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The Dallas Voice
Established 1984

Dallas, Texas
Friday, June 23, 2023

'It was the '90s'

Gay comedian Kevin James Thornton
brings his unique brand of comedy to
the Addison Improv

By Rich Lopez, page 8



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Bites from our blog

WHAT'S THE TEA: DallasVoice.com



Kim Petras

Kim Petras coming to Dallas

This fall is gonna get a bit “Unholy.” Live Nation announced Wednesday, June 21, that Grammy-winner Kim Petras is embarking on her *Feed the Beast World Tour* and that the tour will include a Nov. 13 stop at Dallas’ South Side Ballroom.

Tickets for the show go on sale Monday, June 26, at 10 a.m. local time. Live Nation also announced its presale will begin at 10 a.m. Friday, June 23.

For more ticket information visit Ticketmaster.com.

For more information on upcoming concerts in DFW, check the latest *Queer Music News* blog at DallasVoice.com.

— Rich Lopez

Julie Johnson launches congressional bid

Texas state Rep. Julie Johnson, one of the founders of the Texas LGBTQ Caucus, announced Tuesday morning, June 20, that she is running to fill Texas’ 32nd Congressional District seat in Washington, D.C. And on Wednesday afternoon, June 21, Johnson announced that her campaign had already raised more than \$275,000 in the first 24 hours.

Johnson is running to replace Democratic incumbent U.S. Rep. Colin Allred, who is challenging incumbent Ted Cruz for one of two Texas seats in the U.S. Senate.

Johnson, who is in her third term in the Texas House, tweeted Tuesday: “Julie Johnson is running for Congress because our communities are under attack. From every table — the kitchen,



Julie Johnson

the courtroom, & the Texas Legislature — Julie knows how to get the job done and how to win the toughest battles. Julie will make Washington work for you. #ImWithJulie”

She entered the congressional race with the endorsement of the Human Rights Campaign, Equality PAC and LPAC as well as with the backing of the Texas AFT chapter of the American Federation of Teachers, the Texas Hospital Association, multiple members of the U.S. House and Texas House.

— David Taffet

Judges strike down anti-trans laws, policies in 2 states

Two federal district judges ruling in different cases this week struck down an Arkansas law banning gender-affirming care for transgender youth and a Florida state health care rule, linked to a new state law, banning the use of Medicaid funds to pay for gender-affirming health care.

In Florida on Wednesday, June 21, Judge Robert Hinkle, ruling in *Dekker v. Weida*, ordered the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration to end enforcement of the discriminatory ban initiated last August. Hinkle’s ruling also nullified the section of Florida’s recently-enacted SB 254 that similarly banned state funding for Medicaid coverage of gender-affirming health care.

And in Arkansas on Tuesday, June 20, in *Brandt et al v. Rutledge et al*, U.S. District Judge James M. Moody Jr. found that an Arkansas law banning gender-affirming care for transgender youth violates the constitutional rights of transgender youth, their parents and their medical providers, held that plaintiffs prevailed on all their claims and found that the ban violated the Equal Protection Clause, the Due Process Clauses, and the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Moody had issued a temporary injunction last August barring enforcement of the ban as the legal challenge continued, and that injunction was



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Gov. Greg Abbott

upheld by a three-judge panel on the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. His ruling this week makes that injunction permanent.

— Tammye Nash

Abbott signs bill banning sexually explicit performances

Gov. Greg Abbott this week signed a bill that

was originally aimed at drag shows but now targets all sexually explicit performances in front of minors. That would make all performances by the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders illegal.

The Cowboys could face a \$10,000 fine per violation and each of the cheerleaders could be charged with a Class A misdemeanor that could result in a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

The bill originally targeted drag queens, but in

March wording in the bill was changed and expanded what the state considers sexual conduct. Drag performers argue the amended legislation still targets them. But with the current wording, sexual conduct would certainly include groups like the Cowboys Cheerleaders who perform in front of a lot more minors than drag queens do and whose uniforms barely cover just part of their breasts. Right-wing groups would call that “grooming,” meaning trying to change the sexual orientation of unsuspecting gay youth.

“Children, who cannot make decisions on their own, must be protected from this scourge facing our state,” said Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick.

Tennessee, Montana and Florida passed laws specifically aimed at drag performances. Texas is the only state, so far, that broadened the wording to include filthy, bare-breast performances by its professional football teams’ cheerleading squads.

The law goes into effect on Sept. 1.

— David Taffet

■ Adoptable / LADY DOGIVA



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Until the end of June, all adoptions for animals six months and older are only \$25 at the SPCA of Texas' Dallas Animal Care Center, 2400 Lone Star Drive, and the Ellis County Animal Care Center, 2570 FM Road 878 in Waxahachie. 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. Adoption fees vary for small mammals, equestrian and livestock.

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The power of the (vindictive) veto

Determined to get his way on property tax relief, Greg Abbott has a tantrum and vetoes 76 unrelated bills

Rep. Jessica Gonzalez, a Democrat from Dallas and founding member of the Texas LGBTQ Caucus, authored a bill in the Texas Legislature's 2023 regular session to broaden the scope of current human trafficking laws to include protections for disabled individuals.

Nothing controversial about that. She even had Republican co-authors on the bill, and the bill passed both houses with wide margins. Because no one supports human trafficking, right?

Well, no. Someone apparently does: Gov. Greg Abbott vetoed the bill.

Vetoed? Was he looking for even stronger language?

No. He was having a tantrum because his version of property tax relief didn't pass the Texas Senate.

Abbott vetoed 76 bills because "other issues aren't as important" as deciding how property tax relief would be delivered.

You know what wasn't vetoed? Transgender discrimination bills. Why? Well apparently something is more important than granting Texans property tax relief, and that is discriminating against trans folks.

Oh, and making sure drag queens are brought under control.

And eliminating non-discrimination ordinances in most of Texas' large cities.

And replacing trained and certified school counselors with religious quacks — I mean unqualified, uncertified, uneducated chaplains.

No one is disagreeing with Abbott that property tax relief is a good idea, considering the state's huge budget surplus. But granting that tax relief has gone into overtime, because so much of the session that ended on May 30 was



David Taffet
Senior Staff Writer

taken up passing anti-trans discrimination.

Had property tax relief been made a priority at the beginning of the session, it would have passed by now.

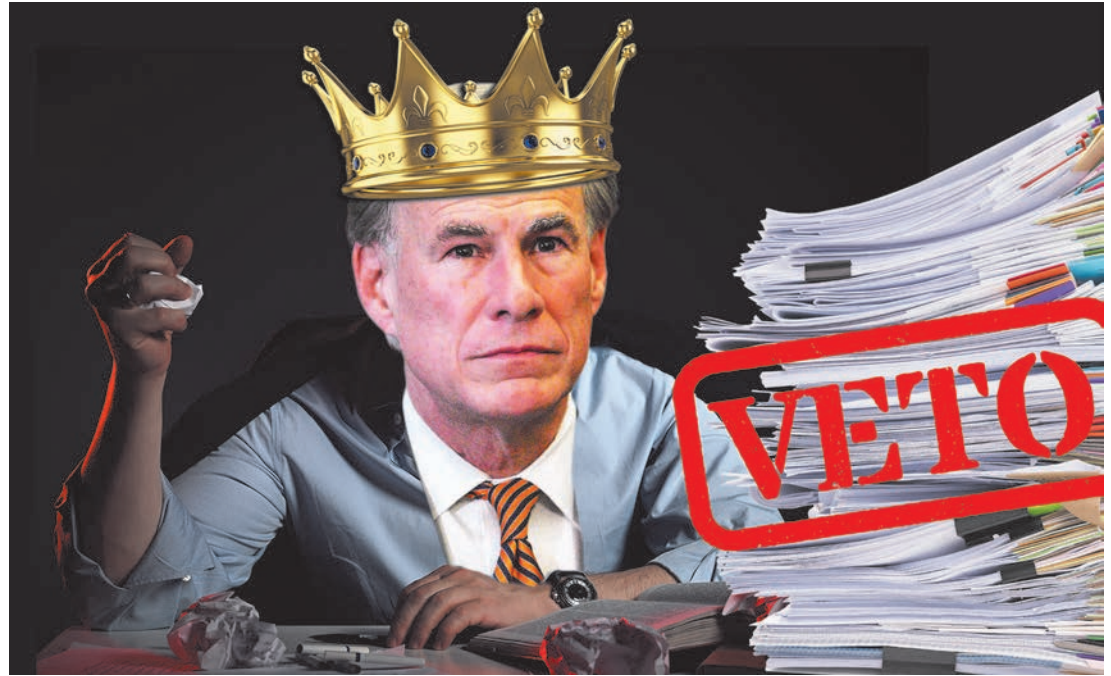
As the regular session ended, Abbott called a special session and said he wanted both houses to focus on delivering property tax relief by sending money directly to school districts to cut local ISD taxes. The House passed the proposal and adjourned. The Senate concentrated on a plan that would increase the homestead exemption and refused to consider the plan Abbott proposed and the House passed.

To make his point, Abbott began vetoing bills.

Those bills include establishing a sickle cell disease registry, which would have kept "accurate, complete records of cases of sickle cell disease to aid in the cure and treatment of sickle cell disease."

Again, nothing controversial. Bipartisan. Helps research. Could save lives. Property tax is more important? Not to people suffering from the effects of sickle cell disease.

Another bill that hit the cutting room floor would have established a Gulf Coast Protection Account. I guess it doesn't matter to the governor whether the land washes away — as long as the owners of that land, or former land, are



paying lower taxes on it.

Many of the bills vetoed affect relatively few people. One them would have created an exemption to allow nonprofit wildlife conservation groups to sell raffle tickets online.

OK, so maybe Abbott is right in this case. Property tax relief may be more important than raffle ticket relief.

But here's where he's wrong, petty and vindictive on all the vetoes: The next "priority" is going to be put off when bills like this one have to be reconsidered, taking up committee time, staff time and floor time to pass again.

Another bill would have addressed the transfer of property between the Texas Military Department and the Palo Pinto County Livestock Association.

I know. You're thinking how deeply anything that happens in Palo Pinto County affects you. But the bill affects better use of land, and delaying consideration of it until a later session wastes some of that money Abbott so desperately wants to return to the pockets of Republican voters.

I mean all voters.

I mean all taxpayers.

Except in Palo Pinto County where their money will be wasted by not addressing the transfer of property from one group that doesn't need it to another group that does.

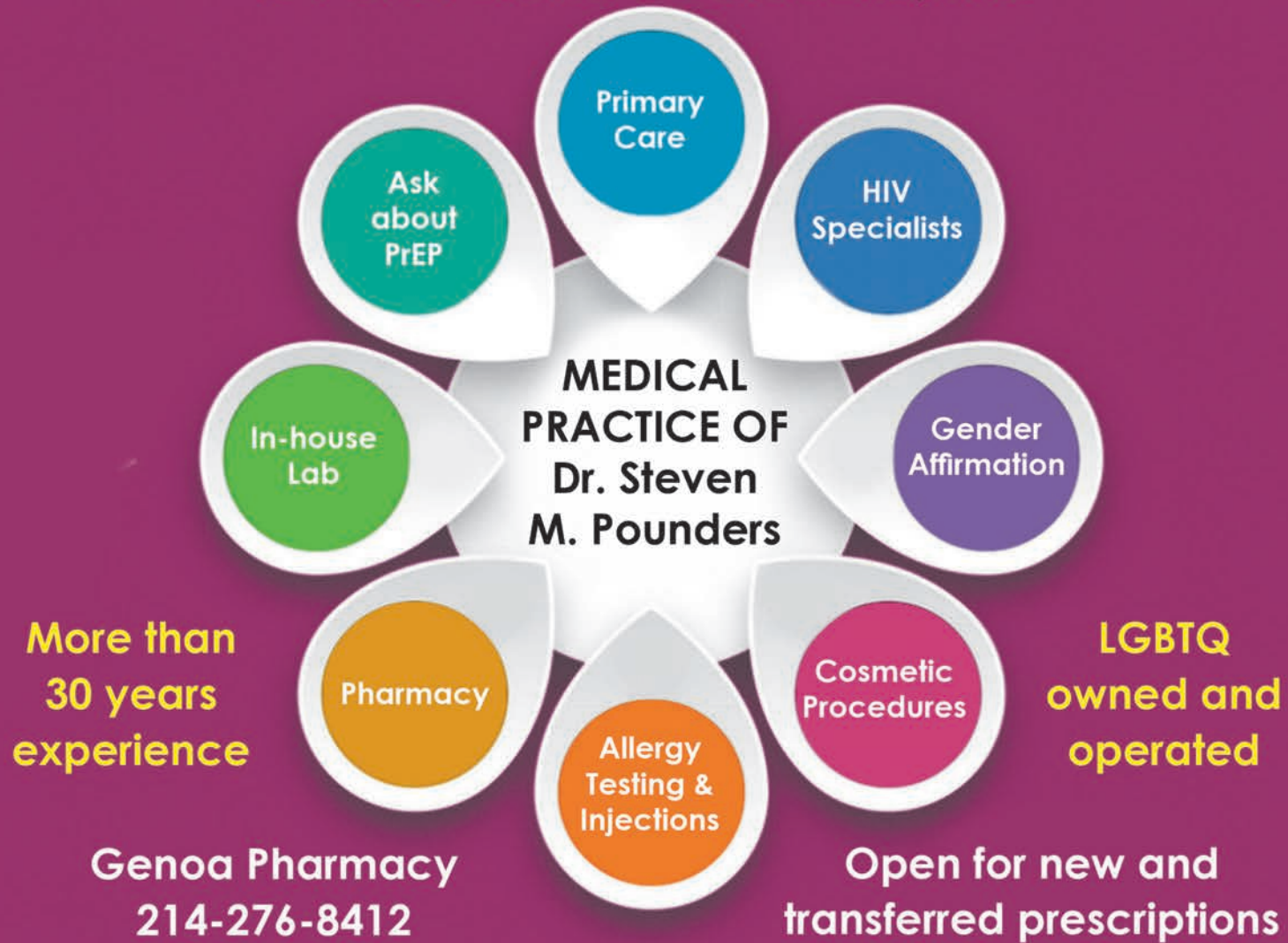
But Abbott is determined to get his way on how property tax relief will be delivered. The average homeowner will save about \$1,400 under the Senate plan but will save about \$1,400 in the House plan.

How that \$1,400 is saved, not whether \$1,400 is saved, is the issue.

The House didn't care which way it worked and voted in favor of the governor's plan to send money directly to school districts. The lieutenant governor is determined to get his way and is insisting on passing his own plan based on increasing the homestead exemption.

So while the stalemate continues, we'll just have to wait another year or more before the second Saturday in October is designated as Hospice and Palliative Care Day, a bill written by Dallas Sen. Nathan Johnson, passed by both houses and vetoed by Abbott — but sure to come up again and take up the Legislature's time. ■

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Beary funny

BEYOND THE STAGE

How TikTok fame helped comic Kevin James Thornton find his voice

RICH LOPEZ | Staff writer
rich@dallasvoice.com

If you've spent any time on TikTok and Instagram scrolling through cat memes, gym misbehavior and dance trends, no doubt you might have come across Kevin James Thornton (well, depending on the algorithms of your life). His personal stories about high school, college and growing up gay in a religious atmosphere all hit close to home.

But his stories always land with a laugh, as his auto-tune delivery and singing have become his signature.

Thornton is no stranger to entertaining the masses or having varying degrees of notoriety. Before his current comic success, Thornton was *this close* to a major label deal with his country band Indiana Queen some years ago. Thornton had his own site devoted to queer country music and has written for Huffington Post. He even has his own photography studio and podcast.

But with more than one million followers and some 500 million views across the social media platforms, he's found which side of the bread to butter.

He brings his stories and jokes to Dallas on Thursday, June 29, at the Addison Improv. He spoke with Dallas Voice about finding his place thanks to a pandemic and social media.

Dallas Voice: You've had a varied life of music, photography, writing and now comedy. How do you reflect on all these creative chapters? Kevin James Thornton: I turn 50 in a couple of months, and I've been at "it" for a long time. Life was just breezing by, so I started saying "yes" to everything. I've learned a lot of weird skills along the way — especially living in Nashville — and I have lots of friends who kept me going.

The pandemic threw everything awry



for creatives. Like many others, you found a silver lining in social media.

Everything changed. I had done one-man shows and standup, so I had a lot of stories in my pocket already. I got on TikTok, and I saw other people doing funny things. But I wasn't really trying to do anything.

That's so ironic because you definitely blew up on social media with your humor and stories — and the autotune.

Putting the autotune in was this weird afterthought. I made a couple of videos with my stories, and it got a fast and big reaction. But at the same time, it was the real natural evolution.

What lessons do you feel like you're learning now at this moment? I'm really enjoying this phase of my life, and, truthfully and more importantly, I've found my thing. I really love what I'm doing. After all this time, getting on stage and making people laugh is it.

Was there that moment when you kinda realized you can make people laugh? Looking back, it's easier to see than when I was in the moment. I was very much the class clown and had those ridiculous

religious bits and all the signifiers of that time, because "it was the nineties." I was super repressed as a teen growing up in a religious way. It was before *Will & Grace*, before the internet. I didn't really have a coming out moment. I finished college and moved to Nashville as a homo. It took a few years, but I eventually got a record deal.

You were determined to be an out musician with Indiana Queen. Yeah, this was around 1999-2000. I was very out and immediately so. I was told not to do that, and maybe they were right. That deal fell apart. I love music, but it's so intertwined with my sexuality and still is today with comedy. I started my one-man show around that time so that was the beginning of all this.

Do you reflect on how something like TikTok has you touring across Europe and the country and with sell out shows now? I toured about 15 years ago, and I had moved to Los Angeles and then hit the road for comedy festivals. But TikTok really opened the doors, especially after the pandemic. I signed with an agency, and I've been on tour continuously for the past two years. It's all been this kind of great experiment.



moments in high school. You can see that a lot easier looking backward.

A lot of what hits with your comedy are the coming out stories, growing up re-

Thornton performs at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Addison Improv. ImprovTx.com.

Queer Palooza

COMMUNITY EXPO

Unleashed LGBTQ brings famous queer faces to Dallas this fall

RICH LOPEZ | Staff writer
rich@dallasvoice.com

This September, *Unleashed LGBTQ* will bring all the LGBTQ-plusses to the yard. The interactive event is slated to be a monumental one featuring queer celebrities, politicians, influencers and more to Dallas — all in one weekend. *Unleashed LGBTQ* will be like a circuit party but with guest speakers and panelists that will discuss and advocate for the community's future.

The event will be held Sept. 22-24 at Gilley's.



Among those appearing at *Unleashed LGBTQ* will be, from left, Shangela, Kelly Ann Winget, Stacey Stevenson and Brian Sims.

"There are so many amazing LGBTQ+ artists, thought leaders, brands," *Unleashed* creator Wesley Smoot said in an email, "[that] we really wanted to make a safe space for all of them to connect."

The event is open to adults 18 and older, and, throughout its three-day event, guests can not only attend to see names such as Billy Eichner, Indya Moore, Shangela and Brian Sims, but also connect and learn more about community campaigns in technology, fashion, travel, entertainment and more.

"Our first live, in-person, event is going to create a synergy between talent, the business community and the entertainment industry in a way no LGBTQ+ event has ever done before," Smoot said in a press release. "Companies sending representatives to our event will be able to take advantage of all opportunities available, whether it's for educational purposes, networking or entertainment, LGBTQ+ professionals or others focused on allyship, will reap the benefits of our educational and entertainment-based lineup."

The list of guest speakers is an impressive one, as is the schedule. Live interviews, a cooking demonstration by *Queer Eye's* Antoni Porowski, brunch, happy hours and a number of paneled discussions. This September will be like a queer Coachella fest only with way less music and no desert sand.

Smoot felt the distinct goal of community was what attracted big named stars to *Unleashed*.

"I think many of them were taken by the idea of us creating an environment and platform where they can share their

latest project, whether film, series, book, album," he mentioned. "We invite a lot of press, influencers, bloggers to attend. They, in turn, share with their audiences. I know many attendees will be excited to see live interviews with celebrities like Antoni Porowski, Indya Moore and Billy Eichner, but we have also been getting a lot of buzz on the educational topics and networking opportunities *Unleashed* offers."

As of press time, the schedule includes 14 headliners events (see current schedule in sidebar). The event will include local luminaries including Dallas Museum of Art's Brad Pritchett, Readers Voice ally winner Leanne Locken and lifestyle guru Steve Kemble.

With anti-LGBTQ politics moving at breakneck speed, *Unleashed LGBTQ* is perhaps more significant for not only Dallas, but Texas as well.

"There are some notable speakers and panelists that are part of our programming including, Kelly Ann Winget who gives great insight on what women experience in the finance world; Brian Sims who has been very vocal on LGBTQ+ rights since his days as a Pennsylvania state representative," Smoot stated. "We have great representation with the trans community that includes Naomi Green and Ashley Brundage who will offer impactful discussions.

"There are two survivors of the Pulse

'Unleashed LGBTQ' schedule

Unleashed LGBTQ, a conference of queer celebrities, influencers and more will take place Sept. 22-24 at Gilley's in Dallas.

The schedule and guests as of press time include the following:

Friday, Sept. 22

- 2 p.m. NASCAR racer Zach Herrin live interview.
- 3 p.m. Keynote with Stacey Stevenson, Family Equality and "Growing Up LGBTQ+ in the Rural South."
- 3:30 p.m. Naomi Green, "Fact vs. Fiction: The Truth about the Transgender Community and Why We Need Allies to Help Tell Our Stories."
- 4 p.m. *Pose* star Indya Moore live interview.
- 5 p.m. Live interview with Shangela.
- 6 p.m. Cocktail hour with thought leaders and professionals.
- 7 p.m. Former state Rep. and Managing Director for Out Leadership Brian Sims live interview.
- 8 p.m. Music showcase

Saturday, Sept. 23

- 11 a.m. Live interview with "The Butt Doctor" from TikTok and Instagram, Dr. Carlton.
- Noon: Network lunch
- 1 p.m. "Marketing to the Rainbow" panel discussion with Pink Media founder Matt Skallerud.
- 3 p.m. Live interview with *Mean Girls* and *Looking* actor Daniel Franzese.
- 4 p.m. Out Magazine cover conversation with special guests.
- 5 p.m. Cooking demonstration with *Queer Eye* food and wine expert Antoni Porowski.
- 6 p.m. *Unleashed LGBTQ+* Happy Hour.
- 7 p.m. Live interview with *Bros* and *Billy on the Street* star Billy Eichner.
- 8 p.m. Musical guest

Sunday, Sept. 24

- Noon: Author Ashley Brundage speaks on impacting change.
- 2 p.m. Black Tie Dinner's Brad Pritchett discusses LTD's history and future.
- 3 p.m. "The Pink Dollar: Queer Money" is Powerful panel discussion with Kelly Ann Winget.
- 5 p.m. Live interview with *Pose* and *American Horror Story* star Dyllon Burnside.
- 6 p.m. Appearances by Leanne Locken and Steve Kemble.

More events and guests to be announced at UnleashedLGBTQ.com.

The legacy continues

CHARITY

The Tony Bobrow Trust distributed more than \$250M in donations to five local nonprofits this week, with more donations coming

Harvey Meissner, co-trustee of The Anthony Bobrow Trust as well as president and general manager of The Hidden Door, recently presented checks totalling more than a quarter-million dollars to five local nonprofits providing services to the LGBTQ and HIV/AIDS communities in North Texas.

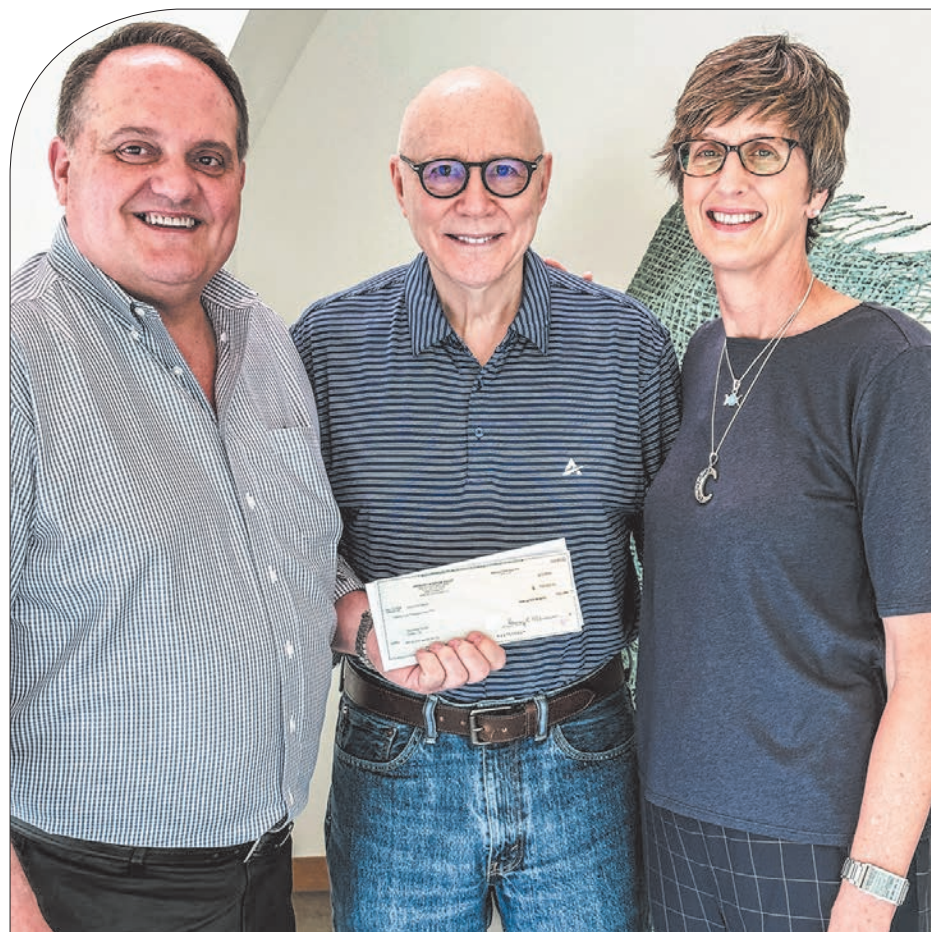
The trust, established by the estate of Hidden Door owner Tony Bobrow following his death in February 2018, is funded in part by proceeds from The Hidden Door. The trust made its first round of donations to community organizations in May that same year.

In the most recent round of donations, Meissner presented checks to A.I.N., Legacy Cares/Legacy Founders Cottage, Cathedral Charities, AIDS Services of Dallas and Resource Center.

Since those first donations in May 2018 and including these most recent donations, Meissner said, "With these we've put more than \$2.3 million back into our community."

The trust was set to finalize another \$60,000 donation this week, he added, "with at least \$50,000 planned for later this year."

Meissner said, "That provides



Harvey Meissner with Bill Scott and Cece Cox at Resource Center

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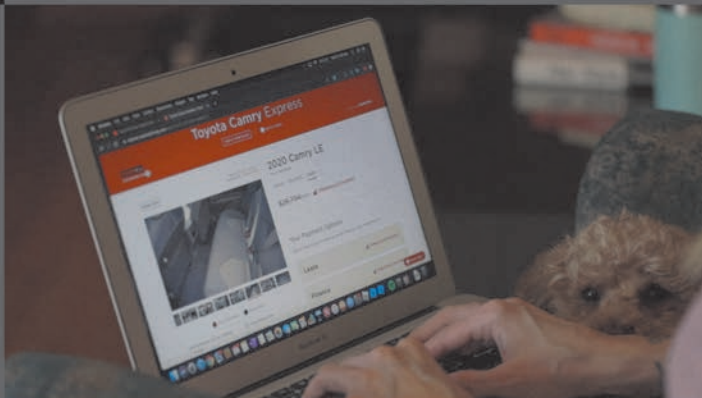
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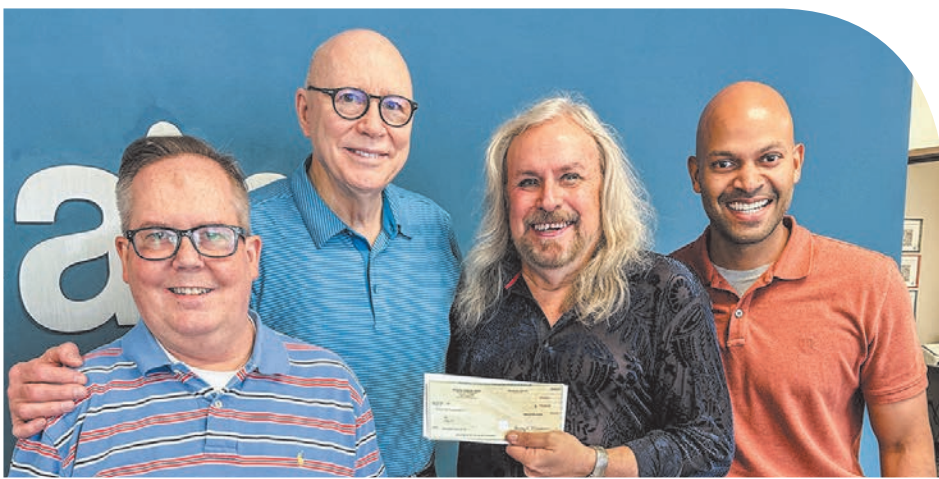
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LIVE NATION



Harvey Meissner presents The Tony Bobrow Trust's latest donation to A.I.N. staff members

life-saving and life-changing assistance to thousands in Dallas County each year. We also support groups in Tony's hometown — Teague, Texas — with well over \$350,000 in donations there since 2018. That calculates at \$100 per resident [that is] not included in the Dallas totals.

"Our customers make this possible, and thanks go to them," Meissner continued. "Almost all the profits of The Hidden Door are paid to the Trust to allow contributions like these. The trust has very minimal operating expenses."

He concluded, "Tony Bobrow made sure his trust was well-funded; we shared significantly more than our usual level of donations during the COVID crisis. Its work will continue at least into the 2030s, [and] successor trustees are already named and in place to continue to meet the goals Tony left us.

"The Hidden Door is celebrating its 45th year of service this year, and we intend to confirm our slogan — 'Friendliest bar in Texas' — every day with every customer."

— Tammye Nash



PALOOZA, From Page 9



Also set to appear at *Unleashed LGBTQ* are, from left, Billy Eichner, Indya Moore, Ashlet Brundage and Antoni Porowski.

Nightclub shooting that will talk about their experience that night and the work they are doing with One Pulse Foundation. Even a gay Nascar driver — I think we can all imagine how difficult it could be to be a stock car racer in a sport that is so inherently conservative. It's more important now than ever to have these conversations."

Smoot is sure to note that *Unleashed* isn't just about the famous faces bringing their experiences to Dallas for people to see, but also an opportunity for

attendees to take something away from the event.

"We have dedicated an entire area to workshops for attendees to learn new skills from today's thought leaders, and we're confident companies sending entire departments to *Unleashed LGBTQ 2023* will have a more informed, supercharged team that will be lightyears ahead of other brands," he said in the release.

For more information or to register, visit UnleashedLGBTQ.com.





MD PROGRESSIVE CARE

Luis Valdes Castillo, FNP-C,
has joined Dr. Marc Tribble at MD Progressive Care, located in the heart of the Oak Lawn community. Luis has over 12 years of medical experience. His areas of clinical interest include primary care, Diabetes treatment, HIV Treatment & Prevention (PrEP), STD treatment, and LGBT care. He is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and the American Academy of HIV Medicine. He accepts all major medical insurance plans and speaks English & Spanish.

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Saints, Sinners, Lovers, and Fools: 300 Years of Flemish Masterworks is co-organized by the Denver Art Museum and The Phoebus Foundation, Antwerp (Belgium). The exhibition is co-presented by Texas Instruments and PNC Bank and is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. The Dallas Museum of Art is supported, in part, by the generosity of DMA Members and donors, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the citizens of Dallas through the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture.

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Image: *A Wreath of Flowers Surrounding a Cartouche with the Holy Family (detail)*, 1660. Jan van Kessel. Oil on canvas. 56 7/8 x 44 1/8 in. © The Phoebus Foundation, Antwerp.

Mamas on guard

BEYOND THE SILVER SCREEN



Kimberly Shappley and her transgender daughter Kai are featured in the documentary *Mama Bears*, which premiered this week on PBS.

Documentary 'Mama Bears' highlights the efforts of once-conservative Christian mamas to protect their transgender kids

MELISSA WHITLER |
Dallas Voice Editorial Intern
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The full-length documentary *Mama Bears* premiered on PBS this week and is now available to stream on the PBS app. The film follows the story of a few "Mama Bears," a group of mothers that grew up conservative Christians but who are now challenging their communities and their faith to support their LGBTQ children.

Documentary director Daresha Kyi first came across the organization through a Facebook post and learned that there were chapters all across the country, composed of conservative Christians who had overcome what

they were taught to speak out on behalf of LGBTQ rights. Kyi said she wanted to document these families because of all the anti-LGBTQ legislation that was being introduced and hoped the film would be a conversation starter.

When Kyi first started reaching out online to see who would be interested in participating in the documentary, she said she got an overwhelming number of responses. Even those who did not wish to have their lives told so publicly told Kyi, "Thank you for sharing our stories."

There was such a strong connection between all these women, who, because of their Christian backgrounds, found testimonial to be really important. For them, sharing your journey is irrefutable, Kyi said. There were similarities across all the responses, as the mothers had overcome isolation in rural communities where it felt like their children were the only ones.

Yet LGBTQ people exist everywhere and deserve to feel supported and loved.

Kyi said she originally began the project with one idea about who these communities were, but quickly found

she was wrong. Rather than operating from a place of hatred, these conservative Christians were basing their actions on what they had learned from their churches, and they were coming from a place of wanting to help.

Kyi said she found that, for people who really believed in the existence of Satan and hell, the motivating factor was doing whatever they could to keep their child from going to hell. The process of transformation away from this harm was a long journey filled with risk and pain, and Kyi said she discovered the importance of allowing grace and compassion for parents to take their own journey.

Kimberly Shappley is one of the mothers who has undergone this journey. Her daughter, Kai, came out eight years ago when she was only four years old. The family was living in Texas when the bathroom bill was first introduced here, just before Kai started kindergarten.

Shappley remembers that time as being a blur, as the family went from a normal, quiet life to being heavily involved in Texas politics. Many people were telling Shappley that her story would



be impactful, so when Kyi reached out, Shappley agreed.

She said she remembers feeling very numb at first, just going through the motions, but working with the film crew actually helped bring peace. Kai really connected with the crew, and, her mother says, she was born for this. Her first book, *Joy, to the World*, came out this past May, and, since the release, Kai has done lots of personal interviews by herself.

As can be seen in the film, fighting in Texas for LGBTQ rights has created a strong community. In addition to Mama Bears meet-ups, people have been coming together in Austin to protest legislation. These mothers support each other through the difficulties they and their kids face.

Shappley recalls a moment from the film when well-known trans advocate Monica Roberts sat with her at the dining table and offered her encouragement. She still needs that encouragement every day, Shappley says, with how much worse things have gotten.

Since the recording of the documentary, the family has had to leave Texas so that Kai could continue to receive support after trans health care bans were passed. Shappley stays in contact with her chosen family who still remain in the state, but, she said, she misses the com-

munity. The move has been an adjustment for the whole family, but Kai keeps in touch with her friends from back home, and Kimberly continues her work as a nurse seeing her Texas patients through telemedicine.

Yet Kai is still not guaranteed safety.

Shappley continues to make plans in case the family has to flee the U.S. altogether, as anti-trans legislation has already been filed at the federal level. As it turns out, the northern states are not the safe haven they were once thought to be.

When leaving Texas, the family first

settled in New Haven, Conn. As soon as they got there, they found out about lawsuits against schools for transphobia. Kai did not receive the support she needed there, and she faced horrific bullying and transphobia.

So the family had to move again and were getting settled at their new home. Shappley says she would have had Kai “go stealth” from the beginning if she had known how bad things would get. But with things as they are, she wants Kai to tell her story and be herself, and leave the worrying to her mother.

Mama Bears is a film about unconditional love, and it highlights families who are doing what they can to support their LGBTQ children. Kyi said she hopes it will continue to educate people on how harmful conservative rhetoric is and how high the stakes are.

During one screening, Kyi recalled, she met a woman who had a non-binary grandchild. The woman had been having trouble understanding and accepting her grandchild, but after the film, she said that she gets it and has since joined her local Mama Bears group.

Shappley said that the documentary really captured heart of the story, and she hopes it will continue to reach people with LGBTQ kids who don’t know what to do. ■



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Pitts makes history

IN THE COURTS

Senate confirms 1st gay judge to federal district court in San Francisco

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@mac.com

The U.S. Senate this month confirmed a gay man to a federal district court seat in San Francisco, marking the first time an openly gay nominee has been appointed to the district court for what is often considered the world's gayest city.

The U.S. Senate confirmed Patrick Casey Pitts by a vote of 53-46 on June 14, with only two Republicans — Susan Collins of Maine and Lindsey Graham

of South Carolina — voting yes. The no votes included both senators from Texas and both senators from Florida.

The only Republican presidential candidate in the Senate, Tim Scott of South Carolina, did not vote.

Pitts is a labor-side attorney and partner in the public interest law firm of Altshuler Berzon in San Francisco. He will now join the district court for the Northern District of California, covering San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose and Eureka.

Pitts' confirmation makes him the seventh openly LGBT federal district court appointee nominated by President Biden. President Obama had named only three openly LGBT judges to federal district court seats by his second year, but he eventually named 10 in all.

In February, the Senate confirmed three other openly LGBT judges nom-

inated by Biden to a federal district bench: Daniel Calabretta, to the Eastern District of California (in Sacramento); Ana C. Reyes, to the District of D.C., and Gina R. Mendez-Miro, to the District of Puerto Rico.

President Biden has also appointed two lesbians to the Second Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals (Beth Robinson and Alison Nathan). The Senate approved Calabretta on a vote of 51-45 (four not voting), Reyes on a vote of 51-47 and Mendez-Miro on a vote of 54-45.

And in March, the Senate confirmed Jamar K. Walker on a 52-41 vote (seven not voting) to a district court seat for the Eastern District of Virginia, in Norfolk.

Biden nominated most of these district court judges last fall, and some court watchers posting comments on various websites predicted the nominations would fail. Many polls in fall of 2022

were suggesting Republicans would regain control of the Senate and reject President Biden's nominees.

But Democrats held onto the Senate last November, and the nominations were resubmitted with the start of the new Congressional session.

Six Republican senators posed 187 questions to Pitts through written queries, asking about various judicial issues and cases. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas asked Pitts to explain his understanding of several gay-related opinions at the Supreme Court, including *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado* and *Fulton v. Philadelphia*. Each time, Pitts simply relayed the basic points of the majority opinion.

Cruz also pressed him repeatedly on decisions involving religious views, such as on the Supreme Court's approval of post-game prayer on a public high school football field. Pitts again simply

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Newly-confirmed federal district judge Patrick Casey Pitts

restated each opinion's basic points.

Sen. Mike Lee of Utah made note of a paper Pitts had co-authored. Entitled "Applying *Bostock* to Bargaining, Benefits, and Litigation," the paper discussed

the landmark decision written by Justice Neil Gorsuch that held "An employer who fires an individual merely for being gay or transgender defies" Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act. Lee quoted a

line from the article which stated that the opinion was based on Gorsuch's "belief that the meaning of 'sex' had to be determined by reference to its 'original public meaning . . . at the time of [Title VII's] enactment' in 1964."

"Do you agree with Justice Gorsuch's 'belief' that words should be defined according to original public meaning? Or should meaning change as social norms and linguistic conventions evolve?" asked Lee.

Pitts replied that the Supreme Court's 2020 decision in *Bostock v. Clayton County* held that courts "normally interpret a statute in accordance with the ordinary public meaning of its terms at the time of its enactment."

"If confirmed, I will faithfully apply binding Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit precedents regarding statutory interpretation, including *Bostock*."

Pitts graduated from Yale University and Yale University Law School. He clerked for Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Stephen Reinhardt, then joined the Altshuler Berzon law firm. Pitts participated in activities of Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom and helped the National Center for Les-

bian Rights represent a trans-man in Louisiana whose employer ordered they present as female at work.

Pitts was also lead author of a brief in the Sixth Circuit, opposing a law banning same-sex marriage. And he has been a member of San Francisco's gay running group, the Frontrunners, since 2013. The American Bar Association rated Pitts "qualified" for the job.

President Biden has now appointed a total of nine LGBT judges to the federal bench (two appeals court and seven district court). President Obama appointed 11 (one appeals court and 10 district court); President Trump appointed two (one appeals, one district).

While Pitts is the first openly gay nominee to be confirmed to the federal district court in San Francisco, Judge Vaughn Walker came out as gay after retiring from his seat on the San Francisco federal district court. Walker presided over and ruled in the case challenging the constitutionality of Proposition 8, a voter-approved initiative to ban same-sex marriage. He ruled the initiative to be unconstitutional.

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Pride at Cedar Creek Lake!

Splash

Kick off Party

Friday, June 23rd | 7pm - 10pm

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Party on the Lake

Saturday, June 24th | 2pm

at South Beach

Stock the boat and invite your friends, let's make a *Splash* at the 2nd annual **Pride at Cedar Creek Lake**

Southeast Side of the Damm | Right Side of the Ramp



Turtle Creek Chorale members perform their What Happens in Vegas concert Thursday and Friday, June 29-30, at 7:30 p.m. each night at the Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. Tickets start at \$25 to see the Turtles celebrate "Sin City" with music "from Sinatra to Celine, from Britney to boy bands, from Elton to Elvis," available online at TurtleCreekChorale.my.salesforce-sites.com.

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

■ **Weekly: Frontrunners**

Running club for the LGBTQ community and allies of DFW. Meet at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesdays and 8:30 a.m. on Saturdays at the corner of Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard in Turtle Creek Park for a one-hour walk/run on the Katy Trail.

JUNE

■ **June 23: 'Turn Up the Love Tour'**

AT&T and Dallas Pride present the *Turn Up The Love Tour* featuring performances by Years & Years, Wrabel, Kalechi and more, with Carmen Carrera hosting. Market opens at 5 p.m., performances start at 7 p.m. at the AT&T Discovery District, 308 S. Akard St. Admission is free but registration is required at TurnUpTheLove.com/events.

■ **June 23: Pride Panel: The State of LGBTQIA+ Care**

Spend an evening with Dallas Contemporary and Dallas Hope Charities in honor of Pride Month with

our third annual Pride Panel. The event begins with a free printmaking workshop led by Dallas-based artist Scout Ryman. Then Collective Hope Coalition members and other community leaders host an open dialogue about how they navigate providing LGBTQ affirming care in the midst of our current political climate. Moderated by HRC's Stephen Merritt. Printmaking at 6 p.m. Panel at 7 p.m. at Dallas Contemporary, 161 Glass St.

■ **June 23: Gay Pride Shabbat**

Congregation Beth El Binah celebrates the ancient biblical holiday Gay Pride Shabbat at 7:30 p.m. at Northaven Church, 11211 Preston Road. Everyone welcome.

■ **June 23: Chita Rivera**

The Broadway icon will bring her signature showtunes and more to the Eisemann Center in Richardson. EisemannCenter.com.

■ **June 23-July 26: 'The Butterfly's Evil Spell' by Hip Pocket Theatre**

Gay poet Federico Garcia Lorca's story about unrequited love plays out in a whimsical setting of insects at this outdoor Fort Worth stage. HipPocket.org.

■ **June 24: Resource Center Pride**

Celebrate Pride with Resource Center's second community block party. Interactive exhibits for the whole family to enjoy, games, food trucks, live performances and more. On this day, we honor our history and celebrate our beautiful rainbow LGBTQIA+ community, including the trailblazing work of Resource Center. From 1-4 p.m. at the Community Center, 5750 Cedar Spring Road.

■ **June 24: Trinity Pride Fest**

Trinity Pride Fest 2023 is from 6-10 p.m. at Magnolia Green Park, 1100 Lipscomb St., with live music, local food, a vendor market and more. Sponsored by Frank Kent Cadillac. Admission is free.

■ **June 24: Ride for Pride**

Bike ride and health and safety fair. Ride with Dallas police and city council members at 9 a.m. The bike ride begins and ends at Reverchon Recreation Center. The fair runs 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Bike repair lessons, free food, live DJ, raffles. Show your pride and decorate your bike. Reverchon Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave.

■ **June 24: IMPACT Luncheon**

Texas Pride Impact Funds presents a deep dive into its programs. The luncheon is free. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Pegasus Park Conference Center, 3000 Pegasus Park Drive, 1st floor. RSVP at TPIFDonorEvent.kimbia.com/impactevent.

■ **June 24: Houston Pride**

■ **June 24: Pride at Cedar Creek Lake**

Make a splash at South Beach on Cedar Creek Lake at 2 p.m. South Beach is on the southeast side of the dam and the right side of the ramp.

■ **June 24: Pride-Dye Day**

Celebrate Pride by tie-dyeing a shirt in honor of Pride Month at Old City Park, 1515 S. Harwood St. Entry fee is \$200 and includes a white shirt and dye, entry into the best tie-dyed shirt contest and entry in the raffle. Includes music, games and water activities. Sign up at Jotform.com/form.231515354943153.

■ **June 24: Cantina Dolls Drag Brunch**

Lava Cantina presents Cantina Dolls Drag Brunch featuring Trinity the Tuck and Naysha Lopez performing with Jenni P, Krystal Summers, Blue Valentine, Barbie Davenport and Shasta Montana. Meet-and-greet opportunities available; bottomless mimosas at select tables. Doors open at 11 a.m.; show starts at noon. For ages 18 and up only. Tickets available at EventBrite.com.

■ **June 24: Princeton Pride**

Third annual Princeton Pride from noon-4 p.m. at

Princeton High School, 1000 E. Princeton Drive, Princeton.

■ **June 24: Shreveport Q-Prom**

Shrevepride's flagship event and preeminent Pride month party.

■ **June 24: A Midsummer Night's Drag Show**

Grayson Pride presents an adult-only drag show from 8-10 p.m. at Austin College Ida Green Theatre, Sherman. Tickets and info at facebook.com/events

■ **June 24: Texas Juried Exhibition**

10th annual Texas Juried Exhibition with opening reception and awards announcement from 4-7 p.m. at Artspace111, 111 Hampton St., Fort Worth. Tickets at [Eventbrite](https://Eventbrite.com).

■ **June 25: The Queer Club**

Fern Connections presents a book club at 2 p.m. the last Sunday of every month. Register at FernConnections.com/events.

■ **June 25: Drag Brunch**

DIFFADallas will receive 10 percent of proceeds from drag brunch featuring *Drag Race* royalty each Sunday in June at noon at Electric Shuffle, 2615 Elm St.

■ **June 25: Revelers Hall**

Revelers Hall Band from 2-5 p.m., Dezi 5 and super glam drag queens from 5-8 p.m. and Vandell Andrew from 8-11 p.m. Revelers Hall, 412 N. Bishop Ave. \$10. Tickets at prekindle.com/promo/id/532452769786721260?mc_cid=9057a7f07a&mc_eid=0f0d6b3af8.

■ **June 25: Mr./Miss/Mx Imperial Pride**

The 1851 Club, 931 W. Division St. in Arlington, hosts the Mr./Miss/Mx Imperial Pride pageant, with contestant check-in at 6 p.m. and pageant at 7 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Imperial Court of Fort Worth/Arlington Board of Directors fund. Contact Emperor 25 Kevin Smith or Dowager Emperor 42 Cris Tribble for packet information; for more information visit with event page on Facebook.

■ **June 27-July 2: 'Hadestown'**

Broadway at the Bass presents the Tony-winning best musical *Hadestown*. Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. BassHall.com.

■ **June 28: Eid**

Eid al Adha begins at sundown

■ **June 28: Dallas County LGBTQIA+ Community Resource Fair**

Dallas County hosts a resource fair with community groups, rapid HIV testing, Mpox and COVID

vaccines. Parking validation for people who park in underground garage. From 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on the 1st floor lobby of the Records Building, 500 Elm St.

■ June 28: Same-sex spouse grief group

Grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex spouse or partner meets in person on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8 p.m. at a restaurant or coffee shop. For this month's location, contact Richard DeKnock at tastefullyrichard@gmail.com.

■ June 28: Business Connections North mixer

The LGBT Chamber hosts Collin County Business Connections mixer from 5-7 p.m. at Del Frisco's Grille Plano, 7200 Bishop Road, Ste D9, Plano.

■ June 28: Kevin James Thornton at the Addison Improv

The bearish comedian and photographer made a splash on TikTok with his hilarious autotuned stories about growing up gay and religious. He tells those stories and more in real life at his one night only performance at the Addison Improv. ImprovTx.com.

■ June 28: Fertility Care for Everyone

Dr. Allison Bloom, a renowned reproductive endocrinologist and infertility specialist at Main Line Fertility and LGBTQ advocate shares her expertise in reproductive medicine, address various aspects of fertility, answer participant questions, and offer practical advice tailored to the LGBTQ+ community at 5 p.m. Register for virtual access at https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/4239708/1221E8C0B257C4DBF65D8F9C4BA759C0?utm_source=Social&utm_medium=All&utm_campaign=FertilityCareForAll

■ June 29-30: 'What Happens in Vegas'

Turtle Creek Chorale concert. From Sinatra to Celine. From Britney to boy bands. From Elton to Elvis. Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. Tickets at TurtleCreekChorale.com.

■ June 29-July 4: DaddyLand Festival – Dallas 2023

Daddy Ersin presents the DaddyLand Festival Weekend Mega Music Festival for Daddy Lovers, at the Crowne Plaza Dallas Downtown, 1015 Elm St. Ticket prices vary; weekend packages are available. More information at DaddyLandFestival.com.

■ June 30: 'Transcendence'

Curiosifi presents Transcendence, a queer sci-fi storytelling benefit show, from 8-9:30 p.m. at Rainbow Vomit, 3609 Parry Ave. Tickets are by donation, available at Curiosifi.com. All proceeds benefit House of Rebirth.

JULY

■ Through July 2: 'Cabaret' by Art Centre Theatre

Keep adding these musicals to your Pride calendar because this classic show performed in Plano is pretty much iconic in the queer continuum. ArtCentreTheatre.com.

■ Through July 2: 'I Wanna F*cking Tear You Apart' by Stage West

Sam and Leo are besties until a stranger enters the mix in this regional premiere in Fort Worth. StageWest.org.

■ July 4: Independence Day

■ July 4: Classic Chassis

Classic Chassis Car Club meets 6-8 p.m. at Ojeda's, 4617 Maple Ave.

■ July 7: 'RuPaul's Drag Race Werq the World Tour'

RuPaul's Werq the World 2023 World Tour comes to Grand Prairie with Asia O'Hara and select finalists from Season 15 at the Texas Trust CU Theatre, 1001 Texas Trust Way, Grand Prairie.

■ July 7: 'The Home Edit'

The Home Edit's Clea Shearer and Joanna Teplin hit the road for the Summer of Fun Tour with home organizing ideas. The tour will feature candid conversation and plenty of laughs with the home organizing duo, in addition to deep dives on life, parenting, pop-culture, business and myriad organization solutions. Eisemann Center, Richardson. \$49. TheHomeEdit.com/tour.

■ July 15: Plastic Fantastic: Calling all the Dolls Gaybingo

Gaybingo at 6 p.m. Play for a chance to win cash and prizes. Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets at myresourcecenter.org/gaybingo.

■ July 18: Stonewall Democrats of Dallas

In person and hybrid meeting at 6:30 p.m. at The View, 525 S. Riverfront Ave.

■ July 20: Log Cabin Dallas

Log Cabin Republicans meets for happy hour at 6 p.m and a presentation at 7 p.m. at Mattito's, 3102 Oak Lawn Ave.

■ July 23: Erykah Badu

Dallas favorite Erykah Badu with Yasiin Bey brings her *Unfollow Me Tour* home to the American Airlines Center. UnfollowMeTour.com.

■ July 30: The Queer Club

Fern Connections presents a book club at 2 p.m. the last Sunday of every month. Register at FernConnections.com/events.

AUGUST

■ Aug. 1: Classic Chassis

Classic Chassis Car Club meets 6-8 p.m. at Ojeda's, 4617 Maple Ave.

■ Aug. 12: Landmark Dinner

Celebrate 50 years of Lambda Legal. LambdaLegal.org.

■ Aug. 17: Log Cabin Dallas

Log Cabin Republicans meets with happy hour at 6 p.m and a presentation at 7 p.m. at Mattito's, 3102 Oak Lawn Ave.

■ Aug. 19: Under the Sea Gaybingo

Gaybingo at 6 p.m. Play for a chance to win cash and prizes. Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets at myresourcecenter.org/gaybingo.

■ Aug. 22: Stonewall Democrats of Dallas

In person and hybrid meeting at 6:30 p.m. at The View, 525 S. Riverfront Ave.

■ Aug. 24: Come Out Against Cancer

North Texas Get Screened Campaign to support LGBTQ communities from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Tickets on sale soon.

■ Aug. 26: Fashion Cited

Legal Hospice of Texas hosts its annual fundraiser, Fashion Cited, a fashion show featuring up-and-coming local clothiers and designers at The Empire Room in Dallas.

■ Aug. 27: The Queer Club

Fern Connections presents a book club at 2 p.m. the last Sunday of every month. Register at FernConnections.com/events.

■ Aug. 27-Jan. 7: 'The World Outside: Louise Nevelson at Midcentury'

The World Outside: Louise Nevelson at Midcentury is one of the first exhibitions examining Louise Nevelson's midcentury sculptures and works on paper through the lens of the artistic and cultural landscape that shaped her vision. The exhibition, through more than 50 key artworks, offers an in-depth study of the artistic, economic, and political forces behind Nevelson's multifaceted innovations at midcentury. Working against repressive gender norms and a culture of mass consumption, Nevelson subverted the era's obsession with domesticity and industrial production by championing hands-on techniques and repurposed materials at the Amon Carter Museum, 3501 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth.

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.

Olly Alexander and Years & Years headline AT&T's *Turn Up The Love Tour* Friday night, June 23, at AT&T Discovery District, 308 S. Akard St. The concert also features Wrabel, Kalechi and more, with Carmen Carrera as host. Admission is free.



Cassie Nova

ASK A DRAG QUEEN



The pros and cons of getting older

Hello beautiful people. Let's talk about getting older. Getting older has its ups and downs, so for every negative I list about getting older, I will try to list a positive as well. Let's see how this goes.

I had my first colonoscopy a few weeks ago and it was fabulous. Sorry, did I say fabulous? I meant fucking horrible. Twenty-four hours before the procedure where they stick a camera up your ass, you have to take this delicious drink ... I'm sorry did I say delicious? I meant a gross liquid that tasted like someone bit a lemon then pissed in your mouth.

That wonderful lemon-flavored grossness is the key that opens the door to your guts. Ten minutes after I took it, I was on the toilet. I couldn't go more than 10 feet from that throne of doom before I had to run back and feed the meter. I stayed in bed most of the day because it was just a few feet from the bathroom. The second I would get in bed and get comfortable — gurgle gurgle, and I was running back.

You can't eat for 24 hours either. The instructions from the doctor say it's okay to have broth, tea or popsicles, as long as the popsicles are not red or purple. So I

had a green and a yellow popsicle. That just made me go to the toilet more, so I just did not eat or drink anything else.

The next morning, I was pretty much "cleaned" out. We headed to the hospital for the actual procedure. The husband had to take a day off work to drive me home and thank the Lawd he did. The best part of the whole day was the first 30 minutes after coming out of anesthesia. I felt fucking fabulous.

It turned out I had a few polyps that the doctor removed, and she said everything looked great. I'm glad I had it done, but I am so glad that that is over ... for a few years anyway.

A positive about getting older ... uuuuummm ... I care less and less about what people think. So that's something.

Another negative: The smallest thing can hurt. Yesterday, I turned my head to the right and BAM! Sore neck! I sat down — nothing dramatic or weird, I just sat down — and now my back hurts.

A positive: I like the smell of Bengay and Tiger Balm. Weird, I know.

Speaking of hurting, last night they had the Pride Block Party at and around the Dallas Museum of Art. It was awesome to see so many families and people from all walks of life, supporting our community. I did a Drag Queen Story

Time for a rambunctious group of kids, and it was so much fun.

Then a few of us drag performers were asked to model while a group sketched us. That was very cool, and I got some lovely sketches of myself. The hurting came from my dumb ass thinking I could hold a fierce pose for an entire hour and not move.

I held one leg straight and bent the other, with my hands on my hips in a very diva stance. That was so dumb of me.

Not 10 minutes into it, and I started to hurt. That straight leg started to tremble. My hands started to go numb. I was trying to look fierce on the outside but inside I was dying. That was the longest hour of my life. Today, everything hurts — back, neck, legs and, of course, my feet. My feet always hurt though. Drag is slowly killing me.

A positive was all of the cool artwork people did of us. I'd do it again just for that reason, but I'd choose a better pose — like maybe on a chaise lounge looking like a baroque painting.

A positive and a negative of getting older is naps. Why did we fight taking naps as kids? I love my naps. The downside to napping is sometimes it feels like a waste of a day. But honestly, fuck that! I love a nap.

The biggest and worst part of getting old is seeing it in the mirror. Some days, I swear, that ain't me. Other days I'm like, at least I'm alive. Then I get in my feelings over all of the beautiful young people I have known that have died way too soon.

I may be getting old and ugly, but at least I am here! Yes, getting old sucks but the alternative sucks way more. As we all grow old together, let's be nicer to ourselves. We have earned it.

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

word search solution



this week's solution



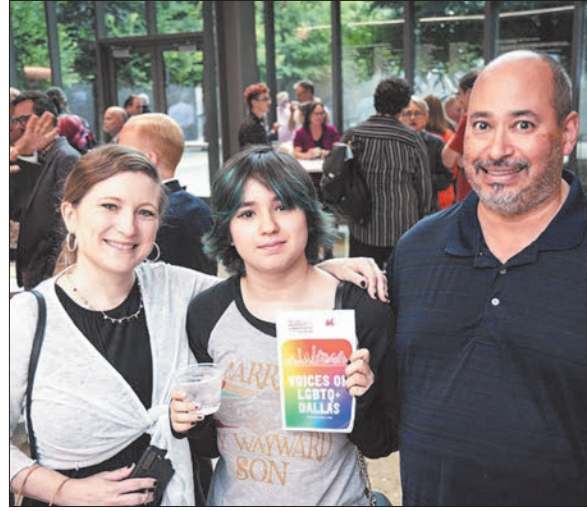
browse
For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit Tinyurl.com/dvevents.

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

SCENE

The Dallas Way at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum

PEOPLE, PLACES AND FACES



GayBingo



PRIDE • (Photos courtesy Barker Photography)



XXX marks the spot



Stunning in silver



Hey big suspenders



Guys night out at S4



Is S4 now clothing optional?



Look at the aura on these guys!

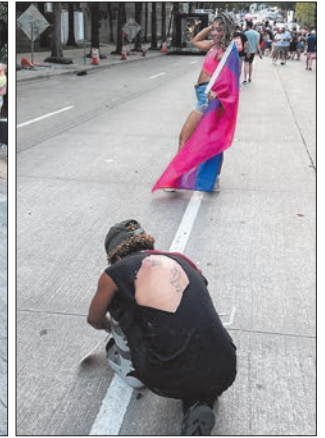


It's curtains for Cassie



Howdy Sisters!

Block Party







WORD SEARCH

Diversions Word Search - Historical Homos

Find the bold underlined words in the descriptive paragraph below hiding across, backwards, up, down and diagonally in the grid. The unused letters starting at top left and going down by row will reveal a tagline of the show. Visit dekkoo.com for more info on this new series!

HISTORICAL HOMOS

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

Historical Homos is a **funny** and provocative new **LGBTQ history docuseries** from **Dekkoo**, a subscription streaming **service** dedicated to **gay men**. It was **created** by **queer** historian **Bash** and his sister **Lucy Hendra** as a **coffee table book** and then a popular **Instagram** page. Then they met **Zachary Quinto** (of **Heroes**, **Star Trek** and more) and expanded the **project** to a TV series. The **shows** are hilariously **hosted** by Bash and **Donal Brophy** (**actor** and **writer** from **The Shuroo Process** and more). The **first episode** is about **male homosexuality** in **Greek mythology**. The **second** is about **transgender French spy Le Chevalier d'Eon**. New episodes set to **stream** every **Friday** through **Pride Month!**

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

Solution on Page 20

PUZZLE | Not a Gambler, But...

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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51						52	53				54			
55						56					57			
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

Solution on Page 20

- Across**
- 1 Manly man
 - 5 Does without oral gratification
 - 10 Dick and Jane's dog
 - 14 Popeye prop for Robin Williams
 - 15 Landau's *Ed Wood* award
 - 16 Burial site of Macbeth
 - 17 "Am ___ bad guy here?"
 - 18 Traps for suckers
 - 19 Secluded valley
 - 20 Though not a gambler, Beyonce says:
 - 22 More of what Beyonce says
 - 23 Always, to Emily Dickinson
 - 24 Mauresmo's court divider
 - 25 Decoration for skin
 - 26 Can't bear the thought of
 - 28 Vibrator in a mouthpiece
 - 30 Suffix for Krypton
 - 31 On deck, on a pirate ship
 - 34 Treated a swollen member
 - 35 More of what Beyonce says
 - 37 Part of a Madonna bra
 - 39 Endures the masochist role
 - 40 Inc., to W.H. Auden
 - 41 Words of woe, to the Bard
 - 42 Expresses pleasure in bed
 - 46 William S. Porter's pen name
 - 48 Biter of Caesar's girlfriend
 - 50 Writer's deg.
 - 51 More of what Beyonce says
 - 52 End of what Beyonce says
 - 55 Use your mouth unfaithfully
 - 56 What you say to get a lei
 - 57 Toward shelter
 - 58 Peace Nobelists Wiesel and Elton John
 - 61 Drum sound
 - 62 That is, to Cicero
 - 63 King James verb
 - 10 Tourist attraction
 - 11 Pete Buttigieg, for one
 - 12 Monotonous
 - 13 Did the last dance in Paris?
 - 21 Grant money to
 - 22 Abe Lincoln's boy
 - 25 Many *Glee* characters
 - 27 Where to look, in *Misty*
 - 28 Poet from Prague
 - 29 *Nurse Jackie* protraiter
 - 32 Like many adages
 - 33 It may be grand, to Glenn Burke
 - 34 "Tell ___ the judge!"
 - 35 Where dat bottom took it?
 - 36 Nursing a sprain, perhaps
 - 37 Knock into next week
 - 38 Moor drama
 - 41 Prince Valiant's boy
 - 43 Earhart of the air
 - 44 Lions or Tigers or Bears
 - 45 Like condoms that don't leak
 - 47 Dynamite inventor
 - 48 Family of AIDS Quilt Arthur
 - 49 Jean of *Designing Women*
 - 52 *Glen or Glenda*: ___ *Two Lives*
 - 53 Bag for shopping at Barneys
 - 54 Badge site for the "morally straight"
 - 56 Friend of Rimbaud
- Down**
- 1 Acted maliciously
 - 2 Metropolitan Community Church supporter, e.g.
 - 3 "Psst!" from above
 - 4 Maria's "do" equivalent
 - 5 Choreographer Bob
 - 6 *Downton Abbey* neckwear
 - 7 Give the once-over in a bar
 - 8 Unlikely to bite
 - 9 MTF operation

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Todd Maley

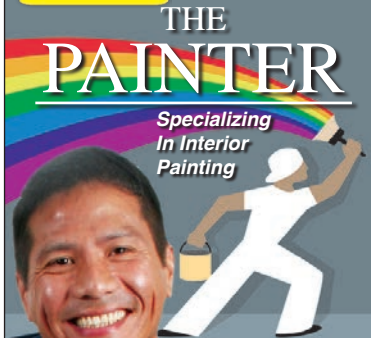
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