

dallas voice

The Price of the Ticket | 2015 | Volume 31 | Issue 49 | FREE | Friday, April 17, 2015

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and history —
with the cast of
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The first phase of the new Dallas streetcar service connecting Union Station with North Oak Cliff began service this week. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)



Powerful GOP Rep. Byron Cook supports supplemental birth certificate bill

State Affairs Chairman and Republican Representative Byron Cook, R-Corsicana, voiced his explicit support on Wednesday, April 15 for legislation that would allow same-sex couples and legal guardians of a child to receive a supplementary birth certificate reflecting both of their names.

Cook's announcement came following Dallas Democrat Rep. Rafael Anchia's moving speech in support of the bill, HB 537.

"I want everyone to know I support [the bill] too," Cook said after asking for Anchia's comments to be included in the House's written record.

The move was a milestone for the bill that has languished in the House for the past three sessions. Cook chairs the powerful State Affairs committee, which recently heard comments for and against the bill. He is also a close ally of House Speaker Joe Straus.

Cook expressed skepticism to opponents of the bill during a March 18 State Affairs committee hearing, telling one opponent he "struggled" with her opposition to the measure, according to the Texas Tribune.

"That's a terrible indictment on one group to be real honest with you," Cook told conservative legislative analyst Julie Drenner with the group Texas Values during the hearing.

— James Russell

Clinton names gay campaign manager

Hillary Clinton has named 35-year-old Robby Mook as her campaign manager.

Mook is openly gay. This is the second time a major presidential candidate had an out campaign manager. In 2000, Donna Brazile, who is lesbian, managed Al Gore's campaign.

In 2008, Mook worked as state director for Clinton in three states. He managed Sen. Jeanne Shaheen's 2008 campaign. In 2012, he managed the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and in 2013 managed Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe's gubernatorial campaign.

— David Taffet

Sharon Herrera is a semi-finalist for GLSEN's Educator of the Year Award

Congratulations to Fort Worth's Sharon Herrera for being named a semi-finalist for the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network's Educator of the Year Award, which celebrates K-12 educators who are committed to ensuring safe and affirming schools for everyone, regardless of sexual orienta-

tion, gender identity and gender expression.

Herrera told me that, like so many activists, her advocacy for LGBT youth was born out of her own struggle growing up.

"I'm reminded of my 16-year-old self, who was scared and trembling with fear of being me. I'm excited and reminded that I must continue marching," she wrote. "I stand on Harvey Milk's shoulders. I gotta give 'em hope!"

The FWISD employee is being recognized for her work as president of LGBTQ Saves, a volunteer group for LGBT students across Tarrant County. She was honored as a grand marshal in the 2014 Tarrant County Pride Parade.

The GLSEN award winner will be announced on May 15.

— James Russell

Female Go Ape Marketing CEO says women shouldn't be president

Ok. So. I heard something a day or so ago about some woman who owns her own marketing/PR company saying something unbelievably stupid about how a woman should never be president of the United States because, you know, we all get all hormonal and ridiculous and unreliable all the time.

I rolled my eyes and went on about my day.

Today I saw another social media post about this woman that said she lives in Texas and gave the name of her company. So I did an Internet search for the company name and learned, to my consternation, that the woman lives in Dallas. I looked again and, to my absolute horror, saw that offices for her company are located on Cedar Springs Road.

— Tammye Nash

Gay Uber drivers in Oklahoma will be able to kick straight people out of their cars

The Oklahoma Senate passed the "Oklahoma Transportation Network Company Services Act" that removed protection for passengers based on sexual orientation.

That will allow LGBT Uber drivers in the state to protect themselves from having to drive straight people to their destinations or take their money.

The House version of the bill prevented discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"I believe if a private business owner wants to serve or not serve an individual, they have that purview right now," said Sen. Jason Smalley, the bill's Senate sponsor.

However, if Uber or Lyft drivers decided to take Oklahoma up on its generous offer to discriminate, they could lose their affiliation with those companies since both have nondiscrimination policies that include sexual orientation.

— David Taffet

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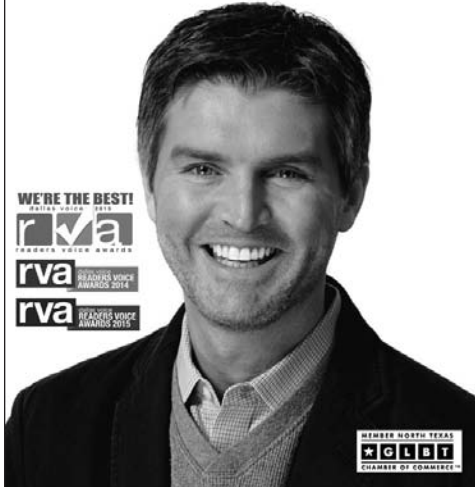


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localbriefs

Outrageous Oral quarterly story-telling evening

Steve Atkinson plays master of ceremonies at The Dallas Way's quarterly Outrageous Oral presentation at 7 p.m. on April 23 in the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road.

Speakers this month are Sheriff Lupe Valdez, currently serving her third term in office; Mark Shekter, who created MOM — Meals on the Move — to serve 200 meals a day to people living with AIDS; former city councilman and mayoral candidate Ed Oakley, and Celebration on the Lake Pastor Kathy Bowser.

The Dallas Way will be recording Spontaneous Oral personal experience stories from 6-7 p.m. and 8:30-9:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Chorale presents Musica de Mayo

In honor of Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez, the Turtle Creek Chorale presents Musica de Mayo at 7 p.m. May 1 and 2 at the Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St.

The Chorale's Chamber Chorus and Mi Diva Loca perform music from Selena and other Latin pop artists. The evening presents "some really fun traditional songs as well as pop songs that will make you wanna get up and 'Bidi Bidi Bom Bom' your way to the dance floor," said Mi Diva Loca's Mel Arizpe.

Tickets for Musica de Mayo and for Britten,

Beatles and Bond on April 24-26 at City Performance Hall are available at TurtleCreek.org or by phone at 214-526-3214.

DGLA endorses city council candidates

For the first time in its 38-year history, the DGLA-PAC was able to make endorsements in every city council district. Every incumbent seeking re-election sought the DGLA-PAC's endorsement.

"With six open seats on the Dallas City Council, two contested incumbents, a number of unopposed candidates, and a contested mayor's race, we expected a mix of responses from candidates, and they delivered," said DGLA president Patti Fink.

The endorsements are:

- District 1 – Scott Griggs
- District 2 – Adam Medrano
- District 3 – Wini Cannon
- District 4 – Carolyn King Arnold
- District 5 – Sherry Cordova
- District 6 – Monica R. Alonzo
- District 7 – Tiffinni A. Young
- District 8 – Gail Terrell
- District 9 – Mark Clayton
- District 10 – Adam McGough
- District 11 – Lee M. Kleinman
- District 12 – Sandy Greyson
- District 13 – Jennifer Staubach Gates
- District 14 – Philip T. Kingston
- District 15 (Mayor) – Marcos Ronquillo



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pet of the week / SAMMY Jr.

Sammy Jr. is a male Chihuahua, about 4 years old, who happens to have an adorable underbite. He loves to cuddle, walks well on a leash and enjoys exploring new places. He comes with all his vaccinations and a microchip. His adoption fee has been waived, so come see what a great companion he can be. He's at Dallas Animal Services, 1818 Westmoreland Rd. Ask for Sammy Jr, ID# A724644.



The Dallas Animal Services Adoption Center is open 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat., and noon-5 p.m. on Sun. All adopted pets are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Standard adoption fees are \$85 for dogs and \$55 for cats. They also offer discounts on adoption fees for pets over 6 years of age, to any senior citizen that adopts a pet and to anyone adopting more than one pet at a time. For more information, visit DallasAnimalServices.org or find us on Facebook at Facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices. Photo contributed by Judi Burnett.



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THE GAY AGENDA

Have an event coming up? E-mail your information to staff writer James Russell at russell@dallasvoice.com by Thursday at 10 a.m. for that week's issue

APRIL

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM;** this week: State Rep. Celia Israel.
Fuse game night every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Apt 2367;
Fuse Connect every Wednesday from 7 p.m. at the Fuse Space.

• **April 17: Shout Out! 2015 Prom**
 Cathedral of Hope hosts Shout Out! 2015 Prom, an LGBT and ally inclusive prom for students ages 13–18 from 7–11:30 p.m. at the Interfaith Peace Chapel at CoH, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 4 p.m. for opportunity to work with stylists. Purchase tickets at Youth First, 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. For more information, call or e-mail Yadi Martinez at 214-879-0400 or ymartinez@cathedralofhope.com.

• **April 17: GLSEN's Day of Silence**
 Take a vow of silence for the annual international event bringing awareness anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying and harassment in schools. For more information or to register, go to DayofSilence.org.

• **April 18: Open-Door Productions hosts Nancy Beaudette**
 Open Door Productions presents Canadian singer-songwriter Nancy Beaudette at 7 p.m. at Agape MCC, 4615 E. California Parkway, Fort Worth. \$16.25 online or \$18 at the door. For more information and to purchase tickets visit OdpTexas.com.

• **April 18: Gaybingo: Safari**
 Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6–9 p.m. at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information call 214-540-4495 or e-mail Gaybingo@myresourcecenter.org.

• **April 18: GEAR Voice Feminization Support Group**
 Monthly meeting to study and practice voice



Rendering of Resource Center's new building

feminization training. Free, but seating is limited to 30. 2–4 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. For more information call 214-528-0144 or e-mail gear@myresourcecenter.org.

• **April 20: Metroplex Republicans Meeting**
 6:30 p.m. happy hour and 7 p.m. dinner and presentation at Mattito's Mexican Café, 3102 Oaklawn. For more information visit MetroplexRepublicans.com.

• **April 21: DFW Transcendence Trans/SOFFA Meeting: Carter Brown of Black Transmen, Inc.**
 Trans and ally support group meets monthly on first and third Tuesdays from 7–9 p.m. at Agape MCC, 4615 East California Parkway, Fort Worth. For more information call Finn Jones at 214-499-0378 or by e-mail at sfinn.jones@gmail.com.

• **April 22: Fuse Spark! at 6 p.m. at UTA**
 For more information e-mail fusebox@myresourcecenter.org or visit DFWfuse.com.

• **April 23: UT Dallas Diversity Awards Gala**
UT Dallas 2015 Diversity Awards Soiree recognizes students, student organizations, staff, faculty and community members who advance the UT Dallas commitment to embrace, enhance, and celebrate diversity and awards scholarships to UTD students. Jack Mackenroth, an activist, athlete, and fashion model, serves as the master of ceremonies. 4 p.m. at UT-Dallas' Clark Center, 800 W. Campbell Road, Richardson. For more information contact Rosie Peterson at 972-883-4560 or by e-mail rpeterson@utdallas.edu.

• **April 23: The Dallas Way Presents 'Outrageous Oral'**
 The GLBT history project presents another installment of its popular Outrageous Oral speakers. Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez, architect Mark Shekter, former Dallas City Councilman Ed Oakley and Celebration on the Lake Church Pastor Kathy Bowser share their stories. Steve

Atkinson serves as emcee. Doors open at 6 p.m. and program starts at 7 p.m. at the Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Free admission. Share your story during the Spontaneous Oral story sessions from 6–7 p.m. and 8:30–9:30 p.m. For more information, visit TheDallasWay.org.

• **April 23: Groundbreaking of Resource Center's New Building**
 Groundbreaking of new Resource Center building with supporters, board members and friends marks commencement of construction of new facility at 10:30 a.m. at 5714 Cedar Springs Road. Valet parking provided. For more information visit MyResourceCenter.org/campaign.

• **April 24–26: Earth Day Texas at Fair Park**
 Billed as the world's largest Earth Day initiative, colleges, universities, entrepreneurs, non-profits and more come together to address environmental issues. For more information visit EarthDayTX.org.

• **April 24: North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce 10th Annual Dinner**
 Honoring North Texas business and community leaders at 5:30 p.m. at Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N Stemmons Freeway. CelebrationOfExcellence.com.

• **April 25: Fuse Starbucks Social**
 Meet new friends and enjoy one free beverage at 7 p.m. at Starbucks, 2801 Allen. For more information e-mail fusebox@myresourcecenter.org or visit DFWfuse.com.

• **April 25: DFW Federal Club "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?"**
 Federal Club members host dinner guests followed by an after-party from 9:30–midnight at Mitchell Bar, 1404 Main St. Guests will be contacted a day before the event with dining details. Seating is limited and RSVP required. \$75. Visit DFWfederalclub.org/gwctd-2015 for more information.



SPOTLIGHT:

Buzz Off for Kids with Cancer



Wayne Smith as Cher

When children are diagnosed with cancer, they not only go through emotional and physical pain, they lose their hair, too. That's why Julia de la Vega is hosting a fundraising event on from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Wednesday, April 22, at Liquid Zoo, 3851 Cedar Springs Road.

Dallas Voice Readers Choice Award

winner Wayne Smith will emcee the event with the Cher-e-okee event. Smith will be joined by Liz Mikel and Miss Texas National Showgirl at Large Sybil Ann Storm.

Then on Sunday, April 26, de la Vega will be buzzing off all her hair as part of the One Mission Buzz Off for Kids with Cancer at Globe Life Park in Arlington. She'll join hundreds of others nationwide who will shave their heads in honor and support of children with cancer.

All buzzees raise money to help fund vital programs and services that provide immediate relief from the pain both patients and their families endure.

"We were all born without hair. I trust that, at this stage in my life, I've been given this opportunity to connect with the very beginning of who I am!" de la Vega said. "I'm celebrating kids with cancer in their natural form."

It's also another special occasion for de la Vega. April 26 is her late sister's birthday. She said she always try to do something special to celebrate, and she couldn't be more excited to be celebrating this year by doing something to help kids fighting cancer.

Fundraiser from 8 p.m.–1 a.m. on April 22 at Liquid Zoo, 3851 Cedar Springs Road. Shaving at 10 a.m. on April 26 at Globe Life Park in Arlington.

To register visit BuzzforKids.org.

Faire magic

Scarborough Renaissance Festival has been Matthew Duvall's 16th century home away from 21st century home for 24 years

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

Magic.

It's a word that Matthew Duvall uses a lot when he talks about Scarborough Renaissance Festival, the place that has been his 16th century home away from 21st century home two months of every year for 24 years now. The festival — known to aficionados as “the faire” — has injected that sense of magic into Duvall's life, and he takes great joy in passing the magic along.

Duvall was a “very shy, inwardly-focused” 17-year-old who still hadn't acknowledged, even to himself, the truth of his sexual orientation, in 1991 when he first joined the cast at Scarborough, the annual Renaissance festival staged each April and May on 35 acres just southwest of Waxahachie.

A friend had auditioned for the cast and convinced Duvall to audition, too. “I actually auditioned late, and I was absolutely terrified,” Duvall recalled. “But I made it. I made the cast, and I haven't missed a season since.”

Over the years, Duvall said, the faire and its people have become much more than just a part-time job. “This place is where I grew up in many ways. This is where I learned to come out of my shell. These people are my family,” he said.

It's also where he grew to understand and accept the fact that he is gay.

“Now, looking back, I should have known much earlier” that he was gay, Duvall said, noting that it wasn't until the late 1990s that he truly began to come out as a gay man. And it was his home, his family, at Scarborough that helped him do that.

“Over time, being here with these people, I began to realize that I can be who I am. I was scared, but the people here made it easier. The people here at Scarborough were the first people I



Matthew Duvall, as Old Johnny Dhu, talks with visitors to Scarborough Renaissance Festival. (Tammye Nash/Dallas Voice)

came out to, and it didn't make a difference to them. They love me for who I am.”

Duvall said his Scarborough family has also opened its arms to his husband, John Nathan. The two have been a couple for 10 years, and legally married since 2013 when they were wed in San Francisco City Hall, with the statue of Harvey Milk looking on.

“We had a virtual wedding. A lot of our family and friends couldn't be there in person, but by having a virtual wedding, we were able to have hundreds of people from all over the world share in our wedding with us. It was very, very nice,”

DETAILS ON VISITING

WHEN:

Scarborough Renaissance Festival, located southwest of Waxahachie on FM 66 off I-35E, continues each Saturday and Sunday through May 30, and Monday, May 31. Opening ceremony begins at 9:45 a.m., and gates open at 10 a.m. Closing ceremony begins at 6:45 p.m., and gates close with last cannon at 7 p.m.

TICKETS:

Tickets at the gate are \$25 for adults, \$10 for children ages 4-12. Children 4 and under admitted free. Discount tickets are available at Kroger stores, and discount coupons are available at Waxahachie Autoplex. A military discount is available at the gate, and parking is free.

For more information on performers and artisans and for maps of the site, visit SRFestival.com.

WEEKEND THEMES

April 18-19: Celtic Weekend

April 25-26: Artisan's Showcase Weekend

May 2-3: Live the Fantasy Weekend/Deaf Awareness Day

May 9-10: Mother's Day Weekend (with all new Mother's Day Brunch both days)/Renaissance Romance Weekend

May 16-17: Legends of the Seas Weekend

May 23-25: Final Knights/Veterans tribute

Duvall said.

“I had always been afraid that if I came out, if people found out I was gay, I would lose my family or my friends because I was different,” he continued. “But here at Scarborough, acceptance and difference are very important things. This is a very accepting place all the way around. Now, I am out everywhere, to everyone. It's very liberating.”

For Duvall, that is part of the magic. “The people here let you be yourself, whoever that is,” he said. That magic lets cast members live inside characters from centuries ago for eight weekends out of the year, and it lets visitors step back in time and live out their own renaissance fantasies, at least for a day.

But sometimes, magic takes a lot of hard work. Members of the Scarborough cast spend eight weekends in class and rehearsal, learning just how to maintain the illusion of a 16th century village and getting the skits and shows they perform down to a T.

Part of maintaining the illusion means learning to dress, to speak and to behave the way the character they portray would have dressed, spoken and behaved — whether that be reigning monarch King Henry VIII himself — portrayed for 20 years by Richard Patterson — or the lowliest scullery maid. And director of the staff's History, Customs and Manners Committee, Duvall plays a huge role in teaching the actors what they need to know.

He said it is a task that meshes nicely with his real-world job as a corporate trainer.

Duvall also gets to spread that knowledge to

visitors to the faire through his role as Old Johnny Dhu, bard and storyteller. At 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. each day of the faire, at the Taylor Lane stage in Pecan Grove, Old Johnny Dhu and his colleagues present the “History, Customs and Manners” show. Each weekend, Duvall explained, the show will focus on a different aspect of history, customs and manners of the 16th century, often based on the theme of the faire that weekend.

“The audience always enjoys it. It gives them a chance to learn something that will help them participate and feel more a part of everything going on around them,” Duvall said of the show — although even some visitors who come in costume don't blend into the 16th century theme.

“You never know who you might see out here,” Duvall laughed. “One year we had a group of KISS impersonators here. ‘Paul Stanley’ really took a liking to me that year. We've had Roman centurions, ninjas, a lot of fantasy characters, even drag queens. This is a great place for those who like to cosplay. The people coming here want to have a good time. And we are here to help them have a good time. We're a very playful bunch and we love interacting with the audience.”

Duvall continued, “You know, this place really can change lives. I know of people who live very solitary lives. They are lonely people, but they can come here and find friends, find a place to be themselves. There's something for everyone here. They come here to forget their cares, if just for a day. And that's what we excel at.”

“It's magical. It really is.” ■

Gaither attends White House conference on ACA



Neill Gaither, standing, third from right, with Trans Pride Initiative in Dallas/Fort Worth was among the LGBT advocates invited to the White House to discuss the LGBT community's barriers and successes under the Affordable Care Act with federal policymakers on April 10. (Courtesy photo)

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Trans Pride Initiative's Nell Gaither joined a select group of other LGBT advocates from around the country to discuss the LGBT community's barriers and successes under the Affordable Care Act with federal policymakers on April 10 in Washington, D.C.

Organized by Out2Enroll, which connects LGBT people with new health insurance options under the Affordable Care Act, navigators and advocates shared their experiences under the ACA with both Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murphy and Doug Brooks, director of the Office of National AIDS Policy.

While the majority of attendees were federal or state navigators, many intersected in their roles as trained providers who answer questions and help people enroll for health insurance under the ACA.

During their meeting with Murphy, Gaither shared two dozen statements gathered from healthcare providers and consumers in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, as well as her own experiences with health insurance.

Gaither and others also discussed the challenges and efforts facing LGBT healthcare advocates and navigators.

Before the ACA was in place, Gaither told the surgeon general she was denied Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas insurance because she is trans. While the ACA eliminated the coverage denial because of pre-existing conditions, insurers still use

non-ACA plans to deny coverage to trans persons.

Those attending also all agreed that many people had a hard time understanding the basics of health insurance.

"So many people are new to insurance in general we suggested further education, like "insurance 101," Gaither said.

During the meeting with Brooks, Gaither said she and other participants discussed grassroots efforts to educate and enroll people in insurance. The Obama administration's chief technology officer, Megan Smith, later joined them.

Participants discussed problems with the profiles at Healthcare.gov. Currently, profiles may be set up under one name in applications for coverage and later updated to reflect the legal name and gender markers.

But there is no way to change the name in the Healthcare.gov profile, Gaither said. And without the profile change, a transgender person may be outed. The inability to change a profile also impacts survivors of sexual assault as well.

Overall, attendees left the convening feeling positive.

"It surprisingly didn't feel like a public relations effort," Gaither said. "All of us felt they were genuinely interested."

But most of all, Gaither said, she was surprised she was even asked to attend. "I got the call and asked 'Why me? I don't see myself like that,'" she said.

For more information on the Affordable Care Act and transgender issues, visit Out2Enroll.org and Transequality.org.

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Cathedral elects new senior pastor

The British-born Cazares-Thomas joins Cathedral of Hope in June concluding an extensive two-year search process

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The Rev. Neil G. Cazares-Thomas was tapped by church members to become Cathedral of Hope's new senior pastor after he preached at Sunday services April 12. The Revs. Todd Scoggins and Mike Wright Chapman will continue as associate pastors of the church.

Thomas said this week he expects to be in Dallas to begin his new duties around June 1.

The search for a new pastor began in April 2013

after the Rev. Jo Hudson resigned her position as senior pastor. The Rev. Jim Mitulski served as interim pastor for about a year-and-a-half.

Thomas moves to Dallas after 13 years as pastor of Founders MCC in Los Angeles, the original Metropolitan Community Church founded by the Rev. Troy Perry in 1968.

Born in Bournemouth, England, Thomas was raised in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. By the time he was a teen, he had left that church and tried a variety of other denominations, visiting Baptist churches, Church of England congregations and others.

During that time, Thomas said, he saw churches adhering to rules he thought were straying from Jesus' teachings. That's when, he said, "I understood the church could be wrong" and that many church laws were instead human-made laws that had nothing to do with Jesus.



The Rev. Neil Cazares-Thomas, above, preached at Sunday services on April 12 and was then elected the new senior pastor of Cathedral of Hope. Below, he's seen at church with his husband Isai Cazares. (Photos courtesy of Roger Lippert)



After coming out at the age of 15, Thomas attended an MCC church in Bournemouth. There he found what he called an instant match. He loved the welcome and inclusion.

That was 33 years ago, and Thomas has never looked back.

During his 12 years as senior pastor of Metropolitan Community Church, Bournemouth, he helped found several other MCC churches in England. Social activism is dear to his heart, and during his early years with the church, the AIDS crisis was still raging. So Thomas' church built an AIDS hospice and a night shelter.

His social action work included programs to feed the homeless, safer sex initiatives, youth services and police-community relations. That gained him recognition by the High Sheriff of Dorset County and earned him an invitation from Queen Elizabeth II, who honored him at a garden party at Buckingham Palace in 1998 in recognition of his work in Bournemouth.

In 2002, Thomas was called to his current church in Los Angeles. Continuing his social action work in California earned him the Harvey Milk Award from Christopher Street West, and he was also named a gay hero by the city of West Hollywood. He described that as a way to highlight gay role models for young LGBT people before the It Gets Better campaign.

Thomas has been at Founders MCC for 13 years and admits Dallas wouldn't have been his first choice of place to move. But, "It's not about place, but where you're called," he said.

He said he simply waited for the holy spirit to determine the right place and

Cathedral of Hope was the right place.

But Dallas should become home rather quickly for Thomas, since his husband, Isai Cazares, is originally from here.

"I never worshipped at Cathedral before this weekend," Thomas said, although he did note that he visited once when he was in his early 20s and finishing his work to become MCC clergy.

In California, Thomas continued his education and in 2008 received his doctor of ministry degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary after writing his dissertation, "Queer Theology: An Introduction."

Music is among the great fits between Cazares-Thomas and Cathedral of Hope. He has been a member of the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles for a number of years, and the cathedral's music director, Sean Baugh, was recently named artistic director of the Turtle Creek Chorale.

Thomas said as wonderful as the cathedral's music program already is, he hopes to bring everyone together and raise its music program up to the next level. But he assured everyone at Cathedral he's not a micro-manager and has no plans to fix things already working well.

Thomas said he'd like to bring Cathedral of Hope's social justice work up to the next level as well. He praised its program feeding the homeless and said he would like to see what other services the church might provide. He said he has a passion working with the addicted and 12-step community and hopes to add to those services.

Thomas also wants to work with the community to see how the Interfaith Peace Chapel can be marketed as an even greater resource to the community.

He predicted that the change from the MCC denomination to United Church of Christ — the cathedral's denomination — should be a smooth transition. He described both denominations as having a congregational approach with similar views on religious matters. ■



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Businesses large and small
sign up to oppose discrimination

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Hugh Forrest, director of the South by Southwest Interactive Festival, said SXSW supports diversity in all its forms. He couldn't imagine SXSW without LGBT participation.

"Diversity leads to creativity," Forrest said. "Creativity leads to innovation and innovation has been very good for business in Austin."

So good that SXSW poured an estimated \$315 million into the Austin economy in 2014.

"That's two-thirds of a Superbowl," Forrest said.

That's why SXSW signed the Texas Competes pledge against LGBT discrimination.

Rob Schlein, owner of Big and Tall Direct based in Dallas, also signed the pledge. He said he had Indiana in mind when he attended the launch of Texas Competes this week in Austin.

A week after passing and then revising a law that would allow discrimination against the LGBT community, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence committed millions of taxpayer dollars in hiring a public relations firm to repair the damage he did to the state's brand by signing the so-called Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Schlein said Texas Competes doesn't want that to happen to Texas.

"The business community [in Texas] is being more assertive," he said.

Texas Competes unveils pledge



Joseph Strickland, right, of Home Slice Pizza speaks in Austin at the unveiling of Texas Competes on Tuesday, April 14.

Schlein said the conservative business community is finally countering the Christian conservative community, whose voices have until now been much louder in the Republican Party.

This week, Texas Competes rolled out the pledge businesses are taking for LGBT diversity. Signers believe "treating all Texans and visitors fairly is essential to maintaining Texas' strong

brand as the premier home for talented workers, growing businesses, entrepreneurial innovation and a thriving travel and tourism industry," according to the pledge.

Among the initial signers are about 120 businesses — from large to small — including the Dallas Mavericks, American Airlines, Dell and the Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau. Their

message is that discrimination hurts all business, no matter what the size.

Former Mayor Laura Miller sits on the Texas Competes board of advisors.

"The country is watching how Texas will treat its LGBT residents and visitors going forward, and how we measure up will impact our economic prospects, from talent to tourism," Miller said. "I am proud to stand with the business leaders across Texas in stating that Texas should be open for business."

Not only have large companies like Austin-based Whole Foods signed the pledge, but a number of small companies have signed as well.

Joseph Strickland owns Home Slice Pizza, 1415 South Congress Ave. in Austin. When it comes to his business philosophy regarding his employees and customers, he's about as far from Indiana's Memories Pizza — the shop whose owner said she wouldn't cater a gay wedding — as a business owner can get.

"We want to promote Texas as not hostile," he said. "We're building a business case against discrimination."

Strickland called pizza the ultimate shared food experience. The round pizza, he said, represents love. So while he's not expecting to cater any gay couples' weddings, he loves when people come by his shop for a celebration for any reason.

"Nondiscrimination is just good business," Strickland said.

Schlein agreed.

"If you think you can pick and choose your customers, that's not good for business," Schlein said. "Now bake the damn cake." ■

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City of Dallas

NOTICE OF ELECTION (IN BRIEF) CITY OF DALLAS MAY 9, 2015

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTIES OF DALLAS, §
 COLLIN AND DENTON §
CITY OF DALLAS §

TO THE RESIDENT QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF DALLAS, TEXAS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a general election is ordered to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2015, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing 15 members to the city council of the City of Dallas to be designated as: Member of Council, Place 15 – Mayor; Member of Council, Place 1; Member of Council, Place 2; Member of Council, Place 3; Member of Council, Place 4; Member of Council, Place 5; Member of Council, Place 6; Member of Council, Place 7; Member of Council, Place 8; Member of Council, Place 9; Member of Council, Place 10; Member of Council, Place 11; Member of Council, Place 12; Member of Council, Place 13; and Member of Council, Place 14 respectively.

Noted below are the City Council Candidates in ballot order:

Place 1
Scott Griggs

Place 2
Adam Medrano

Place 3
Casey Thomas, II
Gerald Britt
Joe Tave
Wini Cannon
B.D. Howard

Place 4
Stephen King
Linda M. Wilkerson-Wynn
Sandra Crenshaw
Keyaira D. Saunders
James Ross
D. Marcus Ranger
Carl Hays
Carolyn King Arnold

Place 5
Jesse Diaz
Rick Callahan
Sherry Cordova

Place 6
Ozumba Lnuke-X
Daniel "DC" Caldwell, I
Lakolya London
Monica R. Alonzo

Place 7
Tiffinni A. Young
Hasani Burton
John Lawson
Kevin Felder
James "J.T." Turknett
Randall Parker
Baranda J. Fermin
Juanita Wallace

Place 8
Dianne Gibson
Clara McDade
Subrina Lynn Brenham
Eric Lemonte Williams
Gail Terrell
Erik Wilson

Place 9
Christopher Jackson
Darren Boruff
Mark Clayton
Sam Merten
Will Logg

Place 10
James N. White
Paul Reyes
Adam McGough

Place 11
Lee M. Kleinman

Place 12
Sandy Greyson

Place 13
Jennifer Staubach Gates

Place 14
Philip T. Kingston

Place 15 (Mayor)
Mike Rawlings
Marcos Ronquillo

Write-In Candidate
Place 15 (Mayor)

Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary

For more information call 214-670-5654

VOTING LOCATIONS ON ELECTION DAY

The most current list of voting locations for the City of Dallas election precincts on Election Day, May 9, 2015, is available in the Office of the City Secretary, and the status of a particular location may be checked by calling the City Secretary at (214) 670-3738 or accessing the following websites:

- Office of the City Secretary: <http://citysecretary.dallascityhall.com/elections.html>
- Dallas County: <http://www.dallascountyvotes.org/polling-locations/>

EARLY VOTING

- Early voting by personal appearance for the May 9, 2015 City of Dallas general election will be conducted at the early voting locations listed below. Any qualified voter of the City of Dallas may vote early by personal appearance at any of the listed locations. Early voting locations are subject to change. The most current list of voting locations is available in the City Secretary's Office, and the status of a particular location may be checked by calling the City Secretary at (214) 670-3738 or accessing the City Secretary's website at <http://citysecretary.dallascityhall.com/elections.html>. Dates and times locations will be open for early voting are as follows, unless otherwise indicated:

DATES AND TIMES OF EARLY VOTING

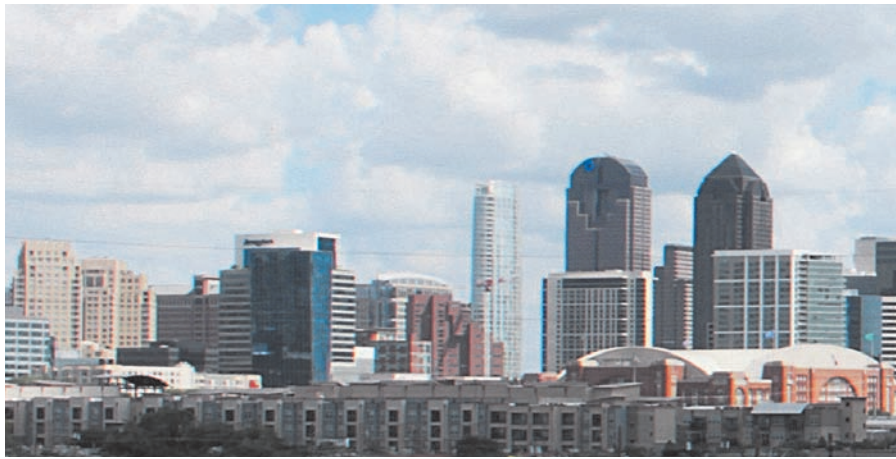
April 27 – May 01 (Monday through Friday)	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
May 02 (Saturday)	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
May 03 (Sunday)	1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
May 04 – May 05 (Monday and Tuesday)	7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

DALLAS COUNTY

Location	Address	City	Zip
Addison Fire Station #1	4798 Airport Pkwy.	Addison	75001
Balch Springs (New City Hall)	13503 Alexander Rd.	Balch Springs	75181
Balch Springs Municipal Bldg. (Old City Hall)	3117 Hickory Tree	Balch Springs	75180
Bethany Lutheran Church	10101 Walnut Hill Ln.	Dallas	75238
Cedar Hill Government Center	285 Uptown Blvd.	Cedar Hill	75104
Churchill Recreation Center (Replaces Fretz Park Library)	6906 Churchill Way	Dallas	75230
Cockrell Hill City Hall	4125 W. Clarendon Dr.	Cockrell Hill	75211
Crosswinds High School	1100 N. Carrier Pkwy.	Grand Prairie	75050
Dallas ISD Administration Bldg.	3700 Ross Ave.	Dallas	75204
Duncanville Library	201 James Collins	Duncanville	75116
Eastfield College - Pleasant Grove Campus	802 S. Buckner	Dallas	75217
El Centro College - West Campus	3330 N.Hampton Rd.	Dallas	75212
Farmers Branch City Hall	13000 William Dodson Pkwy.	Farmers Branch	75234
Frankford Townhomes	18110 Marsh Ln.	Dallas	75287
Grauwylar Park Recreation Center	7780 Harry Hines Blvd.	Dallas	75235
*Hebron & Josey Library	4220 N. Josey Ln.	Carrollton	75010
*There will be two tables set up at this location: One table to cast a ballot for City of Dallas General Election (City Council Places 1-15-Mayor) and one table to cast a ballot for Denton County-administrated election issues.			
Highland Hills Library	6200 Bonnie View Rd.	Dallas	75241
Irving Arts Center	3333 N. Macarthur Blvd.	Irving	75062
Irving City Hall	825 W. Irving Blvd.	Irving	75060
J. Erik Jonsson Central Library	1515 Young St.	Dallas	75201
Josey Ranch Library	1700 Keller Springs	Carrollton	75006
Lakeside Activity Center	101 Holley Park Dr.	Mesquite	75149
Lancaster Veterans Memorial Library	1600 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.	Lancaster	75134
Lochwood Library	11221 Lochwood Blvd.	Dallas	75218
Marsh Lane Baptist Church	10716 Marsh Ln.	Dallas	75229
Martin Luther King Jr. Core Bldg.	2922 MLK Blvd.	Dallas	75215
Martin Weiss Recreation Center	1111 Martindell	Dallas	75211
Mountain Creek Library	6102 Mountain Creek Pkwy.	Dallas	75249
Oak Cliff Sub Courthouse	410 Beckley	Dallas	75203
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	7611 Park Ln.	Dallas	75225
Paul Laurence Dunbar Lancaster-Kiest Library	2008 E. Kiest Blvd.	Dallas	75216
Preston Royal Library	5626 Royal Ln.	Dallas	75229





Notice of Election
 City of Dallas
 May 9, 2015

DALLAS COUNTY CONTINUED

Location	Address	City	Zip
Records Building	509 Main St.	Dallas	75202
Renner-Frankford Library	6400 Frankford Rd.	Dallas	75252
Reverchon Recreation Center	3505 Maple Ave.	Dallas	75219
Richardson Civic Center	411 W. Arapaho	Richardson	75080
Richland College - Garland Campus	675 W. Walnut St.	Garland	75040
Rowlett City Hall Annex	4004 Main St.	Rowlett	75088
Samuell Grand Recreation Center	6200 E. Grand Ave.	Dallas	75223
Seagoville City Hall	702 N. Highway 175	Seagoville	75159
South Oak Cliff High School	3601 S. Marsalis	Dallas	75216
Sunnyvale Town Hall	127 N. Collins Rd.	Sunnyvale	75182
Valley Ranch Library	401 Cimarron Trl.	Irving	75063
Wilmer Community Center	101 Davidson Plaza	Wilmer	75172

**LANCASTER ISD MOBILE VOTING
 DATES AND TIMES OF EARLY VOTING**

Location	Address	City	Zip
April 27 (Monday) 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.			
Lancaster ISD Admin. Bldg.	422 S. Centre Ave.	Lancaster	75146
April 27 (Monday) 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.			
Beltline Elem. School	13555 W. Beltline Rd.	Lancaster	75146
April 28 (Tuesday) 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.			
Elsie R. Middle School	822 W. Pleasant Run Rd.	Lancaster	75146
Rolling Hills Elem. School	450 Rolling Hills Pl.	Lancaster	75146
G.W. Carver 6 th Grade Stem Learning Center	1005 Westridge Ave.	Lancaster	75146
April 29 (Wednesday) 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.			
Rosa Millbrooks Elem. School	630 Millbrook	Lancaster	75146
Lancaster Elem. School	1109 W. Main St.	Lancaster	75146
April 30 (Thursday) 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.			
Houston Elem. School	2929 Marquis Ln.	Lancaster	75134
Pleasant Run Elem. School	427 W. Pleasant Run Rd.	Lancaster	75146
West Main Elem. School	531 W. Main St.	Lancaster	75146
May 04 (Monday) 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.			
Lancaster High School	200 E. Wintergreen Rd.	Lancaster	75134

**MESQUITE ISD MOBILE VOTING
 DATES AND TIMES OF EARLY VOTING**

Location	Address	City	Zip
April 28 (Tuesday) 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.			
Berry Middle School	2675 Bear Dr.	Mesquite	75181
April 28 (Tuesday) 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.			
Hodges Elem. School	14401 Spring Oaks Dr.	Balch Springs	75180
April 30 (Thursday) 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.			
Mesquite City Hall	757 N. Galloway Ave.	Mesquite	75150
April 30 (Thursday) 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.			
West Mesquite High School	2500 Memorial Pkwy.	Mesquite	75149
May 01 (Friday) 4 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.			
Horn High School	3300 E. Cartwright Rd.	Mesquite	75181
May 01 (Friday) 4:45 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.			
McKenzie Elem. School	3535 Stephens Green Dr.	Mesquite	75150
May 01 (Friday) 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.			
Shands Elem. School	4836 Shands Dr.	Mesquite	75150

**COLLIN COUNTY
 DATES AND TIMES OF EARLY VOTING**

April 27 – May 01 (Monday through Friday) 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 May 02 (Saturday) 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 May 03 (Sunday) 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
 May 04 – May 05 (Monday and Tuesday) 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Location	Address	City	Zip
Renner-Frankford Library	6400 Frankford Rd.	Dallas	75252
Richardson Civic Center	411 W. Arapaho	Richardson	75080

**DENTON COUNTY
 DATES AND TIMES OF EARLY VOTING**

April 27 – May 01 (Monday through Friday) 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 May 02 (Saturday) 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 May 03 (Sunday) 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
 May 04 – May 05 (Monday and Tuesday) 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Location	Address	City	Zip
Frankford Townhomes	18110 Marsh Ln.	Dallas	75287



Ready — or not — for Hillary

Former first lady, secretary of state finally confirms her candidacy, but not all LGBTs are cheering

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

To Hillary Clinton's supporters, she's a passionate advocate well versed in domestic and international issues, who has long been a thoughtful and pragmatic ally to the LGBT community.

But not everyone's on board with the former secretary of state, senator and first lady. To her detractors, she's power hungry, cozy with Wall Street bankers and wishy-washy on LGBT issues.

Such is the paradox of Hillary Clinton, who announced her second bid for the Democratic presidential nomination on Sunday, April 10.

Many progressive activists have repeatedly attempted to recruit the first-term Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Massachusetts, to jump into the race. Those efforts have languished, with Warren having repeatedly declined.

But other contenders have floated their names as alternative candidates, among them Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent who caucuses with the Democrats, and former Virginia Sen. Jim Webb, a Democrat who served as secretary of the Navy under Ronald Reagan.

Both have all but declared their candidacies; they are also running different types of campaigns. A self-described democratic socialist, Sanders is concerned that Clinton is too cozy with the financial interests and has failed to seriously address economic inequality. Webb's campaign, on the other hand, takes a more libertarian approach, knocking Clinton, for among other things, her 2003 Senate vote to authorize the war in Iraq.

Neither is using LGBT issues to distinguish themselves from Clinton, however, who is popu-



Barbara Rosenberg, left, looks on as Hillary Clinton addresses supporters during her 2008 presidential campaign. Rosenberg is once again backing the former first lady and secretary of state in her bid for the Oval Office. (Photo by Gary Otten)

lar among LGBT Democrats.

In the Democratic Party, long-time Hillary supporters said that the debate is over regarding Clinton's support for LGBTs. Most recently a Clinton campaign spokesperson told *The Washington Blade* that the candidate hopes the Supreme Court will support marriage equality when deciding the same-sex marriage cases before them.

Clinton supporter Louise Armstrong of Dallas said LGBT issues are left to the Republicans to squabble over. She, in fact, credits the former secretary of state for helping the Democrats embrace the LGBT community.

"President Clinton made history for his outreach to the LGBT community. I believe [then-First Lady] Hillary Clinton was lobbying behind the scenes for more LGBT inclusion and acceptance in the White House and beyond," she said.

Barbara Rosenberg of Dallas agreed. A Clinton supporter in 2008 and now, she cited her long-standing advocacy on behalf of others. "I support her because of her advocacy and work for equality as first lady of Arkansas, first lady of the United States, as a senator and secretary of state," Rosenberg said.

While she may have been behind the scene in the 1990s at the height of the culture wars, Armstrong added Hillary Clinton is now at the forefront of LGBT advocacy.

"It was historic for her to feature a same-sex couple in her video. I honestly didn't think I'd live to see that. To think we've come that far!" she said.

History and its consequences

Including a gay couple in her announcement video may have been an historic step for Hillary Clinton to take. But to Shay Gabriel O'Reilly of New York, a gay married man with Texas ties, Clinton has another place in history.

"I can't support [her] because of her history on economic issues. LGBT people, especially in the South and especially if they have kids, are much more likely to live in poverty," he wrote. "Clinton's coziness with Wall Street and her support of the disastrous welfare reform of the 1990s suggest that she's not committed to helping the millions of struggling people in this country, gay and straight."

O'Reilly's economic concerns echo those of Sanders and backers of Warren, whose economic populism has garnered her national praise and is the thrust of the presidential recruitment efforts.

Armstrong said many progressives skeptical of Clinton might still be pleased. She noticed Clinton's video announcement emphasized, more than any other issue, boosting the middle class. "Were there a single issue that was stressed, it was that. What people need to watch is what she says during her campaign about economic issues and if she continues to stress issues facing the middle-class versus the ultra-wealthy."

Armstrong noted that even Sen. Sanders thought that was good. "I think progressives would be satisfied she adopted issues tied to economic issues like taking on Wall Street," Armstrong said.

Concern with Clinton's past is not reserved solely just to progressives, however.

Michael Phariss, who is gay and lives in Dallas, echoed another concern that's masked the Clin-

tons: that they are selfish and power hungry. He just doesn't trust her.

"I would say the largest problem I've seen with [Hillary Clinton] is she is willing to follow the Machiavellian ideology to obtain power [over the years]. I find she acts and says anything she can to appeal to voters and achieve desires selfishly but has no intent on acting on things outside of her own agenda. To me that is not a leader."

Questioning her legacy

The Log Cabin Republicans, a group of LGBT Republicans, had their own set of questions for the presumed Democratic frontrunner.

"With her candidacy formally declared, Mrs. Clinton now has the duty of providing answers to numerous questions that should give LGBT voters and allies pause, regardless of party affiliation," LCR Executive Director Gregory T. Angelo stated in a press release.

Those questions call her pro-LGBT legacy into question. "Did Mrs. Clinton support the Federal Defense of Marriage Act, signed into law by her husband President Bill Clinton while she was First Lady?"

Angelo also addressed Clinton's more recent statement regarding same-sex marriage during an interview with NPR's Terry Gross. When pushed on the question of marriage equality, Clinton said

it's an issue that "had always been a matter left to the states."

"If Mrs. Clinton's position has changed, when did it change? And what is the reason for that flip-flop?" Angelo asked.

Rosenberg disagreed that the Clintons were motivated by power and selfishness. "To address the concern that she's selfish, you know, a lot of candidates have to be a little self-centered," she said with a laugh. "But all of her work has really been to help herself so she can help people."

Clinton's legacy matters the most to Armstrong. "I am a fervent Clinton 2016 supporter. There has never been a candidate more ready to be president than her," she said. ■

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Subscriptions via First Class Mail are available at the following rates: Three months (13 consecutive issues), \$65. Six months (26 consecutive issues), \$85. One year (52 consecutive issues), \$130. Subscriptions are payable by check, cashier's check, money order, Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover.

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Log Cabin in the Skinner Box

The GOP keeps shocking LGBTs, but LCR still keeps getting in the box

There is a nasty little experimental device invented by B.F. Skinner that bears his name — the Skinner Box — and is used to study the behavior of rats when subjected to “negative reinforcement.”

It works like this:

The floor of the box is a wire mesh that is designed to deliver a mild but uncomfortable electric shock. There is a lever on the wall of the box that turns off the current. Rats are placed in the box and after jumping around on the electric floor, soon discover that when they bump against the lever, the shock stops. After just a few visits to the box, they immediately run to the lever and hold it down.

Skinner later added a light that signaled that the shock would start in a few seconds. The rats learned to run to the lever every time the light was lit and thus avoided the shock.

Not what I call humane, but very instructive — especially for human behavior.

In most cases, people will react the same way to negative conditioning. After all, with the exception of most of my kinky friends, no one

wants to get shocked. But I guess I need to add the Log Cabin Republicans to that list as well.

Last week the Western Conservative Summit returned the registration fee for a booth for the Log Cabin Republicans, telling them they were free to attend but, “we have to draw the line at a formal relationship between two organizations with diametrically opposed policy beliefs.”

The same thing happened at the CPAC conference in February. And take a look at Republican documents like the 2014 platform of the Texas Republican Party:

“Homosexuality is a chosen behavior that is contrary to the fundamental unchanging truths that have been ordained by God in the Bible, recognized by our nation’s founders, and shared by the majority of Texans. Ho-



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

mosexuality must not be presented as an acceptable alternative lifestyle, in public policy, nor should family be redefined to include homosexual couples. We believe there should be no granting of special legal entitlements or creation of special status for homosex-

ual behavior, regardless of state of origin. Additionally, we oppose any criminal or civil penalties against those who oppose homosexuality out of faith, conviction, or belief in traditional values.”

It would seem that the Log Cabin Republicans are stuck in a big GOP Skinner Box and just can’t find the lever to turn off the current. What is worse is, the box in this case is not sealed and they can leave any time they wish.

Which brings me to this postulate: They like the pain.

After all, for years LCR has been jumping around in the Skinner Box, being electrocuted by the GOP at every turn. And yet, they still insist on voting for the very party that tortures them.

This is behavior I would expect from my masochistic friends, who will freely admit they enjoy the pain, yet know they can stop it at any time using their “safe word.” Therefore, I have to suspect the Log Cabin Republicans are really deeply closeted masochists who are enjoying their futile and painful experience with the Republican Party, but don’t understand they have a “safe word” to end the torture.

That safe word is their vote. They can end the pain and the charade of trying to be pliant little creatures, willing to endure whatever negative stimulus the GOP will dish out as long as they can still call themselves Republican.

I guess the GOP’s imaginary condition of being fiscally conservative has seduced them very well. Truth is, over the last 80 years, the party that has been better for business and the economy are the Democrats.

The recent book *Bulls, Bears and the Ballot Box*, by Bob Deitrick and Lew Godlfarb, reveals some interesting statistics:

- Under Democratic administrations personal disposable income grew nearly 6 times more and GDP grew 7 times more.

- Under Democratic administrations corporate profits have grown more than 16 percent more per year and the stock market grew 18 times greater.

- And — the dirty secret that Log Cabin Republicans conveniently ignore — Republican presidents added 2.5 times more to the national debt than Democratic presidents.

All that pain the LCR experiences, jumping around in the GOP box could be ended with one simple action: Vote Democratic. As much as I enjoy torturing people, (mutually consensual, of course) I have to say that this experiment needs to end. ■

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and board member for the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at DungeonDiary.blogspot.com.





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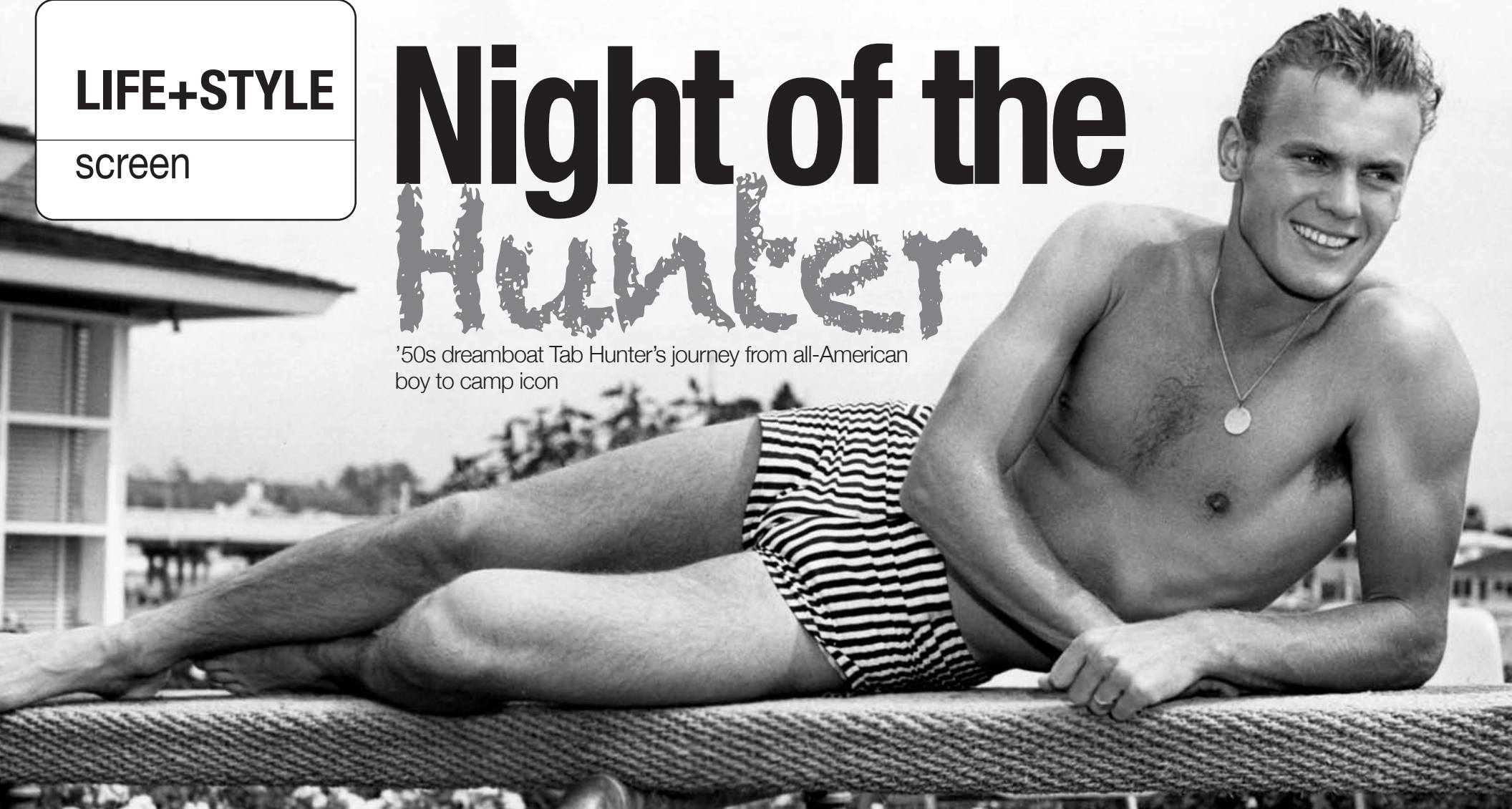
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Night of the Hunter

'50s dreamboat Tab Hunter's journey from all-American boy to camp icon



ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
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Let's get something out of the way up front: Even if you've never heard of Tab Hunter — especially if you haven't — in his heyday in the 1950s, there was no more beautiful man on the planet. Even today, you'd find it hard to compete with the alchemical mix of muscles, stature (6-foot-even), blondness and dimples that Hunter possessed. Still now (he'll be 84 this summer), he's a handsome man.

But at least part of the appeal of Hunter in Hollywood was his all-Americanness. Gorgeous, yes, but sincere, too — a regular Joe who was meant to wear a soldier's uniform, a baseball player's gear, a sailor's duds. In films from *Battle Cry* to *Damn Yankees* to *Ride the Wild Surf*, he represented a world between The Greatest Generation and California surfer boy. He even has a hit pop single, "Young Love," which knocked Elvis off the No. 1 slot on the hit parade. Warner Bros., his studio, founded Warner Bros. Records for him. You can hardly imagine a mother at the time who wouldn't crow with delight to have Tab Hunter as her son-in-law.

Except that throughout his life and career, Hunter was gay.

He wrote about it for the first time a decade ago in his memoir *Tab Hunter Confidential*, which has now been turned into a documentary, making its Dallas debut at the USA Film Festival this week. (The film received its world premiere at SXSW.) But as up-front as Hunter is today, don't say he was in the closet — it was more complicated than that.

LUSTING IN THE DUST | Tab Hunter at the height of his beauty in the 1950s, and today, inset, still handsome at 83.

"I was raised that way, not to talk about [my private life]," he says from his Santa Barbara home. "I had a strict German mother. She liked to say, 'Why speak of other peoples' lives — better you concern yourself with your own development.'"

When he started off, he was an honest-to-goodness strong, silent cowboy type. Despite being born in New York and growing up in San Francisco and later Los Angeles, Tab Hunter (né Arthur Gelien) was authentically rugged and down-home. He was easily wowed by the glamour of Hollywood. But he was bitten by the acting bug, and soon acquired an agent who helped nurture his ambitions.

During his Hollywood days, that meant he happily lived three lives: One on-screen, one that the studio designed for him (appearances, interviews) and one personal. And it's the latter he didn't share with the public. It was easier not to talk about it ... and, remarkably, no one ever asked, least of all the studio bosses.

"I [became a star] at the end of the studio era, when they had people under contract. But they [still] had these great people — Lana Turner, Marlene Dietrich ... they were movie stars! But [the studios] ran their lives in many ways. I would do whatever they told me to do, like take a starlet to a premiere. If I didn't do it they would just get someone else who would do it. And it was fun! But those things [i.e., sexuality] were never discussed. If anyone had gone to Warner Bros. [and accused me of being gay], the studio would blackball them — they were very strong. But nobody would say anything to me. Paramount did talk to Tony [Perkins,

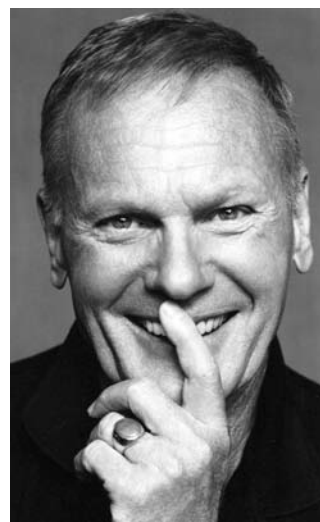
who was Hunter's lover in the 1950s and '60s] about being seen with me, but no one said a word to me."

It wasn't his homosexuality *per se* but the pressures inherent in being in the public eye that he didn't like.

"Everybody seems to label people," he says. "The first line of my book was, 'I hate labels.' A studio will label you because you're a commodity to them, like a product in a grocery store. But Geraldine Page once said to me, 'If people don't like you, it's their problem, not yours. Do the best you possibly can.' I admired so many people in the industry, but I was very fearful of it — every minute I had free, I would run out to be with my horses. That was my comfort zone; I felt at ease there. The people part of Hollywood was very difficult ... you just learn to fake it. My life was my horses and horse friends. That was my touch of reality."

He enjoyed a healthy career, working with the true moguls of the industry: Darryl F. Zanuck, Jack Warner, Harry Cohn. He may be one of the few stars in history who has nice things to say about the legendarily unlikeable head of Columbia Pictures.

"I'm probably the only person who got along with [Cohn] very well, and was really close to his widow, Joan. I met him when Columbia wanted me on a loan-out to do *Gunman's Walk*. He looked up and said to me, 'So you're Tab Hunter. Bob Wagner wants to do this role.' I said, 'Well get him,' and turned around to leave. He stopped me, I sat down and spoke to him for 30 minutes and at the end I got the part." *Gunman's Walk* ended up being one of his



USA FILM FESTIVAL

Angelika Film Center, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane. April 22–26.
Tab Hunter Confidential screens April 25 at 7:15 p.m. Full schedule at USAFilmFestival.com.

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L+S screen

■ HUNTER, From Page 20

favorite film experiences, along with *Damn Yankees*, his only musical.

But it was two late-career films that cemented Hunter as a gay icon, even before he officially came out: the John Waters' trash classic *Polyester*, and the Waters-esque Western spoof *Lust in the Dust*, both of which co-starred zaftig drag diva Divine.

"I love you mentioning both of those!" Hunter says. "I was doing a play in Indiana when I got a call from John Waters [asking me to do *Polyester*]. I was thrilled because I was a *huge* fan — I loved every minute of it. *Lust in the Dust* was something I had thought of for a long time — I wanted Divine to be in a Sam Pekinpa-style

Western. That was pretty darn funny! I wish Waters had done it." (Paul Bartel ended up directing instead.)

Those were two of his last films, both more than 30 years old now, but although he's thrilled to be coming to Dallas for the USA Film Festival, he doesn't miss the film industry much at all.

"I don't understand the business today. I'm not a part of it. They make pictures for young people and are always playing down to their audiences. I did like *The Grand Budapest Hotel* and *The Theory of Everything* and *St. Vincent* with Bill Murray — I loved Naomi Watts playing a pregnant Russian pole dancer!"

But he's happy tending his horses and aging gracefully. Like the best Westerns, the hero needs to know when to ride off into the sunset. ■

G-A-Y in the USA

Gay-interest films at the USA Film Festival

There's a tremendous amount of gay-interest programming during the five days of the 45th Annual USA Film Festival. Here are some of the highlights.

Dior and I (documentary, pictured right). When Raf Simons was selected to head the creative team at the iconic couture brand Christian Dior, the fashion world was amazed that the minimalist head of Jil Sander would be entrusted with France's pre-eminent luxury brand. In the tradition of *Valentino: The Last Emperor*, this behind-the-scenes film from gay filmmaker Frederic Tchong (*Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has to Travel*) looks at Simons' first runway collection and what it takes to get there. Screens April 23 at 7:15 p.m. with Tchong in attendance.

Iris (documentary). Continuing with the fashion theme, irrepressible style maven Iris Apfel is the subject of this last film from Albert Maysles. The 93-year-old Apfel will be in attendance. Screens April 24 at 7:15 p.m.

The Man Who Fell to Earth (feature; free admission). Nicolas Roeg's wonderfully weird film about celebrity looked at through the lens of sci-fi, starring androgynous David Bowie. Screen April 24 at 7 p.m.

Tribute to Margo Martindale/Short Film Showcase including *The Other Side* (short). *The Other Side*, pictured below, about a lesbian couple of "cleaners," is among the offerings at this event. Screen April 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Tab Hunter Confidential (documentary). See main feature. Screens April 25 at 7:15 p.m. with Tab Hunter in attendance.

Mr. Holmes (feature). Ian McKellen starts as Conan Doyle's legendary Sherlock, now an old man tackling his last case. The production reteams McKellen with his Oscar-winning director-writer from *Gods & Monsters*, Bill Condon. Screens April 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Best of Enemies (documentary). During the 1968 election campaign, ABC hired two intellectuals — conservative columnist William F. Buckley Jr. and gay liberal novelist Gore Vidal — to debate the issues. This documentary captures this defining moment in TV news. Screens April 26 at 7:30 p.m.

— A.W.J.



For tickets and additional information, visit USAFilmFestival.com.

Wily Capote

A journo seeking redemption finds intrigue in 'True Story'



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Admit it: If I told you Jonah Hill and James Franco were starring in a movie about a prisoner who steals the identity of a journalist, you'd assume it was written by Seth Rogen, directed by Judd Apatow and contained an insane number of weed and dick jokes. That may be the highest hurdle faced by **True Story**, which is most definitely *not* a comedy (and Rogen/Apatow are no where *near* it).

In fact, it could benefit from a touch of levity — it's a dour and slightly sanctimonious outing that feels convoluted in its moralizing even as it keeps you guessing.

If you've seen the trailers, you might expect this to be a cat-and-mouse thriller *a la* *Silence of the Lambs* where an intrepid reporter is terrorized by a wide-eyed sociopath. In fact, it more closely resembles the love child of *Capote* and *Shattered Glass*. Mike Finkel (Hill) is a world-hopping social justice journo for the New York Times, who publishes a piece that, it turns out, falsified some details ... sort of. The screenplay suggests that he was pressured by editors to conflate several characters and, by aiming at a "higher truth," he merely got reckless. Disgraced and unemployable, he retreats to the woods of Oregon. That's the *Shattered Glass* portion. (As the title suggest, it's based on a true story.)

While licking his wounds, he discovers a man named Christian Longo (Franco) — just arrested for murdering his entire family — has been on the run using the alias Mike Finkel. Why did Longo choose Mike to impersonate?

IDENTITY THIEF | A disgraced journalist (Jonah Hill) pursues a story that could rehabilitate him by interviewing a killer (James Franco) who posed as him in 'True Story.'

And is there a story here? From there, Mike gets drawn into Longo's story, hoping to eventually write his own version of Capote's *In Cold Blood*: The anatomy of a murderer. That is, if Longo really did it.

The film, the feature debut of director/co-writer Rupert Goold, is best when creating the cold dread associated with being an outcast. Early on, the scene where Finkel nervously defends his story to his Times bosses, you can feel the walls closing in on him, the sense of panic and slo-mo crumbling of his career. (As a journalist, I of course imagined what that must be like, with echoes of Janet Cook, Jayson Blair and Stephen Glass shooting through my mind as it must have Finkel's.)

After that, though, his character reveals himself to be a sorry standard-bearer as the film's protagonist. Finkel comes off as a less than honorable man in most particulars; I admired him (temporarily) for refusing to betray Longo's confidences ... until he weaselly and belatedly tries to break his word. It's one thing to live by a code, no matter how blindly; it's another to throw it out the window for no good reason. (Franco, who plays it close to the vest most of the time, runs acting circles around the Pillsbury-faced Hill.)

Still, despite an inconsistent visual style that toggles between Coen Brothers and *CSI: Portland*, Goold tries to dig into the psychology of transference, and he keeps the audience guessing as much as Finkel about whether to believe Longo. But in its rush to provide a metaphor for redemption, *True Story* saddles us with a sniveling hero who, in the end, we aren't certain is worthy of our forgiveness. ■



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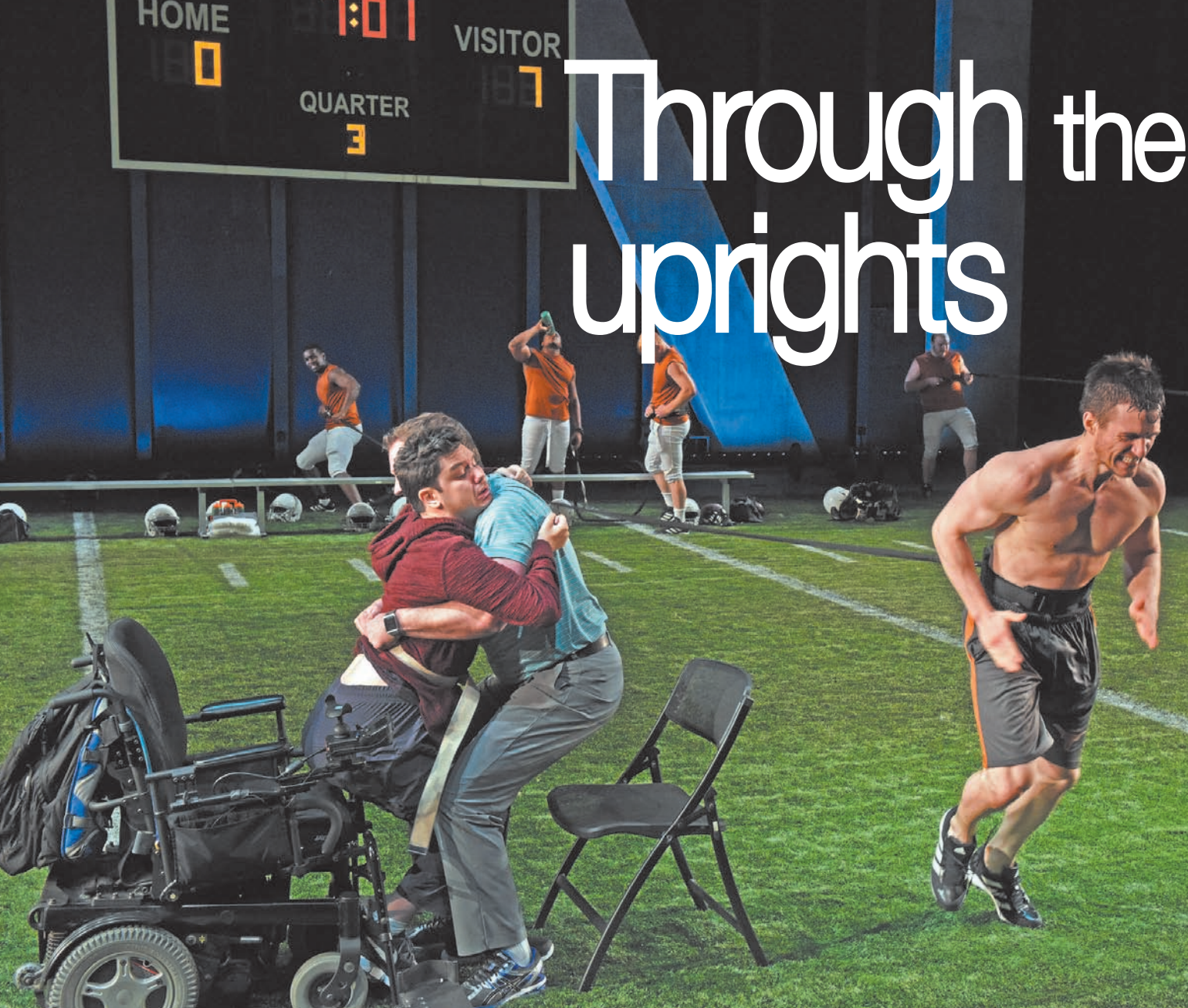
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Through the uprights



TAKE A KNEE | Mike (Zack Weinstein, left) struggles to adjust following a paralyzing football injury while memories of his younger self (Alex Stoll, right) haunt him in the sports-meets-memory play 'Colossal.' (Photo courtesy Karen Almond/DTC)

surrender and rawness. The team comprises an admixture of actors, dancers and athletes who create a kind of Greek chorus that reminds us not only of the fragility of the human body but its impressive capacity as well.

I've heard that during one scene — emotionally intimate but not sexually explicit — some members of preview audiences walked out. It's a shame their intolerance blinded them to the greater message of the play: the conundrums that linger between the moments we think are living — between expectation vs. fact, between desire vs. reality, between words vs. deeds. As Jerry (Steven Michael Walters), Mike's gay physical therapist observes, he treats a half-dozen different football veterans for a variety of debilitating injuries, and yet "every Saturday, I'm in those stands, and every Sunday I'm in front of my TV." The paradoxes, there and elsewhere, are simply colossal. ■

DTC's premiere production of 'Colossal' boldly storms past the goal line in its complex exploration of masculinity

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
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The curtain doesn't so much rise on *Colossal* — the world-premiere play now at the Dallas Theater Center — as the game clock starts ticking ... literally. They don't even open the doors to the Potter Rose performance hall until start time, as audience members scramble to their open seating, traipsing across the Astro-Turf while the cast of uniformed football players run drills and a drumline beats out fight songs as the scoreboard counts down from 15:00 until game time. ... er, I mean the performance.

Of course, it's *all* performance, from the seating to the "halftime" (no intermission, but an interlude that combines athleticism, music and dance) to the action that tells a surprisingly intimate story in the vast open hall. "Sporting event" and "theater" have never melded so beautifully, so effortlessly. Indeed, it almost feels unfair to try to separate the two.

Andrew Hinderaker, who wrote *Colossal*, seems to understand both disciplines equally well. The football jargon, dynamics, physicality, camaraderie are sweated authentically from the characters, primarily Mike (portrayed as a fit

younger version by Alex Stoll and as a paralyzed older version by quadriplegic actor Zack Weinstein) and Marcus (Khris Davis), his co-captain on the UT Longhorns gridiron squad. But Mike and Marcus aren't just teammates; they share an even more intimate bond of genuine erotic love. (It's a homophobe's nightmare-turned-reality: Locker-room romance!)

But Hinderaker just as ably knows theatrical traditions; *Colossal* has the feel of a memory play like *Death of a Salesman*, as the action toggles nimbly between present and past, between reality and a gauzy recollection wrapped in shadow and POV. What happened during that fateful game that snapped Mike's vertebrae? What happened in that hotel room during the away game? And how do men — physical, inarticulate, slaves to preconceptions of masculinity — end up expressing themselves?

There's more than a smattering of symbolism in this production, directed by Kevin Moriarty with a steely sense of portent. You can sit just feet from the actors as the scrimmage with bone-crunching verisimilitude. (Moriarty also makes rare use of the theater's usually-shaded glass

walls to bring the outside inside.) There's a definite homoeroticism evoked watching this fit cast of all men play grab-ass and execute plays with balletic elegance.

But *Colossal* isn't a mawkish romance set in the world of sports; it would be as reductive and dismissive to call it "the gay football play" as it was to call *Brokeback Mountain* "the gay cowboy movie." Hinderaker aims for something more universal about what it means to be a man. I imagine he might have even worked his way backward from the injury — what could

cause a skilled athlete to forget his training and do something reckless? — to derive the love story. He finds the mirrored ways men talk to each other in different contexts (saying "I got you" as both a promise of teamwork and an offer of emotional support) and how fathers and sons, and lovers, struggle to portray their feelings.

The cast is a powerful mix; Stoll, as the fully fit version of Mike, acts as a kind of ghost taunting (and perhaps motivating) his injured Doppelgänger, giving Weinstein the more internal, stunted role. His reconciliation with his father (Joel Ferrell) is exquisitely tender in its wordless

COLOSSAL

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DallasTheaterCenter.org.

'Iolanta' closes Dallas Opera season



Tchaikovsky's rarely performed fairy tale *Iolanta* gets a technologically intriguing modernization in this production, directed by Christian Rath and conducted by Emmanuel Villaume. The final performance is April 18. Read Alicia Chang's review at DallasVoice.com.

For tickets, visit DallasOpera.org.

It's my turn

Sean Baugh settles in as the (official) new artistic director of the Turtles

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
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Rehearsals had been underway for a while, and things were not going well. The music director was beginning to worry that the program he had designed would be more than he could manage. And then, about two weeks before the first public performance at City Performance Hall, "everything just clicked," he says. "Sometimes something doesn't make sense until you shove it all together."

There was still some tweaking to do (costumes, a bit of polish), but for the first time, Sean Baugh — the newly minted (official) artistic director of the Turtle Creek Chorale — feels in control of things. Although he has effectively led the chorus musically since last fall, it's the upcoming concert — a quirky spin on the British invasion he calls *Britten, Beatles & Bond* — for which he senses the strongest connection. The chorale's first entry this season, *Brave*, was a small

VISION FOR THE FUTURE | The concert coming up this week — a British invasion hodgepodge called *Britten, Beatles and Bond* — represents Sean Baugh's programming style. (Photo courtesy Hank Henley)

production at the Latino Cultural Center thrown together in a hurry; the Christmas concert is a tradition with a catalogue of reliable songs; and the 35th anniversary concert earlier this year was most notable for the return of former artistic director Timothy Seelig. But this one is all Baugh.

"This concert truly reflects my vision," he says. "This is how I like to [design] a concert — it's got some of everything. We go in and out of the British artists, from Adele to Irish folk music to something you wouldn't expect from us, a choral version of Radiohead's 'Creep,' and yet working all together ... unless, of course, it's a total disaster."

It certainly won't be that. If nothing else, he's prepared to ascend. It has been a long time com-

ing. Baugh has been a part of the chorale for years, having worked under Seelig, Jonathan Palant and Trey Jacobs, but after a stint as "interim" director, this is the program that he believes will fully reflect his mission ... and prove that he's not trying to imitate anyone else. He wants to set his own course and reinvigorate the chorale.

Baugh is already planning next season's concert series (which will take place entirely at the City Performance Hall), as well as this season's closer, an '80s sing-along concert. And he expects to put his full personality and talent into making it succeed ... with a dose of showmanship.

"I'm my own man," Baugh says, "but I have a little Tim Seelig in me." ■

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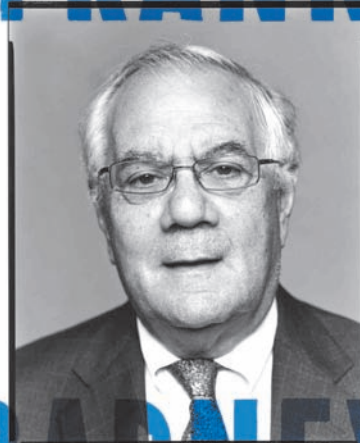
L+S books

Play memory

2 gay memoirs approach honesty with varying degrees of commitment

Frank by Barney Frank (Farrar, Straus and Giroux 2105); \$28; 387 pp.

FRANK



BARNEY

FRANK

crete. That changed by late 1989, when he faced action from his Congressional colleagues over his long-time relationship with a male prostitute.

Undaunted, Frank continued to work on behalf of LGBT rights and consumer issues. His career always came first but by mid-2005, he says he "wanted to enjoy a personal life," having once claimed that he hoped to retire at age 75, in 2015. "This was one of my better attempts at a personal prediction: I was only two years off," he writes.

Reading *Frank* is something like taking a tour in a working artists' studio: it's a mess, but there are colorful and interesting things to see here and there. On the latter, there are enough asides and tidbits to keep readers going and, though they're woefully underrepresented, we're treated to some personal, non-political anecdotes. Understandably, however, most of what Frank offers is of a political slant: mostly-linear details of his accomplishments, opinions on what happened and occurrences that are matters of public record: a little braggadocio, a little observational ... and a lot of ho-hum.

Fans of politics, I think, will be far happier with this book than will others, since that's largely the focus inside. If you'd rather have a more personal tell-all memoir, though, know that *Frank* is merely a tell-some.

Bettyville: A Memoir by George Hodgman (Viking 2015); \$28; 279 pp.

Bettyville | George Hodgman



Elizabeth Baker Hodgman (Betty, to most people) didn't sleep much. At age 90, she was prone to wandering, fussing at the kitchen, piling and restacking paperwork and playing the piano in

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A Complete Guide to visiting DFW

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George Hodgman by Sigrid Estrada.

the middle of the night. She was “suffering from dementia or maybe worse.” Unfortunately, that also meant her son, George, didn’t get much sleep, either.

An out-of-work editor and freelance writer, George had moved to Paris, Mo., from New York for what was supposed to be a week (or a year) to take care of his mother. Betty didn’t like it; she hated needing someone. Hodgman didn’t like it, either; too much had changed.

“I was Betty’s boy,” George writes, and he’d been that way all his life. Hodgman loved his father fiercely, but favored his mother. Still, he desperately wished he’d been able to tell his parents he was gay, that he felt alone, that he’d survived too many failed romances, that he’d had substance abuse issues. Surely, they knew but no one ever talked about it.

Now, as he cared for her, there were times when Betty infuriated George. She could be rude and stubborn, prone to fits of anger for no reason and loud. She flatly refused any thoughts of nursing homes or assisted living. The problem was her dementia, Hodgman reminded himself repeatedly. He understood that she was rightfully fearful because she knew she was losing herself and “I can only imagine how scary it is.” And yet, “I think I have survived because of Betty, more than anyone,” Hodgman said as she eased away. “There are so many things I will carry when I leave Bettyville with my old suitcase.”

Without a doubt, you’d be forgiven for reaching for a tissue while you’re reading this book — heck, you might want a whole *box* of them — but there’s a lot more to *Bettyville* than heart-string-tugging. I found joy inside this story, in between its inevitable sadness. Hodgman keenly remembers his small town childhood from all sides: churchgoers and alcoholics, kindness and bullying, adolescent crushes, baffling foes and off-limits subjects that no small-townie discusses. We meet, through the eyes of Hodgman, Betty’s friends and family and we’re told a story about a time past, a life well-loved, and losing a mother long before she’s really gone.

Be prepared to laugh a little, but be prepared to cry, too, as you’re reading this fine memoir, especially if you’re a caretaker for an elderly parent. For you, for sure, *Bettyville* is a book that can’t be ignored.

— Terri Schlichenmeyer

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Forever changed

BMW's i8 is sex on wheels



CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer
crwauto@aol.com

During a photo shoot, parked at Redondo Beach near L.A., it took the folks at BMW almost two hours to shoot five minutes of usable video. It wasn't because the team was incompetent — it was just that people just kept coming up, snapping photos and asking questions about the car.

Which is totally cool. People in L.A. get electric cars, consuming truckloads of Teslas and Leafs. But they also “get” that what they are looking at is a BMW. They see the twin-kidney grille and famous blue-and-white logo. But what of this carbon-fiber-and-aluminum alien, body hovering over the rear fenders? It seems from another time and doesn't immediately compute. Is it electric, gas or what?

Well it doesn't run on kryptonite ... though it might as well. It's a bit complicated. The drivetrain consists of a mid-mounted turbocharged 1.5-liter three-cylinder engine, electric motors and lithium-ion batteries. Sophisticated AWD employs the gas engine to drive rear wheels while electric motors drive the front. The system can be adjusted to four different modes: Comfort (saves power), Sport (toasts power), EcoPro (frugal) or eDrive (uses both gas and electric to their fullest).

All in, the system delivers 357 horsepower, 0-60 mph in 4.2s and a top speed of 155 mph. It

achieves 76-MPGe combined or 28/29-MPG city/hwy. on gas. Charging occurs in 1.5 hours (3.5 hrs. on 120v) for 15 miles of emission-free driving before the gas engine fires up. The engine and re-gen braking can fully replenish batteries on the fly.

If performance from our scissor-winged friend doesn't impress you, keep in mind a Lamborghini Countach reviewed by Car and Driver in December 1983 achieved 0-60 in 5.4s and a top speed of 150 mph; I'm pretty sure the i8 gets better gas mileage and drives better.

There's smoothness to driving an electric car that is serene. You hear nothing but tires rolling and torque is instantaneous. That

power can be applied delicately or with the fury of a pissed leaf blower. It allows the i8 to creep through traffic without burning fossils or storm through rising canyon roads using full power. Make the most of the mid-engine lay-out, even if the low-rolling-resistance tires will eventually give up.

Given the exterior drama and advanced powertrain, the cabin is surprisingly normal. Sure, sliding under the gullwing doors takes practice and the dash and console swoop like the exterior, but if you've driven a BMW recently, it's all intuitive. The cabin is loaded with heated leather

'15 i8

BMW. 357 horsepower,
1.5 liter Inline-3. 76-e.
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EYEGASM | Behold a car with lusting after. (Photo courtesy BMW)

seats, iDrive infotainment, Harman/Kardon audio, voice controls and heads-up display with navigation directions (perfect for getting around L.A.). I'd drive it a thousand miles, but with necessarily limited luggage.

After dinner with my favorite college professor in Pasadena, I popped the door and was welcomed by ambient blue lighting flowing from every crevice, beaming like a space-set starship. Beautiful. I programmed navigation for Hermosa Beach and was off. Strafing L.A. freeways,

using the head-up display to avoid tickets and mistaken exits streamed to my inner fighter pilot. Everything feels so normal that you forget how extraordinary this car is. It was one of the most enjoyable drives I've ever taken.

The i8 has limits, but you walk away forever changed. This is how all cars should always have been and will soon be. It is so complex, yet so simple — smooth, efficient, comfortable and beautiful. Such excellence doesn't come cheap — expect to pay at least \$136,500. ■



Horns & belles

EXCLUSIVE! Dixie Longate will launch new show in FW this fall

Dixie Longate — drag alter ego of comedian Kris Andersson, who we profiled two weeks ago — never matriculated at an Ivy League university. The Tupperware-hawking, ex-con chatterbox from Mobile, Ala. has, however, earned more than her fair share of horse sense while attending the school of hard knocks.

Student turns teacher this fall when Longate launches a select-city national tour of her all-new, one-woman show, *Dixie's Never Wear a Tube Top While Riding a Mechanical Bull (And 16 Other Things I Learned While I Was Drinking Last Thursday)*. In the show, which will get its world premiere in on Nov. 11, Longate hilariously imparts several pearls of wisdom she has picked up along the way ... with the hand that wasn't holding a drink, of course. "That's what people don't know," Longate says. "I'm here to learn you all. I'm a giver. I can't help it."

Along with the titular mechanical bull, Longate's new show was inspired by smoky honky-tonks, marshmallow-y moon pies and her desire not to rest comfortably on the success of her long-running Dixie's Tupperware Party, which plays through May 3 at McDavid Studio.

"I'm not gonna just sit on my laurels," Longate says, "cuz laurels hurt. They stab you sometimes, especially them prickly laurels. And I don't want to sit on that. I don't want my butt bleeding from a prickly laurel."

Longate is ecstatic to kick off her new show in Fort Worth. It is, after all, home to the Stockyards, Billie Bob's and hunky cowboys atop mechanical bulls.

"When they called me, I dropped everything," Longate says in an excited drawl. "I was holding things, so I had to drop them. Cuz I had to pick up the phone. You know?"

Trust me. You won't want to miss seeing Dixie's big, um, opening.

— Scott Huffman

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Friday 04.17

Del Shores gets Sordid again!

It has become a wonderfully dishy Dallas tradition: Del Shores, Texas' gay Hollywood raconteur, descends on the Rose Room with his catalogue of hilarious adventures in showbiz, from the hate mail he receives to the actors he hates to the sex he has ... and makes a DVD out of it! He's back on Friday with his latest world premiere one-man show, *SINGularly Sordid!*

DEETS: The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 8 p.m. \$10-\$30. DelShoresTix.com.



Monday 04.20

WTT presents wrenching Arthur Miller play 'All My Sons'

If you think business ethics is only a post-TARP reality, get ready to see how profiteering has been with us forever. Arthur Miller's classic *All My Sons* explores a family dynamic in the wake of an industrialist who grew fat during WWII ... and the cost to him and the country. WaterTower Theatre's artistic director Terry Martin moves to the front of the footlights to star in this production, which officially opens on Monday.

DEETS: Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. April 17-May 10 (in previews through April 19). WaterTowerTheatre.org.



Thursday 04.23

And 'A Way with Words' we go!

For regular listeners to NPR, the weekend dorkfest *A Way with Words* is punster heaven: Grant Barrett and his lesbian co-host Martha Barnette regale their fans with arcane explanations of grammar, language, syntex and etymology ... words that cause seizures in some flashing back to high school and send word-nerds into ecstatic abandon. Barrett and Barnette are returning to North Texas for a live version of the show, a benefit for Aberg Center for Literacy. It should be de-light•ful (*adj.*) — a pleasure, something bringing delight.

DEETS: Majestic Theater, 1725 Elm St. 7:30 p.m. \$43-\$63. AbergCenter.org.

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ARTSWEEK

THEATER

Colossal. A new play about football, centered on a gay University of Texas player who suffers a spinal injury. Directed by Kevin Moriarty. *Reviewed this week.* Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through May 3. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Carrie, The Musical. A notorious Broadway flop, this musical based on the Stephen King novel has gotten a reevaluation in recent years, and now gets a local staging courtesy of Garland Civic Theater. Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth St., Garland. April 17–May 9. GarlandArtsBoxOffice.com.

Red. Gay playwright John Logan's Tony Award-winning play about expressionist painter Mark Rothko and the creative process. Stage West. 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through May 10. StageWest.org.

Ordinary Days. Musical from the new company Our Productions Theatre Co. *Final weekend.* Studio Theatre, Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. OurDallasProductions.org.

Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope. The lively 1970s musical. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through May 3. JubileeTheatre.org.

Lydia. Octavio Solis' new play, set in a Texas border town and dealing with the dark secrets of a Mexican family. Presented by Cara Mia Theatre Co. through the ATPAC Elevator Project. *Final weekend.* Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. TicketDFW.com.

The Illusionists. Elaborate stage magic performance. *Final weekend.* Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Hotel California. A world premiere comedy from MBS Productions. *Final weekend.* Stone Cottage Theatre,

15650 Addison Road. MBSProductions.net.

OPERA

Iolanta. Tchaikovsky's rarely-staged fairy tale, an enchanting one-act opera staged by gay director Christian Rath and conducted by Emmanuel Villaume. *Reviewed this week.* This production closes the Dallas Opera's 2014–15 season. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Saturday at 7:30 p.m. DallasOpera.org.

BALLET

Masterworks. Texas Ballet Theater presents pieces from Balanchine's *Rubies* and Ben Stevenson's *Five Poems*, among others. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. April 17–19. TexasBalletTheater.org.

COMEDY

Dixie's Tupperware Party! It's a real Tupperware party ... but she's not a real woman. Drag queen Kris Andersson "plays" sassy hostess Dixie Longate in this off-Broadway hit. Presented by Performing Arts Fort Worth. McDavid Studio, 301 E. Fifth St., Fort Worth. Through May 3. \$30–\$40. BassHall.com.

FINE ART

Jesse Meraz: Haute Fauxx. The local gay artist opens a solo exhibition of displays that empty the trappings of the falsehoods, fantasy and emptiness of fashion. Ro2Art Downtown, 110 N. Akard St. Through May 3. Ro2Art.com.

What's Up Doc? The Animation Art of Chuck Jones. A exhibit celebrating the iconic cartoons of the Oscar-winning animator, from Pepe LePew to Bugs and Elmer. Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, 1600 Gendy St., Fort Worth. Through April 26. FWMuseum.org.

George Tobolowsky: Targeting (Large and Small). A collection of smaller sculptures. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Ste. 107. Through April 25. ilumeGallerie.com.

Ronald Radwanski. New works. ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, Ste. 107. Through May 9. ilumeGallerie.com.

Between Action and the Unknown: The Art of Kazuo Shigara and Sadamasa Motonaga. A side-by-side examination of the art of two of the post-war Japanese avant garde art movement known as Gutai, which sought not to transform matter but bring it to life with experimental techniques. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through July 15. DMA.org.

Modern Opulence in Vienna: The Wittgenstein Vitrine. The DMA's conservationists restore this century-old display case of silver, lapis and glass — an amazing example of Viennese craftsmanship. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Oct. 18. Free. DMA.org.

EXHIBIT

The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes. The Baker Street Irregulars are the focus of this elementary tribute to Sir A. Conan Doyle's enduring creation, the master consulting detective and cocaine addict. Includes interactive mystery-solving adventures. Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. Through May 10. PerotMuseum.org.

FESTIVAL

Scarborough Renaissance Festival. The annual trip to Medieval Europe, including dancers, musicians, food, crafts and cosplayers. Faire Grounds, FM 66, Waxahachie. Through May 25 (weekends), 10 a.m.–7 p.m. \$25. SRFestival.com.

FRIDAY 04.17

COMEDY

Del Shores: SINGularly Sordid. The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 8 p.m. 8 pm. DelShoresTix.com.

SATURDAY 04.18

COMMUNITY

Gaybingo. Pull out your pith helmet and elephant gun — it's Safari week at Gaybingo. Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs. 5 p.m. doors, 6 p.m. curtain. \$25–\$45. MyResourceCenter.org.

CONCERTS

Nancy Beaudette. The lesbian singer performs. Presented by Open Door Productions. 4615 E. California Parkway, Fort Worth. 7 p.m. \$15–\$18. ODPTexas.com.

SUNDAY 04.19

CONCERTS

Battle of the Band. Six groups compete for a \$1,000 prize at this mini music festival. Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. 3–9 p.m. SueEllensDallas.com.

BROADCAST

Mad Men. The final season of the iconic drama about life in 1960s America. Airs on AMC at 8 p.m.

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MONDAY 04.20

BROADCAST

Dancing with the Stars. The new season (20th) airs on ABC at 7 p.m.

RuPaul's Drag Race. The seventh season of the reality competition series continues. Airls on Logo at 8 p.m.

TUESDAY 04.21

CABARET

An Evening with Wendy and Willy Welch. The talented local performers present a night of music. The Kitchen Cafe, 17370 Preston Road. 7:30 p.m. \$15 cover. FrontLineProductions.org.

FILM

Grand Hotel. One of the earliest films to win the best picture Oscar is this all-star portmanteau with John Barrymore, Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford and more in a comic melodrama. Screens as part of the Tuesday New Classic series at Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 04.22

CONCERTS

Wilco. The alt rockers, who recently canceled an Indiana concert in solidarity for marriage equality, perform. McFarlin Auditorium on SMU campus. 8 p.m.

THURSDAY 04.23

EVENT

A Way with Word Live. The NPR show's hosts appear as a fundraiser. Majestic Theater, 1975 Elm St. 7:30 p.m. AbergCenter.org.

this week's solution

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Cassie Nova

Springing into allergy season

Happy spring, everybody. Yes, spring has sprung and the flowers are a-bloomin', the bees are a-buzzin' and I am a-sneezin'. As with many Texans, this time of year kicks my ass. Breathing in all this flower jiz is no bueno. My poor blue Jeep looks green covered in all this yellow pollen. Even my Pomeranian, Sunny, is sneezing and wheezing. I love all the beautiful flowers and green coming back to the trees but damn! It's like God said, "Enjoy all this beauty ... it will only cost you five gallons of snot."

That reminds me of another springtime tale of woe. Picture it: 1998 and I was a new parent to my first pup, Dax. I was living at the River Oaks on Cedar Springs. I loved all of the flowers and greenery all over the condo complex, but flowers attract bees, and although I didn't know it at the time, my poor little Dax got stung while prancing through a bunch of begonias. We went upstairs so I could get ready for my drag show later that evening. Dax jumped on the bed and went to sleep while I painted my face. A while later, when I was in full drag, I hollered for Dax to get in his kennel so I could leave. He turned his head to look at me and I screamed. His poor little muzzle was swollen up so much he looked like a fuzzy hippopotamus. He looked so pathetic and sad it broke my heart and scared the shit out of me. I started calling every vet number I had and finally found a 24-hour vet that answered the damn phone. She told me to get some liquid Benadryl and give him half a teaspoon. I hung up in a panic when I realized I did not have any freaking liquid Benadryl. So I jumped in

the car in full glamazon drag and ran to Mary Thumb (what we called the Tom Thumb grocery store in the gayborhood for you newbies). I ran in, clip-clopping down the aisles looking for the right meds. I felt like Shirley MacLaine in *Terms of Endearment*: "Give my puppy the goddam shot!!!"

While paying at the register, I noticed people looking at me like some crazed drug fiend. Then I realized I was wearing a cheetah print hooker dress, cha-cha heels and huge hair that only fit in the car if I hunched. So I guess I deserved some of those crazy looks. I remember asking one older gentleman, "What are you looking at?" in my deepest voice. He said, "Nothing, ma'am." So I winked at him; after all he had called me ma'am.

When I finally got back home, I was still in a frenzied panic, shaking from head to toe. I tore into the damned childproof packaging and ripped off the lid, slinging half of its contents against the face of the lower cabinets. I tried to calm myself from shaking so much so I could measure out half a teaspoon into the syringe. Finally I got down on my knees to give Dax the medicine and realized he had already licked every bit of the spilled Benadryl off the cabinets and the floor — probably close to half a bottle. I screamed again (I was very dramatic in those days, if you can imagine), snatched him up and stuck my finger down his throat trying to make him throw up. Some of it came up; we were both a mess. I called the vet lady back and told her about the new drama. She kind of laughed at me and told me he would be fine. She told me to just keep an eye on him and if he wasn't better by morning to bring him in.

It was a very long night. The good thing was that the swelling had gone down within 10 minutes; the bad thing was my poor puppy was fucked up. He was higher than a giraffe's pussy. The poor guy



couldn't be still. He kept sitting up, turning around and sitting back down. His eyes looked glazed and he was feeling no pain. I've seen kids at the club rolling on Molly that had the same look my poor cracked-out doggie had.

Needless to say, I didn't make it to my show that night — my baby needed me. By morning we were both sleeping hard ... hell, we slept most of the day. After that night, I always have Benadryl in my medicine cabinet, especially for spring.

Now let's get to work.

Dear Cassie, How do drag queens come up with

their names? Thanks, Christy.

Dearest Christy, How a drag queen decides on a name varies from one girl to the next. Surprisingly, there is not a formula for it — we don't use your childhood pet's name plus the first street you lived on — I don't think anybody actually does that. (BTW, mine would be Charlie Bethpage. That's a horrible name.) **Layla Larue** got the last name Larue from a guy she had a crush on years before. **Valerie Lohr** got her name from a famous model from the '80s.

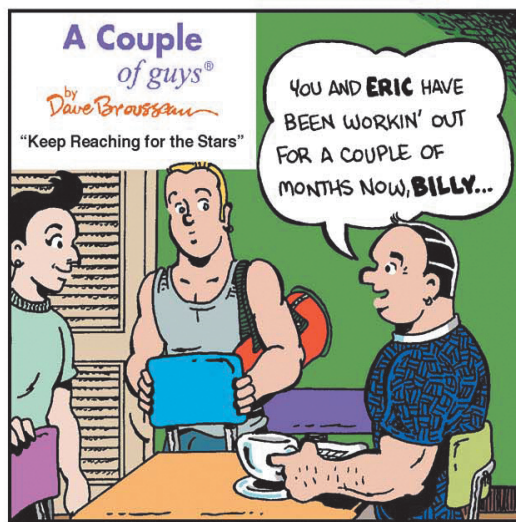
Krystal Summers was just appointed the name Krystal by an emcee on the fly — she said you look like a Krystal and it stuck. **Asia O'Hare** just took her sister's name, kind of like *Single White Female*, but she's black. Some showgirls just use the feminine version of their boy names (Eric to Erica, Daniel to Danielle) and so on.

I got my name from a bisexual porn star. Back in the day, friends and I were at Tapelenders "shopping" ... i.e., cruising boys. We were too young to get into any of the clubs so we hung out any place we could. This was when they actually rented movies on video-cassette — I know, how barbaric. In the back of the store, in a seedy dark corner, they kept all of their porno movies. Actually they kept the VHS movie covers in thick binders. When you wanted to rent one you took out the cover and took it to the front of the store to rent it. The binders were separated into straight, gay and bisexual porn. We were flipping the pages and laughing at all the ridiculous names of the movies and the porn stars. Then I saw it: *Who Shaved Kassi Nova*. It had a picture of this crazy-looking chick with huge boobs and huge hair. When you turned it over to the back, it showed she also had a huge bush. I laughed and told my friends if I ever do drag I'm gonna be Cassie Nova. At the time the thought of doing drag never crossed my mind but a few months later, *bam!* Cassie Nova was born. And my bush was even bigger. Thanks, Cassie.

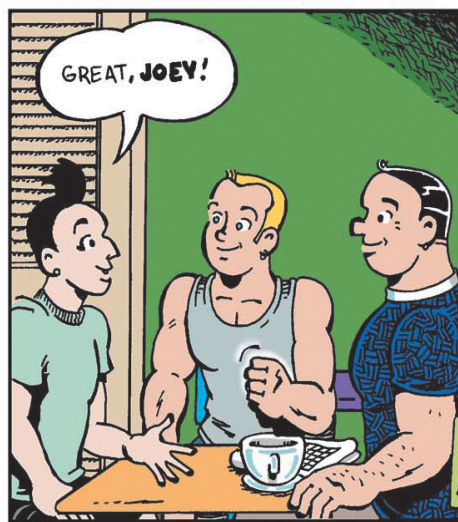
Random thoughts: People who park in a handicap space and get out of their car without so much as a limp should be slapped. Rude! People who use electric scooters in a grocery store because they are too lazy to walk should have bamboo shoved under their fingernails. People who talk on their phones loudly and dramatically while ignoring the cashier that is trying to wait on them should be burned at the stake. Yes, I went to Walmart today ... how did you know?

Spring is a time of renewal and rebirth. Take time to smell the flowers, even if you have to be heavily medicated. Love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova.

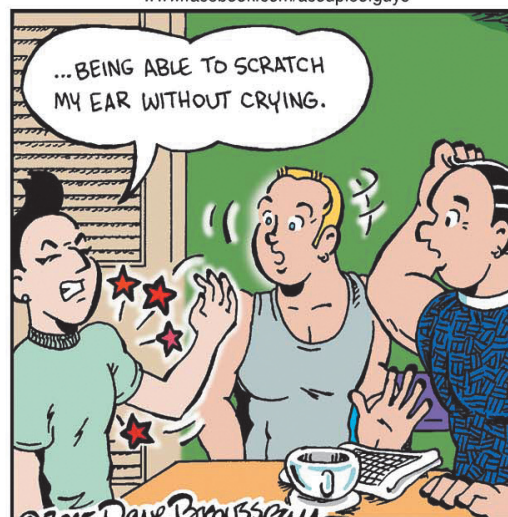
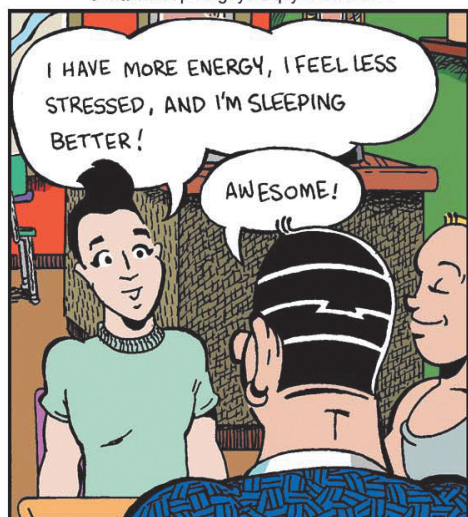
If you have a question of comment, email it to AskCassieNova@gmail.com.



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Brad and friends celebrate his birthday with a luau at The Brick.



Girls' night out at Sue Ellen's.



Enjoying a night out at The Round Up Saloon.



All smiles on The Strip.



Ceasar and Andi at The Round Up Saloon.

Making the **SCENE** the week of **April 17-23:**

Alexandre's: Jason Huff at 10 p.m. on Friday. **Mi Diva Loca** at 10 p.m. on Saturday. **Chris Chism** at 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday. **Sheran Keyton** at 9 p.m. on Thursday.

Best Friends Club: Korina Duvalle hosts drag bingo at 6 p.m. on Sunday.

BJ's NXS! Stripper Sundays hosted by Jada Fox.

Brick/Joe's: The Last Brick Standing on Sunday.

Changes: Wall of Food meeting at 8 p.m. on Wednesday.

Club Reflection: Imperial Court meeting on Sunday at 1 p.m. **Cowtown Leathermen** cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

International Gay Rodeo Association fundraiser at 7 p.m. on Sunday.

Dallas Eagle: South Central LeatherSIR, Leatherboy and Community Bootblack on Friday and Saturday. **Wanda's 20th Anniversary Show** at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

Round-Up Saloon: Mr. and Miss Round-Up contest at 9 p.m. on Wednesday. Applications available at the door.

Scarborough Faire: Goes Celtic on Saturday and Sunday with Celtic music, entertainment and special events.

Sue Ellen's: Chaz Marie on Friday. **Ciao Bella** on Saturday. **Battle of the Bands** on Sunday.

The Rose Room: Del Shores at 8 p.m. on Friday.

Woody's Sports & Video Bar: 2015 DVA Bachelor Auction at 8 p.m. on Saturday. **Xplosion C** extra innings from 4-7 p.m. on Sunday. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to DallasVoice.com/category/photos. Scene Photographer: **Kat Haygood**.



Scarborough Renaissance Festival continues. This weekend is the Artisan's Showcase weekend./



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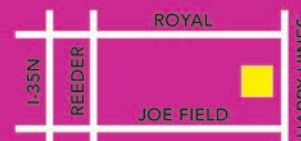
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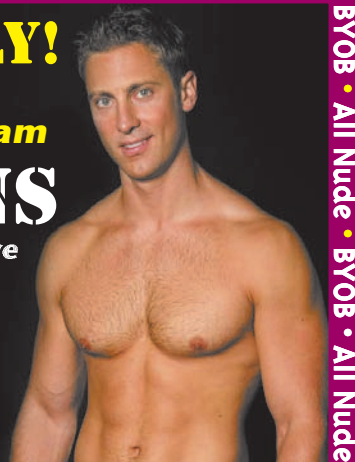
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Check out Zippers, with dancers like the hunk in the photo at left, and handsome men like Emanuel, above.



Brad and Lulu at Station 4.



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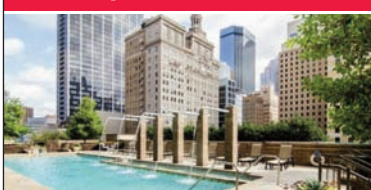
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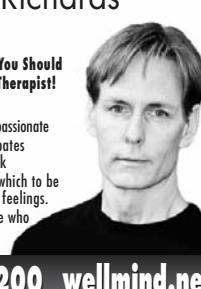



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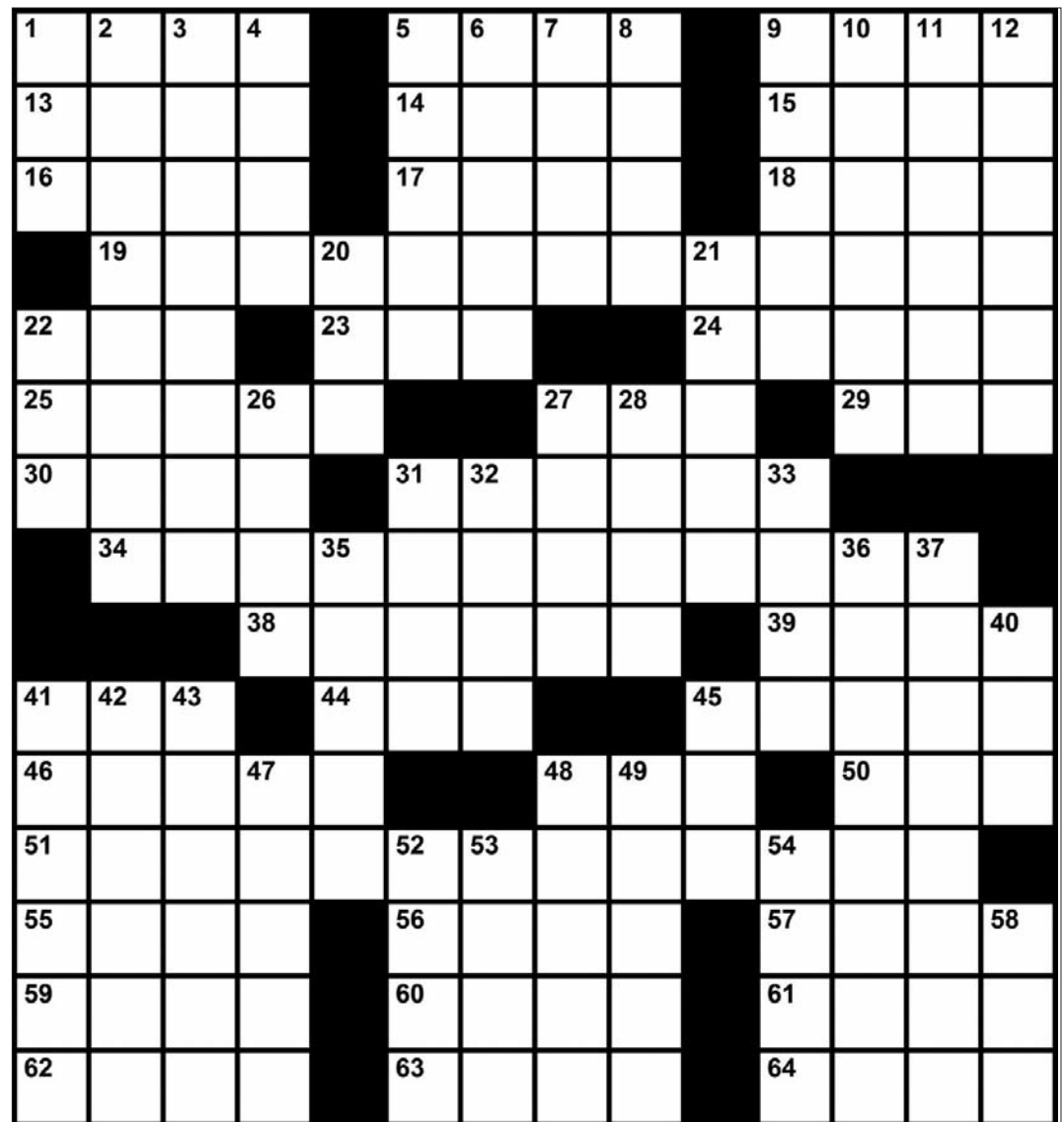
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Solution on page 33

Across

- 1 Rev. Perry
- 5 George Michael's old band
- 9 Herbert's *Fortune and Men's* ____
- 13 New York college
- 14 Hoover hookup that sucks
- 15 Words after so
- 16 McKellen's Magneto movie
- 17 What's in the stallion's mouth?
- 18 Enchanted girl of film
- 19 U2 tribute song to 51-Across
- 22 Seven on the sundial
- 23 Month for Kahlo
- 24 Hard to mount
- 25 Woody woe
- 27 Pax network, now
- 29 Dr. Kerry Weaver's helpers
- 30 Old fruit drink
- 31 Patty Sheehan, for one
- 34 Song by 51-Across that protested racism and lynching
- 38 Hurts a lot
- 39 Date for Caesar
- 41 Not a thing
- 44 Blow away
- 45 Make noise in bed

46 Take as one's own

- 48 Chiding sound
- 50 Designer Claiborne
- 51 Singer born April 7, 1915
- 55 Garfield's whipping boy
- 56 Madonna's "Truth or ____"
- 57 Cockpit predictions
- 59 Novelist ____ Mae Brown
- 60 If that fails
- 61 Small pooch, briefly
- 62 Pronto, in the OR
- 63 Hidey-hole
- 64 Colette's price

Down

- 1 Passes on Broadway
- 2 Brooks with some lettuce heads?
- 3 Kind of stand
- 4 Cristina of *Grey's Anatomy*
- 5 *Gods and Monsters* subject
- 6 Migratory guys
- 7 "Yeah, right!"
- 8 The M in SMU (abbr.)
- 9 *Your Movie Sucks* author Roger
- 10 Disney dog Old ____
- 11 Myles of lines of poetry

12 Terence's family

- 20 Mouth-to-mouth pro
- 21 Moore costar
- 22 Florist's wheels, often
- 26 Ian McKellen and Elton John
- 27 "Why should ____ you?"
- 28 Switch positions
- 31 Chew like a mouse
- 32 Fairytale monster
- 33 Screw royally
- 35 Valuable strings
- 36 Adorer of Clay Aiken?
- 37 Marinade type
- 40 "____ who?!"
- 41 Jim, who did a Pyle of acting?
- 42 Cry of success
- 43 Jeremy Irons flick of 1997
- 45 Glide on snow
- 47 Skirt fold
- 48 Porno mag on a trunk?
- 49 Trim and graceful
- 52 *East of ____*
- 53 Holy headgear
- 54 *Ed Wood* star Johnny
- 58 Leading cause of birth

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