Happy Easter!

A roundup of Easter events in DFW

See Page 8
I am Chad West for Dallas City Council District 1

AND I AM ASKING FOR YOUR VOTE.

I’m a homeowner and small business owner in Oak Cliff. My family and I bought our first home south of the Trinity River over a decade ago, and we are proud to call Oak Cliff home. I love every single quirky, fun thing about our neighborhoods. I especially love that we’re a tight community—a small town—in the heart of a world-class city.

I’m running for City Council because I want to give residents and entrepreneurs the tools they need to succeed, ensure that our diverse neighborhoods and historic structures are protected and cherished, and ensure that opportunities, education, and city services are top notch and available to everyone.

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER, ATTORNEY, AND VETERAN

The U.S. Army paid for Chad to go to college and eventually brought him to Texas in 1999. After serving at Fort Sam Houston and later in Bosnia and Hungary, he was honorably discharged as a combat veteran. He attended law school at Texas Tech, graduating with honors.

Chad opened his law firm in Oak Cliff in 2010 and has won numerous awards for his legal advocacy. He is a four-time D Magazine “Best Lawyer,” an eight-year “Readers Voice Awardee” for the Dallas Voice, a five-year selectee as “Rising Star” for Texas Super Lawyers, and he was selected as the 2012 Dallas Association of Young Lawyers – Outstanding Lawyer of the Year.

Learn more at: ChadWestDallas.com | Go West!

ENDORSEMENTS

ORGANIZATIONS
- 23rd Senatorial District
- Tejano Democrats
- AAGO
- Dallas AFL-CIO
- Dallas Firefighters Association
- Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance
- Dallas Morning News
- Dallas Police Association
- Dallas Sierra Club

- Dallas Stonewall Democrats
- MetroTex Association of Realtors
- National Latino Law Enforcement Organization
- Victory Fund

CURRENT AND PAST ELECTED OFFICIALS
- Honorable Scott Griggs
- Representative Jessica Gonzalez
- Representative Julie Johnson
- Honorable Amanda Johnson
- Honorable Audrey Pinkerton
- Honorable David Dunnigan
- Honorable Baine Lanitz
- Honorable Mark Clayton
- Honorable Philip Kingston
- Representative Jim Pitts
- Honorable Angela Hunt
- Honorable Bob Stimson
- Honorable Laura Miller

Chad and his partner, Brian Bleeker, and their two children, Victoria and Preston, live in Stevens Park.
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  10  Monica Roberts coming to BTAC
  14  Omar Narvaez running for re-election

- **LIFE+STYLE**
  20  Freshening up your home for spring
  24  Renovating history at The Argyle
  28  THEATER: Giving Dickinson her due

- **ON THE COVER**
  Fantasha Suggs. Photo by Tammye Nash. Design by Kevin Thomas. For more info, see Page 4.

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A fantastic Easter with Fantasha

The month of March is an exciting one for Dallas. Dallas Voice celebrated its 35th annual Pride celebration, complete with the Miller Lite Music Festival and the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade. Now, in just over a month, we will be celebrating not only the 36th annual Dallas Pride, but the 50th anniversary of The Stonewall Riots.

Spurred by yet another police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City’s Greenwich Village, on June 28, 1969, New York’s LGBT community took to the streets for a series of riots and rallies that lasted through July 1. And although there had been significant events before then — the 1965 sit-in at Dewey’s malt shop and the Reminder Day protests in front of Independence Hall each July 4 from 1965-1969 in Philadelphia and the 1966 Compton’s Cafeteria Riot in San Francisco — the Stonewall Riots are widely considered the birth of the modern-day LGBT rights movement.

In the lead-up to the 50th anniversary of Stonewall, beginning with our Sept. 14, 2018 Pride issue, which featured local drag performer Cassie Nova (James Love) as our version of Betsy Ross, Dallas Voice is honoring the role that transgender and gender-non-confirming people and drag queens have played in our ongoing battle for equality with a series of special covers featuring North Texas transgender women and men and drag performers.

This issue, the 2019 Easter Issue, is the most recent in that series. Our 2019 Easter Issue cover features local drag performer Fantasha “The Fantastic One” Suggs.

Fantasha was born and raised in Louisville, Ky., but has called Dallas home for the last nine years. She saw her first drag show at 18 and knew then that the stage was calling her.

Fantasha has been performing all across the nation for the last 30 years, and these days you can usually find her performing for audiences at the clubs along Cedar Springs Strip in Dallas.

Fantasha said that one of her favorite Easter traditions is getting together with her group of friends, having an Easter brunch at a local restaurant and then walking to Turtle Creek Park to enjoy all the holiday festivities.

— Tammye Nash

Gay panic bill heard in committee

Resource Center Advocacy Manager Rafael McDonnell testified before the Texas House’s Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence on Monday, April 15, about the “gay panic” bill now working its way through the Legislature. Dallas Rep. Jessica González sits on the committee.

McDonnell said 12 witnesses testified on HB 3281. Ten were in favor of the legislation that would outlaw “gay panic” along with use of the victim’s gender identity or sexual orientation as a defense for murder. When Texas Values Coalition spoke against the bill, one representative said, “You’re always against everything.”

McDonnell said that with all the publicity anti-LGBT bills were getting, it’s good to know some positive things are working their way through the Legislature as well.

— David Taffet

Round-Up Karaoke host injured in assault, facing surgery

Oscar “Oz” Rodriguez, a karaoke host at the Round-Up Saloon, underwent surgery on Wednesday morning, April 17, at Parkland Hospital following an attack early Sunday morning, April 14, that left him with a fractured jaw and a skull fracture, according to Round-Up Manager Adam Lynn. Rodriguez has no memory of being attacked or how he was injured.

According to information included in a GoFundMe page set up for him, Rodriguez has suffered “severe head trauma.” “CT scans revealed blood in his brain; X-rays show that his skull is fractured in the back, and his jaw is fractured on both sides.” Surgeons put metal plates in to repair the fractures in his jaw and wired his jaws shut while he heals.

Lynn said that REBA — the Round-Up Employees Benevolence Association — will be helping pay Rodriguez’s bills while he is incapacitated and that REBA is holding Maybeleen’s Casserole Cook-Off from 3-6 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at the bar, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. Prizes will be awarded for the Best Trailer Trash Casserole and the Best Trailer Trash Outfit. Patrons can purchase casserole for $5 a bowl.

The security guard at the Round-Up remembers seeing Rodriguez drive away alone on Sunday morning after the bar closed. At some point after that, Rodriguez woke up in his car and, although he didn’t know where he was, was able to find his way home to his apartment in the Cedar Springs area. Lynn said Rodriguez woke up his roommate to tell him his head hurt, and when the roommate turned on the light, he saw Rodriguez had been injured.

“Wek think he must have been hit from behind,” Lynn said. “He has no defensive wounds that would show he fought back. There was no damage to the car that would indicate he had been in a wreck. There was nothing to indicate he was attacked in the car.

Lynn said Rodriguez doesn’t remember anything between the time he left the bar and the time he woke up injured in his car. But, Lynn added, “I think he must have been somewhere in Oak Lawn. With the kind of injuries he has, I don’t think he could have driven himself very far.

“We are hoping that, when the swelling from the skull fracture goes down, he will be able to remember at least some of what happened,” Lynn added.

— Tammye Nash

2 anti-LGBT bills moving in Texas House

Equality Texas warns HB 1035 is so extreme that two of the most extreme anti-LGBT bills this session are moving in the state House. That’s despite the promise by Speaker of the House Dennis Bonnen to stick to basics like education and property tax relief for this legislative session.

HB 1035 grants special rights to discriminate for people who hold the belief that marriage is between a man and a woman, and gender is immutable from birth. In other words — if you don’t like the existence of LGBTQ people, the Texas legislature wants to reward you.

HB 1035 reads like a roadmap for discrimination, laying out all the ways to treat LGBTQ people as less than — firing and refusing to hire; refusing to rent or sell housing; refusing to provide health care to a trans person; policing gender expression in the workplace and at school, and — of course — refusing to issue a marriage license.

Equality Texas warns HB 1035 is so extreme that it even includes a bathroom bill provision within the bill.

The second bill, HB 3172, prevents any government entity from taking action against a person acting on a “sincerely held religious belief.” That includes beliefs on marriage.

In other words, a person who blatantly practices discrimination cannot lose a government loan, contract, public university admission, accreditation or professional license, as long as they claim a ‘sincerely held religious belief.’

— From Staff Reports
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Dr. Marc Tribble and Dr. Donald Graneto named to D Magazine’s Best Doctors in Dallas for 2017 in Infectious Disease and Family Medicine respectively.

Voted 2019 Readers Voice Awards
BEST Medical Group Practice
BEST HIV Specialists
and Dr. David Lee,
BEST General Practitioner

Peter Triporo, NP named Top 10 in 2018 America’s Top Nurse Practitioner Awards presented by Point of Care Network

David M. Lee, M.D.
Marc A. Tribble, M.D.
Donald A. Graneto, M.D.
Eric Klappholz, NP
Peter Triporo, NP
Jason Vercher, PA-C
Vanessa Bludau, NP
William Hays, MD, ATC, LAT
Ismail Boodhwani, FNP-C
Have an event coming up? Email your information to Managing Editor Tammye Nash at nash@dallasvoice.com or Senior Staff Writer David Taffet at taft@dallasvoice.com by Wednesday at 5 p.m. for that week's issue.

APRIL

• April 19: First Passover seder

• April 19: DFW Federal Club Happy Hour
The DFW Federal Club holds a happy hour from 6-8 p.m. at Eddie V’s Prime Seafood Restaurant, 4023 Oak Lawn Ave. Event features handcrafted cocktails or wine for $8, complimentary hors d’oeuvres and complimentary valet service.

• April 20: Beth El Binah community seder
Congregation Beth El Binah Passover seder at 6:30 p.m. at Deli News, 3685 Preston Road #185, Frisco. $60.

• April 20: Peace, Love and Gaybingo
Gaybingo from 5-9 p.m. at the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets at rdallas.org.

• April 20: Opal Gala
North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce Opal Gala with silent auction, hors d’oeuvres and drinks from 7-10:30 p.m. at Alexander Mansion, 4607 Ross Ave. $65. GLBTChamber.com

• April 20: Lavender Prom Nacogdoches
For students 15-20 years old of all sexual orientations and gender identities. $10. LavenderProm.com.

• April 20: Black Trans Women Matter
Black Women’s Defense League stands up for Muhlaysia Booker. 1-3 p.m. at 3558 Wilhurt Ave.

• April 21: Easter

• April 22: Stonewall Democrats of Rockwall
Stonewall Democrats of Rockwall meets at 7:30 p.m. at Harry Meyers Community Center, 815 E. Washington St., Rockwall. For more information, contact Patti or Heidi at srockwall@att.com.

• April 23: Grief support group
LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• April 23: Family Night at Durkins Pizza
GALA family night’s 10th year of networking, socializing, happy hour, rock n’ roll and pizza and 10 percent of proceeds benefits GALA Youth from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Durkins Pizza, 8930 State Hwy 121, McKinney.

• April 24: Rainbow Rec kickoff
Grand opening of Rainbow Rec with programming for LGBT seniors every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Kickoff event at 7 p.m. at Reverchon Recreation Center, 3 505 Maple Ave.

• April 24: The Journey
God, Gays and Society: A six week educational and interactive workshop open to LGBT, family and friends to explore your spiritual life and interaction with society from 7-9 p.m.at Northaven UMC, 11211 Preston Road, Room 250.

• April 25: Advanced Style Dallas
Ron Corning hosts special guest Advanced Style author Ari Seth Cohen and International Style Legend Valerie Btac.blacktrans.org for details.

• April 25: EQuTX Town Hall
From 5:30-7 p.m. at Cedar Springs Tap House, 4123 Cedar Springs Road.

• April 25: Prime Timers
Dinner at 7 p.m. at Olive Garden, 3351 Canyon Bluff.

The DFW Federal Club holds a happy hour from 6-8 p.m. at Eddie V’s Prime Seafood Restaurant, 4023 Oak Lawn Ave. Event features handcrafted cocktails or wine for $8, complimentary hors d’oeuvres and complimentary valet service.

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A Star Is Born!
Adlee Louise Burch-Kantor was born to Lorie Burch and Kimberly Kantor on March 22, 2019.

Von Sobel as the top 50 over 50 Dallas fashion legends walk the runway benefiting Ed-U-Care from 7-10 p.m. at Samuel Lynn Galleries, 1105 Dragon St.

• Weekly: Lambda Weekly at 1 p.m. on Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with David Taffet, Lorone Landis and the late Patti Fink. This week’s guests are Sam Brukhman, Erin Thomas and Stephen Zhang from Faces of Dallas; Silver Pride Project Coffee and Conversation from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Monday at Oak Lawn Library and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Wednesday at Grauwyler Library; 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 Jalenszki at 214-780-9716 ext. 3 or Jalenszki@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 pegasusquares@gmail.com; Dallas Frontrunners meet for a walk or run on the Katy Trail at Turtle Creek 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 leadership skills from 6:30–8 p.m. on Tuesdays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews; Thrive 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 #825. Call 214-287-0222 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 Sundays that are holidays); United Black Ellument hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every Friday Tuesday of the month at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; DTVT in Spayse, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4–5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.
DEATH

Jeff B. Youngblood of Irving, Texas
October 11, 1962 - April 15, 2019
Jeff B. Youngblood, 56, a resident of Irving for the past thirteen years, died suddenly Monday, April 15, 2019 at his home. Born October 11, 1962 in Dallas, Texas, he is the son of Willie B. and Mary Ruth Campbell Youngblood. He was co-owner of Fast Signs of Irving. He was very active and was a very generous contributor to local city projects and charities. Survivors include his spouse Cory Merchant of Irving; two sons Brandon Youngblood of Lewisville and Max Youngblood of Austin; his parents, Willie B. and Mary Ruth Youngblood of Bellmeade, Texas; a brother Jon Clay Youngblood and his wife Brenda of Frisco; several aunts, uncles, and cousins. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 20, 2019, at Donnelly’s Colonial Funeral Home, 606 West Airport Freeway in Irving. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to DFW Humane Society.

* April 26: Pride Ball Prom
Youth First presents a prom for LGBT and allied youth from 12-18 from 7-11 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

* April 27: MetroBall Day at the Casino
Buses depart Sue Ellen’s at 8:30 a.m. and Collin Creek Mall at 9 a.m. and return by 4:30 p.m. for a day at Winstar World Casino. A donation of $75 for one or $125 for two gets a seat on the bus, entertainment, prizes, on-bus cocktails and benefits the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund. Tickets at GDMAF.org.

* April 27: Different Strokes Golf Association (DSGA)
DSGA, the LGBT golf organization, plays at 10 a.m., at Tenison Highlands, 3501 Samuell Blvd, Dallas. $65 includes golf, cart, range balls, prizes. Information at DSGADallas.org or email communications@dsgadallas.org.

* April 27: DPD Health and Wellness Expo
Dallas Police Department 1 mile fun run and 3 mile race at 8 a.m. Expo 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Kiest Park Recreation Center, 3081 S. Hampton Road.

* April 28: Trans Pride Wonder Woman 5K
Increase visibility of the trans community by joining the team Transgender Pride of Dallas using password TPODWW in the Wonder Woman 5K at 7 a.m. at 1650 E. Randoll Mill Road, Arlington.

* April 28: Prime Timers Games hosted by Nick at 2 p.m. at 3915 Mediterranean St., Rockwall.

* April 29: DACAC City Council candidate reception
Dallas Area Cultural Advocacy Coalition candidates reception from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St.

**pet of the week / DOVE**

Meet Dove, a 2-year-old, female shepherd mix weighing 54 pounds. She has a beautiful tan coat with a white bib on her chest that extends to her nose and white socks on her paws. She has a big, bright smile and likes running around with her ears and tongue flapping in the wind. She would love a home with a fenced yard so she could run around all day, because running is her favorite. She isn’t a fan of sharing her things, so she’d do best in a home with no other dogs and teens and adults only. If you’re looking for an affectionate, spunky gal to keep you company, she’s the one for you! #151516

Dove is waiting for you at the SPCA of Texas’ Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas, 2400 Lone Star Drive (near I-30 and Hampton Road). Hours are noon-6 p.m. Sun-Wed and noon-7 p.m. Thurs-Sat. Regular adoption fees are $125 for puppies and kittens aged 0-6 months and $60 for adult dogs and cats aged 6 months or older. Fee includes spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, a heartworm test for dogs six months and older and a FIV/FeLV test for cats 4 months and older, initial flea/tick preventative and heartworm preventative, a microchip, 30 days of PetHealth Insurance provided by Petplan, a free 14-day wellness exam with VCA Animal Hospitals, a free year-long subscription to ActivePets, a rabies tag and a free leash. Call 214-742-SPCA (7722) or visit today.

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Passover starts on Friday night, April 19. Congregation Beth El Binah will hold a Passover Seder on Saturday night, April 20, at Deli News, 3685 Preston Road in Frisco. Cantor Don Croll will lead the Seder. Tickets are $60 for members, and $65 for non-members. The Passover Seder recounts the story of the Exodus from Egypt.

Cathedral of Hope UCC
Cathedral of Hope UCC, 5910 Cedar Springs Road, begins the Easter weekend with a Good Friday service, featuring the Stations of the Cross, at 7:15 p.m. Cathedral of Hope begins Easter Sunday with worship in the church sanctuary at 9 a.m., followed at 10 a.m. by worship in the Interfaith Peace Chapel. There will be another worship service at 11 a.m. in the church sanctuary and a worship service in Spanish at 1 p.m.

Celebration Community Church, Fort Worth
Celebration Community Church, 908 Pennsylvania Ave. in Fort Worth, holds Good Friday services at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 19. Church members and other volunteers are asked to gather at the church at 9 a.m. Saturday to help clean up the sanctuary and the church’s gardens for the Easter Sunday services. The church holds an Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, April 21, followed by breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Easter worship services begin at 10 a.m.

Good Friday Walk
Dallas Area Christian Progressive Alliance and the Young Progressive Christians of Dallas host their 2019 Good Friday Walk on Friday, April 19. The theme is “Set the Oppressed Free,” and the event will address mass incarceration, unjust treatment of immigrants, grinding poverty and a false theology of homophobia and transphobia.

Easter in the Park
Easter in the Park is a tradition in Oak Lawn, and the tradition continues this year in the newly-re-named Turtle Creek Park, hosted by the Turtle Creek Conservancy and the city of Dallas.

The event is from 1-4 p.m. and will include music by DJ Jennifer Miller, a special appearance by the Easter Bunny and a variety of food trucks on site, as well as opportunities to adopt a pet through Dallas Pets Alive and Recycled Pomeranians and Schipperkes. Admission is free, and the event is open to the public.

An Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, open to children 10 and under, begins at 1:30 p.m. The Pooch Parade begins at 2 p.m. Emcees are Steve Kemble and LeeAnne Locken. Prizes will be awarded for Best Look-Alike, Best Easter-Inspired, Best Spring Costume, Best Group, Most Creative, Best Overall and Best Child and Dog Costume. Registration is $15 in advance at www.Class.org/event/2019-pooch-parade, and $20 at the event.
Rallying for Muhlaysia

Abounding Prosperity rounding up support for transgender assault victim

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

When assault victim Muhlaysia Booker is released from the hospital, she’ll have a safe place to live, thanks to Nicole’s House, an emergency transitional residence for transgender women in need.

At a press conference on Wednesday, April 17, Abounding Prosperity Inc. CEO Kirk Myers announced that Nicole’s House is opening ahead of schedule to accommodate Booker and another transgender woman who lived in the same apartment complex where Booker was assaulted by a group of several people, while a large crowd stood by and watched on April 12.

Myers, who has been in close contact with Booker, said Booker is recovering physically, although she’ll be in a cast for another six weeks. But he is worried about her mental state. Anyone going through transition faces tough challenges, Myers said, but Booker’s challenges have been magnified by the attack.

Booker was attacked in the parking lot of her apartment complex after accidentally backing into another car. She was held at gunpoint as the driver of the other car demanded payment for damage to his car. That driver then paid Edward Thomas, who was in the crowd that had gathered, $200 to attack Booker.

The attack was recorded by a bystander who posted the video online.

Thomas has been arrested and remains in the Dallas County Jail, with bond set at $75,000. Dallas police have tagged the assault as a hate crime and are still looking for others who participated in the attack. The FBI has stepped in to help with the investigation.

Before the press conference, representatives from Abounding Prosperity and members of the trans community met with Dallas police “to develop a plan forward.” Myers said he also contacted Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot, who said he is waiting to receive the case from police.

A GoFundMe page started for Booker had raised more than $6,000 toward its $7,500 goal by press time.

Muhlaysia Booker

A rally in support of hate crime victim Muhlaysia Booker will be held from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at Abounding Prosperity Inc. headquarters, 2311 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings and Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall have been invited to attend.

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D2 Subway - Dallas CBD Second Light Rail Alignment

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) invite you to attend a public meeting about the D2 Subway, a proposed second light rail alignment through the Dallas Central Business District (CBD). DART is in the process of developing Preliminary Engineering (PE) and a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the project. The following information will be available at the meeting:

- Project Background
- 10% Level of Design
- Station Design Concepts including Potential Access Locations
- Existing Conditions and Preliminary Impact Analyses

Your input is important as we continue to advance the design and develop the environmental document.

Two public meetings will be held on:

Public Meetings
Thursday, April 25, 2019
11:30 a.m. Open House / 12 p.m. Presentation
6:00 p.m. Open House / 6:30 p.m. Presentation
DART Headquarters – Board Room, 1401 Pacific Avenue, Dallas

The same information will be provided at each meeting, and the presentation will be made available immediately following the meetings at DART.org/D2.

Learn more and subscribe to project updates at that website.

For Additional Information Please contact
DART Community Engagement at 214/749-2543, or visit DART.org/D2.
Nationally known activist Monica Roberts uses her TransGriot blog to fight for her trans sisters and brothers

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Nationally-known transgender activist Monica Roberts of Houston said this week she expects that the April 12 attack on Dallas transgender woman Muhlaysia Booker will be front and center when the Black Trans Advocacy Conference opens in Dallas on Tuesday, April 23.

But rather than criticizing how authorities here handled the attack, Roberts said, “Dallas is a role model for this.” By that, she meant there was no dead-naming of the victim, no reports referring to Booker as a “man in a dress.”

During any investigation, Roberts said, the first 48 hours are the most important. If police are asking for help but they inaccurately describe a victim or a suspect, people won’t know who they’re talking about and won’t be able to help. For instance, if the victim is a trans woman, but police describe her as a man and dead-name her, people who know her might not realize that’s who authorities are talking about.

And, Roberts said, this isn’t the only case in which Dallas police have gotten it right. “In the Karla Pavon case [in 2018], the Dallas PD was on it,” she said.

Dallas police apprehended the suspect in Pavon’s case within a week.

In the case of the assault on Muhlaysia Booker, which was caught on video and has been replayed by media across the country, Roberts complimented everyone from police and media to Booker’s family. The one group she does fault is her own black community.

“The black community has turned a blind eye to black trans violence,” Roberts said. “They think they have carte blanche to beat us up and kill us.”

Roberts said she’d like to see a national or statewide group like the NAACP make a statement on violence against trans people of color: “We need to hear these words: Black trans folks are black folks.”

She also blames the former Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, now known as Equality Texas, for allowing the James Byrd Hate Crime Law to pass without including gender identity as a protected category. She said the gay community was using a tactic known as “incremental legislation.” They knew a bill including sexual orientation would pass but believed that including gender identity might cause the bill to fail.

In the Booker case, the FBI is helping Dallas police investigate whether the attack qualifies as a hate crime. The federal hate crimes law does include gender identity, and it includes money to investigate hate crimes.

The Texas hate crime law is a penalty enhancement law. Edward Thomas is charged with aggravated assault causing severe bodily injury in the attack on Booker. If the state can prove he used anti-gay slurs while committing the crime, he may face an enhanced penalty under the Texas law. However, if those slurs were anti-trans, the law might not apply.

Roberts said what offends her most about the Texas hate crime law since it passed in 2001 is that two trans women of color were killed in Texas that year.

Blogging for justice

Roberts writes the award-winning TransGriot blog, which she began in 2006. At the time, no one else was writing about trans people of color. “The blogs that were out there were not talking about the issues of transition from a black perspective,” she said.

So Roberts began writing about and documenting the history of the trans community, especially black trans women. Since she began, she has had a keen eye for identifying those murders where police misgendered and incorrectly identified trans victims.

Then Roberts began tracking what happened to the person who committed the murder, if they were caught. What she found, she said, was that attackers were “getting a slap on the wrist.”

Roberts is usually the first to find reports, even from a media outlet in a city hundreds of miles or more away from Houston, and correctly identify the victim as transgender. Her network of contacts across the country helps her find those misleading reports about a murder victim identified as “a man in a dress,” and when she does, she contacts the reporter on the story.

“If talking to them nicely doesn’t work, I’ll embarrass the reporter,” she said.

Making progress

Roberts compares coverage of the trans community today to coverage of the gay community in the early 1980s.

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<table>
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<th>VALUE OF SERVICES</th>
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<td>Office Visits</td>
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<td>Labs</td>
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At that time, three out of 10 people knew someone gay. Today most people know someone gay and have seen *Will & Grace*, she said.

As more and more people transition, Roberts said, the number of people who know someone trans has increased from three out of 10 to five out of 10 in just the last few years. That makes a difference in how people see the trans community.

“Now we’re seeing people get elected,” Roberts said. “A trans person is running for the San Antonio City Council. That’s hugely important to our kids.”

But there is still a long, long way to go. That’s why Roberts is excited about the upcoming BTAC conference. “As the Muhlaysia Booker case shows, we’re under attack,” she said. “Next week, I get to decompress and see my BTAC family.”

The first BTAC conference was held in Dallas in 2012. A local group called Black Transmen formed and, when they staged the conference, they realized there wasn’t a group like this anywhere else in the country. So Black Transmen quickly became a national organization. Black Transwomen followed shortly after, and the conference has grown each year.

Roberts said she was invited the second year to be the first trans-feminine keynote speaker and was asked then to join the board.

She said this is her 21st year as an activist, and she travels more now than when she worked for the airlines. She’s been to the White House five times, and speaking engagements keep her busy traveling across the country.

And, she noted, she’s interested in more than just trans issues.

“As a teacher’s kid, I’m interested in education,” she said. And as a trans woman, women’s issues affect her. “I lost two cousins to HIV. One out of four black trans folks are dealing with HIV.”

But will she really get to just decompress at the BTAC conference next week? “I may have to go to Austin to testify sometime during the week,” she acknowledged.

The Black Trans Advocacy Conference takes place April 23-28 at the Wyndham Dallas Suite Park Central. For more information visit BTAC.BlackTrans.org.
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Omar Narvaez took his previous experience and hit the ground running on Dallas City Council

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Omar Narvaez was first elected to the Dallas City Council in 2017, and his first term in office, he said, was “way more than I ever expected it to be.”

Narvaez’s district, which includes the Design District, Trinity Groves and Cypress Waters, is one of the fastest-changing areas in the city. The district is wide-ranging; most of it lies in West Dallas, but small slivers hug LBJ Freeway and Walnut Hill Road to Midway. Love Field is not in the district, but adjoining Bachman Lake is.

Narvaez describes his district as “diverse and expansive, with something going on in every area of it.”

While he’s been on the winning and losing sides of battles on city-wide issues at the council, Narvaez said been surprised at how much he can actually get done at the district level. He said he’s proud of some of the environmental issues he’s worked on, and of helping update the city’s arts and culture plan. He has also worked on housing policy.

While the city didn’t manage to bring Amazon’s second world headquarters to Dallas, Narvaez snagged an Amazon facility for his district that will employ 1,500. But rather than offer the company big tax incentives, Narvaez negotiated benefits and living wages. He also convinced Amazon to hire the formerly incarcerated and insisted that 35 percent of the new hires would be from the immediate area.

Council members involved in at least two other projects looked at what Narvaez negotiated. Then, rather than cost the city tax dollars, they employed Narvaez’s negotiating tactics.

“I had no idea I was setting precedent,” Narvaez said about his discussions with Amazon.

Another proud moment was when he was in Washington, D.C., to lobby on a number of issues that affect the city. He brought home $350 million for flood control, money that he said will be used to rehab three pump stations and build a fourth to stop flooding in northwest Dallas. The money will also be used to repair the Lake Lewisville dam.

A proposal to create an entrance to Love Field on the north side of the airport and to control drainage from the airport would involve Bachman Lake becoming a creek again. The lake was built in 1903 by damming the Bachman Branch. Narvaez called it one of the jewels of District 6 and said he saved the footprint of the lake using bond money assigned to his district.

One of his biggest disappointments since coming to office was not being able to stop the teen curfew from being re-instated. He said his district has been disproportionately affected, with more tickets issued to teens in District 6 — 106 — than in any other council district. North Oak Cliff was second with 36 tickets issued.

In addition, Narvaez said the curfew disproportionately targets youth of color and the homeless. Since LGBTQ youth make up 40 percent of the youth homeless population, the curfew also unfairly targets LGBT youth, he said.

“It’s not a good policy,” Narvaez said. “No data supports curfews as effective.”

His one consolation in that council battle, he said, was that he was able to soften the new curfew ordinance compared to the former law.

When he first got to the horseshoe, Narvaez said he was able to hit the ground running. He got his start in leadership when he joined Rainbow LULAC in 2006 and Stonewall Democrats of Dallas a year or two later. Within a few years...
he became an officer and then president of Stonewall for several terms.

Although he’s not an attorney, he worked in the Dallas office of Lambda Legal.

“I learned how government works,” he said. “How things run.”

Narvaez was serving on the Dallas County Schools board at the time he was elected to the council. That board has since been disbanded, and several people have been convicted in connection with a bribery scandal involving cameras on Dallas County school busses.

Of the convictions, Narvaez said, “People who I worked with and respected made bad mistakes and are being punished to the fullest extent of the law,” adding that they betrayed the public’s trust.

But the decision to close Dallas County Schools, Narvaez said, was an expensive one. DCS provided bus service to most school districts in the county for $140 million. Individual school districts are now spending about $300 million to provide the same — or from many accounts, worse — service.

While serving on the DCS board, Narvaez joined NALEO, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. That group offers leadership institutes teaching how to be a strong elected official, which he took advantage of.

When Narvaez got to the council, he said he wasn’t very warmly welcomed. After all, he had unseated an incumbent, who was also serving as mayor pro tem. So, he worked twice as hard.

“It was shocking for them to see a freshman come in who knew what he was doing,” Narvaez said, adding that he gained the respect of his fellow council members quickly.

Soon after coming into office, Narvaez had to deal with a gas explosion at a home in his district that killed a 12-year-old girl. Atmos Energy had to replace miles of gas lines affecting 2,600 homes, many in his district.

Narvaez was able to step up and lead, keeping people in the area informed. Since then, he’s been working with area’s state representatives on changing reporting from the natural gas industry.

Narvaez said he is surprised his sexual orientation hasn’t been an issue in his campaigns or while serving. “I’ve only been called faggot once,” he said, laughing about the situation. “Someone was upset I was cracking down on illegal racing.”

Narvaez said he takes his job very seriously and hopes his district will return him to City Council for a second term. “I tell people at City Hall, ‘You took a job, but I took an oath,’” Narvaez said.
training sessions with Dallas Police LGBT Liaison Officer Amber Roman have been scheduled across the city’s southern sector in the wake of the attack, and Abounding Prosperity is making sure Booker gets the community services she needs. That includes safe housing.

Nicole’s House is named for Nicole O’Hara in recognition of the work she, Marty’s Live and Leggy Lady Productions did to raise the money needed to get the project underway. The residence is designed to “provide foundational stability to trans women who are undergoing expected challenges in life.”

Abounding Prosperity will provide “a healthy and safe environment” at Nicole’s House and help its residents with education, workforce development and needed legal services. Myers said the five-bedroom home will house up to five people at a time.

Other speakers at the press conference said they were there to support Booker. Mieko Hicks, a host of the Transfusion Radio Show, said her goal is to end confusion about transgender people and “the disconnect with the black community and their LGBT.”

She demanded the case be treated as a hate crime and said the attacker’s words — “We’re going to get these punks” — proves it was indeed a hate crime.

“We won’t stand by quietly as trans people are attacked,” Hicks declared.

She said Booker was attacked by a large group in the apartment complex, and arresting just one assailant wasn’t enough: “We want them all punished.”

One problem in prosecuting the case as a hate crime is the way the Texas James Byrd Hate Crime Law is written. The protected categories include race, religion and sexual orientation — but not gender identity. “We need inclusive laws,” demanded the Rev. Carmarion Anderson.

And Myers declared, “We’re going to mobilize like we haven’t done in the past” to get those laws passed.

That sentiment was echoed by one of his board members who said, “We’re not backing down.”

Mayor Mike Rawlings condemned the attack and issued this statement hours after video of the assault had been released:

“Chief Hall alerted me this morning to the assault at the Royal Crest Apartments and I have seen a video of what happened. I am extremely angry about what appears to be mob violence against this woman. I am in contact with the chief and she assured me that the Dallas Police Department is fully investigating, including the possibility that this was a hate crime. Those who did this do not represent how Dallasites feel about our thriving LGBTQ community. We will not stand for this kind of behavior.”
The Walk begins at 10 a.m. at Young and Harwood, near the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas. Following a reading from Luke 4:18, and an explanation of the walk instructions, walker will stop at Main Street Garden at Harwood and Main/Commerce at 10:20 a.m.; at Pegasus Plaza, the site of the lynching of Allen Brooks, at 10:35 a.m.; at the Rosa Parks Statue/Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Fountain at 11 a.m.; at Belo Garden at 11:20 a.m., and end at City Hall at 11:40 a.m.

Northaven United Methodist Church
Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Road, holds Good Friday Services Friday, April 19, at 7 p.m. The Tenebrae service will feature congregational readers sharing the story of the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus, interspersed with hymns and other music. The service will end with darkness and silence.

Northaven UMC holds an Easter Sunrise Service at 6:45 a.m. Sunday, April 21, in the Celebration Garden, and a second Easter service at 11 a.m. in the church sanctuary. There will be an Easter egg hunt for children at 12:15 p.m. on the playground.

Northaven UMC is also offering a Spiritual Journey Class for adults on consecutive Sundays, April 21 and April 28, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 240. The class, led by Gail Bialas, is on “Living the Resurrection.”

Oak Lawn United Methodist Church
Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, 3014 Oak Lawn Ave., holds a Good Friday service from 7-8 p.m. Friday, April 19. On Saturday, April 20, the church holds an Easter Vigil from 8-9:30 p.m. Then on Sunday, April 21, OLUMC holds its “Glory-ous Easter Sunday” service from 11 a.m.-noon.

White Rock Community Church
White Rock Community Church, now in its new location in the Owenwood Farm and Neighbor Space at 1451 John West Road in Dallas, will hold Good Friday services at 7 p.m. Friday, April 19, and Easter Worship Service on Sunday, April 21, at 10:45 a.m.

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Many times I’ve encountered other gay, queer or otherwise non-straight, non-cis persons and been confronted with the uncomfortable realization that they have conservative views. “I’m socially liberal and fiscally conservative,” they say. Is professing social liberalism enough to excluce a divisive mindset against those in impoverished environments, even indirectly, by supporting fiscal conservatism?

Behind this train of thought is the trickle-down economic theory. One can argue that it’s validity ‘til the end of time, but cold hard data and historical facts show that all this theory does is make rich people more rich.

It seems like an excuse for conservative LGBTQIA-plus-identifying persons to say their unflinched economic opinions help everyone, while ignoring the more progressive economic policies that actually directly help those in need. What is left is a fancied fantasy of a chance of helping someone. It must be nice to be so worry-free about the indigent, the homeless, people of color, even fellow LGBTQIA+ or any combination thereof and their well being.

“Trickle-down economics says that the Reagan and Bush tax cuts should have helped people at all income levels. Instead, the opposite occurred. Income inequality worsened. Between 1979 and 2005, after-tax household income rose 6 percent for the bottom fifth. That sounds great until you see what happened for the top fifth. Their income increased by 80 percent. The top 1 percent saw their income triple. Instead of trickling down, it appears that prosperity trickled up.” [Taken from TheBalance.com]

In a notoriously conservative state like Arizona, the minimum wage continues to rise. Need there be a citation of proof which shows how an income raise could benefit a person, a family? No. However, one might speculate on the validity of the current minimum wage. According to MIT, “A single mother with two children earning the federal minimum wage of $7.25 per hour needs to work 139 hours per week, more than hours there are in a five-day week, to earn a living wage.”

In case you’re wondering, that leaves for her to sleep, eat, shower, run errands, do everything else she would do in her day other than work — only 7.25 hours! The average 9-to-5 employee has a little over 18 hours to enjoy their lives.

To say tax cuts for the rich will bring prosperity to Americans is like saying giving people with homes more food will help feed the homeless because there is more to go around. That ignores the simple fact that people hardly choose to share what’s theirs. Sounds like we need a law to make people share for the betterment of society. Oh yeah — that’s called taxes.

A minimum wage increase is often viewed as a handout for lazy people who just want more money. No one is saying the working class shouldn’t have to work hard to take care of themselves and their families. What liberals such as myself are saying, though, is that we should be able to prosper by working hard at one job, or two if we please. When we are unable to attain a decent standard of living that way, something must be done for the well-being of our citizens.

When you compile these general economic dilemmas with the way it disproportionately affects the LGBTQIA+ community, especially those of color, the fiscally-conservative position becomes an indirect act of bigotry. According to the Williams Institute, “…African-American same-sex couples are significantly more likely to be poor than African-American married heterosexual counterparts and are roughly three times more likely to live in poverty than white same-sex couples.”

Considering all this, is there any part of you that actually still believes conservative economics is beneficial to our community, to people of color, to even an average working class family?

Now let’s take a break from the financial aspect of being a gay Republican and shift our focus toward what it actually means to support the Republican Party at this time in U.S. politics.

...back to 2000, when Pence was running for Congress. His campaign web site at the time touted his call to add a stipulation to the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act.” [from Snopes.com]

“Congress should support the reauthorization of the Ryan White Care Act only after completion of an audit to ensure that federal dollars were no longer being given to organizations that celebrate and encourage the type of behaviors that facilitate the spreading of the HIV virus. Resources should be directed toward those institutions which provide assistance to those seeking to change their sexual behavior.” [taken from the Mike Pence campaign website statement, via Web.Archive.org]

Gay Republicans can say they hate Trump and Pence and conversion therapy all they want, but realistically, taking claim to any aspect of the Republican Party puts you face-to-face with the unavoidable reality that there’s this thing called a party platform and in the Republican version, it contains a haunting clause: “We support the right of parents to determine the proper medical treatment and therapy for their minor children.”

Some would say this just means a parent can get care for their child however they want. This could be considered fairly benign. But when you actually take into consideration what it could mean vs. what it should mean, that meaning of the clause becomes debatable. The vague language would absolutely mean support for parents trying to “cure” their children with conversion therapy.

What gay Republicans should now ask themselves is: “Do I want to be associated with a party that advocates such homophobic atrocities?” You might say you are exempt from this question, because you don’t approve of such actions. But with the fiscal ideals you think you have, you actually are indirectly approving those actions, and poor, under-age, home-less, indigent, LGBTQIA+ individuals and people of color are suffering.

Is this really what you want to represent?

Joey Moreno is currently enrolled in El Centro College as a PR/Literary Arts double major. He has worked in the Dallas high-end restaurant industry for more than three years and is a member of the Democratic Socialists of America.
I n 1964, Martin Luther King Jr. published a book titled Why We Can’t Wait. In the book, he detailed the reasons why African-American people could not just wait out the horrible Jim Crow rules which burdened us as people. The book was very convincing. Soon, President Lyndon Johnson signed civil rights bills that would undo unfair discrimination against African-American people.

Years later, Johnson announced that he would not seek a second full term in the White House. His signing of the Civil Rights Bill brought us Richard Nixon and his Southern Plan, rolling back all of the concessions to African-Americans that we had gained under Johnson.

Fast-forward to 2019. The rising star of the coming presidential election season is Pete Buttigieg, a Harvard grad, Rhodes Scholar, young mayor of South Bend, Ind. and a deeply Christian married man, who seems unable to do any wrong. He is the first Democratic presidential candidate to take the Bill Maher challenge and go on Fox News.

I watched his interview a few Sundays ago on Fox Sunday with Chris Wallace and was mightily impressed by what I saw. Chris Wallace seemed to just gush with hope that Buttigieg would become the Democratic nominee for 2020. When Wallace joined his panel of guest pundits those panelists were just as gushingly complementary of the Indiana Wonder Boy.

I found it readily apparent that these — mostly Republican — people were just chomping at the bit for the Democrats to actually nominate Buttigieg as our standard bearer for 2020. As soon as we are suckered into making Mr. Buttigieg our nominee, these same people will kill him.

He doesn’t stand a chance. Why? Because Pete Buttigieg is gay.

All weekend, I watched an absolutely horribly heinous video of a large group of African-American people attacking an African-American transgender woman who was involved in a minor traffic accident at her South Dallas apartment complex. For two full minutes, Muhlaysia Booker was kicked, punched and stomped by a large group of African-American attackers shouting homophobic slurs.

These people, and many other African-Americans, would never vote for a white homosexual to become president of our country. And remember, it was the huge turnout of African-American voters that propelled Barack Obama’s win in 2008.

And, largely, where do African-Americans learn to hate gay people? In the African-American church. I have attended several African-American churches that deride homosexuals from the pulpit. Herman Murray is the pastor of the huge Full Gospel Holy Temple here in Dallas. I have sat in the pews there and heard him speak about the horrors of homosexuality week after week. Just Google “Herman Murray” and “homosexuality,” and you’ll find video after video of the preacher directing hatred toward the LGBTQ community.

This hatred is repeated in pulpits after pulpits all over this country. Robert Jeffress, pastor of Dallas’ megachurch First Baptist and Donald Trump’s chosen spiritual advisor, has preached hate-filled sermons constantly from his pulpit. Trump loves it. Last weekend, Trump’s transgender military ban became law.

Where were the protests? Where is the collective outrage? As far as I can tell, there was none. None.

Any campaign strategist can tell you that hate unites much more quickly and much more strongly than love. The people that love to hate gay people will be the biggest, most vocal group to unite against the Democrats if Buttigieg is chosen as the Democratic nominee this time around. Trump will paint the country red if Buttigieg is the nominee.

Oh, but things will change!

Buttigieg is only 37 years old. By the time he is 60, the millennials will have changed politics in this country for good. The country is a-changin’ even now. In 1996, a Gallup poll found that 27 percent of Americans supported gay marriage. In the latest poll, a whopping 67 percent of Americans support same-sex marriage.

So, why does this hatred linger in the African-American and “Christian” communities?

Let me tell you a story of a little boy that shows how quickly minds could be changed about sexuality and perceived sexuality. This child, an African-American, had attended school with a large population of white and Latino youth from second grade until sixth grade. For his seventh grade school year, he was enrolled in a mostly African-American school. During his entire first year at the school, he was sexually assaulted in the school’s hallways by unseen hands grabbing his behind. These assaults happened all day, every day.

When school convened the next year, the boy had been assigned to a “High Academic Group” of brainiacs. This group of eighth-graders attended the same classes together all day, every day. One day the school principal came to the boy’s class and asked the students to make posters asking fellow students to please use trash cans placed in corridors. Instead of drawing a poster, this guy wrote a play about filthy rats taking over a town and making the town uninhabitable.

His English teacher read the play and showed it to the principal. The principal read it and decided that he wanted the play performed for the entire student body. So, the little playwright’s work was performed by his brainy classmates one day on the stage of the school’s auditorium.

Suddenly the little boy who had been called “punk” and worse the year before became a star. Later that year, he led a band that received rave reviews at the school’s talent show. The next year, he was president of the student council. In 10th grade, he was the only student council member who was not a senior. He skipped his junior year, and by his senior year he was Student Council vice president. He graduated at 16 with scholarship offers everywhere and became the first African-American regularly featured as a newspaper columnist for The University of Texas’ student daily, The Daily Texan.

So, given time, things will change. One day Buttigieg WILL BE PRESIDENT. Things change, people change. Things can change quickly. I know. I really personally know. That little boy in the story above? That was me.

James Dunn is a Dallas native who is a Dallas political activist, advocate for the homeless and political commentator on SoMetro Radio. His first novel, 6130 McShann Road, will be available on Amazon.com by the end of April.
Local designers offer their tips for budget-conscious ways to refresh the look and feel of your home for spring

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES  | Executive Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

It’s spring, the traditional season for sweeping away last year’s (or last decade’s) décor with some smart, attractive ideas. You can always hire a talented interior designer, write a check and let them handle it. But if you don’t have that kind of disposable income, we have the next-best thing.

Thrift Studio is a month-long pop-up shop featuring luxury home furnishings and original artwork displayed in stunning vignettes created by eight of the city’s top interior designers. The items on display are available for shoppers to purchase at a fraction of the cost you’d pay at tony ateliers. And best of all, 100 percent of proceeds benefit Dwell with Dignity, a charity that helps families escape poverty and homelessness through quality living conditions … one household at a time.

You can purchase incredibly well-priced items at the Thrift Studio showroom in the Design District through April 27, but we also tapped some of those very designers to share their tips on how to spruce up your own living space.

Dwell with Dignity’s Thrift Studio, located at Dallas Design Center, 1250 Slo-cum St. ste. 550, is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission is free. Follow Dwell with Dignity’s Instagram, @DwellwithDignity, for special promotions and additional markdowns on individual items. For more information, visit www.ThriftStudio.com.

Dwell well

Eddie Maestri and Janelle Burns, Maestri Studio
My biggest cost-effective tip for a spring refresh is seasonal florals. Place new wreaths and seasonal botanicals at the front door and bud vases around the house — desk, vanity, bedside, even kitchen sink. In the spring, I always put fresh flowers on my weekly Whole Foods run. Just divide up a single bouquet, and it really goes far. In addition to florals, it’s time for all the heavy duvets and wool/cashmere throws to go into storage and for lighter-weight knits and linens to come back out! (Hint: I store linens with dryer sheets in muslin bags, and they stay fresh until they come out again for next season.)

Alice Cottrell + Russell Brightwell
Start over with accessories and books — the ones you already have, we mean. It’s a free and easy way to revive your space. (Your accessories don’t have to be set in aspic!) Start by removing everything from all coffee and side tables, bookshelves and nooks, then rethink each surface. Just swapping objects and books from one surface to the next, or one room to another, can make both rooms feel surprisingly new and different. If there’s money budgeted, purchase some new books or objects to liven things up — a bold but inexpensive artist-designed vase from MoMA Design Store, for instance. Buy what you like over time and create a collection of meaningful things that you can deploy at will.
Brant McFarlain, R Brant Design
Hang a new mirror, add a stylish floor lamp, keep vases filled with fresh flowers, or change out your throw pillows for something more colorful — small statements can give your home a fresh face for spring.

Alison Gross Dale, Harbinger Design
I love using the same printed fabric in multiple applications in one room — for example, the drapery fabric in your bedroom window treatments is also the headboard fabric. It gives the room a sense of completeness.

Beth Dotolo and Carolina Gentry, Pulp Design Studios
Try swapping out the darker fall/winter tone textiles for fresh, crisp, brightly-colored ones. A room can easily be transformed by switching out darker pillows and throws for bright ones that scream, “spring is here!” Fresh flowers are also a great way to liven up a space.

Judy Aldridge
My advice for budget-minded shoppers is: shop secondhand! Local thrift stores and consignment stores offer endless opportunities for treasure hunters. There are also great online sites, like Chairish and eBay. Finding a secondhand sofa and having it reupholstered is a great and economical way to have your own custom piece.

Holly Hickey Moore
A new coat of paint can freshen up any space, even if it’s just touching up your existing paint color from scuffs, gouges, stains and oily fingerprints. Don’t forget to include touching up your baseboards and the trim around your doors and windows!
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A staple of the gayborhood for nearly a century, Uptown’s historic Argyle gets an overhaul… while still retaining its essential character.

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES  |  Executive Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

Dallas has never been a city known for its sense of historic preservation — buildings often come and go. (Remember the old Dr. Pepper plant on Mockingbird Station?) “New” has long been the watchword of city elders. (Want to impress a local? Tell them your house was built in the 1950s!... a brag that would trigger a chuckle on most of the East Coast.) But what if you had your hands on a great pre-Depression-era “high-rise” (i.e., seven stories) and you actually cared about its significance as architecture.

That’s what has been happening for the last year or so at The Argyle.

Considered to be one of if not the first high-rises in Dallas built specifically as residential housing (unlike the nearby Warwick Melrose Hotel, or Downtown structures converted from office buildings to condos in recent decades), The Argyle has the feel of a pre-war brownstone from New York City. And it kind of is.

“The Argyle truly is one of a kind. It’s notable to the community, a landmark and a piece of living history,” says Marc Riviere, director of marketing for Indio Management.

But the building — solidly built at the intersection of Oak Lawn and Hall — was in desperate need of updating. The elevators were old and slow (the kind where you have to close a gate before they will move). The carpeting was...
The renovation process revolved around acknowledging, respecting and celebrating The Argyle for what it is,” says Riviere.

The renovation began when Indio bought the property in 2017, with the project divided into two phases: Phase one has just finished and most of the units will be occupied by the end of the month; phase two should be done by the end of 2019. (How much did such an undertaking cost? “Let’s just say that, in today’s dollars, we’re investing more in renovations than The Argyle cost to build in 1927,” quips Riviere.)

While a lot of the building has remained more or less intact — the exterior, the elevator shafts, the staircases and the number of units per floor are all the same — that doesn’t mean the changes were purely cosmetic. They were, in fact, substantial.

“We did borrow and lend square footage between apartments to fashion new spaces to meet the demands of today’s residents,” says Riviere. They devised four total floor plans for the total 48 units, which repeat on each floor: A studio (start at $1,400, for 425 sf); a “modified” studio/one bedroom with a loft-like feel; a more traditional one bedroom; and a two bedroom (1,224 sf). Some are finished out in white, some in black that makes the rough-hewn exposed concrete resemble mahogany.

Those concrete pillars, in fact, were one of the inspirations for coming up with some of the design aesthetics.

“There are a lot of immovable features, like the concrete pillars, which [presented] a terrific challenge,” Riviere says. “We now call them ‘beautiful constraints,’ and they forced us to be wildly imaginative [and] mandate that many original aspects of The Argyle’s spirit and character remain intact. It’s almost as if The Argyle refused to compromise.”

The windows — there are tons; it was built before there was air-conditioning (though of course there is now) — let in amazing amounts of natural light. They didn’t lose a one, but the casements are all new. A ground-floor mixed-use space is being converted into a gym. The original mailboxes will still be in use. And of course its location offers some amazing views.

The fundamental question for a redo like this is always how to preserve and honor a building’s history and spirit, while also fashioning modern living spaces that meet the needs of residents in the 21st century. The Argyle seems to have gotten that right.

The Argyle, 3721 N. Hall St. For more information, call Marcus Ellis at 214-734-5328 or visit TheArgyleDallas.com.
The grand tour

White Rock opens its range of architecture to the public

Spring — the season when we brush the sleep from our eyes, worry about getting our beach bodies in shape and begin nosing into other people’s living spaces. Yes, it’s time for a slate of home tours.

The next one up on the calendar is the White Rock Home Tour, now in its 14th year. And as always, organizers have mixed it up. Instead of a heavy dose of Mid-Century Modern homes (a style that predominates the area), there will be a majority of true modern homes — five in total... plus, of course, two Mid-Century. For the first time in the tour’s history, they will even show a “work in progress” — a new house in mid-construction designed by modernist architect Cliff Welch.

You can also see trends and ideas, including energy-efficient features, floor-to-ceiling glass, double-sided fireplaces and more.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Tickets are $15 ($20 at the door) and benefit DISD’s Hexter Elementary School (last year, the event donated more than $60,000 to the school). Hours are noon to 5 p.m. April 27-28. For more information, visit WhiteRockHomeTour.org.

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Does size matter?

Check out a tiny house, and find out for yourself

Size definitely matters... the question is, in what circumstances? If you have to pay to cool 3,000 square feet in the Texas heat, you may consider the trope that “everything’s bigger in Texas” applies to utility bills, too... and you don’t like it.

But a tiny home can turn house ownership into a statement of ecological (and economic) good sense.

That’s true of this tiny home, which the soft-goods brand Allwell recently brought into Dallas to demonstrate the reality of a small footprint. At only 238 square feet, this custom built, fully functional house shows how little space is actually needed to live in... and how doing away with clutter can really refresh your life.

— Arnold Wayne Jones
‘Wild Nights with Emily’ gives the poet her due

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Emily Dickinson was a master of literary loneliness and isolation. Her poems — all but a handful published only after her death in 1886 — ache with melancholy, preoccupied with death and missed opportunity. Famously reclusive herself, her persona has, for more than a century, conjured images of a buttoned-up Victorian debutante, staring distantly through a lace curtain. She died a spinster.

But just how solitary was she? Modern scholarship has posited that Emily was likely lesbian, as she maintained a close relationship (including surviving correspondence) with her sister-in-law, to whom she dedicated many poems, but even that overlay of biography has been scorched by the specter of sad longing.

That is, until *Wild Nights with Emily*, which debuted at SXSW in 2018 but hasn’t received a theatrical release until now. The casting of Molly Shannon as Emily suggests the tone that the film seeks to establish: not starchy New Englanders quivering their lower lips in suppression of their emotions, but a comparatively raucous sex comedy. (The opening scene perfectly sets that table.)

Shannon is damn-near-perfect as Emily, in a finely layered performance. She doesn’t mug at all; her performance, while ripe with comedic awareness, is also deeply focused on the soul of its subject. Her vaguely incredulous squints while listening to others prattle on conveys more happening behind her brow than most people when they are talking.

Writer-director Madeleine Olnek threads that needle with a sure hand, evoking the urbane (but also outrageous) wit of Whit Stillman. She seamlessly integrates Dickinson’s actual poetry into the dialogue — not in stodgy and ponderous recitations, but full of vibrancy and blood. Olnek frames the story as a gossipy history recounted by Mabel, an actual figure from Emily’s past, which lends an almost *Sex and the City* salaciousness to the proceedings... only to cut back to the loving reality that was Dickinson’s true persona. This is not idle revisionism, but a post-modern examination of a queer pioneer whose legacy has been befogged by clouds of heteronormative propriety. *Wild Nights with Emily* may be the most woke feminist comedy of recent vintage.
Jennifer Hudson headlines Soluna concert

Poor Jennifer Hudson only finished seventh on her season of *American Idol*. Since then, she’s had to take solace in winning an Oscar, and a Grammy, starring on Broadway and gaining millions of fans worldwide. That’s a powerhouse performer, as you’ll be able to see for yourself when she appears in concert with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra (Sarah Hicks conducting) as part of the Soluna Festival. And I’m telling you — I am going.

DEETS: Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. 8 p.m. MyDSO.com.

Amish drama ‘Everything is Wonderful’ opens at WTT

The excommunicated daughter of an Amish family returns to her family home following a tragedy, only to find wounds have a way of not healing... even though they have to. WaterTower Theatre continues its season with the play *Everything is Wonderful*, about understanding, forgiveness and the complicated world of family dynamics. Kelsey Leigh Ervi directs.

DEETS: Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. In previews through April 21. WaterTowerTheatre.org

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THEATER


Everything Is Wonderful. An excommunicated Amish woman returns home to deal with the consequences of a car wreck that killed her two brothers. Directed by Kelsey Leigh Ervi. Presented by WaterTower Theatre. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through May 12 (in previews through April 21). WaterTowerTheatre.org

The Father, a Tragic Farce. Florian Zeller’s play (translated by Christopher Hampton) about an aged Parisian man suffering dementia (David Coffee). Presented by Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through April 28. StageWest.org

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


Wolf at the Door. Marisela Trevino Orta’s new dark fairy tale about Isadora, who finds the strength to stand up against her abusive husband Septimo. Presented by Kitchen Dog Theater. Trinity River Arts Center, 2600 N. Stemmons Freeway. Through May 5. KitchenDogTheater.org

FESTIVAL

Soluna. The Dallas Symphony Orchestra spearheads this annual celebration of the visual and performing arts (which coincides with Dallas Art Month and Art Fair Week), with performances and events across many platforms and in a variety of disciplines. Through April 27. Visit MyDSO.com/soluna for details.

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


SATURDAY 04.20

CONCERTS

Jennifer Hudson. The Oscar and Grammy winner performs in concert as part of the Soluna Festival. Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora St. 8 p.m. MyDSO.com

MONDAY 04.22

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 04.23

FILM

All About Eve. Two weeks ago was Judy Holliday’s Oscar performance in Born Yesterday, which beating out Bette Davis and Anne Baxter in this movie; compare for yourself. A queer classic of Old Hollywood, a bitchy story of back-biting and ego on Broadway. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Move 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.

THURSDAY 04.25

FASHION

Advanced Style Dallas. A fundraiser for Educare Dallas, this fashion runway show with 50 models over 50 is hosted by style blogger Ari Seth Cohen with guest and style maven Valerie von Sobel. Samuel Lynne Galleries, 1105 Dragon St. 7–10 p.m. EducareDallas.com/style.

BROADCAST

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

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.
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The North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce fosters an inclusive business community that promotes economic vitality, connects members, and advocates on their behalf. We work to achieve equality through business.
My wife gave me the most incredible wedding gift — something I couldn’t have even dreamed up if I tried: a room of my own. We don’t have an especially large house — “Just right” is how I would describe it. What we do have are digs that are perfect for hosting lots of guests. So its design and décor is all geared toward entertaining, which means two guest rooms. Thing is, there are plenty of days during the fall and winter when those rooms stay unoccupied.

One is my daughter’s room — well, it’s designated as such at least. She’s away at college and uses it sporadically. (And much less than this empty-nesting mom would like. But that’s another essay.) The other room was just a guest room. Only not anymore. Now it’s my study. That’s what I like to call it, mostly because my dad always had a room that he called his study. Clearing out all of the old furniture from that room and completely redecorating it was my wedding gift. I could do whatever I liked with it … and I did.

I put in a sofa bed, so it can still be used for guests, and an oversize ottoman. It also has a big armoire for my clothes, a bookcase, a chair, a side table. My wife hung the chandelier that we used in our wedding chuppah and replaced the light figure with a sparkly one that fills the space with glittery light. I added all kinds of \textit{objet d’art} — well, tchotchkes — I’ve amassed over the years. (Think unicorns and tiny paintings, favorite books and stuffed animals.) I pulled out embroidered pillowcases that I had bought years ago at an antique show to cover the throw pillows and bought a vintage, pink chenille throw for snuggling in.

The minute it was done, I fell in love with it. Whenever I settle in, I light a cherry candle that Robin got for me in Traverse City, Mich., on our engagement trip and the room smells sweet and happy. The light is lovely day and night. The sofa is small and comfy and everything in there is something that makes me smile. But more than anything, the room reminds me of how thoughtful my wife is. I moved from my house of more than 15 years in Dallas to this house that she originally bought as a weekend cottage but which we now use full time.

We are slowly replacing furniture and decorating it to suit the two of us. But the paint and the renovations and much of the furniture and rugs predate me. I moved into her house. It’s a great house. But it wasn’t really mine. So to have a space where I’m the only one who gets to choose how fluffy or pink or kitschy (or whatever) the things that go in there are is pretty wonderful. And it’s not about the size of the space. It doesn’t even have to be a whole room — it can simply be a nook or a corner where you keep the things that make you feel safe and when you smile and only you get to decide what goes there and how it goes in there. It’s like that old adage, “If you love something then set it free” — “If you love someone, let them be.” My little study lets me just be. But more than that, it’s an outward expression of just how much my wife wants me to be me. Unicorns and all.

It’s one of the biggest mistakes couples make as far as I’m concerned — “becoming one.” That’s not a thing. And when people try to make it a thing, it becomes a very dangerous game, because, well, it’s not a thing. People have their own minds and hearts and feelings. They also have their own tastes and interests and things. You fell in love with the other person because of who she is (hopefully, anyway). Why on earth would you want to erase that? Instead, you should celebrate it.

We all need a place for our own thoughts. And it’s not about the size of the space. It makes me smile when people try to make it a thing, it becomes a very dangerous game, because, well, it’s not a thing. People have their own minds and hearts and feelings. They also have their own tastes and interests and things. You fell in love with the other person because of who she is (hopefully, anyway). Why on earth would you want to erase that? Instead, you should celebrate it.

We all need a place for our own thoughts. And it’s not about the size of the space. It
Making the SCENE the week of April 19–25:

• 1851 Club: Chanel St. John, Barbie Davenport and Dantel McKim on Friday. Tara St. Stone, Caress Riata and Londenn D. Raine on Saturday.
• 515 Bar: Karaoke at 9 p.m. on Wednesday.
• Alexandre’s: Chris Chism Band on Saturday. Wayne Smith on Sunday.
• Club Changes: Divine Miss Divas: Simply the Best at 10 p.m. on Friday. Spring Easter Show hosted by Matthew and Jake Sinn at 8 p.m. on Saturday.
• Dallas Eagle: United Court Quiz Show from 7-10 p.m. on Friday.
• Hana: Latin Vide Wednesdays with sounds by Nonsense.
• Hidden Door: United Court presents Club Night Under a Big Top with refreshments, food, circus games, costume contest and prizes benefiting the UCLSE Pride Fund from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesday.
• JR.’s Bar & Grill: Cassie’s Freak Show at 11 p.m. on Monday. RuPaul’s Drag Race Watch Party with Krystal Summers on Thursday.
• Liquid Zoo: Texas T-Bones on Monday night.
• Marty’s Live: Chanel Champagne Showcase on Monday.
• Round-Up Saloon: Maybeleen’s Casserole Cook-off benefiting the Round-Up Employees Benevolent Association (REBA) from 3-6 p.m. on Sunday. Easter Bonnet Contest at 7 p.m. on Saturday. Easter Bonnet Contest and Easter Basket Auction benefiting Resource Center at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
• Sue Ellen’s: Mustache Envy on Friday. Le Cure on Saturday. Mojo Dolls at 3:30 p.m. followed by Mescaline Americans on Sunday. Karaoke World Championship Trial at 7 p.m. on Thursday.
• The Rose Room: Crystal Lauren on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
• TMC: The Mining Company: Latin Dance Contest with $100 prizes at 11:30 p.m. on Wednesday.
• Urban Cowboy: The G Spot takes over Urban Cowboy on Saturday.
• Woody’s Sports & Video Bar: Big D Easter Bonnet Classic Registration from 6-9 p.m. on Friday. Easter Sunday at Woody’s all day Sunday.
• Zippers: Monday Madness with sounds by Rudeboy Dallas starts at 9 p.m.

Scene Photographers: Kat Haygood and Chad Mantooth
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29 Male member, in slang
34 Don’t call me this “___ Horny” (2 Live Crew hit)
36 One of the T’s of Socrates
37 End of the quote: “...and then meeting his ___”
42 Guns N’ Roses frontman
43 Consider, with “over”
44 He’s hard...to find
45 Heteros may change it at the altar
48 Manatees, for example
50 Helen Reddy’s “___ Woman”
51 Poet Sylvia
52 “Ironic” singer who updated her lyrics

Down
1 Result of a religious body’s split
2 Colorado neighbor
3 Pink on the inside
4 Mardi Gras torch
5 Cro-___
6 Source for some gay erotica
7 Husband of Pocahontas
8 Source of red balls
9 Declare untrue
10 Fag hags, at times
11 If all goes right
12 Angelina’s tomb-raiding role
13 The King and I setting
14 Cathedral of Hope collection
15 Ready for anything
23 “___ mind?”
26 Cassius et al., to Caesar
27 Amazon assistant
28 Iranian coins
29 Harden
30 ___Kosh B’Gosh
31 Prefix for da Vinci’s land
32 Music of Ty Herndon, for short
33 Praise for Lammies, e.g.
35 Farm animal that’s no breeder
36 One of the T’s of Socrates
37 End of the quote: “...and then meeting his ___”
38 Mosque leaders
39 “Fe fi fo ___!”
40 Smacks balls on the diamond
41 James Buchanan, notably
46 More microscopic
48 Pitch that isn’t straight
49 Stands next to O’Keefe
51 Anal insert from a UFO?
52 Aid’s partner
53 S&M unit
54 Italian wine region
55 Boys in the Band author
56 Part of an R.E.M. title
57 Paula Martinac’s Out of ___
58 Hazard for Sheehan
59 Features of Disney’s Dumbo

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