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nlgja The Association of LGBTQ Journalists





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Cast of Come From Away. Photo courtesy Bass Hall.





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A message from the President on National Coming Out Day

President Joe Biden's statement recognizing National Coming Out Day on October 11, 2021:

"My administration is committed to ensuring that LGBTQ+ people can live openly, proudly, and freely in every corner of our nation.

Despite the extraordinary progress our nation has made, our work to ensure the full promise of equality is not yet done. Anti-LGBTQ+ bills still proliferate in state legislatures.

Bullying and harassment - particularly of young transgender Americans and LGBTQ+ people of color - still abounds, diminishing our national character.

From acting on Day One to prevent and combat discrimination to enabling all qualified Americans — including transgender Americans - to serve their country in uniform, to defending the human rights of LGBTQ+ people around the world, my administration has been clear that we will continue to champion the dignity, equality, and wellbeing of the LGBTQ+ community

From defeating discriminatory bills to passing the Equality Act, we have more work to do to ensure that every American can live free of fear, harassment, and discrimination because of who they are or whom they love.

To LGBTQ+ people across the country, and especially those who are contemplating coming out: know that you are loved for who you are, you are admired for your courage, and you will have a community - and a nation - to welcome you. My administration will always have your back, and we will continue fighting for the full measure of equality, dignity, and respect you deserve."

Staff reports

youth in an even more insidious way.

It began in late August when anti-LGBTQ businessman and former senator Don Huffines, who is challenging Abbott for the GOP nomination for governor in the 2022 election, posted a video on YouTube criticizing Abbott for allowing the website for a state agency to include resources for LGBTQ youth, including the number for a suicide hotline. Within hours, part of the information was removed from the website, and shortly after, the entire website was taken off line.

Emails obtained by the Chronicle show that the website was taken down in response to Huffines' video. It remains offline with a message that it has been "temporarily disabled for a comprehensive review of its contents."

Business Insider, recapping the Chronicle's story, said Huffines, in his video, attacked Abbott for allowing Texas Youth Connection, a division of the Department of Family and Protective Services, to host the page with the suicide hotline and LGBTQ youth resources, including a site titled "Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation." Huffines declared, "These are not Texas values; these are not Republican Party values. But these are obviously Greg Abbott's values."

Huffines posted a link to the video on his Twitter page, saving "It's offensive to see @ GregAbott_TX use our tax dollars to advocate for transgender ideology. This must end. #txlege"

Within hours, the Insider notes, the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation page was deleted from the site and "shortly thereafter, the entire Youth Connection website was also disabled." The purpose of the Texas Youth Connection website is to help youth prepare for life after foster care and it included resources for housing and education in addition to the LGBTQ resourc-

- Tammye Nash

Biden appoints Debra Shore to key EPA position

President Joe Biden appointed former LGBTQ Victory Institute board chair Debra Shore to be the next Region Five Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency. She will represent six states in the Midwest and the lands of 35 federally recognized tribes.

OBITUARY



Stuart Travis Smith. born Feb. 24, 1962, in Dallas to Marion L. Smith and Julianne (Burford) Smith, passed away on Oct. 1, 2021, in Dallas after a long battle with cancer. Stuart spent most of his early child-

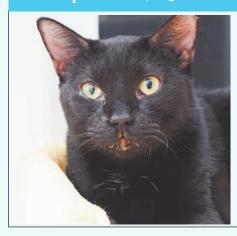
hood years growing up in Poteau, Okla., and Storm Lake, Iowa. He returned to Dallas at age 15 and attended Hillcrest High School, graduating there 1980. He had called Dallas his home since that time, developing many personal friendships and professional connections with his career in horticulture and landscape services. He met his life partner, Kenneth Homsi, in 1996.

Stuart lived his life by taking it in for the experience. He could take anything that seemed ordinary and make it special and renewed. He was a gentle soul in tune with nature, and he would not hesitate to rescue and nurture an injured or orphaned animal, either wild or domestic, bringing it back to health or maturity. Some of these animals would become his pets.

He was fascinated with the water world and loved scuba diving and catching marine creatures. He maintained a large aquarium in his small home office.

Stuart is survived by his partner, Ken; his older brothers, Mark Smith of Las Vegas, Nev., and Brandon Smith of Dallas, and many members of the Homsi family. He will

Adoptable/ QUEEN VEGETA



Meet **Queen Vegeta**! This 6-year-old domestic shorthair mix is looking for a home to reign over. She came to the SPCA of Texas in April of 2020 when she was rescued by the SPCA of Texas' Animal Cruelty Investigations Unit. She was very shy at first but has made so much progress that Queen Vegeta is now ruling in a foster home, where she has loyal subjects to give her the love she requires. She loves to be brushed by her humans and has her favorites toys — a feather wand and a pink shoelace. When she's not enjoying the attention of her people, she is always happy to lounge around and nap in the sunshine. Queen Vegeta would do best in a home without children and as the only cat. She has been spayed and microchipped and is current on all age-appropriate vaccines. Queen Vegeta is waiting to meet you in an SPCA of Texas foster home, please e-mail foster@spca.org to schedule a time to meet her

Shore is currently an elected commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. She is the latest high-level LGBTQ appointee in the Biden administration, which reports that 14 percent of its appointees identify as LGBTQ

"Debra's knowledge and experience on water infrastructure issues, the impacts of climate change, and the protection of the Great Lakes will help her lead Region 5," EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan wrote on the EPA website. "I am grateful to have her joining the team and

I look forward to working with her to advance this administration's priorities and fulfill EPA's

"Debra is a longtime public servant who is deeply passionate about the connections between a clean environment and quality of life, especially for underserved communities who are most often affected by environmental laws and decision-making," Mayor Annise Parker, president and CEO of LGBTQ Victory Institute, said in a press release.

David Taffet

State agency website with LGBTO resources disabled

As legislation that would prevent transgender youth from participating in school sports moves closer to becoming law, thanks to Gov. Grea Abbott's insistence, the Houston Chronicle has uncovered evidence that Abbott - or at least his supporters in the state's employ — has been playing political games with the lives of LGBTQ



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VOICES

OPINIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Afghanistan's LGBTQ people need our help now

abul was known as one of the few "liberal" cities in Afghanistan. The word liberal is in quotation marks and italicized because it is liberal compared to the rest of the country. Now that the Taliban has taken over, most people who expressed themselves differently and openly are forced to adhere to Sharia Law, completely change their ways, hide their identity or be killed.

The U.S. State Department reported in 2020 that even before the Taliban took power in August, LGBTQ people in Afghanistan faced "discrimination, assault and rape," and "homosexuality was widely seen as taboo and indecent." Laws against lesbian, gay and transgender people made their existence illegal and punishable by up to two years in jail.

Those laws were not always enforced, but they did leave LGBTQ people at risk of extortion and abuse by authorities, as reported by the U.K. government.

Even with the discrimination and abuse, LGBTQ people still had a sliver of space in society. Nemat Sadat, an LGBTQ Afghan author living in the United States, said that gay, lesbian and transgender people helped the country's cultural life develop since the Taliban's last rule 20 years ago. But most of these people built their lives quietly.

Now with the Taliban regime back in power, their sliver of space in society is gone. There is no room to live quietly as an openly LGBTQ person. Under the Taliban's interpretation of Sharia Law, homosexuality is punished by death.

In an interview with Reuters, Waheedullah Hashimi, a top decision maker for the Taliban, said, "There will be no democratic system at all because it does not have a base in our country." He continued, "What type of political system should we apply in Afghanistan is clear. It is Sharia Law, and that is it."

One source spoke to a 20-year-old university student who is lesbian in Afghanistan. Her family accepted her as a lesbian, but now the new Taliban



Yuval David
Special Contributor

leadership has put the lives of all of her family at risk. There is a new surge of violence against any lesbian, gay and transgender people. This includes anyone suspected of being lesbian, gay or trans and those who support them.

This young lesbian woman has gone into hiding. She is one of hundreds of LGBTQ people in Afghanistan who are pleading with advocates and organizations outside the country for help to escape the Taliban tyranny.

Nemat Sadat shares stories of lesbian, gay and trans people in hiding. He shared a story of a gay man who watched from his hiding place in the ceiling as Taliban fighters beat the friend who refused to disclose his location

LGBTQ people in Afghanistan face the risk of being arrested, beaten and killed. The Taliban made it clear that it is enforcing its strict religious laws against Afghanistan's LGBTQ citizens. In an interview with Germany's Bild newspaper, one Taliban judge said there were only two punishments for homosexuality: "stoning or being crushed under a wall."

LGBTQ people in Afghanistan are reporting that their friends, partners and members of their community are being attacked and raped. They also stated that Islamic fundamentalists and riotous groups are encouraged by the new tyranny and are on the hunt for LGBTQ people.

Another source shared that a gay



man was targeted for his sexuality and then raped by this male attackers. That is a terrible paradox: He was raped by his male attackers, who criminalized him for having same-sex relations.

LGBTQ people are desperately trying to get out of the country and trying to erase any proof of their queer identity. They feel abandoned by the international LGBTQ community.

The Taliban is proving that the Western nations have normalized relations with their government. The Taliban and their supporters see this a proof of their victory.

This leaves LGBTQ people defeated and fearing torture and death.

The U.S. government and other Western countries evacuated many people out of Afghanistan, including journalists, women's rights activists and those who worked with foreigners. But LGBTQ activists said that nothing has been done for them. A source says about her situation, "We will definitely be killed. We are asking to be evacuated immediately from Afghanistan."

To date, no safe route has been found. Even underground measures to help LGBTQ people are challenging and near impossible. The Rainbow Railroad is a non-governmental organization helping LGBTQ people around the world escape persecution. Executive Director Kimahli Powell said evacuating LGBTQ people from Afghanistan is especially hard as they are often alone, in hiding and unable to contact each

other.

But if routes to get them out are nearly impossible to find, that still means there are routes that are somewhat possible. As difficult as it may be, we must find pathways to save these people and get them out.

The Taliban re-

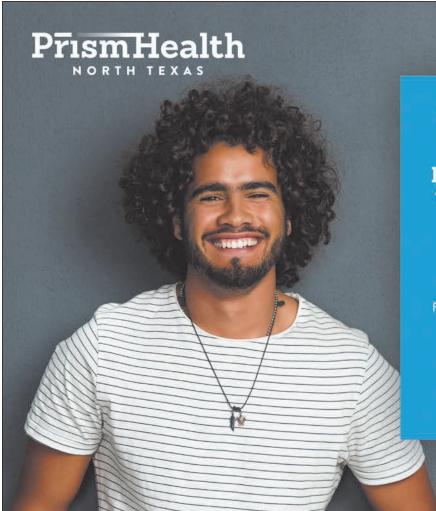
gime believes with certainty that the world will stand aside, perhaps condemning and protesting but not intervening. This is empowering jihadists across the world, especially in the Middle East. The Taliban has many allies and admirers, including the Palestinian Islamic Jihad and Hamas.

The leader of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, travelled from Palestinian territories to meet with Taliban leaders in Qatar. The Palestinian Islamic Jihad has a history of ties to the Taliban, even with radicals joining each others' organizations. Very public statements of congratulations were made between leaders of the Taliban, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and all with full Iranian support.

The increase in brazen forcefulness of these groups reaches beyond Afghanistan and spreads to the lands dominated by other similar groups. This causes an escalation of the threats to anyone who opposes Sharia Law or who lives differently than what Sharia Law allows. LGBTQ people in these lands are in peril.

If we do not help LGBTQ people in Afghanistan, the lives of LGBTQ people under other similar tyrannies face increased uncertainty and danger.

Yuval David is an actor, host and filmmaker who uses his platform for sharing narratives that affect social change, specifically on behalf of highly-respected U.S. and international organizations that raise awareness for the marginalized and under-represented, inspired by his LGBTQ and Jewish identities and his Israeli-American roots.



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'Away' at Bass Hall

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

'Come From Away' actor mixes history and emotion into his gay character

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer rich@dallasvoice.com

he return of theater in this time of COVID continues in downtown Fort Worth. Musical blockbusters highlight this season's Broadway at the Bass, and next Tuesday, Oct. 19, kicks off a new season with the Tony-winning musical Come From Away.

This marks an exciting time for Performing Arts Fort Worth, which oversees the operations and management of Bass Hall.

"One thing is clear: Fort Worth is just as ready for Broadway to return as we are," Performing Arts Fort Worth President & CEO Dione Kennedy said in an email. "We are so grateful to our patrons and community for their support during this long intermission and can't wait to welcome them back to Bass Hall this fall."

Based on real-life events during 9/11, Come From Away follows the story of commercial flights that were ordered to land in Canada after the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and the crash in Pennsylvania, with both residents of the Canadian town and stranded travelers as characters. Among them is the same-sex couple known as the Kevins — Kevin T. and Kevin J. And in this production, actor Jeremy Woodward plays one-half of the couple.

In real life, Kevin Tuerff was on his way back to Texas with his partner at the time, Kevin Jung, when their flight was diverted. Tuerff has perhaps been the more visible of the two in subsequent interviews about the show, which he contributed to when writers Irene Sankoff and David Hein approached him.

Woodard said he has yet to meet Tuerff, but if/when that happens, he has



to him, I'd have things to ask."

Tuerff has become signature for his plaid jacket, which Woodard also dons in the show. He's been called a gay lumberjack, he said with a laugh, which has given him some approach to his character.

"I think that speaks a lot about his personality, and he was relatable to me," Woodard said. "He wants to get out, go get a drink. I think if I were in his shoes, that would have been me."

In his own way, Woodard parallels the premise of Come From Away to today's pandemic. People were isolated then and couldn't get out to do what they wanted or needed to do. But there are also similarities in how the passengers then had to be resilient, just as we have to be now amid the pandemic.

"You can't shut down," Woodard said. "They had to be careful and cautious in their approach to things. Sounds a lot like today."

Those parallels have helped Woodard shape his character with personal experience. He added that telling this story of coming together is similar to what everyone is going through now. His personal experience is doubled by the fact that he also remembers 9/11.

"I had graduated college that summer and was about to move to New York." he recalled. "I was 22 at the time. My dad and I went to New York because I was moving there the January after, and there was just this weird smell in the city. It was something else, but also, people just seemed so aware of each other."

There's also the notion that the mention of 9/11 automatically refers to New York City. In this show, Woodard has to resolve his character's confusion with his own personal knowledge.

"That's the thing. I remember what was going on first-hand, of course," he said. "Playing Kevin [who didn't know] while also knowing what was happening at the same time is a peculiar thing."

Woodard's counterpart — or his work husband, if you will — is actor Nick Duckart who plays the other Kevin. Both actors identify as straight, but they have bonded over their characters.

"People say we are the bro-iest Kevins, but right away we were good. We had met before, but 90 percent of it is working with good people, and Nick is that," he said.

The story doesn't focus solely on the Kevins, so the relationship — which has its ups and downs in the show — may lack its nuances. But Woodard said that was also in service to the show.

"We worked on little things with a touch of affection, but in the story, they were a little wary of people knowing they were gay," he explained. "In that way, we played it honest to that effect, but also addressed it in funny and lovely ways."

Woodard suggested for those unfamiliar with Come From Away to go into it blind. Don't listen to the music; don't read too much on it. Because then it will be an emotional surprise to everyone.

"It's 90 minutes, no intermission. But there are many moments that even made me get a lump in my throat," he said. "The acting is emotional, and people who don't know the show will feel that emotion when it happens, and it's beautiful. I may be biased but I think it's a perfect show."

Come From Away opens Tuesday Oct. 19 and runs through Oct. 24 at Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. For tickets or information, visit BassHall.com.

Big news, big grants

FUNDING THE COMMUNITY

TPIF announced ViiV funding, 2021 grant recipients

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

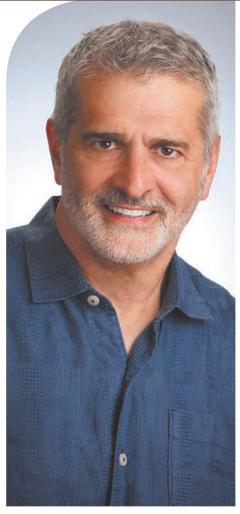
here has been some big news coming out of Texas Pride Impact Fund over the last two weeks, starting with the Oct. 7 announcement that TPIF has received a \$525,000 ViiV Healthcare grant and continuing this week with the Oct. 13 announcement detailing TPIF's 2021 grants to 21 recipient organizations across the state.

The ViiV Healthcare grant is part of ViiV's Positive Action AMP Grant program, and TPIF will distribute the funds over the next three years "to fuel and incubate grassroots innovations that support the transgender community, primarily Black and Latinx transgender and MSM (gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men) communities in Texas," according to a TPIF press release.

The press release also noted that TPIF is one of only 13 organizations nation-wide "chosen to fortify emerging talent and programs that disrupt disparities in HIV care and is designed to support individuals and projects that are taking creative, unconventional and urgent approaches to grassroots outreach for people living with HIV by providing micro-grants, mentorship and network support."

Board President Ron Guillard said this week that TPIF is "thrilled to have been selected" as one of the AMP Grant program recipients. "Clearly, what resonated with ViiV is the size of [TPIF's] potential geographic impact, the size of the major cities in the state, the overall population of Texas and our connections with second and third tier cities hosting HIV programs."

He explained that with the ViiV grant, TPIF will launch the the Impact Texas Grant program next spring. This is a "micro-granting and capacity-building



Ron Guillard, left, and Ahmad Goree

program to activate individuals and organizations across Texas leading grassroots HIV outreach efforts," and TPIF will hire a program director to help lead this new initiative.

The funds will also allow TPIF to purchase new software to streamline the application process for organizations seeking grants from TPIF, he added.

"As a startup, we have had a very primitive method for people to apply for grants," Guillard said. But this new software will be in place by the time applications for the 2022 grant cycle are due, making the process far more streamlined and accessible."

Ahmad Goree, one of TPIF's newest board members and communications director for the organization, said the ViiV grants are "really very exciting for TPIF and for LGBTQ communities across the state of Texas.



"This grant is right on time," Goree continued. "It fits right in with TPIF's expanding mission, allowing us to look more at the Black, trans, Latinx communities, especially in the smaller cities, in the border cities, where public and private funding for those groups is not at the level where it should be. This program will provide microgrants to those populations."

And, he said, the fact that the grant will allow TPIF to hire its first full-time staff member will "completely enhance the mission of TPIF, allowing us to carry out the day-to-day work and giving us more of a reach ability to serve our target populations."

Ahmad said the communities targeted through the ViiV grant are ones that "have been pretty much ignored in the past when it came to most public and private funding. This will allow

us to give organizations serving those communities the resources they need. Especially with the ongoing COVID pandemic, resources are running dry. So funding to help people with HIV/AIDS is imperative, even more so than it was yesterday."

Goree also offered a special thanks to Dallas activist P.J. Moton-Poole who

TPIF's 2021 community grants recipients

- Allgo (Austin) \$6,000
- Alliance of Border Collaboratives (El Paso) \$4,000
- Borderland Rainbow Center (El Paso) \$6,000
- Coastal Bend PRIDE Center (Corpus Christi) \$6,000
- Eagle Pass SAFE \$6,000
- East Lubbock Art House \$6,000
- Elevate North Texas (Dallas/Fort Worth) \$4,000
- GENTex (Rio Grande Valley) \$10,000
- Panhandle AIDS Support Organization (Amarillo) \$6,000
- PFLAG El Paso \$7,000
- Poderosos (Harlingen) \$6,000
- Pride Center San Antonio \$6,000
- South Texas Equality Project (Rio Grande Valley) \$7,000
- Texas Tech University, Office of LGBTQIA Education & Engagement (Lubbock) \$6,000
- The Normal Anomaly Initiative Houston \$4,000
- The Houston Intersex Society \$4,000
- The Power of 3: Unity Community Equality (Lubbock) \$4,000
- Thrive Youth Center (San Antonio) \$6,000
- Trans Legal Aid Clinic Houston \$4,000
- Transgender Education Network of Texas (Austin) \$6,000
- Valley AIDS Council (Harlingen) \$6,000

was "instrumental in helping us establish a relationship with ViiV. He helped make this happen, and without him, we wouldn't be in the position we are in now."

Guillard and Goree noted TPIF's ViiV grant program will kick off next March, about the same time the organization launches its 2022 community grants cycle.

BIG, Page 22

ASD begins construction

PROGRESS RESUMES

After pandemic and fire delays, AIDS Services Dallas has begun moving dirt on its latest residence

DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

IDS Services Dallas has finally received its order to proceed from the city to begin construction on its independent living complex at 511 Lancaster Ave. The project is located just a few blocks from the agency's other housing prop-

The 511 Lancaster project has been delayed more than a year because of a fire that destroyed one of two buildings on the property in August 2020. The second building was heavily damaged. That was after breaking ground in February just before the beginning of the lockdown because of the pandemic.

At the time of the fire, ASD was just finalizing details with its general contractor of what was to be a renovation when the property was destroyed.

During the year since the fire happened, ASD CEO Traswell Livingston said, they have been able to rethink parts of the design and even add amenities. For example, the renovation originally called for construction of a laundry room. Now each unit will have a stackable washer and dryer instead.

He said the layout of each apartment has been reconfigured into a more modern design, including balconies. Instead of retrofitting, the new building will be built with better insulation and modern insulating brick. Windows will be uniform in size.

Outside, the complex will feature additional seating area, and parking will be laid out more efficiently.

Once permits were issued, because of the source of some of the funding for the project, ASD had to submit contracts and other paperwork to the Office of





The expected wait for the shipment of lumber is 12 weeks. The good news on that, though, is the price of lumber has fallen dramatically since it reached its pandemic high in July.

concern now."

Livingston said ASD residents are excited about the construction activity and other renovations going on in the neighborhood by other developers.

Fundraising for the project is in its final stage with money needed for some of the amenities like a fenced dog park on the property. Livingston said additional donations for and groups of volunteers up to about 15 people are needed to do some beautification projects on the existing properties.

For more information on how your group can volunteer, visit AIDSDallas.org.





Enriching the arts

THE ARTS

TACA's Party on the Green fundraiser helps keep Dallas arts moving forward

RICH LOPEZ | Staff writer rich@dallasvoice.com

he Arts Community Alliance (TACA) will get its groove on tonight (Friday, Oct. 15) with the return of its fundraiser, TACA Lexus Party on the Green. Held in Sammons Park at the AT&T Performing Arts Center in the Dallas Arts District, the food and drink event will feature a menu of small plates by Parigi's Chef Janice Provost in collaboration

with Wolfgang Puck Catering.

But more importantly, the event raises money and awareness for local arts

"On Oct. 15, we'll unveil a Party on the Green that is totally unlike any we've hosted before," Terry D. Loftis, TACA Executive Director and Donna Wilhelm Family President said in a press release. "We invite our guests to slip into their finest fall attire and join us in the Dallas Arts District for an unforgettable night of food, drink and live performances where they can connect with fellow TACA supporters and learn more about our mission to support excellence and impact in the arts."

Co-chairs for the event are Whitney Strauss, who serves on the board of the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, and Stephen Gilhooly, who



Live music and dance performances are part of the entertainment at TACA's annual Party on the Green, happening tonight in Sammons Park. (Photos courtesy of TACA)



minus the hassle

sits on the Advisory Committee of Black Tie Dinner and has previously served on the Human Rights Campaign's National Board of Governors.

Party on the Green will also feature live music by The Grays, a cork pull and dance and music performances.

"After forgoing the event in 2020, I am proud to announce that TACA Lexus Party on the Green is back!" Loftis said. "This fall-favorite event is the premier opportunity for art lovers across the city to come together in celebration of our thriving cultural arts community."

TACA has worked for more than 50 years to support more than 60 local arts groups. Events like this one help to raise funds to continue that support.

In some ways, TACA is sort of a "middle man" for local arts support. The organization creates giving programs and grants for those groups.

Cameron Kirkpatrick, TACA director of development and marketing, explained how the organization functions in its support.

"That's what makes our organization so unique," he said. "Say you love opera and donate to The Dallas Opera, but you may not know there are several other opera groups. Instead of writing a number of checks to all of them, you can write one to us, and we give that money to the most deserving groups."

Kirpatrick added that this works to help Dallas continue to be an arts city.

Things were different during the height of the pandemic. Arts groups were suffering with closures and income. TACA was able to step in and help.

"We doubled down with emergency funds to generate cash to get out the door to arts groups" when the COVID pandemic shut-down hit, Kirkpatrick said. "We helped those groups in the early days to keep the lights on and to pay their employees. When we surpassed our goals for that fund, we immediately pivoted with the TACA Resiliency Initiative."

What used to be a single major distribution of grants shifted into three cycles. That led TACA to the decision to move from one distribution to two.

"We felt disconnected a bit from groups. So now, giving away in fall and spring will foster a deeper relationship with our organizations," Kirkpatrick said.

The last year also led to TACA's new pop-up grants program. The nomination-based program focuses on groups



who are performing more on the fringe. If selected, the group receives a grant of \$2,000 for their production and an additional \$4,000 to pay actors and crew.

"The way we are structured, we can only grant nonprofit institutions, but there was concern about individual artists. Now the organizations can pay their actors who may not have been paid before. The pop-up grant was a breakthrough moment for us and so enriching," Kirkpatrick said.

And events such as Party on the Green

continue TACA's mission to pursue that enrichment for itself and the larger arts scene in Dallas.

TACA Lexus Party on the Green will be held today at Sammons Park, 2403 Flora St. at 7:30 p.m. Proof of vaccination paired with ID or a negative test within 48 hours will be required for admittance, and masks will be mandatory throughout the event except when eating and drinking.

For more information, visit TACA-Arts. org.



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The first modern painter

IN THE MUSEUM

The Kimbell Art Museum features 100 works by the British painter J.M.W. Turner

DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

M.W. Turner was more influential than any other British artist and WAS the most influential artist of his era working anywhere, according to the Kimbell Art Museum's Deputy Director George Shackelford, who curated the exhibit Turner's Modern World currently at the Kimbell.

Turner's early works would have established him as one of Britain's great painters. His later political work and then his final, more abstract works place him tops among British painters. Turner, who lived from 1775 to 1851, laid some of the foundations for what became modern art.

The exhibit at the Kimbell includes more than 100 works, a massive number of oil canvasses, watercolors and sketches by the prolific artist. The lead organizer of the exhibit, London's Tate, was the recipient of Turner's bequest upon his death of 300 oil paintings and 35,000 works on paper. In addition to pieces from the Tate, Yale's British collection, the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Met in New York and more contributed some of the show's key works.

Turner addressed social issues of the day — voting rights, abolition of slavery, freedom of expression and religious tolerance — and he grew more liberal in his views as he developed as an artist. While earlier works glorified war, later works showed compassion for the suffering that resulted from war.

In 1897, Napoleon conquered Italy and then invaded Egypt. England feared it would suffer the same fate. But in the Battle of Trafalgar, Lord Nelson rammed the French and Spanish fleet that had gathered near the southern tip of Spain, thus averting an invasion of the British



Kimbell Art Museum Deputy Director George Shackleford points out the Whalers paintings. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

sle.

From 1806 to 1808, Turner painted *The Battle of Trafalgar, as Seen from the Mizen Starboard Shrouds of the Victory,* among the most dramatic canvasses in the show. Here, Turner glorifies the battle during a period when England was at war in Europe and in North America.

But in *The Field at Waterloo*, painted about 10 years later, fields of dead include women and children. Their faces reveal the agony of war.

Shackelford describes Turner as a great self-promoter. One painting produced early in Turner's career was one he created in hopes of selling it to the future King George IV. Because the canvas was among those left to the Tate, Shackelford said, we know his attempt to sell it to the regent was unsuccessful.

Other paintings from his early career, however, include several of newly-dug English canals. The owner of the company digging some of those new waterways was a patron of Turner's, and the artist produced beautiful canvases to glorify

the modern transportation marvel.

Turner was among the first to incorporate new technology like the steam engine into his work. Steamships and steam locomotives changed transportation during the industrial revolution. Shackleford said those machines were revolutionary because they changed how people thought of distance, speed and time. A trip that used to take several days was reduced to less than a day.

Turner didn't just observe the new steam-powered forms of transportation; he rode them, too. Steam engines became the symbol of modern society, and as he incorporated new technology into his paintings, Turner began using a more modern style.

To depict a fire at Parliament that he watched, possibly from a steamship in the Thames, Turner developed new methods of applying paint to canvas. He used a knife to apply the thick smoke and small brush strokes to render small flickering flames.

His painting of whalers at sea are

more impressionistic, though Turner is never referred to as an Impressionist, a movement that began after his death. But stand back from the whalers, and the scene comes into focus. Come too close, and the brush strokes almost overpower the scene.

Shackelford said promoter Turner sold a number of his whaling canvasses. But his attempts at new ways to depict a scene on canvas were not universally accepted at the time, and some of those works were returned by the more traditional art patrons for not being quite finished.

As the 1800s progressed, England's political system became more progressive, with voting rights extended to more people. Turner painted political canvasses whose themes would have been evident at the time. One plays off the news that the king was promoting turnips for human consumption. Until that time, turnips were considered just food for cattle. Poor farmers are in the foreground of Turner's paintings on tur-



George Shackelford explains the nuances of Turner's The Battle of Trafalgar. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

nips, with their cows eving the vegetable for themselves. Windsor Castle stands in the background.

Another painting depicts the sinking, off the coast of France, of a ship carrying a "cargo" of women prisoners and their children to the prison colony of Australia. Lives could have been saved when the ship sank, but the captain was afraid the prisoners would escape. So, all but three crew members died. Turner's work captures the look of terror on the captives faces before the ship sinks.

A number of paintings in this exhibit are ones Turner considered unfinished, and they were never exhibited in his lifetime. In some cases, only the name of the paintings give away their unfinished status though, because the works stand on their own as is.

One of those is titled The Disembar*kation of Louis-Philippe at the Royal Clar*ence Yard, Gosport, 8 October 1844. It's a beautiful painting, but no one is disembarking anything. There is no ship in sight.

Shackelford said that any modern painter was either inspired by works of Turner's they had seen themselves, or they were inspired by artists who were influenced by Turner. His brush strokes, his use of color, his composition, his incorporation of the latest technology at the time — all of that combines into canvasses of modern subjects, making Turner the first modern master.

Turner's Modern World runs Oct. 17-Feb. 6 at the Kimbell Art Museum, 3333 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth, \$18, KimbellArt, org.



The Disembarkation of Louis-Philippe at the Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, 8 October 1844



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CELEBRATING OAK CLIFF

With Old Oak Cliff Tour of Homes still on pandemic hiatus, Passport Oak Cliff will raise funds — and fun — in the neighborhoods

DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com



rganizers of Passport Oak Cliff realized that, thanks to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this wasn't the year to re-instate the

Old Oak Cliff Tour of Homes, the grand-daddy of Dallas home tours. So instead, they put together something much bigger, safer and more original to raise money for the dozens of neighborhoods that make up Oak Cliff.

This year's event features concerts, a carnival, neighborhood attractions, a movie screening, a block party with local vendors, gardening with a yards-of-themonth tour and an art fair.

Part of the interest in the old home tour was a look at Oak Cliff's interesting architecture and terrain. Architecture and history and drives through the hills will be included in this year's event. And each day ends with a party offering raffles and prizes.

Passport Oak Cliff takes place Oct. 23 and 24 in at least 15 Oak Cliff neighborhoods. Visit as many as you can, because the number of stamps in your passport determines how many raffle tickets you get at the closing parties.

Heritage Oak Cliff Event Chair Trudy Newton said she was in California and took a tour of wineries that included a passport that was stamped at each stop. So when discussions about the home tour began, and the committee realized that the traditional tour wasn't practical again this year, Newton described her winery tour. Instead of wines, she explained, each neighborhood could feature something special about its area.



Turner House, above, and Colorado Boulevard, right

A call went out to Heritage Oak Cliff's more than 30 neighborhood members. Of those, 15 responded with a variety of ideas.

The El Tivoli neighborhood, nestled behind the Bronco Bowl — I mean, the Fort Worth Avenue Home Depot — is featuring its architecture. This neighborhood will be recreating its past across several porches featuring residents in period dress. To acknowledge that this was once a golf course, they'll have a putt-putt setup and serve cold Arnold Palmers. Another property will be turned into a 1920s nightclub and serve wine.

If mid-century modern is more your taste, head down south of Kiest Park to Oak Park Estates. That neighborhood is featuring a tour of half a dozen of its Yard of the Month winners. Homeowners and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions.

Urban gardening is the theme of Wynnewood North's backyard tour, which also features a scavenger hunt, a laby-

rinth, a lake, posters explaining the ship street name history in the area and a look at the neighborhood's first home.

Elmwood, near Hampton Station, will feature a pop-up artist's fair at Lowbrow Retro with art from local artists, a kids' area and an interactive wall mural. Seasonal snacks grown at the neighborhood's own Elmwood Farm will be served.

North Cliff turned a 1930s shopping center that had been abandoned for de-

ver questions. at the neighborhood's first Urban gardening is the theme of Wyn-Elmwood, near Hampto cades into a neighborhood center. For Passport Oak Cliff, the center will be turned into a carnival. One feature will be a "toss the bean bag into the clown's mouth" game. The clown for the game was found in an antique store in Bishop Arts.

Concerts, held each day from 1-3 p.m., are an additional \$25 and will be held at Arrington Roofing off Sylvan Avenue and Commerce Street, behind the Belmont Hotel.

Roofing? Well, remember this is Oak Cliff, and while Chris Arrington runs his roofing business out of the property, there's a putting course and herb garden on the site that's been transformed into more of an event center.

On Saturday, the traditional country band Sweatin' Bullets performs. On Sunday, Happy Campers takes the stage. Arrington is one of the founders of that band.

Each day there will be a closing par-

ty from 4-6 p.m. — Saturday at Turner House and Sunday at the Oak Cliff Beer Company and Wax Space, both at Tyler Station. Food, drinks, prizes and raffles will be featured, and neighborhood grants will be awarded.

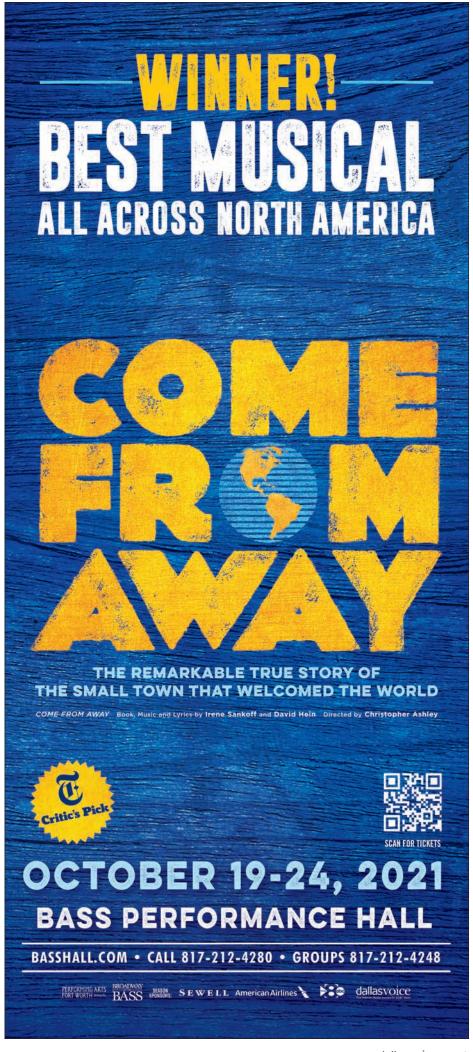
The hundred-year-old Oak Cliff Society of Fine Arts runs Turner House on Rosemont Avenue. The house is rented out for small events and OCSFA promotes the arts and historic preservation in Oak Cliff. This is a great opportunity to explore the century-old property.

Grants to neighborhoods will be announced. Previous grants have been used for everything from sign toppers and sidewalk repair to building pocket parks and helping turn an abandoned five-acre site on Mary Cliff Drive into the Twelve Hills Nature Center that will also be featured during Passport Oak Cliff.

Passports are available at HeritageOak-Cliff.org/event-4321429 and are available for one or two days.



Arts Mission Oak Cliff



Playing dress-up

HALLOWEEN

The gayest Halloween costumes of 2021

MIKEY ROX I Contributing Writer Instagram @mikeyroxtravels.

he Ghosts of Halloween Costumes
Past have spoken,
and this go-round
there shall be no
sexy firemen, no
sexy chefs and abso-trickin-lutely no
sexy pirates, so help us God.

That doesn't mean you're required to keep your shirt (or pants) on as you get down with the devil on All Hallow's Eve, but let's all agree to put the basic bitchness on the backburner for now, shall we?

To that end, we've dug deep into the queer year's most topical hoots, howls and happenings to help you conjure up a skeleton's-closet worth of fright night-spiration to make this Oct. 31 one for the (c)ages.

Industry Baby

Lil Nas X kept tongues wagging all summer long as he dropped radio banger after banger, culminating in a crescendo of groundbreaking looks and appearances leading up to the release of *Montero*, the openly gay rapper's debut studio album.

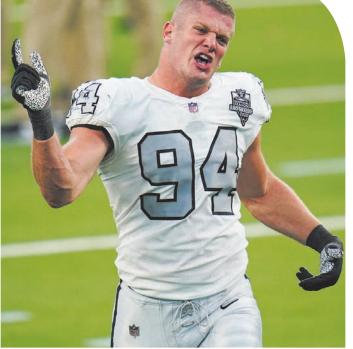
To create one of the most iconic looks from the album's promotion, which you can cop from X's Instagram page, fashion yourself an exposed baby bump flanked by an all-over-print silk robe, white trousers, and neck bling to boot.

For a wilder take, fully birth the concept and go as the bundle of joy itself, which we think probably shares partial DNA with *American Horror Story: Death Valley's* half-human, half-alien hybrid, Theta (Angelica Ross), but you can be the judge of that.

Queer Eve Minifiqures

On Oct. 1, LGBTQ corporate ally

Lil' Nas X's Industry Baby, above, Bisexual Robin, right, and Carl Nassib,



LEGO released the Queer Eye Fab 5 Loft building set, complete with Karamo, Jonathan, Antoni, Tan and Bobby minifigures and show-staple accessories, like Tan's clothing rack and Antoni's kitchen island (where we're sure he's toiling over tiny culinary creations like fancy hot dogs and elevated grilled cheese – but we diwhich requires more printed-pastel resort wear for the former than the latter.

Play it any way you'd like for the party proper — without the lethal doses of coke, we hope — and then head home to re-enact that instantly iconic sex scene set to the show's sinister, anxiety-inducing tribal-music score.

TikTok thirst trap

Want a foolproof recipe for Halloween thirst-trap success? Slip into a pair of snug Wranglers and dusty cowboy boots — shirtless — and stream on repeat country-music duo Brooks and Dunn's re-invigorated 1992 single "Neon Moon" (better known on TikTok as #TheSunGoesDown) through your portable Bluetooth speaker.

You're guaranteed to save at least one horse tonight.

The iceberg that sank

the Titanic

Out comedian Bowen Yang gives us plenty of camp in the characters he portrays on *Saturday Night Live*, but none have gone over quite as well as his sassy personification of the iceberg that sank the Titanic on the NBC mainstay's Weekend Update segment, which was likely a major tipping point in his nomination for the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series this year, making him the first featured player on the show to receive such recognition.

Recreate the costume by carving a large block of painted Styrofoam fitted to your head and complete the getup with makeup, turtleneck and bedazzled thrift store suit in glacial tones, like white and hypothermia blue.

Las Vegas Raiders defensive end

When Las Vegas Raiders defensive end Carl Nassib came out publicly in an Instagram story on June 21 — be-

gress).

Stay above our fray as you gather the squad to build a group 'fit that starts with generic minifigure costumes, available on Amazon, that you can zhuzh up any which way you'd like to capture the essence of their decidedly dramatic and distinct personas.

The White Lotus's Armond and Dillon

Start filling out your Magnum

P.I.-era 'stache now if you're planning this couples costume featuring *The White Lotus*' ill-fated hotel manager Armond and his semi-willing butt buddy, Dillon,



son? Slap on a Union Jack-plastered Speedo with a ball of yarn in one hand and a knitting needle in the other. Put some effort into it, and you could have a handcrafted cock sock by the end of the night.

The faggot from Matt Damon's mouth

We can't say we were shocked (stirred perhaps, but not shaken)

Matt Damon as Scott Thorsen, above, and Tom Daley, the knitting Olympic Diver

coming the first active NFL player in history to do so — jerseys and T-shirts bearing his name were the top sellers among all league players at popular sportswear retailer Fanatics. Now that they're back in stock, add one to your online cart, round up a helmet, pads, and a pair of cleats, and spring for the tight, white, standard-issue football pants (that you've always wanted anyway) at your local Dick's. Jock strap optional — but the players don't wear one, so why should you?

Goes-both-ways Robin

Tim Drake, the third iteration of Batman's legendary sidekick Robin, came out as bisexual in the August issue of "Batman: Urban Legends" (which sold out within days and required a second printing of the issue, a rarity in the comic-book world), confirming what us queers suspected about the Boy Wonder all along.

If you've never suited up as the Dynamic Duo's swishier half, consider celebrating his recent addition to the LGBTQ community. The iconic character, now swinging around Gotham and swinging both ways, is so ubiquitous this time of year that you'll find his signature tights and mask anywhere costumes are sold.

Olympic diver knitting

Trying to save coin this spooky sea-

when Matt Damon revealed himself to be a dinner-table bigot after, earlier this year, he told the press a story about casually dropping the F-bomb over meat and potatoes with the fam (which apparently he had no idea was offensive until his own daughter schooled him *Good Will Hunting*-style), so it's only fitting we give him the Halloween send-up he deserves. Let your interpretation of the faux pas run wild, but dressing up as Liberace-lover and common criminal Scott Thorson, whom Damon played in 2013's *Behind the Candelabra*, is a solid jumping-off point.

GREAT BRITAIN

Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist and LGBT lifestyle expert whose work has been published in more than 100 outlets across the world. Connect with Mikey on Instagram @mikeyroxtravels.





The project will kick off next March, roughly the same time we launch our 2022 community grants program.

2021 TPIF grant recipients

Of TPIF's 21 grant recipients for 2021, more than half of which lie along the border or are in South Texas, according to a press release issued this week. These recipients are "organizations and projects that address the current and direct needs of the LGBTQ communities of Texas while also seeking to correct the systemic injustices that unfairly burden people living within these identities and at their intersections," the press release explained.

The 2021 grant recipients share gifts ranging from \$4,000 to \$10,000. The grants include four awards to organizations or projects focused on people who are transgender; three awards for capacity-building to community centers in Corpus Christi, El Paso, and San Antonio; two for youth programs, one in San

Antonio and the second in Dallas-Fort Worth; seven to organizations in West Texas (Amarillo, El Paso and Lubbock); and five to grassroots organizations in urban centers (Austin and Houston) providing services to LGBTQ communities of color or persons who are transgender.

"TPIF embraced a comprehensive community-based, strategic planning initiative this year that established our focus communities and populations for grantmaking," Goree explained. "While we will continue to fund a full range of organizations, projects and leaders, we will prioritize funding within our general and special grant cycles for our focus communities and populations to drive support and build capacity in communities that have been historically disadvantaged."

(See the sidebar for the complete list of recipients.)

The future of TPIF

The ViiV grant and the changes it is al-

lowing TPIF will play an important role in helping the organization advance its mission, Guillard said. The organization — which was birthed in conversations in 2013, incorporated in 2015 and made its first grants in 2018 — has "set a goal that by 2026 — five years from now — our grant-making from all sources will total \$1 million."

He continued, "Our long-term vision, part of our strategic plan, is to have \$100 million in assets under management that will support \$6 million in grant-making and \$1.5 million in operating expenses by 2045. We chose that date because that is three decades after our incorporation. We already have \$5 million to date in letters of intent in estate gifts."

Over the next 18 months, TPIF plans to launch a formal legacy gift program, and the strategic plan calls for the organization to grow from 140 sustaining donors to more than 500 by 2026, and to expand the volunteer base and expand into cities where TPIF has not yet established a significant presence.

Goree — who is Black and who joined the board this year along with Black trans women Naomi Green of Dallas — called on minorities within the LGBTQ community to step up and be part of that growth.

"We are awarding grants to a very diverse group of recipients, and diversity is what TPIF needs," Goree said. "We can't stress enough how important it is for the various communities we serve to have representation on the board. For example, we have Naomi Green, and her voice and her experience will be a huge plus, a huge strength for TPIF.

"This is how we have a voice at the table. When we are not represented in the room, we are overlooked," Goree continued. "For every community to have a seat at the table, to have a voice — that is a mission of mine. I want to make sure TPIF continues to seek diversity within the board and its committees."

For more information about TPIF and how to become involved with the organization, visit TXPIF.org.







PLAN YOUR WEEK

The Gay Agenda is now color-coded: Red for community events; blue for arts and entertainment; purple for sports; green for nightlife and orange for civic events and holidays.

OCTOBER

· Through Oct. 30: Screams

Screams is a totally immersive Halloween theme park experience with five haunted houses, an all new Times Up maze, Klownz in 3-D, Rottingwood Cemetery, live entertainment, Scary-oke, shops, pubs, games of skill, a food court and more. Friday and Saturday nights until 1 a.m.; I-35 at the Scarborough Faire site in Waxahachie. ScreamsPark.com.

· Oct. 15-17: Christmas in Cowtown

The Junior League of Fort Worth holds its annual market featuring 200 merchants from across the country showcasing home goods, jewelry, clothing, children's gifts and more. Thursday noon-6 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Amon G. Carter, Jr. Exhibits Hall, Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3400 Burnett Tandy Drive, Fort Worth. \$15.

· Oct. 15: Take 3

Downtown Cowtown at the Historic Isis Theatre presents Take 3, known for their innovative arrangements of top pop hits, Americana, Oldies, and everything in between. Isis Theatre, 2401 N. Main St., Fort Worth at 7:30 p.m. Tickets at OutHouseTickets.com/

· Oct. 15: Melissa Etheridge

The lesbian icon, Grammy winner and Oscar winner performs live in Fort Worth. Her tour in support of her latest release *On the Way Out* heads to North Texas. Doors open at 6 p.m., but she takes the stage later that evening. Billy Bob's Texas, 2520 Rodeo Plaza, Fort Worth, 10 p.m. Tickets available at BillyBobs.com.

· Oct. 15-21: Rooftop Cinema

Series of outdoor films at Dallas Heritage Village, 1515 S. Harwood St. at about 7:30 p.m. Oct. 15: *Space Jam*, Friday. Oct. 16: *Hocus Pocus, A Nightmare on Elm Street*. Oct. 17: *Black Panther*. Oct. 18: *La La Land*. Oct. 19: *A Quiet Place Part II*. Oct. 20: *E.T*. Oct. 21: *Hocus Pocus, Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Tickets at RooftopCinemaClub.com/heritagevillage.

Oct. 16: Tarrant County Pride Parade and Water Garden Festival

Parade starts at 11 a.m. at Taylor Street at W. 3rd and continues 17 blocks to the Water Gardens. Parade awards given at 4 p.m. at the Water Gardens Festival. Festival continues until 6 p.m.

· Through Oct. 16: Tiny Beautiful Things

An online advice columnist uses her personal experiences to help her readers who pour their hearts out to her. Adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos. In rep with *Cake Ladies*. Dallas Theater Center, Wyly Theatre. ATTPAC.org.

· Oct. 16: Addison After Dark

Addison After Dark: Halloween Horror will be held from 7-10:15 p.m. at Addison Circle Park, 4970 Addison Circle. Parking and admission are free. Masks are encouraged but not required. The event, presented by Oncor, will include free axe-throwing presented by Class Axe from 7 to 9 p.m., a fire show by FemPyre Fire Art, a costume contest with prizes, a complimentary burger meal from the In-N-Out truck, America's Finest Beverage Catering selling beer, wine and Blood Red Sangria, and a screening of the Rated-R 2018 version of the movie *Halloween*.

Oct. 17: Benefit show for GDMAF, Miss Gay Texas State

Linze Serrell and the Miss Gay Texas State Pageant System present "A Little County, A Lot of Rock-N-Roll," at 12:30 p.m. at Six Springs Tavern, 147 N. Plano Road in Richardson. Doors open at noon, and there is no cover. The show will feature Linze Serrell, Korina Duvalle, Miss Gay Texas State Sienna Silver, Miss Gay Texas State Carmella Dubuque, Prince of North Texas Pride Marcus David, Princess of North Texas Pride Princess Dahlia VonHexx and Queen of North Texas Pride Toni Faye Alexander. All proceeds benefit the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund and the Miss Gay Texas State Pageant System.

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

Look for extended listings online at DallasVoice.com

GAY AGENDA



SEE MELISSA ETHERIDGE

Lesbian icon **Melissa Etheridge** performs live
Friday night, Oct. 15, at Billy
Bob's Texas, 2520 Rodeo

Plaza, in the Fort Worth Stockyards. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the Billy Bob's house band begins playing at 8 p.m. on the Honky Tonk Stage. Melissa performs on the Main Stage beginning at 10 p.m. General admission tickets are \$25, and reserved tickets start at \$60. VIP packages are also available starting at \$350. Get more info at BillyBobs.com.



ROCK 'N' COUNTRY

The **Miss Gay Texas State** kicks up its heels for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund benefit show "A Little County, A Lot of Rock-

N-Roll." The cast of queens including Linze Serrell, Korina Duvalle, Miss Gay Texas State Sienna Silver, Miss Gay Texas State Carmella Dubuque and more, will all help to raise funds for the GDMAF and the pageant. Got dollars bills? Then be ready to tip the queens to help out the organizations. Six Springs Tavern, 147 N. Plano Road, Richardson, Saturday at noon.



PLEASANT GROVES

If you prefer your Van Gogh a little more accessible, head on over to the Dallas Museum of Art. North Texas continues its Vanaissance

with the DMA's world premiere exhibition of *Van Gogh and the Olive Groves*. You may have been immersed in Van Gogh with the two recent shows that have stopped here. Now see this series of 15 paintings created during the artist's stay at Saint Paul asylum in Saint-remy-de-Provence. Through Feb. 6, 2022, at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood St. DMA.org.



NAKED WALL RELIEF

For its second edition, saatchi art's The Other Art Fair will showcase more than 130 artists of all types over the course of its four-day run.

Along with the artists and their works - which are also for sale from \$100 to \$10,000 - the fair will feature interactive art installations and murals, exclusive collective features, live DJ sets, and a special experience by Sweet Tooth Hotel. Bring your A-level selfie game for this and your love of emerging and independent art specifically curated for this event. Dallas Market Hall, 2200 N. Stemmons Freeway, through Oct. 24. Tickets start at \$15; for tickets and information visit TheOtherArtFair. com/Dallas.

Ask Howard

HOW TO DO THE WRONG THING RIGHT

Water, water everywhere and way too much to drink

Halloween's a comin', bois! Let's just get slithering right to it:

Dear Howard: My boyfriend, a professional nutritionist, bitches at me constantly how I'm a physical train wreck and that I don't have enough sex with him. Usually, this is after he's been pounding away at me for a solid hour! "Stop, Kent, STOP!" he mimics. "I have a headache! Kent, please?"

But he never does. He just keeps on plowing sarcastically along, like a deranged robot. Kent insists the reason I'm turned off by him is solely due to my poor dietary habits — that I'm a junkfood junkie, a secret smoker, and, worst of all, I'm severely dehydrated.

Meanwhile, the worst "junk food" in our entire house is organic, non-GMO verified, gluten-free fresh berries; only second-hand smoke has ever entered my lungs and steamed greens (with, maybe, if I'm lucky a crouton or two) receive a lemon wedge and one speck of olive oil drizzled over them as a cheat-day treat. Extra virgin, always. Oh, and rafts upon rafts of water from faraway, exotic places — Eastern European caverns, the Alps, Polynesia: I must keep a bottle in-hand at all times excepting when Master's worked up a new erection. "Eat well. Be free?

— The Master's Mule

Dear Hoss: OK, it just so happens you've struck upon one of Howard's biggest pet peeves: this whole hydration-hydration-all-the-time nonsense; apparently, one can, absolutely, lead a horse to be made to drink water. Easiest thing in the world, in fact. "Stay hydrated!" has metastasized into the motivational mantra for our entire millennium. One's very life, we're ceaselessly persuaded, depends upon guzzling, minimally, eight eight-ounce glasses of water per day. Horseshit!

Hoss, short of running a decathalon or being force-marched through the Sahara, all the body human requires is to simply eat when hungry and drink when thirsty. That's it, kids. Simplicity personified. Professional nutritionists get paid, same as psychiatrists, for be-

ing corporate pushers (think the opioid epidemic). Twitter bots and the H2O/sports drinks' industries constantly remind us, indeed, just how dire are the circumstances for our dangerously dehydrated bodies if we don't have a Gatorade bottle attached to our esophagus every mincing step we dare make into the great Luciferian outdoors beyond our mailbox.

Kids, anything one consumes — be it but a trick-or-treat/orange-dye/number-4 marshmallow peanut, a bushel of candy corn or a silo of Poland Spring — replenishes water to our systems; moreover, there's no scientific reason, whatsoever, for the obligational consumption of any beverages with added "electrolytes."

It's pure urban myth that one can never be too over-hydrated. Hell, waterlogged blood's one of the leading causes of headaches, and most people—those who aren't exercising intensely in excessive heat or suffering from a bout of Montezuma's Revenge—get plenty enough electrolytes every day from mere food, alone. Smart water, my ass!

Bottom line: There's literally no need to drink straight H2O except when thirsty. Not until the 19th century did humans barely even touch water at all, except as a last-resort liquid alternative — opting instead for meads, beer and weak wines — stuff that wouldn't kill you. And your body will always tell you if you're not hydrated enough.

So, children, stop overthinking everything that glides down your gullet, and especially stop overdrinking artisanal springs sourced in plastic. Truth is, your life doesn't depend upon consuming a cup of blueberries every day, a mess of steamed kale and a gallon of Fiji water. Just as long as you're not replicating the (obnoxiously lengthy) life of Keith Richards, or some fill-in-the-blank superstar rapper whose name is nothing but a posthumous bunch of fucked-up letters,

then you're far healthier than you'd ever think.

— Howard Lewis Russell

Dear Howard: I get into deviant sex. Taboo stuff. Understand what I'm saying? It always gets me juicing-out a total geyser in the moment — better, bigger and longer than any other kinds of sex I've ever had; yet later, like, this

wave of nausea always rolls over me. It's not anything normal people could ever see themselves getting into, I know — all the whimpering and baby-bawling I have to deal with! I feel practically dirty afterwards, but all tingly at the same time, too. Know what I mean?

— Charlie Chuckles

Dear Chucky: Yes, we have no bananas? Yeah, I don't know what you mean. Naturally, on the other hand, 'course I do: I'm Ask Howard. Personally, taboo's not my groove thing, but certainly nothing gooses me. Not even you. Nonetheless, I'd imagine a solid chunk of my readership may be completely in the dark regarding your chosen topic for public forum. Although I must add, Charlton, you're giving short shrift to the imaginations of "normal people" by assuming they're incapable of scudding into similar, Stygian slut-pits' darkest corners, same as you.

Sexual Fantasyland, like outer space, has no perimeters. And zero boundaries. It forever just folds inward, deeper and denser — gloom sans the doom — upon itself the ever further outward one travels, the ever downward one permanently spirals.

Get what I'm saying?

Of course, I also presume you're not referencing anything incestuously to do with real sex involving minors here, either. As you well know, Chuckles, "consensual" does not apply to individuals 17 and under; hence, via necessity, I feel obliged to provide my audience an explanatory, PG-rated backdrop to your fa-

vorite dungeon fetish — starting with the disclaimer that you're skating on awfully thin ice here in the fantasy pond, slick; but, just so long as your partners are willing participants, not blood relations, and at least 18 years old (plus a day), then the margins of deviancy get magically erased. It becomes just a bedroom game that charges up all your stockpiled happy-juices with eruptions particularly splendiferous, and mutually consensual.

Note: Therefore, any personalized, sexually-brazen commitment to an escapist/excessive desire for physical gratifications involving "irrational" stimuli whether it be an inanimate object or a daddy/son scenario broaching fantasy rape — isn't necessarily perverted, per se, as merely cracking the ice of indiscreet kinky - along the lines of something rendering only a bit of flush-faced embarrassment if exposed to the light of your grandmother's quilting circle? As Sheryl Crow of last century's final days wails, "If it makes you happy, it just can't be that baaaad/If it makes you happy, then why the hell are you so sad?"

Cheer up, Chuck. It's October!

— Howard Lewis Russell

Have a gruesomely uncomfortable question to spook Howard? Be careful. He may answer it at AskHoward@dallasvoice.com

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SCENE

PEOPLE, PLACES AND FACES



Steve at Garlow's in Gun Barrel City



Chef Cassy's cookin' her delicious creations



Actor, director, heartthrob... Joseph



Serving it up in The Rose Room



Check out this superstar at The Round Up Saloon



Casey and Kevin hit up The Strip



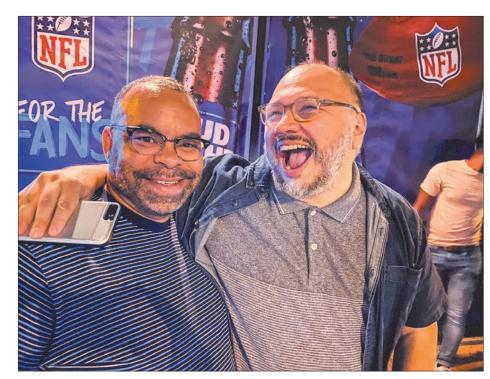
Terry and Brad, hosting another Black Tie Dinner event



Look who is at Uptown Players!



Sam in the lights at Garlow's in Gun Barrel City



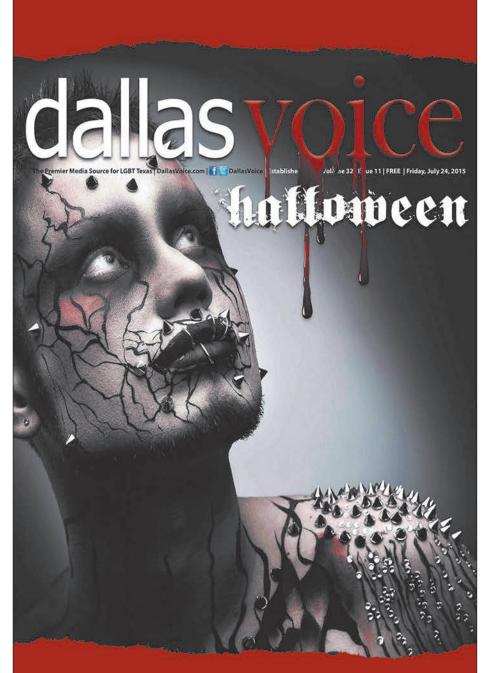
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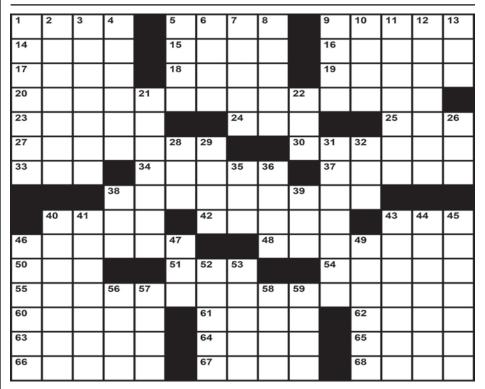


Miss Texas Teen Volunteer 2021 Mia Donato and Miss Texas Volunteer 2021 Lindsey Sharpless



PUZZLE |

The Eyes of Tammy Faye



Solution on Page 24

Across

- 1 Tops
- 5 Mardi
- 9 With a wide-open mouth
- 14 Went lickety-split
- 15 Light tune
- 16 Reef buildup
- 17 Stephen McCauley's _ Enough
- 18 Not fooled by
- 19 Cafeteria stack
- 20 Portrayer of 38-Across in *The Eyes of* Tammy Faye
- 23 Oral report source
- 24 Gas station abbr.
- 25 Nurse in a bar
- 27 Wieners
- 30 They get roped at gay rodeos
- 33 Frat hazing prop
- 34 New York Liberty and more
- 37 Meet prelims
- 38 Former husband of Tammy Faye
- 40 Some writers work on it
- 42 Cats was based on his poems
- 43 In addition
- 46 Way out
- 48 Commercial producer
- 50 Prez who shared a bed with Joshua
- 51 Bob Paris' pride

- 54 Small-minded
- 55 She played the title role in *The Eyes of* Tammy Faye
- 60 Ram as far up as you can get?
- 61 Many a Disney character
- 62 Steinbeck title vermin
- 63 Olympic award for Megan Rapinoe
- 64 TV newsman Brit
- 65 Hawkish deity
- 66 First partner of 43-Down
- 67 One way to cook fruit
- 68 Untouchable head

Down

- 1 Charge d'affaires
- 2 Flat braid for Whoopi
- 3 Like the brainy bunch
- 4 Blow a fuse
- 5 Look tickled pink
- 6 Collar stain
- 7 Where two men get on their knees
- 8 Barneys, e.g.
- 9 Beginning of *Rent*
- 10 Myra Breckinridge author Vidal
- 11 Salty tasting Asian body
- 12 Rita Mae Brown
- mystery
- 13 Above-ground trains 21 Madonna album

- 22 Three-pointers to Kopay
- 26 Ends of letters
- 28 One of the precious stones
- 29 Kemo ___ (Tonto's male partner)
- 31 First-rate, to bottoms?
- 32 Always, to Emily Dickinson
- 35 Grand ___ seizure
- 36 Part of a
- biathlete's gear
- 38 It makes a pilot come quickly
- 39 Keystone lawman
- 40 Stopped screwing around
- 41 Harris does it over the Senate
- 43 He danced in Silk Stockings
- 44 Picks up on
- 45 Reason for a lube
- 46 The ___ Game
- 47 Erie, to fifty million Frenchmen
- 49 Renee Richards, once
- 52 Sites for three men in a tub
- 53 To Kill a Mockingbird tomboy
- 56 Elite Navy diver
- 57 Mykonos, for one 58 Plate of Bean's
- 59 De novo

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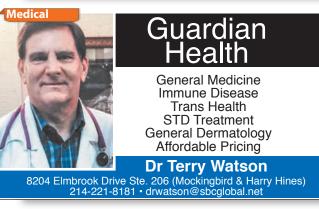
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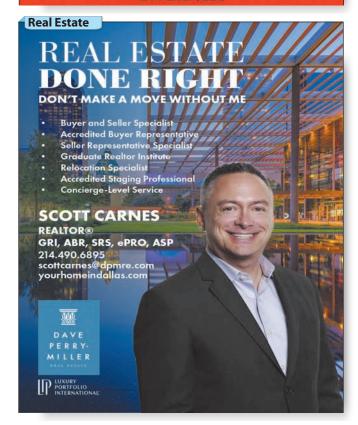




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