

dallasvoice

The Premier Media Source for LGBTQ Texas

Established 1984 | DallasVoice.com | Volume 41 | Issue 24 | FREE | Friday, October 18, 2024

Oak Cliff on display

50th anniversary Heritage Oak Cliff
home tour is next weekend

By David Taffet, page 8



**Freedom is
on the Ballot.
Make a Plan
to Vote.**



Visit **IWillVote.com** to
make a plan to vote today.

PAID FOR BY THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE. WWW.DEMOCRATS.ORG. THIS COMMUNICATION IS NOT AUTHORIZED BY ANY CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATE'S COMMITTEE

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 Whitley

PROOF READER Philip Burton

CONTRIBUTORS Chris Azzopardi, Sean Baugh, Gary Bellomy, Jenny Block, Jesus Chairez, Lawrence Ferber, Kamila Gonzalez, 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, Caroline Savoie, Gregg Shapiro, Casey Williams

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Chad Mantooth, mantooth@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. 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), \$72. Six months (26 consecutive issues), \$96. One year (52 consecutive issues), \$145. 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.

Tired of SHAVING?
We Can Help!

WE NOW OFFER BOTOX TOO!

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

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.builderssurplusyehaa.com

6625 SNIDER PLAZA
(LOVERS LANE @ HILLCREST NEAR SMU)
DALLAS TX 75205
214 363 1871
WWW.MISTERTUXEDODALLAS.COM

MISTER TUXEDO

"Best formal wear store"
— D Magazine

15% BLACK TIE DISCOUNT COUPON

COMPREHENSIVE CARDIOLOGY & PAIN RELIEF
YOUR COMMUNITY, OUR COMMITMENT

SAAD HUSSAIN, MD
Interventional & Structural Cardiologist

SPECIALIZES IN

Blocked Heart Arteries
Heart Disease
A-Fib/Abnormal Heart Rythms

Poor Blood Flow to the Legs
Pacemakers
Post-Heart Attack Care

ANAM AZEEM, MD
Pain Management Specialist

SPECIALIZES IN

Chronic Back Pain
Arthritis Pain
Nerve Pain

Post-Surgical Pain
Headaches/Migraines
Cancer-Related Pain

CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT!
(972) 865-4454
SPECIALTYCARECLINICS.COM

SPECIALTYCARE CLINICS

3500 OAK LAWN AVE., SUITE 600, DALLAS, TX 75219
THE EAST CORNER OF LEMMON AVE. & OAK LAWN AVE.

knox dental
BY JONATHAN VOGEL DDS

■ General & Cosmetic Dentristry ■ Invisalign ■ Veneers
■ Teeth Whitening ■ Dental Sleep Medicine ■ LGBT Owned

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

Call today! 214-521-6261
Visit: KnoxDental.com ■ 4514 Cole Ave., Ste 905

Jonathan Vogel, DDS

Bites from our blog

WHAT'S THE TEA: DallasVoice.com



Ken Paxton

Paxton suing North Texas doctor for violating SB14

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is taking his attack on the state's transgender residents to new heights, filing a lawsuit against a North Texas doctor for "blatantly violating Texas law by providing prohibited 'gender transition' treatments to nearly two dozen minors," according to a press release today (Thursday, Oct. 17) from Paxton's office.

Paxton is basing his hateful lawsuit on Senate Bill 14, which went into effect in September 2023 and was recently upheld by the GOP-ruled Texas Supreme Court. SB 14 prohibits gender transition healthcare, including "surgeries, puberty blockers, and cross-sex hormones for minors," according to Paxton's press release. SB 14 also requires the Texas Medical Board to "revoke the medical license or other authorization to practice medicine of a physician who violates" this law.

He claims that "growing scientific evidence strongly suggests" gender-affirming healthcare for children "in an attempt to anatomically or hormonally alter their biological sex characteristics have damaging, long-term consequences." And, he claims, "the prohibited treatments are experimental, and no scientific evidence supports their supposed benefits."

In reality though, science shows that gender-affirming care has huge benefits for transgender people, including trans minors. All established medical associations support gender-affirming healthcare. Also, no one is doing gender-transition surgeries on children — despite the demented claims of some Republicans — and the effects of puberty blockers usually prescribed for trans minors are temporary, ending when the

individual stops taking the medications.

In fact, according to medical professionals and studies not aimed at promoting a right-wing political agenda and using trans people as tools to rile up right-wing voters and get them to the polls, gender-affirming healthcare saves lives.

Paxton claims that his office has obtained "evidence" showing that a Dallas-area doctor has illegally provided "high-dose cross-sex hormones to 21 minor patients for the direct purpose of 'transitioning' the child's biological sex. The doctor allegedly used false diagnoses and billing codes to mask these unlawful prescriptions."

Paxton declared, "Texas passed a law to protect children from these dangerous unscientific medical interventions that have irreversible and damaging effects. Doctors who continue to provide these harmful 'gender transition' drugs and treatments will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

Meanwhile, as Paxton wastes time and taxpayer dollars trying to interfere in individuals' private, personal healthcare decisions, incidents of human sex trafficking continue to rise: There were 88 million child sexual abuse material files reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children tip line in 2022, and Human trafficking is a \$150 billion industry, the second most profitable illegal industry in the U.S.

In 2019, according to the National Library of Medicine, Texas had the second-highest reported cases of human trafficking, according to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. For the past several years, Texas has been one of the leading states in the number of reported human trafficking cases.

— Tammye Nash



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

We Welcome New Patients

We're thrilled to welcome Dr. Schmidt to MDPC in September! Call 214-521-0100 to schedule your visit.



MD PROGRESSIVE CARE Specializing in HIV Treatment & PrEP

Primary Care:

STI Testing & Treatment
Cholesterol Management
High Blood Pressure Management
Diabetes Management
Weight Management

Specialized Care:

Infectious Disease/HIV
Gender Affirming Care
HEP C Treatment
Psychiatric Services
(General/Addiction)

In-Office Procedures:

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

Book your
appointment
online



Join Dr. Schmidt





News Is Out sponsoring panel discussion on Project 2025

There's been a lot of attention focused on Project 2025, the political initiative published by The Heritage Foundation outlining how a new Donald Trump administration would implement conservative and right-wing policies to reshape the federal government and consolidate executive power.

But how, exactly, would implementation of the policies promoted in Project 2025 affect the LGBTQ community?

On Wednesday, Oct. 23, in an effort to send voters to the ballot box armed with as much accurate information as possible, the LGBTQ news collaborative News Is Out will present a panel discussion aimed at exploring and explaining Project 2025 and its potential impact on our community.

News Is Out Managing Director Dana Piccoli and Washington Blade White House reporter Chris Kane will host the discussion. Guest panelists will include Chasten Buttigieg, Rep. Malcolm Kenyatta of Pennsylvania, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Commissioner Precious Brady-Davis, U.S. Army veteran and transgender activist Charlotte Clymer of Texas, Lambda Legal CEO Kevin Jennings, LPAC Executive Director Janelle Perez, Congressional candidate and Texas state Rep. Julie Johnson and National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund Policy Director Allen Morris.

The discussion is scheduled for 5-7 p.m. Central, and you can watch on Facebook, YouTube or Instagram.

You can register at [Tiny.cc/k3vqzz](https://tiny.cc/k3vqzz) to get email notifications reminding you about the event. The discussion will be recorded so you can rewatch it after the fact. Watch for the recording to be available here at DallasVoice.com

beginning Monday, Oct. 21.

— Tammye Nash

Dallas Voice receives Press Forward grant

Press Forward, a "national initiative to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news, announced today (Wednesday, Oct. 16) that 205 local newsrooms have been chosen to share in \$20 million in funding as part of Press Forward's first "Open Call on Closing Local Coverage Gaps."

Dallas Voice is one of 11 media outlets in Texas to receive funding through this grant. Dallas Voice Publisher Leo Cusumano said he is honored that our North Texas LGBTQ media outlet was included.

"As we continue to expand our reach and serve the LGBTQ+ community in North Texas, the support from Press Forward is vital in helping us bridge the gap in local news coverage," Cusumano said. "Our focus on underserved areas — like Cedar Creek Lake — is a key part of our mission, and with this grant, we can enhance our editorial team, improve our distribution and invest in digital infrastructure."

"This initiative will not only ensure that Dallas Voice remains accessible to all but will also drive long-term sustainability," he continued. "We are deeply grateful for Press Forward's support as we embark on this exciting journey of growth and impact."

Other Texas media outlets receiving Press Forward grants are Austin Monitor, Austin Vida, Dallas Free Press, Deceleration, Paragraph Ranch LLC/The Texas Spur, Shift Press, The Austin Common, The Mesquite, Uvalde Leader-News and West Texas Tribune.

— Tammye Nash

Adoptable / LEXTER



Meet **Lexter**, a 7-month-old boxer/terrier mix who is a 35-pound goofball full of energy. He has a white, short coat and an adorable brown patch over one eye and a polka-dot tummy. Lexter is a curious explorer who loves to play, but he's also always ready to offer a cuddle and shower you with puppy kisses, making sure you know just how much he adores you. Lexter also minds well for his age and is eager to learn and impress; with a little guidance, he'll grow into an even more well-behaved companion.

Like all pets from the SPCA of Texas, Lexter has been neutered and microchipped and is up to date on all his vaccinations. He is housed at the Russell E. Dealey Animal Rescue Center, so you'll need an appointment to meet him. Find his profile at SPCA.org/Dogs and click on the button to make an appointment button. Animals are available for adoption at both the SPCA Dallas Animal Care Center, 2400 Lone Star Drive, and at the Ellis County Animal Care Center, 2570 FM 878 in Waxahachie.

PRIDE IN BUSINESS AWARDS 2024

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024 RENAISSANCE DALLAS HOTEL

Congratulation
AWARD
Winners!

CHAMBER CHAMPION ★ RICK ADAMS; THE UPS STORE ON LEMMON

CORPORATE PARTNER OF THE YEAR ★ COMERICA BANK

CORPORATE LGBTQ+ ALLY OF THE YEAR ★ ANNETTE UNDERWOOD; VISTA LGBTQ+ BUSINESS OF THE YEAR ★

ANTHONY'S EATALIAN; ROBERT OLSON & ROMAN FIGUEROA

COMMUNITY LEGACY AWARD ★ LEO CUSIMANO/DALLAS VOICE

LGBTBE® CERTIFIED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR ★

DEI RECRUITING AND CONSULTING; MICHELLE JOLIVET

ALLY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR ★ FERN CONNECTIONS; DAPHNEY POYSER

NONPROFIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR ★ AIDS SERVICES DALLAS

SUPPLIER DIVERSITY ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR ★ MARIO BOFFA; WELLS FARGO

BUSINESS/EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUP OF THE YEAR ★ VISTRA ePRIDE

CHAMBER ADVOCACY AWARD ★ NORTH TEXAS COMMISSION

Thank you SPONSORS

American Airlines

TOYOTA

WELLS FARGO



ERICSSON

WATSON
BRANDING & MARKETING

GOODY GOODY
WINE • BEER • LIQUOR

Southwest

NORTH TEXAS
LGBTQ
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Achieving Equality
Through Business
since 2005

Visit us online at www.LGBTQChamber.com

© North Texas LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce

Protecting Dallas pride

BY: Rep. Julie Johnson, Rep. Venton Jones, Rep. Jessica González, Council Member Chad West, Council Member Omar Narvaez and former Council Member Hon. Adam Medrano



Rep. Julie Johnson



Rep. Venton Jones



Rep. Jessica González



Council Member Chad West



Council Member Omar Narvaez



Hon. Adam Medrano

Why LGBTQIA+ Dallasites must vote against S, T, and U

Dallas's hard-won progress on LGBTQIA+ rights faces a critical test: The upcoming vote on Propositions S, T and U, funded by MAGA Millionaires, will undermine our inclusive community.

As your LGBTQIA+ representatives, we urge you to vote against Propositions S, T and U.

For decades, Dallas has championed equality — from passing one of Texas's first comprehensive non-discrimination ordinances to offering transgender-in-

clusive healthcare for city employees. Our commitment is visible in the rainbow-hued streets of Oak Lawn, echoed in the cheers of our Pride parades and reflected in the diverse faces of leadership across our city.

This is the Dallas we know and love — a city that celebrates equity, inclusion and diversity. Here's why these amendments matter to our community and all Dallasites:

- Amendment S puts our inclusive policies and city services at risk. This amendment will allow wealthy individuals and companies to sue the city more easily, putting our non-discrimination ordinances and other LGBTQIA+-friend-

ly policies at risk of legal challenges.

It's crucial to understand that our city's non-discrimination protections are our frontline defense — and the threat to them is real. We're seeing the MAGA playbook unfold across the nation; earlier this year, more than 20 GOP-led states sued the Biden administration to challenge Title IX rules expanding protections for LGBTQ students.

If Amendment S passes, we risk exposing our inclusive policies to similar attacks, undermining the progress we've fought so hard to achieve.

- Amendment T threatens LGBTQIA+-supportive leadership and effective governance. By tying the

city manager's job to an undemocratic 1,400-person survey, we risk losing leaders who have been instrumental in advancing LGBTQIA+ rights in Dallas.

It was forward-thinking city leadership that implemented transgender-inclusive healthcare for city employees and made projects like Oak Lawn Place — an LGBTQIA+ affirming, affordable senior housing complex that opened this year — possible.

- Amendment U diverts funds from city services and puts our safety at risk. While we support our police, the amendment mandating the hiring of 900 officers would force every city department to make cuts. According to Interim City Manager Kim Tolbert, "You would be looking at drastic, very extreme cuts that we would have to make across the board."

Additionally, our police chief has stated that hiring 900 officers within a year is nearly impossible. "It would be incredibly difficult," he said. "It would be a burden on the department, particularly when it comes to funding for other priorities."

We all believe in responsible policing that aligns with our community's priorities, and we're proud that the Dallas Police Department reflects this through its LGBTQ+ Liaison Officer and Community Engagement Unit. We don't want to compromise our safety by rushing to put untrained officers on the streets or roll-back crucial initiatives designed to build trust and foster stronger community connections.

This Nov. 5, as you reach the bottom of your ballot, think of the Dallas we've built together. Think of the LGBTQIA+ youth who find refuge here, the seniors who can age with dignity in Oak Lawn Place, the trans employees who receive the healthcare they deserve.

Our Dallas — the city that has been our shield, our home, our pride — needs us now more than ever. To protect the Dallas we cherish today and secure the future we can't afford to lose, vote AGAINST Propositions S, T and U. ■



NOVEMBER 2024 GENERAL ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

BECOME A MEMBER



VOTE ALL THE WAY DOWN THE BALLOT

Early voting: **Oct. 21-Nov. 1**

Election Day: **Nov. 5**

Please vote in every contest, even for unopposed Democrats. Visit dallascountyvotes.org for sample ballots. Registered Dallas County voters may vote at **any polling location** within Dallas County. Make sure you're registered to vote before **October 7th**.

FEDERAL

President
Kamala Harris

Vice President
Tim Walz

U.S. Senate
Colin Allred

Congressional District 5
Ruth "Truth" Torres

Congressional District 24
Sam Eppler

Congressional District 30
Jasmine Crocket

Congressional District 32
Julie Johnson

Congressional District 33
Marc Veasey

STATE

Supreme Court, Pl. 2
DaSean Jones

Supreme Court, Pl. 4
Christine Vinh Weems

Supreme Court, Pl. 6
Bonnie Lee Goldstein

Railroad Commissioner
Katherine Culbert

Court of Criminal Appeals, Pl. 1
Holly Taylor

Court of Criminal Appeals, Pl. 7
Nancy Mulder

Court of Criminal Appeals, Pl. 8
Chika Anyiam

LOCAL

State Board of Ed. District 11
Rayna Glasser

State Board of Ed. District 12
George King

State Board of Ed. District 13
Tiffany Clark

TX Senate District 12
Stephanie Draper

TX Senate District 16
Nathan Johnson

TX Senate District 23
Royce West

TX House District 100
Venton Jones

TX House District 102
Ana-Maria Ramos

TX House District 103
Rafael Anchía

TX House District 104
Jessica González

TX House District 105
Terry Meza

TX House District 107
Linda Garcia

TX House District 108
Elizabeth Ginsberg

TX House District 109
Aicha Davis

TX House District 110
Toni Rose

TX House District 111
Yvonne Davis

TX House District 112
Averie Bishop

TX House District 113
Rhett Andrews Bowers

TX House District 114
John Bryant

TX House District 115
Cassandra Hernandez

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 1
Staci Williams

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 2
Robbie Partida-Kipness

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 5
Erin A Nowell

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 9
Tina Clinton

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 10
Amanda Reichel

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 11
Kim Cooks

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 12
Ken Molberg

5th Court of Appeals, Pl. 13
Tonya Parker

14th District Judge
Eric V. Moyé

95th District Judge
Monica Purdy

162nd District Judge
Kim Bailey

Criminal District Judge No. 2
Elizabeth Davis Frizell

Criminal District Judge No. 3
Audra Ladawn Riley

Criminal District Judge No. 4
Dominique Collins

County Commissioner, Pl. 1
Theresa Marie Daniel

County Commissioner, Pl. 3
John Wiley Price

County Tax Assessor
John R. Ames

Sheriff
Marian Brown

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL

Instagram: @StonewallDallasDems

Twitter: @StonewallDallasDems

Facebook: DallasStonewall

STONEWALLDEMOCRATSOFDALLAS.ORG

Political advertisement paid for by Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, Treasurer Jay Havran

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

Tour of homes spotlights **Oak Cliff**

HOMES AND HISTORY

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Heritage Oak Cliff's premiere event

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
Taffet@DallasVoice.com

Built on a heavily wooded two-acre lot in southern Oak Cliff, the house owned by David Cooper and Allen Haskell is one of the 10 featured in this year's Heritage Oak Cliff tour of homes, happening Oct. 26-27. Two commercial properties are also included on this year's tour, as well as a bonus home built on the edge of the cliff overlooking downtown.

Cooper and Haskell said they were excited to be included in this year's tour, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the event (due to the pandemic, however, this is only the 47th tour). Their home is in the Brettonwoods neighborhood, just south of the better-known and heavily gay Kiestwood neighborhood. Until the ranches that existed on the land south of Kiest Boulevard were sold off and subdivided in the 1960s, horses and cattle were raised in this area of Oak Cliff.

The ranch-style house on Gladiolus Lane off Hampton Road was built in 1969 and transformed into a modern chalet in 2009 before the couple bought the property. Originally three bedrooms with two baths, the house is now two bedrooms with two-and-a-half baths.

The roof line was re-oriented and the ceiling raised to 15 feet. Dark hallways were eliminated to add living space to this 2,000-square-foot home. An island kitchen sits center in the home with sitting, dining, television, bar and fireplace spaces radiating off of it.

The master bedroom has a walk-in closet, huge windows that look out on the wooded backyard and access to the main desk. The suite includes a huge bathroom with walk-in shower and spa bath.



The second bedroom has views of the lush front yard.

While the house had already been renovated when the couple bought the property, the landscaping is all theirs. This area of Oak Cliff is hilly, and the sloping yard is tiered to multiple levels with large, natural limestone outcroppings adding to the dramatic landscape. Haskell said they added the pool and covered back patio.

"The back of the property was covered in invasive privet," he said. "In order to create the pool and lawn, all of that had

to be removed."

To enjoy their pool area throughout the summer season, they added a covered patio area that was built within existing planters and walls. The sloped roof is high enough to catch a breeze and the west side is screened to block some of the bright late-afternoon sun.

A second home on the tour right down the street also sits on a two-acre lot. Cooper said each house on their side of the road sits on two acres, while those across the street are smaller.

Cooper described the second house on

Gladiolus Street as "super surprising." From the street it looks like a one-story ranch house, but because of the sloped terrain, from the back it's a two-story.

Ryan Stepp, this year's tour of homes co-chair, said most of the homes this year are paired like the two houses on Gladiolus Street, so you don't have to drive to 12 different neighborhoods to see individual properties. He said real estate and construction company sponsors of each of the houses made it possible to find pairs of neighbors who wanted to show their houses.

Melissa O'Brien with O'Brien Property Group at Dave Perry Miller Real Estate pitched Cooper and Haskell's house to the tour committee, Stepp said. Some of the other LGBTQ community members who are sponsoring houses are Kathy Hewitt, Michael Mahon, Tim Hill and Travis-Lee Moore.

Two commercial properties are included in this year's tour. Stepp said this wasn't the first time the tour's included more than just homes.

A look at **proposed** charter amendments

ANALYSIS

Three charter amendments were written by a right-wing PAC. The others were proposed by the city council

The document on the Dallas City Hall website explaining this year's extensive list of charter amendments is 32 pages long. No one except a reporter with nothing else to do is going to read that. So I did.

A couple of the proposals are controversial. Some are just changes in wording to comply with state law.

Proposals B through R were written by city staff and approved for the bal-



David Taffet
Senior Staff Writer

lot by the city council. The last three — S, T and U, also known as the MAGA propositions — were not. Here is some in-

formation on those three proposals.

The MAGA Amendments

- **Proposition S**

Proposition S would give any Dallas



Dallas City Hall

AMENDMENTS, Page 14



TEXAS
SPECIALTY CLINIC

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
- Extensive Experience since 1981
- HIV Specialists, ask about PrEP
- STI Testing and Treatment
- Gender Affirming Care
- Internal 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 Infectious Disease



LGBT Owned and Operated | Nonprofit

Accepting BCBS, AETNA, CIGNA, UNITED and many other insurance plans

NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Dallas, Texas has called a special election to be held within the City of Dallas, Texas on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

DALLAS

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION A

Shall Chapter 40A of the Dallas City Code, known as the employees' retirement fund of the City of Dallas, be amended in accordance with Ordinance No. 32801 to: add, revise, and delete various definitions; provide amended terms and term limits of the board; modify the retirement fund board's powers and duties; specify the date the board shall adopt the actuarially determined contribution rate, the current total adjusted total obligation rate, the current total obligation rate, and the pension obligation bond credit rate for each fiscal year; provide amended contribution amounts for the city and employees; provide a contribution maximum for Tier A and Tier B employees; provide that the city may contribute additional monies to the retirement fund in its sole discretion; amend the modifications of contribution rates; provide guardrails with respect to the calculation of the actuarially determined contribution and incorporating the guardrails into actuarial assumptions; and amend the procedure to amend Chapter 40A?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION B

Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a preamble that declares the city to be an equitable democracy, comprised of representatives that act to make the city fair, equitable, just, and safe for all residents?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION C

Increasing Salaries for the Mayor and Councilmembers

Shall Chapter III, Section 4(a) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to increase the annual salary for the mayor to \$110,000 and the annual salaries for councilmembers to \$90,000 with salaries subject to a yearly adjustment equal to the year-over-year percentage increase in the local consumer price index, effective January 1, 2025?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION D

Removing Election Date from the Charter

Shall Chapter IV, Section 3 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by deleting the requirement that elections for members of the city council be held in May and instead be held according to state law and as designated by city resolution or ordinance?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION E

Eliminating the Ability for Councilmembers and Mayor to Run Again After Serving the Limit of Terms

Shall Chapter III, Section 3A of the Dallas City Charter be amended to eliminate the ability for members of the city council to run for city council again after serving the maximum four two-year terms and to eliminate the ability for the mayor to run for mayor again after serving the maximum two four-year terms?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION F

Providing the City Secretary and City Auditor with Employees

Shall Chapter IIIA, Section 2 and Chapter IX, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter, which requires the city council to provide assistants to the city secretary and city auditor, be amended to also require the city council to provide employees to the city secretary and city auditor?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION G

Adding Eligibility Criteria for Serving on the Redistricting Commission

Shall Chapter IV, Section 5(b)(2) of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes the redistricting commission, be amended by adding eligibility criteria for serving on the redistricting commission?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION H

Eliminating the Requirement that Members of Boards and Commissions Created by Charter be Registered to Vote, Qualified Voters, or Qualified Taxpaying Citizens

Shall Chapter IV, Section 5; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XVI, Section 1; and Chapter XVII, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by eliminating the requirement that members of the redistricting commission, city plan commission, civil service board, and park and recreation board be registered to vote, qualified voters, or qualified taxpaying citizens?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION I

Amending Initiative and Referendum Petition Procedure by Extending Deadline for Petition Signature Collection from 60 Days to 120 Days and Reducing Number of Signatures Required on a Petition to Initiate a Referendum

Shall Chapter XVIII, Section 11 of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes procedures for initiative and referendum of ordinances, be amended to extend the deadline petitioners must meet to collect required signatures from 60 days to 120 days and reduce the number of signatures required on a petition from 10 percent of the qualified voters of the City of Dallas to five percent?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION J

Allowing City Council to Replace City Board and Commission Members Before Completion of Board and Commission Terms

Shall Chapter XXIV, Section 17(b) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to allow city council's appointments to city boards and commissions to be replaced by city council prior to completion of a member's two-year term?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION L

Adding the Office of the Inspector General to the Charter

Shall Chapter XI, Section 2 be amended and a new chapter be added to the Dallas City Charter that establishes the Office of the Inspector General with the Inspector General being appointed by city council and lists the duties of the Inspector General?

FOR
 AGAINST

PROPOSITION O

Amending the Appointment Procedure and Qualifications of Associate Municipal Judges

Shall Chapter VIII, Section 6 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to clarify the terms of associate municipal judges and state that associate municipal judges are appointed by city council, receive assignments from the administrative judge or the administrative judge's designee, and must be residents of Dallas within four months of the date of appointment and practicing attorneys in good standing?



City of Dallas

FOR **PROPOSITION P**
 AGAINST **Deleting the Requirement to Pay One-Half the Costs of Administrative Law Judge**
 Shall Chapter XVI, Section 12.1 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by deleting the requirement that a city employee who appeals his or her discharge or reduction in grade to an administrative law judge pay one-half of the costs attributed to having the administrative law judge conduct the appeal hearing?

FOR **PROPOSITION Q**
 AGAINST **Technical Amendments to Conform to State Law, City Code, and Actual Practices; to Correct Terms; and to Clarify Language**
 Shall Chapter III, Section 3; Chapter III, Section 4; Chapter III, Chapter 8(b); Chapter III, Section 13(a); Chapter III, Section 19; Chapter IV, Section 6(a); Chapter IV, Section 6(c)(2); Chapter IV, Section 13; Chapter XI, Section 1; Chapter XI, Section 3; Chapter XII, Section 4; Chapter XIII, Section 2(2); Chapter XIII, Section 9; Chapter XIV, Section 8; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XV, Section 4; Chapter XVI, Section 3(b)(1); Chapter XVI, Section 7; Chapter XVI, Section 10(a); Chapter XVI, Section 11(b); Chapter XVIII, Section 7; Chapter XVIII, Section 11(1); Chapter XVIII, Section 15; Chapter XIX, Section 7; Chapter XXII, Section 2; Chapter XXII, Section 3; Chapter XXII, Section 4(1); Chapter XXII, Section 10; and Chapter XXIV of the Dallas City Charter be amended to conform to state law, conform to the city code, match actual practices, correct terms, clarify language, and other technical amendments?

FOR **PROPOSITION R**
 AGAINST **Reform Marijuana Enforcement**
 Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section in Chapter XXIV that reforms marijuana possession enforcement by prohibiting the Dallas Police Department from making arrests or issuing citations for marijuana possession or considering the odor of marijuana as probable cause for search or seizure, except as part of a violent felony or high priority narcotics felony investigation; making enforcement of Class A (currently, two to four ounces) and Class B (currently, up to two ounces) misdemeanor marijuana possession the Dallas Police Department's lowest enforcement priority; and prohibiting city funds or personnel from being used to test cannabis-related substances to determine whether a substance meets the legal definition of marijuana, except in limited circumstances?

FOR **PROPOSITION S**
 AGAINST **Granting Standing to Residents and Waiving Governmental Immunity**
 Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new chapter that grants standing to any resident of Dallas to bring a lawsuit against the city to require the city to comply with provisions of the city charter, city ordinances, and state law; entitles claimants to seek declaratory and injunctive relief against the city and recover costs and reasonable attorney's fees; and waives the city's governmental immunity from suit and liability in claims brought under this amendment?

FOR **PROPOSITION T**
 AGAINST **Annual Community Survey**
 Shall Chapter VI of the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section compelling the city to conduct the city-commissioned Community Survey on an annual basis, to be completed by a minimum of 1,400 Dallas residents on their satisfaction on quality of life issues, the results of which will result in the city manager earning additional performance compensation (between 0 percent and 100 percent of the city manager's annual base salary) or the termination of the city manager?

FOR **PROPOSITION U**
 AGAINST **Police and Fire Funding Appropriation**
 Shall Chapter XI of the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section compelling city council to appropriate no less than 50 percent of annual revenue that exceeds the total annual revenue of the previous year to fund the Dallas Police and Fire Pension, with any monies remaining of that 50% to be appropriated to increasing the starting compensation of officers of the Dallas Police Department and to increase the number of police officers to a minimum of 4,000, and to maintain that ratio of officers to the City of Dallas population as of the date of passage of this amendment?

Note: Propositions K, M, and N were removed per Ordinance Number 32849, approved on September 11, 2024, by the Dallas City Council.

Dates	Day of the Week	Hours
October 21-25, 2024	Monday-Friday	8 AM - 5 PM
October 26, 2024	Saturday	7 AM - 7 PM
October 27, 2024	Sunday	12 PM - 6 PM
October 28 - November 1, 2024	Monday-Friday	7 AM - 7 PM

Dallas County Early voting and Election Day locations:
<https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/voters/election/11052024-2/>

Collin County Early voting and Election Day locations and dates/times:
<https://www.collincountytx.gov/Elections/polling-locations>

Denton County Early voting and Election Day locations and dates/times:
https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/1124_EV_Locations.pdf
<https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/1124-Unconsolidated-ED-Locations.pdf>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE:
 Bilierae Johnson (214) 670-5654 or Miroslava Martinez (214) 670-3809



On the ice in Allen

SPORTS



Amber Glenn



Ilia Malinen

Skate America returns to North Texas for the second consecutive year

COY COVINGTON | Contributing Writer
coyact@aol.com

Figure skating fans who are headed up the pike this weekend for Skate America, being held in Allen for the second consecutive year, may be plucked to learn that U.S. National Women's Champion Amber Glenn, the pride of Plano, won't be there. This year she begins her Grand Prix season at Skate Canada, happening next week in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Grand Prix of Figure Skating is a series of senior international skating competitions organized by the International Skating Union. The invitational series hits six nations around the world. This year we'll see competitions not only in America but also Canada, France, Japan, Finland and China.

After the preliminary rounds, the top six qualifiers will then duke it out in each discipline: Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Pair Skating and Ice Dance in the Grand Prix Final to be contested in Grenoble, France.

Skate America Schedule

Friday, Oct. 18
5:59 p.m.: Pairs Short Program
7:25 p.m.: Women's Short Program
Saturday, Oct. 19
1:03 p.m.: Rhythm Dance
2:43 p.m.: Pairs Free Skate
5:15 p.m.: Men's Short Program
7:06 p.m.: Women's Free Skate
Sunday, Oct. 20
11:04 a.m.: Men's Free Skate
1:22 p.m.: Free Dance
6:45 p.m.: Prevagen Skating Spectacular

The 2024 edition of Skate America toe-picks off tonight (Friday, Oct. 18) at the Credit Union of Texas Event Center in Allen (yep, figure skating in Texas!) with the Pairs Short Program and Women's Short Program (even though it will be without Amber Glenn).

Glenn is a fascinating, hard-scrabble kind of skater who once had the reputation of frustratingly inconsistent performances. However, in the last few years she has trained harder while becoming more chill and, at the same time, more confident. Could be she's picked up some swagger by being the only U.S. woman currently with a triple Axel tucked in her Coach handbag.

After many failed attempts, Glenn landed her first clean triple Axel last year at Skate America. The large crowd — including many fans, family and

Plano pals — went absolutely berserk when she hit the jump, screaming and clapping and stomping their feet. It was pandemonium and definitely threw Glenn off her game as she tanked the rest of the program and landed in a dismal fifth place.

Although she took it, literally, sitting down, Glenn didn't let it slay her. She kept working and skated on with her season, and, a full decade after she reigned as the U.S. junior champion, she won the senior golden crown at the 2024 U.S. Nationals.

Yep, she's a queen alright. Rather, that is to say, she's queer.

In 2019 Glenn came out as bisexual/pansexual to this reporter in this publication. Although neither of us expected it, the story went national and even international in the skating world. So, yes, the queer pride of Plano (she was born and lived there until 2022) became the very first out queer singles skater to win an American national title!

When I caught up with Glenn at Nationals in San Jose we laughed about the response. "It was insane," she chuckled.

But was it good or bad insane?

"I mean, any big thing like that is going to have some good and some bad," she said. "I truly felt an overwhelming amount of support, but there are always going to be people who hate on

you. I thought this was going to be my first baby steps, but it ended up, like, fully diving in, and I couldn't be more grateful."

For those who feel the sting of not seeing Glenn skate this year in Allen, don't hissy. There's lots to see at this edition of Skate America. Many have their eye on out, queer Kévin Aymoz of France. He's been a bit inconsistent over the years, but he's also had much success as the 2019–20 Grand Prix Final bronze medalist, a five time ISU Grand Prix medalist and a five-time French national champion.

Aymoz represented France at the 2022 Winter Olympics, where he finished 12th. He has placed as high as fourth at the World Championships (2023), and twice finished fourth at the European Championships (2019, 2023).

Aymoz was also the 2023 silver medalist here at Skate America. Known as handsome (indeed, some would say sexy), Aymoz is an electrifying artistic skater with intricate and astounding programs and a frequent fan favorite. After the silver at Skate America, he continued the hot streak on the Grand Prix circuit, taking the bronze medal at the 2023 Grand Prix of Espoo (Finland) and qualifying for the Grand Prix final in Saitama, Japan.

Then the wheels fell off. He bombed the second half of his 2024 season, plac-

ing an embarrassing seventh at French Nationals after a catastrophic long program. Despite his low national ranking, Aymoz was sent to the 2024 European Championships in Kaunas, Lithuania.

His struggles continued, and he placed a shattering 31st in the short program, failing even to qualify for the free skate. Devastating.

Afterward, he announced his withdrawal from the 2024 World Championships and all other competitions for the rest of the season, citing a need to work on his mental health and prepare for the next two seasons.

Fans and officials were baffled by the swift decline. Was he injured? Having mental health issues? Simply fatigued? Dunno. But we all thought he'd train for the remainder of the year and come back strong for the 24-25 season.

Then — quelle dommage — came the Master's de Patinage, an annual domestic French figure skating competition held just a few weeks ago. Aymoz had, arguably, one of the most disastrous free programs in history. He took falls — hard falls — on nearly every jump.

Again, is he injured? In mental distress? Fallen out of love with the sport? It brought to mind Simone Biles and the "twisties" which hit her hard at the 2021 Olympics.

In gymnastics, "twisties" can cause a person to lose their sense of space and dimension as they're in the air, causing them to lose control of their body. In the worst cases, they can find themselves suddenly unable to land safely.

I've never heard of it being a thing in skating, but his performance was sad and hard to watch from a skater with such massive potential. The skating world wishes him a speedy recovery, by whatever means it takes.

But there is no cause for panic, Skate America will have gobs of thrills and feels. First, there is American teen wunderkind, Ilia Malinin. He is the 2024 world champion, 2023-24 Grand Prix Final champion, 2023 world bronze medalist, the 2022-23 Grand Prix Final bronze medalist, a six-time Grand Prix medalist (four gold, one silver, one bronze), a three-time ISU Challenger Series medalist (two gold, one bronze), the

2022 U.S. national silver medalist and the 2023 and reigning U.S. champion.

Malinin's performance at Worlds in Montreal was downright freakish. The 19-year-old (who turns 20 in December) demolished the field, landing the best collection of jumps in one program in figure skating history. First off he executed his astounding signature quadruple Axel (the only person in history to land one cleanly in competition), along with quad Lutz, quad loop, quad Salchow, another quad Lutz (in combination with a triple flip), a quad toe loop (in combo with a triple toe), then tacked on a triple Lutz-triple Axel combo to end his unprecedented four-minute free skate.

It was otherworldly. He even shocked himself a bit: "When I got into the starting position," he said to NBC Sports, "I knew that this could be the best skate of my life, or it could go terribly wrong."

As if.

Malinin, the self-proclaimed "Quad God," also has to-die-for special tricks, most of which he creates himself. His signature "Raspberry Twist" (you'll

know it when you see it) is jaw-dropping and never fails to get a mighty roar from the crowd. He typically throws it in every free program.

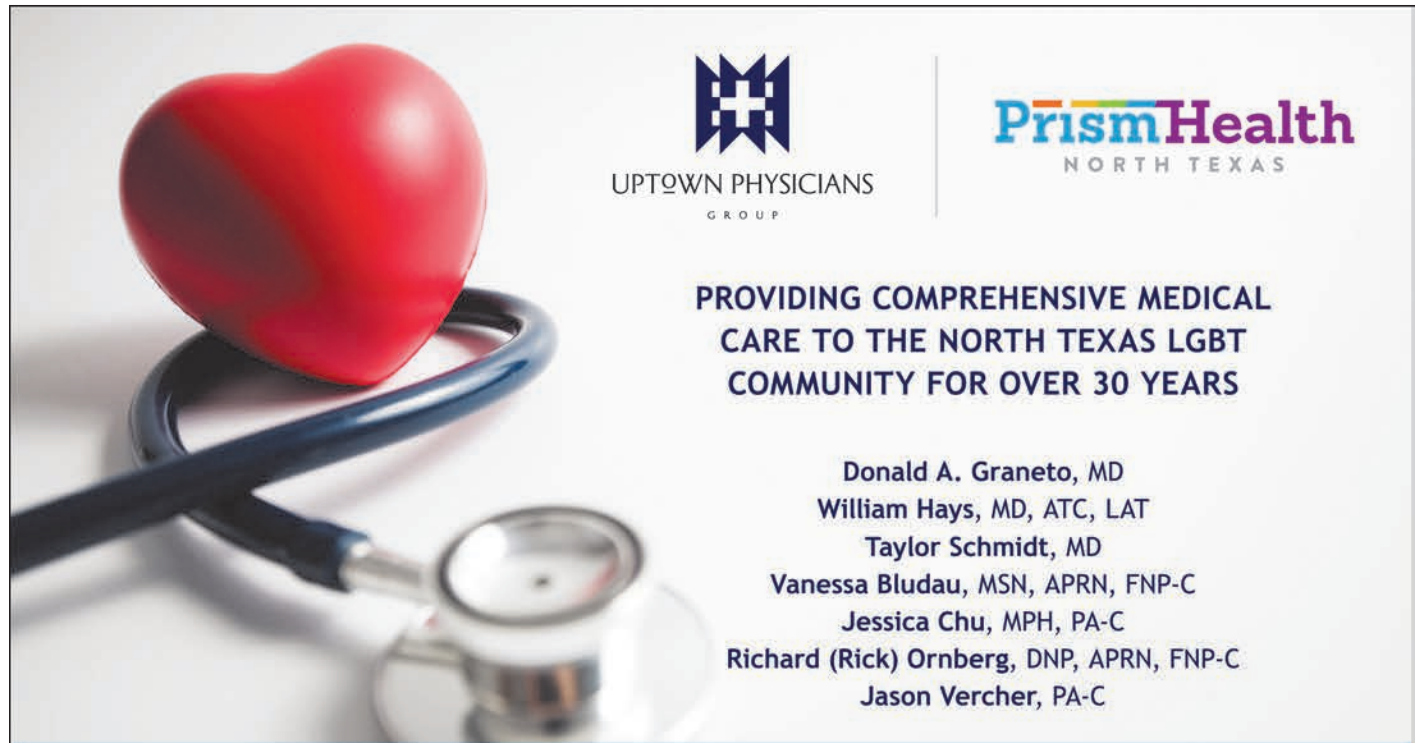
This year, if he's feeling devilish, he might just add a back-flip, now that they are legal again in competitive figure skating after a 40-year ban.


But wait, there's more. On Saturday, Oct. 19, you can see two-time World Champion Ice Dancers Madison Chock and Evan Bates begin the quest for their fifth Skate America title. There's former U.S. National Women's Champions Isabeau Levito and Bradie Tennell, popular British ice dancers Lilah Fear and her gay partner Lewis Gibson. And not to be forgotten are the Japanese pairs team of Rika Miura and Ryuichi Kihara, who are former World Champions.

You might want to wind your way up to Allen this weekend. There will be Gold, Silver, Bronze, a Raspberry Twist and rhinestones for days.


Hell. You might just flip your Lutz! ■

Television coverage will air on NBC, E! and stream on Peacock.com. Check local listings





UPTOWN PHYSICIANS
GROUP



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
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



AMENDMENTS From Page 9

resident standing to sue the city for just about anything related to the city charter, a city ordinance or any state law. City government would come to a standstill defending itself against hundreds, maybe thousands, of frivolous lawsuits. And it would cost each and every Dallas city resident a fortune.

• Proposition T

If Proposition T were to pass, the city would be compelled to conduct an annual survey of just 1,400 residents to determine whether the city manager should be fired or given up to a 100 percent raise.

I like our current interim city manager, Kimberly Bizer Tolbert. I think she's doing a good job and she's delightful to talk to. But I am in no way qualified to judge her actual job performance. Neither is the average Dallas resident who probably never has met her.

She works daily with the mayor, council and city staff. They should decide her employment fate.

• Proposition U

This proposal would fund the police and fire pension. Sounds good. It also increases starting pay. OK.

And then it requires an increase in staffing to 4,000 officers. Impossible.

Currently, DPD has about 3,000 officers. New qualified recruits are hired every day, but others retire and resign.

One of the priorities of our new police chief, whomever that will be, is recruiting new officers. But requiring a particular number in the city charter is ridiculous and something that will be impossible to fulfill. That will just lead to more turmoil and turnover.

The only way to keep within the law if Prop U passes is for the police department to hire hundreds of unqualified police officers each year. The police department doesn't want that. I doubt you want that.

City proposals

Here's a guide to the rest of the amend-

ments and changes to the city charter. Most seem like sensible updates, but if you object to any, vote no on those particular proposals.

• Proposition B

This proposition would add a preamble to the city charter that declares the city to be an "equitable democracy, comprised of representatives that act to make the city fair, equitable, just, and safe for all residents."

• Proposition C

This proposal would increase the salary of city council members to \$90,000 and mayor to \$110,000 annually. The amount would increase each year by an amount tied to the local consumer price index.

Currently city council members are paid \$50,000 a year and the mayor is paid \$80,000 a year. About half the council members currently maintain outside employment in order to be able to serve.

This is probably the most controversial proposal and least likely to pass. The argument for passing it is if we want effective local government, we've got to pay for it.

• Proposition D

Remove the election date from the charter. This would allow Dallas to hold local elections in November — one less time to go to the polls each year. Houston and Austin moved their election day to November and turnout increased.

• Proposition E

We have term limits for the office of mayor and city council — two four-year terms for mayor and four two-year terms for city council. But after sitting out a term, these former officials may run again.

This proposition would prevent officials from running for the same office again after serving their eight years.

• Proposition F

Provide the city secretary and city auditor with employees.

This one is more technical than a real change. Currently, both positions are provided assistants. Under this change they'd be allowed assistants and employees as needed.

• Proposition G

Who Says

Boys Don't Make Passes At Boys Who Wear Glasses?

OCT. 25 - NOV. 2, 2024

20% OFF

Complete pair Purchase with your Partners Card
Some restrictions apply. See www.partnerscard.org for details.

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

23rd Anniversary Party, Trunk Show & Art Show
Saturday, Nov. 2 4pm-8pm

Meet artist Josue Gutierrez, enjoy drinks & a food truck

See The Latest at our 2024 Trunk Shows!

FRI 10/25	Theo	12pm-5pm
SAT 10/26	Lindberg	10am-3pm
WED 10/30	ic! Berlin	10am-5pm
FRI 11/1	Black Fin	10:30am-5pm
SAT 11/2	Special Line	10am-7pm

(Call to find out who!)

Please call 214.953.3937 to make an appointment with your favorite frame line!

UPTOWN VISION

Dr. Bill Henderson
optometrist

214-953-3937
3710 Rawlins St. #100
uptownvisiondallas.com

Add eligibility requirements to serving on the redistricting commission.

Spouses, children or parents of current city council members or mayor couldn't be appointed to do city redistricting. Neither could their campaign managers or treasurers. Nor could registered lobbyists nor county, state nor federal elected officials.

• **Proposition H**

This one would eliminate the requirement that to be appointed to a board or commission, a Dallas resident would be required to be registered to vote, a qualified voter or a qualified taxpaying citizen. The requirement to serve would be that the person is a Dallas resident.

• **Proposition I**

Amend the rules of initiative and referendum petition procedures. The amount of time allowed to collect signatures would be extended from 60 to 120 days. The number of signatures that would be required to make the ballot would be reduced from 10 percent to 5 percent of qualified voters.

In other words, this amendment would make it easier to bring a city referendum to a vote.

• **Proposition J**

This one would allow the city council to replace a board or commission member before the end of their term by a majority vote.

Dallas residents serve on boards and commissions without compensation. Sometimes attendance is a problem, and, when that happens, a district isn't getting the representation it deserves. Sometimes a board member is just difficult to work with.

It's rare that board and commission members need to be removed, but this gives the council that ability.

• **Proposition L**

Dallas added the position of inspector general, which is "an independent investigative authority that assumes the primary responsibility of identifying, investigating and resolving ethical issues within the city."

This proposal would add the position to the city charter along with the duties.

• **Proposition O**

This proposition clarifies the appointment procedure for associate municipal judges. These city judges would be ap-

pointed by the city council, must be residents for at least four months before the date of appointment and must be practicing attorneys in good standing.

• **Proposition P**

When city employees are discharged or reduced in pay grade, they may appeal to an administrative law judge. Currently, they have to pay half the cost. This proposition would eliminate that cost to the employee.

• **Proposition Q**

This is another technical proposition that changes wording in the charter to comply with state law. In several places the word "compensation" changes to "salary," and "citizens" changes to "residents." In another place, a requirement that a person has lived in Dallas six months is changed to "resided continuously."

Several items in the proposition require the city to publish certain pieces of financial information in a newspaper of record and wait two weeks be-

fore acting on those items. That information is currently posted online, but those provisions would be removed, if the proposition passes.

• **Proposition R**

They saved the best for last: Marijuana enforcement. The city can't legalize marijuana, but it can decide who to arrest and prosecute.

This amendment would prohibit the Dallas Police Department from making

OUR COMMUNITY'S TRUSTED MEDICAL PRACTICE SINCE 1994

30 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 Pounders, 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. Pounders, 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: DrPounders.com
Call today to schedule an appointment! 214-520-8833

ATTEND THE NATION'S LARGEST LGBTQ+ FUNDRAISING DINNER



DYLAN MULVANEY
LGBTQ+ ACTRESS



CYNT MARSHALL
DALLAS MAVS CEO



KELLEY ROBINSON
HRC PRESIDENT



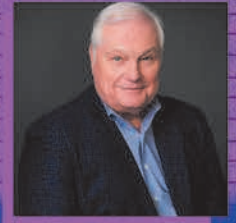
BRANDON WOLF
PULSE SURVIVOR



FLY BY MIDNIGHT
INDIE-POP ARTISTS



CARTER BROWN
BLACK TRANS ADVOCACY
COALITION FOUNDER



DALE HANSEN
LEGENDARY SPORTS
COMMENTATOR



SIMULATION

43RD ANNUAL BLACK TIE DINNER
NOVEMBER 16, 2024



MERCEDES-BENZ VEHICLE RAFFLE

ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO **WIN A \$45,000 CREDIT** TOWARD THE
VEHICLE OF YOUR CHOICE FROM PARK PLACE MOTORCARS DALLAS

GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY

Park Place
MOTORCARS DALLAS

Rules and information at blacktie.org/raffle





OAK CLIFF From Page 8



He said, "The building at 1159 N. Madison Ave. fell into disrepair and burned down. Now it's a gorgeous boutique hotel."

The second commercial property is the Oak Cliff Assembly, near the Dallas Zoo, built in the 1940s as a Baptist church and now housing a 200-seat theater and offices for creatives, entrepreneurs and non-profits.

This year, the tour includes houses built between 1927 and 1969 in seven of Heritage Oak Cliff's 30 neighborhoods. Proceeds fund grants to neighborhood associations throughout Oak Cliff.

"My neighborhood got money to fund our website," Stepp said.

Other neighborhoods have received money to fund National Night Out

events, refurbish old lamp posts, add sign toppers, pay for garden maintenance, add playground equipment and plant trees. Stepp said with all the recent construction in Oak Cliff, the area has lost a number of trees, so Heritage Oak Cliff has stepped up to fix that.

A special bonus on the tour is the newly-built house on a precipice above the Belmont Hotel, dramatically overlooking downtown. The house is LEED silver certified and has some of the best views in Dallas.

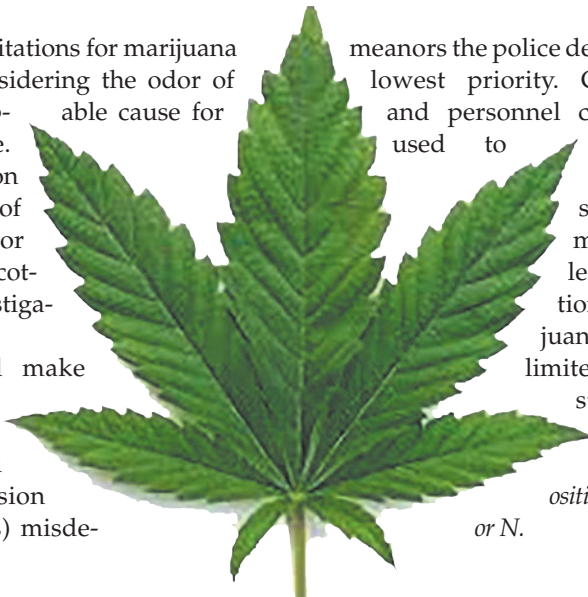
Heritage Oak Cliff Tour of Homes, Oct. 26 and 27 from noon to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$40; \$35 for members and \$20 seniors. Tickets including the patron party on Oct. 24 are \$75. Tickets available at HeritageOakCliff.org.



AMENDMENTS From Page 15

arrests or issuing citations for marijuana possession or considering the odor of marijuana as probable cause for search or seizure. The major exception would be as part of a violent felony or high priority narcotics felony investigation.

Prop R would make Class A (possession of two to four ounces) and Class B (possession up to two ounces) misde-



means the police department's lowest priority. City funds and personnel couldn't be used to determine whether a substance meets the legal definition of marijuana, except in limited circumstances.

There is no Proposition A, K, M or N.

COLOR SPLASH OUT AND PTX DIVERSE PRESENT...

PRINCETON PRIDE MONSTER MASH

Sunday October 27th, 2024
2 pm - 6 pm
J.M. Caldwell Sr. Community Park
500 W College Ave, Princeton, TX 75407

AMY MUAH	JAZZI BLEU	CARRIE BJORK	LECHÈ DIAMANTÉ	AUNDRÁ MIKYLES
MISS DALLAS BLACK CONTINENTAL NEWCOMER	MR. PRINCETON PRIDE 23/24	MISS PRINCETON PRIDE 23/24	LOUISIANA'S BEARDED QUEEN 2023	FORMER MR. DALLAS PRIDE 2017

Vendors, Food Trucks, Variety Show, Family Zone, Prizes, Costume Contest, Candy & More!
FREE EVENT! NO TICKETS REQUIRED

DRAG US TO THE POLLS

Sunday Oct. 27
11am - 2pm

Taylor Summers	Krystal Summers	Liyah Alize	Angelique Davenport

Free Brunch!

Emcee Cora Black

SPONSORED BY
knox dental
BY JONATHAN VOGEL DDS

Register to Vote & RSVP
Join us after the show as we walk down Cedar Springs to the Oak Lawn Branch Library & Early Vote together as a group!

DCDP

What's 'Next'

BEYOND THE STAGE

Actor continues his relationship with 'Next to Normal' at Second Chance Players

RICH LOPEZ | Staff writer
Rich@DallasVoice.com

Next to Normal isn't your normal musical. This award-winning show isn't the feel-good type with its story focusing on mental health, grief and addiction. But actor Caleb Ross is more than thrilled to be crossing paths with the show again.

"I have been in love with this show

'Next to Normal'

Directed by: Bill Shea
Book and lyrics by: Brian Yorkey
Music by: Tom Kitt.
Cast: Martin Guerra-West, Jim Lindsay, Efen Paredes, Mary Ridenour, Caroline Rivera, Caleb Ross
Stage Manager: Kelechi Imoh
Front of House: Ethan Kilgore
Music director/piano: Ben Barker
Bass: Scott Eckert
Guitar: Maristella Feustle
Wind Synth: Michael Dill
Cello: Jeff Harvick
Percussion: Randy Linberg
 Runs through Oct. 26
 Frisco Discovery Center Black Box
 8004 Dallas North Tollway
SecondChancePlayers.org

since middle school, and I just really stumbled onto it," Ross said. "Now I'm just obsessed."

The 24-year-old actor will play Gabe



Caleb Ross has a long relationship with *Next To Normal*

We're coming *OUT!*

7 Days a week!

Come pop your cork in Plano, the only LGBTQ club north of 635!

FIZZ

Free Coffee
in our Cuban Coffee Lounge | 7am to noon

3310 Dallas Parkway, Suite 115
Plano • 972-403-3499
FizzPlano.com

DJ Shane

Goodman in Second Chance Players' new show which opens this week. *Next to Normal* will run Oct. 17-26 at Frisco Discovery Center's Black Box Theater.

The material is heavy stuff. But for Ross, it's been about discovery.

"First, I've really discovered how amazing this cast is," he said. "We've had deep discussions about our characters, and there's not a dry eye in rehearsal. I think we are really baring our souls for this."

Ross says he has identified with his character, Gabe, in some aspects. But then maybe not in other areas. But, as he strips down the character of Gabe, he said he has found a dichotomy.

"He's trying to be the best son even in his circumstances," Ross said of Gabe. "But later in the show, he's less of a character and more of an extension of his mother Diana. I have a very close relationship with my mother so I can relate to that."

The part Ross hasn't connected with makes the actor laugh a bit. "I tend to have some rather femme qualities," he revealed. "We never address what Gabe is, but he's always been portrayed as



Caleb Ross with his castmates in *Next To Normal*

this frat bro, I guess. We've tried to stay true to the original, but [the director] Bill has been forgiving if a little bit of Caleb shows through."

Next to Normal debuted in 2008 with books and lyrics by Brian Yorkey and music written by Tom Kitt. The family drama centers on Diana, the matriarch who struggles with bipolar disorder which seems to get worse. The musical also looks at the ripple effects that has on her family. Themes from the show touch on depression, addiction, drug use and

students struggling in ways that reminds him of the show.

And when that happens, he tries to offer a safety zone.

"Most people talk about sports for getting involved, but I always suggest theater. It's like tenfold from sports for making friends and building connections," he said. "Plus, it teaches how to be a human with empathy and experience. I think it can prepare people for so many different things in life."

Ross discovered *Next to Normal* in

suicide.

Ross has been involved with theater since his teens, doing youth theater and then studying at Collin College toward his educational license for theater. He currently works in a middle school setting, and he sometimes sees

his teens, but he also recalled how he demanded his family, while on a trip to New York, go see *Fun Home*, a show based on the graphic novel by lesbian author Alison Bechdel.

"Seeing that story of a gay man who didn't get to live his life, I swear, changed my life. Something about that trauma affected me," he said of *Fun Home*.

But then, *Next to Normal* came back around to grab his attention. In 2021, he and his family opened the small company Renovation Theatre Co. The first show was, of course...

"We staged *Next to Normal* in response to some drama going on at a local theater school," he said. "I had the privilege of directing it myself and was glad to do it. It was a pretty decent production, even with 18-year-olds in this incredibly intense and vocally difficult show."

The payoff for Ross was that directing the show then has helped him with his role in this production.

"It's given me an understanding I think more than ever to this show," he said.

For tickets, visit SecondChancePlayers.org.

YOU DESERVE THE BEST

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



SERVICES OFFERED

- Primary Care
- 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 OR CALL 214.521.5191

RAISING SPIRITS IN
FORT WORTH!

BEETLE JUICE

The Musical. The Musical. The Musical.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW MURPHY

OCT. 29 - NOV. 3
BASS PERFORMANCE HALL

BASSHALL.COM/BEETLEJUICE • 817-212-4280

Special rates for groups 10+ at groupsales@basshall.com

PERFORMING ARTS FORT WORTH
BASS PNCBANK SEASON SPONSORS SEWELL American Airlines IRWIN FORT WORTH TV dallasvoice

Beloved Barsotti's

ON THE TABLE



Fried calamari and broccolini appetizers were perfectly prepared.

Restaurant offers lush
ambiance, charming décor and
outstanding food

On impulse last week, I met my dear friend Susie Hess, president of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, at the Hispanic Heritage Month Pachanga hosted by The Democratic Party of Dallas County. And the moment I saw her, I knew we were going to Barsotti's!

Susie, an incredibly busy person, usually looks for an opportunity to eat well, and boy did she find it! I've known about Barsotti's since I moved to Dallas, back when it was still Carbone's. Simply put: It's the staple of quality Italian food in Dallas. Let me tell you why. ...

As we entered the warm, lush, no-fuss ambiance, smiling faces greet us. But before we could even truly soak in that ambiance, I had the chance to enjoy my favorite part of any dining experience: talking to the hosts.

The hosts there at Barsotti's knew exactly what they were doing and what was available. This always brings me joy. With my high-end dining experience mostly in reservation manage-



Joey Casiano
DV Dining Reviews

ment, I can easily tell when the hosts are confident in what they're saying. This night, the hosts offered us the bar

until a table opened — 15 minutes, they said, not atypical and not bad for an upscale eatery in Dallas on a Friday night around 8. They obviously know how to keep the volume of guests flowing.

After we sat and ogled the menu, we finally took a minute to look around. Dark wood adorned the space with almost chocolate-like maroon banquettes and booths. The leather-bound drink menus matched the seating, all highlighted by a beautiful black-and-white diamond-patterned tile floor.

It wasn't much longer until we were feasting our eyes on the apps hit the bar top; then they found a table for us and promptly moved all of our food over.

The staff's attentiveness impressed us and made everything as convenient as possible.

As we waited, we talked politics a little, as usual. Susie is one of the most

intelligent, beautiful and kind individuals I've ever met. Not only do I consider her a close friend for sticking with me through my recovery, she is also a mentor, and I'm so grateful to have been able to bring her to such a fabulous dinner.

Finally, Susie and I got to try the calamari and broccolini we ordered. So tasty!

The broccolini tastes much simpler than the way other restaurants usually prepare it, but they cook it perfectly — tender, supple leaves with perfectly crunchy stems, spicy with a light, soothing broth.

The calamari was perfectly fried, drizzled with what seems like a little calabrian chili sauce and served with house-made remoulade and cocktail sauce. The remoulade hits the spot with a good kick, while the cocktail sauce tastes sumptuous, as if your grandma made it with fresh tomatoes — sweet, salty, a little zesty but not overbearing.

While enjoying all of this, we noticed more delightful decor features. The chandeliers add charm and refine the space, avoiding any gaudiness. Little white linen curtains partition adjoining booths with brass fixtures. Elegant navy wallpaper with a sophisticated poppy-red floral print, draws your eyes to the wall full of vintage framed family photos.

It reminded me of the Italian joints in New York City, where photos on the wall of family and loved ones make you feel like you're a part of the family, too.

The ceiling above the chandeliers features beautifully embossed tin, reflecting the warm light back onto the tables below. When a restaurant takes time to do things like this, it's apparent the owners care about making guest experiences elegant and pleasing. They even matched the vents to the tin.

For our main courses, we decided to go with the eggplant parmesan and tortellini vodka. To our satisfaction, they even split both mains into two portions for us.

The eggplant parmesan delivers an immaculate sensation with your first bite. Thinly sliced and cooked to perfection, you wouldn't even know it was eggplant if you were tasting blindly; it has an almost lasagna-like consistency with lusciously fresh mozzarella.

The tortellini vodka comes stuffed with pork sausage and ricotta, garnished with freshly grated pecorino. I did not expect this to be as good as it was, but

I honestly could not decide which dish I enjoyed more. It's like choosing between your two favorite sweaters — both equally gratifying, just in different ways, although the tortellini is the more invigorating of the two.

We felt so satisfied that dessert barely crossed our minds, but I trust that, based on the quality of everything else, it would've been an amazing cannoli.



The Barsotti's decor is lush and charming

Before getting the check, we noticed that the curtain covering the main window was not only a blackout curtain but also black velvet. It's these little aesthetic touches that really make it a gorgeous space to dine in. Whoever conceptualized this design obviously put thought into making everything cohesively alluring. I wouldn't mind owning a restaurant with a similar environment of my own one day.

Although my guest accidentally touched some gum stuck underneath the table, everything else about our experience was excellent: the service, the food, the staff — everything. The staff moved quickly but not in an alarming way. They flowed gracefully like ducks on a pond, seemingly calm on the surface while vigorously paddling below.

I will most certainly return to Barsotti's. And if you don't try this eatery for yourself soon, you'll miss out on a truly wonderful new spot to frequent this fall. You should definitely go and spend your money here. It's worth it. ■

Barsotti's is located at 4208 Oak Lawn Ave. in Highland Park. Buen Provecho, ciao!

THE BIGGEST STREET PARTY IN TEXAS HALLOWEEN BLOCK PARTY



SATURDAY OCTOBER 26

The Street Party is **FREE!!!**



3900 BLOCK OF CEDAR SPRINGS, DALLAS, TX
DALLSHALLOWEENBLOCKPARTY.COM

THIS EVENT IS 18+ ONLY. COSTUMES ENCOURAGED.
BE READY FOR A HOWLING GOOD TIME.

DRACULA

A COMEDY OF TERRORS

OCT 11 - NOV 3 | KALITA HUMPHREYS THEATER



TAKING A BITE OUT
OF THE BIG "D"!

DALLAS
THEATER
CENTER

DRACULA! A COMEDY OF TERRORS

WRITTEN BY GORDON GREENBERG & STEVE ROSEN

DRACULA: A COMEDY OF TERRORS IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH, INC. WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.COM

CAPTAIN MILBOURN AS DRACULA. PHOTO BY JORDAN FRAKER.



Early voting starts Tuesday, Oct. 21. Dallas County residents can vote at any early voting location in the county. Visit DallasCountyVotes.org for locations and hours.

■ 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.

OCTOBER

■ Oct. 18-20: Mr./Ms. Hidden Door Contest

Mr./Ms. Hidden Door Contest weekend starts Friday at the bar, 5025 Bowser St., with a meet-and-greet at 6 p.m. and the first night of the contest at 7 p.m. The contest continues at 7 p.m. Saturday night and the winners will be announced. On Sunday, celebrate the winners beginning at noon, with beer bust starting at 2 p.m. Check the Facebook event page for more information.

■ Oct. 18-27: 'Patches' at Bishop Arts Theatre Center

Bishop Arts Theatre Center, 215 S. Tyler St., presents *Patches: A Black Gay Man's Journey to the Moon* each Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m., and each Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m. through Oct. 27. Visit BishopArtsTheatre.org for tickets and more information.

■ Oct. 18-19: Vignette Art Fair

Texas Vignette hosts their annual art fair at Dallas Market Hall, 220 N. Stemmons Freeway, featuring works by women artists from Texas. Visit TexasVignette.org for more information.

■ Oct. 19: Gaybingo

The Resource Center hosts Gaybingo 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.

■ Oct. 19: Ghouls, Ghosts, and Glamor

Cedar Creek Lake Pride hosts a Halloween party at Sunrise Point at Cedar Creek Lake, 3199 County Road 1708, Malakoff, at 7 p.m. Visit CedarCreekLakePride.com for information and tickets.

■ Oct. 19: Turn Up The Lights 2024

AT&T Performing Arts Center hosts an unforgettable night of performances at Sammons Park and Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St., from 7-11 p.m. Get your tickets at ATTPac.org.

■ Oct. 19: 'Throwback to the '90s Prom Night

Relive the '90s in style as AIN hosts a throwback prom night at The Satellite, 2137 Butler Road, at 7 p.m. Visit AINDallas.org for information and tickets.

■ Oct. 19-20: Dallas FAN FESTIVAL

The Vokol Group presents the Dallas FAN FESTIVAL from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday at The Irving Convention Center, 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd. FAN FESTIVAL is a pop culture celebration featuring celebrity photo ops and meet-and-greets, legendary comic book creators, shopping and family-friendly fandom and cosplay fun. Visit FanExpoHQ.com for tickets and more information.

■ Oct. 20: Heroes and Hot Wheels Toy Drive

Lost Souls Rugby hosts the Heroes and Hot Wheel Toy Drive from 2-5 p.m. at TMC: The Mining Company, 3903 Cedar Springs Road. Visit the Facebook event page for more information.

■ Oct. 20: Lucky Lou's Halloween Drag Show

Lucky Lou's, 1207 Hickory St. in Denton, hosts a special Halloween Drag show at 8 p.m. For those 21 and older only.

■ Oct. 21: Early Voting Begins

Dallas County registered voters can vote at any early voting location. Visit DallasCountyVotes.org for voting location hours.

■ Oct. 22: Tinashe: Match My Freak World Tour

R&B disrupter/singer/writer/dancer Tinashe performs at 8 p.m. at the Southside Ballroom, 1135 S. Lamar St. Tickets start at \$29, available at Ticketmaster.com

■ Oct. 23: Pride Night at the Winspear Opera House

Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St., hosts Pride Night beginning at 6:30 p.m. Visit Give.DallasOpera.org/pridenight to RSVP.

■ Oct. 24: Taste of Toast

Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road, kicks off its annual gala from 5:30-7:30 p.m. RSVP at the event page on Eventbrite.com.

■ Oct. 24: GenderF*ck Drag Show

Arya Jealous Productions presents the GenderF*ck Drag show each Thursday from 7-9 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. Admission is free.

■ Oct. 26-27: Heritage Oak Cliff Fall Home Tour

The Heritage Oak Cliff Fall Home Tour, featuring 10 Oak Cliff homes, takes place this weekend. Tickets are \$20 for seniors 65 and older, \$35 for HOC members and \$40 for the general public. Special patron tickets are also available. Visit HeritageOakCliff.org or see the story on page 8 of this issue for details.

■ Oct. 26: For the Love of Art

Join the individuals, businesses and others who've contributed to the arts at the ArtCentre of Plano, 902 E. 16th St., at 6 p.m. Visit the event page on Eventbrite.com to reserve a table or purchase individual tickets.

■ Through Oct. 26: 'The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity'

Circle Theatre, 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth, presents *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*. Tickets and showtimes are available at CircleTheatre.com.

■ Oct. 27: Drag Us to the Polls

Join the Dallas County Democrats and local drag entertainers at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for a free Drag Brunch followed by voting at the Oak Lawn Branch Library. Visit the event page on Mobilize.us for more information and to register.

■ Oct. 27: Princeton Pride Monster Mash

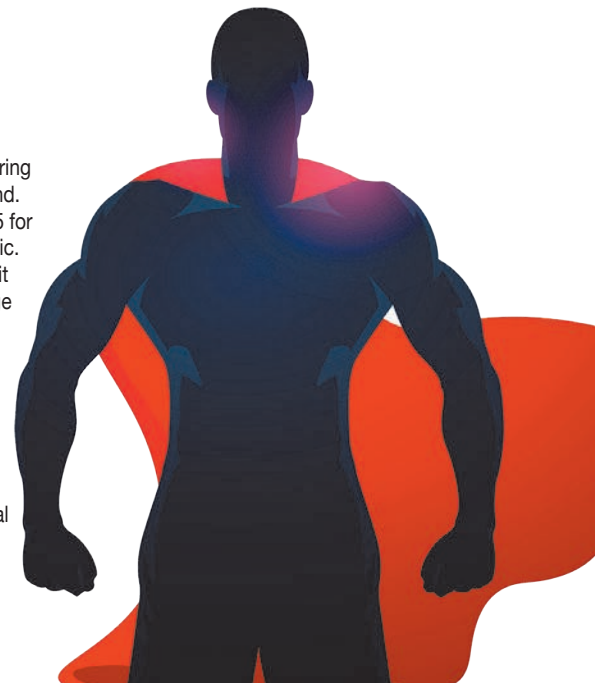
Princeton Pride hosts this free event from 2-6 p.m. at J.M. Caldwell Sr. Community Park, 500 W. College St., with vendors, food trucks, a costume contest and more. For more information, email PtxDiverse@gmail.com

■ Oct. 30: 'Looking for Chloé'

The Bolton Arts Foundation hosts the premiere of this documentary about Gaby Aghion, the Egyptian Jewish woman who founded the revolutionary French fashion house Chloé, at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, 300 N. Houston St, at 6 p.m. For information and to purchase tickets, visit the event page on Eventbrite.com.

Have an event coming up? Email your information to [Mathew Dominguez at Mathew@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



Lost Souls Rugby hosts the Heroes and Hot Wheels toy drive Sunday, Oct. 20, from 2-5 p.m. See listings for details.

Ask Howard

HOW TO DO THE WRONG THING RIGHT

Whipped cream and other delights

And, so, at last, the end is nigh, my fellow Americans: Such incivilities are we being bludgeoned round-the-clock with, senseless as a snaggle-tooth jack-o-lantern during this final two-week-dash leading up to whether our country remains afloat as a democratic republic, or capsizes into a fascist dictatorship. Our future dangles from but a fraying thread, precarious as the proverbial sword of Damocles spun by a toying madman clutching a switchblade.

Impoverished males in the swing states are MAGA fodder, with Trump counting on the diabolically defunct Electoral College to fail us as a united nation, yet again.

Welcome to Halloween, American-style, kiddies!

As Octobers go, this is about the scariest one I can remember. How the hell can, yet again, the Orange Creature from the Black Lagoon in all his shambling, rambling, venomous toxicity — this corpulent cuckoo, this convicted felon, this serial rapist and unconstitutional imbecile — somehow, against all logic and law, be in a dead-heat race for the presidency of the United States? And we wonder why Rome fell?

In Trumpville, of course, if you're not a misogynist, racist bully then you're not a real man. Hey, hey, Donnie J., how many suckers did you fool today? Such a saggy, tired old tyrant — the very quintessence of that golden aphorism, "You can fool some of the people all the time (the Trumpian diehards); you can fool all the people some of the time (the 2016 American electorate); but, you can't fool all the people all the time (2024's votership).

You know the jig is up when even Dick Cheney publicly endorses a Democrat as president — a person of mixed-race, at that, and female, no less.

In his final days as leader of the free world, upon receiving news on Jan. 6, 2021, that the life of his Vice President, Michael Pence, was in mortal danger at the Capitol building, Trump yawned, "So what?" Never, previously, has any president spewed forth two more utterly telling words. Yeah, so what?

So, what if you decide to sit out this

election because neither candidate is quite up to level. Snap out of it, people! The bar's already on the friggin' floor! There are but two choices here, and one of 'em will be president! Your "sit-out" ain't gonna cut it, dearies. Disenchantment won't fly this time.

So, all of you good bois and gurlz over the age of 18, get your tightly noble butts to the voting booths. Please? Make a difference in this world; otherwise, it just might disappear.

Why is this not a slam-dunk, Harris landslide? Oh, but wait — there's more! For those of you out there (all two of you) still on the fence regarding which presidential option — sanity or Armageddon — more deserves your vote, well, congratulations: You're the grand prize recipients of a brand new, piously-gleaming, remaindered "Made in China" Donald Trump Bible You winners, you!

Clearly, disgust is our emotion de jour this election season. There isn't a fellow writer I know not apoplectic about the possibility of simply disappearing into oblivion should Titus Andronicus Trump seize back his former throne. After all, he's promised prison cells to anyone and everyone who's ever pointed out his puerility; moreover, there's certainly no reason to believe he's at all just joking.

Just understand this art of the deal, folks: Choosing not to vote, as a protest act against the candidates, will directly affect your lives. Maybe not tomorrow or next year, but apathy always has consequences.

Time now we move onto something less oppressive. Let's just get frothily right to it, shall we?

Dear Howard: My boyfriend can't cook worth a damn. Neither can I, for that matter. But just the fact that we're gay makes me think there has to be some sort of kitchen wizardry lurking deep



down within us somewhere. The holidays are swiftly approaching, and we can't even assemble a platter of fresh cut fruit that doesn't turn brown. Help us, Howard? —

Lee & Isaiah

Dear Princess Leia:

How humans ever evolved into being dependent upon oxygen for life — a wildly dangerous, unstable gas — I can't begin to fathom.

Nonetheless, to keep your freshly sliced apples, pears, bananas, avocados and eggplants from suffering exposure to air and turning brown just follow the 5-1-1 formula: For 5 minutes, in 1 cup of water, soak your sliced fruit mixed with 1 tablespoon of any of these following household basics: citrus juice of any sort (lemon, lime, orange), or pineapple juice, or even just a tablespoon of plain vinegar will do. Then drain the water off and refrigerate until time to arrange. You'll appear so admirably Stepford-spouse to all your guests. Accidentally cut yourself, and wires will pop out.

Dear Howard: The grapevine has it that you've an amazingly green thumb. Got any tricks up your sleeve for dealing with algae? I've attempted a mini lily pond out on my balcony, goldfish and all; however, my water always keeps going green no matter what. Algaecides don't work. I've tried 'em all. Only bleach works, but always at the cost of my goldfish going belly-up. Suggestions? — **Crawford**

Dear Crawford: Indeed, I do, and my solution will cost you but a handful of pennies. Literally. For any of y'all attempting a birdbath, fish pond, or some little tinkling fountain out on your patio deck, just toss five or six pennies into the water and, voila! No more slimy green gunk! Here's the caveat, though: Only pennies minted prior to 1982 will work. Pennies were all copper up through

1981. From '82 forward, pennies became all zinc, with just a filmy copper plating. Finding pre-1982 pennies may take a few hours of scavenging through your old Mason jars, but they sure do the trick.

Dear Howard: The words "whipped topping" send chill bumps 'cross my bubble butt. I mean, come on, queens! As every good gay foodie knows, you can't cheat when it comes to real whipped cream, especially during the holidays. But how do I store real whipped cream for later without it turning watery? Is there a hack for this, Howard? — **DeLyla Dee Lite**

Dear Lady DeLyla: The trick to keeping real whipping cream from deteriorating into soupy mush couldn't be easier: all it requires is the possession of a sieve. Just beat your cream to stiff peaks with a hand mixer — powdered sugar and vanilla to taste — until you can turn the bowl upside down with none of it hitting the floor. Scrape the frothed heaven into a sieve, place the sieve over a bowl, and just store it in the fridge 'til whenever. Why, you'll delight your guests' desserts, DeLyla, with real whipped cream, gurl, for days upon days, no end!

—Howard Lewis Russell

November's just around the corner, guys! I see that punkin' pie gleam in your eyes! Come get your pilgrims' pride voices heard, here at AskHoward@dallasvoice.com.

this week's solution

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

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 • North Texas Pride

PEOPLE, PLACES AND FACES



Outrageous Oral



DIFFA Burgers + Burgundy





Pretty in pink at Crush



Kameron Ross and Alyssa Edwards



Is that Taylor in The Rose Room?



Ebony and Ivory



Oh yes, it's ladies' night

dallasvoice

The Premier Media Source for LGBTQ Texas

HALLWEEN



OUR SPOOKY ISSUE IS COMING

OCTOBER 25

RESERVE YOUR SPACE
BY OCTOBER 18

214-754-8710
advertising@dallasvoice.com

KNON
89.3 FM
Voice of the People

Lambda Weekly



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



FIND IT ALL HERE AT
AMAZING
INTIMATE ESSENTIALS Adult DVD, Novelties, Magazines
Watch All The Movies In
Our World Famous 600 Channel Arcade

**Home of the
World Famous
All-Day Movie Pass!**
Over 600 Channels

11311 Harry Hines Blvd. #603
Facing Joe Field Plaza on Joe Field
972-243-2707
Sun-Thur 10am-12am
Fri & Sat 10am-2am

Cedar Springs Wine Walk



NATIONAL LGBTQ TASK FORCE
GALA 2024

PRESENTING SPONSOR
St. John's

**Roots of progress,
blooms of hope.**

October 19th, 2024 • Miami Beach Convention Center
thetaskforcegala.org

PUZZLE | Sweet Roles



1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14							15							
16							17							
18							19							
20				21							22	23	24	
25			26			27		28	29	30				
			31	32	33			34						
			35					36						
37	38							39						
40							41				42	43	44	45
46							47		48	49		50		
				51	52	53					54			
55	56	57								58				
59										60				
61										62				

Solution on Page 24

Across

- 1 Art of Cukur
- 7 2016 romantic drama with Sarah Paulson
- 14 Lion, tiger, or bear
- 15 New edition of *Moby Dick*, e.g.
- 16 NG: Violent looting
- 17 NG: Like random shots
- 18 Paulson won a Tony for this Broadway play
- 20 NG: Address book no.
- 21 NG: Greek consonants
- 22 Keanu in *The Matrix*
- 25 From A to B, to Debussy
- 27 Vacation spot in Delaware
- 31 Melissa Etheridge's *Don't Look ___*
- 34 Tickles pink
- 35 Paulson played a Phyllis Schlafly supporter in this FX series
- 37 Like a gown at a drag queen wedding
- 39 NG: Jay of TV
- 40 Margaret Cho, for one
- 42 Queen Cleo's river
- 46 Prez who shared a bed with Joshua Speed
- 47 One that attacks a fly
- 50 NG: Three R's org.

Down

- 51 Paulson played Tammy in this heist movie
- 55 NG: Cameo role
- 58 Hard
- 59 Bening of *Being Julia*
- 60 Rubber
- 61 Paulson played a nurse in this *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* prequel
- 62 NG: "Who goes there?" shouter
- 22 Ani DiFranco's ___ *Pretty Girl*
- 23 Summer for Rimbaud
- 24 Satisfied cries, perhaps
- 26 NG: Game show Don
- 28 NG: On the spot
- 29 *Brothers & Sisters* producer Ken
- 30 Painter Francis
- 32 Old head
- 33 NG: Neighbor of Senegal
- 35 Communicate with the body
- 36 Eulogizer of Diana in song
- 37 NG: Food preservative
- 38 Obstacle, to Shakespeare
- 41 NG: Declared as fact
- 43 Take into the body
- 44 NG: Newsman Jim
- 45 Hamburger Mary's, e.g.
- 48 Targets of tops
- 49 Brand of machine that cuts leaves of grass
- 51 NG: Crude cartel
- 52 NG: Not Prot.
- 53 *Ziegfeld Follies* costume designer
- 54 Sergei of *The Opposite of Sex*
- 55 Where to gaze at a hottie
- 56 NG: Concert suffix
- 57 Stuff for a blow job?

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



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



Adult

AFTER HOURS VIDEO

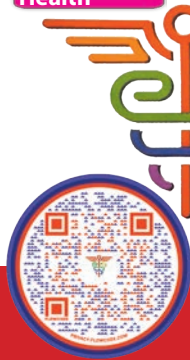


RUSH in today!
Huge Selection!

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

2528 W. Walnut, Garland
972-276-0893

Health



Acceptance

Home Health
Texas' most accepting
home health agency.

www.acceptancehh.com
214-257-8585

Health

The **BEST** coverage
at the **LOWEST** rates!

Medicare Marketplace

Medicare Advantage plans
from Humana, Aetna,
United Healthcare & more!

> Medicare Supplements
> Dental > Vision > Final Expenses
and much more



Contact me & discover
all we have to offer!

Martin Navarro
Independent Agent
10100 N. Central Expy., Ste. 150
Dallas, TX 214-770-8387

Martin.Navarro@MedicareMarketplace.com
A Non-Government Entity

Massage

Relax & Recharge in Our Neighborhood Oasis

Book a massage and let us transport you
to that vacation state of mind



THE NOW OAK LAWN
4428 Lemmon Ave
Dallas, TX 75219
469-501.1275
thenowmassage.com/oak-lawn



THE NOW LOWER GREENVILLE
3614 Greenville Ave
Dallas, TX 75206
214.764.6980
thenowmassage.com/lower-greenville

Real Estate

The most comfortable deal in real estate

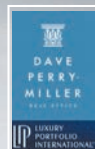
Don't make a move without me

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



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

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 dallas voice
READERS VOICE
AWARDS 2014

rva dallas voice
READERS VOICE
AWARDS 2013

readers voice awards

readers voice awards
rva.2010
dallasvoice.com

Experience Counts! 20+ Years Supporting the Community

214.349.6683

www.FantasticMoves.com

10610 Metric Drive, Suite # 175 Dallas, TX 75243

TXDMV 00521440B

Real Estate

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




For Lease

For Lease: Villas on Holland



N.E. Oak Lawn - SOHIP - Fabulous 2Bd/1Ba apt. in a predominately LGBTQ+ garden style community; quiet & secure with gated parking! Mediterranean front w/beautiful landscaping and relaxing residents courtyard, 4-inch door casings, 7-inch baseboards, crown molding, ceiling fans, plank/carpet floors and track lighting. Individual heat and AC. Gay owned and managed. Available NOW! 2 Bedrooms \$1,435 per month + electric and renter's insurance.

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



MarketPlace

Hotel



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



Real Estate

*Imagine... Living on the Lake!
 Beautiful Cedar Creek Lake
 Come see this Lake House in Tool, TX*



Rob Williams
 REALTOR®

Totally renovated!
 709 Westwind Road | \$249,500
 3 Bed, 1 Bath, Open Concept

Call for a private showing!
 Rob Williams
 Our Community
 Cedar Creek Lake
 Specialist!

**TX LAKE & LAND
 REAL ESTATE GROUP**

TXLL.ORG

Call: 214-693-5779




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

Open New Possibilities:
 Your Premier Source for Quality
 Windows & Doors




■ Flawless Installation
 ■ Years of Experience
 ■ LGBT Owned

A high level of communication is one of our core values!
 Check out and follow our Instagram page
instagram.com/wyndoorco
 Call today for a complimentary estimate
972-922-3578

Services

**Youth & Family
 Services**

**resourcecenter®
 FaCES**


At Resource Center, we have a place for everyone. Our groups hold regular meetings, ensuring easy connections and ongoing support.

YOUTH FIRST
 LGBTQIA+ & Allied Youth (12 – 18)

Teenage years are particularly tough for LGBTQIA+ kids. That's why our Youth First program provides an important lifeline. Here, teens can be authentic, make friends, boost self-esteem and learn how to make healthy choices.

CAFÉ
 (Communities Affirmed through Family Engagement)
 LGBTQIA+ Families (all ages)

Designed to create a community for LGBTQIA+ families with children of all ages, families with no kids, and chosen families, CAFÉ provides a place to learn from and share with one another.



For info scan
 QR code or visit:
 youth@myresourcecenter.org | family@myresourcecenter.org

Services

**THE
 PAINTER**

Specializing
 In Interior
 Painting



TONY R.
 972-754-1536

**30 Years Experience
 Free Estimates
 Extremely Meticulous**

TonyRThePainter@netscape.com

Health

Medicare4USA
 INDIVIDUAL & GROUP HEALTH



Medicare shouldn't be a puzzle.
Making Medicare Easy!

- ✓ Medicare Advantage Plans
- ✓ Medicare Supplements
- ✓ Part D Drug Plans
- ✓ Life Insurance
- ✓ Individual & Group Health

Medicare4USA.com

Call for a free consultation: 214-989-7900

Services

**Unleash Your Inner
 Party Animal!**



**Don't just Decorate,
 Elevate your Event.**

Our Stunning
 Balloon Creations
 are Guaranteed
 to Turn Heads and
 Make Your Party Unforgettable.

Balloon Kings®

2408 N. Haskell Ave.
 469-459-KING
 www.balloon-kings.com





RSVP

WINE WALK

through lgbtq+
history

Join us for a unique evening where history and wine flow together. Enjoy complementary wine as you walk through a gallery showcasing local LGBTQ+ history.

Discover stories, celebrate legacies, and raise a glass to the past.

OCTOBER

24

5:30pm - 8:30pm

HELP Center Fort Worth • 1919 8th Ave

POWERED
BY



BROUGHT TO
YOU BY



HELP Center
for LGBT Health and Wellness