(Uptown Players)

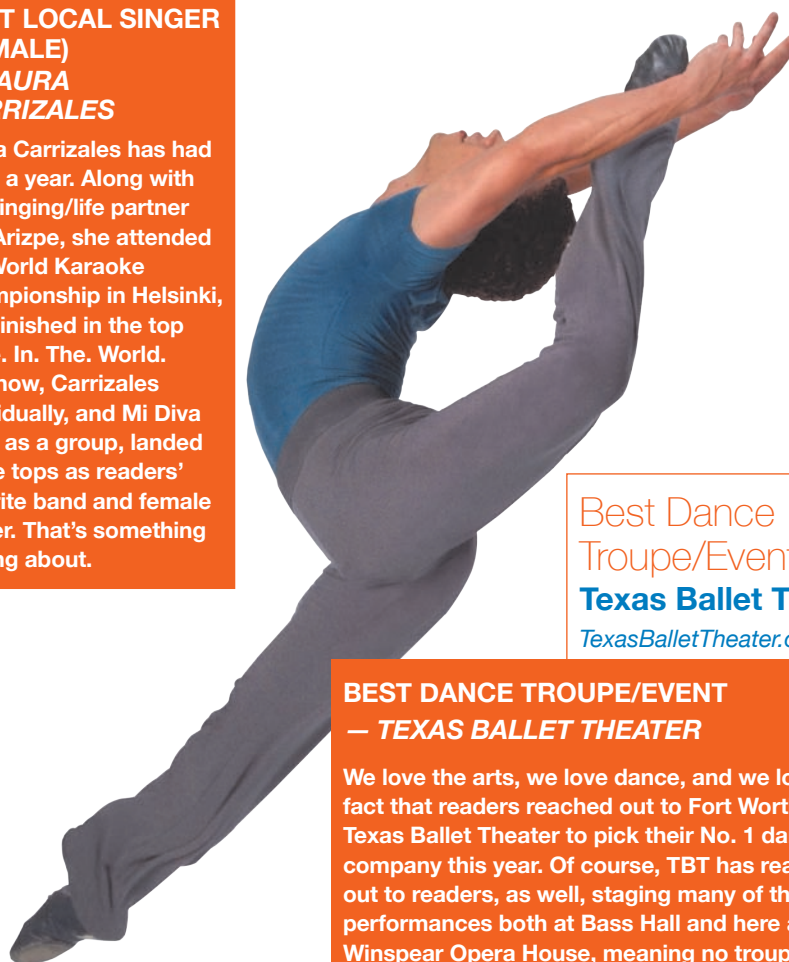
Performed Sept. 28–Oct. 7, 2018,
at the Kalita Humphreys Theater.

Best Local Production/
Musical
Hairspray

(Dallas Theater Center and
AT&T Performing Arts Center)
Performed July 7–15, 2018,
at the Winspear Opera House.

**BEST LOCAL SINGER
(FEMALE)
— LAURA
CARRIZALES**

Laura Carrizales has had quite a year. Along with her singing/life partner Mel Arizpe, she attended the World Karaoke Championship in Helsinki, and finished in the top three. In. The. World. And now, Carrizales individually, and Mi Diva Loca as a group, landed in the tops as readers' favorite band and female singer. That's something to sing about.



Best Dance
Troupe/Event
Texas Ballet Theater
TexasBalletTheater.org

**BEST DANCE TROUPE/EVENT
— TEXAS BALLET THEATER**

We love the arts, we love dance, and we love the fact that readers reached out to Fort Worth-based Texas Ballet Theater to pick their No. 1 dance company this year. Of course, TBT has reached out to readers, as well, staging many of their performances both at Bass Hall and here at the Winspear Opera House, meaning no troupe does a better job of giving all of North Texas a chance to enjoy the magic of dance.

Best Local Stage Director
Jeremy Dumont

Directing credits in 2018 include
A Chorus Line (Uptown Players).

Best Local Dramatic
Actor/Actress
Walter Lee

Performing credits include
*Angels in America — Part II:
Perestroika* (Uptown Players).

Best Local Musical
Actor/Actress
Liz Mikel

Performing credits for 2018 included
Hairspray and *Steel Magnolias*
(both Dallas Theater Center).

Best Local Arts
Organization
Turtle Creek Chorale

3630 Harry Hines Blvd., ste. 360.
214-526-3214. TurtleCreek.org.

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— TOYOTA OF IRVING**

Renowned for its quality and fuel efficiency, Toyota offers a range of coveted vehicles, from the value-priced Yaris to the iconic Prius, affordable Corolla, stylish Camry, full luxury Avalon and family-friendly Sienna mini-van, plus crossovers to beat the band. But what brings customers back to Toyota of Irving isn't merely the inventory but the customer service, the friendly atmosphere and the chance to get a good deal. Oh, and the all-new Supra is amazing, and nobody builds a cooler pickup than the Tacoma. So there.

**Best Import Auto
Dealership**

Toyota of Irving

1919 W. Airport Freeway, Irving.
972-258-1200. ToyotaOfIrving.com.

**Best Gay Apparel (tie)
Skivvies**

4001 Cedar Springs Road.
214-559-4955. SkivviesDallas.net.

Outlines

3906 Cedar Springs Road.
214-528-1955.

**Best Adult Novelties
Alternatives of New Fine Arts**

1720 W. Mockingbird Lane.
214-630-7071.

**Best Furniture
Cantoni**

4800 Alpha Road, Farmers Branch.
972-934-9191. Cantoni.com/dallas.

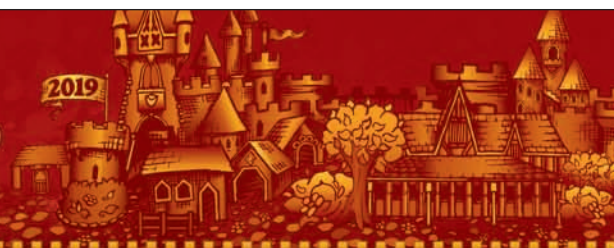
**Best Thrift Store
Out of the Closet**

3920 Cedar Springs Road.
214-599-2173. OutOfTheCloset.org.

**Best Vintage/Antiques/
Consignment
Lula B's**

1010 N. Riverfront Blvd. 214-769-1929.
LulaBsDallas.com.

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Best Collectibles/Comics
Zeus Comics and Collectibles

1334 Inwood Road. 214-219-8697.

ZeusComics.com.

Best Domestic Auto
Dealership

Sewell Dealerships

Various locations along Lemmon Avenue.

Sewell.com.

Best Grocery Store

Kroger

4142 Cedar Springs Road and other locations. 214-599-9859. Kroger.com.

Best Florist

McShan Florist

10311 Garland Road. 214-324-2481.

McShanFlorist.com.

Best Liquor and
Wine Selection

Goody Goody Liquor

3316 Oak Lawn Ave., and other locations.

Open Monday–Saturday at 10 a.m.

214-765-6878. GoodyGoody.com.

Best Eyewear/Optical

Fashion Optical

3430 Oak Lawn Ave. 214-526-6006.

FashionOpticalDallas.com.

Best Garden Supply/
Nursery

North Haven Gardens

7700 Northaven Road. 214-363-5316.

NHG.com.

**BEST GARDEN
SUPPLY/
NURSERY
— NORTH
HAVEN
GARDENS**

When the weather gets nice, our minds turn to the joys of spring — flowers, plants and cleaning. And North Haven Gardens has you covered on two of the three. But in addition to a great assortment of fresh and diverse foliage, there are other draws to this gardening institution, including a great accessories, an art gallery and a café. That's home improvement that really fits your style.



From our family to you:

Thank you!

For voting for us on the Readers Voice Awards!



**SUNDAY
MAY 26TH**

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PERFORMANCES**
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SUESAPALOOZA
Music Fest



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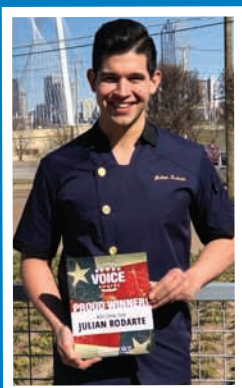


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**Chef
Julian
Rodarte**

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Dallas, Texas

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betoandson.com

Sun-Mon 11am-9pm
Tue-Thu 11am-10pm
Fri-Sat 11am-11pm



BEST CHIROPRACTOR — MICHAEL SHIPPY, D.C.

Although nobody said they secretly call Michael Shippy "Dr. Feelgood," we wouldn't be surprised if that became a meme. As one of the top chiropractors in North Texas, Shippy has been treating his patients with a firm hand and a strong sense of bedside manner for years. Armed with knowledge of physiology and a grasp of how to make an alignment that alleviates pain and increases wellness, he muscled his way to the top of our readers' hearts. Give that man a hand!

Best Chiropractor Michael Shippy, D.C.

4000 W. Park Blvd., Plano.
972-769-9500. ShippyChiropractor.com.

Best Optometrist William Henderson, O.D.

Uptown Vision.
2504 Cedar Springs Road.
214-953-3937. UptownVisionDallas.com.

Best Urgent/Emergency Care Facility CareNow

Dozens of locations. CareNow.com.

Best Gym LA Fitness

4540 W. Mockingbird Lane and
other locations. LAFitness.com.

Best Group Medical Practice

Best HIV Specialist Uptown Physicians Group

4144 North Central Expressway, ste. 750.
214-303-1033.
UptownPhysiciansGroup.com.

Best General Practitioner

David Lee, M.D.

Uptown Physicians Group.

4144 North Central Expressway, ste. 750.
214-303-1033.

UptownPhysiciansGroup.com.

Best Dermatologist

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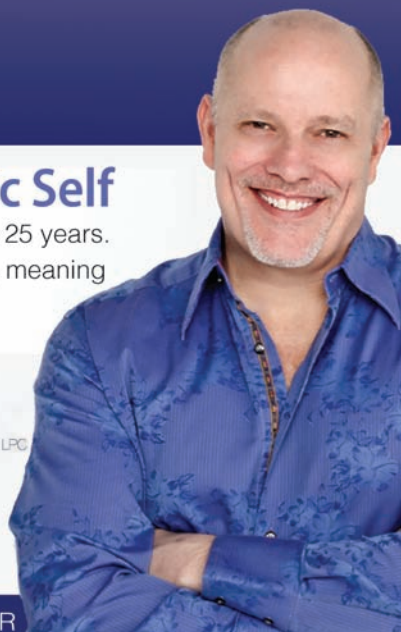
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BEST PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER — DEBRA GLORIA

Well, shoot. What could be better than a shoot that goes well? And if you have Debra Gloria behind the lens, a shoot going well is all but guaranteed. She's coming up on 30 years as a professional photographer, and in those years, she's learned a thing or two... or 208. Adept at art photography (she's done a series called Sensuality focusing on the female form), portraits, landscapes, fashion and anything else you can think of, Gloria is rightly in-demand for her gifts with a camera.

BEST MANI-PEDI — NAILED NAIL BAR

The gay community didn't need *Queer Eye* or the term metrosexual to know that a little pampering goes a long way. If you want an idea how much so, just look around the gayborhood and try to throw a Gucci bag without hitting a nail salon. We love our mani-pedis! So it says something special that Nailed Nail Bar stood out for readers. The luxe facility, which serves booze while you get your claws tamed, knows a lot about customer service... and how to make your hands and feet look on fleek.

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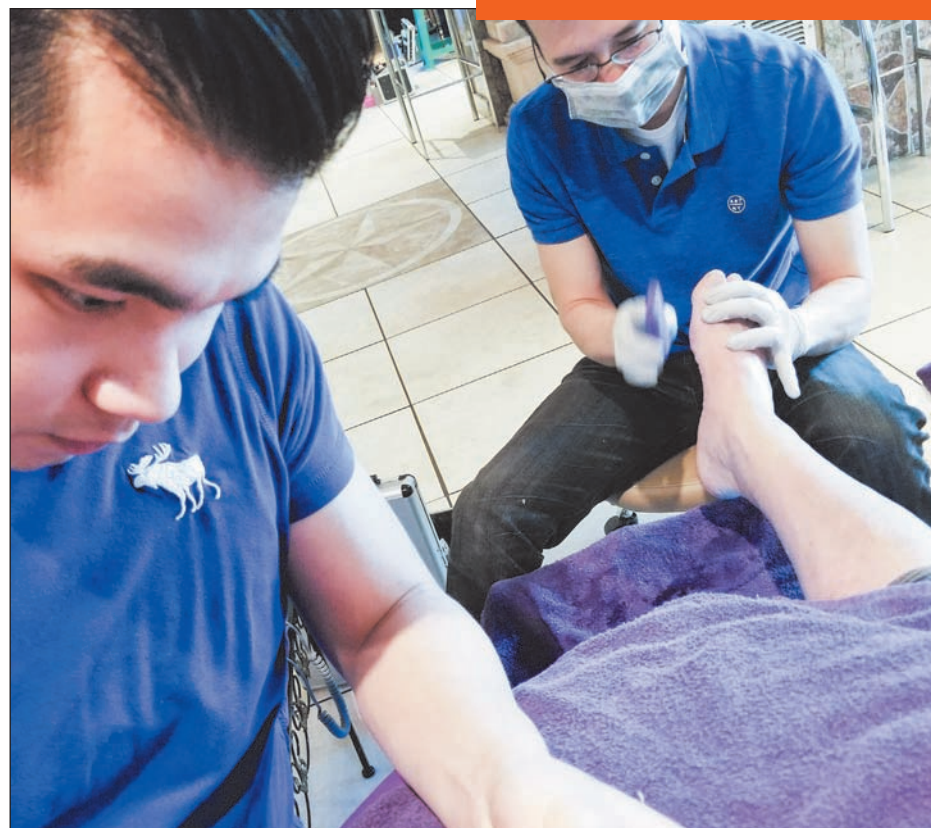
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'Disaster' relief

Dancing, danger and drollery in Uptown Players' best spoof in years



A motley band of misfits struggle to survive to the hits of Summer, Simon and Manilow in the hysterical 'Disaster!' (Photo courtesy Mike Morgan)

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Ah, the 1970s, when disco was still king, bell-bottoms were considered cool and nobody had heard of a mobile telephone. Some might say the fashion, the music, the politics, the whole culture was a disaster... which may explain why disaster films — starting with 1970's *Airport* (hijacker) and continuing through *The Poseidon Adventure* (tidal wave), *The Towering Inferno* (fire), *Earthquake*, *The Swarm*, *Meteor*, *When Time Ran Out* (volcano) and a host of other films dominated at the box office. They were our superhero movies, all-star extravaganzas that, as cheesily enjoyable as they were at the time, haven't exactly held up.

Except in Seth Rudetsky and Jack Plotnick's musical *Disaster!*, now on-stage at the Kalita courtesy of Uptown Players, which does send-up with spec-

tacular success.

All the tropes are there: The builder (Greg Hullett) who cut corners on safety; the scientist (Josh Bangle) who rings the alarm of danger as man disregards nature's warning signs; the couple (Linda Leonard, Randy Pearlman) finally ready to retire; the famous singer (Chimberley Carter Byrom) who's

secretly on the skids; the single mom (Cara Statham Serber) who's hooked up with the wrong guy. Rather than feeling like bad ideas

conspiring together, though, *Disaster* is a potluck stew, seasoned perfectly.

Like all great spoofs, the comedy works best when everyone in the cast realizes that overacting is all but impossible, and holding a straight face in the presence of insanity only makes the laughs harder. Kyle Ignezi leads the way on that score as the horny but heroic Kyle Rubik, a player who still carries a torch for the woman who ditched him at the altar (Alyssa Cavazos). Leonard,

DISASTER!
Kalita Humphreys Theater,
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Through April 7. UptownPlayers.org

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almost unrecognizable under a frumpy wig, gets to twitch and thrust and tap-dance her way through fatal symptoms as a woman possessed. Nevertheless, her duet with Pearlman to the bubbly hit “Still the One” ends up being both campy and touching.

But even they can’t hold a candle to the explosive dynamite of Laura Lites and Quin Solley. Lites, as repressed nun Sister Mary Downy finds herself tempted by the allure of gambling — a temptation to which she eventually succumbs. Lites gyrates and writhes against a slot machine to the strains of “Never Can Say Goodbye,” mugging with such total abandon that the audience burst into a frenzy on opening night. Solley plays 9-year-old Ben and his twin sister Lisa with little more than the addition of a baseball cap with braids, yet there’s so much more to the performance than it sounds. Solley toggles between the characters even when a rag doll onstage serves as a placeholder for the other twin. If Lites is

channeling Carol Burnett, Solley’s muse is Tim Conway.

The fake doll is only one of the sly jabs at the ridiculousness of it all that really helps sell *Disaster* as parody and not just a poorly-executed jukebox musical. It is precisely the things that don’t go right that make the whole thing work. Director B.J. Cleveland hits all the bits head-on, not missing a single visual gag or cliché that can be turned upside down. Yet within the construct of the show, he also delivers a slick production, with energetic and engaging choreography by Trevor Wright.

And of course there are the songs — wonderful/awful hits shoehorned brilliantly into the plot, among them Donna Summer’s “Hot Stuff,” “Saturday Night,” “Sky High,” “Three Times a Lady” and (as an old K-Tel ad might have promised) many, many more. You’ll be toe-tapping with nostalgia... or perhaps realizing that when it comes to disasters, the ‘70s were nothing compared to today. ■



SOLUNA FESTIVAL RETURNS

Austin just concluded its South By Southwest Festivals and Conference, but for a few years, Dallas has been developing its own take on a comprehensive expo of the arts. The Soluna International Music & Arts Festival, presented by the Nancy A. Nasher and David Haemisegger Family in conjunction with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, starts this week (April 4) and runs until April 28. Among the musical offerings are classical, jazz, opera, pop and

even mariachi, as well as plays (the Dallas Theater Center’s production of *Twelfth Night*), dance and more. Key in among the schedule for the first week that’s exciting us: Academy Award-nominated composer Terrence Blanchard will be on hand at the Alamo Drafthouse Cedars to discuss the art of scoring a motion picture — specifically, his incredible work on *BlacKkKlansman*, pictured. That’s just a taste of what Soluna has in store.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Visit MyDSO.com/soluna for a full lineup of programming.

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Milk' and 'Sugar'

2 books to quench your reading needs

***Sugar Run* by Mesha Maren**
(Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill 2019) \$26.95; 320 pp.

She'd been told she'd spend decades behind bars. But there she was, ready to leave after only 18 years inside Jaxton Prison, a ticket in her hand and \$400 borrowed from her brothers. Jodi McCarty was going home to West Virginia.

But first, she had to find Ricky. He was in Georgia, and she had time.

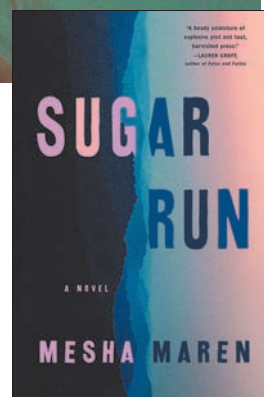
Ricky was the brother of Paula — Jodi's lover and the woman she killed. It had always been Paula's dream to get him far away from their abusive father. Jodi knew that was something *she* had to do now, so she headed to Chaunce-

loraine before re-starting her life on her grandmother's farm. And in her search for Ricky, Jodi found Miranda.

When Miranda left her husband, she really only wanted attention but she got a surprise instead: He took their three boys and left her with no money. With no home, she was staying at the run-down motel near where Jodi had landed. Half-drunk one night, she ended up in Jodi's room — and stayed.

Days before her first meeting with a parole officer in West Virginia, Jodi gath-

ered Miranda and the boys she'd helped steal back, and she headed home, having talked Ricky into leaving with her. Jodi loved Miranda, and the cabin where she'd grown up was a good place to raise kids. It was in rough shape, but it was home.



As it turned out, it was someone else's home: the land was sold for back taxes while Jodi was in prison, and fracking miners were buying up the area. Jodi didn't know what to do and, as the pressure to care for her makeshift little family grew, she realized that she didn't know Ricky or Miranda very well, either.

With the slam of a door, *Sugar Run* starts out with a stunned shiver and it sprints. Author Mesha Maren perfectly captures the surrealness of being snatched from an unwanted reality and hurled into one that doesn't make sense. Even if you've only just driven past a prison, you'll know the crush of it.

Back and forth the story goes, as we learn what happened when Jodi was 17. That's a mandatory part of the tale, and it's also, sadly, the cause of some disorientation since things begin to unravel as it's populated with more and more people. Readers are rewarded with a gauzy, delicate ending but the last dozen pages make it tough getting there.

And that's too bad, since there's more overall-positive things to say about this book than not. Try *Sugar Run*, linger,



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and you might love it, but beware: you might also just as soon wish you'd left it.

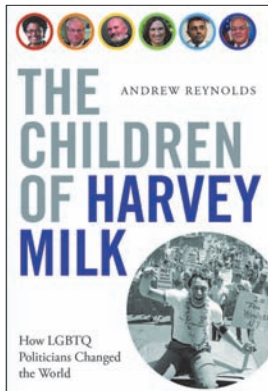
***The Children of Harvey Milk: How LGBTQ Politicians Changed the World* by Andrew Reynolds (Oxford University Press 2019) \$34.95; 354 pp.**

In the latter part of June 1978, Harvey Milk, known to locals as the Mayor of Castro Street, called former Army nurse Gilbert Baker and asked him to make something special for the upcoming Gay Freedom parade. At that time, the rainbow flag was a rebel flag, but Baker subsumed it into a symbol of Pride.

By the end of that year, Milk was dead and rainbow flags were still "rare and exotic" ... as were openly-gay politicians. Just a handful of "LGB" people were in office around the world at that time; it would be years before the first openly-trans individual would be elected.

Andrew Reynolds tells their stories, beginning with a battle in New Zealand's Parliament that was narrowly won, followed four years later by a marriage equality victory in nearby Australia. He writes of two gay politicians who squared off in Great Britain, noting that laws against buggery were still on the books when they ran. He tells of a Dutch politician who, by mere months, preceded Harvey Milk as the world's first openly-gay man to serve in office. And he shares a story of politics in Ireland, "the first country in the world to pass gay marriage by popular referendum."

Closer to home, Reynolds writes about Barney Frank, his first political battle for civil rights, and the "under-celebrated" woman who inspired him. Reynolds recalls the beginning of the AIDS crisis, and what it was like to be active in politics then. He writes of trans politicians Sarah McBride and Danica Roem, and the fierce but highly ironic story of Pauli Murray, whose great-aunt's land donation helped



build a university that ultimately denied bathroom access to trans individuals.

If you see *The Children of Harvey Milk* on a shelf somewhere, you may be confused by the title. Reynolds is referring to Milk's spiritual descendants in political office who happen to be gay.

Fully half of Reynolds' book is about politics overseas, and some of it won't make sense unless you've got basic knowledge of how other governments work. Without it, you may not fully ap-

preciate the significance of what you'll read, though Reynolds is a good teacher. Here, readers will easily learn, and *what* they learn is absolutely inspiring.

For political animals, this book is an easy choice. For the slightly clueless, it's a know-your-history book that doesn't dwell strictly domestically. For a casual reader, it may be challenging but in the end, *The Children of Harvey Milk* could be the most informative book you'll lay eyes on.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer

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Tuesday 04.02
— **Sunday 05.05**

'Hamilton' finally makes its North Texas debut

We always like to support the underdogs, so we are pleased we can recommend a little musical you might not have heard of... if you are emerging from a five-year-long coma. Already a defining work of art of the 21st century, Lin-Manuel Miranda's hip-hop musical about the Founding Fathers — especially Aaron Burr and the title character, Alexander Hamilton — is a sensation of history, music, theater, racial inclusion and just pure energy. It settles in at Fair Park Music Hall for a month, but tickets are tight so move fast!

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



Saturday 03.30

Toast to Life celebrates with Bootlegger's Ball

Get out your best Gatsby gear, look for a green light across the lake and pull out your stash of hooch — it's time for the Bootlegger's Ball. Well, that's the theme anyway for this year's Toast to Life party, a gala fundraiser for the Resource Center. The 21st annual event, presented by the Purple Foundation, features music by The Singapore Slingers and DJ Blake Ward, host Steve Kimble and lots of bites and drinks. (Shhhh! Don't let the revenuers in on it!) Attire is flapper and dapper.

DEETS: Empire Room,
1225 N. Riverfront Blvd. 7-11 p.m.
MyResourceCenter.org.



Friday 03.29 —
Sunday 04.28

Musical revue 'Bubbling Brown Sugar' opens at Jubilee

The Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s-'40s earned its name because of the explosion of creativity in art,

literature, poetry and music... maybe especially music, with folks like Fats Waller, Earl Hines, Duke Ellington, Eubie Blake, Nobel Sissle, Cab Calloway and Billie Holliday. That period forms the basis of the 1970s musical *Bubbling Brown Sugar*, a jukebox extravaganza of the swing, jazz, live and torch songs that defined a generation.

DEETS: Jubilee Theatre,
506 Main St., Fort Worth.
JubileeTheatre.org.



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The DFW Auto Show continues at the Convention Center through Sunday.

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

Bubblin' Brown Sugar. Lively musical revue about the music of the Harlem Renaissance — Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday and more. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through April 28. JubileeTheatre.org.

Disaster! Seth Rudetsky and Jack Plotnick co-wrote this musical spoof of 1970s-era disaster movies. Presented by Uptown Players. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through April 14. UptownPlayers.org.

The Higher Love, a new play by Germaine Shames, receives a staged reading from WingSpan Theatre, now in its 22nd season. In it, two impressionable actors land the roles of poet Khalil Gibran and his patron, and grapple with understanding their characters. Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. Friday–Saturday at 7:30 p.m. WingSpanTheatre.com.

Fool for Love. The new Classic Theatre Project returns with its second show, Sam Shepard's dark, surreal romance. *Final weekend.* Margo Jones Theater at Fair Park. TheClassicTheatreProject.com.

The Wolves. A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, this play deals with the cutthroat world of girl's high school soccer. Studio Theatre at the Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through April 14. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

A Few Good Men. The stage play about hazing in the military and the quest for justice. Presented by Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. March 29–April 14. TheatreArlington.org.

CONCERTS

Leslie Odom Jr. The Tony Award-winning star of *Hamilton* performs with the DSO. Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. MyDSO.com.

DANCE

Ezralow Dance. Dallas debut of the modern

dance troupe, presented by TITAS. Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. March 29–30. ATTPAC.org.

OPERA

La Boheme. Perhaps Puccini's most beloved opera, and among the most performed, about Bohemians living in Paris during *le fin de siècle*. *Reviewed this week.* Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through March 31. DallasOpera.org.

MAGIC

Jason Bishop: The Illusionist. The magician performs. Presented by Casa Manana, 3101 W. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth. Through April 7. CasaManana.org.

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FINE ART

Berthe Morisot: Woman Impressionist. One of the most acclaimed of the Impressionists in her lifetime, Morisot fell into obscurity in the 20th century but has been rediscovered for her talent in this comprehensive exhibition. Dallas Museum of Art 1717 Harwood St. Through May 5. DMA.org.

Fortuny: Friends and Followers. Examination of the influence of the 19th century Spanish painter. Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd. on the SMU campus. Through June 3. MeadowsMuseumDallas.org.

A Reverent Heart: Portraits by Richard D. Curtin. A masters of art exhibition featuring the work of Curtin, aka Edna Jean Robinson. Fine Arts Gallery at Sul Ross State University, East Highway 90, Alpine. Through April 5.

EXPO

Dallas Auto Show. The feast of new car models and concepts continues at Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center, 650 S. Griffin St. Through Sunday. DFWAutoShow.com.

FRIDAY 03.29

COMMUNITY

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

SATURDAY 03.30

COMMUNITY

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

FUNDRAISER

Toast to Life: Bootlegger's Ball. Annual party benefiting Resource Center. Hosted by Steve Kemble. The Empire Room, 1225 N. Riverfront Blvd. 7–11 p.m. MyResourceCenter.org.

MONDAY 04.01

CABARET

Mama's Party. Weekly cabaret night with special guest performances. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St., Grand Prairie. 7:35 p.m. \$10.

TUESDAY 04.02

FILM

Tootsie. Possibly the best comedy of all time, Tootsie is a cross-dressing farce about an out-of-work actor who becomes a star when he creates a female alter ego.

Nominated for 10 Academy Awards — all deserved. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series, which now includes a matinee. Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

THEATER

Hamilton. A small musical you may have heard of. Fair Park Music Hall, 909 First Ave. April–May 5. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

THURSDAY 04.04

CABARET

Glitterbomb Denton. Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday, now at a new locale and new time. Andy's Bar, 122 N. Locust St., Denton. 8 p.m.

BROADCAST

Project Runway. The design competition returns, with two Dallas designers in the mix. Now back on Bravo. 7 p.m.

FRIDAY 04.05

DANCE

Pilobolus. The return of the popular modern dance troupe, presented by TITAS. Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. April 5–6. ATPAC.org.

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Cassie Nova

Who you callin' chicken?

Hey, y'all. Recently, I have been seeing a lot of posts on social media about Chick-fil-a and how they have given butt loads of money to anti-LGBT groups. Shocker! We have known that since 2012 when the CEO of the company said they were against gay marriage and gay rights. Back then, a lot of my gay brothers and sisters, and many of our straight allies, started a personal ban on eating there — my husband and I among those that swore off the devil chicken.

It pissed me off to no end, because I fucking love their food. Their spicy chicken sandwich was so good. Back then, one of the things that bothered me most was how many of my gay friends didn't care that they gave money to help make sure us gays could never get married — they just wanted their delicious waffle fries. Like they were some kind of cutting-edge gay rebels: "I don't give a fuck what anybody says!" I guess it surprised me.

I know that the restaurants are franchised, and not all of the owners feel the same as the CEO, but I still refuse to be a Chick-no-gay patron. They opened one here in Midlothian, and it is always busy. Hell, even the one down the street from the gayborhood is always packed. I know that my not eating there is not going to make a bit of difference to their bottom line, but I just can't bring myself to go there except on Sunday. (That's a joke — they are closed on Sunday... the Lord's day and all.)

I know that there are many companies that are anti-LGBT, and if I boycotted all of them I would probably starve to death and die naked. But once I know that a company spends millions to upset my way of life, I am done with them.

I did a little research, and I have come to the conclusion that I will go to Target, use Tide, order on Amazon and eat at Chipotle. I will support companies that support us. I know much of this is hypocritical, and I am sure people will want to argue with me no matter what company I say I am for or against. But at least I feel like I am doing something.

Some days it feels like the entire world is against us. Other days it seems like we are accepted everywhere, and the world has changed. But then I see a friend on Facebook posting about being called a faggot and ding! Back to square one. It's a roller coaster.

I ask all of you that read this to please stop eating at Chick-fil-A for one year... or forever. I have an idea: Every time you start to crave Chick-fil-A, masturbate or have sex. Put something else in your mouth! It's teaching yourself with positive reinforcement. You will be able to give up your devil chicken addiction in no time, and you can feel good about doing so. You can do it!

Now let me get a little helpful and reply to one of your letters.



Dear Cassie, I know you have a bunch of dogs, so I wanted to ask your advice on training my dog not to potty in the house. He is about a year-and-a-half old and still pees in the house when I am at work. I am sick of it, but I love my baby. What should I do? Thanks, Mark

Dear Mark, First I want to say I feel your pain. I have six dogs, and it has been a struggle to get them all trained. Five of them are boys, and they went through a phase of marking their territory, meaning that each one would hike his leg on the same table leg till I finally caught them in the act and put an end to it. I screamed; they jumped, and they finally stopped.

I also have a couple of questions. Does your dog have free range of the house while you are gone? If so, he shouldn't. I believe in crate training until they are completely potty trained. You just have to make sure that they are not left in the crate for too long. Look into crate training; there are plenty of books and articles on how to effectively use it.

Dogs love a routine. If you keep your dog on the same schedule for when you take him outside, they will learn faster than if you have no schedule. I take my dogs out first thing when I wake up, even before I go pee myself. When training a pup, if they are smaller, pick them up as soon as you get them out of the crate or off the bed and do not sit him down until you are outside at the place you want him to potty. Then praise him like crazy once he potties outside. Positive reinforcement works better and faster than freaking out on them. Trust me — I learned that the hard way.

I don't want anyone to think I'm some kind of dog whisperer, because I certainly am not. I can usually train a dog to sit in just a few minutes, but when it comes to other training stuff — I suck. One of my babies, an asshole named Toby, will not drink out of the flowing water bowl we have, and will only drink out of the water bowl if it is filled to the very top. He is scared of almost everything. Once his dog tag clinked against the ceramic water bowl and scared him, and now you would think the water bowl was a snake reared back to strike.

Bowls! The little fucker is scared of bowls. I have to feed him on a flat towel. He would rather starve to death than eat out of a bowl. He's so weird. I swear I want to write Caesar Milan and ask him to fix my goofy little Chihuahua.

We have a Chow named Lucy that will put her front paws in the grass but pee on the sidewalk. Then have to hop over her own stream of piss like it is lava.

Then there is Benji, who growls and gets mad if you baby talk to him at all. One second you are petting him and all is good, the next second you call him a good boy, and he gets mad, growls at you and walks away pissed at the world. It makes no sense to me. Each one of my dogs is weird in their own way; they are all so different. It sure keeps life interesting. Good luck with training your baby.

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



Making the **SCENE** the week of **March 29-April 4:**

- **1851 Club:** Rochelle Roulette, Ronnie Mykyles and Sapphire Davenport on Friday. Tara St. Stone, Chanel St. John and Nia Courtland on Saturday.
- **515 Bar:** Karaoke at 9 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Alexandre's:** Anton Shaw Band on Saturday. Wayne Smith on Sunday. K-Marie on Tuesday. Vero Voz on Wednesday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** College Basketball's Sweet 16 Games on 19 TVs at 6 p.m. on Friday.
- **Club Changes:** Divine Miss Divas: Blondes Have More Fun at 10 p.m. on Friday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** United Court presents Mr. & Miss Texas Star from 5-9 p.m. on Saturday. Purple Party presents SCORE! From 10 p.m.-2 a.m. on Saturday. United Court plays Match Game from 6-9 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Havana:** Showtime is 11 p.m. on Thursday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** Cassie's Freak Show at 11 p.m. on Monday.
- **Liquid Zoo:** RuPaul's Drag Race Viewing Party from 8-10 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Marty's Live:** Monday Night Showcase with Chanel Champagne.
- **Pekers:** Sable Alexander presents True Colors Show to benefit her bid for Miss North Texas Pride, with food at 4 p.m. and show at 5 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** PSSA Switch Hitters Ball from 6-10 p.m. on Sunday. The Showdown at 11 p.m. on Tuesday. RuPaul's Drag Race Watch Party at 7 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** Vivienne Vermouth Presents on Saturday. The Southpaw Preachers at 5 p.m. on Sunday, followed by The Tuxedos. Tuesday Bluesday with Tyla. The Queer Off at 10:30 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **The Rose Room:** Kenya Black on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- **TMC: The Mining Company:** Latin Dance Contest at 11:30 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Urban Cowboy:** Drag Brunch — That Time of the Month from noon-3 p.m. on Sunday. \$20 tickets at Eventbrite.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** March Madness more screens all week.

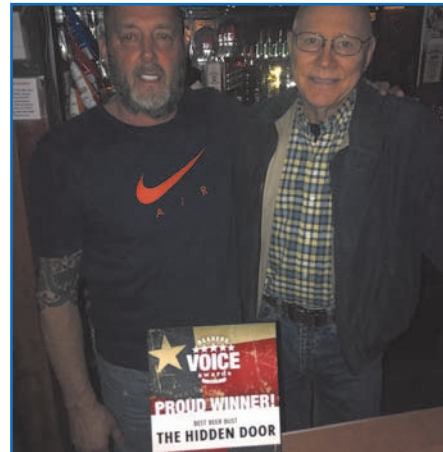
Scene Photographers: **Kat Haygood** and **Chad Mantooth**



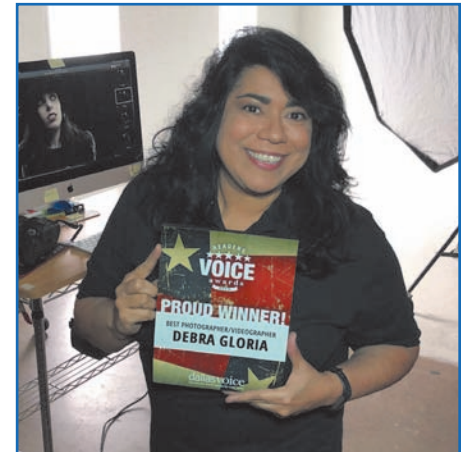
CareNow: Best Urgent Care



Cassie Nova: Best Drag Queen



The Hidden Door: Best Beer Bust



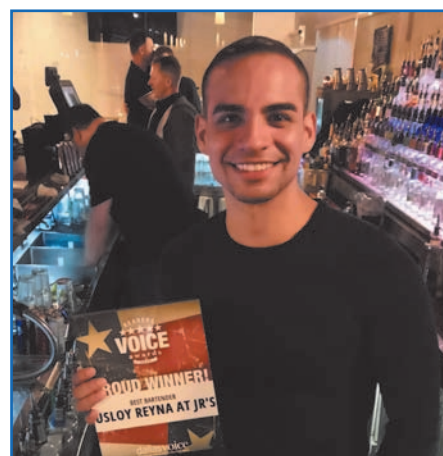
Debra Gloria: Best Photographer/Videographer



Skivvies: Best Gay Apparel



Southwest Airlines: Best Airline



Usloy Reyna (JR.'s): Best Bartender



Pet Supplies Plus: Best Pet Supplies



Cedar Springs Tap House: Best Patio



North Haven Gardens:
Best Garden Supply/Nursery



DJ Mateo (TMC): Best Club DJ



Dr. William Henderson: Best Optometrist



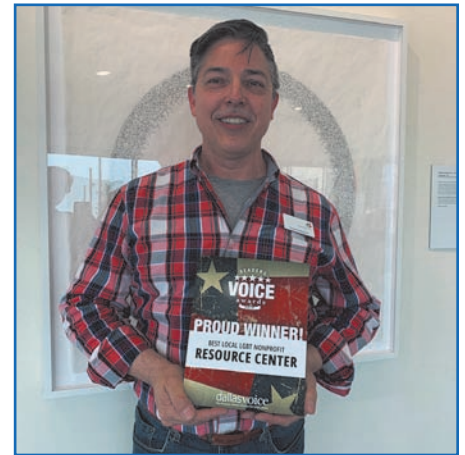
Hunky's: Best Lunch Spot, Best Burger



Lula B's:
Best Vintage/Antiques/Consignment



Norma's Cafe: Best Diner



Resource Center: Best Local LGBT Nonprofit



Sue Ellen's: Best Place for Lesbians



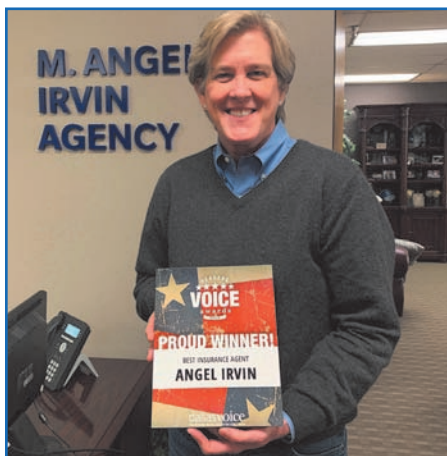
Taqueria La Ventana: Best Taqueria



Texas Ballet Theater: Best Dance Troupe



Vertigo12: Best Hair Salon



Angel Irvin: Best Insurance Agent



Chad West: Best Criminal Defense Attorney



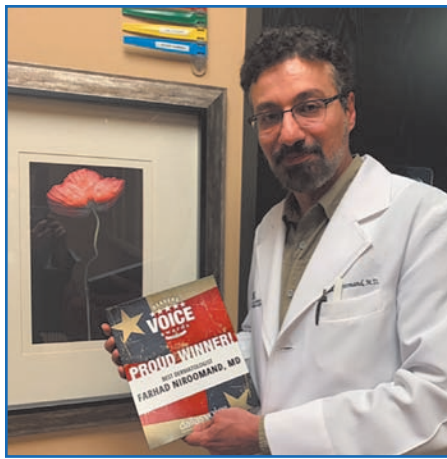
Outlines: Best Gay Apparel



Toyota of Irving: Best Import Auto Dealership



Oishi's: Best Asian/Sushi Restaurant



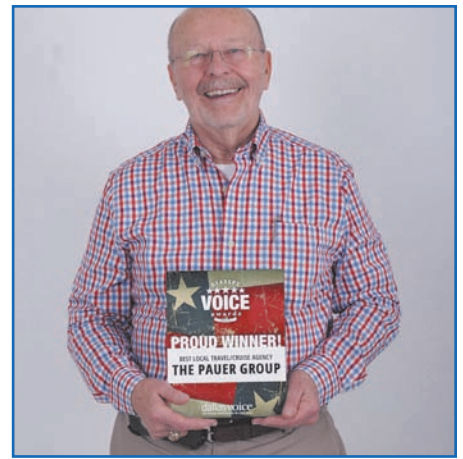
Farhad Niroomand, MD: Best Dermatologist



Jimmy Owen, LPC: Best Counselor/Therapist



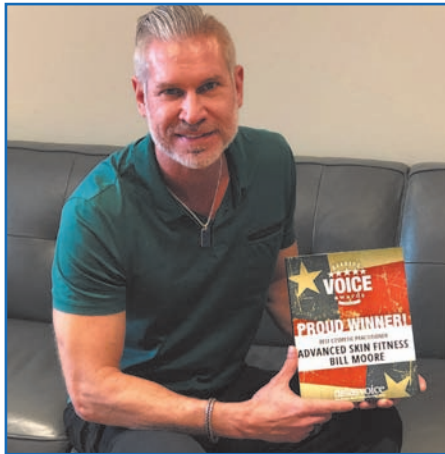
Out Of The Closet: Best Thrift Store



The Pauer Group:
Best Local Travel/Cruise Agency



Beto & Son: Best Dining Experience



Bill Moore (Advanced Skin Fitness):
Best Cosmetic Practioner



Carole Ann Boyd, DDS, PC: Best Dentist



Wayne Smith: Best Karaoke Host



Lorie Burch: Best Civil/Family Attorney



Nailed Nail Bar: Best Mani-Pedi



Julian Rodarte: Best Local Chef



Two Men & A Truck: Best Moving Company



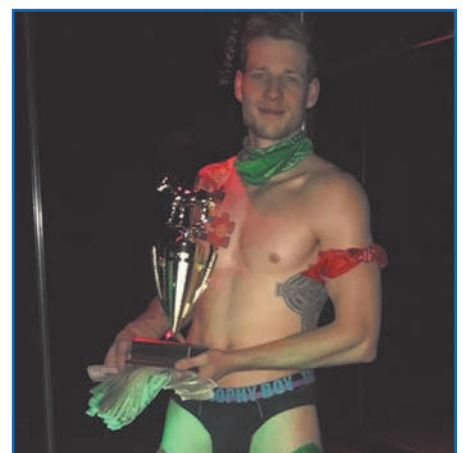
Robert Elorduy at Vigor:
Best Massage Therapist/Personal Trainer



Ron Allen, CPA:
Best Accountant/Tax Preparation



The Grapevine Bar: Best Straight Bar for Gays



Jay Stallions: Best Exotic Dancer



Alternatives: Best Adult Novelties



Andrew Kochie: Best Local Artist



Pooch Patio:
Best Pet Services & Best Boarding/Kenneling



Lost Souls Rugby:
Best Local LGBT Sports Organization



Uptown Physicians Group:
Best HIV Specialists/Group Medical Practice/
General Practitioner (Dr. David M. Lee)



The Standard Pour: Best Cocktail Menu



Hollywood Feed: Best Pet Grooming



Fashion Optical: Best Eyewear/Optical

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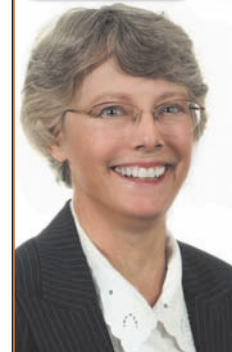


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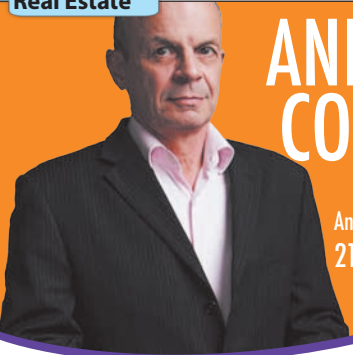
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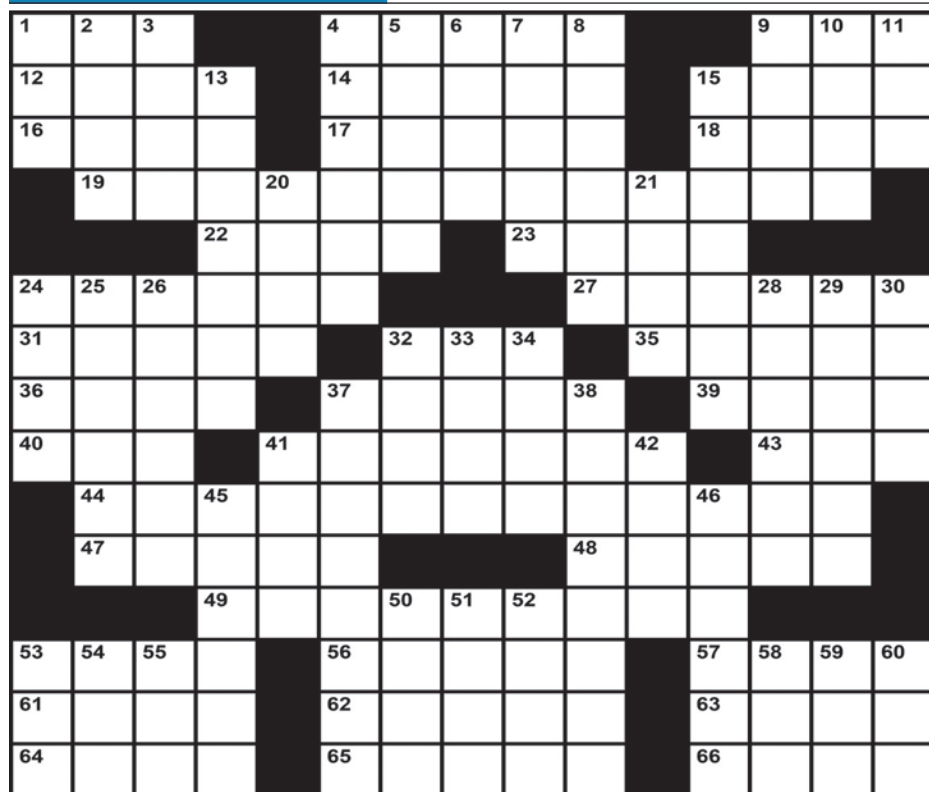
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Auto Eroticism

Solution on Page 68

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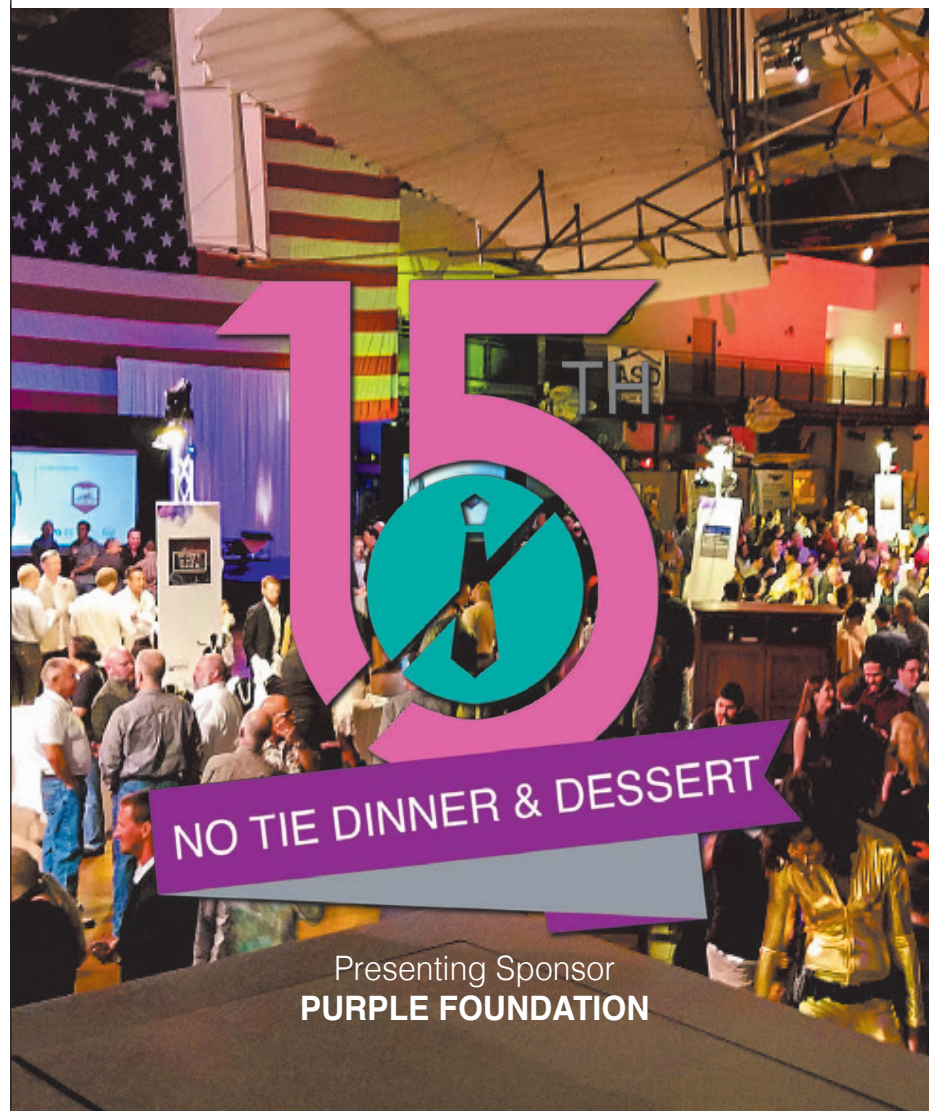
- 1 Start of a quote by Amanita on *Sens8*
 4 Kate McKinnon bits on *SNL*
 9 More of the quote
 12 "___ your pardon!"
 14 Like sex with a historian?
 15 Like the Indy 500?
 16 *Zami: A New Spelling of My ___*
 17 Former hotelier Helmsley
 18 Nabor's branch, on TV
 19 More of the quote
 22 Went lickety-split
 23 Consenting votes
 24 International agreement
 27 Pool parties?
 31 Fagged out
 32 Come together
 35 Sound of three men in a tub
 36 Besides that
 37 Hotties
 39 Activist Clare Boothe ___
 40 '70s org. of kidnappers
 41 Like Trump's ego
 43 k. d. lang's "Big Boned ___"

- 44 More of the quote
 47 Hub-to-rim lines
 48 Author Crowley and others
 49 End of the quote
 53 Moby Dick chaser
 56 Ballet rail
 57 Added stipulations
 61 Time that drags
 62 Rampagers go on it
 63 Big top barker
 64 Cheese for Ms. van de Kamp?
 65 Goes public
 66 *Hair's* "___ to Be Hard"

Down

- 1 Brief amount of secs?
 2 Israeli statesman
 3 DeGeneres voice role
 4 Like one's nuts, perhaps
 5 Rub the right way
 6 Party to
 7 Jessica of *Fried Green Tomatoes*
 8 Log Cabin lists
 9 Job for Burr's Mason
 10 Zenith
 11 B'way locale
 13 Forget to use the KY?
 15 Lyricist Bill of *Side Show* fame
 20 Still getting around
 21 Mouthful for a stallion
 24 Blows away
 25 Where to find Norma Bates
 26 One of a nice pair of melons
 28 Chewy candy
 29 Wilde with a statuette?
 30 "A Boy Named Sue" writer Silverstein
 32 Whipping boy
 33 Vet, of a sort, for short
 34 Son of Eric the Red
 37 Gay nocturnal flyer?
 38 Enjoys the bedroom, perhaps
 41 Gladly, old-style
 42 Airline to Ben Gurion
 45 Safe to swallow
 46 Line of Todd Oldham clothing?
 50 Part of APR
 51 Pitcher Hershisier
 52 Russian river
 53 Vestment for Mychal Judge
 54 Heston's *Ben* ___
 55 Disney prince
 58 Three R's supporter
 59 Article of Marlene Dietrich
 60 Like a cunning linguist

Not Formal...Just Fun!



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