



dallas voice

The Premier Media Source for LGBTQ Texas | Established 1984 | DallasVoice.com | Volume 37 | Issue 52 | FREE | Friday, April 30, 2021

The Sir Real world

Gabriel Quirk talks about life
on the renaissance festival circuit

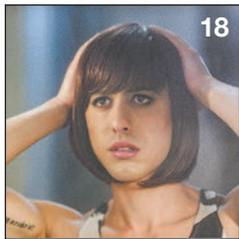
by Tammye Nash, Page 6



*is your
new normal*
a **NUDE
NORMAL?**

***Bare to be you
with a tan for under
\$15 a month.***

 **PLANET TAN**
All Over Joy • All Over DFW
planettan.com



headlines departments

- 9 Living the Sir Real life
 - 9 Making banking friendlier
 - 12 BTD kicks off its 40th year
 - 4 InstantTEA
 - 6 News
 - 17 Voices
 - 18 Life+Style
- 18 *Lupe*: badass transgender
 - 20 Dining: Las Almas Rotas
 - 23 Best Bets
 - 24 Scoop
 - 26 Scene
 - 30 MarketPlace
- 18 **ON THE COVER**
Puppeteer Gabriel Quirk
Photo by Chad Mantooth
Design by Kevin Thomas

dallasvoice
The Premier Media Source for LGBTQ Texas

OUT North Texas
2021
on newsstands
NOW!

Complete Guide to DFW!
Dynamic Relocation Guide
Comprehensive Business Directory of people who want to do business with you.



In a HAIRY Situation?
WE CAN HELP!



Schedule your FREE permanent hair removal consultation TODAY!
214-865-8345
hairnowelectrolysis.com
Proudly LGBTQ Owned and Operated



General & Cosmetic
Dentistry

CAROLE ANN BOYD, DDS, PC
JONATHAN VOGEL, DDS



Call today 214.521.6261
4514 Cole Ave, Ste. 905
DrBoyd.net

ENERGIZZE Your Driving Experience



Plug In. Recharge.
Preserve & Enjoy
Pure EV Power.



The Lincoln Aviator Grand Touring features plug-in hybrid technologies paired with the standard twin-turbocharged 3.0L V6 engine. The additional drive modes, including Preserve EV and Pure EV, help make the most of stored power. Explore new ways to power up your luxury driving experience.



Dallas Love Field

WORLD'S LARGEST LINCOLN FACILITY



EFFORTLESS BUYING EXPERIENCE | SERVICE | PICKUP & DELIVERY | PARTS

SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

7767 LEMMON AVE., DALLAS, TX 75209 972-992-7810 | LOVEPLANETLINCOLN.COM





Women leaders in Texas rallied at the Capitol on Wednesday, calling on lawmakers to reject bills targeting trans youth. LGBTQ state representatives Celia Israel, Jessica Gonzalez and Julie Johnson (at the microphone) were among those who attended. (Photo courtesy of Josh Shook)

Gina Ortiz Jones tapped to become Under Secretary of the Air Force

President Joe Biden nominated Gina Ortiz Jones to the post of undersecretary of the Air Force. Jones ran twice for a congressional seat that runs from San Antonio to El Paso, an area larger than the state of Georgia. She was narrowly defeated in each election.

Jones attended college on an ROTC scholarship, and, when she graduated she became an intelligence officer in the U.S. Air Force. She served in the Iraq War and earned the rank of captain.

She joined the Defense Intelligence Agency in 2008, specializing in Latin American issues. In 2016, she joined the Obama administration, working in the office of the U.S. Trade Representative. She continued in her role into the Trump administration.

— David Taffet

Dallas Pride 2021 tickets on sale

Tickets are on sale for Dallas Pride 2021, two nights of outdoor, in-person variety shows that will “raise awareness and celebrate the LGBTQ+ community,” organizers announced this week.

Both nights will take place at the Band Shell in Fair Park and will feature an array of talent from North Texas. The shows will also be streamed online at DallasPride.org.

The celebration begins Friday, June 4, with Marsha Dimes hosting a show featuring performances by Uptown Players, Jada Pinkett Fox, IDT Band, Raquel Blake, The Roommates, Daphne Rio, Bleach and other local artists. Gates open at 7 p.m., and show time is 8 p.m. on both nights. Those attending virtually may log on to the livestream at DallasPride.org starting at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available at DallasPride.org/pride2021/

— Tammye Nash

Dallas Public Libraries reopen May 4

The Dallas Public Library will be open for in-person visits beginning Tuesday, May 4. Customers will be able to come into the building, browse the shelves, pick up and check out holds and use the computer.

To keep customers and library staff as safe as possible, masks are required for everyone age 2 and older. Hand sanitizer and masks will

be available at the door. Building capacity will be reduced, and customers are asked to keep a six-foot distance from others.

The library asks patrons to use the self-checkout kiosks when possible. They are equipped with a new RFID system that makes checkout easier. Continue to return books in the outside bins. If you prefer to stay in your car, Library To Go curbside service is still available by appointment.

— David Taffet

pet of the week / HARRIETTE



Meet **Harriette**, a 3½-year-old, female Anatolian shepherd mix. She's fluffy, large and has mostly white fur with tan markings on her face. Harriette is a very sweet, loving and affectionate girl. Some of her favorite things include going outside to play with her favorite people, lounging around in the sunshine and being brushed from head to toe. Harriette would do best in a home with a large yard or even a property with land. She'd prefer to be the only pup in your life, and she'd love to meet all family members before you take her home. Harriette is waiting to meet you at the SPCA of Texas' Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas. Now through April 30, you can adopt any adult dog or cat for FREE. To request an appointment to meet Harriette, please visit SPCA.org/DogAdopt to submit an inquiry.

Adoptions will be available by appointment. Adopters will need to submit an adoption inquiry form in order to begin the adoption process and schedule an appointment to complete the adoption. Please browse our available animals at SPCA.org/FindAPet and visit SPCA.org/DogAdopt to inquire about a dog or SPCA.org/CatAdopt to inquire about a cat.

DEALS
are in
BLOOM!

Get them **FAST & FREE**
with Same Day Delivery or
FREE 1 hour Curbside Pickup

\$5 off

any **ONLINE** order of \$30 or more
Use Code **89409** at checkout
Valid 5/31/21 online only!
Excludes Acana, Fromm and Orijen products.

24 DFW locations to serve you.
petsuppliesplus.com

PET SUPPLIES PLUS®
minus the hassle

RIP & ROLL

for free

Have protection when you need it! Join our Condom of the Month Club to receive 12 condoms and 12 lube packets for **FREE** every month.

You can also visit our online Condom Shop to choose exactly what you want from our inventory.

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR SEXUAL HEALTH.

Protect yourself with free **PrEP**, Tele**PrEP**, **PEP**, HIV & Syphilis **TESTING**, and **CONDOMS** & lube.



HELP Center
for LGBT Health and Wellness

f @ in | **HELP**CenterTX.org
FORT WORTH 817-332-7722
ARLINGTON 817-200-6500



From the Sisters to Sir

Puppeteer Gabriel Quirk, back on the renaissance festival circuit after a year of plague, talks about his life in the performing arts

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

For Gabriel Quirk performance art has always been a way of life, from working at a renaissance festival in upstate New York as a teenager, to his days on the streets of San Francisco with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to now, when he is back on the renfaire circuit as Sir Real the Puppet Man. Through the end of May, Quirk will be strolling the lanes of Scarborough Renaissance Festival in Waxahachie, delighting visitors with his imaginative and intricately-detailed puppets — from the “humanette” Baby to his Venetian gondola. This week, he took time to answer a few questions about his life and his art for Dallas Voice.

Dallas Voice: You said you live in Vermont, right? What do you do back in Vermont when you aren't on the road? Do you have a partner or other family there?

Gabriel “Sir Real” Quirk: When the world is not in a pandemic I'm on the road nearly 10 months of the year. I work as an entertainer in renaissance festivals in Florida, Texas, Wisconsin (near Chicago), New York and Maryland. Home is in White River Junction, Vermont, and it's just as cute as it sounds. There my partner of 20 years waits patiently or comes and visits where I am. I also have a studio there where I build new costumes and puppets and maintain the collection. I'm also the proud donor dad to three wonderful sons who are raised by their moms, one in Vermont and the twins in Boston.

What did you do before Sir Real? And how did Sir Real come to be? Was he birthed from what you did for a living before, or was he birthed from



your hobbies and interests? I've been performing since I was a child, including at a renaissance faire that started near me when I was a teenager in upstate New York. After high school, I wasted no time and jumped on a Greyhound bus for San Francisco.

My training in theater and puppetry was through a series of individual artists who took me under their wings and also doing Street Theater with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and the Radical Faeries. This was San Francisco in the early '80s.

Before *Sir Real the Puppet Man*, I had another act with my then-drag mother — although that term didn't exist yet — called The Puppeteers of Ecstasy. We were primarily dancers in a form popular then called Contact Improvisation, to which we added insane costume transformations and marionettes. We started performing at some renaissance festivals, and that led us to move to New York, where we performed in East Village clubs and some big AIDS benefits.

We moved to Vermont in 1990 to start an

intentional community for radical faeries, and as time marched on, we parted ways, and I re-invented myself as Sir Real, the Puppet man, a solo act. My partner Matt is happy to stay in the back of the house, lol.

How did you learn the art of puppetry?

I've had a number of teachers over the years, but the thread of my education has always been self-directed. *Sesame Street* came on the air when I was in kindergarten and I knew right then what I wanted to do.

You make your puppets yourself, right?

Where do you get your inspiration? I do make them myself, and I also make puppets and props for other performers sometimes. Inspiration is a mysterious thing. Certainly, experiencing all kinds of art and culture builds a fertile ground in my mind for new ideas to emerge, and there have been so many projects over the years that one idea can lead to the next.

That said, I've always been drawn to camp and the absurd. Fellini, John Waters, Commedia dell'Arte and Mardi Gras. Until

this last year, I had only missed two Mardi Gras in 40 years.

How long does it take to create/put together one of your larger creations — like the caterpillar or the gondola or the horse? What about the smaller, more “traditional” puppets? Usually,

a big costume can come together over a few weeks. But before the actual build happens, it's rattling around in my head, sometimes for years. A lot of resources and engineering go into a costume.

Also, it's only practical to bring so many with me on the road. My whole act squeezes into a van and utility trailer. So, a new character has to be really vetted in my mind to replace an older, successful one. Still, it does happen, and I'm excited to bring out new things to share with our audiences that return each year. The Gondola is the most recent costume, and it was actually a test for a bigger project I'm building at another festival, a walk-through attraction called Journey to Venice. It's an immersive art installation in the form of a carnival sideshow, with peep shows along

the Grand Canal and mirror illusions. [EDITOR'S NOTE: Sir Real's gondola holds a number of Venetian buildings, each with windows that allow the spectator to look inside and scenes set inside.]

Each puppet has its own unique character and special touches, sometimes things that people might not notice at first glance — like the little scenes you see when you look in the buildings of Venice inside the gondola. Why is it worth it to you to take that extra time and effort on those little details? When an artist captures someone's attention, that's the beginning of a journey. There has to be somewhere for that journey to go, and further details can offer that path. It's why characters in a novel or movie have backstories. That's what makes them interesting and real.

My costumes are more like living sculptures, and while there isn't a time-based narrative, the slow reveal of detail invites the viewer to stay with me a little longer to see what is there and what will happen. Also, because I'm in the lanes of the faire, people like to watch as new people come upon me, and it starts again. This is especially true with Baby, a "humanette" baby in a stilt high chair.

How much time do you spend on the road each year? About how many different festivals do you participate in? I work in five large festivals a year and a number of small weekend shows, as well as non-renaissance events like the Muses Parade at Mardi Gras and some corporate events. This has me on tour for almost 10 months. During that time, I zoom home for a few days here and there and have a solid home period between November and the middle of January — the best time to



be in Vermont, haha. My partner has his own business to manage and is mostly home, but he joins me when he can for a few days. Since I work outdoors, my tour follows the nice weather. So I can lure him away — especially in the winter.

Do you see any distinctive regional differences in renaissance festivals — either the festivals themselves or the people who attend? How is Scarborough Renaissance Festival here in North Texas different from, say, a festival in Wisconsin? Every festival is its own village,

SISTERS, Page 14



Sir Real with his caterpillar-to-butterfly puppet (Courtesy Scott Fischer)

IMMIGRATION

Same-sex Couples and Individuals
Green Cards ♦ Fiancé Visas ♦ Citizenship
Waivers ♦ Appeals ♦ Deportation Defense

OLINGER LAW, PLLC
LYNN S. OLINGER

Board Certified Immigration Law Specialist

Serving the LGBT community for 15+ years

214.396.9090

www.lsolaw.com



FASHION OPTICAL

THE ART OF EYEWEAR

Brioni | Cartier | Celine | Chopard | Freds | Fendi | Gucci | Tom Ford
Jimmy Choo | Cazal | JF Rey | Henry Jullian | Inyake | OGA | & More...

45% * OFF

1st FRAME (including sunglasses)

50% * OFF

2nd FRAME

On Site Lab and Optometrist

* Offer cannot be combined with vision insurance.
Certain lines excluded from sale. See Associate for deets.

Call: 214-526-6006 | Open 7 Days a Week
Shop: 3430 Oak Lawn Ave. @ Lemmon

Visit: FashionOpticalDallas.com

STONEWALL ENDORSEMENTS

TEAR, COPY, SHARE • BRING IT TO THE POLLS • TEAR, COPY, SHARE • BRING IT TO THE POLLS

DALLAS MUNICIPAL 2021 JOINT ELECTION



LAST CHANCE TO VOTE! ✓ Election Day: **May 1st, 2021**

Visit dallascountyvotes.org to look up sample ballots and view your specific races. Voters registered in Dallas County are now eligible to vote at **any polling location in the county**. Stonewall Democrats of Dallas endorses the following candidates because we determined they are the best candidates to fight for the LGBTQ+ community, reform police, and improve race relations.

Visita dallascountyvotes.org para ver las boletas de muestra y ver las carreras en las que puedes votar. Los votantes registrados en el Condado de Dallas ahora están aptos para votar en **cualquier centro electoral en el condado**. Stonewall Democrats of Dallas apoya los siguientes candidatos porque hemos determinado que son los mejores para luchar por la comunidad LGBTQ+, la reforma policial y para mejorar relaciones raciales.

District 1 Chad West
Districto 1

District 8 Tennell Atkins
Districto 8

District 2 Jesse Moreno
Districto 2

District 9 Paula Blackmon
Districto 9

District 4 Carolyn King Arnold
Districto 4

District 11 Hosanna Yemiru
Districto 11

District 5 Jaime Resendez
Districto 5

District 12 Elva Curl
Districto 12

District 6 Omar Narvaez
Districto 6

District 13 Gay Donnell Willis
Districto 13

District 7 Adam Bazaldua
Districto 7

District 14 Paul Ridley
Districto 14



STONEWALLDEMOCRATSOFDALLAS.ORG

Queer banking



Rob Curtis

Most banks avoid issues that affect the lives of LGBTQ people

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

After Resource Center's Leslie McMurray transitioned, she tried to close an account she had with her ex-wife. "We were divorced, and I didn't want to be responsible for her charges," McMurray explained.

But because McMurray's new identification didn't match what was on file with the bank, the bank officer wouldn't close the account, telling McMurray that her ex-husband would have to close it instead.

More confusion followed when the bank official realized the ex was a woman, especially since this happened in 2013 — pre-marriage equality.

McMurray said she didn't keep her old ID, but even if she had that wouldn't have worked. She had a different address, and would have only looked like the sister of that person pictured on her previous ID.

After McMurray got remarried, she and her new wife decided to open a new

joint account. By then, McMurray had a credit history, but her wife had none. All that came up under credit history for that social security number was for her dead name. They did eventually manage to open their new joint account, but only after outing themselves to the bank employees.

Now Rob Curtis came up with a solution for folks who find themselves in that situation: Daylight, the first digital bank geared specifically to the LGBTQ community.

Curtis describes himself as a "serial entrepreneur." But the idea of a bank geared to the LGBTQ community's needs really began with one of his first ventures. It was called Gaydar.com, and it was an early gay hook-up site. He said he saw some of the conversations going on, and, after the leather or sex talk, he said, guys would talk about a variety of other subjects. And among the odd topics that regularly came up were finances and banking.

"I realized we were hacking our way through our financial lives," Curtis said.

Banking targeting a niche market isn't new. In the 1990s, Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance opened a credit union at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. In the end it failed because it didn't reach enough people.

Curtis said he isn't surprised the cred-

QUEER, Next Page

PROUD TO BE A VITAL
PART OF THE FIGHT
AGAINST COVID-19!

NTIDC

NORTH TEXAS
INFECTIOUS DISEASES CONSULTANTS



Want to
participate
in a vaccine
study?

STI testing & treatment at our location on the Baylor campus

PrEP Services provided with specialty pharmacy on-site

Financial & medication assistance available

Prep & HIV Clinical Trials available

Gender affirmation hormone therapy

Anal Cancer screenings

We accept most insurance plans!

CONTACT US AT
vaccine.study
@ntidc.org

MAKE YOUR IN-OFFICE OR
TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENT AT

214.823.2533
3409 Worth St. Suite 710 Dallas, TX

214.890.1616
9301 North Central Expy. Suite 310
Dallas, TX

infectiousdiseases.com
or ntidc.org



LinkedIn



it union didn't last. Brick and mortar banks, he explained, appeal to a geographic neighborhood. To reach a community that isn't defined by geography, online banking is the way to go, he said.

And just catering to the LGBTQ community? Other online start-up banks are targeting the Black and brown markets, disability community and Asians. So why not an online bank for LGBTQ people.

But who's backing these ventures and why? Citibank has signed on as a backer for Curtis' venture, and Curtis said other major banks are close to signing deals with the company as well. They already know they're not reaching these niche markets in the same way they're reaching straight, white people, he said. So, his bank is an appealing opportunity.

Does a company like Citi do more than most to accommodate trans customers? Sure. They've had the right policies in place for years. But if they over-embrace the LGBTQ community, they may lose some of their conservative customers, Curtis explained.

With Daylight, "We can get super-liberal without losing much of the community," he noted.

Curtis said he has looked into a number of ways to help trans customers. He realized that when someone transitions, they lose their entire earlier credit history. So he's working with Experian to find ways to merge the old credit history with the new identity.

And that's nothing revolutionary, Curtis stressed. When a straight woman marries and changes her last name to her husband's last, her credit history is merged into her new identity. For a trans person, it's simply one additional new piece of information: Their name has changed, and their sex has changed. Neither change has much to do with banking — just identity. But the credit and debts remain the same.

When same-sex couples marry and change their names, some banks are better about changing the paperwork than others. For Daylight, it will be as natural as it is for a brick-and-mortar bank to do a name change for a straight marriage or divorce.

An LGBTQ bank should offer products that appeal to the way the community lives, Curtis said. For example, transitioning can be extremely expensive. While other banks don't, Daylight will offer loans to transition.

In the LGBTQ community, we form

families in a number of ways, and some of those ways are more costly than others. For example, for those starting a family by hiring a surrogate, it can be a very expensive process. But Daylight can help finance those family-building expenses.

Visa knows it can add business by working with the specialty bank. Daylight customers will be able to get a Daylight Visa debit card issued in their chosen name, no matter what their ID says. That's not something most banks will do. For convenience, the card features no required minimum balance and allows one free ATM withdrawal per month.

Curtis said he's not looking to replace every card in everyone's pocket. But he's hoping to be "on top of the wallet," meaning he wants the Daylight card to be the card people pull out first. One incentive, he hopes, is knowing a percentage of profits will go back into the community. He isn't expecting to help fund the large, national LGBTQ organizations, but those that deal directly with some of the biggest problems faced by some members of the community — like homelessness.

Many banks hold seminars on taxation and financial planning. Daylight ran one this week for drag queens exploring such issues such as whether the tape used when getting into drag is tax deductible. (Yes, it is — along with the rest of what you wear on stage).

Curtis said he's expecting a big roll out of the bank in August, although Daylight already has about 2,500 customers using its beta version. Anyone interested in an account can contact the bank through its website, JoinDaylight.com, and get on a waiting list. Trans customers are being given priority, since they are the members of the community facing the biggest obstacles in traditional banking.

And at this point rather than just customers who are looking to park money in the bank, Curtis is looking for customers who've run into obstacles in the traditional banking system and have suggestions or ideas of ways an LGBTQ bank can serve the community better than banks they've used in the past. In other words, he wants to hear your banking horror stories and figure out ways to serve the community better.

And, of course, Daylight is a member of FDIC, and deposits are insured to \$250,000. ■

Prism Health North Texas
provides full-spectrum,
personalized healthcare for
the LGBTQIA+ community.

**NOW OFFERING
TELEHEALTH SERVICES**

Free STI Testing and Treatment
Free HIV Testing with Treatment at Little to No Cost
PrEP Prevention • HIV Primary Care
Transgender Primary Care
Behavioral Healthcare • Pharmacy
Case Management
Insurance and Financial Aid Assistance

Three Convenient Locations

Oak Lawn
2801 Lemmon Ave
Suite 200

Oak Cliff
219 Sunset Ave
Suite 116-A

South Dallas
4922 Spring Ave

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT PHNTX.ORG OR CALL 214.521.5191

Endorsed by



STONEWALL
DEMOCRATS
OF DALLAS



An Experienced
LEADER
for District **2**

★
Early Voting
April 19-27
Election Day
May 1st

- ★ Lifelong resident of District 2
- ★ Small business owner
- ★ Former Park Board Member
- ★ Proven advocate for residents

Jessemoreno.com

If you would like more information on
where and when to vote, go to
www.dallascountyvotes.org



★
**Jesse
Moreno**

FOR DALLAS CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Make Your Voice Heard!

CHAD

RE-ELECT

WEST



DALLAS CITY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 1

Endorsed by:



Hon. Adam Medrano | Hon. Omar Narvaez | Hon. Chris Luna
Rep. Julie Johnson | Mike Anglin | Steve Atkinson & Ted Kincaid
Cece Cox | Pam Gerber | Chris Heinbaugh
Kathy Hewitt and Anne Faye | Eric Johnson & Dr. Mark Parker
Tino Jalomo | Ben Leal | Terry Loftis | Susan Lopez-Craig
Enrique MacGregor & Mark Niermann | Lee Ruiz

Election Day: May 1, 2021
Find your polling place at
dallascountyvotes.org.

Political Adv. paid for by Chad West for Dallas City Council | Benny Guzman, Treasurer

Kicking off



Black Tie Dinner Co-chairs Brad Pritchett, left, and Terry Loftis unveiled the dinner's "40th" logo on Thursday

Black Tie co-chairs announce beneficiaries, unveil logos

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Black Tie Dinner announced its 17 beneficiaries and revealed the 40th anniversary logo for 2021 during the digital kickoff Thursday, April 29. Black Tie Dinner is the largest event of its kind in the U.S., and this year's event is set for Nov. 13.

BTD's Senior Co-Chair Brad Pritchett said the nonprofits chosen as beneficiaries said this year are a "diverse, well-rounded group of incredibly hard-working organizations that make a massive, positive impact in our local LGBTQ community."

He added, "Selecting our beneficiaries is one of the most important and toughest decisions our board makes every year, but it is also the most rewarding because of the amazing work these organizations are doing to serve North Texas."

Local beneficiaries returning for 2021 are AIDS Services of Dallas, Big Brother Big Sisters Lone Star, Cathedral of Hope United Church of Christ, Celebration Community Church, Coalition

of Aging LGBT, Equality Texas Foundation, Health Education Learning Project, Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, Legacy Counseling Center, Northaven United Methodist Church, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, Promise House, Resource Center, Turtle Creek Chorale and Uptown Players.

New to the beneficiaries list this year is Dallas Hope Charities. And Black Tie Dinner's returning national beneficiary is the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

Black Tie Dinner unveiled its 40th anniversary logo during the kickoff event Thursday, and dinner officials launched the return of The Black Tie Ambassador Program, its digital peer-to-peer fundraising campaign.

"Due to the success of last year's Ambassador Program, we decided to extend this year-round giving campaign throughout our 2021 fundraising year," Junior Co-chair Terry Loftis said. "We are extremely grateful for the support of our Black Tie Dinner friends and allies, and this will give us the opportunity to connect with even more community members in 2021 to fundraise for our beneficiaries as we celebrate our historic 40th Dinner."

The Ambassador Program played a key role in the organization's success in

Putting People **FIRST!**

A tireless champion of
the residents of District 6

FOR SAFETY

Created three business crime watch organizations

FOR SENIORS

Helped create a call center network of nonprofits and closed city amenities like library and recreation staff to call seniors to check in on them to offer resources and to help prevent isolation and loneliness

FOR STREETS

Passed nearly \$600 million in bond funds to fix roads throughout Dallas

FOR JOBS & WAGES

Passed first-ever business district Neighborhood Empowerment Zone for small and medium businesses

FOR PARKS & RECREATION

Constructed a trail around the Pavaho Wetlands in Los Altos

FOR TAX RELIEF

Voted four years in a row to lower the property tax rate

REGARDING THE PANDEMIC

Passed eviction moratorium ordinance for families affected by COVID-19

Set up vaccination registration hubs with local nonprofits and churches, as well as with local elected officials.

FOR PRIDE

Helped pass an ordinance to commemorate June as Pride Month in Dallas annually in June and fly the official City of Dallas Pride Flag at City Hall

Advocated and added fully comprehensive healthcare benefits, including gender-affirming surgeries for transgender employees

Earned a 100% score all four years serving on council for the HRC's Municipal Equality Index

FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Appointed by Mayor Johnson as Chair of the first Environmental Committee and passed the City's first Environmental Plan (CECAP)

FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Reduced the tax rate four years in a row for property owners

RECOGNITIONS

"LGBTQ North Texans of the Year"
— Dallas Voice 2020

"Best Dallas City Council Member"
— Dallas Observer 2018

Dallas Pride Parade Grand Marshall 2017



2020 Texan of the Year
— Dallas Voice

Re-elect

**OMAR
NARVAEZ**

Dallas City Council District 6

ENDORSED BY



**STONEWALL
DEMOCRATS
OF DALLAS**



EARLY VOTING:

NOW through April 27th

ELECTION DAY

May 1st

If you would like more information
on where and when to vote, go to

**dallascountyvotes.org
Omarfordallas.com**

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Omar Narvaez Campaign.



UPTOWN PHYSICIANS GROUP

PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL CARE TO THE
NORTH TEXAS LGBT COMMUNITY FOR OVER 30 YEARS



David M. Lee, 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

BEST General Practitioner
7 Years in a Row!

BEST Medical
Group Practice

BEST HIV
Specialists



Dr. Donald Graneto named to D Magazine's Best Doctors in Dallas for 2017 in Infectious Disease and Family Medicine respectively.



Voted 2020 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.

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- ✓ Comprehensive HIV care*
- ✓ PrEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV)
- ✓ Infectious diseases diagnosis & treatment
- ✓ STI testing & treatment
- ✓ Comprehensive LGBT medical care
- ✓ General internal medicine care

*HIV Specialists certified by the American Academy of HIV Medicine

WE'VE
MOVED!

UPTOWN PHYSICIANS GROUP

New location at 2801 Lemmon Ave, #400, Dallas, TX 75204
214.303.1033 | uptownphysiciansgroup.com



SISTERS, From Page 7



Sir Real and his pony (Courtesy Scarborough Renaissance Festival)

with its own quality which comes from the people who work there, the people who attend the festival and the character of management, as well as the time of year and prevailing weather. Because of all these factors it's hard to know what role a region plays in the personality of a festival.

Scarborough Renaissance Festival is celebrating her 40th year, and that makes it one of more established and storied festivals on the circuit. In addition to the North Texas excitement of tornados, a unique feature of Scarborough is that it is so expansive as parkland. Some faires can get uncomfortably crowded, but in this year of social distancing, Scarborough Faire is well suited to accommodate people comfortably so they feel safe being in our world. And people have been so grateful and joyful to be here this year.

As with all the festivals, lots of people come in costume. This year the costumers are making masks appropriate to their look and bringing so much levity and humor to what has been a contentious public debate. We ask everyone to remain masked when not eating or drinking, and most people do. For that we are really grateful.

How difficult was the past year for you with so many of the festivals cancelled or delayed because of the pandemic? From your perspective, how did the pandemic and the resulting shut downs, etc., affect the renfaire community of performers and vendors. Do people seem to be bouncing back? Or have we lost some forever? I was working in a festival near Fort Lauderdale, Fla., when we closed early. I drove home not knowing what would happen next, along with everyone else. There was no work until Scarborough Faire [this year].

As an "independent contractor," I qualified for unemployment under the Pandemic Unemployment Act, and that saved me. It allowed me to be home for a whole year, which had not happened in my adult life.

I worked on new projects, cooked a lot and renewed my relationship with my partner. I feel really blessed. Some people did take this opportunity to begin a new chapter in their lives or chose to continue to stay home for now. We all had to make our choices to return and when. The good news is that people are coming to the festival, wearing their masks, mostly, and they are shopping with our artisans. We feel like a new wave of audience is discovering the renaissance faire, and they are loving it.

Historically, after the plagues of the Middle Ages came the renaissance. So I guess it stands to reason. Also, it's been building for a few years but our audience has also become quite diverse. You might think that a historical festival based on the English Renaissance might attract a "certain" crowd. But the festival community is so welcoming, and the costume element is so playful, that more people of all ethnicities feel welcome and have a great time. The people watching is unmatched.

This is also true for the LGBTQ community. It's kind of unusual, especially in this part of the world, to mix gender non-conforming kids wearing unicorn horns and purple hair with families pushing strollers or sexy fur clad barbarians at the joust next to a bunch of cowboys and bikers, and girls walking holding hands and some bears in kilts. We see it every day and I love it.

In our magic little world, people can get re-acquainted with each other and their shared humanity. It gives me hope for the world.

Let us change your total health for the better.

Walk-ins Welcome
Authorized Ryan White Provider
Comprehensive Primary Care
Free HIV, STD and Hepatitis C Testing
HIV, STD and Hepatitis C Treatment
Lab Draws
Linkage To Care Services
Medical Peer Navigators
nPeP Services
PrEP Services
Patient Care Coordination
Telehealth Services
Transportation Services



616 MATLOCK CENTRE CIR.
ARLINGTON, TX 76015
(817) 693-1000

CANCOMMUNITYHEALTH.ORG    

Nadia Winston
MPH, MSN, FNP-BC

WIG OUT

this summer with some fashionable new shades!

VERSACE HUGO BOSS
Ray-Ban GUCCI
TOMFORDEYEWEAR PORSCHE DESIGN

Doctor EyeCare

Award-winning Contact Lens Specialists
Optometric Glaucoma Specialists • Therapeutic Optometrist

4414 Lemmon Ave. at Herschel
Dallas, TX 75219 • 214.522-EYES

doctoreyecare.com

Dr. Allen B. Safir



BLACK TIE, From Page 12

2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of the traditional sit-down dinner and program, and organizers had to find a new direction and plan of action.

Thursday's digital kickoff also featured a diverse mix of segments highlighting the organization's mission to educate, empower and entertain, including a historic look back at Black Tie Dinner's first 39 years and spotlighting several historic Oak Lawn landmarks.

"After 39 years and nearly \$26 million dollars raised, it was important for us to reflect on our rich and colorful past while shining a light on cultural landmarks such as the Trans Mural, Legacy of Love monument and recent beautification projects on Cedar Springs," Pritchett said.

The two co-chairs said their board ex-



Black Tie Dinner Co-chairs Brad Pritchett, left, and Terry Loftis visited several Oak Lawn landmarks during the 2021 digital kickoff event.

pects demand for tickets to this year's event in November to be high, and they encouraged individuals and companies to sign up to become a sponsor as quickly as possible. In addition to presenting sponsor BBVA, Park Place Motorcars is also back, providing the 2021 Mercedes-Benz that will be given away by raffle.

For more info on how to become a sponsor, buy your raffle ticket, donate an auction and more, visit BlackTie.org.

TOYOTA of IRVING

This is your place



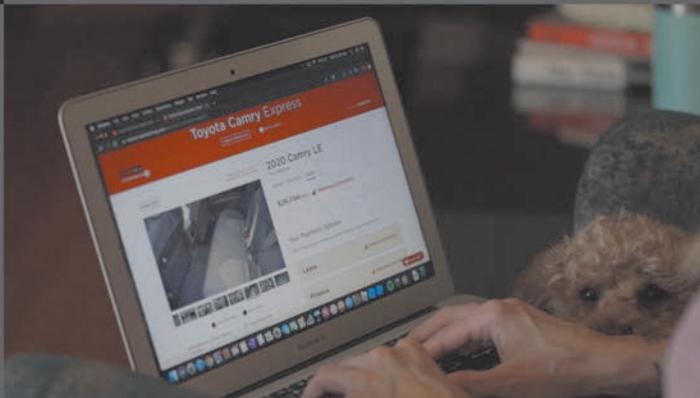
STORE TO DOOR EXPRESS STORE

Start and finish the car buying process 100% online and we'll deliver it to you!

In this time of social distancing, we are offering new ways to bring the dealership to you.



STORE TO DOOR TEST DRIVE



www.toyotaofirving.com | 1999. W. Airport Frwy, Irving, TX 75062 | Brian Smith - 972.210.1516



Support Local Journalism

Subscribe today!

Don't miss a single issue of what matters most to the LGBT community. Get **Dallas Voice** delivered to your home. Staying in place is smart for our health and survival. Staying connected is also important. As an essential business, it is vital for us to get the latest information impacting the LGBT community published every Friday!

Subscribe today and receive:

- Award-winning coverage
 - In-depth, comprehensive coverage of news and Life+Style information
 - OUT North Texas, the official LGBT visitors guide
 - Vital news delivered fast with first class mail
- 3-months = \$62 • 6-months = \$81
12-months = \$145

Call today: 214-754-8710 ext. 114
Visit: dallasvoice.com

dallasvoice
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

administration

Leo Cusimano Publisher ■ 114

editorial

Tammye Nash Managing Editor ■ 113

David Taffet Senior Staff Writer ■ 125

Philip Burton Proofreader

Contributors: Chris Azzopardi, Gary Bellomy, Jenny Block, J. Denton Bricker, Joey Cassiano, Jesus Chairez, Alicia Chang, D'Anne Witowski, Lawrence Ferber, Hardy Haberman, Scott Huffman, Lisa Keen, Mark Lowry, Steven Monacelli, Cassie Nova, Josh Robbins, Mikey Rox, Howard Lewis Russell, James Russell, Terri Schlichenmeyer, Leslie McMurray, Mathew Shaw, Brandi Amara Skyy, Mark Stokes, Jef Tingley, Casey Williams

advertising

Chad Mantooth Advertising Director ■ 131

Stephen Mobley MarketPlace Sales ■ 123

National Advertising Representative
Rivendell Media Inc. 908-232-2021

art

Kevin Thomas Art Director ■ 119

multimedia

Stephen Mobley Social Media Director ■ 123

Brian Kennedy Video Producer

Israel Luna Video Producer/DVtv host

Brad Pritchett DVtv Host

Brandi Amara Skyy DVtv Host

Regina Lyn DVtv Host

circulation

Linda Depriter Circulation Director ■ 120

founders

Robert Moore ■ Don Ritz

affiliations/memberships

Associated Press - Associate Member

National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association

Certified LGBT Business Enterprise

Founding Member - North Texas LGBT Chamber

Founding Member - National LGBT Media Association



© 2020 Voice Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprint rights are available only by written consent of the publisher or managing editor.

Dallas Voice is published every Friday. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each, payable in advance at the Dallas Voice office. Dallas Voice may be distributed only by Dallas Voice authorized independent contractors or distributors. No person may, without prior written permission of Voice Publishing, take more than one copy of each Dallas Voice weekly issue.

Subscriptions via First Class Mail are available: Three months (13 consecutive issues), \$65. Six months (26 consecutive issues), \$85. One year (52 consecutive issues), \$130. Contact Dallas Voice at 214-754-8710 x123.

Paid advertising copy represents the claim(s) of the advertiser. Bring inappropriate claims to the attention of the publisher. Dallas Voice reserves the right to enforce its own judgments regarding the suitability of advertising copy, illustrations and/or photographs.

Unsolicited manuscripts are accepted by email only. To obtain a copy of our guidelines for contributors, send a request by email to editor@dallasvoice.com.

■ commUNITYvoices

Acknowledging the existence of LGBT conservatives

On behalf of myself, the board of Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, our chapter members across the state and all those whose views we represent, I would like to extend a personal thank you to Dallas Voice for doing two things the media, mainstream or “LGBT,” rarely do: acknowledge that conservative gay, bi and trans people exist and have different views; and reporting what we actually said, instead of supplanting our words with their re-interpretations, in their report published April 21, 2020 [on Log Cabin Republicans of Texas’ stance on House Bill 4042 and Senate Bill 29 being considered in the 87th Texas Legislature].

Now, it’s true that the Dallas Voice negatively mischaracterizes our position on a very sensitive issue, labeling it as “anti-trans,” and claims we use an “outdated” term when referring to trans people, implying it is insulting or, at best, inappropriate. The Voice also indicates they think something is amiss when we appear to be “suggesting that not everyone who says they are transgender actually are.”

Let me address these characterizations first.

Whether something is “anti” anything is, by definition, always a matter of opinion. It would be better if the media returned to the better days of journalism when they only reported what others said, instead of what they themselves think — no matter how superior they deem their own opinion. In this case, the Voice could have quoted persons or organizations responding to positions similar to ours. Of course, by listing these it would become clear to the independent reader that those that think our position



Marco Antonio Roberts
Chairman, LCR Texas

years.

Regarding the use of a term the Voice labels outdated, we invite anyone to review our FAQ section [located on the Log Cabin website at Log-CabinTexas.us/lcr-texas-statement-faqs-hb-4042/] that includes a detailed explanation on the use of this terminology based on science for specific policy issues and how that differs from ordinary polite use in social settings. This difference in use is true of many terms dealing with issues of sexuality. Our use is appropriate, accurate and respectful in its context.

Lastly, on the question as to whether “everyone who says they are transgender actually are,” that some people claim a transgender identity and then renounce it is a documented fact, and it is a fact recently witnessed by members of my own home chapter in Houston. Evidence of this can be provided to the Dallas Voice for their confidential review.

Yet, that this happens in no way has any relevance as to the reality of the ex-

is “anti-trans” are either largely left-progressive advocates, or woke corporations who have taken a hard turn left in recent

experience of the person who is truly trans, and we should not fear acknowledging it. This is one of the real, complicating issues in this public debate, and to pretend it does not exist does no service to anyone. If we do not admit the truth of complicating factors in areas of contention in the public square, then we cannot earn the trust of the public in addressing those issues that affect us all in different ways, nor can we come up with policy solutions that deal with the world as it really is.

We are not anti-trans. But the fundamentalist far right and progressive hard left, along with much of the media, share a common goal: to portray all gay, bi and trans people as all in line with the agenda of the progressive Left under the banner of “LGBT” rights. For the far right, they seek to promote the idea that no gay, bi or trans person, or anyone that supports them, could honestly support conservative values of any kind, and so we are suspect as conservatives. And for the far left — well, it is exactly the same. Yet, a quarter of gay, bi and trans people voted Republican in the last election, and surveys show strong majorities of Republicans under 40 support backing the rights of people identified as “LGBT.”

We don’t have to think the Dallas Voice intentionally mischaracterized our stance or did so for ill motives. We just think the Voice is mistaken.

And so I come back to my reason for gratitude to the Dallas Voice. They did something we at Log Cabin Republicans in Texas, and no doubt Log Cabin Republicans elsewhere in the country, rarely see. The Dallas Voice, for all its earnest disagreement with our policy positions, still dutifully acknowledged the existence of gay, bi and trans conservatives, and the ally Republican women and men who support them, and let us speak for ourselves. For that rare act of journalistic integrity when it comes to Log Cabin Republicans, the Dallas Voice deserves credit.

Trans truths



Rafael Albarrán stars in *Lupe*, now on HBO.

A trans artist wanted to see a trans ‘badass’ onscreen. Now she can

GEORGE ELKIND | Q Syndicate

After years of collaborating on shorts films around the East coast, filmmakers André Phillips and Charles Vuolo shared a gut feeling: They were both ready to make a feature-length production. But they weren’t sure what to make it about.

Then in 2014 they met trans artist Celia Harrison on the set of a music video in which she was performing. Still weighing the subject themselves, they asked her what kind of story she’d most like to see onscreen. She answered, “I’d

love to see a film with a transgender protagonist that’s a badass.”

Specifically, she explained, she wanted to see a trans character who wasn’t framed as a victim, or, at the very least, one that wasn’t sad all the time.

And now, in their new film *Lupe*, currently streaming on HBO Max and HBO Latino, the creators are finally presenting a figure just as tough and fearless as they’d imagined.

Working with Harrison on the script (she also fills a key supporting role), they created a character for whom strength is a key component, embodied in the historically male-gendered practice of boxing — someone unafraid to traverse New York streets even in the dark; someone who, while flawed, could serve as the hero of their own story.

Over the film’s trajectory, *Lupe* (Puerto Rican actor Rafael Albarrán), a recent Cuban immigrant, searches for their missing sister Isabel (Lucerys Medina) while navigating both the world of low-budget sex work in New York and their own gender identity in the process. Featuring frank, sometimes harsh discussions of transgender and immigrant life punctuated with bursts of violence, the film presses on ideas of gender by forcing its character to navigate the spaces of boxing and sex work both — spheres often seen, respectively as male and female worlds.

“One of the most beautiful things in the film is that we’re constantly going from masculine to feminine, and we see that some people are trapped in their masculinity and some people are

trapped in their femininity,” says Albarrán, who identifies as non-binary and uses he/she/they pronouns. “At the end of the day, all these constructs are just traps. And it’s really beautiful for the character of *Lupe* to really empower herself and look for what is authentic to her.”

Preparing for the role — which involved whirlwind days rushing from Muay Thai training to fitting sessions for women’s clothes before an initial two-week shoot — helped shape Albarrán’s own trajectory as much as *Lupe*’s.

“The more I was reading about the trans experience, the more I was informing myself about gender and femininity, the more I started questioning those things,” Albarrán says. “So that exploration that the character does in the



Charles Vuolo and Andre Phillips on the set of *Lupe*

movie — I feel that came really close to me because that was an exploration that I was doing myself.”

For both directors, working with trans collaborators and creating an atmosphere that welcomed improvisation and exploration proved key in building out the film’s emotional world. The main goal, often, was to stay out of the way of the performances.

“One thing we asked our crew, whoever we would work with — this is a film about humanity, this is about people,” says Vuolo. “As much as I love beautiful dolly shots or beautiful crane shots of buildings, it’s about Rafael, and Isabel. It’s about these characters, so get in there and get close.

virtual COCKTAILS AT THE CARTER



THURSDAY, MAY 6
6-7 P.M. | FREE

Learn a creative cocktail with Tulips bar
and join an artist-led workshop.

CARTERMUSEUM.ORG/COCKTAILS

AMON
CARTER
MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN
ART

GOODY GOODY
WINE • BEER • LIQUOR

Get your favorite wine, beer,
and liquor delivered!



Low Prices

No product markups like on third-party delivery apps!



Grand Selection

Shop from thousands of items available in-store.

Your neighborhood Goody Goody Liquor is closer to home than ever before!

With same-day delivery, large product selection, and the low prices you've come to expect, shopping for drinks couldn't be easier.

**FREE SAME-DAY DELIVERY
ON YOUR NEXT ORDER**

Get free delivery your next online order of \$20 or more! At checkout, use Promo Code:

DV430

Offer expires 5/29/2021. For more information on same-day delivery, visit www.goodygoody.com/delivery. Must be 21 years of age or older to purchase alcohol. FOR A GOODY TIME, PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

SHOP NOW AT GOODYGOODY.COM

Appetizers worth dancing to



Las Almas Rotas' entrees were overly spicy, but the appetizers made up for it

JOEY CASIANO | Food Critic
joeycasiano11@gmail.com

As I entered Las Almas Rotas on my recent visit, I immediately felt at home. There's no host as you enter, which is refreshing; it feels more like you're entering a friend's house and making yourself at home. The bar area resembles a cantina one might see in a movie, and the bartenders immediately greeted me with a glass of water. This is what differentiates a good restaurant from a bad one: quick and hospitable service offering everything I need, nothing I don't.

Another advantage is the large open windows that allow for natural airflow, and at the bar there are even little signs exclaiming "nope!" to remind guests to keep a safe social distance.

Las Almas Rotas
3615 Parry Ave., Dallas
Dine in/Drive-thru/Delivery
Opens at 5 p.m. weekdays;
2 p.m. weekends

Outside seating is also available.

The two employees

working the bar were exceptionally friendly and attentive. The ambiance is warm and inviting, and they even had quality Mexican music playing, contributing to the authenticity of the concept. On display behind the bar, on shelves seemingly 20 feet tall, is an abundance of exquisite agave varietals, many of which are supplied by Bar and Garden Dallas on Ross Avenue, a local gem and my favorite spot to shop at whether I'm craving wine, beer, liquor or just a really



cute necklace.

This, combined with the rustic decor, makes Las Almas Rotas feel unique and enticing.

For my first cocktail, the bartender recommended I try "The Great Escape,"



substituting mezcal instead of tequila for a smokier flavor. With a list of ingredients including pineapple, lime, vanilla bean and habanero bitters, it sounded perfect. She served the drink in a simple rocks glass with a nice tajin-like garnish. I took a sip and although the habanero bitters were very apparent, the drink fell flat. I requested an extra dash of simple syrup, and that carried through the flavors and created that exquisite cocktail the menu described.

I sipped on my Great Escape until my first courses arrived. These included pork belly chicharrones, chips, guac and salsa verde, as well as the esquites, their take on elote. I waited a while for it to arrive, but I don't necessarily consider that a bad thing, since quality dishes take a bit longer to prepare.

I started with the chicharrones — perfectly fatty, savory and salty, with limes to squeeze on them. They were so delicious I could have made a smoothie out of them. Next, the esquites, which was perfectly balanced. I'm not usually one to go for elote type dishes, but I would serve this at my wedding just to eat it while I dance to Selena.

Then came the chips, guac and salsa verde. Guacamole is sacred to me; it's one of the few dishes which tells you more about the chef than their full re-

sume does. Avocado is already fatty, so simply adding the appropriate amount of salt and acid is what makes it enjoyable. This guacamole was especially delectable, a rarity in Dallas restaurants. The salsa verde was fresh and also well balanced; it tasted like dipping a chip into a garden of greens. I couldn't have been happier with these first courses.

Then came my entrees. Unfortunately, I was very disappointed by both.

The first entree, chicken enchiladas, a staple of any Mexican menu, was way too spicy. For the record, I'm Mexican; I grew up on traditional Mexican food, and my grandma's chile is still the spiciest west of the Mississippi. The sauce used here was a "morita" chile sauce, made from a smoked, dried red jalapeño pepper, which is usually seemingly harmless compared to other fermented peppers. But this sauce was obviously over-reduced. It was plain and lacking in salt and fat. Even though the sauce threatened to overwhelm my taste buds, I could definitely tell the chicken inside the enchilada was cooked to perfection. I still had to send it back.

I also accepted the bartender's suggestion for my second cocktail, a "Daiquiri de Mexico," made with one of my favorite rums, Uruapan Charanda Blanco. This soothed my palette and gave me hope for the next entree.

When the carnitas torta arrived, I immediately dug in. First bite was tasty — nothing fancy, which is kind of the point of carnitas. But this dish still needed something. It came with what seemed like an avocado aioli, so I opened the torta and slathered the sauce all over it. Somewhat tasty, but still not impressive — no acid, no salt. Then came the third bite and ... Fire in the hole! It was not as spicy as the enchiladas but still unpleasant enough for me to not want to take another bite.

Overall, I had a wonderful time at Las Almas Rotas. It is a quality establishment, although it does seem they may need to re-evaluate preparation methods and maybe some retraining to get the heart of house all on the same page, so that each dish is of the same high quality as those fantastic appetizers.

I know Las Almas Rotas is capable of producing delicious entrees because my first courses were perfect. And the interior design and general environment are pleasing and quaint. I look forward to returning and giving Las Almas Rotas another chance to deliver well-balanced, appetizing entrees. ■

Are you covered? ...we can help!

NorthStar, the trusted name in roofing and construction for more than 16 years.



Morris Garcia

- ★ A+ Rated with the BBB
- ★ Fully Insured
- ★ Advanced measuring techniques to save \$ on materials
- ★ Highly skilled
- ★ LGBT Owned & Operated



Free Inspection, don't miss your 6-month window to file a claim.

Call today for a free quote!
214-274-5596 ★ NorthStarRFG.com

NORTHSTAR
ROOFING • FENCING • GUTTERS
WWW.NORTHSTARRFG.COM

TOAST TO LIFE

VENETIAN Carnival



FREE virtual event with streamed fun, entertainment and auction benefiting programs and services of Resource Center

presented by



7 p.m. | May 1, 2021

Host Steve Kemble | Event Co-chairs Brittanie Buchanan & Darin Kunz | Entertainment by DJ Blake Ward, Caleb Hans, members of the Gulf Coast Kiki Ballroom scene, Heart to Heart Duo, Flying Free Ariel Magic and more special surprise appearances!

myresourcecenter.org/toasttolife

“Don’t worry about any of the typical concerns. Just get close, get emotional, let them breathe.”

Working with trans collaborators was key for the directors. Harrison, who collaborated on the film throughout, did more than just fact-check. She took creative risks and often provided ideas that drove entire scenes.

“She was interested in doing things that we would never have done or been bold enough to do,” Vuolo remembers, citing a longer scene in which Harrison appears nude in the bathtub and discusses intimate, personal details recalled from her own experience.

“You’re the one putting yourself out there, you’re the one lying there, you’re the one talking about this stuff. And we’ll film it,” Vuolo recalls telling her. “It sounds incredible and emotional and intense. But we would never have written a scene like that; we wouldn’t have known how.”

In editing, though, the production hit a snag. The loose 47-page shooting script (90-100 is customary for a short feature) that had created such a welcoming set environment left the team struggling to find a structure for the film.

“We had looked at moments and scenes 200 times; we couldn’t make heads or tails of it,” says Vuolo. “We ended up finding a phenomenal editor in Shiran Amir, who just brought this thing to life. Not only did she bring the footage and all the wonderful performances that everyone gave us to life, she brought an entire post team.”

That team included Kerry Michelle O’Brien, who was moved to tears by what she saw as a rare, truly rounded trans character in one of Amir’s early cuts — so much so that she came on board as both transgender consultant and executive producer. As an advisor and editor herself, O’Brien’s main suggestion was often to let scenes play out more fully, even ones that might feel uncomfortable to watch.

“There’s a couple of pivotal scenes in the film where the boys were quite worried about sort of letting it breathe. And me and Shiran were pushing back and going, ‘No, no. It needs more — we need to see this.’

“Yes, it feels awkward and uncomfortable,” says O’Brien, “but that’s because it’s real. It’s that person’s truth for that moment. So please linger on it more.



Celia Harrison in *Lupe* on HBO

Because, you know, unless you’ve been in that position where you’ve lost everything, everything’s just falling away, you don’t know who you are, where you’re going; you don’t even know who your friends and stuff are or anything, unless you’ve lived that.”

Letting things simply exist onscreen, suggests O’Brien, is often the key not just in getting to the core of a scene, but

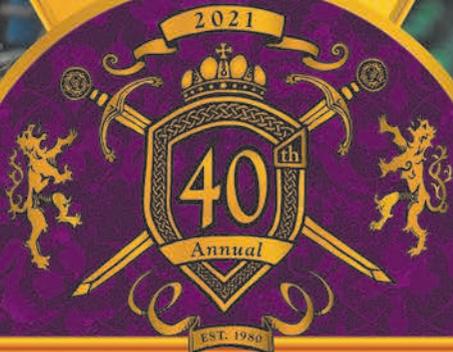
to the heart of an experience.

“Let it be there, because it speaks to me as a transgender individual,” she says. “Yes, this point in the film may be quite visceral and hard to watch. But you know why it’s visceral and hard to watch? Because it’s a truth.”

George Elkind is a writer and media critic based in Metro Detroit.



WEEKENDS THRU MAY 31
Saturdays, Sundays & Memorial Day Monday



Fantasy enthusiasts, Cosplay fans, techies, this weekend is for you!
Come live the fantasy with costume contests and more.
Plus, don your best flowers and help celebrate Spring with Scarborough.

40th Annual
Scarborough Renaissance Festival[®]
Sponsored by T-Mobile

Live the Fantasy
Weekend May 1 & 2

Get discount offer at
participating T-Mobile stores Today!

www.SRFestival.com
Just 30 minutes south of Downtown Dallas

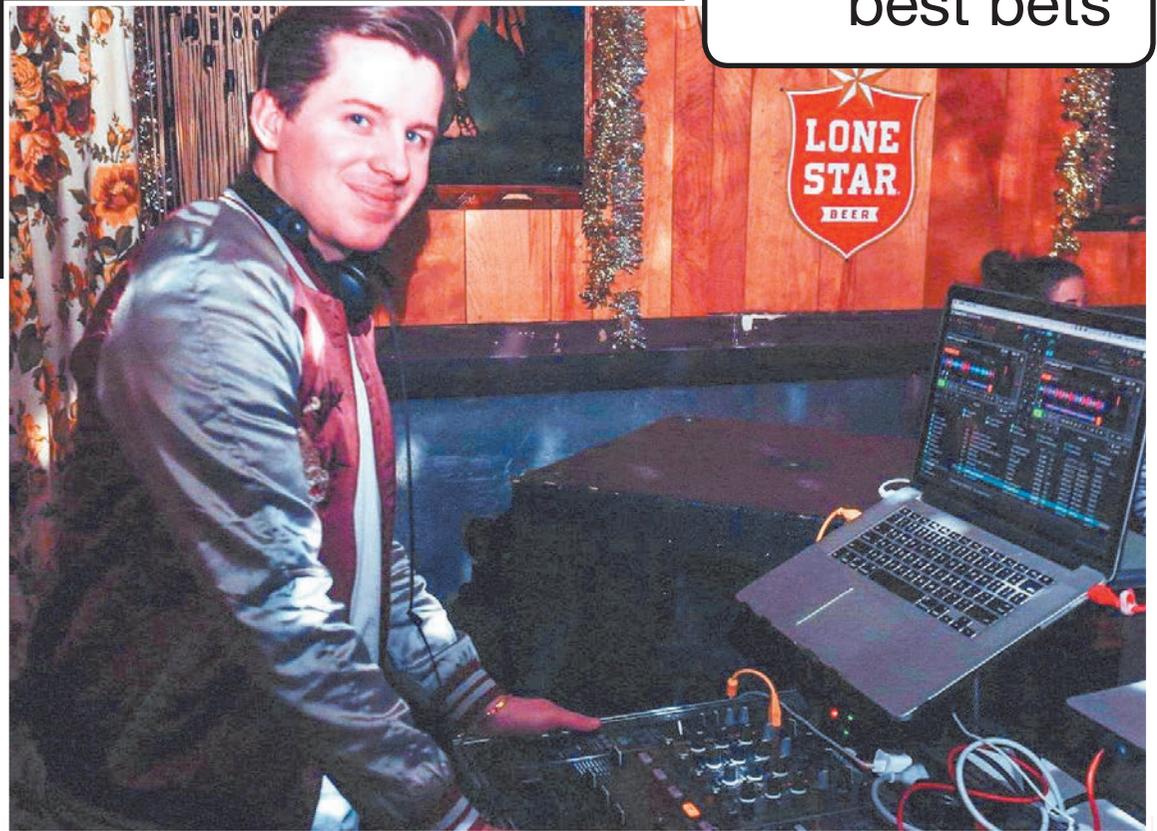
Tim Thaler
Albertsons
Pepper

We want everyone to stay safe and healthy! Due to COVID-19, there are new guidelines and protocols in place this season in accordance with CDC guidelines. These include a face mask requirement, temperature checks and others. Get the details at SRFestival.com



SAT 05.01

“Aggressively queer and radically tender” — that’s how organizers are describing **Crystal Queer Riot**, a BYOB and COVID-safe dance party at Rainbow Vomit. The event features DJ Tyler Moore and benefits Exude Love Foundation. Everyone is encouraged to throw on their gladdest glad rags, be whomever they want to be and come along on a magical journey. Tickets are \$30-\$50; Rainbow Vomit, 3609 Parry Ave.; begins at 10 p.m. and last through the after hours; 21 and older only; visit do214.com/events/2021/5/1/crystal-queer-riot-tickets for tickets and more info.



SAT 05.01

Resource Center presents its 23rd Toast to Life, with the theme of “Venetian Carnival,” hosted by Steve Kemble. The virtual event is free and includes entertainment by DJ Blake Ward and a silent auction. All proceeds benefit Resource Center Dallas. *Streaming live at 7 p.m.*; visit One.BiPedal.net/ToastToLife2021/ welcome for details.



THU 05.06

Austin singer/songwriter Grace Pettis comes to Dallas to celebrate the release of her new album, *Working Woman*, with a concert featuring her new single, “Landon,” which she has described as an apology to her high school best friend for not being there for him when he came out. The album drops Friday, May 7. *Poor David’s Pub, 1313 Botham Jean Blvd.* Tickets are \$18; doors open at 6:30, showtime is at 7 p.m. Visit PoorDavidsPub.com.

LGBTQ+ podcast BFFU

Best Friends Forever University hosted by **Brad Pritchett** and **Ryan Brockington** are on a mission to cultivate empathy and fight prejudice by representing LGBTQ people and their stories of power and courage to make change for the better.

New episodes every Wednesday on Apple, Spotify and Google Podcasts. Link here: tinyurl.com/y4cfhfk5

Lambda Weekly

SUNDAYS at 1 p.m.
on **89.3 KNON-FM**
with David Taffet, Lerone Landis and the always late Patti Fink.

Deep Inside Hollywood:



“Queer as Folk” — the U.S. originals

A new ‘Queer as Folk’ is coming to Peacock

ROMEO SAN VINCENT

After a couple years of rumbling maybes, there’s a new *Queer as Folk* on the way, with an eight-episode, straight-to-series order from NBC’s streaming service Peacock. The “reimagining” is from *Little America* creator Stephen Dunn, who’ll set the update among a diverse group of queer friends in New Orleans. (The original UK series was set in Manchester, the U.S. version in Pittsburgh). We’re hopeful that this iteration will take that diversity seriously, because unlike the first wave of LGBT scripted dramas for television — the UK and American QaF included — that were almost entirely centered on white, cisgender characters, we now live with a TV landscape that includes a revived *L Word* and *Pose*, programs that deliver a much more inclusive vision of the queer family.

No cast yet (*Pose* is ending, though; so casting directors, take note: Some wonderful actors are available). And no air date. Just good news.

Uzo Aduba runs the ‘Low Country’

We’re always up for more from the great Uzo Aduba. The Emmy Award winner impresses every time she blesses a new project with her talent (We’re still high on her portrayal of Shirley Chisholm on *Mrs. America* if you can’t tell). So it’s very good news, indeed, to learn that she’ll be first on the call sheet for the new television drama *Low Country*.

Aduba will star as a lesbian deputy sheriff in South Carolina’s low country. Black and queer in a conservative white community, she’s tasked with taking on a wealthy white crime family with a reputation for instilling fear in their enemies.

Aduba will also executive produce the series, which is from Michelle King and Robert King (*The Good Wife*) and written by Dewayne Jones (*Your Honor*). That’s a solid lineage and a very long way from the days of stuff like the Suzanne Somers sitcom *She’s the Sheriff*. That’s the one where the joke was that a woman would do a job that only a man should do. Remember it? No? It’s OK, your life will be fine without it.

Look for this one on CBS in the near future.

A transgender opera diva and ‘The Sound of Identity’

March 31 was International Transgender Day of Visibility, and though the new documentary from Shout! Studios, *The Sound of Identity*, didn’t drop on that day, it’ll arrive just in time for Pride month.

The film profiles transgender opera singer Lucia Lucas and her historic 2018 performance at the Tulsa Opera, where she was the first trans woman to take on a principal role in opera history. This was nothing less than a career-defining risk, but Lucas collaborated with composer and mentor Tobias Picker to bring her acclaimed baritone voice to the role of Don Giovanni in Mozart’s opera of the same name. The film, directed by James Kicklighter (*Angel of Anywhere*), won the 2020 OUTshine Film Festival Programmers’ Award of Excellence for its thoughtful exploration of voice, gender, and performance. Don’t miss it when it begins streaming on June 1.

The marvelous John Waters visits ‘Mrs. Maisel’

Here’s the news: legendary cult filmmaker John Waters (*Hairspray*) will have a role on the upcoming season of *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. And even though the new season

is currently shooting, all details are under closely guarded wraps.

Will he be a one-and-done? Recurring? Minor character? New regular? Who’s he playing? We don’t know and, frankly, it doesn’t matter. But we’re thrilled to see Waters in front of the camera for all sorts of reasons. He’s a queer elder statesman at this point, and for the retro purposes of *Maisel*, he already looks like an early 60s senior dandy. That pencil thin mustache alone is ready-made period detail.

Meanwhile, Amy Sherman-Palladino and Daniel Palladino, the show’s creators, have a fun history of stunt casting going back to their *Gilmore Girls* days where everyone from Carole King to Norman Mailer to Traci Lords to members of Sonic Youth would simply show up in the fictional town of Stars Hollow to mingle with Lorelai and Rory at a pumpkin festival. Waters is going to fit right in.

this week’s solution

H	A	L	F	C	O	M	I	C	L	A	M	B	
A	V	E	R	A	M	A	N	A	O	M	A	R	
C	I	T	E	N	E	R	D	S	B	A	R	I	
I	A	M	T	O	O	G	A	Y	T	O	L	I	T
E	T	E	N	E	A	T	N	A	G	A	T		
N	O	O	S	E	S	A	I	R	L	A	N	E	
D	R	U	M	S	M	A	R	R	Y	A	M	A	N
A	S	T	A	P	E	N	N	I	E	S			
	S	O	I	R	E	E	S	K	A	M	A		
R	I	G	H	T	N	O	W	B	A	L	E	D	
U	N	E	I	N	T	E	E	N	A	G	E		
S	P	O	U	S	E	O	R	E	S	B	A	N	
H	A	R	P	D	E	M	I	L	O	V	A	T	O
E	R	G	O	U	N	I	T	E	A	M	O	I	
S	T	E	N	P	A	T	E	R	L	A	N	D	

 browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit Tinyurl.com/dvevents.

 submit

To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit Tinyurl.com/dvevents.



READERS
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
VOICE
awards
2021



MEDICAL PRACTICE OF
Dr. Steven M. Pounders

Services include:

- Primary Care
- HIV Specialists
- Gender Affirmation
- Cosmetic Procedures
- Ask about PrEP

**Give us a call TODAY
to schedule your
appointment!**

*Concierge Medicine offered by
Steven M. Pounders, MD*

LGBT owned and operated
More than 30 years-experience

Erin Simms,
FNP-C

Steven M. Pounders,
MD

Chad Nyland,
DO

D. Trew Deckard,
PA-C, MHS

Cameron Wyatt,
FNP-C

Chad Crager,
FNP-C

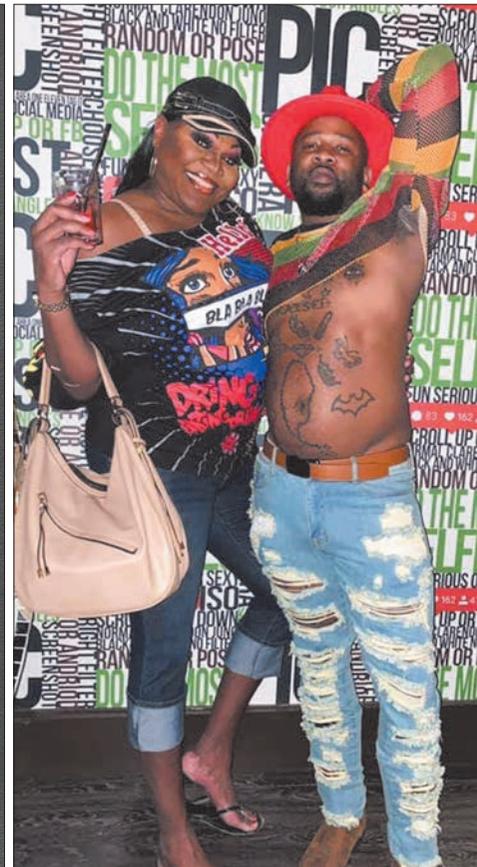
214.520.8833 / 3500 Oak Lawn, Ste. 600 / DrPounders.com



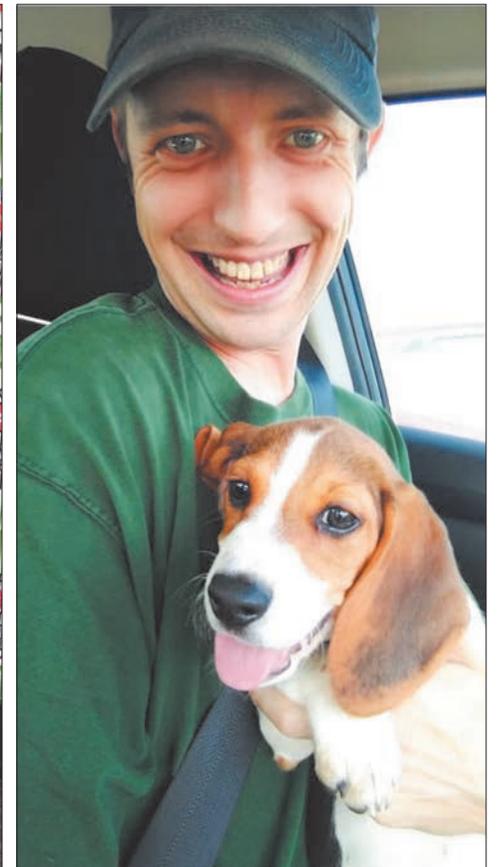
London Broil gets lit at Scarborough Renaissance Festival



Danny Padilla at the Plano Arts Festival



Fantasha and Ryan at Area 111



Cannon and Archie

Original MARKET DINER

OPEN 7 Days a Week!

PROUDLY serving the LGBT community since 1976!

4434 Harry Hines Blvd.
214-521-0992
originalmarketdiner.com

TAQUERIA LA VENTANA

3847 CEDAR SPRINGS • DALLAS, TX 75219 • 972-432-5945
TaqueriaLaVentana.com

CEDAR SPRINGS TAP HOUSE

Thank you for voting us **BEST BRUNCH!**

READERS VOICE awards 2021

4123 cedar springs road dallas, tx 75219
cedarspringstaphouse.com

PATIO SEASON COMING SOON

MONICA'S MEX-TEX FOOD MARGARITAS TWO GREAT PATIOS Y MAS....

1326 BOTHAM JEAN BLVD. (FORMERLY LAMAR ST.)
214.928.7700
WWW.MONICAS.COM

Mario's Mexican & Salvadorian Restaurant

The BEST patio in Dallas!

Stop in and see us!

4123 Cedar Springs Road
MariosDallas.com

QUISINE

It's warmer outside and you should promote your outdoor/safe dining #supportlocal

Want your restaurant listed here?
Contact www.dallasvoice.com/advertising

OPEN LATE. EVERYTHING GREAT

ROY G's

CRAFTY COCKTAILS.
DUAL PATIOS.
HAND CUT FRIES & LONG GOODBYES.

Come see "The Best Neighborhood Restaurant in Dallas" at our new location in The Design District!

BELLINIS Italian Bar & Cafe

921 N. Riverfront Blvd, Dallas, TX
Riverfront and Payne St.

IT'S CLUCKING GOOD!

STREET'S FINE CHICKEN

In the heart of the gayborhood at Cedar Springs & Reagan St.
streetsfinechicken.com

CAMPUZANO mexican food

It's all good baby!

PATIO NOW OPEN!

214-526-0100
campuzanomexicanfood.com

Readers Voice Award for Best Sushi in Dallas

100+ Years of Combined Japanese Culinary Experience

zensushidallas.com

Mama's home cooking at home!
2021 Reader's Voice Awards, Best Diner

MAMA'S DAUGHTERS DINER

2014 Irving Blvd. Dallas 214.742.8646
2412 W. Shady Grove Irving 972.790.2778

6509 W. Park Blvd. Plano 972.473.8877
111 East Main Forney 972.552.3463

MamasDaughtersDiner.com

CREMONA PIZZA PATIO BAR Italian Cafe KITCHEN

Fresh Italian

2021 Reader's Voice Awards: Best Italian & Best Pizza

20% Off with ad

Cremona Kitchen
www.cremonabistro.com
2704 Worthington ■ 214-871-1115



Blanche Davidian masks up at the Round-Up



If you like it, you should put a ring on it



Jaron gets a shot!



Jada, Bleach, Raquel and Onyx at On Premise in Deep Ellum



RVA for Best Local Virtual Performance | Ronnie Bruno, Clique Twitch



Jeff at NOLA Snoballs in Oak Cliff



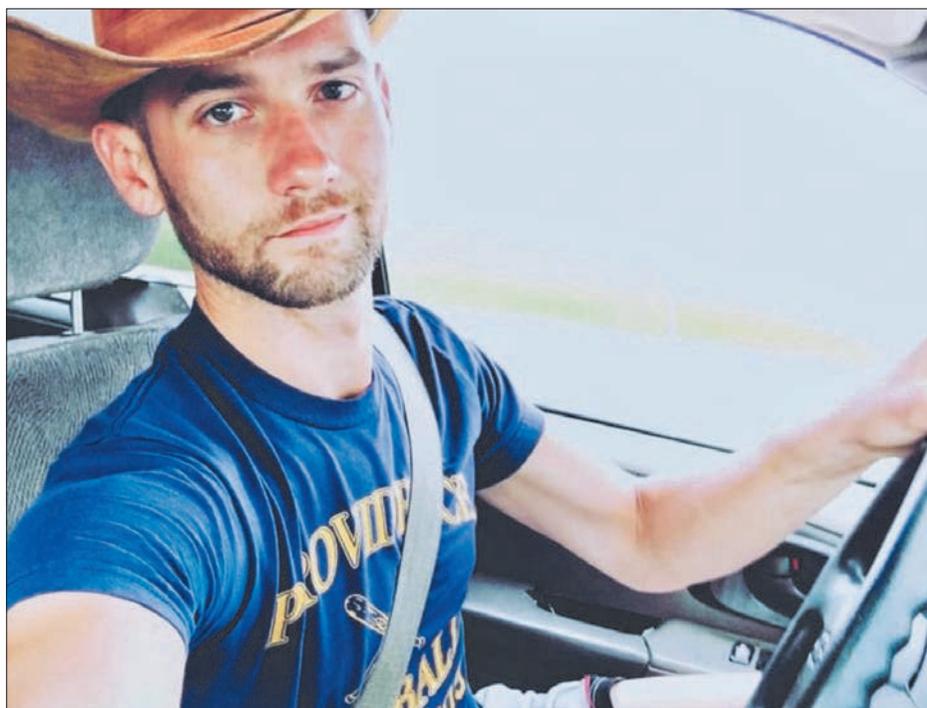
VACAYA CEO Randle Roper-Olson, Liquor Mini, and FabStayz owner Robert Geller at Fly Queens Drag Brunch.



Dallas County Democrats pre-event meet and greet with Randy Rainbow



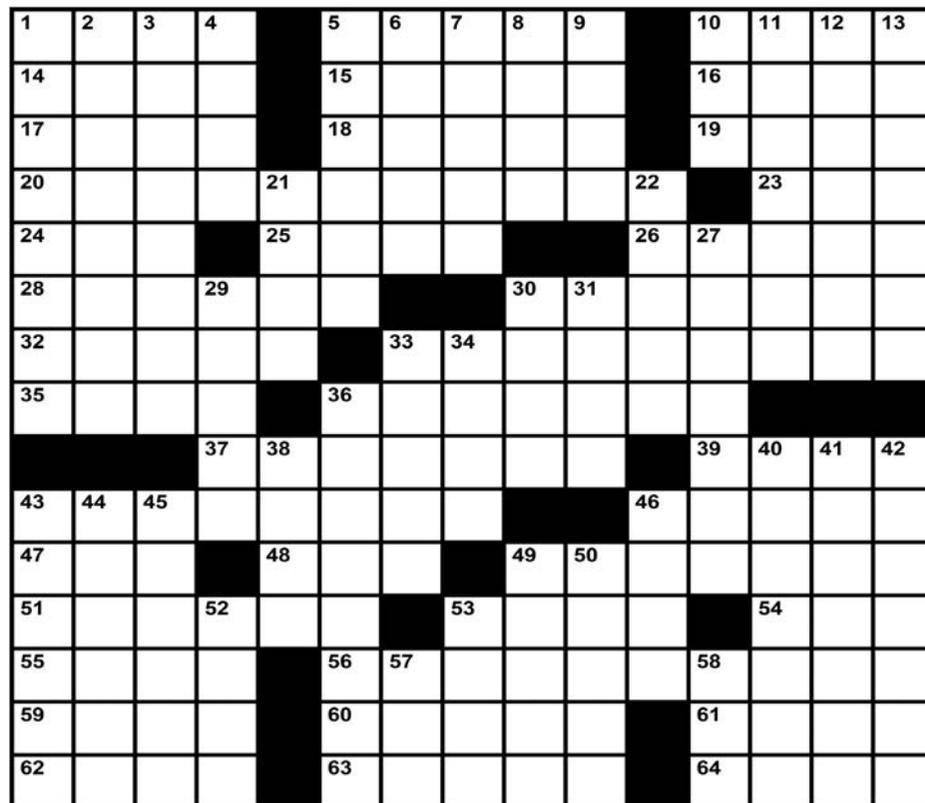
Leo, David, Rick and Carlo At Ivy Tavern



Shawn from Gay Camping Friends

q-puzzle

Straight Talk? Not!



Solution on Page xx

Across

- 1 First two quarters of a Miami Sol game
- 5 Lily Tomlin, for one
- 10 Mary had a little one
- 14 Declare firmly
- 15 Big name in refrigerators
- 16 Sharif of *Funny Girl*
- 17 Paris, to Debussy
- 18 Jocks' antitheses
- 19 Adriatic seaport
- 20 Start of a quote in the news recently
- 23 Aflame
- 24 Summer for Bonheur
- 25 Straight, for a fuzzy navel
- 26 Pester persistently
- 28 Neckwear for the well-hung?
- 30 Route for a jet
- 32 Oil containers
- 33 More of the quote
- 35 Hollywood canine
- 36 Bas reliefs of Lincoln
- 37 Affairs in the evening
- 39 *Gay ___ Sutra*
- 43 End of the quote
- 46 Worked the hayfields
- 47 *Le Monde* article
- 48 P-town's Crowne Pointe, e.g.
- 49 In difficult times
- 51 Gay partner, in slang if not law
- 53 Shaft output
- 54 Exclusion of gays from the military, e.g.
- 55 It requires several G-strings
- 56 Source of the quote
- 59 Proof part
- 60 Come together
- 61 Mine, to Verlaine
- 62 WWII gun
- 63 Cicero's father
- 64 Go down (on)

Down

- 1 Estate for Frida
- 2 Earhart and others
- 3 Cry from the closet
- 4 Ukulele neck detail
- 5 Dugout items
- 6 Long O, on Lesbos
- 7 French Revolution figure
- 8 Memorial Day race, briefly
- 9 *Les Miz* list
- 10 Arcing shot from Mauresmo
- 11 Dental compound
- 12 *Measure for Measure* role

- 13 *War Requiem* composer Benjamin
- 21 Kinsey Scale heteros
- 22 You can serve your meat this way
- 27 One with a home in Nome
- 29 Type of hit on Broadway
- 30 Composer Thomas
- 31 *The Bell* author Murdoch
- 33 *Chicago* producer Neil
- 34 From the top
- 36 Like a wall picture of a hottie
- 38 Miss in a Cole Porter song
- 40 Tallulah Bankhead's home
- 41 Explosive force unit
- 42 Deep throat tissue
- 43 Comes too quickly
- 44 To some extent
- 45 Takei of *Star Trek*
- 46 Kiss from Kahlo
- 49 Old hat
- 50 Phallic fish seeker
- 52 *Once ___ a Mattress*
- 53 Skip past
- 57 *Bambi* doe
- 58 Batman portrayed by Kilmer

MarketPlace

MarketPlace

Your calling card for LGBT Texas business
For information on advertising, call us at:
214-754-8710 ext. 110. Visit us online at:
dallasvoice.com/marketplace

dallasvoice.com

The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Services



THE PAINTER

Specializing In Interior Painting

25 Years Experience

Free Estimates

Extremely Meticulous

TONY R.

972-754-1536

TonyRThePainter@netscape.com

Services

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN-HOME ASSESSMENT TODAY!

888-686-1233



FREE

7-Year Extended Warranty* A \$695 Value!

Offer valid August 24, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Special Financing Available Subject to Credit Approval

*Terms & Conditions Apply. Offer not available through retail, wholesale, .com or dealer partners.

Legal

COVELL PC
ESTATE PLANNING • PROBATE • BUSINESS LAW

- Wills ▪ Probate of Wills
- Powers of Attorney
- Trusts & Asset Protection
- Advanced Directives
- Business Law

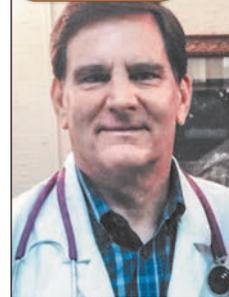


Rebecca S. Covell
The attorney who's not crooked or straight

12222 Merit Drive, Suite 340
Dallas, Texas 75251

(214) 443-0300
rebecca@covellpc.com

Medical



Guardian Health

General Medicine
Immune Disease
Trans Health
STD Treatment
General Dermatology
Affordable Pricing

Dr Terry Watson

8204 Elmbrook Drive Ste. 206 (Mockingbird & Harry Hines)
214-221-8181 • drwatson@sbcglobal.net

Legal



Stephanie Hall Attorney at Law

Family Law

Cohabitation Agreements,
Adoption, Child Custody,
Divorce, Property Division,
Child Support

LGBT Issues

Specializing In Family,
Estate Planning,
Property Agreements
& Divisions

Estate planning and Probate

Wills, Medical & Durable Powers of Attorney,
Guardianship, Litigation

8610 Wooded Beck Court
Dallas, TX 75249 • 214-693-2959
Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Services



Local | Long Distance | Office | Packing

469.759.9022

Employment

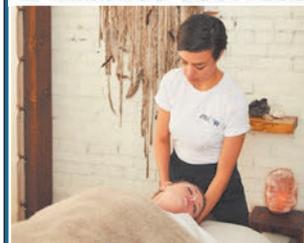


WE'RE HIRING NOW!

Do you believe the power of touch can transform & inspire? If you do, you embody what our team is made of.

Join our talented team of Massage Therapists at the NOW Massage Lower Greenville and watch your career grow!

Apply NOW by emailing your resume and Cover letter to LowerGreenvilleGM@thenowmassage.com



Employment



STARTING PAY \$61,367!

DALLAS PD IS HIRING!

Our Excellence Begins With You

DALLASPOLICE.NET

Services



Ben Meyer Fitness

I show gay men how to build an incredible physique and take their sexy back without living in the gym

Call 972-269-1269
Let me show you how....
for your complimentary coaching call.



Real Estate

PARKFORD OAKS NOW LEASING



All One Bedroom Community
With Immediate Move In!

**One Month Free
On Selected Units**

www.ParkfordOaks.com 214-520-0282

Real Estate

Michael Doeringsfeld
Licensee of Engel & Völkers U.S. Holdings, Inc.
5960 Berkshire Lane, 6th. Floor
Dallas, Texas 75225
214-457-4598
www.mikedoeringsfeld.evrealstate.com



ENGEL & VÖLKERS

MarketPlace
Your calling card for LGBT Texas business
For information on advertising, call us at:
214-754-8710 ext. 110. Visit us online at:
dallasvoice.com/marketplace
dallasvoice.com
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Services

Jade Air
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING
SERVICE • SALES • INSTALLS
ALL MAJOR BRANDS
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
VISA, MC, AMX, DISC

Let Us Heat You Up!
Goodman
**PROMPT
EXCEPTIONAL
SERVICE!**

SERVING THE LGBT COMMUNITY FOR OVER 20 YEARS!
JadeAirDallas.com 214.522.2805
214.923.7904

Real Estate

Your Next Move is Key!



- Award Winning Real Estate
- Tech Savvy Marketing Plans
- Innovative approach to moving

Visit: hGroupHomes.com
Call: 214.659.3624

Phil Hobson

h group BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices PenFed Realty Texas

Services

**EDDIE'S
QUALITY PAINTING**



FENCE STAINING, INTERIOR/EXTERIOR,
TAPE, BED & TEXTURE
METICULOUS & ATTENTION TO DETAIL
POWER WASHING
469-471-8618
25 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!
NEAT, CLEAN & RELIABLE

Services

Fantastic Moves



rva dallas voice READERS VOICE AWARDS 2018
VOTED BEST MOVERS 11 YEARS & COUNTING

rva READERS VOICE AWARDS 2017
rva READERS VOICE AWARDS 2016
rva READERS VOICE AWARDS 2015
rva READERS VOICE AWARDS 2014
WE'RE THE BEST!
readers voice awards
rva.2010 dallasvoice.com

Experience Counts! 20+ Years Supporting the Community
214.349.6683
www.FantasticMoves.com
10610 Metric Drive, Suite # 175 Dallas, TX 75243

TXDMV 00521440B

Real Estate

LET'S MAKE A DEAL!



Todd Maley
www.mrealtygroup.com
toddmaley@aol.com
214-564-9598

kw Proudly Serving the LGBT Community
Keller Williams Realty

Advertising

LGBTQ+ podcast BFFU



Best Friends Forever University hosted by Brad Pritchett and Ryan Brockington are on a mission to cultivate empathy and fight prejudice by representing LGBTQ people and their stories of power and courage to make change for the better.

New episodes every Wednesday on Apple, Spotify and Google Podcasts. Link here: tinyurl.com/y4chfk5

Adult

AFTER HOURS VIDEO
...and so MUCH more!



10ml Aromas \$9.95
30ml Aromas - Large Selection!
2528 W. Walnut, Garland • 972-276-0893

The care you need. Right where you need it.

Methodist Health Center Oak Lawn is proud to announce the opening of our brand new facility in the neighborhood. And if you haven't met him yet, we're excited to announce that Oak Lawn has a new doctor and advocate in Blake Hatfield, MD. Board certified in internal medicine, Dr. Hatfield also has specialized training in treating HIV. A graduate of Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine, he completed his Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Dr. Hatfield is joined by Jennifer Mouldenhauer, PA. Both Dr. Hatfield and Ms. Moldenhauer are certified by the Texas Medical Board and the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM). Your Oak Lawn primary care team is here for all your needs.



3500 Maple Avenue, Ste. 108, Dallas, TX 75219
214-526-3566
MethodistHealthSystem.org/OakLawn

- HIV PREVENTION AND TREATMENT
- PrEP
- WELLNESS VISITS/PHYSICALS
- HEALTH SCREENINGS
- IMMUNIZATIONS
- HEART DISEASE
- HYPERTENSION
- DIABETES
- OBESITY
- ASTHMA
- CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE



JENNIFER MOLDENHAUER, PA

BLAKE HATFIELD, MD



Schedule an appointment with a primary care doctor today.

Methodist Family Health Centers and Medical Groups are owned and operated by MedHealth/Methodist Medical Group and are staffed by independently practicing physicians who are employees of MedHealth/Methodist Medical Group. The physicians and staff who provide services at these sites are not employees or agents of Methodist Health System or any of its affiliated hospitals.