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the
PET
ISSUE



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"I am excited to join MD Progressive Care practice and continue offering services to the LGBTQ Community with additional Psychiatric Services"
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- University of Texas at Rio Grande graduate with a post-master's certificate in psychiatric mental health (addiction and general psychiatry)
- Board certification through the American Nurses Credentialing Center.
- Experience with cosmetics (Botox and Juvéderm), weight loss, pain management, HIV/PrEP, primary care and trans-affirming care.
- Named a "The Top Ten NP in America" by the Point of Care Network in 2017.
- Proud dog dad of two dachshunds.

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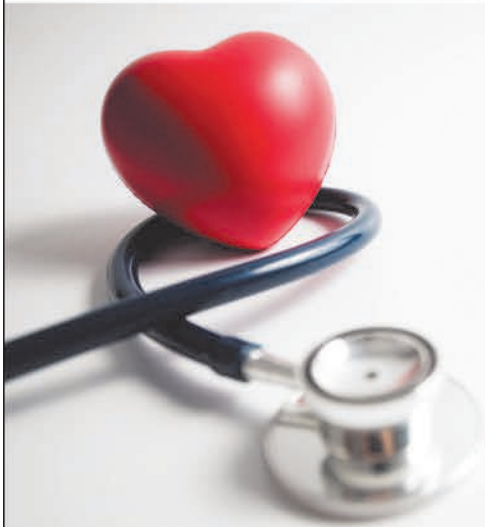
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Bites from our blog

WHAT'S THE TEA: DallasVoice.com

Prism Health NT announces new CFO



Javier Vallejo

Prism Health North Texas recently announced that Javier Vallejo has joined the organization as its new chief financial officer. Vallejo was selected from more than 40 applicants under a national search conducted by Milburn Partners, Inc., according to a press release from Prism, and is "a seasoned accountant with more than nine years of specialized health care experience," including healthcare management, audit and attestation, tax preparation, consulting, outsourcing and other compliance services for a range of healthcare entities.

Originally from Waco, Vallejo received his B.B.A. in accounting from the Texas Tech University Rawls College of Business, a master's degree in healthcare administration from the Texas Tech Health Science Center and a master's degree in legal studies – healthcare law from the University of Oklahoma School of Law. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in healthcare administration from the Medical University of South Carolina.

Vallejo holds several professional certifications, including certified revenue cycle representative, and he is a member of both the American College of Healthcare Executives and the Hospital Financial Management Association.

BITES, Page 28

OBITUARY



David Alexander Grelle, 69, of Dallas passed away June 23, 2022. He was born Oct. 14, 1952, and grew up in Boulder, Colo.,

where he graduated high school in 1971. David attended the University of Northern Colorado, earning his bachelor's degree in education. He later earned both a master's and Ed.D. in education.

David taught school in Colorado, Texas and Florida, most recently at the Parish Episcopal School in Dallas as their special needs coordinator. His teaching specialty evolved from elementary to various science programs and finally special education. Among his positions, he served as the Region 10 science and information technology specialist, instructing teachers on new ways to teach science, a science specialist at the Texas Can Academy and an elementary science teacher with the Dallas ISD.

David was always saving the children of the world one child at a time. He was always ready to serve as their biggest advocate and was never afraid to stand up for their rights. Students and their parents were fortunate to have David in their corner. He may not remember what he had for break-

fast, but he could remember a student's name from 30 years ago and a dozen fun facts to boot.

David also blessed the arts with his gifts, singing and playing the piano from a young age. He was an active member of the Turtle Creek Chorale. He always gave 110 percent, whether selling raffle tickets in the snow or performing with prominent figures from the arts community.

David never struggled to believe in people and saw good in them, even when they struggled to see the good in themselves. He was a genuine friend and always offered a safe place at what affectionately became "Mama Grelle's House of Wayward Children." Because of David's love and compassion, there are so many people in a better place.

He is preceded in death by his parents, William Alexander and Anna Laura (Manson) Grelle.

He is survived by his sister, Cindy McCabe of San Francisco and her family; close friends Matthew Evans, Clifford Woeller, Joe Snider, Patrick Norton, and Wil Turner, all of Dallas, Rich Faber of San Francisco, Jimmy Ashley of Raleigh, N.C., and Gina Funderberg of Santa Barbara, Calif., as well as a host of friends, colleagues in education and students too numerous to count.

A memorial Service was held Friday, July 1, at the Parish Episcopal School Chapel. The family has asked that memorial contributions in David's name be made to Youth First Texas or to Ranch Hand Rescue: Bob's House of Hope.

Caring for our aging fur babies

WOOF! DR. JOSH TALKS TO THE ANIMALS



Knowing what illnesses and issues to watch for can help keep your pets healthy as they age

Hello everyone! I always appreciate my Woof readers, and I thank you for taking the time to read my column. This time around, I will be discussing appropriate care of our more senior pets so that they can live as long and healthy as possible.

One question I am often asked relates to aging our dogs and cats in relation to “human” years. As a rule of thumb, dogs and cats are usually considered seniors after seven years of age. But unfortunately, the larger dog breeds commonly have shorter life spans, which means they are considered seniors even earlier than seven years of age. This means that, for example, a Great Dane usually has a shorter life than a Chihuahua.

Nevertheless, I have seen larger-breed dogs that have lived long and amazing lives, so do not let this make you sad if you have a bigger boy or girl.

The same basic principles of healthy lifestyles that apply to us humans as we age also apply to our furry kids. Regular exercise and weight management are very important throughout their lives but even more so when they are considered seniors.

Not all of our babies can tolerate the same amount of exercise, but you can break down exercise into smaller, more frequent sessions as opposed to a single, longer session. Also make sure that you are feeding them a



Dr. Josh
Woof

healthy diet meant for senior dogs or cats.

When it comes to reasons for keeping our dogs and cats at a healthy, slender weight, one of the more important ones is to avoid putting so much work on their joints as they continue to mature. It is extremely common for dogs and cats to develop arthritis, and we can see it affecting their lifestyles.

Consider getting orthopedic beds for your babies and also area rugs or runners that will help them keep traction around your home. Slippery surfaces are horrible for our pets, especially bigger dogs, with arthritis, because they do not have the strength they once had and are more likely to slip and fall.

You may also consider starting them on high-quality joint supplements. Keep in mind that there are many joint supplement brands on the market, but only a handful are actually worth it.

Lastly, there are medications that can truly help dogs and cats in desperate need of comfort with their joint issues. For those of us that like more novel approaches, options like acupuncture, chiropractic care, cold laser therapy and injections are very useful and may positively change your baby’s life. Please consult with your veterinarian to determine the ideal approach for your baby.



Arthritis is not the only condition that we see with our senior kids. We can also see dental disease, liver disease, kidney disease, skin issues, thyroid disease and, as much as we hate saying it, different types of cancer as well. It is vital for us to closely monitor our babies for any changes in their behavior, appetite, water intake, urination, defecation and breathing, among other things.

It is also important to thoroughly check our babies at least once or twice monthly for the presence of any obvious lumps throughout their bodies. There are masses and certain types of cancers that may not be visible, but a physical exam and a consultation with your veterinarian, along with a detailed history of what you may be seeing at home, will help in potentially identifying what may be happening to your loved one.

As veterinarians, we recommend a full physical examination for your baby at least every six months, along with lab work that includes analysis of blood, fecal and urine

samples. Sometimes we also recommend chest (and even belly) radiographs, as these can give us good information about the overall health of your baby. Needless to say, it is vital for us as medical professionals to be aware that cookie cutter medicine does not apply to everyone. That is why it is so important to have thorough discussion with your veterinarian to establish goals and expectations, based what is best for our babies and what is feasible for you as the pet parents.

None of us want to see our babies grow old and slow down, but the more we know about what is vital to do for them, the longer we will have them around in the healthiest ways possible. I hope this column has given you the tools needed to give your babies the best life they can have at such a crucial stage of their lives. Thank you so much for reading my column and abrazos!!

Dr. Josh owns Isla Veterinary Boutique Hospital at 14380 Marsh Lane, Ste. 110 in Addison. Visit his website at IslaVet.com.

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The first step in their plan

Vote them out before they burn us down

Even when you know something terrible is coming, you're never quite prepared for the moment it happens. And here we are: The United States Supreme Court has overturned *Roe v. Wade*. Pregnant people no longer have the right to an abortion. It's up to individual states now.

Remember when marriage equality was like that? When you could be legally married in, say, California and then travel back to your home state of, say, Michigan and no longer be legally married (like my wife and me)? That was awful. And that's what people are going to have to grapple with during one of the most challenging times of their lives: pregnancy.

For many, it will be a life or death situation. And they will die. Just like the good old days.

Oh, and that state by state marriage recognition thing? The conservative majority on the Supreme Court wants to go back to that, too. They want to go after the decisions that legalized birth control, decriminalized gay sex and brought us



D'Anne Witkowski
Creep of the Week

(birth control, gay sex, and marriage equality) in order to "correct the error" established by those cases. (Note: As many legal experts have pointed out, that same interpretation of the 14th Amendment's due process clause was behind decisions about interracial marriage and desegregating public schools, though Thomas failed to mention those cases.)

Remember that both Thomas and Brett Kavanaugh, were credibly accused of either sexual harassment or sexual assault during their confirmation hearings. The women doing the accusing — Anita Hill, who said Thomas sexually harassed her, and Christine Blasey Ford, who said Ka-

vanough assaulted her at a party in high school — were excoriated by the media and both of these men were rewarded with lifetime appointments to the Supreme Court. And they've used that power to take away the right of a pregnant person to control their own bodies and futures.

Justice Clarence Thomas wrote in his concurring opinion, that we should reconsider *Griswold*, *Lawrence* and *Obergefell*

And as if that all isn't bad enough, Kavanaugh was nominated by Donald Trump, a man repeatedly accused of rape who still managed to become the most powerful man in the world. And that man appointed two other conservative justices.

And here we fucking are. When I got the news about *Roe v. Wade* being overturned, I was sitting on the balcony of a rented apartment in Alicante, Spain, looking out over the Mediterranean Sea. That night my wife and I took our son to Festa de Sant Joan, a festival where beautiful things are literally set on fire, celebrating the tradition of burning "useless objects" as the summer solstice arrives. As the crowd cheered the destruction, I couldn't help but think of how Christian extremists are burning down the United States, pushing us closer and closer toward fascism.

And the Republican Party loves it.

They don't give a fuck about women or democracy or autonomy over one's own body. They care about power. And fascism is an all-you-can-eat buffet of power free from the worry over pesky things like human and civil rights.

Overturing *Roe* has been the prize ever since it was decided. But it won't be the end. Christian extremists are just getting started and feel more powerful than ever.

Both Republicans and Democrats feel like the *Roe* decision means good news for them in the midterms, depending on what pundit you're listening to. But the fact is, the majority of Americans support abortion rights. Not to mention birth control, marriage equality and not arresting consenting adults for having sex.

It's easy to be discouraged, but please vote. Vote out every one of these Republican fascist creeps at every level of government. If Republicans are soundly defeated across the board, I think that is something that will work out for everybody. ■

D'Anne Witkowski is a writer living in Michigan with her wife and son. She has been writing about LGBTQ+ politics for nearly two decades. Follow her on Twitter @MamaDWitkowski.

Discrimination is lying in wait

For anyone who might not have noticed, for the last 40 years the criminal statute called "21.06," which criminalizes private intimate relations between persons of the same gender, male couples or female couples, has been on the books in Texas. Since, in effect, it conferred "criminality" upon most members of the LGBT community, it was used to justify any and all forms of discrimination against people who engage in such private, consensual, "criminal" relations — up until 2003, that is, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Lawrence v. Texas* overturned the Texas sodomy law and all such laws in the U.S.

A recent article by Annie Gowen of the Washington Post explained how the



Mike Anglin
Special Contributor

enacting one of the most restrictive anti-abortion laws in the country to efforts to overturn *Lawrence* and start enforcing the sodomy law again. And we could see all of this coming as the "next shoe

to drop," especially after reading Justice Clarence Thomas' concurring opinion in the recent — cruel — *Dobbs* decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Thomas called for the Supreme Court to next "reconsider" its 2003 decision in *Lawrence*, among other rulings.

Although the *Lawrence* decision made all state laws like 21.06 unconstitutional and therefore unenforceable, the state legislatures of Texas and many other states never actually removed those law from their penal code criminal code, leaving them sitting there on the books, silently waiting for the day when an extreme right wing Supreme Court might reverse *Lawrence*, as it just reversed *Roe*, thereby automatically reactivating criminal statutes like 21.06 and throwing wide the doors, once again, for pervasive

discrimination against members of the LGBT community. Think 1975: No teaching in public schools, no employment by police or fire departments, no adoption or fostering of kids, no service in the Texas national guard, etc. Our Texas Republican attorney general, Ken Paxton, has just announced that he is ready, willing and able to make that happen on behalf of the great state of Texas by challenging *Lawrence* before this new Supreme Court. So, yes, it's happening. They've waited almost 20 years for this opportunity. But Paxton is up for re-election in November, as are the governor and lieutenant governor, Greg Abbott and Dan Patrick. The only question now is, will we, and our allies, rise up again? ■

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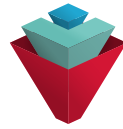
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Scan to see Dimitri's story.

Portraits of love

ANIMAL ART



Artist turned her pet painting hobby into a comforting side hustle

RICH LOPEZ | Staff writer
rich@dallasvoice.com

If there's ever a doubt that wine and art don't mix, Cathy O'Neal will prove you wrong. Thanks to a fortuitous visit to a Painting with a Twist event, where guests sip wine and follow an instructor's paint directions, she discovered a whole new passion. Already a dog lover, O'Neal combined her acrylic brush strokes with barking subjects, and a new chapter opened up.

"I started doing it for friends as gifts," she said. "Elaine Liner said, 'I hope you're selling these.' So in about 2014, people began to pay me to do it. I do think they can make very thoughtful, personal presents."

Area theatergoers may be familiar with O'Neal either through her work with several local companies as a stage manager or crew member or through her work, which she often donates to theater raffles and silent auctions. Most recently, she donated a pet painting to Uptown Players' *Broadway Our Way* auction in June. Ryan Teschner was the lucky winner.

"Honestly, I've been bidding on that pet portrait for nearly a decade," Tezzchner said. "I have told several people of my quest to win, and they laugh, telling me I could have just paid for it by now."

"Every year I'm excited to see that Cathy is still donating her time for the fundraiser. And even though I've now won, I will continue to put tickets in that [auction] jar as long as it's there," he added.

O'Neal's work theater goes way back before her pet paintings – particularly with Uptown.



"I have known [Uptown producer Jeff Rane] for a long time, from when he was acting at Theatre Arlington where I stage managed," she said. "When he and Craig decided to start Uptown Players, we were excited and knew they would succeed."

Local actor and director B.J. Cleveland was in Uptown's first show and is also O'Neal's best friend. So she jumped backstage to help out. Then she was hired as a stage manager in the company's second season.

Since then she's worked with Theatre Three, Circle Theatre and Theatre Arlington.

While at Uptown working on *Forbid-*



Cathy O'Neal

den Broadway, O'Neal joined others for a painting class with wine. She had never painted in her life until then, she said.

"I fell in love hard, and I felt like I could do it," she said. "I kinda had this talent for it."

O'Neal bonded with the teacher and even took private classes with her. Her first pet portrait was of her own dog in 2011. Since then, she's painted 35 dog portraits total — and one cat.

O'Neal said she actually stayed away from art before because of some middle school trauma.

"We had this art teacher who was just the worst," she explained. "She belittled us and critiqued us so badly. I was scared to death of her."

"So I came away thinking I was no good for it and never tried art."

But look at her now.

As she developed her style, O'Neal discovered that she found painting animals to be quite relaxing; when she is painting, she's not thinking about her household chores or the deadlines for the grants she's working on as the current development director for Theatre Arlington.

And in painting pets, she has cultivated her passion as well as her somewhat accidental side hustle. And it was at Uptown she found one of her best and first customers.

"The guys who won the auction were my first paying customers. After I delivered theirs, they ordered portraits for gifts and friends," she said.

O'Neal paints from photos clients give her and depending on their choices, she creates works on 16x20 or 8x8 canvases.

"I encourage [clients to send] more than one photo so we can look at them together," she said. "I prefer them to be on solid backgrounds to make it all about the pet, and I like to put them on a bright background. People will tell me that 'You've really captured my dog.'"

Her pricing ranges from \$60-\$100, and, on average, a painting takes her from two to three weeks to complete.

"I'll ask if there's a deadline like a birthday or occasion, and on the sizes, everything is open to negotiation," she said.

For more information, visit CathysPetPaintings.com.

Best and worst dogs for Texas heat

CHOOSING YOUR DOG



Thick coats and flat faces don't mix well with warmer climates

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

According to TopDog-Tips.com, some dog breeds do better in hot weather like we have here in Texas, and some breeds aren't meant for our climate at all. Here are some of the breeds that don't do so well in Texas heat and what to look for.

Brachycephalic dogs, or dogs with a flat face, are prone to heat stroke because of their narrow airways and nostrils and don't do well in Texas heat. These breeds include English bulldogs, French bulldogs, pugs and Boston terriers. They are all great dogs, but they do better in a more moderate climate.

Shih tzus aren't suited for Texas heat because they have both long hair and

short noses.

Pomeranians have a short nose and a thick coat. Shaving their hair may ruin their coat so just try to keep them hydrated and brushed.

Pekinese are prone to getting overweight. Add to that their long coat and you get a fat, lazy dog that won't do well in the heat.

Alaskan malamutes were bred to pull sleds in the Arctic. They have an extremely thick coat that keeps them warm. Siberian huskies — same thing. In case you're confused, the dogs have Alaska or Siberia right there in their names. They are great, playful dogs with lots of energy, but they'll work off that energy much better in cold climates.

Boxers are high-energy dogs with a short muzzle. That can lead to overheating especially if they don't stop long enough to get a drink of water.

OutsideOnline.com lists breeds that are among the best hot weather dogs. Its list includes some of the most popular breeds — Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers and border collies.

"Labs are a special mix of toughness and playfulness that can thrive in both cold and hot temperatures," according to OutsideOnline. They're good swim-



mers and love a pool or a lake.

Golden retrievers also love swimming and are smart and social dogs who will survive the Texas heat.

Border collies are one of the smartest breeds and thrive in warm climates. But they're very energetic and need room to run, so they don't make great apartment pets.

Among other hot weather breeds

listed are some lesser known dogs like German shorthaired pointers, American water spaniels, great Danes, Australian cattle dogs, Airedale terriers and Chesapeake Bay retrievers. Australian cattle dogs like to work despite the heat and Airedales' wiry coat is thin, allowing heat to escape.

Another great hot weather breed is the Chihuahua with its extremely thin coat of hair and small size. Chihuahuas thrive in warmer temperatures.

Also on the list of great hot weather dogs is the American foxhound. I've had a foxhound, and she loved being out in the heat and running around the yard. Foxhounds are bred as hunting dogs, but mine would never have made it as one. She had absolutely no sense of direction and never could find her way home.

But she loved to play. One day after a storm blew tree branches all over my yard, I went out to collect the branches and made a pile. She saw what I was doing and dragged branches over to the pile alongside me. We even carried some of the larger branches over to the pile together.

She found this chore to be so much fun, the next day when I got home, I found the pile redistributed all around the yard so we could do it again. ■

Top canine 'influencers'

The team at Century Link, an internet services provider, recently conducted a study to see which dog breeds are the most popular "internet influencers" and which individual dogs are the most financially successful as influencers. Here's a little bit of what they found:

- Among the top social media accounts, 19 are mixed breed dogs. Pugs have 11 of the top accounts, followed by chihuahuas with nine, corgis with seven and golden retrievers with six.

- The most popular Instagram dog influencer, Jiff the Pomeranian (@jiffpom), has recently been sponsored by Just Right Pet Food, Farmville and Far Cry Game. For just one post, Jiff can make as much as \$32,564.

- The second-most famous Instagram dog influencer, Doug (@itsdougthepug), has sponsorships from Grounds and Hounds, a coffee company that supports rescues nationwide. Doug also has a business, Doug the Pug Store, where you can shop for pug merch and support Doug's foundation for children with life-threatening illnesses.

- Tucker the golden retriever (@tuckerbudzyn) has sponsorships from Boutique Rugs, Air Doctor and ButcherBox. Tucker also has an online store and a YouTube channel that he shares with his mom, Courtney, and his son Todd (named by Tucker himself).

- Maru the Japanese Shiba (@marutaru) and his owner, Shinjiro, help teach Japanese culture to their 80 percent foreign fan base. Maru has an online shop where you can buy coffee mugs, t-shirts,

and key chains.

- Famous rescue Henry (@henrythecoloradodog), who passed from cancer in early 2022, shared his popular Instagram account with his brother Baloo, a rescued cat. Before he passed, his parents found via DNA testing that he was 43 percent American Staffordshire Terrier.

- Tuna (@tunameltsmyheart), a Chiweenie dog with 2M followers, is famous for his costumes, including unicorn, panda, superhero, mailman and Santa Claus. Tuna made a cameo on the Disney+ show *The World According to Jeff Goldblum* (season 2, episode 5).

- Loki (@loki), a beautiful husky from Denver, Colorado, was sponsored by the movie *Dog*, starring famous heartthrob Channing Tatum. Loki also has his own business where you can buy apparel, dog accessories, prints, CBD tinctures, and Adobe Lightroom presets.

- Maya the Samoyed (@mayapolarbear) is a quintuple-threat influencer with millions of followers on three additional platforms: TikTok (5.5M), YouTube (1.88M) and Facebook (1.3M). She also boasts thousands of followers on Twitter (192.7K).

- Shih tzu Marnie (@marniethedog), known for her lolling tongue, passed away in 2020, but her account maintains a strong following. Marnie shared her Instagram spotlight with major celebrities including Demi Lovato, Jimmy Kimmel, Jack Black, Betty White and Bob Saget.

— From Staff Reports

July: Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month

WOMEN'S HEALTH AWARENESS

Fibroids affect about half of all women but now can be treated with a minimally invasive procedure

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
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Thanks to the work of Dallas couple Dr. Suzanne Slonim and Pam Gerber, July has been designated Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month in Texas. Slonim is a doctor who specializes in a minimally invasive fibroid procedure that replaces the need for a hysterectomy in most cases. Gerber decided more women need to know they don't need to live with the pain and discomfort of fibroids that at least 50 percent of women develop.

Teyah Scales, Slonim's patient, said she always had cramps during her cycle, but "I didn't know it was fibroids. I always had heavy periods."

In 2018, her doctor told her that she thought she felt something. That began a period of what the doctor called "watchful waiting."

Her general practitioner found her iron was low, so she began taking pills.

"I thought I was OK," Scales said. "Then a year ago, my abdomen started feeling full. I could feel a lump in my lower pelvic region."

Her general practitioner told her she needed an ultrasound and found Scales' blood count was low. Scales said she was feeling fatigued. Even a short walk left her breathing fast. The ultrasound revealed fibroids.

"You have so many, we're not going to count them all," the tech told her.

Fibroids run in Scales family. Her grandmother had a hysterectomy because of them. Her aunts both had fibroids, and so did her mother. But her mother had a new procedure done more than 20 years ago called uterine fibroid embolization, the procedure Slonim spe-



Dr. Suzanne Slonim and her wife, Pam Gerber, above, and Teyah Scales, right.

cializes in.

Slonim said fibroids do tend to run in families. Black women are more likely to have them, and stress is a risk factor. She said studies show stress caused by discrimination is of particular concern in the formation of fibroids. So as a Black lesbian who had fibroids in her family, Scales was definitely high risk.

Estrogen fuels the growth of fibroids, so trans men are not particularly at risk of getting them. The hormone treatments a trans man receives cuts off the estrogen, and any fibroid trans man already developed before transitioning would die with the hormone treatments.

Slonim asked Scales if she had ever used hair relaxer, and Scales said she had. The chemicals used to straighten hair also stimulate the production of estrogen, putting Black women who use the product at higher risk, Slonim said.

The UFE treatment Scales received is done by an interventional radiologist like Slonim by inserting a catheter through the blood vessels.

"We inject tiny particles to plug the blood vessels in the uterus," Slonim explained. "When we cut off the blood supply, the fibroids die and shrink."

She said that 90 percent of the time, this takes care of all the symptoms.



Scales said that by about a month after the procedure, she felt like a new person.

COVID, Slonim warned, is a factor in fibroid growth. The virus interferes with clotting and more blood feeds the fibroids. Also, she warned, "women who carry excess fat" are at higher risk for fibroids since estrogen is produced in fat cells.

As part of the treatment, Slonim prescribes medication to control the pain and nausea, fever and malaise after the procedure. She sees her patients a week after, then at one month and then three months later.

Scales, who just had the procedure done in April, calls it "life changing." She said she has her energy back and no longer has a rapid heartbeat.

Fibroids can interfere with fertility,

Slonim said, adding that they can cause extremely heavy bleeding and cramping and can affect urinary frequency and urgency. Fibroids may cause bloating, pain during sex and back pain that can run all the way down the legs. Some are big enough that a woman can't bend over.

While about half of all women develop fibroids, not all are symptomatic.

NAMING A MONTH

"Two years ago, I saw an article that Kamala Harris sponsored a bill to designate July as National Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month," Gerber said. "I had to be involved."

So she contacted Harris' office and got in touch with the staff person who had written the proposed legislation. They spoke, but the legislation was put on hold when Harris was nominated to run for vice president.

But Gerber decided there was something she could do locally. Through former state Rep. Lorraine Birabil, she got in touch with state Rep. Senfronia Thompson. In office since 1972, Thompson's known as the dean of the House of Representatives.

Gerber worked with Thompson to get a bill passed in the House in the final special session of the last Legislature.

From there, Gerber decided to seek local support for awareness, and she worked with Dallas City Councilwoman Paula Blackmon on a resolution designating July Uterine Fibroid Awareness month in the city of Dallas and with County Commissioner Theresa Daniel to similarly designate the month of July throughout Dallas County.

The Barbara Jordan Leadership Institute is helping to lead the effort to get the word out about Texas Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month. Among the events planned is a self-care fair, a free community event and feminine hygiene supply drive on July 16 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Fannie C. Harris Youth Center, 4212 E. Grand Ave. ■

More information about Texas Fibroid Awareness Month is available at TXFAM.org.

Hollywood Feed

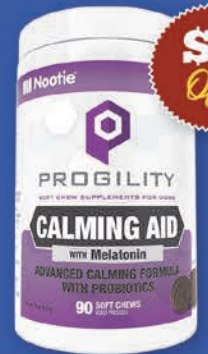


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80 years of Disney animation

ON THE WALLS

You don't have to be an art expert to recognize just about every sketch on display in Arlington

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The Arlington Museum of Art is coming to be known for its fun and surprising exhibits. Currently on display are 250 sketches and cels from Disney animation in *Disney Art from Private Collections*. The works are mainly from the collection of Disney animator Andreas Deja and include his work as well as that of Frank Thomas and Ollie Johnston.

Usually when you go to a special exhibit — such as the Dallas Museum of Art's recent Van Gogh show or one of the Kimball Art Museum's Monet blockbusters — you go for the artist and are surprised and delighted to discover some works you've never seen before.

Here, you probably don't know the artists, but you'll recognize just about every sketch in the show. But I actually even discovered a few sketches from Disney films I hadn't heard of before.

And the museum is having a lot of fun with this exhibit that can only be seen in Arlington. Different downtown Arlington businesses are holding special Disney events in conjunction with the show. HELP Center of Arlington, for example, held a Disney Drag Brunch.

Another thing that's special about this show is that once it's over, it won't be traveling to venues across the country or around the world. This massive collection of sketches goes right back into Deja's vault.

You may not know their names, but it was Johnston and Thomas who created the 12 principles of animation. While these fundamental ideas were developed in the 1930s — when it took 18 sketches turned into 18 layered cels to produce one second of animation —



Eleanor Audley posed for Wicked Stepmother, above, an early version of Snow White, top left, and Andreas Deja's early work before he became a Disney animator, below left.

of 18 sketches hung side by side. These 18 were from a total of 54 that it took to animate three seconds of video of Jafar from *Aladdin*. Those three seconds run on continuous loop next to the sketches.

It's fascinating seeing these pencil drawings come to life. Look closely at the faces from one sketch to the next and see how animators squashed portions of the faces and stretched them to bring them to life. There's certainly nothing stiff about Jafar.

Often the animators used a live model to bring a character to life. The actress Eleanor Audley, best known for her role as Oliver Wendell Douglas' mother on *Green Acres*, posed to become the basis for the Wicked Stepmother in *Cinderella*.

One room of the show is the "animal room." While King Louie the orangutan from *The Jungle Book* or Jiminy Cricket in *Pinocchio* are more fanciful, the leading dogs in *The Lady and the Tramp* are more realistic because the story is more sincere.

Deja wanted to be a Disney animator from the time he was a child. At 10, he wrote to Disney with samples of his work. So promising was his work already that Disney wrote back and advised him to practice drawing animals.

Some examples of Deja's practice

work as a teen are included in the exhibit. The sketches of lions aren't from *The Lion King*, but certainly were very early versions of Mufasa and Simba.

The exhibit also illustrates how characters grow and develop. Some sketches of Snow White and the dwarfs don't appear in the film because the characters changed appearance from early concepts. The original Snow White appeared to be much younger than the character in the film. The dwarves developed more personality as drawing proceeded.

The 80 years of Disney art represented includes some of the studio's biggest films in addition to the ones mentioned above like *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *101 Dalmations* and *Peter Pan* as well lesser known films like *The Princess and the Frog*, *The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad* and *Robin Hood*.

I went to see the exhibit because I knew it would be fun. I knew it would be accessible and recognizable. I left having learned about an entire genre of art and the artists who developed it. ■

Disney Art from Private Collections runs through Sept. 4 at the Arlington Museum of Art, 201 W. Main St., Arlington. Adults \$20, children \$5 and ages 13-18 and seniors \$15.

their concepts are still used today with computer animation and other technology.

The principles include things like timing and exaggeration: "Squash and stretch" alters the face to prevent stiffness of motion.

A good example can be seen in a series

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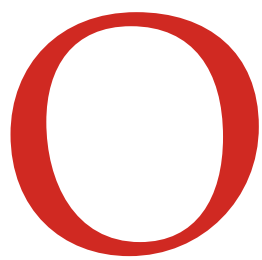
Walk-Ins Welcome

Butch VS. femme

DRIVE

Compare the BMW 240i and the Subaru WRX to see how you prefer your fast chariot

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
AutoCasey@aol.com



Only in an alternate universe would the all-new Subaru WRX seem, femme with its bulging hood, wide wheels

plain purple to the straight boys looking to have their grapes popped.

Nose Job

WRX: That hood scoop sucks air into the turbo so you can blow way pretenders. Subaru's trademark grille and squinty headlamps promise bravery and bedlam. M240i: Wide nostrils, bulging hood and angry chin spoiler indicate this one may bite. It's a far prettier sight than the tall-nosed 3- and 4-Series Bimmers.

Power Surge

WRX: Get busy with the turbocharged 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine that caresses a snick-snick six-speed manual transmission. The pair dishes out a peppy

fast muscles to shuffle his balls.

Favorite Run

WRX: There's a reason the WRX looks like a Civic in drag. She loves long gravel roads where she can power through corners, throwing rocks — and shade — in all directions. M240i: Those wheels and aero affects aren't just for bling. Give it miles of wide-open Autobahn where it can reach for the horizon as smooth and stable as Oprah's jet.

Tasty Treat

WRX: Looks like it would use its torque-vectoring all-wheel-drive to run down The Roadrunner and beat Wylie to his feast. Beep, beep, bitches. M240i:

and a heads-up display keeps fast eyes ahead.

Hot Seats

WRX: Seats are cloth, but they're heated up front. Snuggle in for a deep cornering cuddle from the grippy side bolsters. M240i: Buckets are made from vegan leather and heated to suit. Extendable lower cushions and a heated steering wheel make sure all your digits get attention.

Thirsty Daddies

WRX: Gets 19/26-MPG city/hwy. It looks like a tyke in track shoes, but drinks like a lumberjack knocking back a few trees. M240i: I'd imagine this coupe



Subaru WRX



BMW M240i

and rolling thunder exhaust note. Subtle it is not. But compared to the swaggering BMW M240i, the WRX a sprinter among linebackers. Welcome to your alternate universe where this suave guy can lay down power and look smooth doing it.

See which you prefer.

Pantone delights

WRX: You can get the WRX in Subaru's rally hue of WR Blue, but you'll get noticed most when it wears Solar Orange Pearl. Lick it like a dreamsicle. M240i: It looks plum crazy in Thundernight Metallic. That sounds mysterious, but is just

271 horsepower, but working the clutch substitutes for leg days. M240i: He may be a little short in the trousers but throttles a thick 382hp from a 3.0-liter turbocharged Inline-6 twirling an 8-speed auto. Employ launch control and whip it with paddles if you please.

Celebrity Doppelganger

WRX: T. J. Osborne. Beyond his sexy body and deep country voice, he looks like he could handle a good romp in the woods with his cute little boyfriend. M240i: Carl Nassib. The Raiders heartthrob is no citified club queen but uses

Would use X-Drive with corner control to knock down a Wagyu and drop it at the butcher for a final filet. A - Moo!

Fancy Tech

WRX: Its favorite toy is the new tablet-style touchscreen that connects devices through Apple CarPlay. Safety is amped with automatic emergency braking, adaptive cruise and rear seat child minder. M240i: It still has the bewildering iDrive infotainment system, but you can swipe the screen if you prefer. Sweet cherubs sing through Harman Kardon audio, devices vamp wireless charging

chugging fine bourbon during all-night benders, but it's clearly on the wagon getting 23/32-MPG city/hwy.

Comparing Stickers

WRX: \$29,605. You think it is going to cost like Neiman Marcus, but is closer to hipster mecca Target. M240i: \$48,550. It's closer to Neiman Marcus than Target, but a long way from diamond-encrusted Tiffany.

Storm forward! ■

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.



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Recognizing restaurants

BUSINESS WORLD



Representatives of Grubhub and the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce presented grants to local LGBTQ- and ally-owned restaurants recently

Grubhub offers grant support to LGBTQ business and chamber

RICH LOPEZ | Staff writer
rich@dallasvoice.com

Grubhub, the food order and delivery marketplace, has teamed up with the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce to celebrate queer-owned and allied businesses. And representatives from the two visited the North Texas LGBT Chamber of Commerce on June 27 for a grant presentation to four area restaurants through the Community Impact Grant initiative. The event was held at Zerbina Wines with both local and national representatives.

"As the world starts to return to a new normal, we know many businesses are rebuilding and reopening, especially LGBTQ+-owned restaurants that are often the pillars of their communities," Jessica Burns, vice president of brand

and creative at Grubhub said in a press release. "We're thrilled to partner with NGLCC and give back to the LGBTQ+ community – one that has shown incredible strength and support for those in need throughout the pandemic."

The Impact program offers financial aid to restaurants impacted by the pandemic through grants ranging from \$5,000-\$100,000. Local grant recipients included Nerdvana Frisco, Salum, Savorista Kitchen & Catering and Steve's Market & Deli.

"During the pandemic, we worked to support businesses throughout the community with important information on wellness and emergency funding in addition to distributing hundreds of COVID-19 test kits, but we were unable to do direct funding," explained Tony Vedda, North Texas Chamber president and CEO. "Fortunately, Grubhub stepped up in a huge way, partnering with the NGLCC and the affiliate chambers, like ours, across the country."

The NGLCC is the largest advocacy nonprofit dedicated to expanding economic opportunities for LGBTQ people.

RESTAURANTS, Page 25

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

D2 Subway-Service Plan Amendment

DART will hold a public hearing to receive public comments on revisions to the proposed D2 Subway alignment, grade separations and station locations in the DART Service Plan. A Public Hearing was held September 22, 2020, during which several comments received were in opposition to the eastern end of the project alignment. A revised east end alignment was developed in 2021 in response to those comments. The focus of this public hearing is the revised east end alignment, as well as a proposed additional station access portal for the Commerce Station. The rest of the D2 alignment remains unchanged and comments from the September 2020 public hearing are still applicable.

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 6 p.m.
DART Board Room - 1401 Pacific Avenue, Dallas, TX 75202

Individuals wishing to speak at the hearing should contact DART Community Relations at 214-749-2721 to register or fill out and submit a speaker card provided at the Public Hearing. A Spanish interpreter will be available at the public hearing. A Braille or taped version of information will be made available upon request.

Emailed/Mailed Comments:

Emailed comments should be sent to dartpublichearingcomments@DART.org prior to the public hearing, and all those received before the hearing is adjourned will become part of the official hearing record. Mailed comments postmarked by the day of the hearing will become part of the official hearing record, and they should be mailed to:

DART Community Relations - 7232
D2 Subway Service Plan Amendment
Public Hearing
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Those sending comments should include their name, address and telephone number.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, visit DART.org/D2 or contact DART Community Relations at 214-749-2721.



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BEHIND THE CURTAIN

'Superstar' actor dials up the queer in short time

RICH LOPEZ | Staff writer
rich@dallasvoice.com

Jesus Christ returns ... to North Texas on Tuesday. The 50th anniversary tour of Jesus Christ Superstar makes its way to Fort Worth's Bass Hall for a week-long engagement starting July 12. The tour comes back to the area after its Dallas stint in April.

As the tour makes its way back to the area, so does queer actor Paul Louis Lessard who plays Herod. With just the one scene and the titular "King Herod's Song" — he's also in the en-



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RESTAURANTS From Page 23

semble — Lessard has a short time to make a big impression. But with 40 yards of lame and his very ostentatious Herod, Lessard leaves audiences wanting more.

Lessard, a 36-year-old Michigan native, is on his first national tour. He spoke with Dallas Voice recently about waving his queer flag while performing and bringing that one fabulous moment each night in Jesus Christ Superstar.

Dallas Voice: To begin, sorry we missed you the first time around in Dallas and thanks for your time for the Fort Worth shows. Lessard: I was onstage the first week but I actually took off the second week so this is perfect.

You play Herod and it is a big drag, fabulous moment in the show. How do you see it? For me, it's so open-ended that I get to turn up who I am to 200 percent. I wanna create an experience for the audience in my, like, three and-a-half minutes onstage as Herod. I get to take the basics and run with it, and it's completely honest in my portrayal.

How do you bring yourself to this character for that honesty? I'm an outspoken queer man. I've also experienced the same emotions this character has. I used that bit of time to explore all the ways I can shine as a performer but also break down this archetype who was a real person.

That fabulous costume has got to help a bit. You can't go wrong with a four-foot gold lame robe! And then after the reveal, I'm in three-inch sparkly, black, knee-high boots, a gold-mirrored leotard and gold feather headpiece. I mean, he was the embodiment of ostentatiousness.

Herod seems to always be depicted as rather eccentric. Is there any possibility that he's queer? I've done some digging on that. Biblically, all we can go on was that he was referred to as a fox in his demeanor. He had a wife, he had sons, but we know that doesn't mean he couldn't be [queer]. With that, I think he's become an opportunity for many interpretations, and if I can waive my queer flag and represent onstage, that's important for me to lean into.

For tickets, visit BassHall.com.

The national chamber has more than 50 affiliates, including the North Texas organization.

The North Texas chamber is the largest business organization of its kind in Texas, with more than 350 LGBTQ and allied businesses and community organizations throughout the North Texas region. The chamber's programs promote diversity and inclusion in the business community, its workforces and supply chains.

In June 2021, Grubhub's Donate the Change raised "tens of millions of dollars" for organizations with NGLCC. Funds raised due to that partnership will go toward the LGBTQ community and LGBTQ-owned restaurants.

"We often say at NGLCC that 'If you can buy it, an LGBTQ-owned business can supply it.' That is especially true of the LGBTQ-owned restaurants across America who kept our communities and first responders fed throughout the pandemic," said NGLCC co-founder and President Justin Nelson. "We're

proud to partner with Grubhub in presenting these grants across America. America's 1.4 million LGBTQ-owned business owners have demonstrated incredible resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic, and now we can back to help them recover stronger than ever."

Not only did the grant recipients benefit from the initiative, but affiliate chambers do as well through the Affiliate Chamber Fund.

"Through the Affiliate Chamber Fund, we will also be able to engage new members and offer the businesses ongoing support. We are grateful to Grubhub and the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce for this remarkable grant investment in these businesses and the chamber," Vedda said.

The Affiliate Chamber Fund affords Community Impact Grant recipients one year of chamber membership for those who are not already chamber members.

For more information about NTLCC, visit LGBTChamber.com.



The Fair Housing Ordinance makes it illegal to discriminate against a person in regards to:
Race | Color | Religion | Sex | National Origin | Handicap (Mental or Physical) | Familial Status (Children Under 18) | Source of Income (social security, spousal support, child support or veterans with housing assistance vouchers) |

The actions that are covered by the City Ordinance are:

RENTAL, including leasing, using and keeping a unit, and property management;

SALES, including brokers, sales agents, lenders, mortgage brokers, insurance agents and sellers;

ADVERTISEMENT, including brokers, sales agents, lenders, mortgage brokers, insurance agents and sellers;

For complaints regarding **Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity**;

HOUSING, including the rental and sale of housing and all other business practices related to a person's housing activities;

EMPLOYMENT, including brokers, sales agents, lenders, mortgage brokers, insurance agents and sellers;

PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION, service in restaurants, theaters, retail store, and non-governmental public services (relative to sexual orientation only).

If you suspect discrimination in these areas and wish to file a complaint call:

214-670-FAIR (3247)

The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and findings of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations do not necessarily reflect the views of the Government.

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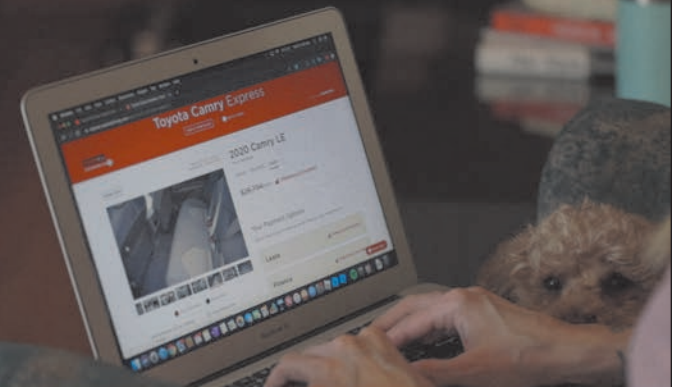


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JULY 20
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SOUND WAVES

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Pride month may have come and gone in many major cities, but not everyone celebrates Pride in June. South Florida, for example, has Pride celebrations in January (in Hollywood), February (in Fort Lauderdale), March (in West Palm Beach/Lake Worth) and April (in Miami Beach), in addition to June (in Wilton Manors).

Austin observes Pride in August, while San Diego celebrates in July, and Las Vegas celebrates in October.

Speaking of South Florida, one-man-show Randy Rainbow who spent his formative years in the region, finally released his full-length solo album *A Little Brains, A Little Talent* (Broadway). Of course, anyone familiar with Rainbow knows he has more than a little anything.

For the album, Rainbow chose to cover showtunes, adding his distinctive humorous touch to numbers including the title cut (complete with a Mar-a-Lago reference), a three-way take on "You Gotta Get a Gimmick" with Sean Hayes and Josh Gad and a fab duet with Tituss Burgess on "Bosom Buddies."

But really, you want to hear his genius parody pop, don't you? That can be found on standout tracks



Willi Carlisle (Photo by Mike Vanata)

“Clang, Clang, Clang Went Josh Hawley,” the lengthy “Second-Hand Rose Medley” (which includes three of his classics), “Mr Biden, Bring My Vaccine,” and “If Donald Got Fired” (a duet with Patti LuPone).

Newly officially out, alt-folk god-



Angel Olsen

dess Angel Olsen released a couple of well-reviewed albums before her 2014 breakthrough *Burn Your Fire For No Witness*. Based in Chicago at that time, you could hear the influence of Second City siren Liz Phair. But Olsen was no copycat, firmly establishing herself and, in the process, surpassing Phair. With each subsequent album (and corresponding hairdo), Olsen expanded her palette, incorporating a 1960s retro sound that would remain with her over the years.

The 10 tracks on *Big Time* (Jagjagwar), an emotional set of songs touching on love and loss, grief, and revival, including the title cut, “Ghost On,” “This Is How It Works” and “Through The Fires” have a distinctive vintage torch and twang sound that would make k.d. lang proud. The gorgeous “All The Flowers” is queer folk at its finest, while the lush “Chasing the Sun” has cabaret standard written all over it.

Queer male country artists, including Orville Peck, T.J. Osborne (of the Grammy-winning Brothers Osborne) and even long-timer Ty Herndon, have

become more visible in recent years. But they better watch their denim-clad butts, because Willi Carlisle is releasing his amazing second album *Peculiar, Missouri* (Free Dirt). Featuring exceptional original songs such as “Life on the Fence,” “I Won’t Be Afraid,” and the spoke title cut, Carlisle makes an unforgettable impression.

Willi Carlisle performs on Aug. 27 at Gilley’s in Dallas. Watch for an interview with him next month in Dallas Voice.

Endless Void (War Chant), the all-too-brief debut album by Bay Area-based Caitlin Cobb-Violet, a queer singer/songwriter raised by lesbian moms, goes by in the blink of an eye but is deserving of repeated listens. Her piano-driven tunes and spilling-forth lyric style is sure to remind some listeners of Regina Spektor. Nevertheless, Cobb-Violet emerges as her own artist, and songs such as “Disco Ball,” “Ask Me,” “Collared Shirts,” “The Reference” and “Float,” are a marvelous introduction to a talented artist.

Caleb Nichols opens his irresistible concept album *Ramon: A Rock Operetta* (Kill Rock Stars) with the song “Listen to the Beatles,” but you get the feeling that he’s probably listened to a lot of Elliot Smith as well. Over the course of the 10 tracks, Nichols reimagines Mean Mr. Mustard (about whom the Beatles sang on “Abbey Road”) as a queer icon. The Beatles’ force is strong with this one on songs including “Run Rabbit Run,” “She’s The Beard,” “Captain Custard,” “Jerome” and “From A Hole in the Road.”

The title cut even includes a lyric reference to the work of solo Beatle Paul McCartney, in addition to playing on the song title “Ram On.” To be clear, Nichols is no mere mimic. He has created an original set of songs that pay tribute to a significant influence while establishing him as a singer/songwriter to appreciate for his creativity.

There is so much emotion in Chastity Brown’s voice that it’s hard to believe that it can be contained on a recording. But there it is on *Sing To The Walls* (Red House), beginning with the aptly-titled “Wonderment,” which starts out with layered vocals before blossoming into a full-blown rocking tune. “Backseat” has a similarly soulful vibe, while “Boston” takes a folky approach. The synthesizer on the title track is a nice touch, as are the strings on “Like The Sun.” ■

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tion.

Vallejo's last role was serving as the chief financial officer of Deaf Smith County Hospital District/Hereford Regional Medical Center where he oversaw both a rural hospital and outpatient health center with an average patient service revenue of \$50 million. His most accomplishments there included optimization of the facility's revenue cycle, successful negotiations with third party insurers and improved relationships with state and federal funders.

Before that, Vallejo was with CliftonLarson-Allyn, LLP and Durbin & Company, LLC, as a healthcare auditor and senior accountant.

Prism Health North Texas CEO Dr. John Carlo said, "Javier [is] joining us at an absolutely critical time in our organization's growth and development of financial stability. His enthusiasm, ability to work well with others, and experience will be incredible additions to our team."

— Tammye Nash



Brittney Griner

Biden calls Griner's wife

WNBA star Brittney Griner, a Houston native, has been jailed in Russia since Feb. 17 after being detained for being in possession of cannabis oil when she flew into the country to play for a Russian basketball team during the WNBA off season. Wednesday, July 6, President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris spoke by phone to Griner's wife, Cherelle Griner, to update

her on the U.S. government's efforts to secure Brittney Griner's release. Here is the statement from the Biden administration regarding that call:

"President Biden, joined by Vice President Harris, spoke today with Cherelle Griner, the wife of Brittney Griner who is wrongfully detained in Russia under intolerable circumstances. The

president called Cherelle to reassure her that he is working to secure Brittney's release as soon as possible, as well as the release of Paul Whelan and other U.S. nationals who are wrongfully detained or held hostage in Russia and around the world. He also read her a draft of the letter the President is sending to Brittney Griner today.

"The president offered his support to Cherelle and Brittney's family, and he committed to

ensuring they are provided with all possible assistance while his administration pursues every avenue to bring Brittney home. ... The President directed his national security team to remain in regular contact with Cherelle and Brittney's family ... to keep them updated on efforts to secure the release of their loved ones as quickly as possible."

— Tammye Nash

Correction

Photos from the *AT&T Turn Up The Love* concert held June 24 at the AT&T Discovery District in Dallas that appeared in the July 1 issue of *Dallas Voice*, were taken by Katherine Cruz.

■ Adoptable / WUBBANUB



Meet **Wubbanub**, a cat with a unique name, who carries it with pride — but will be happy take a new name if his forever home family wants to give him one. Wubbanub is 4 months old and is 4 pounds of high hopes for a happy life with the right family. When he came to the SPCA from an animal cruelty seizure in Kaufman County, Wubbanub was very underweight, dirty and suffering from skin irritations. He is back to being healthy now, and he is waiting at the Mesquite PetSmart adoption center. Adult dogs and cats are normally a \$75 adoption fee from the SPCA of Texas. Puppies and kittens under the age of six months are \$150.

The Jan-Rees Jones Animal Care Center is currently closed to the public. Animals are available from foster care and at five PetSmart cat adoption locations. Browse available animals at SPCA.org/FindAPet.

Kinsey Boots

Music and Lyrics by Cyndi Lauper
Book by Harvey Fierstein

July 15 - 31

Uptown
Players

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214-219-2718 uptownplayers.org

Drag is a hot topic these days: *RuPaul's Drag Race* has spawned some superstars, and the rightwing is blaming all the world's ills on drag queen story hours. But Tasha Kohl was an icon long before everybody else got in on the drag action. The legendary drag performer presents *Tasha Kohl's Icon Show* on Sunday, July 10, in the Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m., and the show — featuring Sasha Andrews, Andora TeTee, Seymour Chilton and Kelexis Davenport along with the legend herself — starts at 6 p.m.



PLAN YOUR WEEK

- Red for community events
- Blue for arts and entertainment
- Purple for sports
- Green for nightlife
- Orange for civic events and holidays

JULY

■ July 9: LifeWalk brunch

The Summer of LifeWalk continues with a brunch at 11 a.m. at Roy G's, 4001 Cedar Springs Road.

■ July 9: Different Strokes Golf Association (DSGA)

DSGA, the LGBTA golf organization plays Twin Creeks, 501 Twin Creeks Dr., Allen. First tee time 10:03. \$79 includes golf, cart, range balls and prizes. Information at DSGADallas.org or communications@dsgadallas.org.

■ July 10: Tasha Kohl's Icon Show

Tasha Kohl with Sasha Andrews, Andora TeTee, Seymour Chilton and Kelexis Davenport. Doors at 5 p.m. and show at 6 p.m. in the Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road.

■ Through July 10, 2022: Slip Zone: A New Look at Postwar Abstraction in the Americas and East Asia

Featuring works from the Dallas Museum of Art's collection, Slip Zone charts the significant innovations in painting, sculpture, and performance that shaped artistic production in the Americas and East Asia in the mid-20th century. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood St. DMA.org.

■ Through July 10, 2022:

Bosco Sodi: La fuerza del destino

Installed in the Dallas Museum of Art's Sculpture Garden, this exhibition features approximately 30 sculptures by Mexico City-born, New York City-based artist Bosco Sodi. The artist's large-scale spherical and rectangular sculptures are created from clay sourced at his studio in Oaxaca. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood St. DMA.org.

■ July 13: Same-sex spouse grief group

Grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex spouse or partner meets on Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8 p.m. For notifications, contact Richard DeKnock at tastefullyrichard@gmail.com.

■ July 14: 13th annual Bastille on Bishop

Celebrate the French national holiday in Oak Cliff by wearing your fabulous beret and enjoying wine, music and foods. 5 p.m. GoOakCliff.org/Bastille.

■ July 14: Texas Democratic Party State Convention

■ July 15: Stonewall Dallas Presents The Big D Event

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas invite all Democrats to The Big D party from 9-11 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3903 Cedar Springs Road. Candidates, elected officials and allies from across the state will join LGBTQ Democrats to enjoy light bites, drinks and live entertainment. Tickets start at \$34 and are available at StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.org/The-Big-D.

■ July 16: Basin Pride

Basin Pride in Midland/Odessa. BasinPride.com.

■ July 16: Blue Moon Dances

Women only dances the third Saturday of the month from 7 p.m.-midnight at DanceMakers of Texas, 6125 SW 820, Suite 140, Fort Worth. BYOB. \$10.

■ July 16: Women's Self-Care Fair

A self-care fair for women, a free community event and feminine hygiene supply drive with health and beauty giveaways, vendors and screenings supporting Texas Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Fannie C. Harris Youth Center, 4212 E. Grand Ave.

■ July 20: Werq the World

RuPaul's Drag Race favorites Kameron Michaels, Rose, Asia O'Hara, Vanjie and Jaida Essence Hall, along with season 14 finalists Angeria Paris VanMichaels, Daya Betty and Jorgeous perform live in the *RuPaul's Drag Race Werq the World* tour at Texas Trust CU Theatre, Grand Prairie. Tickets at VossEvents.com.

■ July 21: Black Tie Dinner Summer Social

Enjoy craft cocktails, light bites, and plenty of entertainment for only \$50 at 6:30 p.m. at Park Place Motors, 6113 Lemmon Ave. \$50. BlackTie.org.

LIFEWALKING TO BRUNCH



The LifeWalk 5K has been one of the most high-profile fundraisers for HIV/AIDS services in North Texas since the early 1990s. But this year,

Prism Health North Texas decided to walk a different path with its annual fundraising effort. Instead of a single 5K event in the fall, 2022 is the year for The Summer of LifeWalk, with a variety of events spread out over the summer and around the Gayborhood. This weekend, the Summer of LifeWalk continues with the LifeWalk Brunch on Saturday, June 9, at 11 a.m. at Roy G's, 4001 Cedar Springs Road.



PAGEANTRY ON PARADE

The Miss Gay Texas State Pageant System presents the Miss Gay Fire and Ice State and State At Large: Angels and Devils pageant Sunday,

July 10, beginning at 6 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. The pageant, featuring the special "Angels and Devils" evening gown presentation, will honor Miss Gay Texas State 2022 Sienna Silver, Miss Gay Fire and Ice State at Large 2021 Bobbie Laine and Miss Gay Texas State at Large 2022 Carmella DeBuque. So head on over to catch an evening of amazing entertainment.



REPPING FOR THE LGBTQS

The Texas Democratic Party Convention opens this Thursday, July 14, in Dallas, and Texas Stonewall Democrats are hosting an

event that evening from 7-9 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton, to honor DFW's openly LGBTQ state representatives and convention co-chairs Julie Johnson and Jessica Gonzalez. The event is open to everyone, and a donation of \$25 is suggested. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Visit the Facebook event page for details.

■ July 23-31: Steel Magnolias

Presented at Casa Manana, 3101 W. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth. TicketMaster.com.

■ Through July 25: Pride Then and Now

Ted Kincaid is among the artists showcased as AT&T celebrates Pride month by showcasing LGBTQ artists who exemplify and empower their community. This curated selection of art draws from AT&T's Corporate Art Collection and from the Dallas area to present emerging artists alongside some of the most influential LGBTQ artists of the 20th century. AT&T Discovery District Showcase Gallery, 208 S. Akard St. Open daily until 10 p.m.

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

Cassie Nova

ASK A DRAG QUEEN

A fish population explosion and blocking jerks

Hello, ya happy group of homos (and a few of you straighties). I hope you are having a fabulous week. I can already tell you that this week's column is going to be another episode of brain vomit. Everything I want to write about is depressing or puts me in an immediate bad mood. So, I will be keeping this one lighthearted instead. The world today is so fucking horrible and worrisome that I just don't want to add to the zeitgeist of sadness.

First off, my fish won't stop fucking! We have a nice sized aquarium, maybe 35 gallons. A few years ago, we started to add living plants to it because I wanted to get rid of all of the fake-ass plants that look faker than a tan on a showgirl. One of the plants we bought was some kind of sea grass, and within a few months it had taken over the entire aquarium. I love it, everything looks so lush and green.

We had about six red, white and blue tetras, three angel fish and about four guppies. We kept that number for over a year even though the guppies kept getting pregnant, growing big and having babies. The fry never lasted too long because one of the other fish would always eat them during the night.

Part of me was sad about it but the other part of me was like ... circle of life ... whateryagondo?

Then, I guess because we had so much sea grass providing a thousand places to hide, the babies started to survive and thrive. At first, we were like, Oh my Gaga! How cool! We got babies!

It was so neat to see them as they grew. It was so obvious which one had fathered which fish; one male had a black iridescent tail while the other male was almost totally orange. We were really enjoying our aquarium, more than we had in years.

Then we had more babies that grew up and got pregnant and had more babies that grew up and got pregnant and had more babies. Now we have a population explosion and too many fucking fish to count.

I don't have the heart to just net'em and flush'em. We have a great filtration system and keep up on the aquarium



maintenance more than regularly. And no, I don't wanna get rid of all of the plants. I love the way it looks.

So, after a little research I found that there are predatory critters I can get that will hopefully eat the fry while they are tiny and help regulate the overpopulation of guppies. We bought a couple of these catfish-type bottom dwellers and a couple of African dwarf frogs. Lord, I am hoping those little fuckers eat their fill of baby guppies, otherwise I am going to have to make some tough decisions.

Do they have a Plan B pill for guppies? If them damn boys would just keep their fishdicks in their pants!

If anyone has any suggestions on what to do about these fucking fish, lemme know. Or if anyone near Midlothian wants a buncha fish for their aquarium, call me. I will peddle these fish like a drug dealer. "Yo, you looking for some shit? I got guppies, all kinds; whatchu looking for? Fishies, Fishies, Fishies! I got black fishies; I got orange fishies; I got black-and-orange fishies. Gay fishies, fishies in fishnets, fat fishies, skinny fishies, one-eyed fishies, dom-top fishies. Whatever you want, I got! Freak fishies, nerd fishies ...

Next subject: Y'all, I can't tell you how good it feels to unfriend and block people on the social medias. You might remember a few weeks ago I was complaining about my childhood best friend becom-

ing a loudmouthed preachy cunt. Every other day he would post something that would piss me off, and I would have to retaliate with some response that I spent way too much time on and worried about way too much.

Finally, my husband asked me, "What do you get out of your relationship with him?"

I had no good answer.

At one point in my life, he was the most important person to me. But that was 30-plus years ago. Now he throws bible quotes at me like they are rocks, and I always feel the need to defend myself when he does.

But my husband was right; I do not need anything from him or any member of my friends or family that ever want to make me feel less than. Fuck that!

I have literally given advice in this very column to people asking me how to deal with unaccepting family or friends, and I quickly tell them that it is okay to cut toxic people from your life. But I was not taking my own advice.

So, I blocked him.

I actually blocked a few people, and I have felt lighter and, dare I say, happier since I did.

Some might say that I block people that don't agree with my way of thinking or lifestyle because I cannot see other people's point of view. Maybe. But I don't care.

I am never going to not be gay. I am never going to be okay with limiting the rights of others. So I have decided you can't argue with a brick wall. Yes, I can be a brick wall, too. And I am totally okay with that. I am happy with my life, my lifestyle, my career — I'm happy with everything, and, apparently, that bothers some people. Totally okay with that, too.

It just amazes me that people are losing sleep over me being happy, and I fucking love that. I hope ya toss and turn all night, ya cunts. (Said in my best Billy Butcher voice.)

So, block someone today! You'll be glad you did! Remember to always love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova

word search solution



this week's solution



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.

SCENE • Pets and their humans



PEOPLE, PLACES AND FACES



Darwin and Martin



Bilby, Kyle and Bowie enjoying the bluebonnets



Copper and Juan



A dapper Ramon



Duke



Adam, Doug and Lettie enjoying a little swing



Bella and Schatzi



Camo and Javier love hot dads



Brian and Harry go for a ride



Diego and Rex



Chris and Nola Mame



Bella is NOT spoiled at all!



Todd and Willow Rose



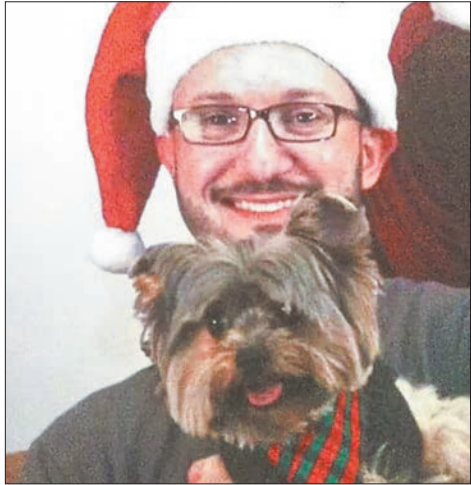
Max is ready to play!



Josey and Linda



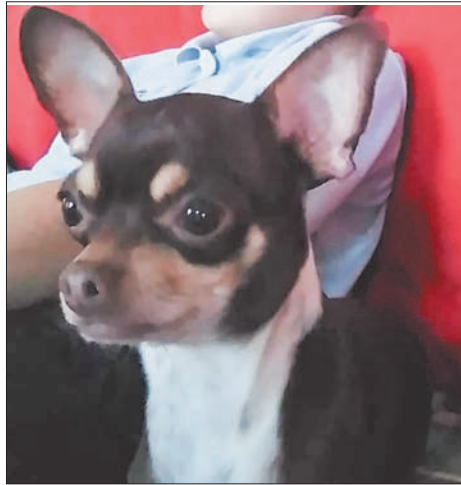
John and Sage



Robby and Chuy



Max, Kevin and the Bluebonnets



Lefty is all ears



Jolene Fancy Rae Sugarbaker celebrating Pride month in style



Rudy and Coco belly up to the bar at JR's



Maggie and Milo



Lola doing what she does best



Esa Sage having a cat nap



Roadtrip with Ryan, Oliver and Bryce



Dinosaur and Kathy

Uptown Players Needs Your Help!

North Texas' only professional LGBTQ+ theater company, Uptown Players, is moving into a new space for set building, rehearsals, and storage.

\$350,000

Uptown's *The Excitement is Building!* Capital Campaign has been created to raise the \$350,000 needed to purchase the building and move in. Please consider donating as we continue our quest to serve the community in telling our stories on the stage for many years to come.

80%



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE
OR FIND OUT OTHER WAYS TO HELP!**



Uptown Players

THE EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING!



TORCH SONG
2022 SEASON

WORD SEARCH

Diversions Word Search - Sam Jay

Find the words in the list below hiding across, backwards, up, down and diagonally in the grid. Words separated by a slash "/" are found individually in the puzzle. Words in parentheses "(") are not in the puzzle. The unused letters starting at top left and going down by row will reveal more about Sam Jay!

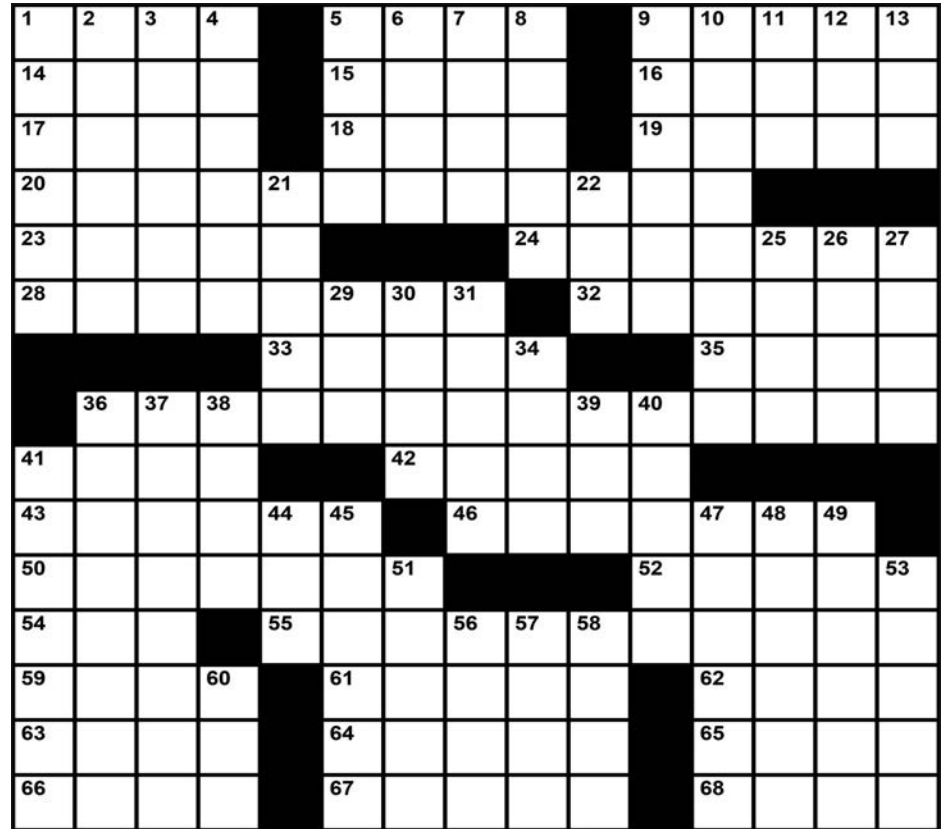


Sam Jay Samaria/Johnson Born (in)/Atlanta/Georgia Grew up (in)/Boston Comedian Emmy/Nominee	Comic/Writer Saturday/Night/Live That/Damn/Michael Che Pause (with Sam Jay) (on HBO &)/HBO Max Producer:/Kenan (NBC)	Netflix (The) Comedy/Lineup Special:/3 In The/Morning (Netflix) Is A Joke Stand Out:/An LGBTQ Celebration	Debut/Album: (Comedy) Central/Records "Donna's/Daughter" Bust/Down (2022) (on) Peacock (2022) Film/"You People"
---	---	---	--

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/DiversionsPuzzles> for more free puzzles and book info by Kerry Shatzer!

PUZZLE |

How Not to Be Single



Solution on Page 30

Across

- 1 Gay-friendly student org.
- 5 Crystal balls, e.g.
- 9 Be a ham in *Hamlet*?
- 14 Novel idea
- 15 Come quickly
- 16 Nathan and family
- 17 Facetious "I see"
- 18 Nat. counterpart in MLB
- 19 Spit out
- 20 "I thought I was searching for a ____"
- 23 Susan in *All My Children*
- 24 Where to get a collar for a bitch
- 28 Workplace for Michelangelo
- 32 Penetrating
- 33 Loaded for bear
- 35 Top's betting phrase?
- 36 "...but maybe what I really needed was a ____"
- 41 Sign over
- 42 He comes once a year
- 43 Ashcan targets
- 46 Cars from the land of the samurai
- 50 Product introduction
- 52 Poles for your first mate?

- 54 Alicia of *Falcon Crest*
- 55 Source of this puzzle's quote who just came out
- 59 Clubs for Cubs
- 61 Shore of Palm Springs
- 62 Movie theater
- 63 Used a forked tongue
- 64 *Family Ties* mother
- 65 Friendly opening
- 66 Slips up
- 67 Log Cabin list, e.g.
- 68 Type of personal lubricant

Down

- 1 Card game with tricks
- 2 "Java" trumpeter
- 3 Casablanca dirt
- 4 When nymphomaniacs need sex
- 5 Singer Anita
- 6 Drivers get off on it
- 7 Title used by Uncle Remus
- 8 "Take it off!"
- 9 Succeeds a la Log Cabin
- 10 Like a queen
- 11 *A Chorus Line* song
- 12 Dick, for short
- 13 Hrs. in P-town
- 21 Try a Rick Rodgers cookbook, e.g.
- 22 Three R's org.
- 25 TV newsman Brit
- 26 Miss in a Cole Porter song
- 27 Whitman and Dickinson
- 29 It may come before long
- 30 Catch them in South Beach
- 31 Patron of Ire.
- 34 Cube designer Rubik
- 36 Like Cary Grant
- 37 One who worships someone other than the Divine Miss M?
- 38 Elite Navy diver
- 39 Sexual tail
- 40 Watts in King Kong's hand
- 41 Not terminal
- 44 Hard top
- 45 Napped leather materials
- 47 Powder for bottoms
- 48 Town in da Vinci's land
- 49 Balls
- 51 Govt. promissory note
- 53 Hagar's dog
- 56 *Lord of the Rings* singer
- 57 Avoid premature ejaculation
- 58 Golden showers cry?
- 60 Radical org. of the '60s

Solution on Page 30

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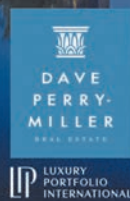
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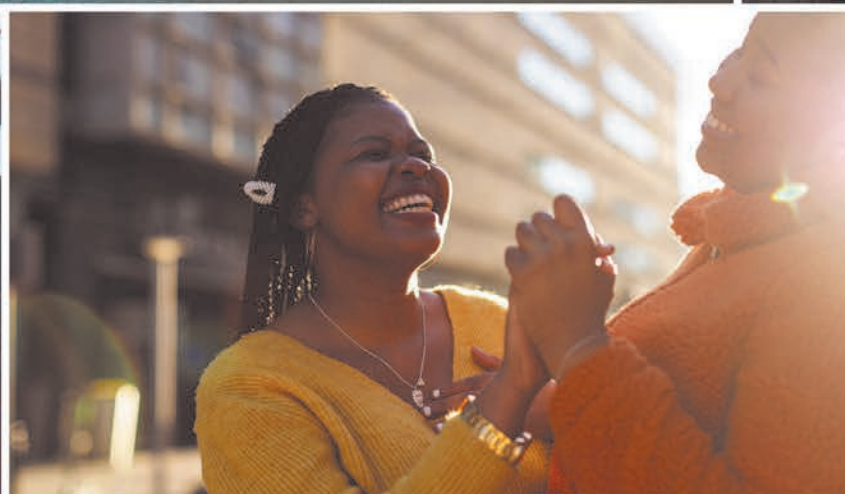
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