

A close-up portrait of Billy Porter, a Black man with short, dark hair, looking slightly to the right. He is wearing a white dress shirt with a large, ornate silver floral brooch at the collar, and a bright pink blazer with a matching lapel. The background is a vibrant, out-of-focus rainbow pattern.

da' voice

ce for LGBTQ Texas
Issue 2 | FREE | Friday, May 17, 2024

Porter on parade

Billy Porter is honorary grand marshal of the 2024 Dallas Pride Parade, joining grand marshals Steven Pace and Betty Neal

By Tammye Nash, page 8



**ONE PILL.
ONCE A DAY.
PREVENTS HIV.**

Free PrEP
& doxyPEP



ONLINE & IN-CLINIC

 **HELP Center**
for LGBT Health and Wellness



 | **HELP**CenterTX.org
(855) 4MY-PREP

PrEP | DoxyPEP | PEP | TESTING | CONDOMS | COUNSELING | PHARMACY | GENDER-AFFIRMING CARE | INSURANCE ASSISTANCE

dallasvoice.com

The Premier Media Source for LGBTQ Texas

1825 Market Center Blvd., Suite 240, Dallas TX 75207 | 214-754-8710 | dallasvoice.com

May 17, 2024 | Volume 41 | Issue 02

PUBLISHER Leo Cusimano, leo@dallasvoice.com

MANAGING EDITOR Tammye Nash, nash@dallasvoice.com

SENIOR STAFF WRITER David Taffet, taffet@dallasvoice.com

STAFF WRITER Rich Lopez, rich@dallasvoice.com

NBCU FELLOW Melissa Whitler

PROOF READER Philip Burton

CONTRIBUTORS Chris Azzopardi, Sean Baugh, Gary Bellomy, Jenny Block, Jesus Chairez, Lawrence Ferber, Hardy Haberman, Scott Huffman, Lisa Keen, Mark Lowry, Jonathon McClellan, Cassie Nova, Dr. Josh, Josh Robbins, Gilberto Rodriguez, James Russell, Howard Lewis Russell, Terri Schlichenmeyer, Leslie McMurray, Caroline Savioe, Gregg Shapiro, Melissa Whitler, Casey Williams

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Chad Mantoath, mantoath@dallasvoice.com

CONTENT MARKETING SPECIALIST Mathew Dominguez, mathew@dallasvoice.com

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE National Advertising Representative
Todd Evans, Rivendell Media Inc. | 908-232-2021

ART DIRECTOR Kevin Thomas, thomas@dallasvoice.com

MULTIMEDIA Jimmy Bartlett, Website Management
Israel Luna, DVtv Executive Producer
Tom Roma, DVtv Producer; Joseph Herrera, Producer

DVtv Hosts Regina Lyn, Larry The Fairy, Corry Williams

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR Linda Depriter, distribution@dallasvoice.com

FOUNDERS Robert Moore | Don Ritz | William Marberry

AFFILIATIONS | MEMBERSHIPS

Associated Press - Associate Member
Certified LGBT Business Enterprise



© 2024 Voice Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprint rights are available by written consent of the publisher. Dallas Voice is published every Friday. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1, at the Dallas Voice office. Dallas Voice may be distributed only by authorized independent distributors. No person may, without prior written permission of Dallas Voice, take more than one copy of each weekly issue. Subscriptions via First Class Mail are available: Three months (13 consecutive issues), \$69. Six months (26 consecutive issues), \$92. One year (52 consecutive issues), \$138. To subscribe call 214-754-8711.

Paid advertising copy represents the claim(s) of advertisers. Bring inappropriate claims to the attention of the publisher. Dallas Voice reserves the right to enforce its own judgments regarding the suitability of advertising copy, illustrations and/or photographs. Unsolicited manuscripts are accepted by email only. To obtain a copy of our guidelines for contributors, send a request by email to the managing editor at editor@dallasvoice.com.

KNOX DENTAL

BY JONATHAN VOGEL DDS

- General & Cosmetic Dentistry
- Invisalign
- Veneers
- Teeth Whitening
- Dental Sleep Medicine
- LGBT Owned

We take pride in providing the highest standard of care for all folk!



Jonathan Vogel, DDS

Call today! 214-521-6261

Visit: KnoxDental.com ■ 4514 Cole Ave., Ste 905

Builders SURPLUS

YEE HAAA!!!

New Iron Doors - Over 700 in Stock!

The Largest Selection of Cabinets, Doors, Vanities and Windows in the DFW Area!

Save 40% - 60%

2610 West Miller Rd • Garland • 972-926-0100
5832 E. Belknap • Haltom City • 871-831-3600
www.buildersurplusyeehaa.com

Tired of SHAVING?
We Can Help!

Serving the LGBT Community since 2011!

Call Today for your **FREE Consultation!**

682-593-1442
htgteleolysis.com
4245 N. Central Expy.
Suite 450, Dallas, TX

Hair Today Gone Tomorrow Electrolysis



Psychic Readings

by Sarah

PALM TAROT PSYCHIC READINGS
Past * Present * Future
specializing in relationships
chakra balancing
spiritual cleansing

214 - 730 - 0409
sarahspsychicreadings.com

CELEBRATE YOUR TRUE COLORS

VERSACE HUGO BOSS
Ray-Ban GUCCI
TOMFORDEYEWEAR
EYEWEAR by DAVID BECKHAM

Doctor EyeCare

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

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

doctoreyecare.com

Dr. Allen B. Safir

Bites from our blog

WHAT'S THE TEA: DallasVoice.com



Come Out for Cancer Co-Chairs Clint Thomson, left and David Putnam, right, with emcee Scott Padgett at the event that raised \$100,000 for the American Cancer Society. (Courtesy of 2nd-2Nunn Photography and the American Cancer Society)

Come Out Against Cancer raises \$100,000-plus

The American Cancer Society hosted its annual

Come Out Against Cancer this past weekend at Hotel Lorenzo. Scott Padgett from CBS Texas emceed the event. Clint Thomson and David Putnam were the event co-chairs.

The event was created to help raise awareness in the LGBTQ community which is disproportionately burdened with risk factors for cancer and screening disparities in detecting the disease, experiencing obstacles to preventions, detection, treatment and survival due to complex systemic factors. Reducing cancer disparities and advancing health equity is an overarching goal of the American Cancer Society.

The event raised more than \$100,000.

— David Taffet

NGLCC, GrubHub again offering Community Impact Grants

The National LGBT Chamber of Commerce is once again partnering with Grubhub and the Grubhub Community Fund to extend “a vital lifeline” to America’s LGBTQ-owned restaurants and bars serving food through the NGLCC Community Impact Grant Program. The East Coast application period for the grants launched today (Wednesday, May 15).

These grants — ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 — offer funding for a variety of purposes, including supporting employee wages and incentives, maintaining or upgrading existing infrastructure, enabling marketing and PR efforts and more.

North Texas LGBT Chamber of Commerce CEO Tony Vedda said, “Despite the fact that small enterprises are the leading providers of new jobs nationwide, they continue to face significant challenges due to the combined effects of the pandemic and rising inflation. When given the opportunity, we were eager to take part in the NGLCC Community Impact Grant Program for a

third year.”

So far, Vedda noted, the program has awarded “\$85,000 in grants to worthy North Texas LGBT and allied businesses through the North Texas LGBT Chamber of Commerce. This year, we’re intensifying our outreach to local restaurant owners to ensure they’re informed about this initiative.”

The NGLCC has set a goal to allocate 30 percent of the funds to businesses owned by people of color and transgender and gender-expansive (TGX) individuals. Applications for East Coast establishments launched on April 30, and applications for the Central U.S. will open this month. Applications for the West Coast will roll out in June.

Restaurants wishing to learn more about applying for grants should visit the NGLCC website. nlgcc.org/ghgrant.

— Tammye Nash

Peru officially classifies transgenderism as a mental illness

The government of Peru has officially taken several giant steps backward, and they did it without asking, “Mother, may I?”

Peru’s President Dina Boluarte this week signed into law a measure categorizing transgender, nonbinary and intersex people as being mentally ill. The country’s minister of health tried to paint the new law as a good thing, claiming it will “guarantee full coverage of medical attention for mental health for trans people,” and promising the change will not force transgen-

UPTOWN PHYSICIANS GROUP

PrismHealth
NORTH TEXAS

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

Donald A. Graneto, MD

William Hays, MD, ATC, LAT

Taylor Schmidt, MD

Vanessa Bludau, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Jessica Chu, MPH, PA-C

Richard (Rick) Ornberg, DNP, APRN, FNP-C

Kristina Schmidt, APRN, FNP-BC

Jason Vercher, PA-C

AVAILABLE SERVICES

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

*HIV Specialists certified by the American Academy of HIV Medicine

UPTOWN PHYSICIANS GROUP

2801 Lemmon Ave, #400
Dallas, TX 75204
214.303.1033
uptownphysiciansgroup.com

The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

2020

- Best Medical Group
- Best HIV Specialists
- Dr. David Lee, Best General Practitioner

2021

- Best Medical Group

2022

- Best Place to Get Tested

2023

- Best Medical Group

Obituary



ons and winning awards in that game. He also truly loved the game *Civilisation*, which kept him sitting at his computer for hours while he played.

He made and donated many Christmas wreaths, many of them to LGBTQ organizations. His hobbies included collecting unique and unusual beads and turning them into bracelets, and he was very good at crocheting scarves. Chris volunteered his talents as a DJ to play for the Firedancers Club, of which he was an emeritus member. He was also a DJ for community AIDS services organizations and clubs, including the Mr. Hidden Door contest, Legacy Cares and AIN events, the Miss Leo contest and United Court of the Lone Star Empire events both in town and out of town.

Chris and his husband Robert also enjoyed their many cruises and Puerto Vallarta vacations.

Chris was preceded in death by his mother, Lynne Love, and younger brother, Jeff Love. He is survived by his father, Johnnie Love; his sister, Jennifer Mendenhall; his brother, Lee Love; and his husband of 27 years, Robert Cantrell. He will be certainly missed and mourned by both family and many friends.

A celebration of life will be at the finale of the Firedancers 37th anniversary event on Sunday, June 16, at 2 p.m. at the Hidden Door, 5025 Bowser Ave.

Christopher (Chris) John Love, 62, passed away unexpectedly on May 2 at Parkland Hospital. He was employed as a charge nurse for more than 30 years, and his passing came as a shock to the staff and his many patients at Treemont, where he had worked for the last 12 years.

Chris enjoyed playing Dungeons and Drag-

der/nonbinary/genderqueer folks into conversion therapy.

But LGBTQ advocates — including Jheinser Pacaya, the cultural manager and deputy director of the LGBT film festival OutfestPerú — wasn't buying it.

On Tuesday, May 14, Pacaya posted a proclamation from OutfestPerú denouncing the new law that "classifies transsexuality as a disease, a perspective that stigmatizes transgender people and perpetuates discrimination" (according to Google Translate).

The proclamation continues, "Instead of

considering transsexuality as a pathology, acceptance and respect for all gender identities should be promoted. We demand the repeal of this [law] and that the [ministry of health] dedicate itself to protecting fundamental rights by promoting equity in access to medical care."

Pacaya posted the proclamation on X (the social media platform formerly known as Twitter), commenting, "100 years after the decriminalization of homosexuality, [Peru's ministry of health] has no better idea than to include trans people in the category of mental illness."

— Tammye Nash

■ Adoptable / ZACHARY



Meet Zachary, a lovable 1-year and 2 month-old German shepherd mix weighing a sprightly 36 pounds and boasting stunning, short blonde coat, dark muzzle, soulful eyes and irresistible floppy ears. Zachary's friendly and happy-go-lucky nature makes him a joy. He is eager to learn and grow but could use a little guidance in the manners department. He loves people and will be a great running or walking buddy. Zachary needs a fenced backyard where he can run and play. He does well with other dogs, but it's always best to bring any two- or four-legged siblings along for a meet and greet prior to adoption. This smart pup is highly treat-motivated, making training sessions a breeze.

Like all pets at the SPCA of Texas, Zachary has been neutered and microchipped and has had all his age-appropriate vaccines. He is waiting for his forever family at the SPCA of Texas Dallas Animal Care Center, so come by any day between noon and 6 p.m. to meet him. In honor of National Pet Month, the SPCA of Texas is offering free adoptions for all adult cats and adult dogs and half-price adoptions for puppies and kittens through the end of May.



Opening Our Doors:

Embracing Both Newcomers and Returning Patients with open arms!

Located in the heart of our community!

Our clinical collaboration demands the highest standard of care to our patients. This involves the physical and emotional aspects of each patient entrusted to our care.

- Comprehensive Medical care
- STI Testing and Treatment
- Extensive Experience since 1981
- Gender Affirming Care
- HIV Specialists, ask about PrEP
- Family Medicine



Book an appointment today:
469-496-2454

Learn more here:
TSCOakLawn.com/medical-services | 2603 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 101 | Dallas

Dr. Nicholas C. Bellos
M.D., FIDSA, FACP

Board Certified in
Internal Medicine

Board Certified in In-
fectious Disease



LGBT Owned and Operated | Nonprofit

In it for the long haul

Defeating hate and dogma demands dedication

Dozens of Virginia Commonwealth University grads walked out of their commencement ceremony in Richmond on May 11 as Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin took the stage to speak. Youngkin is a good target for protests because he puts a friendlier face on MAGA politics than the likes of U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, which makes him more dangerous.

And he is being touted as a possible running mate for Donald Trump.

Protests are an example of a concept I first learned in mathematics: the concept of something being necessary but not sufficient. To make sustained progress on a public policy issue, it is not enough to get attention. We must engage the political process and do our homework.

Remember: Advocates of forced birth worked for half a century to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

We cannot afford to be single-issue voters in a country with so many challenges and with our democracy under threat. People who call themselves “pro-life” endanger women’s lives with cruel restrictions on emergency abortion care. Restrictions on child labor are lifted while feeding programs are cut. Bigots seek to erase queer lives and ban our literature. Republican legislators echo Russian disinformation on the floor of Congress.

In confronting injustices, it is frustrating to know that even problems long targeted for change, like racially-biased policing, stubbornly resist reform efforts.

Air Force Senior Airman Roger Fortson, a Black man, was shot to death on May 3 by a sheriff’s office deputy in the Florida Panhandle who had gone to the wrong apartment. According to Tom McGlaughlin of the Pensacola News Journal, Fortson’s girlfriend, with whom he was talking on Facetime when the incident occurred, “said Fortson was startled by an aggressive pounding on the



Richard J. Rosendall
Contributing Writer

door of the apartment, but when he peered through the peephole could see no one on the other side, so he went and retrieved his legally registered gun.”

Police bodycam footage showed that Fortson was holding his gun at his side, pointing it down. The deputy quickly fired six shots at him.

What the camera doesn’t show are differences in cultural attitudes that cause police to use deadly force more often against Black people.

There is a long, dispiriting list of such incidents. It is hard to stop these tragedies when so many react to them either by being outraged at anyone who calls out biased policing or with numbed indifference.

I worked on police reform for decades as part of a broad-based coalition. The organization most resistant to our efforts was the Fraternal Order of Police. Its leaders routinely circled the wagons, indignant at any suggestion that officers should not be above the law.

Some conservatives complain that Black people do not cooperate with police. But how can people be expected to trust law enforcement when their lives are accorded so little value?

And it doesn’t stop at police. On May 9, the school board in Virginia’s Shenan-



Chantemekki Fortson, mother of U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Roger Fortson, holds a photo of her son during a news conference on May 9 in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. regarding his death. Fortson was shot and killed by police in his apartment on May 3. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

doah County voted to restore the names of Confederate leaders to two schools that had previously honored them.

The refusal ever to let go of the Lost Cause, the indignant denial of racial double standards, the insistent clinging to grievance while waving a treasonous banner — these are not signs of an easy solution ahead.

It can be hard to accept being part of a multi-generational struggle whose fruits we may not live to see. But if we are about more than venting — if we seriously intend to address systemic problems — we cannot prepare for a marathon as if it were a 50-yard dash.

Roger Fortson bought a flight suit for his adoring little sister to match his own. He was saving to buy his mother a new house. He was 23. His death leaves an empty space with his loved ones and community. Even if the sheriff’s dep-

uty is tried and convicted of wrongful death — so far he has only been placed on leave — it will not bring the young man back.

We have a nation not so much to restore as to create. When innocent people are cut down so easily and often, mostly without consequence to those doing it, we are not the nation or people that we claim to be.

Amid our grief, we need moments of unaccountable joy to remind us of what has been taken from our fellow citizens in a way not evenly distributed. We must find the grace to listen and learn from those who have borne the brunt. And we cannot leave it to others to beat back the forces of ignorance, fanaticism and authoritarianism on Election Day. ■

Richard J. Rosendall is a writer and activist at rrosendall@me.com. Copyright © 2024 by Richard J. Rosendall. All rights reserved.

**OUR COMMUNITY'S
TRUSTED MEDICAL
PRACTICE SINCE 1994**



Years of Compassionate Healing



Your health, our priority. We offer:
Comprehensive Primary Care
Experienced HIV Specialists | PrEP | Pharmacy
Gender Affirmation | Cosmetic Procedures
In-house Lab | Allergy Testing & Injections

Concierge Medicine offered by
Steven Ponders, M.D.

- Direct care access 24-hours a day,
seven days a week
- Same or next day appointments
- More consultation time



OUR CARE TEAM:

Steven M. Ponders, MD | Chad Nyland, DO | Erin Simms, FNP- C
Chad Crager, FNP-C | Ryan Lomeda, FNP-C

LOCATED IN THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

3500 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 600 | Visit: DrPonders.com

Call today to schedule an appointment! 214-520-8833

Billy Porter named Pride honorary grand marshal

PRIDE 2024

Steven Pace, Betty Neal are grand marshals for festival, parade June 1-2 in Fair Park

TAMMY NASH | Managing Editor
Nash@DallasVoice.com

Billy Porter, the acclaimed singer, actor and LGBTQ advocate, has been named honorary grand marshal of the 2024 Dallas Pride Parade, formerly known as the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, Dallas Pride officials announced this week. Grand marshals this year are longtime community activists Betty Neal and Steven Pace.

The 2024 Dallas Pride celebration in Fair Park starts Saturday, June 1, with the Pride Music Festival from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., including Family Pride, Teen Pride, vendors and entertainment. Pride continues Sunday, June 2, with the festival from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., then the parade steps off at 2 p.m.

Billy Porter

"We are thrilled to welcome Billy Porter to Dallas Pride," said Sherrell Cross, executive director of Dallas Pride. "He symbolizes the spirit of unity, pride and resilience within the LGBTQ+ community, and will undoubtedly electrify audiences with his spirit and sparkle."

Describing Porter as "a trailblazer in the entertainment industry and an outspoken advocate for LGBTQ+ rights," Dallas Pride officials said that he "has captivated audiences worldwide with his remarkable talent and unwavering commitment to inclusivity and equality."

Porter has racked up numerous awards over the course of his career, including a Broadway.com Audience Choice Award, a Drama Desk Award, an Outer Critics Circle Award and the Tony Award for outstanding lead ac-



Billy Porter

tor in a musical for his portrayal of Lola in *Kinky Boots*; a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album also for *Kinky Boots*; GLAAD's Vito Russell Award; three Dorian Awards, a Prime-time Emmy, a Gold Derby Award and a Queerty Award for his role as Pray Tell in three seasons of *Pose* on TV; a Tony Award for Best musical as producer of *A Strange Loop*, The Isabelle Stevenson Award from the Tony Awards in recognition of his work with the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation and Entertainment Community Fund, and the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation's Commitment to End AIDS Award.

Betty Neal

Betty Neal moved to Dallas from Fayetteville, Ark., in 1979, and has been



Betty Neal



Steven Pace

finding ways to help her community ever since, whether that meant playing hip-hop in the clubs even when club owners were telling DJs not to play it or working with the health department to bring HIV testing to club parking lots and finding ways to incentivize getting tested so more people would participate.

Neal was instrumental in planning and staging Dallas' early Black Gay Pride celebrations, in forming Dallas Southern Pride and in beginning the city's annual LGBTQ Juneteenth celebrations, which are now part of Dallas Southern Pride and have grown to be one of the biggest celebrations in North Texas. Neal is also a longtime Dallas Pride volunteer and board member, and she also volunteers with the city's other Pride event, Pride in Dallas that is held in September.

Steven Pace

Steven Pace has been a leader in North Texas' efforts to combat HIV/AIDS and to provide services to those living with the virus since the earliest days of the epidemic. He was the first clergy member to offer solace and support to the first patient diagnosed with AIDS in Dallas County, he brought other local faith leaders together in those early days to create the AIDS Interfaith Network — known now as Access and Information Network or, more simply, AIN. He was the first on-site house director for the residential facilities at what is now AIDS Services of Dallas, and worked with the late Dr. Ron Anderson to create a clinic devoted specifically to the treatment of HIV/AIDS at Parkland Hospital. He also helped found what is now Resource Center's Food Pantry.

When he retired from AIN at the end of 2023, Pace had spent more time — 40 years — as head of an HIV/AIDS than anyone else in the country.

Pride details

The parade is expected once again to extend for at least a mile and will feature more than 150 entries. Admission to the parade is free.

Tickets for the Dallas Pride Music Festival on Saturday — which will feature headliners CeCe Peniston and Ha Sizzle as well as singer Lardi B, DJ Sedric, drag performers Morphine Love Dion and Aquaria and a variety of other entertainers — are \$10 (plus service fees) and are on sale now at DallasPride.org. Admission is free for children under 12. The festival will also include more than 200 vendors, Family Pride Zone and Teen Pride and local pet rescue groups on site with adoptable furry friends. ■

Follow @DallasPride on Facebook, @DallasPrideOfficial on Instagram, @DallasPrideOrg on Twitter, or via the organization's website DallasPride.org for more information and updates.

Searching for answers

CRIME IN DALLAS

Family, friends of a murdered gay man say they won't give up until his killer is found

CAROLINE SAVOIE | Contributing Writer
CaroSavoWrites@gmail.com

On Dec. 5, 2023, 46-year-old Dallas gay man Rory Sean Thacker was found strangled to death with an electrical cord in his East Dallas home, according to his sister, Holly Kimbrell. Kimbrell, her husband and Thacker's neighbor found his body and his dogs, who weren't harmed.

There weren't any signs of forced entry at the home, but Thacker's car, phone and bank cards were all missing.

While his car, a 2015 Hyundai Santa Fe, was recovered in early May, his phone still has not been found, Kimbrell said. Kimbrell said the car was found abandoned in Pleasant Grove less than 10 miles from his home.

Chris Youmans, Thacker's friend of 19 years and twice partner, said he was flying back from Chicago when he got a text from Thacker's mom asking if he'd heard from Thacker. She said he was supposed to be at his family's ranch on Tuesday, Dec. 5. When he didn't show up, Youmans suggested the police do a welfare check. Thacker's sister, brother-in-law and neighbor used a key to get into his home.

SEARCHING, Page 16



YOU DESERVE THE BEST

Prism Health
North Texas
provides
high-quality,
personalized
healthcare for
the LGBTQIA+
community.



SERVICES OFFERED

- STI Testing and Treatment
- HIV Testing with Treatment
- PrEP Prevention
- HIV Primary Care
- Transgender Primary Care
- Behavioral Health Care
- Dental Care
- Pharmacy
- Case Management
- Insurance and Financial Aid Assistance
- HIV Empowerment

4
Convenient
Locations

Oak Lawn
2801 Lemmon Ave
Suite 200

Oak Cliff
219 Sunset Ave
Suite 116-A

South Dallas
4922 Spring Ave

Worth Street
4004 Worth Street

PrismHealth
NORTH TEXAS

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT
[PHNTX.ORG](https://phntx.org) OR CALL [214.521.5191](tel:214.521.5191)

The accusations fly

BEYOND THE STAGE

Robbie San Juan gets a bit complicated with his role in 'Oleanna'

RICH LOPEZ | Staff reporter
rich@dallasvoice.com

Playing a straight male professor accused of sexual harassment hardly sounds like a cakewalk for any actor. And Robbie San Juan certainly admits that the role comes with challenges. But those challenges have, in turn, also been enlightening as he prepares to take the stage this weekend in The Classics Theatre Project's production of *Oleanna*.

The professor is "a complicated character, and my journey for him has been a big challenge but definitely worth experiencing," San Juan said.

That is true not just for him but for the audience, as well.

TCTP opens *Oleanna* on Friday, May 17, at the Stone Cottage Theatre in Addison, and the David Mamet play runs through June 17. Directed by April Miller, the dramatic story centers on two characters: Carol, a college student, and the professor, John, who Carol accuses of harassment.

As the drama ensues, San Juan said, the audience will just have to make up its own mind what to believe.

"You are privy to the facts, so you see it happen onstage. But it's up to the audience to figure out how they feel about it," he said. "You clearly see both sides, but I think the way Mamet wrote it, and the way it plays out, people may leave very conflicted and definitely with questions."

Reading the description alone recalls the #MeToo movement and today's dialogue on inequity. That wasn't lost on San Juan.

"I asked my former teacher about this. My sisters are all teachers, so we all talked about things that are unethical," he said. "This was written before #MeToo,



and Mamet has been criticized for his portrayal of women, but being directed by April really makes a difference" in this production.

San Juan credits Miller, also an educator, with bringing a strong female voice to the director's chair, and he describes Devon Rose, playing Carol, as "such a powerful actor."

"That not only affects the show positively but affects my approach. I think through their eyes, we see Carol's side a lot more. But I'm also learning more about myself as an actor," he said.

While he is no stranger to the Dallas theater scene, San Juan has really been on a roll lately, making his presence known across a number of stages. He was last seen in Theatre Three's *The Seagull* earlier this spring and in *Deathtrap* last winter, as well as TCTP's *The Crucible* and Mainstage's *The Light in the Piazza*. Dallas Voice readers may recognize him most from his role in last year's premiere of *Silver Foxes* at Uptown Players, directed by Michael Urie.

Although he's been doing theater for a while, *Silver Foxes* was San Juan's first queer-centric play.

"I'd never done a gay-focused production like that, and Uptown has such

a huge following," he said. "One of the reasons it was such a great experience was that the audience was immediately so supportive. They got to see themselves. I got to see myself."

Silver Foxes is a comedy centered on a gay couple of a certain vintage that gave voice to queer men in middle age. In the show, San Juan played the disheveled half of the couple, opposite BJ Cleveland. In some ways, it was a rare performance for San Juan; he's often playing more sophisticated roles and even low-key lothario types.

And he relates to all of them. "It's always nice to get a character that is me," he said.

Even a potentially, sexually harassing professor? Maybe this character's not entirely him, but it did put him in a certain motion.

"As a man, I do try to be aware of space and touch, but this role made me think back to times when I thought I may have crossed the line with some male friends," he said. "So, I reached out and, fortunately, all was ok. But I felt it was necessary to make those amends."

For tickets, visit TheClassicsTheatreProject.com.



Reading the rainbow

BEYOND THE PAGE

Prep for Pride with LGBTQ-themed books for all ages

MELISSA WHITLER | Dallas Voice Fellow
Melissa@DallasVoice.com

What better way to celebrate Pride than with some new LGBTQ publications? Whether you're looking for something practical or adventurous, this season features releases for children, teens and adults alike.

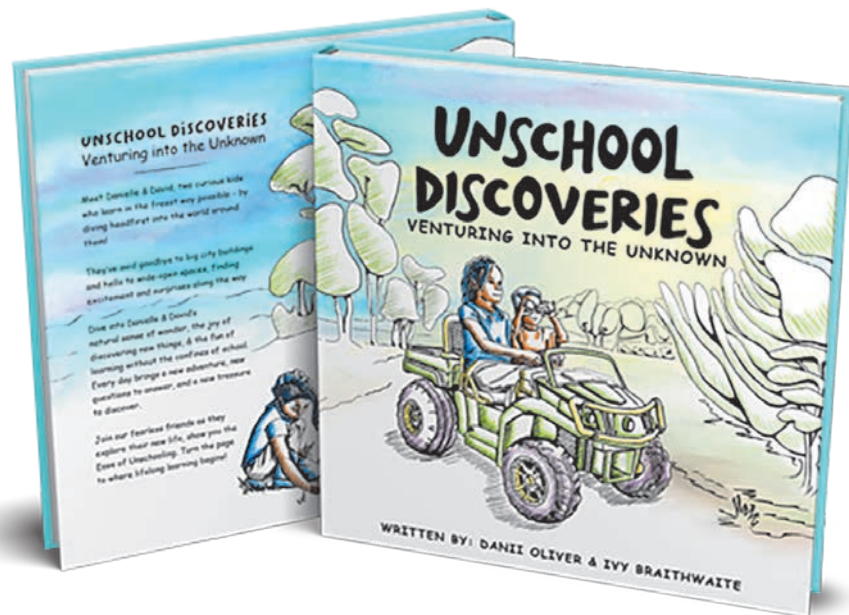
• *Unschool Discoveries: Venturing into the Unknown* by Danii Oliver. Earlier this Spring, Danii Oliver released

their first children's book, which follows two kids as they move from New York to Fort Worth. It embraces the fun of learning outside of school and encourages kids to wonder and seek out new adventures. In addition to touching on being a member of the LGBTQ community, the story also includes the much-needed perspective of people of color.

It takes a gentle parenting approach to getting kids excited about learning, making it perfect for engaging and connecting with your child.

• *The Z Word* by Lindsay King-Miller. This is the book for those anxiously awaiting Pride Month. Released May 7, *The Z Word* follows bisexual Wendy as she tries to navigate Pride in her Arizona town after breaking up with her ex,

RAINBOW, Page 13



Q
U
I
S
I
N
E

LOVE IS LOVE IS TACOS!

CUATES KITCHEN

Located in the heart of the gayborhood
3811 Fairmount (Fairmount & Oak Lawn)
cuateskitchen.com | 214.908.7336
FAMILY owned and operated!

Best Diner!
Thanks Dallas Voice Readers!

MAMA'S DAUGHTERS DINER

Save the **DRAMA** for your **MAMA**

2014 Irving Blvd. Dallas 214.742.8646
6509 W. Park Blvd. Plano 972.473.8877
2412 W. Shady Grove Irving 972.790.2778
111 East Main Forney 972.552.3463

Breakfast Served ALL DAY, so sleep late! MamasDaughtersDiner.com

CREMONA PIZZA · PATIO · BAR
Italian Cafe
KITCHEN

Take Out & Deliveries
Fresh Italian

Located in the heart of Uptown
Family owned since 1977

20% Off with ad

1 Coupon per table. Limit 2 people
www.cremonabistro.com
2704 Worthington ■ 214-871-1115

Take dining to the next level...

Come dine and play with us...

nerdvana
bytes + brews + games

5757 Main St. Frisco + 214.308.9080 + nerdvanafrisco.com

BIG Al's
SMOKEHOUSE BBQ

5 YEARS

SMOKIN' THE GOOD STUFF

3317 INWOOD RD

hunkys.com
Take Out - Dine in
Cedar Springs - 214-522-1212
Bishop Arts - 214-941-3322

Patio Now Open!

Old-Fashioned Hamburgers
Founded in 1984 by Rick & David Barton



Beauty spot

LGBTQ BUSINESS

The gay-owned Tuxedo Club celebrates a year of beauty in Oak Cliff

RICH LOPEZ | Staff reporter
rich@dallasvoice.com

Among the dress shops, restaurants and other lively small businesses on Jefferson Boulevard in Oak Cliff is a new-ish medical spa — although “medical spa” may not be your first thought when you first see the place. This gay-owned business belies its mission by straying away from the more usual “clinical” look for such an establishment, opting instead for a luxurious, stylized ambiance.

And at the heart of it all are partners in life and business Justin Cavazos and Gino Iallnardo, who celebrate a year this month of providing an array of services such as Color Concierge permanent makeup, hair restoration treatments, Botox and more.

Outside the corner spot off Bishop and Jefferson, notable for a mural of Dolly Parton, is the Tuxedo Club. Walk in and you find an opulent mix of classic and cool, with just a smidge of kitsch recalling a bygone time.

“The space is inspired by those vintage Playboy clubs,” Cavazos explained. “Gino and I would look at old Playboy magazines and bring that vibe into this space.”

“This space” is enveloped in black with gold touches, leopard prints and vintage paneling. There’s another large Dolly mural on the inside.

“Gino’s icon is Dolly. Mine is Liza [Minnelli], so you’ll see them both sprinkled about the place,” Cavazos said. (Iallnardo was unable to attend the on-site interview.)

The luxe look is inspiring, but Tuxedo Club is really all about offering the best possible services. With a growing clientele and a neighborhood location, Cavazos said the spa has, in just a short



Gino and Justin at Tuxedo Club, above, and Tuxedo Club team, below



time, steadily built a solid reputation and trust among Oak Cliffers.

“Word of mouth is the best advertising, and the feedback has been great,” he said. “But that isn’t worth anything if we’re not providing great service.”

Cavazos rattled off the spa’s roster of treatments, but he boiled it down to what the place really does in a more existential fashion: “We give transformations that are subtle enough [clients can] still look at themselves, but I think what we’re doing is providing confidence and happiness,” he said.

Tuxedo Club is not the first medspa in Oak Cliff, but it’s a one of a kind on Jefferson Boulevard. As residents of Oak Cliff, the two owners feel quite literally at home. But Cavazos discovered that

there was concern among residents early on, even before they opened the doors. Or maybe it was more confusion than concern.

“Well, a few women would come worrying about a strip club opening right here,” Cavazos said with a laugh.

“I think people grew to know that we live here and that it was also half-owned by a Latino. That made locals more comfortable.”

While Iallnardo, whose background is more marketing and corporate, tends to his other endeavors, Cavazos, with his luxury retail and salon experience, oversees the daily operations with a team that includes an injector and a permanent makeup artist.

The customer base sticks close to home, but they have built a strong gay male clientele that come from both The Cliff and beyond.

Cavazos added that drag performers have come in for some touch ups.

A distinct connection, though, to the LGBTQ community is the work they’ve

done for trans clients. “We’ve done a lot of facial balancing for clients. We can work to help enhance features that feminize the face or add masculinization,” he said. “Some may go under the knife for that and use these treatments as maintenance. But those who aren’t ready or don’t plan on surgery can use these services in lieu of.”

The space can also help correct previous cosmetic work that may not have yielded the best results.

The idea that Tuxedo Club is a spa is a complete misconception; massages, facials and the like are not on the menu here. The treatments are more medical, and, with a registered nurse as the club’s injector and a medical supervisor to address issues they can’t answer onsite, Cavazos is confident that Tuxedo Club



can provide reassurance to potential clients.

Or just go in, surround yourself in the glam and learn all about the Tuxedo Club first-hand.

“If you come in, we’ll offer a glass of champagne and a complimentary consultation,” Cavazos said. “Our team will talk with you about what you want to address, what you don’t like and what you’d want to enhance.”

“It’s different for everyone, but like many of our clients already, you’ll leave confident and happy and excited.”

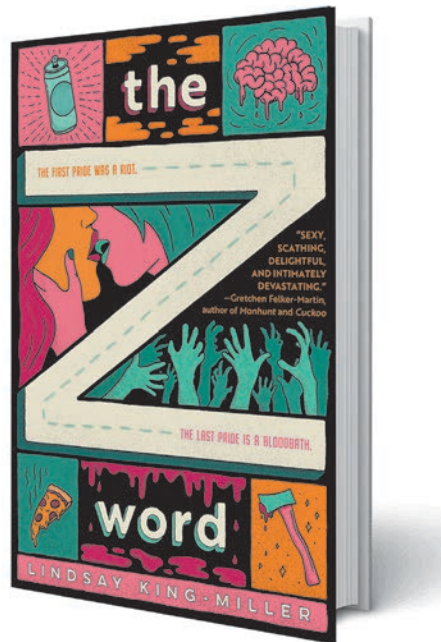
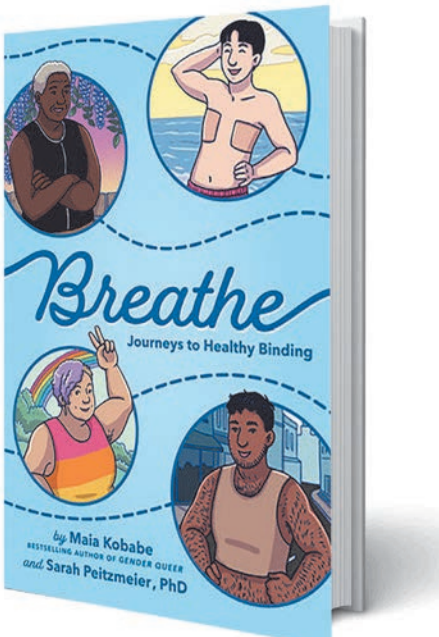
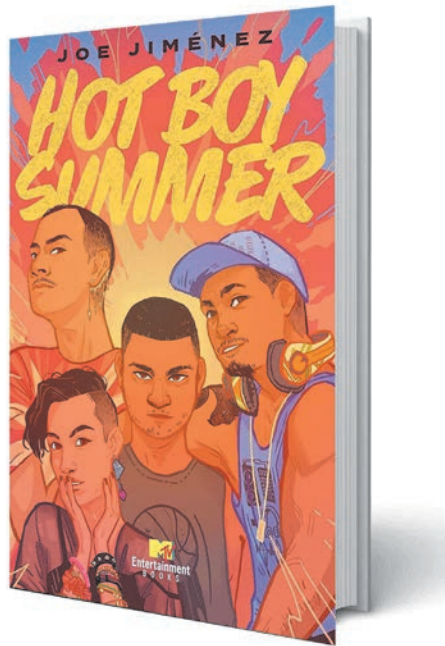
Learn more at TuxedoClub.com.



Leah.

Figuring out her place in the community gets harder when Leah hooks up with a couple of Wendy's friends and the new, pretty blonde helping Leah plan Pride sponsorships. But things really heat up when people begin to act like aggressive zombies and incite violence at what is supposed to be a celebration. With this *L-Word* take on the zombie apocalypse, King-Millers tells a thrilling tale while investigating the politics of corporate Pride and our own messy relationships.

• *Breathe* by Dr. Sarah Peitzmeier and Maia Kobabe. For fans of *Genderqueer*, Kobabe is back with another graphic story, this time a guide to chest binding, released May 7. Dr. Sarah Peitzmeier, a



professor at the University of Michigan, conducted interviews on people's experience with chest binding and saw the need for gender nonconforming folks to have reliable, evidence-based information on binding. *Breathe* is a guide for those looking to learn about chest binding and those interested in what it means for someone to express their gender in an affirming and healthy way. Including real life stories and easy to understand explanations, this guide is a great resource for the LGBTQ community.

• *Hot Boy Summer* by Joe Jiménez. You've heard of Megan Thee Stallion's hot girl summer, but Jiménez is bringing you a Texas LGBTQ twist, with this

young adult novel released May 7. Following four gay teens in a summer of self-discovery, *Hot Boy Summer* is perfect for fans of Adam Silvera and Becky Albertalli. Written by a Texas native, the story highlights the importance of community and finding others like you.

It is told from the perspective of Mac, who takes readers on a journey of self-discovery as he makes new friends and embraces who he is. Anyone looking to heat up their summer reading — this one's for you. ■



resourcecenter®

Affirming Behavioral Health Care

Providing affirmative counseling services for the LGBTQIA+ community in North Texas.

Telehealth & In-Person Counseling

Individual Counseling

- Adults (18+)
- Youth (13-17)

Couples & Relationship Counseling

Counseling Internship Program for Master's-Level students

Intensive Out Patient (IOP) Treatment

INSURANCE ACCEPTED & SELF-PAY RATES AVAILABLE

Make an appointment today

call: 214 • 393 • 3640

email: counseling@myresourcecenter.org



myresourcecenter.org



CAN COMMUNITY HEALTH

cancommunityhealth.org







SEARCHING From Page 9

Kimbrell said that she found him at 9:30 p.m. on Dec. 5, lying on the floor of his bedroom naked with his hands and feet bound. She said EMS told her he had likely died 24 to 48 hours before he was found. Kimbrell said footage from his Ring doorbell camera shows his car pulling out of his driveway at 3:30 a.m. on Dec. 4, after police believe he was killed.

When Kimbrell was checking her brother's mail after his death, she said she noticed credit card charges from Dec. 4 and 5 totaling \$5,100. She said she believes those charges happened after his death.

Youmans said he had been "supposed to fly to Dallas on the 11th to see Rory. Instead, I flew there early to speak with the police about his murder. We were all shocked."

Youmans, who noted that Thacker had returned on Nov. 28 from a trip to Portugal, said he couldn't find any reports of Thacker's death online from either law enforcement or news sources for several weeks following the murder. "In fact," he added, "barring a memorial post ini-

tiated by the crematorium, it would be well into the new year before information contained in the medical examiner's autopsy report supported a change in Rory's homicide classification from 'unexplained death' to one definitively caused by 'homicidal violence.'"

Youmans added that when he talked to Dallas Police Detective Joshua Romero, Romero was very receptive to his input, and they had an interview that lasted about an hour.

"I know the police need time to do their jobs," Youmans said. "I feel confident that at some point this is going to break."

He said Thacker's family has tried to get a copy of the autopsy report from the Dallas medical examiner's office, but to no avail, as the investigation is active. He said in late February, Dallas police released limited details regarding the investigation. In early March, several news agencies picked up the story, and they interviewed Thacker's sister to get the word out.

"In a way, I'm glad I found him, be-



Rory Thacker with his French bulldog Bertie 2

cause at least I have some answers about how he died," Holly Kimbrell said of her brother "At least we found him in

his home, and he wasn't missing. We don't have to wonder where he is." Youmans — who took Thacker's dogs JuJuBe, Bertie and Malik into his care in Seattle — said he believes Thacker's death was a hate crime.

"I suspect this wasn't just foul play, but also a hate crime committed on a member of our community," he said. "I fear that the more time that passes without an arrest may inevitably be moving Rory's investigation toward the cold case files. I hope that this wasn't a hate crime, because I would hate to think that he suffered."

Youmans said since strangulation is a "pretty personal way to kill someone," he wonders if the perpetrator knew Thacker.

"I can't think of anyone who would want to hurt Rory, but I didn't know everyone he was hanging out with at the time," he said. "But somebody out there knows something."

Two of Thacker's other friends, Jay Bo-gaards and Jennifer White, agreed that Thacker's murder was probably a hate

DALLAS pride ISSUE

COMING MAY 31

Put your company in front of our
LOYAL readers this PRIDE season!

Your ad support gives a voice to the
LGBTQ population of North Texas.

BE A PART
OF OUR
LARGEST &
MOST READ
ISSUE OF THE
YEAR!

dallasvoice

The Premier Media Source for LGBTQ Texas

214-754-8710 | advertising@dallasvoice.com

crime. Thacker's friends and family also said they believe his presence on Sniffies, a map-based app for gay men to find each other, could have played a part in his death.

"Because of the way he was found, I think he was set up," Bogaards said. "That app he was on was super sketchy."

White, who planned Thacker's celebration of life, agreed: "I feel like it would be very easy to set him up through that app," she said.

But police don't believe his death was a hate crime, Kimbrell said.

White, who was watching Thacker's dogs while he was in Portugal, said what hurts the most is thinking about all the plans they'd made together. "We had so much left to do," she said. "We weren't done."

She said when a mutual friend told her about Thacker's death, she kept repeating "no" over and over again. "I was and have been so confused and angry and sad and frustrated," White said. "How could this happen? Who would do this?"

Thacker, who Youmans said grew up on a cattle ranch in Hunt County, was cremated after the ME finished his au-

topsy, and more than 70 people attended Rory's Celebration of Life on Saturday, March 30, in Dallas, Youmans said.

"He was a loved, respected member of the community who was wildly passionate about animals," Youmans said. "He had dogs, tortoises and birds that were all rehomed after his death. I can feel his presence through his animals. He was an extremely special human being."

Thacker's memorial website is filled with anecdotes from people he impacted. One person calls him "a master of smiles and animals." Another said, "Rory was one of the gentlest and sweetest spirits I have ever met."

Bogaards, a gay Houston resident who connected deeply with Thacker when they both lived in the Oak Lawn area, said some of his best years and memories were spent with Thacker.

"We were both recently out of graduate school in similar fields, and clicked immediately," his post reads. "From our late nights on the dance floor to deep conversations about life, he was always there with a smile on his face. He was caring and personable, and you always knew he would have your back and speak the truth, if you liked it or not."

He said they both loved Madonna and followed her tour together. During Thacker's celebration of life, he said Madonna was in Dallas for a show. "He would love that so much," Bogaards said. "Rory had many different interests, like meditation and drum circles and, of course, Madonna. He had a passion for so many things."

Bogaards said he has to compartmentalize to get through his grief, but one positive thing that's come from this has been reconnecting with his and Thacker's friend group from when they were in their 20s. "The core group of friends hadn't seen each other in years, and this brought them back together. They're coming to my house in June for Pride," Bogaards said.

He said Thacker was representative of the positive side of people. "He was authentic instead of being who anyone wanted him to be. When gay men are worried about what everything looks like, Rory took the walls down. He was a real person with flaws and allowed us to be real around him," Bogaards said.

Youmans said he wants to get the word out and bring Thacker's killer to justice. White echoed his sen-

timent, saying that whoever who hurt her friend must be found. "It's infuriating to know that someone could come and take his life, Youmans said. "It's senseless, and we hope we can get some justice. I was a basket case three months ago, just crying randomly. After five months, we're more like trying to make sure this case stays in the light."

"I love him more than I can say," Youmans added. "I have to have all the hope in the world. There's got to be answers out there, and Rory deserves for us to get them."

Kimbrell said she's on a mission to ensure police stay on her brother's case. "I am doing this out of pure love and justice for my brother," she said. "I have nothing to gain and nothing to lose. DPD needs to be held accountable."

White shed tears as she held onto the owl pendant around her neck. "Owls were his spirit animals," she said. "I wear it to remind me he's with me all the time. I can still feel him." ■

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Dallas Police Department by calling 214-671-4226 or emailing joshua.romero@dallaspolice.gov. They should refer to case No. 216536-2023.

43rd Annual
Scarborough
Renaissance Festival®

MAY 25, 26 & 27
DON'T MISS THE FINAL WEEKEND
OF SCARBOROUGH 2024!

Full Combat Jousting • 20+ Stages
Artisan Marketplace with 200+ Shoppes
Authentic Artisan Demonstrations • Birds of Prey Exhibitions
Fun for Kids & so much more!

GET DISCOUNT TICKETS AT TOM THUMB & ALBERTSONS TODAY!

SRFestival.com

LEGACY CHEVROLET GMC Dr Pepper Tom Thumb Albertsons

Just 30 minutes south of the downtowns of Dallas & Fort Worth in Waxahachie

Dallas
-PRIDE-

Music Festival AT THE PARK

PRESENTED BY

Miller
Lite



**CECE
PENISTON**

FESTIVAL HEADLINER



HA SIZZLE

FESTIVAL HEADLINER



**LOREN
ALLRED**

FESTIVAL HEADLINER



JORDY

FESTIVAL HEADLINER

RAINBOW
FIREWORK
SHOW AT 9PM



AQUARIA

FEATURED ON
RUPAUL'S DRAG RACE



MORPHINE

FEATURED ON
RUPAUL'S DRAG RACE



LARDI B



SATURDAY

JUNE 1ST

11AM - 9PM

AT FAIR PARK

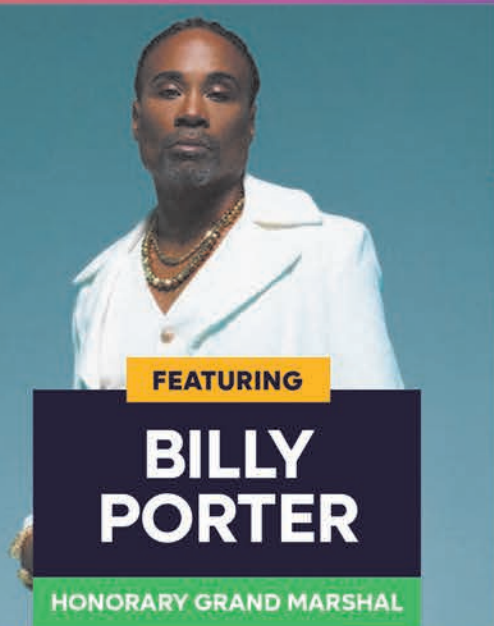


SUNDAY

JUNE 2ND

10AM - 4PM

AT FAIR PARK



FEATURING

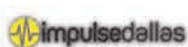
**BILLY
PORTER**

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL

DALLAS PRIDE®
**Festival
& Parade**
AT FAIR PARK



dallaspride.org





Even if your car is not big as a whale, don't miss driving it on over to Club Reflection, 604 S. Jennings St. in Fort Worth, on Saturday, May 18, to catch B-52s tribute band The Bikini Whales, taking the stage at 9 p.m. Led by Todd Camp and Dan Gordon, the band is "on a mission to inject a little joy back into the Fort Worth music scene." See listings and the blog at DallasVoice.com for more information.

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

■ **Bi-Weekly: Hope Cottage Foster Parent Information Meeting**

Hope Cottage holds informational meetings for those interested in becoming foster parents. The meetings are held alternately on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 6 p.m. For information email Clyde Hemminger at chemminger@hopecottage.org.

May

■ **May 17: LGBTQ Mental Health Forum**

Join Pride Frisco as they host this in-person and online forum focusing on mental health issues from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Registration is free at the event page on Eventny.com.

■ **May 17: HRC DFW Social**

Join HRC DFW's social mixer for a night of music, food and advocacy at Henry's Majestic, 2303 Pittman St., from 6-8 p.m. Visit Dfw.Hrc.org for more information.

■ **May 17-19: 25th Annual Grace Project Conference**

The Grace Project Conference is held at the Westin Park Central Hotel, 12720 Merit Drive. Visit LegacyGraceProject.org for more information and to register.

■ **May 17-June 1: 'Cloud Tectonics'**

Sasha Maya Ada directs *Cloud Tectonics* at Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St. in Dallas, each Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and each Sunday at 3 p.m. through June 1. Tickets are \$25, available at TeatroDallas.org.

■ **May 17: 'The Matrix' screening**

CinéWilde presents a screening of *The Matrix* and Cyber Punk Dance Party from 8-11:45 p.m. at Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. The screening is preceded by an Online Aliases Q&A, and Interbang books will have a table open selling books at *The Matrix* and other sci-fi futurism books. Tickets are \$13.50, available at TheTexasTheatre.com.

■ **May 18: Bikini Whales at Club Reflection**

B-52s cover band The Bikini Whales, led by Todd Camp and Dan Gordon, perform at 9 p.m. at Club Reflection, 604 S. Jennings St. in Fort Worth. Follow the band on its social media pages @TheBikiniWhales or check its website TheBikiniWhales.com.

■ **May 18: Pride Happy Hour and Mixer**

Join Fern Connections as they bring a Pride-themed mixer to the Tru by Hilton Dallas Market Center, 1949 N. Stemmons Freeway, from 7-10 p.m. Tickets are available at Eventbrite.com.

■ **May 18: Gaybingo**

The Resource Center hosts this event each month from 6-9 p.m. at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets go on sale at 3 p.m. the Wednesday following each Gaybingo event at MyResourceCenter.org.

■ **May 18: 'An Evening with Mary Gauthier: A Career Retrospective Show'**

The acclaimed singer-songwriter brings her show to Southside Preservation Hall, 1519 Lipscomb St. in Fort Worth from 8-11 p.m. Information and tickets available at SouthsidePreservation.com.

■ **May 18: 'Disco Inferno: Red Dress Extravaganza'**

The DFW Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence host their *Disco Inferno: Red Dress Extravaganza* at Dallas Eagle, 525 S. Riverfront Blvd., to raise funds for local HIV community organizations, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Visit DFWSisters.org for more information.

■ **May 18: LGBTQIA+ Affirming Services Resource Fair**

Dallas Hope Charities hosts the LGBTQIA+ Affirming Services Resource Fair from noon to 2 p.m. at The DAIRE Center, 2600 N. Stemmons Freeway, Ste. 160. The fair offers access to free and low-cost services including housing information and assistance, legal aid and guidance, health services including STD/HIV testing and vaccinations, nonperishable food distribution, period product distribution, McDonald's gift cards, bus passes and monkeypox vaccines with \$25 Walmart gift cards. Visit <https://M.Me/DallasHopeCharities>.

■ **May 19: 'Pages: A TCC Ensemble Concert'**

Enjoy this ensemble concert that's sure to educate and inspire. 6 p.m. at Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Road. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets and information available at TurtleCreekChorale.com.

■ **May 19: Buck Wylde's Sausage Party**

Join Buck Wylde and friends for a game show style brunch at La Toxica Mariscos Y Micheladas, 2914 Main St. Doors open at 11 a.m. and show begins at noon. Tickets can be purchased at Prekindle.com.

■ **May 21: Up & Out: LGBTQ Caregiver Support Group**

Up & Out is a welcoming supportive group for LGBTQ caregivers who are currently caring for anyone 50 and up. This is a virtual event from 6-7:30 p.m. RSVP at CSP@TheSeniorSource.org.

■ **May 22: Same-Sex Partner Grief Group**

Meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month on Zoom and in person. Contact Richard DeKnock for details at tastefullyrichard@gmail.com.

■ **May 22: Gay & Lesbian Fund for Dallas Happy Hour**

Join the Gay & Lesbian Fund for Happy Hour at Fibonacci Plants, 2928 Main St., from 6:30-8 p.m. Visit GLFD.org for more information.

■ **May 23: Dinner for a Cause**

Legacy Cares moves off The Strip to Salum, 4152 Cole Ave., #103, for this event. Visit Legacycares.org for tickets and information.

■ **May 23: LGBTQ Community Engagement Mixer**

Join Wycotax as they host this mixer at TK's Comedy-Cocktails-Cuisine, 14854 Montfort Drive, at 6 p.m. Visit the event page at Eventbrite.com for information and to reserve your spot.

■ **May 25: Pride Prom**

Join Grayson County Pride for their Masquerade themed Pride Prom from 7-11 p.m. at Sherman Municipal Ballroom, 405 N. Rusk St. in Sherman. Tickets and information are available at the event page on Classy.org.

■ **May 25: Eurodance-Dallas Pride Kickoff**

World famous Euro Dance party by Grammy Nominated duo Fatum returns to Dallas at THRIVE Nightclub, 1015 Elm St., from 10 p.m.-4 a.m. Visit the event page on Eventbrite.com for tickets and information.

Have an event coming up? Email your information to [Mathew Dominguez at MathewDominguez@DallasVoice.com](mailto:MathewDominguez@DallasVoice.com) by Monday at 5 p.m. for that week's issue.

Look for extended listings online at DallasVoice.com



Get out your sexiest and most stylish red dress and join the DFW Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence for *Disco Inferno: Red Dress Extravaganza*, starting at 9 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at Dallas Eagle, 525 S. Riverfront Blvd. See listings for details.

Ask Howard

HOW TO DO THE WRONG THING RIGHT

Gays don't do golf

So, here now we've arrived, this third week of May, to the good old summertime beckoning us come play: And-a-one, and-a-two, and-a-three — Hit it, Alice! "School's out for summer! School's out forever!"

I've got a flinty little piece of sunshiny trivia for you, too, kidz: Out of the 52 weeks during any given year, which week boasts the highest annual number of suicide rates? Bingo! That's right. More people, during our peak spring beauty of this third week in May, take it upon themselves to ultimately call it a day. How do I even happen to know such a grisly little factoid? I'll lay blame on my straight male readers. Heterosexual men, I've noticed, seem obsessed with mortality statistics.

In fact, this farcically-queer column of mine enjoys an oddly disproportionate heterosexual male readership. How do I know this? Because of the frequency with which I'm asked why I never tackle any sports questions. Uhm, for those of you who clearly haven't been paying too close attention, this is a gay sex column! Not that I'm necessarily opposed to answering your sports queries, but my core following comes first, most of whom would be hard-pressed to tell you the difference between Tom Brady and Tom Thumb.

After all, the advice I specialize in most is comic relief. That sex happens to be my comedic conduit is more a consequence of accident than any career-goals' inculcation. When "Ask Howard" was first introduced here in Dallas — way back in January of 2005 — I shared the same page with the astrologer and the comic strip writer. My questions arrived via P.O. box. Written on paper. Mailed in envelopes. With a stamp.

Initially, I think, a grand total of about two people regularly read this column, my editor being one and me the other. Then one day, utterly frustrated, I blurted out loud to nobody in particular, "What if I just turn it into a sex column? I get lots of sex questions."

My yawning editor apoplectically shrugged, "Hell, what have we got to lose?" Stunned, I asked, "Are there any words that would be off the table?" Shuffling toward the restroom, he rubbed at

his eyes, "Only the 'N' word, of course. Aside from that, the stratosphere's your limit."

Such a weird thing, sex is. So voyeuristically lurid. So carnally mesmerizing: Seemingly overnight, miracle of miracles, the astrologer suddenly just vanished; the comic strip vaporized, and out of nowhere I found myself possessing an entire page all to myself, in which to pen just whatever smarmy smut gay men happened to currently have on their minds — advertisement-free!

So let's just get sexually-stratospheric right to it, shall we?

Dear Howard: I work the pro-golf circuit. Never won a major tournament, but my name pops up enough I'm occasionally recognized. I make a decent living. I'm in my mid-30s now, still single. Closeted. Don't do the social media thing or go to bars. Just the same, I'd have thought by now to have met just somebody else gay to start a relationship with? I remember reading that something like 10 percent of the human population is gay; yet, where the hell are they? Is my gaydar, like, just totally busted? Do no gays hang out at country clubs or golf resorts or follow any the pro-tournaments' circuit? — **Perplexedly Anonymous**

Dear Pa: No. No, they don't. Gays don't do golf. Well, correction — the lady pond does, en force. But did you not bother checking out the "Sports Interests" category upon receipt of your official gay card? You know, the one which every gay individual receives that very first time he snaps three fingers in a row and gutturally screams, "Fabulous!"?

Go find your gay card now, Pa, and look under the "Sports" category. You find your card? OK. Blow the dust off and run your thumb down it 'til you come across "Gay Male Sports." You see golf listed anywhere? What about, oh, NASCAR racing? That make the list?



Fly fishing? You'd think there must be at least one gay man out there who enjoys fly fishing. Hmm. Surfing? Now, there's gotta be a gay pro-surfer out there, surely. Nothing? What about mountaineering, sky diving, deep sea fishing — these can't all be just total gay sports deserts? Yes, well, they all totally are.

My suggestion, Pa? Just saunter over to the ladies' dressing area there at your club, and politely inquire of one of the pro-tennis or golfing legends whether she might possibly have a gay brother who's single? If not, then simply ask her if she'd please pass the word around the locker room as to whether any of the others might. Blind dates, after all, can be a lot of fun! Your secret will be secure with them, too. Trust me. Lesbians aren't like gay men: The lady pond actually respects the meanings of confidentiality and discretion. Good luck to ya, Pa!

Dear Howard: As a queen who makes a habit of keeping abreast of all things au courant, I recall you illuminating in your 2023 Christmas column that the hottest trending toys of last year were fuck machines, but what about now? What's the must-have new toy this summer season of '24? The one gizmo that no respectably sweating orgy can proceed without? — **Chacha Ching-Ching**

Dear Lady Cha-Ching: While everyone's playroom is already equipped with the essentials, it's clear something's missing. Sure, the sling is still a great ride, as are the box-shaped leather rimming chairs with their built-in cup holders and handcuff attachments on each side. But to find out what's trending now, Private Investigator Howard donned his Burberry sleuth's cap and made the rounds of our local smut emporiums. Sallying up to their on-duty sales clerks, I bluntly asked, with an astonished spread of my

arms, "Which amongst all this are your most in-demand sellers?"

The clerk's response? "It's gonna be a toss-up tie this summer between electro-sex and real-feel dildoes. And don't none of it come cheap. That 10-inch silicone, dual-density offers a true, life-like sensation — the soft outer layer of flexible 'skin' overlays a firm inner core, mimicking a real-feel erection. Overall length: 10.5; insertable length: 8.3; widest insertable diameter: 2.25. Harness compatible, phthalate and latex free and sports a strong suction base."

He droned onward, "All our insertables are made of 100 percent silicone, nonporous and body-safe, providing the ultimate Jock experience. Far and away, they're our number one, storewide seller." Warily, he exhaled and nodded, "Take your time, bro."

So, there you go, Chi Chi. This summer's hottest bedroom enchantments. Remember gurl: water-based lube, only, and don't get too much sand in your hooch!

—Howard Lewis Russell

School's almost out, June's practically here — how in the heck are we already half through the year? Kidz, send your summer vacay questions to AskHoward@dallasvoice.com.

this week's solution

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

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.

Dallas
- P R I D E -

Join us!
Sat. & Sun.,
June 1st & 2nd
Automotive
Building
Fair Park

Pride Parade
June 2nd



Tickets On
Sale Now

dallaspride.org



Family
PRIDE Zone

A safe space for LGBT Parents and their kids!



Family Pride Zone is a safe space for LGBTQ+ parents to enjoy PRIDE with their kids in a comfortable, protected environment. Ride the Pride Train and bounce in inflatables. Our show features the Micro Chicks, Wild Life on the Move and MAGIC! Face painting, pickle ball, games and crafts, all the fun starts at 11am both days. Visit: dallaspride.org/family-pride

TEEN PRIDE



A safe environment for LGBTQ+ youth ages 13 to 19 and their friends to enjoy live entertainment, performances by Kennedy Davenport and the Teen Pride cast. Teen Pride will also feature a roller skating rink, a dedicated area for Trans services, a job fair by Starbucks, empowerment discussions by Trust the Process, jump houses+. dallaspride.org/teen-pride

SCENE

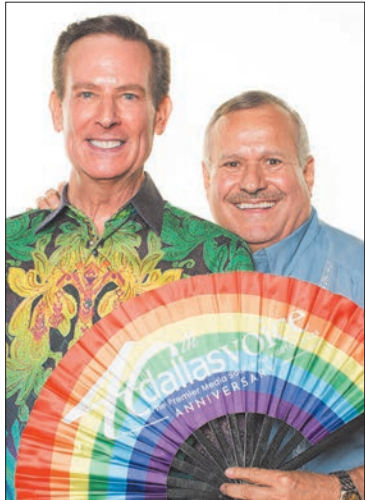
Dallas Voice celebrates 40 years

(Photos by The Mug Spot & Jimmy Bartlett)

PEOPLE, PLACES AND FACES



Dallas Voice's Anniversary Party



Dallas Voice's Anniversary Party



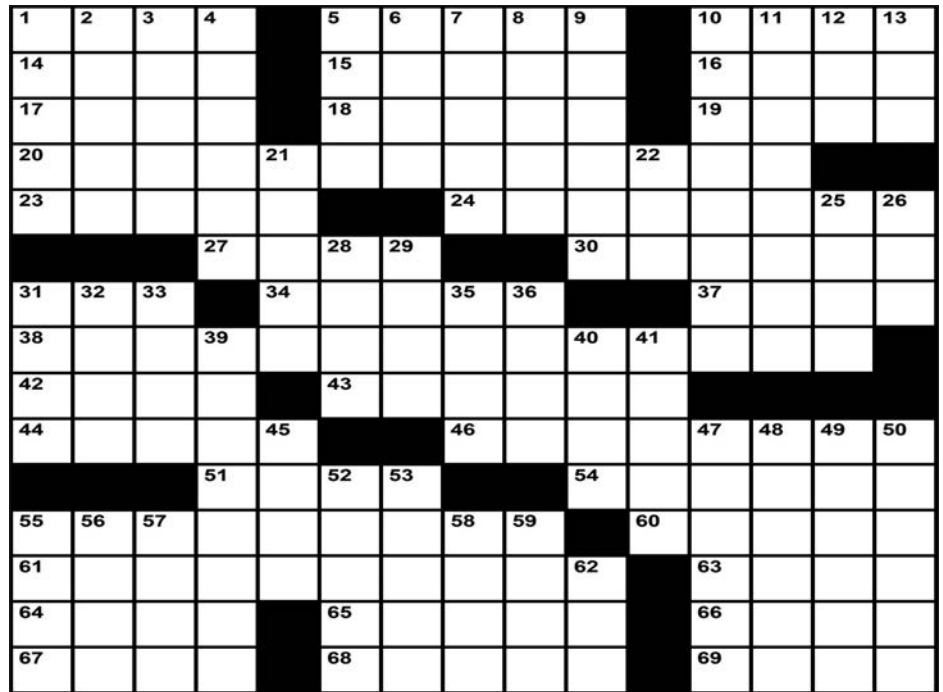
Dallas Voice's Anniversary Party



Lords and ladies (and everybody else), get ready for a weekend full of fun May 18-19 at Scarborough Renaissance Festival with "Legends of the Seas" weekend, featuring pirate games, treasure hunts, costume contests, the all-new Shanty Fest and daily entertainment including The Rambling Sailors, Stonehenj Players and Nature of Mercy Pirates.

PUZZLE |

Barry Many Performances



Solution on Page 20

Across

- 1 Cause of Pinocchio's 8-incher
- 5 Protector of k.d. lang and Janis Ian
- 10 Bay Area bulls (abbr.)
- 14 *Six Feet Under* creator Ball
- 15 Occasional cross dresser comic Milton
- 16 Help reelect Tammy Baldwin, e.g.
- 17 Jack in Mexico?
- 18 Response to an online personal
- 19 The Gay '90s, and more
- 20 Start of a quote by Barry Manilow
- 23 Chat room request
- 24 Build a fire under
- 27 Emphatic affirmative, to Frida
- 30 Country singer Randy
- 31 Exclusion of gays from the military, e.g.
- 34 One who won't settle down
- 37 Part of Mapplethorpe's equipment
- 38 More of the quote
- 42 Take it from me
- 43 Canada's capital
- 44 First lesbian magazine *Vice* ___
- 46 Suppressed laughs
- 51 It can bear fruit
- 54 Dark red gem

- 55 1992 ___ of the Year, Arthur Ashe
- 60 ___ City Music Hall, where Manilow set a record for most performances
- 61 End of the quote
- 63 Bedrock pet
- 64 What Shakespeare might be in, with "the"
- 65 *Three Tall Women* writer
- 66 Big name in stunt riding
- 67 It makes watching porn harder
- 68 Long
- 69 Beatty flick

Down

- 1 Blue stone
- 2 ___ *My Heart in San Francisco*
- 3 Emma Stone's beard movie
- 4 Some stick them where they doesn't belong
- 5 His brother laid him in his grave
- 6 Top Four matchup
- 7 Have overwhelming desire for
- 8 Coming from Uranus, e.g.
- 9 One of the small balls
- 10 Sinister manipulator
- 11 No longer resented
- 12 Arena for GLSEN
- 13 Chef Traci ___ Jardins

- 21 Treating as a sexual object
- 22 Bruin Bobby
- 25 Judy Garland's ___! *Went the Strings of My Heart*
- 26 Snaky shape
- 28 Gay nightlife district of London
- 29 "___ my wit's end!"
- 31 Theodore Cleaver, to Wally
- 32 Kick off a poker hand
- 33 Like a Peter Lorre film
- 35 You can have them in your pants
- 36 Cannon in films
- 39 Part of the cycle of a hand job
- 40 Tiny stick
- 41 Helmeted cartoon character
- 45 They're performing, in *Fame*
- 47 Teaching assistant, at times
- 48 Curly-leaved vegetable
- 49 Pulled on a stallion's strap
- 50 Gay bar perches
- 52 Op-ed offering
- 53 *Dirty Dancing* director Ardolino
- 55 Drinks slowly
- 56 Exam for jrs.
- 57 *Aida*, to Gomer?
- 58 *Dancing Queen* band
- 59 NY Met, for one
- 62 Shakespeare's dusk

MarketPlace

MarketPlace

Your calling card for LGBT Texas business
For information on advertising, call us at:

214-754-8711. Visit us online at:

dallasvoice.com/marketplace

dallasvoice.com

The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Services

THE PAINTER
Specializing In Interior Painting



TONY R.
972-754-1536

30 Years Experience
Free Estimates
Extremely Meticulous

TonyRThePainter@netscape.com

Real Estate



LET'S MAKE A DEAL!

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

kw Proudly Serving the LGBT Community
Keller Williams Realty

tru REST in the heart of Texas!
by HILTON

- Located in the heart of the Design District
- Sky Blu Rooftop bar with the best views of Dallas

1949 N. Stemmons Fwy
214-741-3000

Use promo code **PRIDE** for special rates



LORENZO HOTEL TAPESTRY COLLECTION by Hilton™



Scan This for a Special LGBT Discount

214.273.3000
lorenzohotel.com

1011 S. Akard St.
Dallas, Tx 75215



For Rent

PARKFORD OAKS NOW LEASING



All One Bedroom Community
With Immediate Move In!

Free Rent On Selected Units

www.ParkfordOaks.com 214-520-0282

Real Estate

YOUR FOREVER AGENT
Real Estate is my Passion . . .
Partner with me for all your DFW Real Estate Needs !



PHIL HOBSON
phil@hgrouphomes.com
214.659.3624

Real Estate Agent Since 2003

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES
PENFed REALTY TEXAS



Message

THE NOW
Relax & Recharge at The NOW Massage




THE NOW LOWER GREENVILLE
3614 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX 75206
thenowmassage.com/lower-greenville

THE NOW OAK LAWN
4428 Lemmon Ave, Dallas, TX 75219
thenowmassage.com/oak-lawn



For Lease

For Lease: Villas on Holland



N.E. Oak Lawn – SOHIP - Fabulous 2-Bedroom residence in a predominately gay, small quiet gated community. Mediterranean front with beautiful landscaping and relaxing resident's courtyard. 4-inch door casings, 7-inch baseboards, crown molding, ceiling fans and track lighting. Individual heat and AC. Gay owned & managed. Available NOW! 2-Bedroom \$1,380 per month + electricity and renter's insurance.

4210 Holland Ave. at Douglas: 214-770-1214

Real Estate

The most comfortable deal in real estate
Don't make a move without me

SCOTT CARNES
REALTOR®

GRI, ABR, SRS, ePRO, RENE, CRS
214.490.6895
scottcarnes@dpmre.com
yourhomeindallas.com

- Certified Residential Specialist
- Accredited Buyer Representative
- Buyer and Seller Specialist
- Seller Representative Specialist
- Graduate Realtor Institute
- Relocation Specialist
- Concierge-Level Service



DAVE PERRY MILLER
REAL ESTATE

LIBERTY PORTFOLIO INTERNATIONAL

Services

Acceptance
Home Health
Texas' most accepting home health agency.

www.acceptancehh.com
214-257-8585

Services

DALLAS VETERINARY HOSPICE SERVICES

Dr. Daniel Olson
In-home Hospice Care

📍 serving Oak Lawn & surrounding areas

📞 (972) 364-7282 🌐 www.uptownvet.net



Health

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR LOOK!

Sugaring & Waxing
Facials & Peels
Microdermabrasion & Microneedling
Lash & Brow Lift/Tint/Lamination
Electrolysis

Dooley Noted Skin Spa
11909 Preston Road, Ste. 1436
Dallas, TX 75230 (Preston & Forest)
(469) 878-2948
www.dooleynotedskinspa.com

William Dooley

Services

resourcecenter

Serving the **LGBTQIA+ and HIV/AIDS** communities in North Texas for over 40 years

We offer:
Health Programs
Adult Community Programs
Youth and Family Empowerment

Scan QR Code for more info.

MarketPlace
Your calling card for LGBT Texas business
For information on advertising, call us at: 214-754-8711. Visit us online at: dallasvoice.com/marketplace
dallasvoice.com
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Health

Health & Wellness is more than prescribing a medication

HOLISTIC INTEGRATIVE HEALTH
Your Partner in Well-Being

Call us today to find out how we can treat the root cause of your chronic condition

Immune Support • Hormone Support
Diabetes Reversal program • Fatigue
High Cholesterol • Weight Management
• Low Testosterone • HIV PrEP

John D. Gonzalez
DNP, APRN, ACNP-BC, ANP-C
Serving Our Community Since 2004!

holisticintegrativehealth.net • 469-312-0355
info@holisticintegrativehealth.net

Services

IT'S HOT... WE MAKE IT COOL!

AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

Jade Air
SERVICE • SALES • INSTALLS
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
SERVING THE LGBT COMMUNITY
FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS!

JadeAirDallas.com
214.522.2805
214.923.7904

Goodman
BBB

Health

WEED LIKE YOU TO CHECK US OUT!

NOW OPEN!

- \$5 Joints
- Edibles
- Mushroom Treats
- THCa Flower & Vape

Elev8ted Cannabis Bakery

3819 Fairmount St. (Fairmount & Oak Lawn)
www.5dollarjoints.com

Movers

Fantastic Moves

rva Dallas Voice READERS VOICE AWARDS 2018

VOTED BEST MOVERS 11 YEARS & COUNTING

rva Dallas Voice READERS VOICE AWARDS 2017
rva Dallas Voice READERS VOICE AWARDS 2016
rva Dallas Voice READERS VOICE AWARDS 2015

rva WE ARE THE BEST!
rva WE ARE THE BEST!
rva WE ARE THE BEST!

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

TXDMV 00521440B

Adult

AFTER HOURS VIDEO

RUSH in today! Huge Selection!

10ml Aromas just \$9.95
Top Selling 30ml Aromas
Plus all the adult toys you can imagine!

2528 W. Walnut, Garland
972-276-0893

NOW HIRING MD/NP/PA to join our team!



Eric Klappholz, APRN | Luis Valdes Castillo, APRN
Peter Triporo, APRN | Marc Tribble, MD

Specializing in HIV Treatment & PrEP

Book your appointment online



Visit Us



Peter Triporo, NP
named Top 10 in America's
Top Nurse Practitioner Awards.



Primary Care:

- STI Testing & Treatment
- Diabetes Management
- High Blood Pressure Management
- Cholesterol Management
- LGBTQIA+ specialized care

Specialized Care:

- Psychiatric Services (General/Addiction)
- Infectious Disease/HIV Including Long-acting Injectable treatments for HIV and PrEP (Cabenuva, Apretude)
- Hepatitis C Treatment
- Gender Affirming Care

In-Office Procedures:

- Removal of Warts, Skin Tags, Lipomas & Sebaceous cyst, In-grown/deformed toenails,
- Skin abscess incision & drainage
- Wound Closure/Stitches
- Botox, Juvederm
- Joint Injections

MDProgressiveCare.com | 214-521-0100

WE WELCOME NEW PATIENTS!